

THE SPIRIT OF THE AGE

WOODSTOCK, VERMONT

The People's Rights—A Representative Democracy—The Union and the Constitution Without Any Infractions.

VOL. XLIX. NO. 45. WHOLE NO. 4444

SATURDAY, MARCH 16, 1912.

THE SPIRIT OF THE AGE
Woodstock, Vermont.
Printed Saturday Morning
ONE DOLLAR A YEAR

WOODSTOCK NEWS

Bird and Botanical Clubs.

Woodstock and Hartland members of the Vermont Botanical and Bird clubs are represented as follows on the program of the meeting to be held at Hanover, N. H., March 29 and 30. This is the first meeting of the clubs ever held outside the state:
"Algae of Hartland," Lucia Webster, Hartland.
"Two Owls in Captivity," Mrs. A. B. Morgan, Woodstock.
"Everlastings of Hartland," May E. Rogers, Hartland.
Miss Mary A. Loveland of Norwich will read a paper on "Plants used in Medicine 100 Years Ago."

UNION STATION DELAY

Hearing at White River Junction Adjourned Until May 1.
The public service commissioners adjourned at White River Junction last week Thursday to meet again May 1.
The railroads, still jockeying for position, announced that on account of the various construction projects that they are now respectively remaining of their conditions and needs may change so as to render it impossible for them to prepare even tentative plans looking to a solution of the union station problem. Added to that are the facts that the central Vermont has one phase of the problem tied up in the supreme court of the United States and that the engineering departments of both systems are so busily engaged as to render it impossible for them to give the matter attention.

SHERBURNE

Ernest Neil had the misfortune to lose one of his work horses last week.
Mrs. Frank Lewis and daughter Pomfret were in the place the latter part of last week.
N. D. Wilder was a recent guest of A. C. Plumley's.
Grace Carrier was at home from Hartland Sunday.

Fourth Class Postmaster Examination.

The United States civil service commission announces that on Saturday, April 13, an examination will be held at Woodstock, as a result of which it is expected to make an appointment to fill a contemplated vacancy in the position of fourth class postmaster at South Pomfret. Compensation of the postmaster in this office was \$120 for the last year.

Application forms can be secured from the postmaster at South Pomfret or from the U. S. civil service commission, Washington, D. C.

AGAINST THE C. V. R. R.

Verdict in the Maple Case in U. S. Court—Suit Originally Brought in Windsor County Court.

The case of Mary Maple, Adm. Central Vermont Railway Company, which was tried in United States court at Burlington, last week, before Judge James L. Martin and a grand jury, is of local interest because the suit was originally brought in Windsor county court, returnable at Woodstock, by Wallace Batchelder of Bethel, as attorney for the now Mary Maple, seeking to recover for the benefit of the widow next of kin the damages accruing to them by the negligence of the Central Vermont Railway Company causing the death of William C. Maple, who was killed at Bethel on October 14, 1910, by striking his head against the projecting, overhanging roof of the Bethel freight car, while he was on a freight car in the performance of his duties as freight brakeman.
There was some question about the

right of recovery in the state court. The new so-called "federal employers' liability act of 1908," had become of force, and had come up for construction in the case in Connecticut "Mondou vs. New York, N. H. & H. R. Co.," and Chief Justice Simeon E. Baldwin (now governor of Connecticut, had held the law to be unconstitutional. Col. Theodore Roosevelt, in a speech in Concord, N. H., in support of the candidacy of Robert P. Bass (now, governor) of New Hampshire, for the governorship, had taken issue with Judge Baldwin as to his reasoning and his decision in the Mondou case. A controversy between Col. Roosevelt and Judge Baldwin arose, in which Baldwin threatened to sue Colonel Roosevelt for slander. In the meantime the Mondou case went to the United States supreme court.

Mr. Batchelder discontinued the Maple case in Windsor county court, and brought suit in the United States court, about a year ago, under the very act Judge Baldwin had recently held unconstitutional. On January 15, just two months ago, the United States supreme court unanimously decided the Mondou case, and in an opinion written and delivered by Mr. Justice Van de Vanter, overruled and reversed Judge Baldwin's decision.

On Thursday, March 7, the jury brought in a verdict for the plaintiff to recover \$5683. The defendant company moved to set aside the verdict, but the court overruled the motion and rendered judgment for \$5683 and costs of suit.

