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LOTS OF

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18 CENTS A POUND.

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A DELICIOUS, NOURISHING

SOUP

—IN—

A MOMENT

BY USING

CIBIL'S FLUID BEEF

—OR—

The Best for Beef Tea.

—OR—

THE ONLY EXTRACT OF BEEF SUITABLE FOR MAKING JULIEN AND OTHER CLEAR SOUPS. A FINE RICH FLAVORED SOUP CAN BE MADE IN A MOMENT BY ADDING BOILING WATER.

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COOKS FRIEND BAKING POWDER.

Has No Superior in Purity, Healthfulness and Economy.

It is distinguished from alum powder by the bread, etc., made with it, having no tendency to dry up.

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Choicest Grades of Pastry and Family Flour always on hand; Graham Flour, Rolled Oats, Rolled Wheat, Cracked Wheat, Germ Wheat, Oatmeal and Cornmeal; Seeds in season.

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THE DAILY WHIG.

"Opifer per Orbem Dicor."

ARE SOON FORGOTTEN.

A few weeks ago the churches throughout the land were singing the angels' song of "Peace on earth, good will to men." To-day a large portion of the community are listening acceptably to men whose mouths are full of unkind sentiment towards the United States. This they call loyalty! But whether it is loyalty to the sentiment in the angels' song of peace, or, to the stupid, bitterness in their own breasts, they don't stop to consider. If they would only take a little common sense for their instruction from a recent utterance of the London *Times*, British enough in all conscience, they would be wiser. Commenting on what it calls "the ultra-sensitiveness" of New South Wales, the *Times* says: "We have no time to make a fuss about things which may seem important in Sidney yet form a very small part of the sum of our interests. With manliness and independence on both sides there is no fear of the maintenance of relations as close and as friendly as physical conditions will permit." The *Times* hits the nail on the head. We need not make such a fuss about loyalty. Manliness and independence will settle our relations to all the world on the best possible footing, especially if we keep in our ears the Christmas music too soon forgotten in political strife.

A CORNERED CANDIDATE.

Hon. G. A. Kirkpatrick goes into the campaign handicapped. He realizes that the farmers of the county demand freer trade with the United States, and he wants to promise them all they want, and, at the same time, keep within the party lines. He is, to use an old and hackneyed expression "between the devil and the deep sea," and is not in a very comfortable position for any man. Now at O'Brien's school-house on Wolfe Island, where Mr. Kirkpatrick held a meeting, the farmers heckled the ex-speaker a bit, as they had a right to do. One of them, in behalf of those present, asked:

"Are you, Mr. Kirkpatrick, in favor of unrestricted reciprocity?"

No, I only favour such a policy as will not conflict with the mother country's interests."

"Well, inasmuch as the mother country exports only manufactured goods, you must confine your reciprocity with the United States to natural products only."

Mr. Kirkpatrick—"Well, ah——"

"Has not Secretary of State Blaine distinctly said that no scheme, confined to natural products only, will be considered by the United States government?"

Mr. Kirkpatrick essayed no answer.

What is the inference? That Mr. Kirkpatrick does not deny that the scheme of reciprocity is a delusion and a snare, that there is no escape from taxation and bankruptcy under the high tariff, and that there is no help for it (and hope to live) but vote with the liberals.

THE FARMERS' CHANCE

The farmers of the United States, at the first election after the passage of the McKinley tariff, marked their disapproval of that measure. The lead smelters of Colorado are denouncing the same tariff because it cuts off their trade in Mexican ores. The electoral contest in which we are engaged is the farmers' battle. The voter who on March 5th next will mark his ballot may never have another opportunity to show his loyalty to his calling, loyalty to his home and the interests of his family against the tariff manipulators who have put one hand on his purse by the national policy and are now reaching out the other hand to grip him by the throat. The farmer, the world over, wants the way clear to the markets he can reach with the least expense and where he can sell to best advantage. Wherever there is prosperity he has no difficulty in finding buyers. If Britain is prosperous he expects to find a good market there; if the United States are prosperous he sees the evidence of it in the demand for his produce. The purpose of the extravagant and corrupt administration of Sir John Macdonald is to put obstacles in the natural channels of commercial intercourse to serve the private ends of certain classes, and particularly of the class who contribute large sums of money to corrupt the electorate. The farmers' intelligence is staked against rascally greed, unscrupulous cunning and utter disregard of the first principles of honesty in the administration of public affairs. Which shall win?

