

HARD WINTER

May be Looked for, at Least that is What the Backwoods Prophets Predicts.

And all the Time Honored Signs Seems to Agree with Them.

When it comes to figuring out what kind of a winter this one will be Farmer Dunn is not in the race with his country rivals who base their prognostications upon time honored proverbs and the doings of wild and domestic animals.

He says the old proverbs, in which the modest prophets of the country place such confidence, are all rubbish, and that it is not possible, even with all the costly and new-fangled machinery of the Weather Bureau, to tell what kind of a winter it will be.

The country prophets are practically unanimous in announcing that this will be an uncommonly severe winter and they say that all the signs agree with their prediction. An Ohio farmer, who says that he has closely observed the doings of the weather for more than forty years, has issued a statement, which reads as follows: "Coons and possums have a heavy growth of fur coming on. The chipmunk and the squirrel are the busiest little animals in the world. The insects have left the north side of the trees in the woods as you will notice, and the feathers on the geese are heavier than ever before. My young lambs are growing wool that seems marvelous, and sheep that have been sheared are rapidly regaining their fleece. These signs were visible in 1857 and 1858. Another sign of a hard winter is the large hazel nut crop. This means also that lots of the boy babies will be born to take the place of those who will be killed in the coming war."

That prediction is followed by others of the same import from all parts of the country. However, this is not an unusual occurrence at this season; because it is just the time of year when the rural weather prophets are busiest, and nine years out of ten they insist that very cold weather is coming. The Indiana man comes to the front with the announcement that hucks are thicker this fall than usual, which he says, is an infallible sign that there will be cold weather during January and February. Boston's most famous unofficial prophet says that he has been a close observer of the English sparrow for years, and that the birds, which abound in the vicinity of Boston Common, are growing feathers on their legs. There is no doubt in his mind that this is a sign of an extremely cold winter.

Clear soon. Frost moon. is a saying that may be heard frequently in Pennsylvania. An old-time weather sign was an activity displayed by the beavers in laying in an extra large supply of winter food a month earlier than usual when a cold season was at hand. Similar activity on the part of bears gave warning of a severe season to the hunters in the early days. Bear tracks after the first fall of snow indicated a mild winter. In the fall before a cold and early winter chipmunks are unusually abundant. They are always hounded by October 1. Before a mild winter, however, they are to be seen as late as December 1.

The farmers say that when cows bellow in the evening it is safe to look out for snow during the night. When cattle collect near the barn long before night and remain huddled near it until late in the morning, winter is coming. When the donkey blows his horn 'Tis time to house your hay and corn, is an old saying. A thaw is to be expected when a cat is seen washing its face with her back to the fire. The old German saying, "If on Candlemas Day, February 2, it is bright and clear, the groundhog will stay in his den, thus indicating that more snow and cold are to come, but if it snows or rains he will creep out, as snow has ended," is responsible for the popular superstition regarding groundhog day.

Rural observers assert that hogs gather and store straws, hay and leaves before cold weather sets in. If a mole digs a hole two and a-half feet deep, it is an indication a severe winter is at hand; if the hole is two feet deep, the cold will not be quite so severe, if one foot deep it will be mild. Partridges drum only in a fall when a fall a mild and open winter follows. A scarcity of squirrels in autumn indicate the approach of a cold winter.

The old standby of the farmer prophets, however, is the breast bone of the goose. The whiteness of the bone indicates the amount of snow that will fall during the winter. If the November goose bone be thick

So will the winter weather; if the November goose bone be thin, so will the winter weather be. If the bone is red or has any red spots, expect a cold and stormy winter; but if only a few spots are visible, the winter will be mild.

Any authority says that the saying "Everything is lovely and the goose hanks high"—not "hangs high," is frequently quoted—is a weather proverb meaning that when wild geese fly high it is sign of fair weather. When birds of passage arrive early in their southern passage severe weather may be looked for soon. Blackbirds flocking together in the fall indicates a spell of cold weather. If crows fly south cold weather will follow; if north, a warm spell may be expected.