This is the first case that has been brought, in this jurisdiction, the District of Vermont, under the federal employers' liability act of 1908. The case was tried by Wallace Batchelder of Bethel, and John W. Gordon of Barre, for the plaintiff; and by former Attorney General Clarke C. Fitts of Brattleboro, and Harry W. Anney of St. Albans, for the defendant.

In Memoriam: Camp Columbia 1911.

I'm sitting by the fire-side, as lonely as I can be,
With nothing to console me but my faithful old T. D.,
But as the smoke drifts upward I can see within its haze,
A most exquisite picture of some bygone, happy days,
The picture is so vivid that my heart with pleasure thrills
As I behold a little spot far off among the hills,
And see our tent still nestling in the shelter of the trees,
Those voices chant a cadence as they murmur in the breeze.

I hear again the music, of that pretty little stream
Whose waters flash like silver, in the moonlight's gentle gleam,
I see the mighty forest in solemn grandeur stand,
As though bidding hearty welcome to our happy little band.
I see the grim old mountain, its summit reared so high,
That it seems to pierce the azure of the sunny southern sky,
I see the sunlight streaming in the forest's mossy dell,
And I hear the woodlands whisper, in a voice I love so well.
The picture now is fading, yet my heart is filled with cheer,
As memory goes back to days I spent with friends so dear;
God grant that we may meet again 'mid scenes that are just as grand,
Three cheers for Camp Columbian and our own Green Mountain land.

We thank thee, O our Father, for the mercies thou hast shown,
The glory of the mountain and the vale is thine alone,
We thank thee for the forests, for the rivers and the rills,
And fervently we thank thee for these dear Green Mountain hills.

H. B. Miner

Rochester Town Meeting

Moderator, Rev. W. E. Lang; town clerk, E. H. Edgerton; selectmen for three years, E. H. Edgerton; auditors, W. H. Campbell, F. A. Guernsey, A. E. Goodno; treasurer, George H. Trask; overseer, W. E. Lang; 1st constable, E. L. Martin; 2d, Reuben Whitcomb; road coms., T. D. Austin, H. P. Nash; lister for three years, S. F. Hubbard; for two years, T. A. Guernsey. Town tax 130c. Appropriated \$75 for Memorial day, \$200 for public library, \$750 for highways under state aid law.

Train Kills Bethel Man.

A. Hern, a stone cutter, while walking on the Central Vermont railway track at Bethel on Sunday was instantly killed by a northbound passenger train today.

At the general offices of the Central Vermont railway the following was given out:

Una Osborne was struck by train No. 9, the northbound local passenger, as it was entering the yard at Bethel. He was instantly killed. The man was walking in the right of way and although the train whistled, he was unable to get out of the way.

Can't Keep Out the Gypsy Moth.

State Commissioner of Agriculture O. L. Martin of Plainfield says that, owing to the prevalence of the gypsy moth in New Hampshire and Massachusetts, it will be impossible to keep the pest out of Vermont. Ten thousand webs have been taken from trees in Guildhall, which means a saving of 3,000,000 worms.

CHINESE SEAWEED AS FOOD.

Freer commercial contact with China may quite possibly introduce into our table menus varieties of spicy concoctions from seaweed. About 130 nutritive kinds of seaweed are in daily consumption in the far east and the cultivation of seaweed crops is regularly maintained. More than \$600,000 worth of one preparation alone is consumed every year in China in the form of dried gums which can be liquefied into delicate jellies. In Europe seaweed has not been at all considerably used for food, though blanchmanges, salads, green vegetables and a sort of tapioca fluid have been forms in which Scotch, Irish and Mediterranean peasants have partaken of the substances of seaweed. In certain parts of Japan seaweed is subjected to careful cultivation, competing species being suppressed and rocks previously planted with the weed, being sunk in suitable bays.

MAKING A NEW WORLD.

The planet Jupiter, whose volume is 1,379 times that of the earth, and superior in dimensions and weight to all the other planets put together, is just now attracting the attention of astronomers. M. Giacobini of the Paris observatory, who has made a special study of Jupiter, has described a red spot which possesses a relative fixity, but within the last year its mobility has increased to great proportions, and its longitude by about 30 degrees. That is all that we can say scientifically. Is it really the formation of a new continent? Can we draw this deduction from this phenomenon so difficult to seize? It is possible, but who can say so with certainty? M. Camille Flammarion, however, expresses himself with far greater confidence in this matter: "We are assisting at the creation of a world. Under our dazzled eyes a new world is being created in the infinity and in Jupiter: we hail the world of the future."

