

THE SPIRIT OF THE AGE

WOODSTOCK, VERMONT

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

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Woodstock, Vermont.

Printed Saturday Morning

ONE DOLLAR A YEAR

WOODSTOCK NEWS

The Hartland Nature Club.

At the October meeting of the Hartland Nature Club held Saturday the twelfth, the final election of officers took place, the choice being as follows:

President, P. W. Whiting; vice-president, J. G. Underwood; secretary and treasurer, Mrs. May E. Rogers; chairman of executive committee, Mrs. D. C. Webster.

Resolutions of sympathy on the death of Mrs. Darling were offered and directed to be sent to the bereaved family.

Mrs. T. A. Hurd of "Fairview Farm," presented to the Club a fine collection of insects in Denton mounts, with a beautiful Denton case.

Mr. Whiting gave an interesting report on the Bussey Institution's recent discoveries concerning infantile paralysis caused by the bite of the stable fly, and Miss Emmeline Webster read an original paper on "The Flora of the Sand Plains of Hartland," which she illustrated profusely by specimens from the Herbarium.

The next meeting will be held November 9.

Ascutey Must Be Saved.

The "Mountaineer" in the Boston Transcript refers to the new parks now being added to Vermont's public domain, the latest being on Paine Mountain, east of Northfield village. The "Mountaineer" goes on:

But there is a fly in almost every amber and that of Vermont presents itself in the advertisement in local papers, "Help Wanted, Lumbermen, choppers and teamsters wanted on Ascutey Mountain." Vermont has done so well with its public spirited citizens and its local organizations, that it is a pity to have this vidette despoiled. It is difficult to move legislatures of forested states to action when lumber companies are prepared to join their interests and any action on the part of the people must be disconnected and sporadic. In New Hampshire the boarding house interests are very strong, nearly as strong financially as the lumbermen, so that action by the state has been taken and decisive action, saving the Crawford Notch.

Vermont has smaller interest in summer people and these can hardly organize themselves in an effective way. But Vermont has another force as yet untapped, its Green Mountain club. There is an opportunity for it really to work. It has been fairly successful with the departments of the state and through the forestry division has been able to secure by far the largest part of the existing "Great Trail," through the happy need of the fire patrol over the same lines. But here is a chance to show its worth. If Ascutey is worth saving, let the Green Mountain club help save it for the honor of the state. The little local association of farmers taking its name from the mountain has evinced a great deal of interest in the mountain. It has improved the road, made the cabin habitable and each year brings a concourse of people to its summit. But such local influences are not powerful enough for emergencies like the present.

Ascutey is one of the most pleasant mountains in all Vermont. In a way it is the friend and companion of Moosilauke across the river, although on the ground this companionship may not be so evident. It is the invitation to those approaching the Green Mountain state to come over and know it better, and Vermont presents it in a charming invitation. But with the forest cut away from the landmark of him who approaches through the hills of Sunapee and Claremont, the prospect will be forbidding.

Now Going to Press

The next issue of the telephone directory for this section is now being made up.

The forms will close on

NOV. 5, 1912

so that all orders should be sent to the local office or telephoned to the Manager AT ONCE.

Do not delay in this matter, as it may mean disappointment to do so. Start the order on its way now.



NEW ENGLAND TELEPHONE AND TELEGRAPH COMPANY

HARTLAND.

Miss Ellen M. Graham, eldest daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Joseph K. Graham, died at the hospital in Hanover October 16, after an operation. She was born in West Windsor 66 years ago and came to Hartland when a child with her parents, and Hartland has been her home most of her life. A few years ago she became crippled in one limb, and has since had to use crutches. Miss Graham was a very kindhearted and industrious woman. She leaves four sisters, Mrs. Mary Blakeley of Connecticut, Mrs. F. E. Gilson and Mrs. E. G. Temple of Hartland, Mrs. G. M. Jenne of Putney; two brothers, George, of Illinois, and Guy E. Graham of Hartland. The funeral was held in the Congregational church Oct. 19. Rev. W. F. Hill officiating. D. P. Barbour, L. I. Walker, W. E. Britton and H. A. Walker acted as bearers; burial in the village cemetery. Beautiful flowers were sent by relatives and friends. Relatives from out of town were Mr. and Mrs. G. M. Jenne and son Harold of Putney, Mea. May Bird and Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Temple of Claremont and Harold E. Gilson of Hyde Park, Mass.