If autumn birds grow tame The winter will be too cold for game. Turkeys perched on trees and refusing to descend indicate snow to be initiated. When the ivory-billed woodpecker goes to work at the bottom of a tree and goes to the top, removing the outer bark on his way, it is an indication that there will be a deep snow. When the woodpecker disappears in the fall look out for a cold winter. When the wild ducks fly to the south it is a sign that winter is coming. When wrens are seen in winter expect snow and plenty of it. A fog in February indicates frost in May.

An old saying is "He that would have a bad day must go out in a fog after a frost," and another is: "A winter's fog will freeze a dog." Bearded frost is a forerunner of snow. Frost that occurs in the dark of the moon kills fruit, buds and blossoms, but frost in the light of the moon will not kill. Early frosts are usually followed by a long hard winter. The first frost of the season, the farmers say, occurs six weeks after the first song of the katydid.

Heavy white frosts is a sign that warmer weather is coming. Black frost is the forerunner of a spell of wet weather. Hoar frost indicates rain. Rural observers say that there will be as many frosts in June as there are fogs in February. Three white frosts, they say, will bring a rain every time.

Christmas comes on Tuesday this year. Here is a curious stanza from the Harlequin manuscript in the British museum:

If Christmas day on Tuesday be, That year will many women die, And winter grow great marvels, Ships shall be in great perils, That year shall Kings and Lords be slain, And many other people near them, A dry summer that year shall be, As all are born therein shall see, They shall be strong and covetous, If thou steal ought thou loesth thy life, For thou shall die through sword and knife, But if thou fall sick 'tis certain Thou shall turn to life again.

Old sayings have it that if All Saints' Day will bring out the winter, St. Martin's Day will bring out the Indian summer. It will bear a man before Christmas it will not bear a mouse afterward. The three days of September 20, 21, and 22 rules the weather for October, November and December. The first three days of January indicates that of the coming three months. The twelve days between December 25 and January 5 are the keys to the weather for the twelve months of the ensuing year.

If October is warm the following February will be cold. If October brings heavy frost and winds January and February will be mild. Much rain in October indicates much wind in December.—[New York Evening Sun.

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We the undersigned, have known F. J. Cheney for the last 15 years, and believe him perfectly honorable in all business transactions and financially able to carry out any obligations made by their firm. WEST & TRUAX, Wholesale Druggists, Toledo, O. WALKING, KINMAN & MARVIN, Wholesale Druggists, Toledo, O.

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Report Of school district No. 60 for the month ending Nov. 5, 1894: Cora Allen 100, Mollie Pirtle 99, Inez York 95, Georgia Pirtle 85, Henry Pirtle 90, Eddie York 71, James Allen 73, Susi Duke 92, Mabel Duke 96, Annie Grigsby 85, Elsie York 57, Altha Allen 93, Author York 50, Clarence Allen 74, Iva Vance 84, Nannie Crowder 70, Clarence Howard 91, Stevie Grigsby 87, Ollie York 72, Estill Allen 63, Maggie Sutton 52, Lonnie Holmer 71, Tom Sutton 73, Willie Hoxford 74, Wilber Oince 72. All grades below 70 was caused by absence. A. M. JOHNSTON, Teacher.

What is a bloomer dress? A lady gives the following explanation. "The bloomer dress is a pair of trousers very baggy at the knees, abnormally full about the pistol pockets, and considerably loose where you strike a match. The garment is cut décolleté at the south end, and the bottoms tied around the ankles or knees to keep the nice out. You can't put it over your head as you do your corset, but you sit down on the floor and pull it on just as you do your stockings—one foot in each compartment. You can easily tell which is the right side to have in front by the button on the neckband."

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THANKSGIVING PROCLAMATION.

