

WEATHER REPORT.

Observations at the Stations for the Month of July.

BANDON.

DATE.	TEMPERATURE.	BAROMETER.
	Max. Min. Mean.	
1	63 49 57	30.0
2	65 49 57	30.0
3	66 50 58	30.0
4	67 50 58	30.0
5	67 50 58	30.0
6	67 50 58	30.0
7	68 51 59.5	30.0
8	67 52 59	30.0
9	69 50 63	30.0
10	65 52 62	30.0
11	65 58 61.5	30.0
12	66 58 62	30.0
13	61 51 55	30.0
14	63 53 58	30.0
15	64 50 57	30.0
16	64 50 57	30.0
17	67 48 52.5	30.0
18	61 52 56.5	30.0
19	62 49 55.5	30.0
20	63 51 57	30.0
21	64 53 58.5	30.0
22	64 53 58.5	30.0
23	64 53 58.5	30.0
24	64 53 58.5	30.0
25	63 57 60	30.0
26	64 58 61	30.0
27	62 59 60.5	30.0
28	63 53 58	30.0
29	63 52 55.5	30.0
30	63 54 58.5	30.0
31	63 54 58.5	30.0
Sum	1863 1892 59.3	
Mn	64.0 51.6	

Mean temperature 59.3.
Maximum temperature 68 on the 7th.
Minimum temperature 42 on the 29th.
Number of clear days, 14.
Number of partly cloudy days, 8.
Number of cloudy days, 9.
Prevailing direction of wind, S.
Our temperature for this month was 1.05 degrees above the average.
GEOFF BENNETT,
Voluntary Observer.

LANGLOIS.

DATE.	TEMPERATURE.	BAROMETER.
	Max. Min. Mean.	
1	78 50 64	30.0
2	79 50 64.5	30.0
3	79 50 64.5	30.0
4	82 56 69	30.0
5	78 50 64	30.0
6	78 50 64	30.0
7	78 50 64	30.0
8	80 54 67.5	30.0
9	82 57 69.5	30.0
10	80 57 68.5	30.0
11	80 59 69.5	30.0
12	80 59 69.5	30.0
13	80 59 69.5	30.0
14	80 59 69.5	30.0
15	76 54 65	30.0
16	78 56 67	30.0
17	78 56 67	30.0
18	78 56 67	30.0
19	77 50 63.5	30.0
20	79 52 65.5	30.0
21	79 52 65.5	30.0
22	79 52 65.5	30.0
23	79 52 65.5	30.0
24	79 52 65.5	30.0
25	79 52 65.5	30.0
26	79 52 65.5	30.0
27	79 52 65.5	30.0
28	79 52 65.5	30.0
29	79 52 65.5	30.0
30	79 52 65.5	30.0
31	80 56 68.5	30.0
Sum	2418 2418 79	
Mn	78 55	

Mean temperature 66.
Maximum temperature 85 on the 14th.
Minimum temperature 48 on the 19th and 20th.
Number of clear days, 24.
Number of partly cloudy days, 7.
Number of cloudy days, 9.
Late season grain will be light. Potatoes need rain. A large quantity of hay was housed. Cattleman plants and Tragopogon are ripe.

S. T. MATTHEWS,
Voluntary Observer.

Thursday evening of last week the youngest son of A. R. Winnie was seriously injured by having his head jammed between two cars, which it was supposed were being pushed by his companions. The car caught the child on the left side of the neck and on the skull, crushing it in and making a hole in the skull above the right ear. The little fellow was picked up by passers by, and has since been in a precarious condition—Del Norte Record.

Salmon fishing for the summer on the Klamath has commenced. The country is well prepared to take care of all fish caught. Since last Sunday the nightly catch to the boat has averaged from 75 to 100 salmon—Record.

CURRY COUNTY.

A Few Facts Tarsely Stated for The Benefit of Inquirers.

Curry county is located in the extreme southwestern corner of Oregon. It has seventy miles of sea coast, and extends back about thirty miles in some places from the coast. Its area is about 1,500 square miles. Most of this area is rough and mountainous, the land being adapted for grazing, and yielding well in timber and lumber. Rogue river cuts the county in twain, and furnishes the main industry of the county—cattle raising. Good seasons there is a large amount of money expended here in that industry, and others connected therewith. In the southern end of the county there is no good tillable land in large bodies, and in the northern end of the county there are some large bodies of rich land, but elsewhere the good land is but a small proportion of the total. Of the 1,500,000 acres in the county, probably not over half has any value for agricultural purposes, the remainder being largely timber and mineral. There has been patented from the government, or entered, about 200,000 acres, leaving the greater portion of the county yet government land, but a small portion of which the government has as yet surveyed. In the northern portion of the county farming and dairying are extensively carried on, and lands are there valuable. That is, only a portion of the county, which, as a section, produces more than its share of wheat, corn, and other crops, save those of the dairy. Farm lands are assessed at from \$1.75 to \$12 per acre. Our debt is in the neighborhood of \$100,000, drawing 8 per cent interest and our tax rate \$2.50 per \$100 on an assessed valuation of \$100,000. A good road traverses the county from one end to the other, and is the building of this that caused our county debt.

