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Lochmede

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LOCHMEDEK

Vol. I.

WINTER PARK, FLORIDA, FRIDAY, JULY 15, 1887.

No. 3.

MAGNOLIA.

Once a dryad of the northland,
Wearied with the winter day,
With the silent, frozen mountains,
Where the snow ne'er melts away,
Sought the southern land of sunshine
In the never ending May.

Ere she reached the genial climate,
Heart elate with hope and glee,
Tired she sank to pleasant slumber
Neath the shadow of a tree,
In whose branches birds alighted,
Singing sweetest melody.

Waking when her rest was over,
Startled by her slumber long,
Still the birds were singing gaily,
Hailing then the joyous throng,
Into blooming flowers she changed them,
And to fragrance turned their song.

Lo! the tree is proud magnolia,
Loveliest gift the seasons bring,
Peerless in its blooming beauty,
Every flower a fettered wing,
And its perfume silent music,
Sweet as songs the angels sing.

—Jerome Burnett in *Outing*.

WINTER PARK.

The South Florida Railroad runs through Winter Park in the form of a great bow, the string of which lies due north and south. Across the middle, like an arrow on the string, is the Boulevard, a broad avenue extending from Lake Killarney, where the western end of the arrow lies upon the string, to Lake Osceola, where its point projects eastward over the bow. The bow is pretty sharply bent, so that the greater part of the arrow is between the string and the bow. At the crossing of arrow and bow is the railway station, surrounded by ten acres of ground reserved for a park. Fronting on this park, east and west, are the business houses of the town, and at the south end, the office of the Winter Park Company. At the tip of the arrow is the Rogers House, and a little forward and south of the tip is the large and elegant Seminole Hotel, the grounds of both houses extending down to the shore of Lake Osceola, and a short street leading from the Seminole to the shore of Lake Virginia. The command of the lakes from the Seminole was described in our last issue. It stands on a neck of land between Lake Osceola on the north and Lake Virginia on the south. Lake

Maitland, the largest of the four, lies beyond Lake Osceola to the north, and Lake Mizell, a smaller lake opening out of Lake Virginia to the east, adds beauty to the view in that direction. All these lakes are tributary to Howell's Creek, which empties finally into Lake Jesup, a part of the St. Johns River. About half a mile south and a little east of the station are the grounds of Rollins College, containing several substantial and roomy buildings for the school rooms, dormitories and dining hall of the college. The grounds occupy a point of land projecting into Lake Virginia, and high enough to afford commanding views over it in several directions.

The land on which the town is built is all high and dry pine land, with good natural drainage, and the shores of the lakes are steep and clean, and free from the marshy borders so common around Florida lakes. The water is deep and clear, constantly changed by the flow of fresh water through the lakes, and not fouled by masses of decaying vegetable growth. The town is settled by a refined and cultivated class of people, most of them possessed of sufficient means to maintain comfortable and attractive places, and many of whom have built large and elegant houses. They are people, for the most part, who have come from older parts of the country, where they were accustomed to the surroundings of comfortable civilized life, and are using their means and energy to make their new home as complete in its appointments as the old. They demand a good class of goods at the stores, and the consequence is that the latter are supplied with far better grades of goods than are usually found in small towns, even in older sections. There are several churches, two of which have handsome and substantial buildings, schools, and a library of over 1000 volumes. Some of the finest orange groves in this section of the State are in and immediately around the town, and there is plenty of good land for this and other agricultural purposes in the immedi-

ate neighborhood, as well as beautiful situations on the lake shores for residence and hotel purposes.

The colored people have a little village by themselves, southwest from the station about three-eighths of a mile, and are a good and peaceable class of their race, contented and prosperous, and permanently established in homes of their own. They have organized a brass band, among other evidences of their advanced condition, which does them great credit by its performances. Their relations with their white neighbors and employers are easy and satisfactory to both parties.

Politically Winter Park is about equally divided between the two great parties, and the mutual relations of its people are easy and mutually respectful and considerate, so that whatever may be ones political faith he will find himself here entirely at his ease, and subject to no annoyance nor inconvenience on account of it. Our people are here to make homes for themselves, and pleasant society for each other. Every one who comes here is expected to be a gentleman or a lady in his relations with his neighbors, and birds of this feather have flocked together to make an exceptionally delightful community. What they want more than anything else is more people of the same kind to come and join them in the enjoyment of their beautiful home, and all such may be sure of a warm welcome and pleasant surroundings.