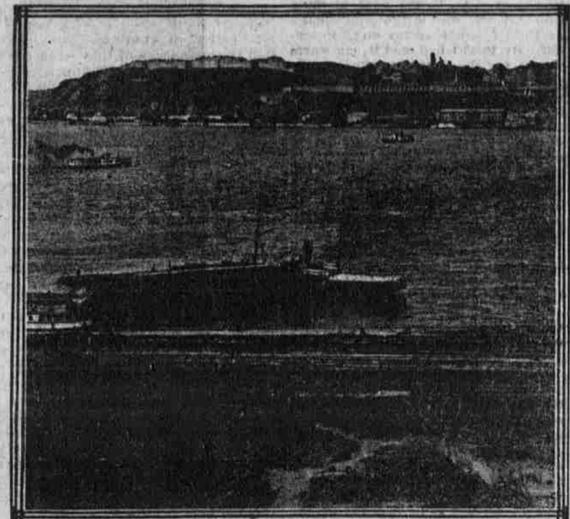
AFRICANS WHO EAT CLAY

Natives of West Africa, in French Sudan, practice "geophagy." Although the practice is common in many parts of the world, this particular case is remarkable for the systematic way in which the dirt is collected, and for the fact that it occurs in a well cultivated region, where food is abundant. The earth consumed is a clay, which is found intercalated among the grits of the region in beds of various thickness. The deeper layers are preferred and for this reason the natives dig galleries, which are so crudely constructed that falls of earth frequently occur, sometimes with fatal results. When an unlucky miner is thus buried no attempt is made to rescue him, as it is believed that the divinities of the mines require an annual victim. It is stated that individuals not infrequently consume seven and a half pounds of clay daily.

Home-Mixed Fertilizers Are Cheapest and Best.

Practically all farmers who have given home-mixing a thorough trial are convinced that this is by far the most economical and satisfactory method of purchasing fertilizers. If you will send us your name on a postal card with request therefor, we will send you free, postpaid, leaflets which give the opinions of many successful farmers in this and neighboring states regarding home-mixing. We will also send a number of formulas which were made up for us by the Director of the Vermont Experiment Station and which have been used by many farmers in Vermont with excellent success. We will also give full directions for mixing fertilizer adapted to all the crops commonly raised on Vermont farms.
CARROLL S. PAGE, HYDE PARK, VT.

IN OLD QUEBEC



CITY OF QUEBEC FROM GRAND PRINCE RAILWAY TRACKS

PERCHED high on a lofty promontory 400 feet above the water, on the edge of a bluff at the junction of the St. Charles and St. Lawrence rivers, Old Quebec reminds one if you approach it by boat and of the American city of New Orleans if you enter the place by rail.

Traveling by way of the St. Lawrence takes the visitor through a beautiful harbor composed of a great tidal basin which is partially lined with docks that speak of great skill in engineering, and at one of these the visitor lands on a narrow strip of the water on one side and the steep ascent to the greater half of the city on the other.

It is here that you imagine you are scaling the rock of Gibraltar when you travel upward in search of a lodging place. Once up, however, you are suddenly transplanted into the atmosphere of New Orleans with its narrow and crooked streets and its foreign tongue. In the business section of Quebec there is one street which cramps the pedestrian into a width of only four feet, and most of it is all uphill and down.

But it is the language which first holds the visitor's attention. It was as far back as the Treaty of Paris, in 1763, that France resigned all claims to her possessions in North America, and yet three-fourths of the people speak French, though Quebec boasts of a population of over 75,000 souls. The English heard is of a decided French accent. In the churches there is French, in the theaters and public halls it is French, and the same tongue is taught in the public schools. There seems to be a natural prejudice against the English language, though none can tell you why. The people of Quebec are loyal British subjects when any one questions their nationality.

