

TEMPTING MARKS FOR BOLTS

Lofty Spires of Churches Are Dangerous Because They Are Often Struck by Lightning.

The reaction from the intense heat of the past few days, which in various sections has taken the form of electrical storms of almost phenomenal destructiveness, has played exceptional havoc with the churches of New England.

Somewhat squarely built, with a lofty spire, the New England meeting house has been a familiar feature to the New England worshiper wherever he might find himself.

The lofty spire, however, has proved an element of danger according to our recent experience. In almost every instance, as the reports run, the bolt "struck the steeple" and traveled downward.

In rural communities, especially where the church rises above most of the surrounding buildings and is crowned by a tapering tower as high as the main structure, it seems to offer a special challenge to the raging elements, whether they take the form of wind or lightning.

The "White church" at West Springfield, which suffered yesterday, had been struck twice previously during the past ten years, and in Wilbraham, Brookfield and other places it was upon the spires that the destructive force alighted.—Boston Transcript.

MARBLE QUARRIES IN ITALY

Though Wastefully Operated for 2000 Years, the Supply Is Still Inexhaustible.

Twenty centuries ago men were digging out the side of the Apuan mountains, in Italy, for as far back as that time they realized what could be done with the marble which composes so much of this mountain range.

The mines or quarries are only within a few square miles of territory, but an army of 6,000 men and boys are continually employed, their earnings supporting 100,000 of the people of northwestern Italy.

No one knows how much marble is contained in this range of Italian mountains. Though they have been opened for 2,000 years, and, as stated, the mining methods are attended with enormous waste, it is known that vast beds of the marble still exist.

Model Prison for Women.

One important result of woman suffrage in New South Wales—the changed conditions of prison life for women, is being watched with interest by many countries.

Routed Bear With Broom.

A huge mountain bear which haunts the Catskill mountains is no longer an object of terror in the neighborhood of De Wittville, N. Y.

SCOLDING WIFE IS BERATED

Physician Declares Something Is the Matter Inside of Her and Advises an Operation.

At a medical convention held in Cleveland, Ohio, the other day, Dr. C. W. Mouta bore down with heavy hand and amid much applause upon the hatchet-faced individual commonly known as the scolding wife.

"Every time I see one of these women coming into my office, with sharp face and flat chest and inelastic muscles, I am in doubt whether to feel sorry for the patient or for myself. There is something the matter inside of them. They ought to be operated upon."

Spoken like a true medico, who finds a physiological basis for every ailment!

There are thousands of women in the world who do not look particularly good to the other fellows, and it is just as well that they should not. Wise nature knew what she was about when she threw the glamour of illusion over one man, so that he should think there was none other than the single paragon among her many sisters.

FOURTH FLOOR IS FLY LINE

Above This the Household Pests Gloom Ascend, Says the Real Estate Man.

"One thing about a flat that summer tenants will never take an agent's word for is the fly line," said the real estate man. "They want to find that out for themselves and resort to various subtle schemes."

"I felt that you were mistaken when you told me yesterday that this apartment was above the fly line," she said, "so I rubbed a chocolate cream on the sill and came back on purpose to see if the flies had traveled this high up."

"Of course they had. With a chocolate cream for a magnet a fly would climb to the top of a metropolitan tower, but ordinarily it is safe to say that in neighborhoods where both street and houses are kept clean there is no fly line because there are no flies, while in blocks where the street is dirty and the houses clean the fourth floor is supposed to be about as high as a fly cares to ascend."

Read Meter Through Opera Glasses.

"To the long list of celebrities that have been started at through my opera glasses the gas meter has now been added," said a city woman. "The meter in our flat is placed so high on the kitchen wall that a step-ladder, chair or table is necessary to boost the reader within seeing distance."

"Just lend me a pair of opera glasses," he said, "and I can see it all right."

"The glasses were brought and the reader proceeded to stare through them. Presently he read off a row of figures."

Suckey Hit the Bull's-Eye.

Joseph E. Menges of the city civil engineer's office, was being entertained by some eastern traveling men during a recent visit he made in St. Louis, and the conversation drifted to points of interest in various cities.

"And there is the Soldiers' and Sailors' monument," he said. "It's the greatest monument in this country, and second to none in the world. When you hear of a great monument, what do you think of?"

