

#### THE WEATHER.

THE publication of a telegraphic weather bulletin, together with predictions, began in 1857, in this country.

THE annual rainfall in the Atlantic States is 39 inches; in the Southern, 55; in the Western, 26; in the Pacific, 62.

THE coldest place in the world is Yakutch, Russia; the thermometer sometimes falls to 73 degrees below zero.

THE falling snowflakes bring with them all the floating dust of the air, leaving the atmosphere extremely pure.

IN 1855 extremely cold weather prevailed in the United States. Mercury froze and forest trees were killed by frost.

THE heaviest rain ever recorded in Great Britain was in Argyle, Dec. 7, 1863—seven inches in twenty-four hours.

IN 1656 a hail storm at Norwich, England, wrecked houses and killed many animals that could not reach shelter.

SPAIN, Italy, Sweden, Hanover, Russia, Austria, and Turkey receive daily weather reports from Paris and London.

THE average rainfall of Great Britain is estimated to equal 630,000 gallons per acre every year—almost 3,000 tons.

IN 1544 the winter was so severe in Europe that in Flanders wine was frozen and was cut in blocks and sold by weight.

THE science of meteorology dates from the time of Aristotle, who, so far as known, made the first weather observations.

A WIND moving at forty miles an hour exerts a pressure of nine pounds to the square foot; at 100 miles, of fifty-six pounds.

STORM warnings have been displayed in the principal parts of this country without interruption since 1860; in England since 1861.

REGNAULT and Glaisher's tables allow a tolerably accurate prediction to be made of the amount of dew that will fall in a given night.

#### POPULAR SCIENCE.

MEASURED by our time standard, there are forty years of constant daylight, followed by forty years of unbroken night, around the poles of Uranus. And the sun rises in the west and sets in the east there.

LONDON has an annual average rainfall of but 25 inches, Paris 32 inches, Manchester 36 inches, and Edinburgh 38 inches, while Boston shows 46 inches, New York 45 inches, Philadelphia 41 inches, and Chicago 36 inches.

SIR WILLIAM THOMSON is forced to conclude that the hitherto supposed connection between terrestrial magnetic storms and sun spots has no existence, and that the seeming agreement between the periods is a mere coincidence and nothing more.

SHOOTING stars are small cosmic bodies generally weighing only a few grammes, often much less, and composed mainly of iron and carbon. They travel in swarms through space, and, like comets, move around the sun in very elongated orbits. When these cross the path of the earth, shooting stars become visible. They are not luminous in themselves. Their brilliancy is the result of the transformation of their rapid motion into heat.

PASTEUR, the French scientist, has shown that all fruit and vegetables when undergoing even partial decay, contain bacteria, which, if taken into the stomach may cause disease. Fruit grown near the ground may contain the bacteria of typhoid fever, tetanus, diphtheria or cholera, which may have found their way into the material used for fertilizing, or may have become incorporated with the dried dust. Hence one should never neglect to cleanse fruit. Especial care should be taken with imported or shipped fruit—more particularly that from districts where there are infectious diseases.

#### PERSONAL PARAGRAPHS.

JUSTICES BREWER, Brown and Shiras are Yale graduates.

THOMAS HENRY, a St. Louis boy, 14 years old, completed a trip to the Pacific coast and back alone. His father, believing in the education of travel, sent the boy out to make this trip.

THE earliest known photograph of Sarah Bernhardt was taken in 1867, when she was playing at the Odeon. Her dress had a crinoline, and her face is innocent and childish. Since then one photographer alone has taken her in 1,907 different attitudes.

A RECENT issue of a newspaper of Monongahela City, Pa., announced that Elder J. M. Springer, of Belle Vernon, would preach on Sunday at Duquesne, marry a couple at Fayette City on Monday, and conduct a funeral at Belle Vernon on Wednesday. Mr. Springer is a preacher, a justice of the peace, an undertaker and a furniture dealer.

#### ODDS AND ENDS.

THE Hebrew year commences Sept. 6. ROMAN law forbade the use of silk by men.

HYDROGEN gas is the most perfectly fluid substance.

THE ancients considered coral a valuable medicine.

THE mouth of the star fish is exactly in the center.

A SINGLE oyster in season produces about 1,000,000 young.

GLOVES were worn by ancient Egyptians and Hebrews.