The *Tallahassee Floridian* is now publishing the laws that were passed by our Legislature. The issue of last week contained a full copy of the law to enforce Article XIX, and we are happy to state that the "crooked" Section 6, to which we referred last week in the *Alliance*, was omitted. There are only five sections, and the old law respecting the manner of obtaining license is not repealed, unless Section 2 of the new law repeals it. As we have the opinion of the Attorney-General in our favor, and the letter of the law, the burden is on "our friends the enemy" to show that the old law is entirely repealed by the new. It would be almost too good to be true to have the new law with all the best features of the old retained. Let us hope for the best.—*State Temperance Alliance*.

The Pita Plant.

According to a report of Consul Burchard, of Ruatan, in Honduras, the pita plant has never been cultivated, but grows wild in patches on the borders of rivers and lagoons. The stalks of the plant contain the fiber of commerce, and grow sometimes to a height of 12 feet. The Indians scrape off the hard skin of the stalk with a bamboo knife, and thus obtain the fibers, which form the heart of the stalk. Another plan is to steep the stalks in water until the skin decomposes, but this is said to injure the fiber somewhat. In recent years machines have been devised to decorticate the fiber, but these have all been failures, owing to the fact that no machine has yet been invented capable of operating on a profitable scale. In Honduras the pita or "silk grass" fiber is used chiefly for thread, nets, fish-line, and cordage. Samples of the fiber sent to the United States and Europe have been manufactured into lace, handkerchiefs, ribbons, and wigs. It is held to be a substitute for silk or linen; and if proper machinery were forthcoming, the wild pita fields of Honduras might be utilized in commerce. Consul Burchard indeed expresses the opinion that the fiber is destined to become a very important element in the future commerce and industry of this country.—*Scientific American*.

Here is a chance for neighbor Burdon, of Sanford, who exhibited such fine samples of various fibers produced by his machines, at the South Florida Exhibition last winter. Who knows but we may yet see our now useless saw-grass and prairie lands turned into valuable fields of pita, and our State producing a crop rivaling even old "King Cotton" in commercial importance. It is a subject well worth investigation.—*Ed.*

The Alligator as an Insect Destroyer.

An observer down South says an alligator's throat is an animated sewer. Every thing which lodges in his open mouth goes down. He is a lazy dog, and instead of hunting for something to eat, he lets his victims hunt for him. That is, he lies with his great mouth open, apparently dead, like the possum. Soon a bug crawls into it, then a fly, then several gnats, and a colony of mosquitoes. The alligator doesn't close his big mouth yet. He is waiting for a whole drove of things. He does his eating by wholesale. A little later a lizard will cool himself under the shade of the upper jaw. Then a few frogs will hop up to catch

the mosquitoes. Then more mosquitoes and gnats will light on the frogs. Finally a whole village of insects and reptiles settle down for an afternoon picnic. Then at once there is an earthquake. The big jaw falls, the alligator blinks one eye, gulps down the entire menagerie, and opens his great front door again for more visitors.—*Scientific American*.

Food Adulterations.

The examinations as to tea, coffee, and sugar conducted by Edward G. Dove, Ph. D., for the *New York World*, resulted as follows:

A review of the 300 reports discloses that of the samples of tea, 88 were not adulterated and twelve were adulterated, mostly with "the tea" and foreign leaves; that of the samples of ground coffee, 72 were unadulterated and 28 were adulterated, mostly with chicory and peas; that of the sugar samples, 98 were pure and only 2 adulterated with starch glucose. In all, there were, of the 300 samples, 258 good and 42 more or less bad. As to the weights of the samples, those of 270 were correct and 30 were light.—*Scientific American*.

Dr. Norman, formerly of Longwood, writes to the *Sanford Journal*, recommending the abundant planting of flowers and all vigorous growing plants in towns, as a precaution against malaria and typhoid fever. He says that fragrant flowers give off ozone, which is a powerful purifying agent in the atmosphere, and such plants as bananas absorb from the soil large quantities of matter which would otherwise give rise to mephitic gases, the plants giving off oxygen from their leaves instead. It is only decaying vegetable matter which is dangerous; a clean well-kept garden is a great purifier.