"Why, a graveyard," answered one of his listeners, who hails from Cleveland.—Indianapolis Star.

Death of Garibaldi's Nurse.

The death has taken place at Aspromonte, at the age of 73, of Margherita d'Orlando of Rivignano. In her youth she was one of the most fervent patriots, and took part in the Garibaldian campaigns. In 1863 she was at Aspromonte in the capacity of nurse, and tended the wound received by Garibaldi. In 1866 she accompanied him in the Trentino when he commanded the "Red Shirts" in the Tyrol.

NATURAL HISTORY OF BIBLE

Novel Collection of the Animals, Vegetables and Minerals Mentioned in Holy Writ.

A model of a sperm whale—a member of the family to which Jonah's "great fish" is believed to have belonged—is one of the many interesting things to be seen at the novel exhibition of Biblical objects in natural history at the Natural History museum, London, England.

The space allotted to the collection is far too limited to permit actual specimens of the larger mammals, but a number of interesting photographs are shown of the wild boar, the hyena, the lion, the elephant and the hippopotamus, which was known to the ancients as the water ox. In the same case are some finely preserved specimens of the chameleon, the Egyptian tomb bat, a beautifully marked cobra, Cleopatra's asp, the horned viper and the frog.

The frog is mentioned only twice in the Old and once in the New Testament. It is of the edible variety, and is widely distributed in Europe, Asia and North Africa. A large case contains seven pieces of manna, a species of lichen found in North Africa and the eastern deserts and mountains. The inhabitants of these districts still regard this manna as sent from heaven.

There are also bullrushes, lentils and sections of the more famous trees of the Holy Land, such as cedar, ebony, sandalwood, boxwood, gopher wood, thyme wood (mentioned in Revelation) and olive wood.

The plagues of Egypt are represented by the North American and migratory locusts, the canker worm, scorpion, hornet and gadfly. The collection of minerals includes a beautiful cut beryl, the first stone in the fourth row of the high priest's breastplate and the eighth foundation of the new Jerusalem.

NIGHT WATCHMAN IN BOTTLE

How Crackmen Were Follied by Formaldehyde Placed Between Doors of Bank Vault.

To a bank cashier with a taste for chemistry is due the credit of a simple yet highly efficient cash protector and crackman tamer. Several years ago Cashier Clark of the Corona State bank, South Dakota, hit upon the idea that if he could place a bottle of some strong chemical between the outer and inner doors of the vault its fumes might retard the work of safe breakers or perhaps frighten them away.

For about five years the "egg doctor" kept unobtrusive guard. Finally, early in November, 1910, the test came. A couple of professional crackmen entered the town. Two charges of nitroglycerin were used on Cashier Clark's safe that night. The first one did little damage, but the second wrecked both the outer and inner doors, tore the latter from their hinges and threw them out into the vault and against the small safe and safety deposit boxes.

"Just lend me a pair of opera glasses," he said, "and I can see it all right."

Slow Selling.

Joe McHugh once came into a newspaper office after a round of the hotels on just such a hot Sunday as can be pictured readily now. He narrated a conversation between three traveling men precipitated by the complaint of one that the hot weather made the sale of his goods impossible.

"What do you sell?" asked No. 1. "Snow plows."

"No. 3 came to bat. 'It will be a year in August since I got an order,' he said."

"What is your line?" asked No. 2 and No. 3 in chorus. "Suspension bridges."—Chicago Evening Post.

Prehistoric Engraving.

The picturesque and always original scientist, Sir Ray Lankester, has made an interesting suggestion with regard to the prehistoric picture of red deer and salmon found in the cavern of Lorthet, in the Haute Pyrenees, France, many years ago. This picture is incised on a cylinder of stag's horn, and it is suggested that the early artists used such engravings for printing off copies on birch bark, or other suitable material.

ALL ABOUT THE SWORDFISH

It Is Born in the Mediterranean and Americans Have Learned It Is a Delicate Food.

The swordfish has arrived. We have called attention hitherto to the statement of naturalists that these fish are never found small and young on our Atlantic coast. They are born across the seas in the Mediterranean. When they begin to feel the spirit of adventure they start over for a summer along the North Atlantic shore. Here they spend the season, and, if they are not taken to market, they disappear again when the water cools and off they go.