THE young frog has a special breathing organ in its tail.

THE cabmen of Paris are forbidden to smoke pipes while driving a fare.

#### The First Savings Bank.

The first savings bank in this country was the Philadelpia Savings Fund Society, organized in 1816. It is still in existence. Later, in 1817, a saving bank was founded in Boston, and in 1819 one was started in New York. National banks were authorized by various acts of Congress in 1863, 1864 and 1865. The plan of the Government was to get the banks to buy Government bonds, and to do so it gave them the right to issue notes to the amount of 10 per cent. of those they had bought. A savings bank is not a bank of deposit; apart from its character as an issuer of notes, a National bank is a bank of deposit.

#### Saved by a Shriek.

A French actress who has a wonderful talent for shrieking—one of her stage yells being, "My child, my child, give me back my child"—was recently seized by two highwaymen in a gloomy place in the country. For a moment she was too much startled to do anything, but her senses returned promptly and she threw her whole energy and the full force of her wonderful lungs into one shriek. She did not cry "help," but, as she said, "let off" her usual cry, "My child, my child—give me back my child!" The highwaymen dropped her, stuck their fingers in their ears and fled, their hair on end. Such a shriek they had never heard before, and from the fact that there was no "child" anywhere in sight, they made sure that they had captured a raving maniac.

#### Bismarck's Student Days.

Bismarck was a student at Goettingen in 1832 and 1833, where his skill in fence won for him the surname "Achilles the invulnerable." In three terms he fought twenty duels and received only a single wound, of which the scar on his lower jaw near the lip is still perceptible, but as this was caused by his adversary's blade flying from the hit, it was contrary to the code, so that his reputation for invulnerability remained technically unimpaired. Indeed, the university authorities forbade him to fight certain protected duels on pain of expulsion.

#### One of Nature's Querest Freaks.

There is a shell-fish, called the coat-of-mail, which has its eyes, not on its body, where we would naturally look for them, but on its shell. They glisten like crystals in their calcareous settings. As well might we expect to see eyes on the shell of a tortoise, or on our finger nails. This discovery, so new in science, has led to a closer inspection. In one specimen 300 eyes were counted, 24 rows, with an average of 15 to each row. Another shell, in which the eyes were very small, had 8,500 eyes on it.

#### Known in Ancient Times.

They began to have dressmakers' bills over 2,800 years before Christ. One of these bills, on a Chaldean tablet, has just been discovered. All the items on it prove the good taste and luxury of the people of those days. There were "ten white robes of the temple; eight robes of the house of his lady; ten collars of the house of his lady; ten pair gold collars, two white robes, two scented robes."

#### Greater Than Riches.

There are plenty of men in this country who are rich and yet have hardly a cent in their pocket, some of them not even owning a pocket book. In this land and in this day and age to have a good constitution, good health, and good pluck, are greater riches than gold or silver. With many men, well divided energy, backed by a clear mind and a happy disposition is far better than many acres left by indulgent parents are, to others. That man who has a home, a good cheerful disposition, who is kind, hopeful and plucky, is rich if he does not own a dollar and has no expectation of one, except as he gets it by the sweat of his brow and the honest efforts of his own will and mind and talent. The hardest thing in life is for a man to get along with himself. If he can master himself, he can master the world.

#### Correspondence.

THE INDEPENDENT wants a good live correspondent in every town, village and neighborhood in the county. We furnish the paper and all necessary material to our agents and correspondents free, and will give a liberal commission to all who work for us. Write us for further particulars.

#### Don't—Do Not.

Don't read this if you expect to find the old stereotyped advice unamended. Don't go to bed with cold feet unless they have been pickled and taken inwardly.

Don't lie on the left side too much—lie on the right side all you can, as it pays better.

Don't jump out of bed immediately on awakening in the morning—but this advice is unnecessary. No sane man ever did it.

Don't eat between meals—if you get hungry have the meals oftener or whenever you get hungry.

Don't take long walks on an empty stomach. If you want to walk on a stomach at all, try and find a full one, as it is softer traveling. A stomach is not a very good place for a long walk, anyway.—Texas Siftings.

JOHN S. BENDER, Attorney at Law, PLYMOUTH, IND. Office over Shoemaker's Restaurant. Will promptly attend to all business entrusted to him in the line of his profession.

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