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19
3
LOCHMEDE

THE PIONEER STORE

WINTER PARK,

A. H. PAUL, PROPRIETOR.

Would respectfully announce to the citizens of Winter Park and vicinity, that he has bought of Mr. J. R. Ergood his stock of

GROCERIES AND GENERAL MERCHANDISE,

and will aim to keep up the reputation of the store, by keeping a

LARGE AND WELL ASSORTED STOCK

of the best goods that can be bought, and at prices that defy competition, for the same quality of goods, and he hopes by gentlemanly and courteous treatment to merit his share of the public patronage. His facilities for getting

FINE ALDERNEY CREAMERY BUTTER

and keeping it in cold storage, insure to his customers a good article in the best possible condition.

HAY, OATS AND GRAIN

at bottom prices. Come and see. Respectfully,

A. H. PAUL.

CHARLES J. LADD,

HARDWARE **E**
HARDWARE

WINTER PARK DRUG STORE,

SOUTHERN EXPRESS AGENCY,

SOUTHERN BELL TELEPHONE AND

TELEGRAPH OFFICE,

ORLANDO STEAM LAUNDRY.

COR. EAST PARK AVE. AND THE BOULEVARD,

WINTER PARK, - FLORIDA.

THIS SPACE RESERVED FOR

L. H. DONKEL

DEALER IN

HAY, GRAIN, ETC., ETC.,

WINTER PARK, FLORIDA.

A Beautiful Father.

"Tell your mother you've been very good boys to-day," said a school teacher to two little new scholars.

"Oh!" replied Tommy, "we have no mother."

"Who takes care of you?" she asked.

"Father does. We've a beautiful father. You ought to see him!"

"Who takes care of you when he is at work?"

"He takes all the care before he goes off in the morning and after he comes back at night. He's a house-painter, but there isn't very much work this

winter, so he is doing laboring till spring comes. He leaves us a warm

breakfast when he goes off, and we have bread and milk for dinner, and a

good supper when he comes home.

Then he tells us stories and plays on the life, and cuts out beautiful things

with his jackknife. You ought to see our father and our home—they are both so beautiful!"

Before long the teacher did see that home and that father. The room was

a poor attic graced with cheap pictures, autumn leaves, and other little trifles that cost nothing. The father, who

was preparing the evening meal for his motherless boys, was at first glance

only a rough, begrimed laborer; but before the stranger had been in the

place ten minutes the room became a

palace and the man a magician.

His children had no idea they were poor, nor were they so with such a hero

as this to fight their battles for them. This man, whose grateful spirit lighted

up the otherwise dark life of his children, was preaching to all about him

more effectually than was any man in priestly robe in costly temple.

He was a man of patience and submission to God's will, showing how to

make home happy under the most unfavorable circumstances. He was rearing his boys to be shoulders to burdens

rather than become burdens to society in the days that are coming.

He was, as his children had said, "a beautiful father," in the highest sense of the word.—*Palatka Herald*.

Coppered Tin.

Mr. P. H. Laufman, Pittsburg, is manufacturing copper-plated sheet

steel, which indicates a new use for that metal. The sheet is made of decar-

bondized steel and is manufactured at the Apollo Sheet Iron Mills. After be-

ing rolled to the proper thickness, it is electro-plated with copper on both

sides and tinned on one side, and in this condition, it is stated by the

manufacturers, it is a better article for many purposes than solid sheet

copper.—*Scientific American*.

LOCHMEDE,

PUBLISHED EVERY FRIDAY.

In the Midst of the Lochs.

Subscription, \$1.50 per year, in advance.

Advertisements at reasonable rates.

Terms on application.

Communications by mail should be addressed to J. B. HENCK, JR., Longwood, Fla.

Office at Winter Park with Chas. J. Ladd.

Entered at the post-office at Winter Park as second mail matter.

WINTER PARK, JULY 15, 1887.

AN editor don't like a small subscription list any more than a minister likes empty pews. If you want to encourage your minister to preach sermons worth hearing, make it worth while for him to do it, by adding to the congregation. If you want to encourage your editor to write something worth reading add to his list of readers, so that he will think his words likely to be read by enough people to be worth exerting himself for. Subscribe for the paper and get your friends to do so.

