

MISCELLANY.

A \$5,000,000 Steighride.

Imperial Prodigy at the Cost of Human Blood and Tears.

Winter has its joys, unsurpassed by any which summer can afford. Who can forget the merry sleighrides of his youthful days; young men and maidens crowded together, the moonlight, the fringe of the forest, the vast expanse of snow, the jingle of the bells, the shouts of laughter, perchance the overturn into the feathered drift, the country tavern with its blazing, crackling fire of wood, the stamping of the young men beating the snow from their boots, the table spread with all luxuries, the music and games, the return long after midnight.

There was a sleighride in Russia, more than a century ago, of such magnitude and splendor as have been deemed worthy of historic commemoration. Russia's immortal historian, Karamzin, has devoted to its record several pages.

It was the month of December, 1789. The celebrated empress, Catherine II, was upon the throne. Frederick of Prussia and Catherine were conspiring together for an attack upon Poland, that they might divide that kingdom between them. Frederick sent his brother, Henry, to St. Petersburg, ostensibly for a friendly visit, but in reality to mature plans for the treacherous invasion. During Prince Henry's stay Catherine gave in his honor a moonlight sleighride.

The sleigh, which conveyed Catherine and the Prussian prince was a beautiful parlor, capacious and furnished with every luxury of the time. It was covered and inclosed by double glass in large plates, so that every object without could be distinctly seen. Mirrors were also ingeniously arranged so as to multiply and reflect all the scenes through which they passed. This imperial sleigh, with its gorgeous decorations, was drawn by sixteen horses. A retinue of two thousand sleighs of the nobility followed. These were also constructed for the occasion, at a vast expense, and embellished in the highest style of art. The great dignitaries of the empire, ladies and gentlemen, in showy costumes, crowded these vehicles which were drawn by four, six and eight horses. Expense seemed to have been utterly disregarded in the preparation of the pageant. Every person except the empress and her court, was dressed in fancy costume and was masked.

The night was calm and clear, not a breath of air was stirring, and the full moon rode brilliantly through the star-spangled skies. The road, upon which thousands of laborers had been employed to remove every obstruction, wound along through valleys and forests and mountain gorges. Early in the evening, and with military precision, the brilliant pageant swept from the palace through the streets of St. Petersburg. When two miles from the city, the train passed through a triumphant arch, blazing with variegated light.

Every mile of the drive was thus marked by some grand structure, which, with its blaze of light, illumined the splendor of the moon and in the ingenuity of its devices, with flames of every hue, extorted incessant exclamations of wonder and delight. There were shafts, temples, pyramids, colonnades, and in the twinkling of an eye, the pageant changed its scene. Opposite each of these structures ball-rooms were reared, the sides composed of double glass, so that everything within could be distinctly seen. Here the peasantry were assembled, in each one a group of a few hundred, gazing upon the province of the empire, dressed in the gayest of their provincial garb and engaged in their rustic games and dances. The variety of costumes and of sports was infinite, and often grotesque and amusing in the highest degree. The sleighs moved slowly by, that all might witness the entertaining spectacle, and then passed on to the next theatrical show. All the games and national dances were thus witnessed. The national airs were sung or performed with the best trained bands, and all sorts of gymnastic feats, such as vaulting, tumbling and performances on the tight and slack-rope, were exhibited.

Through such scenes, incessantly repeated, the imperial pleasure-party rode, until a high mountain arose before them, which was opened to their view through a broad avenue cut in the forest. The mountain was arranged, by a display of fireworks, to represent Mount Hecla in one of the most violent of its eruptions. The earth seemed to quake beneath the terrific explosions. Vast billows of flame and fiery missiles, of every form and hue, were ejected from its glowing crater hundreds of feet into the air, descending upon the hill-sides and rolling down the crags in a shower of fire. The spectacle was so sublime as to be almost appalling. In mute astonishment, the pleasure-party gazed upon the wonderful phenomenon. In the distance seemed to outvie the mighty might of the energies of nature. The region, for leagues around, was illumined with the lurid glare, which sent a thrill of terror to the peasants far away on the distant hill-sides and in the valleys.