President Cleveland Designates Thursday, Nov. 29, as a day to be observed.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 2.—The president has issued the following proclamation: By the president of the United States of America—A proclamation: The American people should gratefully render thanksgiving praise to the Supreme Ruler of the universe, who has watched over them with kindness and fostering care during the year that has just passed, they should also with humility and faith supplicate the father of all mercies for continued blessings according to their needs, and they should by deeds of charity seek the favor of the giver of every good and perfect gift.

Therefore, I, Grover Cleveland, president of the United States, do hereby appoint and set apart Thursday, the twenty-ninth day of November, inst., as a day of thanksgiving and prayer to be kept and observed by all the people of the land.

On that day let our ordinary work and business be suspended and let us meet in our accustomed places worship and give thanks to Almighty God for our preservation as a nation, for our immunity from disease and pestilence, for the harvests that have rewarded our husbandry, for a renewal of national prosperity and for every advance in virtue and intelligence that has marked our growth as a people.

And with our thanksgiving let us pray that these blessings may be multiplied unto us that our national conscience may be quickened to a better recognition of the power and goodness of God, and that in our national life we may clearer see and closer follow the path of righteousness.

And in our places of worship and praise, as well as in the happy reunions of kindred and friends on that day let us invoke divine approval by generously remembering the poor and needy. Surely He who has given us comfort and plenty will look upon our relief of the destitute and our ministrations of charity as the work of hearts truly grateful and as proofs of the sincerity of our thanksgiving.

Witness my hand and the seal of the United States which I have caused to be hereto affixed.

Done in the city of Washington on the first day of November, in the year of Our Lord, eighteen hundred and ninety-four, and of the independence of the United States, the one hundred and nineteenth.

GROVER CLEVELAND.

By the president: W. Q. GRESHAM, Secretary of State

No man is so poor to take the county newspaper, says an exchange, and it is false economy to get along without it. Hardly a week passes that something does not appear in its columns that will be of financial benefit to the subscriber, and by the end of the year he has made or saved from one to twenty times its subscription price. The city papers do not take the place of the county paper, although some people seem to think they do. The city papers are all right in their way, but they don't give you what you are most interested in—your county news. You can not learn from them when and where public meetings are to be held, who are dying or who are moving in and who are moving out, court proceedings, who wants to sell land—in fact, hundreds of items which might be of particular importance for you to know. Such matters city papers cannot furnish, but the county newspaper can and does. If you can afford but one paper, by all means take one that is published in the county in which you live.

HER CONFESSION.

A Fashionable Woman Compares Other Days with the Present. "Did nobody ever tell you that in some far prehistoric time I was in love with my husband?" said Mrs. Romaine carelessly. "Well, I was. I used to go to afternoon services in Lent and pray for that love to last, because the sensation was so much to my taste. I used to have ecstatic feelings when his foot was on the stair, and I sat sewing little baby clothes. We lived in a plainish way; then three dollars spent in two theater tickets was a tremendous outlay; and we walked out to dinner—I tucked up a long cloak, and laughing if the wind snatched it away from me at the corners and whipped it around my feet. Then he grew richer, and we broadened the borders of our pharmacy, and then—how—when—dare I say I can remember, we grew farther and farther away from each other. Now, when he is at home, I am aware of it because he is there behind a newspaper, but that is all! When our lips meet, it is like two pieces of dry parchment coming together. I have a perfectly unsurpassed power of annoying him by my presence. I know nothing of his affairs, nor he of mine. Our interests are his, not mine. Our house is mine, not his. All my tastes are 'fads,' but so long as I don't disagree with him, he does not interfere. I have money in abundance. Money—money—what care for money when a man's heart and soul and brain have gone into it? How long is it since he has thought I could want anything from him but a check? But ah! if I were you, and Gordon were my suitor—if, knowing what was to come, I had it all to live over again—I think I would take the bitter-present for one taste of the old sweet that never can come back!"—Century.

Secret of True Decoration.