GIBSON ELECTED.

The liberals of the city were greatly elated last night, over the election in Hamilton of Hon. Mr. Gibson, the provincial secretary, and by a majority of about 700! Here was an evidence of the popularity of the honorable gentleman, of the activity of the liberals of the ambitious city, of the desire of the electors to do honor to whom honor is due. Mr. Gibson has, since his entrance upon public life, been one of the most efficient and useful members of the legislature, a man to whom his constituents would point with pride, a man who performed with fidelity all the duties devolving upon him and holding inviolate all the pledges he had made. His defeat in June, when the general elections occurred, was accounted for in two ways: (1) by the adoption of infamous tactics on the part of his opponents of which the courts took cognizance when they unseated Mr. Stinson, and (2) by the over-confidence of his friends who looked upon the tory candidate as a harmless "stop gap" and failed to fairly estimate the combinations of which he had command. The result of the bye election is at once a tribute to worth, and a vindication which Mr. Gibson deserved. The triumph of the provincial secretary lent stimulation to the liberal party the province over, and has produced a chilling, depressing effect upon the conservatives. In the opera house there was loud talk of anticipated conservative victory, but not a word about the Hamilton election. Not one of the speakers seemed to have heard that there was an election in Hamilton not even the premier, though but a few days ago he essayed to give Stinson a boom, and expressed the hope that he would be elected. Poor Tom has been consigned to the obscurity that best befits him, and the din of battle will be heard of no more.

THE LABOR VOTE.

A desperate attempt has been made to capture the labor vote of the city, and in the good old tory way. The employers, that is such of them as are in sympathy with the tory government, have been appealed to, and the employees have put on the brakes as far as possible with their employees. In the institutions in which the capital of liberals is represented an effort has been made to unduly coerce the workingmen into voting for the government candidate. The presidents of these institutions usurp a power they do not possess, and grossly abuse their privileges in presuming to influence the voters and deprive them of the free and intelligent exercise of the franchise. We can tell these men that their impudent insuendo does not amount to anything, that though men may deem it expedient to maintain a dignified silence they have the wisdom that permits them to decide for themselves what they shall do in this political crisis, and that they will vote as they, not the presidents, managers and superintendents, feel. Enough has transpired to show Sir John that he has not the free and independent workingmen with him, and he could not expect them to support him and be sufferers as they have been in consequence of his work. The national policy has not been helpful to the workingman. It has protected some men and made them rich, but it has not protected him and his labor. How else could he be but poor, when he pays a heavy duty on everything he eats, drinks, wears or uses? Take the average working man, earning say $9 per week wages. His grocery bill will run, with an average family, $150 a year. His clothing and hats and shoes will cost about $100. His household articles and furniture, say $50 a year, in all $300. On this the duty averages 20 to 50 per cent. Let us take a low average, say 25 per cent. only, and we find at this low rate he pays yearly $75 for taxes to the dominion government, and this when Sir John A. Macdonald says $15 per family would be sufficient for revenue purposes. What then becomes of the balance, or why should we have to pay so much more? Simply because of the immense debt with which the country has been saddled through a mismanaged and dishonest government. Vote for cheaper living, steady work, increase of trade, less taxation, and honest government, by casting your vote for Alexander Gunn, a life-long citizen of Kingston, one whose residence is here, and not on wheels, who lives here all the while, and who spends here the money which he makes.

CAMPAIGN NOTES.

The working men have not yet been informed why cotton, made here, is cheaper in China than in Kingston.

* * *

Things are looking squally in Gaspe, when Mr. Joncas, one of Sir John's stalwarts, is posing as an independent conservative.

* * *

The conservatives have sent to the four corners of the earth for absent electors. Oh, they are not a bit worried about the contest!

* * *

Just imagine 42c. tribute money for the benefit of the rich sugar king paid by the consumer on every dozen pounds of sugar. "This is rank robbery."

* * *

Hon. Mr. Joly gives the opinion that Mr. Laurier's Quebec majority will be equal to that of Mr. Mercier in the legislature, but Mr. Joly is not given to exaggeration.

* * *

R. W. Phipps, who helped to frame the high tariff in 1878, strongly advocates unrestricted reciprocity. It's time the national policy was dead when its godfather disowns it.