Again the horses were pushed on, and before the spectators had recovered from the surprise the volcanic mountain had created the train suddenly entered a Chinese village, which had been reared on the occasion upon the exact model of one of the most picturesque of Chinese towns, and inhabited by crowds of men, women and children in the garb, and engaged in the traffic and sports of the Chinese on a festive day. The long street through which the train passed was brilliantly illuminated, and presented a spectacle as novel as it was entertaining.

The train passed slowly through the street, and then found that it was only the majestic portal to the imperial palace of Tsarskoye. As the sleighs drove to the door, they were speedily emptied of their contents, and the whole courtly throng of over four thousand was sauntering in those saloons which were amply spacious to entertain them all. The palace was lighted with a countless number of chandeliers and wax-candles. The imperial balls were there, and for two hours the pleasure-seekers forgot time in the mazes of the cotillon. In the midst of the exhilarating scene, the heavy report of a cannon was heard, and instantly every musical instrument was still, every light was extinguished, every voice was hushed, and there was a moment of silence and darkness.

Suddenly a magnificent display of fireworks blazed up, extending in front of the windows of the palace. As the display faded out, there was another report of cannon, and, as by magic, the candles blazed anew, and a sumptuous entertainment was served. Every luxury which Europe or Asia could afford was supplied for the occasion. Dancing was again renewed, and as the dawn of the morning dimly appeared, the revelers returned to their homes.

This is undoubtedly the most brilliant sleighride on record. It is said to have cost five million dollars. To enable kings and nobles to indulge in such voluptuousness, the millions of Russia were enslaved, doomed to mud hovels, ignorance, black bread and joylessness from the cradle to the grave.—New York Ledger.

"The power of music, all our hearts allow," but there are a few ignorant persons who have not learned yet, that all evils are cured by Dr. Bull's Cough Syrup. Buy it and try it, it cures a bottle.



THE FINE NEW BUILDING OF THE NATIONAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY AT MONTEPELIER.

Rats in a Menagerie.

Few of the many people who visit the Central Park menagerie know why a fox-terrier is to be found in one or other of the inclosures in which the elephants are confined. The majority, doubtless, think there is something almost cruel about it. As a fact, it is fun to the terrier and a protection to the elephant. It is really an exemplification of the fable of the lion and the mouse. There are no greater pests in the menagerie than the rats. These small verminous rodents have found that the feet of the elephants are excellent eating, and have no hesitation in gnawing at them when the animal lies down, and, owing to its chained condition, is unable to defend itself against its tiny enemies. This is particularly the case with "Tip," who, owing to his vile temper and murderous habits, has to be securely chained.

The rats in a few nights would make this monster a perfect cripple were it not for "Gip," the terrier, who is always loosed at night, and rove betide the venturesous rat that adventures out on a quest for a tidbit of elephant toe. "Tip," rogue though he is, knows his good little friend and allows him to curl up on the monster's bay, close beside his ponderous body, and when there is a dash across the pen, followed by a mortal struggle, takes no notice of it, except perhaps opening one eye in a lazy way, and then, knowing that he is safe for the night, trumps a small note of thanks to his tiny friend and gives himself up to undisturbed slumber and dreams of Indian jungles.

Lately the rats have changed their base of operations. It was found that they were gnawing holes in the thick hide of the rhinoceros. "Fanny," the Scotch terrier, who really rules the deer house, and is one of the best ratters in the world, was brought into requisition. She was locked up in the mammal house, and her first night there was one of pure joy. "Fanny" is a most methodical canine. When the house was opened in the morning she had a pile of 27 rats in the middle of the floor and was wagging a short tail in almost a hysterical manner. After growing her first night there was one of pure joy. "Fanny" is a most methodical canine. When the house was opened in the morning she had a pile of 27 rats in the middle of the floor and was wagging a short tail in almost a hysterical manner. After growing her first night there was one of pure joy. "Fanny" is a most methodical canine. When the house was opened in the morning she had a pile of 27 rats in the middle of the floor and was wagging a short tail in almost a hysterical manner.

The Secret of a Happy Home.

I have peeped into quiet "parlors" where the carpet is clean and not old and the furniture polished and bright into "rooms" where the chairs are neat and the floor-carpetless, into "kitchens" where the family live and the meals are cooked and eaten, and the boys and girls are as blithe as the sparrow in the thatch overhead; and I see that it is not so much wealth and learning, nor clothing nor servants nor toll nor money, nor even the most perfect of the earth, that make a home a happy one, but the simple, the good, the modest, well-proportioned vestibule to a temple of God's building that shall never decay, wax old or vanish away.—Dr. John Hall.