The census just completed gives the county a population of 1,916, with 667 voters. There are 6,895 acres in cultivation, and in 1891 these produced 818 bushels of wheat, 11,467 bushels of oats, 11,225 bushels of potatoes, 1,380 tons of hay, 6,677 bushels of apples, 5,206 bushels of barley, 1,908 bushels of corn and 1,723 bushels of peaches and plums. There are in the county 1,073 horses, 3,456 cattle, 1,043 hogs and 18,928 sheep. The dairy product for 1894 was 119,418 pounds of butter, while the sheep turned out 95,263 pounds of wool. There was also 79,000 feet of lumber manufactured by the various mills. Fruit raising has not, as yet, been carried on extensively, though the county is well adapted for it, and grows luxuriously and yields heavily. Lack of a market or transportation to one is one of the main drawbacks to the country.

The entire eastern portion of the county is traversed by a mineral belt, in which are found iron, copper, gold and silver, while a superabundance of bituminous coal exists and is being investigated by capitalists. As yet the mineral possibilities of the county are unknown, as but little prospecting has ever been done. Plaster exists, and the beach and gold mines have been worked at a handsome profit in years gone by. There is no market for a large number of settlers and more enterprise.

Gold Beach is the county seat. Wedderburn, a new town at the mouth of Rogue river, opposite Gold Beach, is the largest place in the county, and has the principal and only large industry of the county. Port Orford is the only other place of importance, having the best harbor for deepwater vessels along the Oregon coast.

Read the GAZETTE and the NEWS for 1895.

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Cripple IT'S HUMAN NATURE

The iron grip of crumple has no mercy upon its victims. This condition of the body is not confined with causing dreadful sores, but mucks the body with the pains of rheumatism until most sufferers succumb to it.

"Nearly four years ago I became afflicted with eczema and rheumatism.

Running sores broke out on my thighs. Pieces of bone came out, and an operation was contemplated. I had rheumatism in my legs, drawn up out of shape. I lost appetite, could not sleep. I was a perfect wreck. I continued to grow worse and finally gave up the doctor's treatment to

take Hood's Sarsaparilla. Soon appetite came back, the sores commenced to heal. My limbs straightened out and I threw away my crutches. I am now stout and hearty and am farming, whereas four years ago I was a cripple. I gladly recommend Hood's Sarsaparilla to all who suffer from the evil of eczema and rheumatism. HAZARD, Table Grove, Illinois.

Hood's Sarsaparilla

Below Selecting for a Magazine

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AN UNPARALLELED OFFER.

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THE BAY VIEW HOTEL

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WEDDERBURN, CURRY CO., OR.
E. M. BOGARDUS, Publisher.
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Six months, " " .75
Three months, " " .50

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shows when your subscription was
paid on. Don't forget the printer.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 14, 1896.

With Senator Mitchell expounding the single gold standard, the finger of fate again points toward Binger Hermann as the people's choice for U. S. Senator next winter.

In 1873 an ounce of gold bought twenty bushels of wheat, to-day it buys forty bushels, yet people say the single gold standard is the only honest money for the farmers.

The republican press the bankers, all say that McKinley is sure of election, yet they announce "no credit till after election," and New York and Brooklyn have failed to sell gold bonds. Is it the fear of the gold standard and McKinley's election which is making capital so timid?

The Alabama elections have been heard from, with a democratic majority of about 40,000, against the combined efforts of the republicans and populists. This virtually settles the fate of the combination against the democrats in the south and renders certain that the effort to force the acceptance of Watson in place of Sewall will fail of accomplishment. The size of the majority secured is a startling illustration of the strength of the sentiment backing up the democratic cause at present.

I believe the struggle now going on in this country, and in other countries, for a single gold standard would, if successful, produce widespread disaster in and throughout the commercial world. The destruction of silver and establishing gold as a sole unit of value must have a ruinous effect upon all forms of property except those improvements which yield a fixed return in money. It is impossible to strike silver out of existence as money without results which will prove distressing to millions and disastrous to tens of thousands.—James G. Blaine.

In 1888 the national republican platform arraigned the democratic party as hostile to the free coinage of silver. Now the democrats are arraigned as anarchists because of their adherence to free coinage. Such is the somersault of the party which now claims to be saving the country in advocating the maintenance of the single standard. This is why republicans who believe in standing by the country and its constitution, in preference to party dictates, are honestly standing by their principles and throwing their support to the president and congressmen who will work for the restoration of silver to its place as a constitutional money.

Senator Squire of Washington has come squarely out for free silver, and announced that he will not support the republican national platform but work for the election of Bryan and Sewall. Representative Barkley of Salem, this state, has also announced himself for the free silver cause, and will speak in this state and California in behalf of Bryan. Judge McBride, brother of the republican senator from this state, has also announced himself to the side of silver. Thus the cause of the white metal continues to gain prominent supporters on the coast. Its claims will prove irresistible before November, and the entire coast will give a big majority for the silver ticket.

