

LIGHTHOUSE AND LIGHTSHIP.

Government Beacons and Signals for the Protection of Ships at Sea.

No more lonely life could well be imagined than that which is led by the keepers of a lighthouse. Cut off, for months together, from all the rest of the world, looking out on nothing save sea and sky or a passing vessel; hearing nothing but shrieking winds and thundering waves, and knowing that the slightest neglect of duty may cause the loss of many lives, is there any wonder that men in this position become morbid and morose, and that they sometimes pine away through utter loneliness?

For a number of years the United States government has been trying to devise some means of communication between lighthouses and the land. A plan, which is now under consideration, involves the laying of an ordinary telegraph cable out from the shore into the ocean for any desired number of miles. A buoy is anchored to mark the sea-end of the cable, and the precise location of the buoy is set down on the nautical charts.

If a vessel should desire to send a message to the land, she will anchor close to the buoy and drop a wire overboard, with a ground-plate attached to it. The wire is not expected to come in contact with the cable, but as salt water is an excellent conductor, the electric current, from a battery on board the ship, will jump from the wire to the cable and be transmitted to the shore-station.

Eighty-one steam sirens and other fog-signals have been placed by the government on lighthouses and lightships, at a cost of six hundred thousand dollars, and maintained at a yearly expense of one hundred thousand dollars.

The siren, which was invented by Prof. Henry, is a huge trumpet with bell-shaped mouth, pointed out to sea. Nothing has ever been made that is capable of emitting such a loud and far-reaching noise. A powerful jet of steam is projected through a tube, which is partly obstructed by a revolving wheel perforated with slits. The faster the wheel goes round, the higher and louder is the shriek which comes from the machine.

There are a number of lighthouses which it would be desirable to connect by telegraph with the mainland. Take for example the lighthouse situated on one of the Farallone islands, in the Pacific ocean, twenty-two miles from San Francisco. No more desolate situation could well be imagined. The lighthouse has a powerful light, which stands three hundred and sixty feet above the sea. This light is supplemented by a fog whistle of peculiar character. The surf beating on the shore formed many caves in the rocks. One of them had a hole in its top, and through that hole the incoming breakers expelled the air carried before them. The mouthpiece of a huge trumpet was fixed in this hole, and now the waves blow loud and powerful blasts through it. It is only silent for an hour and a half each day.

Tillamook Rock is an islet one acre in extent, one mile from shore, and twenty miles south of the entrance of the Columbia river, Oregon. There is a lighthouse on it, the building of which was a difficult task.

The rock rises one hundred feet above sea level, with deep water all around. Thousands of sea-lions made it their home, and it was a hard matter to drive them away. The first man who tried to land and make a survey of the rock was drowned. Then eight men reached the islet by the breeches buoy, and sought to find a shelter by cutting away some of the rock. A hurricane came up which threw waves over the summit, and they were nearly swept away. But they toiled on with drills and dynamite; the top of the rock was leveled, and a tower was put up, with a light one hundred and thirty-six feet above the sea.

The lighthouse is provided with a siren, which has two trumpets. The two steel boilers which generate the steam are as large as locomotive boilers. The trumpets sound blasts of five seconds duration at intervals of one and a half minutes, when there is a fog. Under favorable conditions, the shrieks can be heard at a distance of thirty miles. It sometimes happens, however, that they will be audible at seven miles, wholly inaudible at twelve miles, and audible again at a greater distance from the rock. This is due to the refraction of sound waves by wind.

Minor's ledge lighthouse, near Boston, stands on a rock that is under water at low tide. In winter its keepers are shut off for months together from the outside world. Several lighthouses on the Florida reefs are equally solitary. How an occasional message from the shore would bring a ray of sunshine into lives of dreary exile.

The "banks" south of Nantucket, on the New England coast, have a record of five hundred wrecks, and they are guarded by the New South shoal lightship, which lies anchored twenty-six miles from the nearest land. As the ship lies in the track of transatlantic vessels, if there were some means of sending news from it to the mainland, vessels bound for New York could be reported in advance to the owners. Sailing craft with perishable cargoes could also telegraph for tugs, and the commercial advantage would be great.

Sometimes this lightship is blown away by a storm, and is off her station for weeks. Her failure to report would indicate that an accident had happened, and a supplementary lightship could be sent to take her place and warn vessels off the shoals.—Golden Days.

—You can learn more about a man in twenty-four hours after it is too late than you could in a year before. How a woman does like to pretend to defy a man of whom she is really afraid. It is very easy to make up one's mind, but the difficulty comes in keeping it there. If we all acted naturally we would have but few companions. Judging a man by his face is no more satisfactory than it would be to accept a banana for its skin.—Milwaukee Journal.