"There is a slave, whom we have put, in prison," Ayer and we'll keep him there, he was a tyrant once, but his crime is over, his sentence is in the dust. His name is John, and his conqueror is the far-famed and world-renowned Salvation Oil.

For a disordered liver try Beecham's Pills.

IVORY SOAP

99⁴⁴/₁₀₀ Pure.

THE BEST FOR EVERY PURPOSE.



THE NEXT MORNING I FEEL BRIGHT AND NEW AND MY COMPLEXION IS BETTER. My doctor says it acts gently on the stomach, liver and kidneys, and is a pleasant laxative. This drink is made from herbs, and is prepared for use in only one way. It is called **LANE'S MEDICINE**. All druggists sell it at 10c and 15c per package, and you may have it free by sending for it today. Lane's Family Medicine. Have it, it will save each day. In order to be healthy, this is necessary.

THE VERMONT NEWS.

The Maple Sugar Laboratory.

The work of establishing a government laboratory in the new Federal building at Montpelier for inspecting and testing maple sugar made under the bounty act by New England producers the coming season has been begun by Dr. C. A. Cramp-ton of Washington, chief chemist of the internal revenue department, who has general charge of all chemical work in this department of the government. The internal revenue officers assigned to duty at Montpelier arrived Wednesday and established headquarters in the government building. The laboratory has been established on the third floor of the building. It is equipped with the most approved facilities for chemical work, including tables, sinks, scales and a complete polariscope outfit for five chemists.

C. W. Spaulding has been appointed postmaster at West Woodstock.

Eastman & Fortin's saw mill at New Haven was burned on Tuesday. Loss, \$1000.

Dr. C. C. Nichols, one of the oldest practitioners in Rutland county, died at Castleton on Monday.

The plans submitted for a new depot at Rutland contemplate a new building 600 feet long which will cost \$40,000.

Morris Fitzgerald of North Bennington has one car torn off close to his head by being thrown from a sleigh and striking on a picket fence.

One hundred and twenty-five teams from Lincoln and East Middlebury are drawing logs for the Middlebury and Weybridge pulp mills.

A young child of Charles Brough of North Hyde Park was smothered to death a few days since by falling in a tub of boiling water.

The house of Mrs. Daymon Howard of Fairfax was burned to the ground on Wednesday afternoon of last week, causing a loss of \$1500.

Alfred Bowers, water boy at the Sheldon quarry at West Rutland, slipped and fell nearly 40 feet down the quarry stairs on Monday, and was seriously injured.

James Eagan was run over by the Rutland and White River Junction Railroad last night and his right arm and index and little finger of the left hand cut off.

John Roberts had his hand caught in the gearing of a derrick at Williamstown last Saturday and so badly crushed that it was necessary to amputate three fingers.

The mid-winter convention of the Vermont horticultural association is in session in Trinity church, Montpelier, this week.

With H. F. Reynolds, state president, in charge.

Brownell and Drew of Burlington have sold the three-year-old pacing stallion, Prince Alexander, (two-year-old record 2:27) to Benjamin Easton, Jr., of Newport, R. I., for \$1500.

A valuable colt belonging to N. Ashcroft of Moretown ran against the sharp end of a rail which projected from a fence. The rail was driven two feet into the animal's breast, causing instant death.

Henry S. Lawrence, aged 42, a former prominent business man of Newport, who served as postmaster at that place for four years, being appointed by President Arthur, died on Thursday of last week.

Mrs. Anna Wilson of Middlebury, who is quite deaf, was struck by a passing sleigh on Wednesday of last week. She was knocked down and her collar bone broken and other injuries sustained.

The new Masonic hall at Richmond, which was dedicated on Thursday evening of last week, cost \$9000. Many of the grand officers and 400 other Masons attended the dedicatory exercises.

Mr. and Mrs. John Erwell of West Rutland had about \$300 stolen from a trunk, and the robbery is supposed to have been committed by a man named Thomas Rado, who had boarded with them for some time.