SHERBURNE

Mrs. Mary Wilson is again with her son Walter and wife, having passed a few days with friends in Bridgewater.

Ezra Tatro was a guest at Arton Tupper's Saturday night, his wife and child returning home with him Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Furman of Bridgewater were Sunday guests at H. E. Wilson's.

A. C. Plumley was in Rutland and Stockbridge Monday.

Will LaCount has finished his work for F. G. Spaulding and has gone to Stockbridge.

In spite of the rain last Saturday A. C. Plumley's auction was well attended, and we think everything sold. We are sorry to have Bert's folks go away.

J. E. Davis was in Stockbridge and vicinity Monday of this week.

E. J. Wilson and wife of Bennington, N. H., are visiting friends in town.

Dr. Holton Resigns.

Dr. Henry D. Holton of Brattleboro, for many years secretary and executive officer of the state board of health, has announced his resignation of that office, but will continue as a member of the board.

At a meeting held October 16 in Montpelier, Dr. C. F. Dalton, of Burlington, was selected to succeed Dr. Holton as secretary and executive officer. It was largely through Dr. Holton's efforts that a state board of health was established and his work in behalf of the general health of the state preceded by some time the formation of the board.

Dr. Dalton has been for a number of years city health officer at Burlington. He will enter upon his duties December 1, when Dr. Holton's resignation takes effect.

SMALLPOX IS SPREADING

Montpelier Orders All Residents of Barre to Keep Out of City.

That smallpox has not been confined to Barre, notwithstanding the feeling of security on the part of the officials of Montpelier, was shown when the small child of Frank Baker of Williamstown became ill with the disease. There were also two new cases reported in Barre during the day, Ida Mauzzi of Hillside avenue and Ralph A. Martin of Merchant street.

The number of cases now stand at 16 in Barre city, five in Barre town and one in Williamstown, a total of 22, with others under close watch as suspected cases.

Results of Potato and Apple Contests.

The following shows the results of potato and apple contests conducted by the White River Railroad company:

Potato contest—First prize, F. E. Burditt, Rochester: Yield 50 bushels to the acre; appearance of field, 9.5; freedom from disease, 18.4; trueness to type, 14.7; quality, 4.4; 97.

Second prize, Fred Neff, Pittsfield. Total scores of 80.

Third prize, E. E. Akey, Rochester. Total score of 78.

Fourth prize, John Knights, Stockbridge. Total score of 77.

Fifth prize, H. W. Whitaker, Rochester. Total score of 76.4.

Apple contest—First prize, C. E. Martin, Rochester; second prize, W. H. Hubbard, Rochester.

The fields were judged by F. H. Elton of South Royalton, and O. L. Martin, state commissioner of agriculture, with the following results:

The fields were scored on a possible 100 points, the yield to count 50, appearance of the field 10, trueness to type 15, freedom from disease 20, quality 5. The interest in these contests was remarkable, both among the contestants and community at large. All the fields presented a very great improvement over these fields in the previous contests of the road. The winner of this contest is a recent graduate of the Vermont agricultural college.

Flies Over Lake Champlain.

Starting from Plattsburg, N. Y., barracks in a Burgess-Wright aeroplane Aviator George A. Gray of Boston crossed Lake Champlain at an altitude of 4000 feet and landed in Burlington. The distance covered is 35 miles and Aviator Gray is the first man to cross the lake.

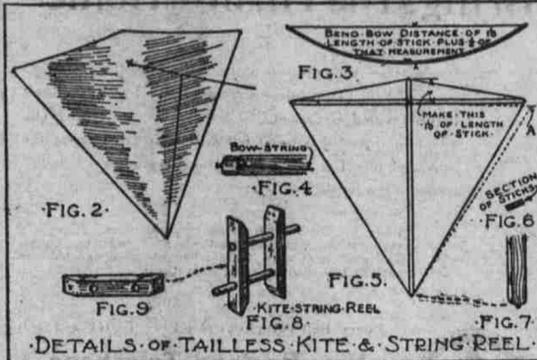
His aeroplane is likewise the first one ever seen in Burlington and attracted considerable attention at Centennial field. The aviator also made another flight over the city.