POLITICAL TOPICS

Briefly Discussed by One Who Has Been There.

By J. H. Upton.

A few noisy bankers and bankers' clerks met at Louisville recently and resolved to call a "sound money" state convention against the regular democratic ticket of Kentucky. This movement will materialize into proportions nearly equal to Blanton Dunton's convention in 1872 in the same state, which promised the big brass commonwealth to Chas. O'Connor.

A most barefaced fraud is being perpetrated against the taxpayers of the United States and against every rule of fair play, in the printing and circulating at government expense of millions of copies of a "sound money" campaign document disguised as a circular of information on the subject of the currency. The dispatch adds that the matter has the approval of Secretary Carlisle.

Senator Gorham will support Bryan, notwithstanding the suspicion current to the contrary.

The British press is still rampant against Bryan and the Chicago platform. The Times, St. James Gazette and Daily News have each something to say to the point that our supreme court will declare any free coinage law unconstitutional and void. They are outraged by the reason thus because of the position of that court on the income tax.

The Knights of Labor have decided for Bryan and the Chicago platform. This will itself more than offset the socialist and anarchist forces which oppose Bryan's election.

W. C. Whitney will, it is employed take the stump for McKinley and sound money; also Bourke Cochran, who has been employed to "ray his party by Hanna for the sum of \$250,000. These engagements possibly explain Hanna's and McKinley's flop on the tariff question. Cochran is a free trader while Whitney is opposed to so-called "protection."

The loss to the gold standard cause in California of the Sacramento Bee, a republican daily of forty years' standing, will be a severe blow to that cause in the Golden State. Mr. McClatchey, the editor, says, over his own signature, writing to the Examiner:

"The Bee has always most vigorously denounced the Wall street platform adopted by the republican party at St. Louis. It will not support Wm. McKinley for president of the United States, but it will do everything that lies in its power to aid the majority which the common people of this country will roll up for their champion and leader, the vigorous young giant of the Great West, William J. Bryan of Nebraska. For forty years, both under father and sons, the Bee has been a consistent republican paper. For forty years, in storm or in sunshine, it has been content to follow wherever that banner flashed in the air. The Bee, however, will not follow the republican banner this year. It will not swallow the honest views of a lifetime to trumpet, shamefaced, behind an emblem that now symbolizes self more than principle; that spurns a sacred honor and a holy trust while it brazenly flaunts in the public eye a token of gold and a tribute to greed." C. K. McCLATCHY.

The common people should not overlook the important fact that the Chicago platform, on which W. J. Bryan is to be elected president, declares in straight, unequivocal terms for a halt in immigration of pauper laborers to the United States, to compete with, crowd out and cut down our own work people. If it were not for the facility with which employers of labor can fill the places of men and women whom they deliberately grind down to the striking point, the grinding business would have to cease. But so long as laborers can be imported duty free our country will be run with people in search of a job. The annual report of the Commissioner of Immigration for the year ending June 30th last shows that, in round numbers, 350,000 immigrants swarmed in upon us, and a large proportion of this army of immigrants were imported laborers. The countries from which these immigrants come are given as follows: Austria Hungary 52,108, Italy 68,080, Russia 52,818, Germany 31,885, United Kingdom 64,067, all other countries 61,446.

Wm. P. St. John, the dethroned president of the big national bank in New York, says that the silver cause is gaining strength so rapidly that he believes Bryan will carry New York state, and the increased activity of the single standard managers in New York is evidence that they are becoming alarmed at the prospect. Two hundred and fifty thousand dollars to Burke Cochran means something unusual.

Thos. B. Reed has been heard, and he insists that money, not tariff, is the issue; and it is "sound money," of course, that claims his attention. Mr. Reed, soon after the units of India were closed against silver, had a clearer view of the money question than he seems to have now. He then said: "We have learned from that object lesson that the yellow man, using white money holds at his mercy the industry of the white man using yellow money."

One still has his ears assailed by the chirp that "silver money will not circulate among the people," that it is "piled up in the treasury vaults," and so on. The fact is, however, that all the silver money that is piled up in the treasury vaults is represented by outstanding silver certificates, which constitute the bulk of the circulation in all of the eastern states. And there is gold money as well "piled up in the treasury vaults," which is represented by gold certificates in circulation.

Hanna, Mr. McKinley's manager, is making it harder and still harder for silver republicans to excuse themselves for supporting the republican ticket. They, for a while, could plead that the tariff being the main issue, silver could wait, but now both McKinley and Hanna have been compelled by the eastern bankers to go the whole "sound money" hog at one gulp. Hanna now says that "protection" is right, but not "high protection."

Speaking of protection for the workingman, Bryan's platform pledges the only practical protection there is for him, and that is the exclusion of pauper laborers of the old world from our shores. But for the facility with which monopolistic employers in this country can replace our workmen with imported industrial serfs, they could not be so independent, and insolent, and exacting. The protection we have had all along and have now, does protect our manufacturing barons, but not at all the workmen.