* * *

Sir Donald Smith is coming to Kingston to see Sir John. Let's see. Who was it that Tupper, at the close of the session in 1870, called a "coward," and of whom Sir John said, "That fellow, Smith, is the biggest liar I ever knew."

* * *

The *True Banner* regrets that the two knights, Sir John and Sir Charles, did not drop off at Dundas and see the vacant factories and the smokeless tall chimneys, the idle stone works and abandoned screw works, all of which have been protected to death.

* * *

In Saguenay, through lack of time, it will be impossible to take the vote in nine polling sub-divisions, and these districts are practically disfranchised. And it is for Saguenay and Chicoutimi Sir Adolphe Caron calculates to run. Brave man! Honest government! Free country!

* * *

Three-eighths of the entire population of Detroit are composed of Canadians. They couldn't find the factories and tall chimnies which the national policy was going to erect, lost work through the dullness of trade, the suspension or failure of manufacturers, and had to leave the country, to the country's loss. And the tories call this policy of depopulation patriotic.

* * *

Prof. Goldwin Smith has caught the *Empire* in a tidy election lie, but still it pursues its mad career. It is keeping pace with Sir John Macdonald, whom Congressman Hitt calls down in this way: "I never saw or heard of the pamphlet described by Sir John Macdonald. Nor have I ever heard of Canadians coming here for political consultations, though I have seen many distinguished Canadians, both conservatives and liberals, whom I have met socially, but nothing more."

Mr Blake's Letter.

Hon. Oliver Mowat yesterday received the following telegram from Hon. L. H. Davies, the liberal leader of Prince Edward Island:

CHARLOTTETOWN, P. E. I., Feb. 25.—Tory papers publish following extract from Mr Blake's letter retiring:—"I am opposed to unrestricted reciprocity as it will surely lead to one thing, and that is direct taxation, which neither myself nor the people will submit to or endure." Telegraph me if this is true.—L. H. DAVIES.

Mr. Mowat replied as follows:

Hon. H. L. Davies, Charlottetown, P. E. I.: I have asked Mr. Blake, who informs me that this letter read at the convention, contained no intimation of his opinions on any political topic.—O. MOWAT.

Winter Marine News.

Several boats have been placed to carry coal from Cleveland to the head of Lake Superior and to Lake Michigan. They are to load before the opening of navigation at 50c to the head of Lake Superior and 60c to Chicago and Milwaukee. The shipper who took the boats is anxious to get others to load at Toledo at the same rates, and will, he says, take more to load at Cleveland later. One vesselman refused to charter any of his boats to load at Toledo at the above rates.

R. K. Winslow has sold his eighth of the steamer Cormorant to Capt. Carlson. Graves for $5,000. Capt. Graves will sail her the coming season. He was in the schr. Charles Wall last season.

Some Foolish People

Allow a cough to run until it gets beyond the reach of medicine. They often say, "Oh, it will wear away," but in most cases it wears them away. Could they be induced to try the successful medicine called Kemp's Balsam, which is sold on a positive guarantee to cure, they would immediately see the excellent effect after taking the first dose. Price 50 cents and $1. *Trial size free.* At all druggists.

The funeral of Barney Naphin, Tyendinaga, was one of the largest ever held in that section. The cortege was over one mile in length.

A FARMER'S VIEW.

HE DWELLS UPON THE GREAT AND ONLY PANACEA.

The Glowing Pictures Given in Kingston Not Quite Up to the Recipe—The Way the Farmers Should Act at This Important Time.