Mrs. Elizabeth Peterson, 70 years old, of South Northfield, was found at the bottom of a 10-foot fountain in the common at Northfield Center Sunday. A search started when the Sullivan family, with whom the woman resided, reported her missing. It is believed to have been a case of suicide.

BOYS' HANDICRAFT

By A. NEELY HALL

Author of "Handicraft for Handy Boys" and "The Boy Craftman"



A TAILLESS KITE.

The tailless kite shown in Fig. 1, known as the Malay, is one of the simplest forms to make, and it is such a big improvement over the hexagonal kites. Its advantages are many. It is that it has become the most popular type among boys who make their own kites. Its advantages are many. It is a very steady flier, it will fly in a light breeze; it has good lifting qualities for sending up flags and banners on its line, and with no tail to hamper it there is little danger of it getting caught in trees, on telegraph wires, and on chimneys. It is safe to say that fifty per cent. of kites with tails are lost through the entanglement of the tails.

Three feet is a good length for a medium-sized kite. Spruce is the best material for the sticks, but any soft straight-grained wood will serve the purpose. Cut the two sticks of equal length, and make them thin and wide, rather than narrow and thick, as shown in Fig. 6.

Fig. 3 shows the bow stick with the bow-string attached. Cut a notch in the stick near each end to hold the ends of the bow-string, as shown in Fig. 4. The proper bend for the bow stick is 1-10 of the length of the stick, plus 1/2 of that measurement, which will be a trifle more than 1/7 of the length of the stick, as marked upon Fig. 2.

The center of the length of the bow stick must also be its center of balance, and this must be determined and any necessary correction made before fastening the bow stick to the vertical stick. Test the bow stick by balancing it at its center upon the back of your knife blade.

Secure the bow stick to the vertical stick with brads and thread at a distance from the top of the vertical stick equal to 1-10 of its length, as shown in Fig. 5. The ends of the sticks may be notched to receive the framing string, but you will get better



results if you drive a carpet tack into each end and tie the string to these (Fig. 7). With the string tied securely there will be no chance for the sticks to twist out of position.

A light-weight wrapping paper, or a heavy tissue-paper should be used for covering the kite framework. The covering, light weight, brown paper, now so generally used for wrapping-paper makes an excellent covering. Lap the edges of the paper, and paste in the same way in which you would put on the covering of any kite, but instead of stretching it tight allow it to have a little fullness. As you will see by Fig. 2, the paper goes on the outer face of the bow stick.

The Malay kite is a strong puller, so it is important to procure a tough twine with which to fly it. Fig. 8 shows a good form of string reel that is easily made. Cut the two upright pieces about 6 inches long, and bevel off the ends (Fig. 9), then make the two holes for the crosspieces, boring them through the two pieces at one time to get them opposite one another. Use old chair rounds, flag-staffs, dowel-sticks, or sticks whittled to about 1/4

inch in diameter, for the crosspieces. The uprights should be fastened about 4 inches apart. Drive nails through the edge of each upright into the crosspieces to hold the reel together. The projecting ends of the crosspieces form the handles of the reel. One is held in each hand and the reel is turned with sort of a hand over hand movement. Such a reel as this can be operated more handily and more rapidly than the common variety of reels.

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MANY VARIETIES OF SHELLS

There Are 50,000 of Them in the Smithsonian Institution Collection.

Shell life is probably the oldest form of animal life upon the globe. Its study is an interesting one, and even people who are not of a scientific turn of mind find pleasure in looking on the exquisite coloring and delicate beauty of the many varieties of shells and on their wonderful mechanism.

There is nothing which more delights children than to wander along the seashore and gather the little shells which have been washed on the beach by the restless waves. And then, too, when some large specimen is found, with what eagerness the finder, whether young or old, will apply it to his or her ear and hear from within its murmurings, whereby, in the words of the poet, it expresses "mysterious union with its native sea."

In the Smithsonian Institution at Washington there is a collection of 50,000 shells, many of them of a large size, others strangely formed, and some of the iridescent colors which rival the hues of sunset.