The president of the Connecticut Life Insurance Co. issues this warning to its policy holders:

"Our contract with you agrees to pay your families so many dollars. There has never been any doubt that was intended thereby, but should we come upon a silver basis, your policy would for the present be paid in dollars about 50 cents; and the great bulk of them would probably be paid in dollars worth not more than 25 to 35 cents."

This is a fair warning of what will happen when the bankers and money interests get control of all the gold and gold paper in the country, as they are now fast doing, leaving nothing in circulation but silver dollars containing 34 cents worth of bullion. The combined banks now offer to furnish the government \$250,000,000 in gold if necessary. This amount controlled

by them, in addition to the sum of \$150,000,000 reserve held by them, and \$100,000,000 reserve in the national treasury, accounts for nearly all the gold in the country, and shows how little of that metal there is in circulation, and how dangerously near we now are to a silver basis, with a silver dollar intrinsically worth but 34 cents. This way they secure the people the faster to secure the equality of silver with gold by free coinage at a fixed rate, thus making the silver dollar contain as much value as the gold dollar. It is as easy to fix a mint price for silver, and maintain a steady price of that article, as it is to fix a permanent mint price for gold. This was done for nearly 100 years in this country, and it can easily be done again. Then there would be no such thing as a 54-cent dollar, and no fear of insurance policies being paid at a discount of a half.

The republicans who thought this was to be a campaign of their party for high tariff will be disappointed. Mark Hanna said on July 28th, in speaking of the issue: "To put it briefly, our position is in favor of sound money and a protective tariff; and, in addition, we are emphatically, 'I do not mean a high tariff by any means.'"

Ex-President Harrison, who is to speak throughout the west for the ticket, representing the party's tariff and financial views, said in his message to congress Dec. 9, 1891: "If we take the six months ending September 31st last the percentage of the value of the merchandise imported free of duty is found to be 55.37, which is a larger percentage of free imports than during any prior fiscal year in the history of the government. There is certainly nothing in the conditions of trade, foreign or domestic, there is certainly nothing in the condition of our people of any class, to suggest that the existing tariff and revenue legislation bears oppressively upon the people or retards the commercial development of the nation. It would be better if tariff legislation were upon a free trade basis, and not be decided that all the conditions of prosperity and of general contentment are present in a larger degree than ever before in our history."

These, and many other instances that could be cited, will show the republican high tariff campaign spouters, as well as those who are in favor of higher tariffs, that they do not represent their party to-day. Having determined to adopt England's high tariff policy of a single gold standard they must adopt England's policy of free trade to make it successful. This fact is not lost on the republican commercial nation, and the republicans are preparing to adopt the policy in its entirety. Even Garfield said in an article in the North American Review in the fall of 1880 said, in substance, that the ultimate outcome for the nation must be a gradual reduction of tariffs until we are on the basis of absolute free trade.

President Winter, the new boss of the Northern Pacific, says that road will make no further improvements or put extra men to work until they see how the election goes this fall. Such action on the part of corporations is but stirring the fires of a smoldering volcano. The American workman can be reasoned with and persuaded; but when you try to force him to do a thing by depriving him of work and using the threat of starvation, then the animal instinct of self preservation will assert itself, and will fight, if need be, for bread and butter. Therein lies the danger of such threats as that intimated by President Winter. It is a direct incentive to rebellion, as dangerous for capital as the poor man. It will not help the gold standard cause, but on the contrary make the poor man more determined in his efforts to defeat the cause which is almost wholly represented by the wealth of the land which is trying to intimidate labor.

The U. S. Gov't Reports show Royal Baking Powder superior to all others.

According to Robert A. McLean of Grants Pass a party of fishermen from Medford has recently been dominating the Rogue river for salmon. He writes Fish and Game Protector McGuire that last Thursday he found two men systematically jacking the salmon holes with giant power. They used from six to eight charges in each hole, and after the explosion would catch the dead fish on the riffles below. In this way they secured a considerable amount of salmon and salmon trout, which they loaded into a wagon close at hand. Mr. McGuire's informant also reports that traps have been built out in the river, almost closing the stream. The owners of the traps, however, have promised to modify them so as to comply with the fish laws. Mr. McGuire will make a personal investigation of these violators of the law and the dynamite specialists who are endeavoring to correct their lawlessness.

FOR SALE. 100 acres of land close to Rogue river near Biggs. Government patent. Good agricultural and grazing land, with fine range and considerable timber on the place. Will sell cheap for cash. \$300 takes it. Apply at this office.

The Oregonian is still exhorting the people to hurry up and raise that \$5,000 for a silver service for the battleship Oregon. As the same paper claims silver to be a "dishonorable" metal we wonder the great journal would stultify the state by making the battleship a "dishonorable" present. But then, if the present were made of gold it would deprive the bankers of that much gold, and that no doubt is why the Oregonian does not want that much of the "honest" metal taken out of the country's circulation just now.