—She Was—Laura—"When your father came in, was Jack on his knees?" Clara—"No; I was"—Truth.

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A Pair of Statesmen out of a Job.

And Mr Ingalls lectured to Kansas City people on honesty in government and other things. Major Warner introduced Ingalls. It certainly must have been refreshing to the curiosity seekers who foolishly blew in their money to sit in the auditorium last Monday night to witness the ghost dance of Warner and Ingalls. They are both dead—politically dead, dead beyond the power of electricity to revive only in spasmodic kicks. Warner who stole a seat in congress through ballots burned and Ingalls who bought his election to the senate two times out of three and tried to do it the fourth time made a charming pair of partisan itinerants, playing the scold act to a Missouri audience. It is enough to cause both Rodman and Pomeroy to turn over in their graves.—Western Spirit.

A Sound Liver Makes a Well Man

Are you bilious, constipated or troubled with Jaundice Sick Headache, Bad Taste in Mouth, Foul Breath, Coated Tongue, Dyspepsia, Indigestion, Hot Dry Skin, Pain in back and between the Shoulders' Chills and Fever, &c. If you have any of these symptoms your liver is out of order, and your blood is slowly being poisoned, because your liver does not act properly. Herbine will cure any disorder of the Liver, Stomach or Bowels. It has no equal as a Liver Medicine. Price 75cts. Free trial bottles at H. L. Tucker's drugstore 22-1 year.

A newspaper is always printed in a

rush, says the New York Sun. There is always something in it that should be left out; something left out that should be put in. It is sometimes too quick to act, but with all its short comings and faults there is more education in a bright newspaper than in a novel. You will find that the brightest boy on all practical, sensible, everyday questions it is the boy who reads the newspapers.—Ex.

Ballard's Snow Lintment. 1

This invaluable remedy is one that ought to be in every household. It will cure your Rheumatism, Neuralgia, sprains, cuts, bruises, burns, trosted feet and ears, sore throat and sore chest. It you have a lame back it will cure it. It penetrates to the seat of the disease. It will cure stiff joints, and contracted muscles after all other remedies have failed. Those who have been crippled for years have used Ballard's Snow Lintment and thrown away their crutches and been able to walk as well as ever. It will cure you. Price 50c. Sold by H. L. Tucker, druggist.

Interceding For Howard.

Jefferson City, Mo., Dec 15.—Governor Stone is in receipt of a petition from residents of Kentucky asking that the death sentence imposed upon Wils Howard be commuted to life imprisonment in the penitentiary. Howard is under sentence to be executed in Laclede county on the 20th for the murder of a deaf mute. He is charged with more than a score of murders and numerous other crimes, and has now cost this State some \$7,000. The petitioners are not known here, and there is scarcely a doubt but the Governor will let the law take its course.

Two Lives Saved. 5

Mrs Phoebe Thomas, of Junction City, Illinois, was told by her doctors she had consumption and that there was no hope for her, but two bottles of Dr. King's New Discovery completely cured her and she says it saved her life. Mr Thos Eggers 135 Florida street, San Francisco suffered from a dreadful cold, approaching consumption, tried without result everything else then bought one bottle of Dr. King's New Discovery and in two weeks was cured. He is naturally thankful. It is such results, of which these are samples, that prove the wonderful efficacy of this medicine in coughs or colds. Free trial bottles at H. L. Tucker's drugstore. Regular size 50c and \$1.

The late P. T. Barnum, whose

ability as a financier is well known, in one of his addresses made this challenge: "I will undertake, and give bond for the fulfillment of the contract, that if the city of Philadelphia will stop selling liquor and give me as much as was expended there for liquor last year, I will pay all the city expenses, no person living within her borders shall pay taxes, there shall be no insurance on property; a good dress and suit shall be given to every poor boy, girl, man and woman; all the educational expenses shall be paid, a barrel of flour shall be given to every needy and worthy person, and I will clear a half million or a million dollars by the operation."

Bucklen's Arnica Salve.

The Best Salve in the world for Cuts Bruises, Sores, Ulcers, Salt Rheum, Fever Sores, Tetter, Chapped Hands, Chilblains, Corns, and all Skin Eruptions, and positively cures Piles, or no pay required. It is guaranteed to give perfect satisfaction or money refunded. Price 25 cts per box For sale by H. L. Tucker, druggist.

HOME AS AN INVESTMENT.

Ownership of a Residence an Incentive to Frugality and Thrift.

One of the signs of the times, and a sign of still better times to come, is the increasing demand among people of moderate means for a "local habitation."