In examining these there come to mind many fables and traditions about shells. There is the conch shell, which was made into a horn and blown by old Triton and the attendants of Neptune. Then there is the nautilus, of which Pope says: Learn of the little nautilus to sail, Breathe the thin air and catch the driving gale.

Many years ago a Dutch naturalist went to the Indian seas to study shells. When he came back he told the story that the nautilus sailed in troops over the sea, and were able when they wished to fill themselves with water and sink to the bottom.

This, it has been found, is not true. The nautilus commonly inhabits the bottom of the sea, where it creeps about by means of a large muscular disk with which the head is furnished, and it rarely rises to the surface or is seen floating there. The interior of the shell is divided into chambers, connected by a little tube which affords air. The shell has most exquisite coloring, from pearly white to varied motley.—San Francisco Call

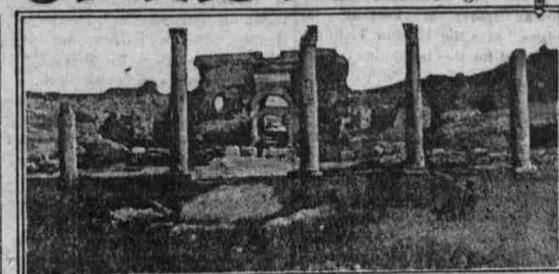
Conquering Grief. The world endures its grief and sorrow with stern and stoical temper. It soon gets over the first severe shock of great catastrophes, even those costing many lives. It is charged with growing callous to bruises. But that charge, it seems to us, is a little wide of the mark.

What if the world did not quickly recover from its sorrows? What if people gave in under the weight of every grief that came crushing down upon them? They would soon have no strength to endure, no power to resist; they would become mentally and spiritually emaciated. This recuperative force we display is not indifference, not unfeeling; it is a sort of heroism, a philosophy that makes man stronger than his most powerful adversary, makes him equal to the crisis, no matter what it may be.

But in a superficial sense, take the train of disasters that go stalking before us and imagine our giving away before any single one, whether it be devastating flood, earthquake or the Titanic tragedy at sea, and what a lugubrious race we would soon become to stay and overweep at the tomb of our sorrows.—Omaha Bee.

Fatal Irresolution. Irresolution is a worse vice than rashness. He that shoots best may sometimes miss the mark; but he that shoots not at all can never hit it. Irresolution loosens all the joints of a state; like an ague it shakes not this nor that limb, but all the body is at once in a fit. The irresolute man is lifted from one place to another; he hatheth nothing, but adies all his actions.—Pulham.

REMODELLING OF HISTORY



OSTIA, now that systematic clearance has succeeded to the spasmodic delving of Pio Nono and less scientific rummaging of yet earlier diggers, has become in certain respects the most enthralling of all the Roman sights. It has often been called the "Pompeii of Latium," and certainly it is the only other place in Italy where one can ramble about the streets of a town of the empire with no modern architecture to intrude on one's dream. The ruins, however, differ greatly from those of Pompeii, because the ancient character and purpose of Ostia were different. The latter town was a bustling seaport with a cosmopolitan industrial population neither leaured enough to indulge private artistic tastes nor much disposed to them. The world's capital, only a few miles distant, was the natural home of Ostians of wealth or culture. But if we cannot see at Ostia the painted rooms and the courtyards set with statuary, which make Pompeii so attractive, we can see the framework of a more vigorous and momentous life, which makes a strong appeal to the imagination of anyone who has ever considered, however vaguely, what the Roman empire meant.