TO THE CITIZENS OF CURRY. I have secured the services of Mr. J. P. Russell to canvass for the sale of "Black Hawk" fruit trees. He will be pleased to sell on special terms at very low figures. One half the cost of worthless, imported trees, with which our section is being flooded by traveling salesmen as well as local salesmen. I ask fair treatment and inspection of samples of fruit grown on my own trees. This season I am growing places of fruit that don't grow in Curry county. An invitation is extended to all persons desiring to plant trees to visit my place and compare stock and prices with all others. Or address me at Grants Pass, Oregon.

ROYAL Baking Powder has been awarded highest honors at every world's fair where exhibited.

Anxiously watch declining health of their daughters. So many are cut off by consumption in early years that there is real cause for anxiety. In the early stages, when not beyond the reach of medicine, Hood's Sarsaparilla will restore the quality and quantity of the blood and thus give good health. Read the following letter:

"It is but just to write about my daughter Cora, aged 19. She was completely run down, declining, but that tired feeling, and friends said she would not live over three months. She had a bad cough and nothing seemed to do her any good. I happened to read about Hood's Sarsaparilla and had her give it a trial. From the very first dose she began to get better. After taking a few bottles she was completely cured and her health has been better ever since." MRS. ADDIE FROST, 23 Railroad Place, Amsterdam, N. Y.

"I will not state my mother has not stated any case in as strong words as I would have done. Hood's Sarsaparilla has cured me and I am now well." CORA FROST, Amsterdam, N. Y.

Be sure to get Hood's, because

Hood's Sarsaparilla is the One True Blood Purifier. All druggists sell. Prepared only by C. I. Hood & Co., Lowell, Mass.

Hood's Pills are equally recommended, and are sold by all druggists.

TRAVELLER WHO WANTS COMFORT ALL STOP AT THE BAY VIEW HOTEL. When in Wedderburn. THE BEST HOTEL? ON ROGUE RIVER. Special Accommodations. Nicer Furnished Rooms, Bath and other Conveniences in the House. DAVID CAREY, Mgr.

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1

ONLY.

Only an envelope stamped and sealed. As a thousand envelopes are, that the busy mail clerks daily wield. And brand with the government seal. And little the wearipostman guesses. As he handed it in through the door. What slumbering thoughts would be waked in my breast. By the massive he lightly bore. And yet it is so, and the old thoughts rise. As they oft have—so often before—And pour from my bosom a torrent of sighs. As I scan the envelope of Mr. For ah, 'twas a delicate girlish hand. That fashioned this dainty address. And often my eyes have tenderly scanned. The marks of her pen's caress. And well may my warm sighs trench the air. For do I not know that she—She who is gentle and young and fair—Has been thinking and dreaming of me. And it matters not—but I'll mention it here. Though some might have kept it still—That the maid is my laundryman's young cashier. And the massive an unpaid bill. —Chicago News.

A SCIENTIFIC DEDUCTION

BY ALFRED O. ELLEN.

No; I do not think we intended to run away! It certainly was not premeditated, but merely a chain of uncontrollable circumstances, at least, for two boys of our age. However, you shall judge for yourself.

I was 13, and my brother 15 years of age. Walter's tastes were decidedly different from mine. He was very quiet by nature, caring but little for outdoor sports and games dear to the heart of most boys. He was a born scholar and bookworm. A volume of Dickens and a comfortable chair were, to him, far more alluring than the hottest game of baseball that ever gladdened the heart and distorted the fingers of young America.

For myself, I was—well, just an ordinary boy with, perhaps, more than the average amount of youthful schemes. The advent of a circus in our little town fully convinced me that nature had intended me for a trapeze performer, consequently my dear mother, always my confident and sympathizer, had no peace of mind until a costume of many and wonderful colors was designed and completed. She had a natural talent for realizing the wants of a boy. No matter what manner of garb was desired, she was always equal to the emergency, and many and startling were the garments evolved from her resourceful brain, to meet the numerous demands of my youthful fancy.

My acrobatic ambitions were brought to an abrupt termination by the trapeze bar breaking while I was in the middle of a wild gyration. I dropped very suddenly, and also very forcibly, landing on top of my head on the hard floor, and giving me the impression that my cranium must be driven in, entirely out of sight between my shoulders. I think it was nearly four weeks before I could turn my neck without turning my entire body.

It was about a month after this episode, and the family cat had fully recovered from the fit into which she had been seared when I struck, that I became interested in pedestrianism. A cousin from Boston came down for a two weeks' vacation from his studies, and an opportunity to fill his lungs with pure country air. He was a big, strong fellow, a freshman at Harvard, and enthusiastic over all athletic sports, so when I observed that every morning, rain or shine, he invariably was out for a two or three-mile constitutional, just as an appetizer for his breakfast, he said, if I fired the spark of my somewhat abated athletic ambitions into fierce flame again. If imitation is sincerest flattery, my big cousin ought certainly to have felt greatly flattered, for now every morning found me pacing off miles, and adding to my fund of already vigorous health.