The swordfish was scarce and the fishermen got as high as 15 cents a pound. This year the Boston market is giving the princely sum of four cents a pound. Of late years New York has taken to eating swordfish, but for a long time the meat was unsalable there and New England did all the eating. Few fish furnish a more delicate food.

FOREIGN TONGUES IN GOTHAM

English Language Not Often Heard in Streets and Parks of American Metropolis.

I returned to America a year and a half ago, after an absence of twelve years in Europe. I stopped in New York at a hotel opposite Grace church, and after securing quarters I walked up Broadway to Fourteenth street. It was the middle meal hour, and the streets were thronged with all sorts and conditions of men, and yet not one word of English did I hear spoken from Tenth to Fourteenth streets. The first impression stunned me and I found myself in a dazed condition, unable to adjust myself to my surroundings, and actually doubting the reality of the scene about me.

Missouri's First Negro School.

The first negro school in Missouri was founded in Kansas City by J. Milton Turner in 1868. The school commissioners were ex-Confederates and refused to appropriate a salary for him.

Every Saturday night or so, he says, Jesse James, the celebrated bandit, rode over from Liberty, Mo., shut up Kansas City and robbed its citizens. Then he would gallop to the negro school, discharge his pistols in the air and about:

Looking Far Ahead.

It may be a trifle early to discuss the matter now, but it is certainly coming within a few years, and then we will see what will be practically a five-day boat from almost any of the European ports, and the passengers who have no necessity for a stop in New York whisked to their destinations in the west without the delay that is now necessitated by the present docking arrangements.

Hindoo Preacher to Europe.

To preach his philosophy, Babe Bharati, a Hindoo preacher and philosopher, departed for Europe from New York on board the Provence, of the French line. Clad in Oriental garments he aroused curiosity on the pier.

Babe Bharati was formerly a priest at Muttra, in Northwestern Bengal, but about five years ago, he says, he received a call to go into the west and teach his conception of religion. Since that time he has journeyed between India and the United States, his last stay, in Los Angeles, being of 18 months.

Railroad Land in China.

The King-Peng railway authorities have raised the rent of the lands adjoining the railway station, now used by the coal merchants as coal depots. The increased business of the line has greatly raised the value of these lands.—From the Pekin Jih Pao.

RAW MATERIAL TOO PLENTY

That Was Why Honey Man Couldn't Sell Much in Town Full of Flowers.

The man "who kept a bee" was amply provided with honey. His right hand held a can of the liquid variety, his left held honey in the comb. He had come in from further out on Long Island and was trying to dispose of his product in one of the large towns that still retains its individuality despite the fact that it was supposed to have been "absorbed" into Greater New York.

The honey man evidently did some reading on national issues when he was at home, to judge by his reply to the sympathetic matron who inquired from her flower-laden porch as to how his business did. His lean, brown face, out of which the sun had ironed all lines of bitterness, relaxed in a cheerful grin: "Not very well, ma'am," he returned, then with a quizzical glance at the gorgeous array of roses, he continued, "you people in Mapleleaf have too much raw material to appreciate the finished product."

EDUCATION BAD FOR GENIUS

It Also Seems to Reduce Mental Alertness of the People, Says English Writer.

Widespread education is certainly unfavorable to the development of genius or remarkable talent. Greatness, as it were, is put in commission. As everyone has a little tincture of talent, no one is allowed to possess a monopoly.

If the loss to the world were only the obliteration of genius we might let it pass. Perhaps mankind may learn to do without genius. Perhaps the mariner by some new trained instinct for locality may be able to dispense with compass and lighthouses. But education seems to be robbing the masses of the power to appreciate the products of education.

The comment is on everyone's tongue that the world of today has but a languid interest in things of the mind. There is probably three times as much effort and bustle and fuss about education now, proportionately, as there was 60 years ago. Yet there was proportionately ten times as much mental alertness then.

Choosing Wife by Her Voice.

A man has won for his wife a telephone girl whose voice pleased him. If every unmarried man only realized it there is a deal more good common sense in marrying a pretty voice than in marrying a pretty face. If the pretty face can have all the accompanying characteristics necessary to feminine perfection the man who wins this paragon is quite as lucky as the girl who wins goodness and wealth combined in a husband. No girl ever has centered that it might be an easy matter to fall in love with this special combination, but the men go right on seeking beauty as the first requisite. But a pleasing voice! Soothing under all circumstances. One can turn one's back on a face not quite up to the ideal, but who ever gets away from a voice? Leastways every husband claims he cannot get away from "the" voice, so why not look for one with the note of music in its tones?