OUR attention has been called to an error in the report of the closing exercises of Rollins College, printed in our first issue, an error which we need hardly say was unintentional, as the account was a communicated one. Our correspondent gave credit for the elocutionary exercises to Miss, instead of Mrs. Dieffenderfer. The former contributed to the pleasure of the audience in several well executed musical selections, but the instruction in elocution had been under the charge of Mrs. Dieffenderfer, to whom we are glad of the opportunity to award due credit, while not detracting at all from that due to Miss Blanche for her part in the programme.

WE ARE much obliged to our neighbors of Winter Park for their kind reception of LOCHMEDE, and to those who have taken interest enough to contribute to our columns especially so. We hope that the feature of local contributions will increase rapidly, and those who are doubtful about their articles proving of sufficient interest or importance may feel very sure

that their neighbors' interest in the paper will be the greater, the more such contributions it contains. They would much rather read something of immediate home interest to them, even if not very important, than the general matter that may be found in any other paper just as well. However alert the editor may be he cannot keep track of everything, and even if he could, he is likely to get into ruts, and people get tired of always reading one man's way of looking at things. If you want your home paper to be a success, use it yourself in every way you can. If there is anything you think the paper ought to work for, work for it yourself through the paper—that is what it is for—and be sure the editor will be glad to help you.

MAKE IT EASY.

How many things are there that you ought to do every day or every week, but are continually putting off on one pretext or another to a more convenient time, so that they do not get done more than half or quarter as often as they should be? In this warm climate people are more or less predisposed to laziness, and a habit of taking things easy, and getting through some way. True, they generally do get through, but often in a makeshift way, that would hardly be tolerated in more ambitious latitudes. It therefore becomes especially necessary here to adopt every possible means of counteracting this tendency.

In nine cases out of ten it will be found that the job which is put off is more or less disagreeable in itself, or has some petty, trifling inconvenience about the means employed to do it, that makes it distasteful or vexatious. If this little point be remedied the job often becomes so easy that there is no longer any hesitation about doing it at the proper time, and many consequent annoyances are saved. One of the commonest sources of nuisance and want of neatness at this season is from watermelon rinds and other refuse. We start in on a watermelon without thinking of the refuse, and when we are done we have a pile of rinds with no place to put them, and rather than take the time just then to provide one, we throw them out into the street, or still worse, into a small back yard, or if we are a shade better

in our intentions, we have perhaps provided a great barrel just under our back window to receive such things, and we throw them into that. This is perhaps the worst way of all, for the barrel is so large that before it is full the first contributions have become rotten and offensive, and it is a source of danger as well as discomfort to have it about. Besides, it is such a dirty job to empty it that it is put off until it is plumb full, and perhaps running over, and after a few repetitions the ground around becomes almost as filthy as if we had no barrel. At best the barrel when emptied is almost impossible to clean thoroughly, and is put back in a more or less offensive condition, and containing enough sour and decayed matter to cause fresh contributions to sour and decay also much more quickly than they otherwise would. Very likely there is also added the element of some slight expense to hire a man, and trouble to go after him each time he is wanted to empty the barrel, and this furnishes still further excuses for postponement, and consequent annoyance.

The remedy for the whole difficulty is very simple; we have only to provide a good sized bucket, not too large to be easily carried and emptied, and the trouble of emptying this, even several times a day, and rinsing out well at least once a day, will be found far less than that of less effective, if apparently more pretentious methods, and in addition to securing the prompt performance of the duty, by making it easy, we shall escape the offensive, fly-breeding nuisance now so common. The difference in the conditions is simply this; with the barrel the trouble of emptying is greater than the present offense caused by neglect, and so it is neglected; if we have nothing at all, the present offense of having the stuff in the street or the yard is less each time than the trouble of providing a bucket; but with a bucket once provided, the trouble of emptying it each time is less than the offense caused by neglect, and consequently it is done promptly, and all trouble is avoided.

It is the same thing with many other cases of annoyance about our houses or places of business. We do not look ahead when we start far enough to foresee our difficulties; we think any

rig will do, and the consequence is it does not do at all. A little thought in making all such chores easy will be repaid in every case. Make things easy and convenient, and they will be done, but if they are troublesome or inconvenient they will certainly be neglected. The man who learns this one fact about his own constitution, and acts accordingly, will have removed from his path one of the most constant sources of stumbling and discomfort with which he will otherwise have to contend all his life.

Jottings.

Subscribe for Lochmede.