I had been endeavoring for a week or more to entuse some of the benefits to be derived from this morning spin into my brother; and at last, by my persistent efforts, one evening I aroused his interest enough to exact from him a promise to accompany me on the following morning, and if it proved agreeable, perhaps on every morning. It did not prove agreeable, as you will observe.

He showed up, faithful to his promise, bright and early, but absolutely refused to start without his breakfast. There was nothing to do but wait for it, and it proved fortunate that we did so. At last, about half-past seven, we got under way, after casually mentioning to our parents that we were going for a walk.

A pleasant course, and one which we quickly agreed upon, was over what was known as the old hen-scratcher road. Two miles along this route would bring us to Cedar bridge, where the road crossed a small stream. Here we planned to stop and rest a short while, then return, making a nice four-mile jaunt. Had these original plans been carried out, all would have been well, but alas! who ever heard of two boys of our age doing things properly?

We reached Cedar bridge in good marching order, but instead of returning as planned, we decided to keep on a short distance further, or far enough to enable us to say we had walked five miles. Then some evil genius prompted my brother to suggest walking to East pond, a favorite resort fully six miles beyond us.

I always thought that he planned on giving me all the walking I wanted, relying on the strength of his matured legs to carry him through. He failed to take into consideration, however, that I was in active training. Two weeks' practice had given me a good wind and hardened up my muscles, so that I was in really excellent form. Our only fear was that we might be a little late for dinner, and that our parents might worry.

But taking out a pencil and paper, Walter figured out our entire route.

action that two boys, having traveled three miles in 45 minutes, should cover six miles more in at least two hours.

As it was then but 8:30, he showed me by "scientific deduction" (he was always great at things like that) that we should have no difficulty whatever in reaching the pond by 10:30.

Strangely enough, we did not stop to consider the possibility of our growing tired, and not being able to keep up the brisk pace we had cut out for the first few miles, and in the cool of the morning.

But as the sun grew higher, and commenced to beat down on the dry, dusty road, we saw that we were in for a scorcher. The heat was something awful. Our brisk walk had long since changed to a dogged shamble, and rests became frequent and of longer duration. We were also falling far short of the schedule time, as computed by Walter's "scientific deduction," and we saw very plainly that we were in a scrape.

Neither would turn back, however, although I think if either had proposed giving it up, the other would only too gladly have accepted the proposition. It was a case of "one's afraid, and the other daunt," both of us hesitating to be the first one to cry baby, so we went on. My poor brother was limping painfully, unaccustomed to such exertion, and exhausted by the heat of the July day. I would have been in fairly good condition, had I not chosen this particular day to "break in" a pair of baseball shoes.

You all remember how the boys used to wear those delusions of canvas and leather, and also a habit they had of slipping up and down at the heel, owing to a peculiarity of construction. This pair of mine was no exception to the general run and had slipped and rubbed until two beautiful blisters rewarded their efforts, making it simply torture for me to walk.

At last I took them off, and walked in my stocking feet, until there were no feet left to walk in, then it became my own feet. How I wished and longed for the calloused pedal extremities of the bare-footed urchins I had often ridiculed. I will not dwell on the painful subject. It brings a too vivid recollection of the suffering, even at this distant date.

Everything must come to an end, however, and when finally we could see the clear water of the pond glistening through the trees ahead, I think I could have reconciled myself to my affliction, had it not been for a premonition of distracted parents searching for lost boys. The gentleman who kept the hotel at the pond acted the part of a ministering angel when we presented our case to him. It being past three o'clock, you can imagine that we had developed quite a healthy appetite, but an account of stock, quickly taken, showed our joint assets to be just seven cents, not very encouraging surely for two half-starved boys, but our sympathetic landlord stood by us nobly, when we informed him who we were, for he knew our father, and what a dinner he set out for us!

If my bare and swollen feet caused some little amusement among the guests, it did not detract from my appetite, and Walter was certainly not tired to eat. We felt much better after our dinner, and would have started immediately on the return tramp, but our landlord would not hear of it until we had rested. He let us take one of his rowboats, and, pulling around to a little cove, we had a refreshing swim. We were, both feeling pretty nervous over the sequel, however, and decided postponement could not lessen the evil, and would only make matters worse. So returning the boat, and thanking our kind-hearted host again, and promising to send him the money for our dinners, we struck out on that weary homeward march.

How we ever got there I do not know. My blistered feet were evidently in a state of temporary insensibility, as they gave me very little pain, but I felt there must be a sweet hereafter in store for them on the morrow. Walter was pretty nearly gone, and stops were necessarily called every few minutes.

It was now dark, and our state of mind was far from enviable. The old town clock was just striking ten when our front gate opened and two dust and travel-stained pedestrians dragged themselves wearily up over the front steps and walked in upon a circle of woe-begone mourners.

In a second we were hugged and kissed by about ten different women, who had come in to comfort our nearly crazed mother, who, as mothers will, imagined every conceivable manner of misfortune, and she fully expected to see our lifeless bodies brought in at any moment.