It is essential to good decorative design, whatever its kind, whether it be a book cover or a wall-paper, a carpet or a tapestry, a carved panel or an inlaid floor, that the artist

shall recognize technical limitations, shall perceive technical possibilities, and shall be in sympathy with the material employed. The decorative artist must be swift to seize that one of the processes presenting themselves which will best suit his immediate object. "One reason for our modern failures lies in the multitude of our facilities," suggests Mr. Lewis F. Day in his little book on the "Application of Ornament," and he adds that "the secret of the ancient triumphs is often in the simplicity of the workman's resources." Where a man has but a single tool, he must perforce devise ornament which that single tool can accomplish, or else go without ornament altogether. Out of the struggle comes strength.

And yet, nothing venture, nothing have; the decorative artist, if he wishes to get outside the little circle of everyday banality, must try the hazard of new fortunes as often and as boldly as the explorer or the soldier. Often he will discover strange countries fair to see, which he will annex forthwith.—Brander Matthews, in Century.

Famous Mail Dog.

The famous mail dog "Owney," who is known the country over for his strange fad of riding in mail cars, came to Columbus from Athens recently over the Toledo & Ohio Central. Owney is a fox terrier and first came from Albany, N. Y. For ten years he has been riding on railway trains, always with the mail clerks, however, and is known by nearly every mail clerk in the country. Whenever the fat faces the strange little animal, he jumps on a train and rides until he gets tired, changing cars as often as he pleases. He lost an eye several years ago in a wreck in Canada. Owney has a collar completely covered with medals given him by mail clerks.—Ohio State Journal.

The Jumping Bean.

One of the curious products is the jumping bean, a vegetable curiosity, whose fads of acrobatic agility have never been fully explained by the scientists. They grow in pods, each pod containing three beans. When placed on the table they fall over and skip about, sometimes actually jumping a good two inches. When held between the thumb and forefinger they are felt to beat as strongly as the throbbing of a strong man's pulse.

Discouraging to Burglars.

There is little encouragement for a man to be a burglar nowadays. When he has an earnest aspiration to rise to eminence in the profession, inventive genius always gives all it can to bother him. For instance, the vaults of the subterranean in San Francisco are fitted with wires laid between every two rows of brick, so that every attempt to interfere with the electric circuit and sound a warning bell.—Boston Courier.

MISS BEATRICE HARRADEN.

The Pleasant Young Authoress Making Many Friends in America. Miss Beatrice Harraden is gaining health slowly but surely out in California. She is staying at a ranch near San Diego, and proposes to take a long draught of Pacific coast ozone before she leaves there next June. Those who meet the young Englishwoman find her a very charming personality. Entirely unassuming, her bright mind affords a fund of entertainment for her companions. At a dinner recently given by that veteran journalist, Charles Nordhoff, Miss Harraden was the center of attraction, and entertained the company with some of her experiences. "My book," she says, "brought me hundreds of letters in criticism of it. Some of them are very funny. An Italian said: 'I read your book and I love you.' I answered his letter. Such devotion was entrancing, though I believe this foreigner was ignorant of the English meaning of the words he used." Miss Harraden admits that her own experience at a health resort suggested the young woman in "Ships," and promises, too, that her forthcoming story is to be about healthy persons. She still suffers much inconvenience from paralysis of the right forearm, brought on by playing the violin. She can write only ten minutes at a time, and uses for this work a penholder of the diameter of a broomstick. This arm trouble is very similar to the affection known as writer's cramp, and affects the hand as well as the forearm.—N. Y. Times.

National Game in Florida.

They were doing their best, certainly they made noise enough, but circumstances were against them. When the ball came to be ground, from no matter what height or with what impetus, it fell dead on the sand; if it had been made of solid rubber it could not have rebounded. "Base running," was little better than base walking. Sliding was safe, but by the same token impossible. Worse yet, at every "foul stroke," or "wild throw," the ball was lost, and the bare-footed fielders had to pick their way painfully across the in the outlying saw-palmetto scrub till they found it. None but true patriots would have the heart to try it. The first baseman, certainly, who had oftentimes to wade into the scrub, should have received a consulate at the very least.—A Florida Sketch Book—Bradford Torrey.

The Largest Window.