One thing, too, is very apparent—they possess that easygoing, care-free disposition of their Latin forefathers, which extends to a great extent to the English element also. Business in Quebec makes no one hustle. Down on the waterfront there is shipbuilding and a great deal of shipping, but they go easily with it. Quebec's harbor is safe and so commodious that the largest vessels can ply to the docks with perfect ease. There are several lines which run direct from there to the chief ports of the world. Back in the province where the rivers become unnavigable for vessels the timber men float their product down toward the city in rafts of logs steered by red-shirted logmen, who turn them over to the stevedores at the docks and make for the nearest place of sale.

There is, too, a dry and bracing air throughout the province that makes the farmer glory in his product. A rich, loamy soil responds bountifully to his tilling and his wagons and carts come into the city well loaded with cereals, hay, root crops, Indian corn, hemp, flax and tobacco, and although his season is a short one, he turns out a goodly portion of apples, plums, grapes and tomatoes.

Just below the city are the famous falls of Montmorency, which enter the St. Lawrence. They furnish all the power that could be desired and there is consequently a string of mills lining the banks. These turn the exportable crops into marketable wares, and they are shipped abroad from Quebec. What Quebec sells to its own citizens are mostly the products of its waters, but even then some of the smoked whitefish are sent into the United States for sale.

But the old town has another kind of business in which it prospers during the summer months and fairly well during the fall and winter months. Each year there is an influx of thousands of American and foreign tourists. A few years ago the structure of a great steel bridge began to creep across the St. Lawrence, and it pleased the Canadians. When it reached two-thirds of the way across and collapsed their hopes fell with it, for it was designed to run the trainloads of passengers and merchandise direct from the United States into the city. Immediately after the collapse work began on the new structure, and so Quebec's hopes are again rising.

HOW THE ELEPHANT TALKS

Elephants are said to make use of a great variety of sounds in communicating with each other, and in expressing their wants and feelings. Some are uttered by the trunk, some by the throat. The conjectures in which either means of expression is employed cannot be strictly classified, as fear, pleasure, want and other emotions are sometimes indicated by the trunk, sometimes by the throat. An elephant rushing upon an assailant trumpets shrilly with fury.

Fear is similarly expressed in a shrill, brassy trumpet, or by a roar from the lungs. Pleasure by a continued low squeaking through the trunk or an almost inaudible purring sound from the throat. Want—as a calf calling its mother—is chiefly expressed by the throat. A peculiar sound is made use of by elephants to express dislike or apprehension, and at the same time to intimidate, as when the cause of some alarm has not been clearly ascertained and the animal wishes to deter an intruder. It is produced by rapping the end of the trunk smartly on the ground, a current of air hitherto retained being sharply emitted through the trunk, as from a valve, at the moment of impact. The sound made resembles that of a large sheet of tin rapidly doubled. It has been erroneously ascribed by some writers to the animals beating their sides with their trunks.

HEAD DRESS OF TEHUANAS

The head dress of the Tehuana Indian women whose home is upon the Isthmus of Tehuantepec in Mexico is of remarkable design and not lacking in attractiveness. It is called a bul-pul and is an elaborate lace affair resembling in some respects an Elizabethan ruff. It is worn on special occasions and in different shapes. Sometimes it is not flared out from the head, but is worn hanging down the back. The Tehuana women perform the business functions of the tribe, many of them being small merchants in town upon the Isthmus. The men live in idleness. In this respect they are like the Burmese women and there is a striking resemblance between the Burmese and the Tehuana. The daily costumes of the Tehuana women very much resemble that of the Burmese women. They are truly oriental in their fondness for brilliant colors.

HOUSE OF DIAMONDS

About 20 years ago the diamond merchants of Amsterdam held their market as best they could. The merchants would meet in a cafe, or sometimes in the street, where, drawing their gems from their pockets, they would compare them, chaffer, and conclude their contracts. Those days may be termed the patriarchal age. In time the merchants saw that their precious goods were worthy of a more dignified procedure. They rented premises, which they named "Beurs voor den Diamanten." Business prospering, Amsterdam absorbed about two-thirds of the world's commerce in the precious stones, and the syndicate determined to build their own hall or exchange, and this the minister of the Interior has recently opened on the Weesperplein.

SLICE OF LARGEST TREE



What is believed to be the largest tree in the world grew in Southern California and stood over 300 feet high, measuring 90 feet at the base. The section here illustrated weighs 50 tons and is 56 feet in circumference. The concentric rings indicate that the tree began growing in the year 550.