Try Ladd's Lactart for an acid drink.

Mr. Jerome Capen has been quite sick for a few days. He is much better now.

Rev. S. F. Gale writes very enthusiastically of the looks and prospects of LOCHMEDE.

Ladd has an extra quality of Carholie Soap. Everyone needs it to keep the skin in good condition in warm weather.

Geo. S. Fisk, son of Rev. P. B. Fisk, who was foreman on the New Age, is employed in Da Costa's job office in Jacksonville.

Low prices, extra quality and good variety in stationery at Ladd's. Have you tried that handsomely illuminated paper?

It was a Winter Park druggist who named his mocking bird Vinum. He had the best authority that "wine is a mocker."

Mr. D. R. Jamieson has been very successful with a patch of teosinte, and thinks it the best forage plant for this country.

Our compositor mislaid several pages of items with notices of different happenings, for which we are sorry, as we shall try not to slight anybody in our local items.

Dalmatian Insect Powder, Roach and Rat Exterminators, Borax, Sulphur, etc. are indispensable in every family these summer days, and at Ladd's you will find them.

The families of Messrs. S. S. and J. S. Capen will leave on the 18th for Daytona, where they will enjoy the sea breezes, and rest and recuperate at Rev. Geo. Stowe's "Cliff House."

Lumber and other materials have begun to arrive for Dr. Henkel's new building on the lots next to Agnew block; it will be put up at once under the charge of Mr. John Dielfenderfer.

Lloyd Donkel has the latest invention in the way of a typewriter and for ten dollars and a very limited amount of practice one can have an excellent instrument and know how to play it.

Mr. Wanton S. Webb was here on the 9th in the interest of his "Florida On Wheels." He seems very cheerful with the prospects of what we think a splendid plan for advertising Florida and its productions.

Orlando seems to be anxious to get a connection with the A. F. & A. R. R., now it is a very easy matter for them to do it and if they will only turn in and help the O. & W. P. R'y folks along a little, Winter Park will do its share and their object is secured.

Although we have had two or three days and nights of very warm weather we have not suffered nearly as much as the people of Washington, New York, Chicago, &c. judging from all the letters we have received on the subject. Come down here, neighbors, and cool off!

We are very glad to see Mr. Stubblefield around again after his very severe injury on the trestle of the Orlando and Winter Park Ry. He has gone to work hard to complete the several structures, and it will not be long until the whistle of the locomotive will be heard on the "Lochmede" route.

We hear that the Colored State Fair has been located at Orlando, on the line of the Orlando & Winter Park Ry. Rev. Pres. Bogar is a worker, and with his staff of energetic enthusiasts the Fair is bound to be a success. The O. & W. P. will probably run trains every 15 or 20 minutes, so that the immense crowd will be quickly and comfortably accommodated.

The beautiful cottage that Mr. B. F. McKee is building for John R. Ergood is assuming shape. It will be as pretty a place as there is in Winter Park. The style of it is taken from several of the best prevailing styles, but partakes of the nature of a Queen Anne cottage more than any other. It has 12 rooms, with a tower involving four stories, capped by an Italian dome that makes a very pretty appearance. The fourth or tower story is composed almost entirely of rich shades and colors of cathedral glass. The house will have all modern arrangements for comfort such as plenty of closets, fine china closets, bath rooms with marble slabs and silver trimmings. The vestibule, library and parlor windows and doors are to be of the richest kind of cathedral glass, and take it all in all it will be a neat, complete and tasty structure and a credit to Winter Park.

Here is one of the finest warm weather drinks for the least money per glass that our home people can keep on hand to cool and invigorate when hot, tired and thirsty. It is called Cream Nectar, and many of our people can testify that it is strictly fine. It is very nutritious and good for the stomach and digestion: Mix enough water with a half tumbler of flour to make a thin, smooth paste. Add to this the whites of 3 eggs (not beaten) and stir smooth. Into a kettle that will hold a gallon or more put 3 quarts of cold water, 4 pounds white sugar, and 4 ounces of tartaric acid. Take a spoon and stir this all up together with the flour and eggs prepared at first. Let the whole mixture come to a good lively boil on a hot stove, skimming if necessary, and put into fruit jars as hot as possible, same as in canning fruit. When cool it is ready for use. Now take an ordinary sized tumbler, (½ pint) put in a teaspoonful condensed milk, fill the glass about two-thirds full of cold water, the colder the better, ½ teaspoonful of your favorite flavoring extract, 3 table-

spoonfuls of the mixture from the cans, and then put in ¼ teaspoonful of baking soda, stir up with a spoon and drink quickly for it effervesces. Try it once and you will not be without it. Be sure and follow directions exactly, for they are the result of successful experience.