A fire in the Federal apartment house at New York last Friday caused a loss of \$40,000. Several of the inmates had narrow escapes. The Federal is six stories high and is owned by Percival W. Clement of Rutland, who runs it as a family hotel.

J. P. Miller of East Barre was knocked down, gored and trampled upon by a wild bull. Two men with pitchforks came to his assistance and drove the infuriated animal away.

A fire started in the store of Frank Fish at West Rutland last Saturday night in a new building erected by H. A. Smith at a cost of \$5000. The part of the building in which the fire occurred was badly damaged and Mr. Fish's loss will be over \$1000.

A mixed train on the St. Johnsbury &

CONSUMPTION

In its early stages can be cured by the prompt use of

Ayer's Cherry Pectoral

It soothes the inflamed tissues, aids expectoration, and hastens recovery.

Dr. J. C. Ayer & Co.
Lowell, Mass.

Lake Champlain railroad was derailed near West Danville Monday morning. Eight or ten loaded cars were badly smashed, but the passengers were not hurt. The track was torn up for about 20 rods.

A large steam mill, owned by the United States Screw Company at West Danville, was totally destroyed by fire early Wednesday morning, with a large stock of screws, doors, etc. The mill cost over \$20,000. Thirty men are thrown out of employment.

The bid of B. F. Rugg of \$7000 for the Bureau of the First National bank of St. Albans has been approved by Judge Wheeler of the United States court, and Receiver Witters has been given leave to accept the offer.

Hon. Alexander McLane, who died in Minnesota a short time ago, was a former prominent citizen of Fairlee. He was clerk of that town for a number of years and served several terms in the legislature. In 1872 he was the Democratic candidate for Congressman from the second district.

The falling of several tons of waste rock in the mine at Arnold Hill, N. Y., a few days ago killed three men and injured several others. One of the men killed was Cornelius Dewey, brother of Henry Dewey of West Rutland. Five workmen have been killed in this mine within a year and 37 within 12 years.

Hon. Henry Holmes Rankin, for many years a successful merchant at Milton, died on Thursday of last week at Thomaston, Ga. His store was destroyed by fire last year and a few months ago he went South for the benefit of his health. He was town clerk of Milton from 1873 to 1880, representative in 1880, and senator in 1880.

W. F. Colby of Barre, while hurriedly entering his store on Monday, caught his foot in a wire net and fell headlong through a large pane of glass in the lower part of the door. His face was cut in a shocking manner. A deep semi-circular cut extended from the lower part of his chin up both sides to the bone, nearly severing the chin from the face. Another cut severed the right eye and came down beside the nose, severing the lip and extending to the mouth. Twenty-six stitches were taken in closing the wounds.

The New York Herald says that one of the sensations in the open class at the big dog show now being held in that city is the wonderful young dog, Beaufort's Black Prince, owned and bred by J. L. Winchell of Fairhaven. He is a son of the great English champion Beaufort. Directly he entered the ring the judge could not resist an exclamation of surprise at his wonderful proportions and promptly awarded him first. His owner was asked by several prominent breeders to name his own price, but he flatly refused. This dog is valued at \$5000.

Trick building in Fairhaven, owned by Green's brother and valued at \$10,000, was gutted by fire last week Thursday. The building was occupied by B. W. Roberts, grocery and meat market, whose stock was badly damaged. Mead & Parkhurst, druggists, sustained a loss of \$1500. Preston brothers, small loss. Record Printing company, \$1250; Redfield Printing company, \$3000. The Western Vermont agricultural society books and records were burned, also the papers of the estate of L. B. Chestnut and the annual reports of the town officers of Fairhaven and Benson. Other losses were Punkhanoek club, \$400; Fairhaven Social club and the Cornet band \$150 each; Knights of Labor, Sons of Veterans and Ladies Aid, \$400.

At a meeting of U. V. M. graduates, held at the Parker House, Boston, Feb. 19, to form the New England association of alumni of the University of Vermont, the agreeable fact was made public that John Heman Converse of Ballston, a prominent worker of the university, had authorized President Buckingham to announce at the meeting their intention of erecting two dormitory buildings for the use of the students of the college. The dormitories will be built on the eastern line of the college grounds, in pursuance of the plan to form a quadrangle of buildings about the present campus. They will be of stone, three stories high, with basements, and will be found practicable the basements will be fitted up as a gymnasium.