Father had secured two teams, and, with another gentleman, had been scouring the country since four o'clock that afternoon, and now half the village were making preparations for a thorough search, when in we walked. They were so glad to see us again alive and well that father did not have the heart to punish us, thinking, no doubt, as he glanced at Walter asleep in his chair, and then at my bare feet, that we were already punished enough.

I believe the next day he did forbid us to leave our yard for a week, but this was a very mild sentence, as neither of us was in a condition to do much walking for that length of time.—Golden Days.

"By hook or crook," recalls the days when the poor of the English country districts were allowed to go into the forests and pick up such branches as had fallen from the tree. As a hook at the end of a short stick was frequently brought to assist in this labor, and as the straight branches must be left for the landlord, the expression, "by hook or crook," came to mean the accomplishment of an end in one way or another.

—The department of agriculture estimates that in the state of Connecticut it costs \$20.54 to raise an acre of wheat.

IN THE BAHAMAS.

BY WILFRED BENDALL.

Amongst the numerous British colonies there is none, perhaps, about which the average Englishman is more hazy than about the Bahamas—the islands of June—the Pink Pearl—of the Oleaner, as they have been variously styled. Several reasons may account for this. The islands lie apart from the other West Indian possessions, and out of the course of the great steamships; they are in no direct communication with England whatever, nor with the nearest British colony, Jamaica, except by means of an occasional sailing vessel—and from all local schooners may heaven preserve the unwary visitor!

Most of the export and import trade is with the United States, and the only regular communication with the islands is furnished by the American steamers leaving New York fortnightly, calling at Nassau, and proceeding to Cienfuegos on the south coast of Cuba; and by the Bahama Shipping company, which runs a steamer every three weeks between New York and Nassau.

The islands are largely patronized by American visitors during the winter months, who come thither to enjoy the superb climate; and as a traveling Englishman is quite a rare avis, every stranger is assumed to be American until he proclaims his nationality.

The Bahamas consist of a group of some 650 islands (only 20 inhabited), widely scattered, the extremes being something over 400 miles apart. Many of them are only partially explored, and some of the smaller ones scarcely known; the population is, of course, very scanty, the last census giving only 44,000, of which about 90 per cent. are colored people.

Nassau, the capital (and indeed the only town worthy the name), is situated on New Providence, an island about the size and shape of Isle of Wight. The finest buildings the town possesses are the jail, the hospital and the Royal Victoria hotel, said to be the best in the West Indies. It is only open from Christmas till the end of April, that being the times at which visitors come from the states; although as far as the climate is concerned, the rains are over in October and the weather is cool and delightful from the beginning of November. The thermometer during the winter varies between 70 and 80 degrees.

At other times of the year accommodations can be had at the Curry house and at various boarding establishments. The bank, post office and most of the shops are in Bay street—a long, wide street, planted with almond trees, running along the coast, east and west. The roads around the town and indeed far into the country are excellent. The island cannot boast of any special beauty of scenery; with the exception of a very low range of hills, the country is flat, in some places swampy. The uncultivated portions are always covered with vegetation, sometimes by an almost impenetrable bush, sometimes by pine trees, and sometimes by many miles of beautiful palm-trees—plants without which no London drawing-room is complete nowadays.

At the back of Nassau is a limestone ridge through or over which are roads leading to the native towns. These being sheltered from the dry north wind, and hence being somewhat damper and warmer than the capital, exhibit the most wonderful wealth of tropical vegetation. Each cabin struts in the midst of a garden where such utility trees as coconut palms, oranges, bananas, guavas, and sometimes breadfruit, are sure to be seen; the merely ornamental plants are also not forgotten; every species of rose seems to run wild in the gardens, and in this land of perpetual summer the trees "keep blooming right along," as an American might express it. There are four of these native settlements at the back of Nassau, and to a botanist nothing can be more interesting than a ramble through the streets, or, more properly speaking, lanes.

The list of trees and plants flourishing on the island seems almost inexhaustible; besides those before mentioned, some of the best known are: Silk, cotton, banyan, mahogany, ebony, satin-wood trees; pineapples, grape fruit, shaddock, mangoes, yams, plantains, sugar cane, etc.

The chief and oldest industry of the place is sponging; an apparently endless supply of sponge is found on the reefs which surround the islands. The sponge boats are constantly returning to Nassau with their cargoes, and large heaps may be seen almost any morning in the exchange. Sponge is sold by auction, clipped and pressed, packed in bales, and dispatched to agents in New York and London. Several species are found, but none of them are of so fine quality as most of the sorts from the Mediterranean.

Vast quantities of live turtle are continually being shipped, which figure later at Delmonico's and the London restaurants. Another species (the non-edible) is also abundant, and furnishes an important industry in Nassau; the shells are polished whole, and form very attractive ornaments, or are cut up to make combs and other small articles.