Insuring His Safety.

Judging by conversation overheard on Staten Island ferryboat, untidiness as well as neatness has its rewards, says the New York Times. A literary man, so it was reported by one speaker, had married the woman he did because he happened one day to peep at her top bureau drawer. "That can hardly be possible," said the other woman. "I have seen that drawer myself, and since top bureau drawers were invented—there never was such a topsy-turvy drawer as she kept."

That Was All.

Sharply spoke the conductor: "Madam, you'll have to take that buldog into the baggage car." Mildly spoke the sweet-faced matron: "Pardon me, but I am lame; I shall have to ask you to take him there." Casually spoke the buldog, in a low, deep voice: "Gr-r-r-r-r! Ow-ow!" Then silence like a cataplasm descended to mellowate the confusion of situation.

Indiana Good Fishermen.

The salmon fishing season has been very profitable for some of the Quinault Indians this year. The run has been fair and prices have been especially good. Several Indians have made good sums, but John and Harry Shale have led. Thus far the season has netted them \$4,000 apiece.—Hoglan correspondence Portland, Oregonian.

FINDING THE COMSTOCK LODE

Far Reaching Results of the Rich Strike of Silver Made in June, 1859.

"You've struck it, boys." Thus said Henry Paige Comstock to Peter O'Riley and Patrick McLaughlin, who were his fellow prospectors in a search for gold in Six Mile canyon, now the present Virginia City, the capital of Nevada.

The date was June 10, 1859. In that remote spot in the American wilderness by these three obscure men, was made on that day a discovery destined to affect the current of American politics for a score of years, says a writer in the Atlantic Monthly, and to have for long a disturbing influence on the world's finances.

The thing which was "struck" on that June day of 1859 was the vein covering what came to be known as the Comstock lode, in which were hidden the richest deposits of silver ever found anywhere on the globe. Their development, years afterward, simultaneously with that of the silver mines of Colorado, started the downward flood in the price of silver, which broke the old ratio between the money metals, changed the monetary system of the leading nations from the double to the single gold standard; incited the movement beginning in 1877, under the leadership of Richard P. Bland, for the reopening of the mints in silver on the same terms as to gold; led hence to the passing of the Bland-Allison limited silver-coinage law of 1878, and to that of the Sherman silver-bullion-deposit act of 1890; and was the issue which split the two great parties and made havoc among the smaller ones in 1896, resulting in the act of 1900, which gave statutory recognition to the gold standard in the United States.

ROMAN AQUEDUCT IS SAVED

Archaeology and Modern Enterprise Clash in Seville, Spain, and Former Wins Victory.

Archaeology and enterprise are clashing at Seville. The town draws much of its water supply through the Canos de Carmona, a Roman aqueduct still in good order, though many of the arches have been filled in in order to strengthen it. The aqueduct with the closed arches blocks a suburban district which Sevilian speculators wish to develop, and the town authorities have decreed that it shall be torn down and the water conveyed through iron pipes instead.

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Electricity and Toothache.

A new cause for toothache and certain nervous diseases has been found by an European physician in the high tension electrical currents that are produced in the course of wireless telegraphy. This same savant is quoted as predicting a general increase of nervous ailments traceable to this same cause. He believes that the nervous elements are so affected that a low grade neuritis is produced which progresses according to each patient's general physical condition, hygienic surroundings, occupation, habits, etc. If these make for health, the individual may slowly overcome the particular nervous manifestation caused by the electricity which artificially permeates the surrounding atmosphere. If the environment is faulty and the metabolism is failing, the low grade neuritis extends and sooner or later assumes the form of some aggravated nervous disorder.

Enough for Two Trips.

Harry Walker tells glibly a short but forceful yarn upon a friend of his, whose name shall not be printed here. "The friend was complaining. 'Do you know,' he said to Harry, 'that my wife is getting very critical. I got home the other night after a pleasant evening with the boys and she looked me over with an eye that was cold.'"

"That's quite a load you are carrying," she said. "I should think you would have brought it home in two trips."

"Now, don't you think that any wife who would talk that way to a young man is getting critical?"—San Francisco Chronicle.