The largest opanescent glass window in the world is in the new St. Paul's church at Milwaukee. It is what is known as a nave window, the lower half being composed of three immense panels, and the upper half of a splendid rose and tracery in a semicircle of brilliancy. This monster window in its extreme measurement is thirty feet and one inch in width and exactly twenty-four feet in height. It is beautifully executed, the subject being the Crucifixion—in fact it is an exact copy of Dore's masterpiece, "Christ Leaving the Praetorium." There are over two hundred life-size figures represented on this wonderful window.

WEDDING ETIQUETTE.

Rules to Be Observed by Persons Who Wish to Do the Right Thing.

The wedding seasons, perhaps more than any other social period, brings perplexities of etiquette to the many people concerned, directly or indirectly, in matrimonial occasions. Among points of all kinds which so good authority as Harper's Bazaar has decided plainly and briefly for inquiry are the following:

An invitation to house wedding or a wedding reception should be acknowledged by a written regret or acceptance, the same as for any other function. A card to a church wedding requires no response.

You should not take your guest to a wedding reception without asking permission of hostess.

Wedding gifts should be acknowledged by note as soon as possible. The better form as well as most convenient plan is to acknowledge them in the order of their arrival and immediately upon their receipt.

When a bride is married in her traveling dress she should wear a hat and gloves to complete the traveling toilet. A bouquet of white flowers gives a bride a touch. At a quiet wedding the sister of the bride wear pretty dresses of crepon, foulard or tulle.

The ushers, in pairs enter the church first, followed by the bridesmaids, escorted by her father or near male relation.

The easiest way to serve refreshments is to arrange them on a table in the dining room and serve to the guest standing. Salads, thin rolled bread and butter, acas, small cakes and coffee are sufficient.

The bride veil is now worn thrown back, as it is not an easy task to rearrange it after it has been draped over the face. The ushers present all guest to the bride and groom and the groom's friends to the bride.

If the young people of a family are old enough to be in society, cards should be addressed to them. Send an invitation to Mr. and Mrs. Jones, then invite to a mother envelop to the Misses Jones.

A bride-elect should not put p. c. on her cards. The refreshments may be served during the entire reception. It is hardly desirable to invite people to your wedding reception when you are not upon calling terms with them.

The souvenirs should be sent to the bridesmaids and ushers before the ceremony.

The fall of the year is a trying season for elderly people. The many cheerless, dark, dismal days act depressingly, not to say injuriously, on both old and young. Now is the time to re-enforce the vital energies with Ayer's Sarsaparilla—the best of all blood medicines.

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It indicates a family history of disease.

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It indicates a high degree of physical strength.

It indicates a high degree of mental power.

It indicates a high degree of spiritual energy.

It indicates a high degree of artistic talent.

It indicates a high degree of scientific ability.

It indicates a high degree of historical knowledge.

It indicates a high degree of philosophical insight.

It indicates a high degree of religious fervor.

It indicates a high degree of patriotic sentiment.

It indicates a high degree of humanitarian feeling.

It indicates a high degree of social consciousness.

It indicates a high degree of civic responsibility.

It indicates a high degree of public spirit.

It indicates a high degree of national pride.

It indicates a high degree of international goodwill.

It indicates a high degree of world peace.

It indicates a high degree of universal harmony.

It indicates a high degree of eternal life.

It indicates a high degree of divine grace.

It indicates a high degree of heavenly glory.



A wonderful event.

In such a state of civilization as ours, where merit is sure to be acknowledged, it is a wonder the factory of Dr. Fenner is worked to its fullest capacity to supply the medicines that are called, after such acknowledgements as the following come to be known: Fenner's Kidney and Bladder Cure has cured a man here with kidney and bladder disease whom the best physicians had given up. He is now well and sound. It is regarded here as a most wonderful event. His medicines are all good and give great satisfaction. Equally certain in female diseases, rheumatism, blood diseases, headaches, dropsy, heart disease, etc. Guaranteed to satisfy or money refunded. Take home a bottle today.

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