Notwithstanding Matthew Arnold's learned protests against the supremacy of the individual, there is something in the very air we breathe that makes us rebel at being swallowed up as a mere cipher in the general unit.

Every one wishes to impress his identity upon some little spot of this great round world before he leaves it, and in none ought this to be a stronger sentiment than in the newly married.

If beginners in life would start out with the determination of owning their roof-tree as soon as possible, and if both are of one accord, they can easily regulate their style of living with this end in view. No spasmodic effort will achieve it, only a careful laying aside of small sums regularly.

They will find that after the home is once secured they will wish to "improve it," and the habit of judicious saving being already acquired, it will be no hardship to deny themselves extravagant clothes and aimless jaunts in order to add new beauties and comforts to their abiding place.

A bay window must be thrown out in the little dining-room; capacious closets, to meet the demands of the growing family, must fill in the waste spaces of the recesses; rose bushes are planted by the dozen and watered with tears of joy; shelves are put up for the saving of steps, and the proud mistress of it all learns to wield the paint brush to the annihilation of unsightly surfaces.

The man takes a quiet, intense satisfaction in his feeling of ownership, but the supreme moment in the life of the woman is when she can take her inquisitive friends from garret to cellar and say, with exultant pride, "It is our own."

She knows that in spite of the pessimists' sentiment the home is a powerful influence for good, and for the sake of bringing up her children where they may fix their affections she is more than willing to make motherly sacrifices innumerable.

It is worth the effort made to escape the horrors of moving day alone, and the children may at last have a play-room where they may tack pictures all over the walls without a threatened suit from an irate landlord.

The average business man, sick of the din and traffic of commercial quarters, longs for a suburban home and promises himself the luxury of plenty of elbow room and ozone "when his ship comes in." So widespread is this predilection becoming that it must be accorded the virtue of an inherent impulse toward "sweetness and light."

London, Paris and New York are girdled by a chain of towns situated within a radius of twenty miles from the great centers of trade. The increasing number who seek these homes leads to the inference that health and comfort are the compensations for the daily scramble to reach train and boat.

But some men deny that it is cheaper or more advantageous to own your own house than to rent one, claiming that taxes and insurance more than offset a good rental. Let no home-loving young couple pin their faith to this tattered fallacy.

You can spend all your youth renting and hopping from house to house and be none the better off by the time your children are grown, when by making a first payment and afterward quarterly sums, only equal in many cases to a very low rent, you become an owner before you have half realized the fact.

It gives you a different standing in your community to be a landed proprietor to even this extent. You have a say about the improvements in your neighborhood; you can lift your voice for sanitary drainage and demand of the mayor to sweep your cobblestones. Look at it as an investment for that rainy day which clouds the horizon of nearly every life. By making an effort to secure a roof over his head a man places a bulwark between himself and utter ruin should business or physical misfortune befall him.

A house bought by frugality in the heyday of youthful enthusiasm has many a time been the means of averting disaster or of realizing for its fortunate owner the capital wherewith to make a renewed effort in middle life.

There is, too, another consideration in favor of a real home, which if less utilitarian is also binding upon the prospective heads of families. There may be talented ones and even geniuses among the flock, and a noted writer says that the literary aspirant and others of artistic temperament must write out of the fullness of their early recollections. Where is that fullness to come from unless there be a permanent vine and fig tree?

Will the fact that there was or was not a basement kitchen, that one cellar was damp and another dry suffice for literary material to the mind that would muse upon its past and paint pen pictures?

This nomadic existence led by our children, this "moving on," like Poor Jo, and moving ever, from street to street deprives them of their birthright—the right to fix upon their impressionable minds and hearts that abiding love of home which appeals to them through every drop of their Anglo-Saxon blood.—N. Y. Herald.

—It is alleged of a gauger, not long ago dismissed from the revenue service, that he lost his place because of a tin breastplate. The chest protector followed in shape the contour of his form, fitted on beneath the vest. It was hollow and held about a fluid gallon. Its frequent filling at the expense of wholesome liquor dealers led to his downfall.

—A New England firm is introducing an automatic gas lighter for street lamps, which works on the principle of an eight-day clock. It is explained that the only attention the lighter requires is a weekly winding of the clock movement, and that it lights the lamp at the required time and extinguishes it at daybreak.

A NEW BUNKO GAME.

Originality of a Scheme to Swindle the Unopprobriated in Chicago.

"That's mine!"

"It's mine!"

The two men spoke simultaneously, and reached at about the same instant for a crumpled piece of paper that lay on the sidewalk. The man with the purple necktie was a shade the quicker of the two. His hand closed over the paper just in time to be clutched itself in the grasp of the other man, a dusty, travel-stained pilgrim in a gray suit and carrying a valise, says the Chicago Tribune.