FIRST STOCKING FRAME

The first stocking frames are said to have been made by William Lee curate of Culverton, in 1586, and were at first worked by him with the assistance of his sweetheart or wife.

Like most other inventors, he failed to receive a suitable reward for his labor and is said to have died at Paris in 1610, starving and broken-hearted. The stocking weavers' company, established in 1663, for the next 90 years had almost a monopoly of the business, but Great Britain today makes nearly one-half of the stockings made in the world. Germany is a close second, being famous for the cheapness and excellence of her hose.

BRIGHT MONEY IN STREAKS

A man who gives to his wife all the bright dimes and quarters and halves he gets says that bright money seems to run in streaks. Sometimes he gets a lot of bright coins for days and weeks in succession and then he may go a month and get not one.

SLOW MAIL FOILED CUPID

Because of the snail-like manner in which Uncle Sam sometimes delivers mail, Mrs. James Wormser, of Morgantown, W. Va., is not the wife of Cecil G. Morris, both having married since that day six years ago when the present Mrs. Wormser wrote a letter from her home, which was at that time at Webster Springs, and accepted the proposal of Morris, who lived at Riverville. The letter was six years on its journey, and when it finally reached Morris it was too late. The letter was mailed in 1906. It reached Riverville, Morris' former home, two days after it was mailed, as the postmark shows. Where the letter has been all these years cannot be ascertained. In a previous letter Morris had proposed to the woman and the missing letter contained her acceptance. Supposing the failure of the woman to answer was a rejection of his proposal, Morris married another. The woman, believing that he had changed his mind after receiving her acceptance, also married.

CORPSE'S HEAD PAYS DOCTOR

Representatives of Dr. Blair of Apache, Okla., traveled through the mountains of east Kentucky recently to Whitesburg, where they claimed the head from the corpse of Smith Fouch, promised 25 years previous as payment for Dr. Blair's services in saving Fouch's life. Fouch was shot in the eye. Dr. Blair performed a hazardous operation, and discovered, he said, that Fouch was able to perform normal functions with a bullet in his brain. Fouch said he could not pay the doctor but offered to will the physician his head. The doctor accepted, and when Fouch died, he left a note asking that Dr. Blair be reminded of the bequest.

LATEST OF ALPINE SPORTS



The latest Alpine winter sport may be called "bicycle tobogganing," and though it has only been introduced a short time it is likely to become very popular. The "bicycle-toboggan" comes from and has so far been seen only in Grindelwald, where its inventor, a local peasant, lives turning out his invention as fast as he is able. The accompanying picture shows that the new machine is much like an ordinary bicycle except for its having neither wheels nor pedals. There are handles by which to steer and foot-rests for the feet, which must be put on the ground whenever braking is necessary. Although at first it is difficult to steer straight, bicycle-tobogganing is very easy to learn.

MARVEL OF ALASKA

Alaska is a far distant country, a very rainy country, depressed by the long sub-Arctic nights; but there is somehow a fascination about it which draws back the man or woman who has once experienced it. And the life in Alaska is anything but frigid. Though so far from the cities, though for a hundred miles at a time you see not a house along the shore, the few towns are very unlike the raw frontier of the plains. Sitka is a gem, with its handsome Greek church, its old Russian headquarters, its picturesque shores, its Indian basket sellers, in Juneau is an agreeable social life as you will find anywhere, with most excellent state dinners. That is the marvel of Alaska—the contrast between the vast loneliness and the truly modern life of the scattered settlements. The first white child born in Alaska is hardly a woman yet, but it is already a community with a strong sense of its own future.—From "Practical Alaska," by Albert Bushnell Hart.

CAT CAUSES SUICIDE SCARE

"Please send a policeman here as quickly as possible!" the superintendent of the Riverview apartments, Pittsburg, said over the phone to Lieutenant Hayes in the police station the other night. "I believe some one has been killed with gas." Policeman Slinger arrived at the apartment house out of breath. He was told that the house was filled with gas and was coming from the apartments of Harold Roberts, a civil engineer on the third floor. When the policeman could not get in through the hall doors he climbed up a rear fire escape. In the kitchen he found gas escaping from the stove and under the stove was an unconscious cat. No member of the Roberts family was at home. The cat had turned on the gas while romping about the stove.