RATTENBURY, Feb. 21.—(To the Editor): I am only a farmer, but then you know that even farmers sometimes think, and while quietly musing to-night those wonderful capitals, N.P., presented themselves vividly before my mind's eye, and I was carried back in imagination to the time when those capitals were made use of by Sir John in the advocacy of his great national policy in a speech delivered to the citizens of Kingston. I remember reading the statements made and the glowing pictures pourtrayed therein of the amazing prosperity that was promised, not only to manufacturers, merchants and laborers, but to all classes independent of caste, politics or religion. This omnipotent N.P. was represented as the one and only panacea for all ills. At that time I thought, can it be possible that an individual, possessed of so gigantic an intellect, a statesman of such acknowledged power, could—in his zeal believe the statements he was making, or could a man of such exceptional power of mind be so base as to wilfully make use of deception to gain the position of premier of the dominion? To my mind no rational being could expect the realization of the promises made, by the introduction of any policy, of whatever name imaginable, unless the person instituting it was possessed of both infallibility and omnipotence. Now that this wonder-working policy has been tested and tried, and lauded to the skies by mercenary hierlings, what is the result? Instead of the great increase in wealth, population, home markets, and an unprecedented demand for artisans and laborers, the contrary has been the result. And instead of the N.P. doing what was promised of it, in producing prosperity to all, it has produced prosperity to certain classes to the detriment of the masses. Any policy that enriches the few at the expense of the many should be condemned. Any government, after testing a policy and seeing its fallacies, still continuing its advocacy, ought also to be condemned as not worthy of the fidelity of the people. It is an acknowledged principle that when a government ceases to legislate for the benefit of the masses it virtually ceases to be a government. With reference to the operation of this great N. P. in connection with farmers, in producing the promised prosperity, it might better have been styled No Prosperity, as our position has been going from bad to worse. Our farms are being mortgaged, our young men are leaving us, our farms are decreasing in value and if anything can be done in the form of legislation or statesmanship (and I think it is possible) that would better our condition it is high time we took action. The power is in our own hands. Let us make a proper use of the franchise, and not cast a vote for any man unless we are sure he will legislate for our benefit and for the welfare of all classes.

Another thought with reference to this great N. P., and that is unless the instigators of it, having seen its disastrous result, and knowing in their heart of hearts that it is a failure, renounce their views with reference to it, they will find its significance will be changed to that of No Power. The people are awakening. The murmur of disapprobation is sounding through the land, and unless those who are in power deal with the people justly and righteously, the hand will be stretched forth and the writing will appear "weighed in the balance and found wanting." Their power will depart, and men both loyal and true will take their position and legislate from that immutable platform, equal justice to all.—FARMER.

A BASE ACT.

Sir John Tried to Deceive the Public Regarding Sir R. J. Cartwright.

Sir John Macdonald, last night, attacked Sir Richard Cartwright as an annexation conspirator, one whose conscience was kept by Mr. Farrer. He did this insulting and despicable act in the face of this denial in last night's WHIG:—

KINGSTON, Feb. 24.—H. Bawden, Esq.: My Dear Sir—If, as I am informed, Mr. G. A. Kirkpatrick stated that I was responsible for any act or statement of Mr. Farrer he has uttered a deliberate falsehood, well knowing the same to be false. As for the impudent assertions of Mr. Kirkpatrick and others that either I, or Mr. Laurier, or any liberal leader, have entered into treasonable conspiracies with any parties in the United States for the annexation of Canada, they stand in the same place and are entitled to the same belief as should be accorded to any other utterance of the man who publicly declared that he wished to God he could catch Louis Riel, having six months' previously supplied the said Riel with funds, through Archbishop Tache, to enable Riel to live in comfort in the States.

As to Mr. Farrar's private views upon annexation, whatever they may be, they were perfectly well known to Sir John Macdonald and every one of his friends long before those worthies selected Mr. Farrar to write their campaign sheets in 1882, and afterwards to be the editor-in-chief of the *Mail* for several years, while that journal was a subsidised supporter of Sir John Macdonald.

Mr. Farrar has precisely as much right to hold these opinions as Sir A. Galt, Sir John Rose, Mr. J. J. Abbott, Sir L. Tilley and Sir D. L. McPherson, all colleagues of Sir Jno. Macdonald who are all signers of the annexation manifesto, the last of whom was publicly dismissed from Her Majesty's services for disloyalty. The true annexationists are the men who have driven a million of good Canadians from Canada to the States in the last ten years.—R. J. CARTWRIGHT.

PUBLIC OPINION.

One With His Party.

Hon. A. Mackenzie.

"I am in full accord with the policy of the liberal party. The liberal policy will not be inimical to the interests of Great Britain."

Liberals Never Do

Grimsby Independent.

Whatever you do keep your temper in election times. If there is anything that looks silly it is to see a man get howling mad over some political question.

A Boon For Farmers.

The Globe.

Give the farmers of Ontario free access with their surplus field crops and live stock to the markets of the United States and in one year the value of their farms alone will advance $200,000,000.

A Tip to Sir John.