There was a momentary struggle, but the man with the purple necktie retained possession of the prize.

"I saw that first!" hotly exclaimed the traveler.

"If you saw it first, my friend," replied the other, "why didn't you pick it up?"

"You jumped in ahead of me."

"I saw it as soon as you did, if not a little sooner. I was making for it when you stooped."

"I was nearer to it! I had the best right to it! I demand—"

"Softly, my dear sir," said the man with the purple necktie, retreating as the other advanced. "Possession is nine points of the law, and the point you're trying to make is not well taken. I think I saw it first, and I certainly got it first. I am going to keep it unless—hello!" he exclaimed, as he opened the piece of green paper and looked at it. "It's a twenty-dollar bill!"

"I say it's a bloody shame and a—"

"Hold on! This is a bigger find than I expected. I thought it was a five. I am willing to divide it with you. Isn't that fair? Isn't it a little more than fair?"

The dusty traveler reflected a moment.

"Well," he said, "I guess that's square enough. Got a ten dollar bill?"

"No, but if you'll wait here a minute I'll take this into a cigar shop round the corner and get it changed."

"You needn't do that. I think I've got a ten."

With some alacrity he drew a leather wallet from his pocket, opened it, extracted a bill and handed it over, receiving the twenty dollars in exchange.

Two hours later, with a fierce gleam in his eye and a hickory club in his hand, he was hunting all over town for a man with a purple necktie.

The twenty dollar bill was a counterfeit.

A THOUSAND SERVANTS.

The Extensive Retinue Which Waits on the Wish of England's Queen.

Queen Victoria's household comprises a multitude of titled and salaried officials, says the St. Louis Globe-Democrat. There are the lord steward, the lord chamberlain, the treasurer, the comptroller, the keeper of the privy purse, his assistants and secretaries, the coroner and the electric light engineer. The lord chamberlain's department comprises a vice chamberlain, comptroller, examiner of accounts, paymaster, master of ceremonies, marshal of ceremonies, lords in waiting, gentlemen ushers of the privy chamber, gentlemen ushers of the black rod, gentlemen ushers quarterly waiters, serjeant-at-arms, poet laureate, examiner of plays, librarian, painter, marine painter, sculptor, surveyor of pictures, German librarian, constable of Windsor, gentlemen-at-arms and yeomen. The department of the master of the horse comprises: Master of the buckhounds, clerk marshals, grand falconer, crown equerry, equeries in ordinary, extra equeries, honorary equeries, pages of honor, superintendent of royal news, storekeeper and a host of clerks. The department of the mistress of the robes comprises: Ladies of the bedchamber, extra ladies of the bedchamber, bedchamber women, extra bedchamber women, maids of honor, groom of the robes, clerks of the robes and chaplain. The religious department consists of the dean of the chapel royal, clerk of the closet, deputy clerks of the closet and domestic chaplains. The medical department has among its members physicians in ordinary, physicians extraordinary, serjeant surgeons, surgeons extraordinary, physicians to the household, surgeon to the household, surgeon apothecary, other surgeons and apothecaries, surgeon oculist, surgeon dentist, dentists to the household and chemists and druggists. There are also hereditary grand almoner, a lord high almoner, a sub-almoner and secretaries, clerks, waiters, servants and other persons to the number of about a thousand.

Illiteracy in Various Countries.

Recent statistics state that the greatest proportion of illiterates is found in the three Slavic states of Roumania, Russia and Serbia, where 80 per cent. of the population is unable to read or write. Of the Latin-speaking races Spain heads the list with 48 per cent., France and Belgium having about 45 per cent. The illiterates in Hungary number about 43 per cent.; in Austria, 39 per cent., and in Ireland, 21. In England we find 13 per cent.; Holland, 19 per cent.; United States (white population), 8 per cent., and Scotland, 7 per cent. unable to read or write. When we come to the purely Teutonic states we find a marked reduction in the percentage of illiterates. The highest is in Switzerland, 2.5. In the whole German empire it is but 1 per cent. In Sweden, Denmark, Bavaria, Baden and Wurtemberg there is not a single person over ten years of age unable to read and write.

Averting the Cholera.

The Persians resort to curious rites for the purpose of averting the attacks of the cholera. One of the most widely practiced of these is that of passing under the Koran. Two elders stand opposite each other, holding between them a scroll of the Koran swinged in a silken scarf. Under this wringing talisman the peasants pass one by one and then go home, convinced that the cholera will not be able to touch them.

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