Several years ago there came to a certain State normal school in a western State a young man, tall, rather slightly built, with chin whiskers; from the moment of his arrival anybody could see he was a man of more than ordinary energy and ability and soon he took his acknowledged place as a leader in his class and the man, on all occasions of debate and literary contest, that was looked to as the one to lead his side to victory and defeat the opponents; refusing an offer to become one of the faculty of that institution we next find him in Chicago at the head of the largest commercial school in the West, where with his unusual energy and perseverance he makes it more and more successful until the great fire comes and sweeps his enterprise with all the results of his work from the face of the earth; poor and somewhat discouraged, the struggle for a living began again and in an incredibly short time we find him again on the high road to success with one of the best real estate concerns in Chicago under his control; then comes the panic, values drop lower and lower until once more stranded and financially distressed he turns away from the large city, and in a neighboring city he assumes the management of one of the largest provincial daily papers in the West, but, his struggles have begun to tell on him and with impaired health he turns his head towards Florida hoping to regain his health and perhaps some of the money he had lost. Soon after arriving in Florida he comes across one of his boyhood's cronies and together they purchase quite a tract of land, survey it, stake it off into town lots and soon where but a short time before the Indian had held undisputed sway, we behold rising, as if by magic, a beautiful town, a magnificent hotel, and the walls of the largest educational institute in the whole State. The fame of Winter Park, with the Seminole and Rollins College, has become world-wide and the results of the start made by Chapman and Chase are larger and more lasting than Mr. Loring A. Chase, for it is of him we write, ever in his most hopeful moments anticipated. It has been a great good-fortune to get some of the largest capitalists and most prominent philanthropists interested in the work, and with such men as Francis B. Knowles, Col. Fairbanks, Messrs. Comstock, Rollins, Peckham, Hutchins, Lyman, Judge Welborne, and a score of others, the success of Winter Park is certain. Heart and soul with these Messrs. Chapman and Chase, with zeal unabated, are working earnestly for the success of the place they worked so hard to found and fashion after their own notions.

Mr. Taylor, of Quincy, has evaporated a ton of blackberries, and has arranged to sell them at nine and a half cents a pound.

A Chinaman, who has just graduated from Yale College with high honors, has married a New Haven heiress, a Miss Jerome.

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SET OUT. LAND CLEARED.
GROVES CULTIVATED.

Agents for SWIFT-SURE and Other Best
Grades of Fertilizers.

FIRE INSURANCE IN BEST COMPANIES NEGOTIATED.

Plenty of Good Seasoned Stove Wood on Hand.

ALL INTENDING SETTLERS

Should visit Winter Park, and see the properties in our hands before making a selection. Winter Park is the loveliest and healthiest spot in Florida.

With its SEMINOLE HOTEL OF 250 ROOMS, its ROLLINS COLLEGE, the BEST SCHOOL in the STATE, and its EXCELLENT SOCIETY.

It presents social advantages which no other town in Florida can equal. It is within FOUR MILES of the prosperous town of Orlando, the county seat, with which it will shortly have hourly communication by rail.

Orange Groves of all Sizes, Unimproved Lands, Etc.,
In this neighborhood at as reasonable prices as anywhere in Florida.

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LEMONADE AND CIDER ON ICE
FINE
Imported and Domestic Cigars
AT BILLIARD ROOM
W. CAPPER, WINTER PARK.

J. H. LAMAY,
PAINTER
WINTER PARK.

The Midnight Sun.

After navigating Laxe Fjord, nearly to its head, with a continuation of the same cheerless, rugged mountain scenery, we sheered off to the east, touching impatiently at Lebesby, lest we should be caught behind an intervening spur of the mountain when the sun made his midnight presentation. We were, however, in good time out into the free waters of the fjord which opens broadly to the north, presenting a wide and unobstructed northern horizon. Everybody was astir; the saloon was vacated; he that executed the office of prophet and priest was on deck with pencil and sketch-book; we looked to our watches, and just as Atropos clipped from her thread of time the 5th of July, the king of day crowned himself king of the night as well and crept weirdly across the northern sky about ten diameters above the horizon.