Montreal Herald.

Abraham Lincoln said:—"You may fool some of the people some of the time, you may fool all the people some time, but you cannot fool all the people all the time." Sir John Macdonald should pin this in his hat.

A Great Talker.

Toronto Telegram.

The day after Hon. S. H. Blake makes his speech every tory in the town is red hot. The grits are likewise enthusiastic, for the Hon. Samuel is superior to most political orators in his power to enthuse friends and madden enemies.

The Fraud Is Apparent.

London Advertiser.

At Charlottetown on Sept. 10, 1878, Sir Charles Tupper declared: "All you have to do is to support the 'protective' national policy of Sir John Macdonald to obtain reciprocity with the United States in two years." That is twelve years ago. We have no reciprocity yet, and are not likely to have till the combine managed government is sent about its business.

Glad To Have Their Aid.

London Advertiser.

The grits are good natured because they are on the winning side. They are glad for conservative support, and by men who are desirous of getting a wider market. It does not follow that our conservative friends who are voting and working with us on this occasion all over the country will necessarily be with us permanently on other issues that may arise. But what if they may not? Sufficient for the day is the good thereof.

Familiar Family Friends

The family store of medicine should contain a bottle of Hagyard's Yellow Oil. Mrs. Hannah Hutchines, of Rossway, N.S., says: "We have used Hagyard's Yellow Oil in our family for six years, for coughs, colds, burns, sore throat, croup, etc., and find it so good we cannot do without it."

THE TEA TABLE.

Read This Down and You Will Be Well Entertained and Fooled.

Perfectly dry slabs and edgings at Crawford's wood and coal yard, foot Queen street.

Newboro village council appointed J. W. Preston, assessor.

J. W. Motherwell, Perth *Expositor*, is appointed assistant county clerk for the county of Lanark.

W. J. Lyons, Harnowsmith, disposed of his trotting horse "Mountain Boy" lately for the handsome sum of $500.

F. C. Taggart, Halliday's section, has been engaged by Harris & Sons, of Brantford as general agent at $800 per annum.

Gilbert & Lighthall, the leading furniture men, Picton, are making extensive preparations to build a large factory and ware and sales rooms.

A large party at Thos. Cannon's, Tuesday evening, witnessed the marriage of Stephen Knowlton to Sarah Cannon. The young couple will reside near Phillipsville.

Wade's mandrake liver pills, sure cure for biliousness and constipation, at Wade's drug store, Kingston.

John Sullivan, Newboro, while engaged in drawing hay, was thrown from a load by the sleigh swinging suddenly on the icy ground, and had his collar bone broken.

Dry cedar blocks, cut to stove lengths, to be procured only at Crawford's, foot Queen street.

Frank Leech, Wilberforce, while working in a shanty near Deux Riviere, cut his leg alongside the cap of the knee. He is now under medical treatment at Pembroke.

Hanson's Magic Corn Salve cures corns and bunions with three applications. 15c. per box at Wade's drug store, Kingston.

The Cleveland Pea Co., Picton, is letting out an immense amount of seed peas this winter. The farmers here fully expect free trade, or such would not be the result of pea letting.

Are free from all crude and irritating matter. Concentrated medicine only. Carter's Little Liver Pills. Very small; very easy to take; no pain; no griping; no purging. Try them.

The funeral services of James Bass, son of Joseph Bass, of New Boyne took place Tuesday. Deceased was only sixteen years of age and died after a very short illness from the effects of pneumonia.

We offer a superfine pilot cloth pea jacket or overcoat for less than their par value during this week. Call and examine. O'Brien & Howland.

A team of horses weighing 2,232 pounds drew a load of stone from Rocher Fondu to Beachburg, a distance of about seven miles. When weighed at the latter place it was found that the load contained 8,420 pounds.

If you had taken two of Carter's Little Liver Pills before retiring you would not have had that coated tongue or bad taste in the mouth this morning. Keep a vial with you for occasional use.

The management of the South Leeds agricultural society have released the fair grounds for a term of twenty years, and have made arrangements for the erection of exhibition buildings, which for convenience and artistic taste will surpass anything in Eastern Ontario.

A woman who is weak, nervous and sleepless and who has cold hands and feet, cannot feel and act like a well person. Carter's Iron Pills equalize the circulation, remove nervousness and give strength and rest.