Streets Filled Up. The extraordinarily untouched state in which the Ostia of the late imperial age has been preserved to our day is due to two agents, sand-drift and malaria. Silt brought down to the Tiber mouth, dried, pulverized, and wind-blown, has gradually filled up streets and ruined buildings deserted by men because of the fevers which were bred from choked-up harbors and channels of the river. Partly for fear of these fevers, partly because Civita Vecchia was found, ultimately, to be the better port for Rome, no considerable population has ever returned to Ostia, not even during a temporary revival in the fifteenth century, when the existing papal castle was built. The town had from the first a precarious existence. Its life was given to it by the Tiber, but the Tiber could not be trusted. The river silted up its harbors one after the other, and silted up itself. The port from which navies sailed to the Pacific wars had become useless by the time of Augustus, and Claudius first and Trajan after him, had to dig out new basins at enormous expense some distance away to the north, and cut connecting channels, which the river proceeded to silt up as of old. In the end it proved impossible (or not worth while) to keep any port open into which the main current of the Tiber flowed; and if Trajan's fossa, or canal, dredged out anew by Pope Paul V., in the early seventeenth century, is still navigable for small craft working up to Rome, it is a channel only, and the huge spreading basins, that of Trajan as well as that of Claudius, are dry. Just because the river treated these new harbors as badly as the old, Ostia managed to maintain its life, and even to develop it, for some centuries longer, and only succumbed in the competition with Civita Vecchia (a new creation of Trajan's) after the empire has become Christian. If it had no proper basin for ships, it had always the main channel of the Tiber flowing past its walls, and bad passage as this offered to ships, it was probably more to be depended on than the Claudian or Trajanic canals. Therefore, we find that in the second and third centuries, A. D., it was still worth while to erect great warehouses and long, narrow sheds for ships on the river bank, and that flourishing guilds, whose business lay with shipping, existed in Ostia. Such were the associations of boatmen, lightermen, and divers, whose official records have been found out on stone; but the importance of the last-named is in itself a witness to the difficulties against which the port was struggling. For these divers had neither sponges

nor pearls to seek, but the cargoes of vessels which might be wrecked on the dangerous bar of the estuary or the sand-banks of the channel. In one way or another, however, Ostia kept a lively trade, and a polyglot population which bought and sold in the deserted shops lining its paved streets. The religious cults of the place are alone enough to show how variegated the crowd must have been. Vulcan, the original god of the place, who had presided over its metal-workers since the days of the early kings (as Romans loved to believe), had had to accept a serious rival in Phrygian Cybele, and other competitors in Syrian Mithras, and Egyptian Isis and Serapis, as well as the Hebrew Yahweh, whose worshippers dwelt thickly about the new Claudian and Trajanic basins.

Wealth and Temples. And all this population had to have its places of amusement, as well as its temples, and there was wealth enough to decorate these with statuary which the Graeco-Roman artists of the metropolis probably supplied. Among the best examples that have survived to be found in the recent excavations are a head of Aphrodite, and a full-length of a priestess, complete except for the right hand, and that nose-tip which has been chipped off ninety in a hundred ancient statues which still exist. She makes a gracious, maternal figure which, let us hope, did something to relieve the shocking Levantine mob of Ostia. The main place of recreation, the Theater, built of brick with stone facing, in the Roman manner, is, relatively, less well preserved than the shops and houses. A big, upstanding building, it was a more obvious and profitable quarry for medieval builders. Nor had it been well treated in the imperial times. A summary restoration in the time of Honorius did much to obliterate the more worthy work of the third century emperor. The clearance of the city is still going on, year by year, at the expense of the Italian government, and the absent public is kept informed of constant discoveries by Signor Vaglieri's reports in the Notizie degli Scavi, the most systematic and unflinching record which any country issues concerning the recovery of its past. But no reading of many reports is worth a single visit to the ruins themselves, and those visitors to Rome who neglect to take the electric line to Ostia and to spend at least an afternoon in its Forum and streets will miss one of the most interesting places in Italy.

Conserved Food Diseases. Dr. Jacques Louville, who was part of the staff of the antarctic expedition which recently returned to the north, has given the name "the disease of conserved food" to the malady which is the cause of most of the illness encountered on these expeditions. There is a very decided alteration in the composition of the blood, owing to a lack in the food of the necessary elements of health. The patients suffered from overpowering drowsiness and shortness of breath, which prevented them from taking part in marches or similar severe work. All these symptoms disappeared when a supply of fresh meat was obtainable.

Good for Several. "Why do you call this new tire of yours the Mexican?" asked Slathers. "Is it made of Mexican rubber?" "Oh, no!" said the inventor. "I call it that because it is capable of innumerable revolutions without wearing out."—Judge.

Caution. "Mrs. Wetmore is one of the most cautious persons I have ever known." "Yes, she was telling me the other day that she never kept a striking clock in the kitchen because she feared that if she did so the clock might acquire the habit."