To my prosaic eyes there was nothing remarkable in the color of this sun at midnight, particularly when remembering our gorgeous American sunsets. Nor were my observations on this journey confined to one or two occasions; for during every night of two long weeks, like a faithful Parsee, I watched the weary northern sun burnish the Arctic seas and flush the polar skies. Yet during that time there was no display of colors transcending those I am accustomed to at home. The fascination of the midnight sun arises less from any unusual display of color than from the impression made by his appearance at the solemn hour of midnight. You are beholding him from across the open polar sea, whose gleaming ice barriers he is at that moment flooding with sunshine; you behold him as the meridian sun of Alaska and the Sandwich Islands, scorching with vertical rays the tawny islanders of the Pacific Ocean; as the rising sun on the coast of China and the setting sun for the busy New Yorkers, who are just then crowding the ferryboats and boarding elevated trains for their homes. You realize for the first time that the earth is a globe and that you are perched on its northern dome; you turn your back on the sun and slumbering Europe lies below you; you are on a line with Upernivik in Greenland and the delta of the Lena; a sepulchral stillness broods over the limitless expanse of water; the solitude holds you spell-bound; you do not wish to speak or be spoken to; human utterance is utter platitude; you are in the spell-region of the midnight sun! The asperities of life are down yonder in the busy naughts

of men; throbbing pulses, fevered brows, and aching hearts are in lower latitudes; the cares of earth, like noxious plants, cannot exist north of the Arctic circle; hot passions, hot blood and irritability are the products of the tropics and temperate zones. One could almost wish for a place of seclusion from the external world—

In these deep solitudes and awful cells, Where heavenly-pensive Contemplation dwells.

No lark nor crowing cock to announce the bounds of the night and usher in the day; only the sun's increasing altitude reminded me of the hour of the clock.—*James Ricalton in Outing.*

Stability of Patents.

Although the patent system of the United States involves a search on the part of the government as to the novelty of the invention, yet it has been a frequent remark on the part of the general public that few patents can stand the tests of the courts. This ratio is sometimes stated to be as high as nine out of ten, or some equally conventional fraction. A member of the bar has recently tabulated the adjudication of patents by the United States courts, as recorded in Meyer's Federal Decisions from 1776 to 1835, and finds that 73 per cent. of the patents upon which suit was brought were sustained. The total number of patents brought to an issue was 983, and of these 264 were annulled, and of the remaining 714 which were held to be valid, 480 were sustained in full, and 234 were held to be valid in part. When it is considered that the United States patent law requires that protection can be accorded only to the original inventor who has added to the state of the art, and to that portion of his invention which does not include any portion of public knowledge, or the work of other inventors, whether patented or not in any country, and that the time covered by this investigation covers the early period of their history before the system was thoroughly formulated and crystalized by legal decisions, this is a remarkable showing, testifying to the skill of the patent solicitors, and also the examiners in the patent department.

It is difficult to estimate the value of the patents still in force. Although such estimates have been made, they are necessarily vague and void of the precision essential to accurate statistics; yet the amount of capital invested in faith upon the validity of patent protection is very large, and generally remunerative to a satisfactory degree.—*Engineering.*

How to Kill Insects.

The means now universally used by collectors to kill insects is a wide-mouthed bottle, not too large to be carried in the pocket, in which is placed about half an ounce of cyanide of potassium; on this pour water to a depth of three-quarters of an inch, sprinkle in and mix evenly enough plaster of Paris to make a thick cream. This will set in a hard cake in the bottom of the bottle, and when it has done so the glass above it should be wiped clean, and the bottle closed with a tight cork, large enough to be easily removed. An insect placed in the bottle and corked up dies almost immediately without injury. Keep the bottle corked to prevent escape of the gas formed. Never inhale the gas, and be sure that none of the mixture or cyanide get where they can do harm, as both gas and cyanide are very poisonous.

The green diarrhoea of infants is according to Dr. Hayem, caused by a microbe which secretes the coloring matter characteristic of the complaint. The disease is epidemic and contagious. The best treatment, he said in his communication to the Academy of Medicine, is to give the child after each feeding a teaspoonful of 2 per cent. lactic acid.—*Scientific American.*

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