The two great prizes for which every fisherman is on the lookout are the pink pearls and ambergris. The former are found in the flesh of the large conch (strombus gigas), a very abundant shell which is dried for by the boys, who are most expert in this exercise. A pearl of unusually large size was purchased by a dealer in Nassau lately for £405; as, however, only one shell in a hundred contains a pearl, and then probably only a small one, pearl fishing is a decidedly precarious means of livelihood. The natives much relish the flesh of the conch, but it is somewhat an acquired taste.

Ambergris, which is formed by a disease in the sperm whale, is occasionally washed ashore on the islands, and a large piece of it is a small fortune to the lucky finder.

During the last ten years an industry has been started which bids fair to be of great importance; it is the cultivation of sisal, a species of aloe (agave americana), the fiber of which supplies the best material for rope making. There are several plantations of it in New Providence, Abaco, and other islands, but Andros is found most suitable for its growth. This is the largest of the Bahamas, and the one lying nearest Nassau. It is 90 miles long and 40 miles across the middle, with a population of 3,400, of which only 20 or 30 are white people. It has a rocky soil and is covered almost everywhere with impenetrable brush. The few settlements are on the east coast, and the center of the island has never been explored. This furnishes food for the superstitious and fanciful minds of the negroes, who relate wonderful tales of a race of giants and various supernatural beings who are supposed to inhabit the interior and occasionally visit the coast at night. Almost all the settlers on this island are engaged in sisal cultivation, of which there are several large plantations; that of Mr. Joseph Chamberlain, M. P., being notable.

The long straggling island of Eleuthera has also sisal estates, though the local specialty is the raising of pineapples. The island is cooler in summer than Nassau, and many of the inhabitants are glad to escape from the metropolis to Governor's Harbor and other settlements, where decent accommodations may be found, which is more than can be said of the other islands.

Inagua, the most southerly of the group, lying close to Haiti, is somewhat different in character. It possesses extensive prairie lands and numerous wild horses. Mention must be made of San Salvador, which was the first land touched upon by Columbus. He subsequently visited New Providence, October 17, 1492, which he named Fernandina after Ferdinand of Spain.

The island was chiefly celebrated in early days on account of the deeds of a daring set of pirates who had fixed on Nassau as their headquarters. The reefs and shoals which surround the harbor made a convenient retreat for those knowing the waters, but extremely dangerous for any unwary vessel that might be driven towards the shores. The pirates at length attracted so much attention that, at the solicitation of British merchants George I. dispatched an expedition to reduce the colony to obedience. During the early part of the American war of independence the island was taken by Commodore Hopkins, but abandoned as untenable. It was retaken in 1781 by the Spaniards and Americans, but afterwards restored to Great Britain.

Of course the palmy days of the Bahamas (like the other West Indies) were before the abolition of slavery; still during the American civil war, money literally poured into Nassau. It was the principal center for blockade running, and all provisions and stores were bought up at fabulous prices.

The sights of Nassau are certainly not numerous; there are two, however, which the visitor should not neglect. The first is the phosphorescent lake which lies two miles east of the town, and only about 50 yards from the sea, with which it is connected by a channel. It is said to be the most phosphorescent piece of water in the world, but the reason of the phosphorescence has never been satisfactorily explained. The lake, or pond, is artificial, having been cut many years ago, probably for storing turtle. Certain it is that on any dark night the water presents a wonderful spectacle. A boat is there for the use of visitors, and plenty of small boys always on hand to dive under and around it. As soon as the water is disturbed, it appears simply transformed into liquid fire.

The other sight to be recommended is a visit to Grants town (one of the native settlements) on a Saturday evening. Stalls covered with various commodities line the roadway, each one brilliantly illuminated by a small bundle of candlewood, which forms a splendid natural torch. Then there are shanties where characteristic negro singing and dancing may be heard and seen.

Surely there never was such a place for psalm-singing as Nassau; it seems to be the only dissipation of the colored people. Almost every night there is a function in the various churches and chapels; if it is not a service, it is a choral practice. The negroes are notably a musical race, and here they have full opportunity of cultivating their tastes as far as psalmody is concerned. The knowledge of the tonic sol-fa is widely diffused, and the part-singing of the people is really admirable; the quality of the voices often leaves much to be desired, but the singing is correct and always hearty, not to say boisterous. The sailors on the sponge boats and other craft, when their attention is not otherwise required, usually produce their tonic sol-fa books and begin deciphering new tunes, sometimes in two or three parts, in a really extraordinary way. In short, when the negroes are not talking or eating they are usually singing hymns. There are several races of negroes in the islands, successors of those originally brought by the Spaniards. Some of the African languages are still spoken by the people amongst themselves, though English is the only language one hears, the most part, with but very little slang.

Mosquitoes are a terrible scourge to the island, still from November to May Nassau is practically free from them. Snakes are plentiful in the bush, but are perfectly harmless. Tarantulas and centipedes may be found by those who take the trouble to look for them. The most brilliant humming birds and butterflies are always abundant.—Fall Mail Magazine.

Cost of Fertilizers. The department of agriculture states that the average cost of fertilizers for an acre of wheat in New Hampshire is \$5.59. In the newer states this item cuts little figure.

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