He said not a word.

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"Does it refer to the lightning, or to a man?" interrupted Tommy's mother, and the paternal parent buried his blushing nose deeper in his paper.—Indianapolis Journal.

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How often we see some young man who has squandered his money and ruined his health by excess and before 30 years of age an all broken down and played out man. In all such cases I prescribe nature's tonic and nerve, Sulphur Bitters. They supply food for the brain, strengthen the nerves, and are successful in all cases out of ten.—Old Physician.

Kitchen Extension.

University Extension is good, but Kitchen Extension is better. Wider knowledge of better cooking processes means better health and comfort for everybody. Science can never do us better service than by the multiplication of the cooking schools which make healthful means and methods available for even the most modest home.

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The vegetable substitute for lard, is science's latest gift to the kitchens of the world. Every woman who has ever cooked a meal, knows that lard is disagreeable in use and unhealthy in its effects.

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Headache, yet Carter's Little Liver Pills are equally valuable in Constipation, curing and preventing this distressing complaint, while they also correct all disorders of the stomach, stimulate the liver and regulate the bowels. Even if they only cure

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CARTER'S LITTLE LIVER PILLS are very small and very easy to take. One or two pills make a dose. They are strictly vegetable and do not grip or purge, but by their gentle action please all who use them. In bulk at 25 cents; five at \$1. Sold everywhere, or sent by mail. CARTER MEDICINE CO., New York.

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To better accommodate the many who come from long distances, have extended my afternoon office hours from 1 to 5:30 p. m.

My former patients, regular office hours, are given to special appointments, made all some days in advance.

My lady assistants are here forenoon as well as afternoon. They explain perfectly the use of the Compound Iodo-Oxygen Home Treatment (Heart, Lung and Catarrhal diseases). They also teach patients the use of the new Home Treatment for Women's diseases, which is meeting with such universal commendation.

DR. E. W. HIGBEE, Northampton, Mass.

No. 261 Main Street, next Edwards church.

THIS PAPER is on file in Philadelphia at the Newspaper Agency of N. W. AYER & SON, our authorized agent.

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One of the Best Medicines Ever Invented for PERFECT AND IMMEDIATE RELIEF IN CASES OF PAIN AND INFLAMMATION.

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For Burns, Poisoning, Erysipelas, Inflammation of the Eyes or Ears, Rheumatism, Deafness, Stomachic, Burns, Bruises, Sprains, Sore Throat, Croup or Bronchitis.

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Don't be without a bottle. You will not regret it. Try it to-day. What makes you tremble so? Your Nerves are all unstrung, and NEED a gentle, soothing TONIC to assist nature to repair the damage which your excesses have caused. Sulphur Bitters

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to be taken by the glass like other preparations which stimulate only to DEBILITY. If you have failed to receive any benefit from other medicines or doctors, do not despair. Use Sulphur Bitters immediately.

In all cases of indigestion, deep seated diseases, Sulphur Bitters is the best medicine to use. Don't wait until to-morrow, try a bottle to-day.

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Castoria is Dr. Samuel Pitcher's prescription for Infants and Children. It contains neither Opium, Morphine nor other Narcotic substance. It is a harmless substitute for Paregoric, Drops, Soothing Syrup, and Castor Oil. It is Pleasant. Its guarantee is thirty years' use by Millions of Mothers. Castoria destroys Worms and allays feverishness. Castoria prevents vomiting Sour Curd, cures Diarrhoea and Wind Colic. Castoria relieves teething troubles, cures constipation and flatulency. Castoria assimilates the food, regulates the stomach and bowels, giving healthy and natural sleep. Castoria is the Children's Panacea—the Mother's Friend.

Castoria.

"Castoria is an excellent medicine for children. Mothers have repeatedly told me of its good effect upon their children."

Dr. G. C. OGDEN, Lowell, Mass.

"Castoria is the best remedy for children of which I am acquainted. I hope the day is not far distant when mothers will consider the real interest of their children, and use Castoria instead of the various quack nostrums which are destroying their loved ones, by forcing opium, morphia, soothing syrup and other harmful agents down their throats, thereby sending them to premature graves."

Dr