Merrick, Carleton Place, has shipped 14,000 hop poles from the Drummond swamp and Lanark township to the United States, and as many more are expected. About 100 cords of spruce wood for paper pulp have also been shipped to Watertown, N. Y. Mr. Merrick finds his operations in these and other articles seriously hindered, and the prices he can pay to farmers lowered, by the McKinley bill.

THE PULSE.

How the Blood is Pumped Through the Human Body.

The blood is in a state of constant circulation through the system, propelled by the heart through the arteries and returned to the same organ through the veins. The arterial current conveys material for nutriment, heat and force to all the tissues and conveys it to the different eliminating organs.

The propulsive action of the heart is due to its successive contractions. These contractions occur about seventy times a minute in a healthy male adult, more frequently in women, and much more frequently in infants and children, being at birth from 130 to 140, and gradually sinking to about 100 at the sixth year and to ninety or eighty-five at the tenth.

The arteries are unlike the veins in that they share in the beating of the heart, but the beating of the heart is readily perceived only where an artery passes over a bone near the surface, or when some inflammation of a part causes an enlargement of an artery and an unusual sensitiveness of the accompanying nerves. In its normal condition the pulse is most conveniently felt at the wrist.

The blood is the natural stimulus of the heart, and when the poison of disease changes the character of the blood the action of the heart is correspondingly affected. It is also affected by organic disorders of the heart and arteries, by general weakness, by nervous excitements, by the state of the stomach, and by stimulants or depressants of various kinds. Hence, as the heart beats and the arterial beats accord, the character of the pulse is of great service in determining the patient's physical condition.

It will be seen that, in feeling the pulse, age and sex are always to be taken into the account. Further, one's pulse when lying down is about five beats slower, and when sitting about ten beats slower, than when standing up. The pulse is slower at night also, and during sleep. A tall person has a slower pulse than a short person.

An increased pulse rate indicates a feverish condition, as it rises with every increase of temperature.

There is often an omission of a beat. Sometimes this is at regular intervals, say the tenth or twentieth; at other times the omission is irregular. In some persons such omissions are habitual and without significance; more generally they indicate some disease, nervous or otherwise.

When the pulse is under sixty it is regarded as slow. In not a few persons this is natural. The pulse is slow also in persons recovering from a feverish condition, the heart being weak and exhausted, like the rest of the body; also in digestive diseases and jaundice. Certain poisons slacken the pulse, while others quicken it. The dying condition is characterized by a very rapid but feeble pulse.

Cremated Himself in a Church.

Even when a man has reached a state of desperation bordering on mania he sometimes retains the theatrical instinct which prompts him to create a sensation. That was the case at Havre, France, where a stranger who was attending the devotions in the Church of St. Michel the other day was suddenly seen in flames. The parish priest ran to his rescue, and scorched himself severely in endeavoring to envelop the man with his overcoat. Before any effective assistance could be rendered the stranger was burned to death. The deceased, it appears, had saturated his clothes with paraffin and had covered his garments all over with bits of firewood and lucifer matches, and while kneeling down before the altar had poured some petroleum over himself and had ignited it.

Art Blinds.

Twenty-five different patterns in ten different prices; thousands of curtain poles at the lowest of prices. We always have and always will take the lead in house furnishings. Special cuts in sheeting and table linen. We are making large additions to our carpet stock by every steamship, and can suit the pocket of a laboring man or a millionaire. In order to reduce our dress goods department we have decided to make some startling reductions. Come and see for yourself and you will not hesitate to purchase from R. McFaul.

How Can I Get Rid

Of my tormenting corns; get rid of them without pain; get rid of them quickly and effectually, without possibility of return? The answer is, use Putnam's Painless Corn and Wart Cure, the great corn cure. Always safe and painless. Putnam's Extractor. Use it and no other. Frauds are in the market. Don't run the risk of ruining your feet with such caustic appliances.

Severe Cold Cured.

DEAR SIRS,—My mother was attacked inflammation of the lungs which left her very weak and never free from cold, till at last she got a very severe cold and cough. She resolved to try Hagyard's Pectoral Balsam, and, on so doing, found it did her more good than any other medicine she ever tried.—MRS. KENNEDY, 50 Smith Ave., Hamilton, Ont.

Northern Spy apples and new prunes. James Crawford.

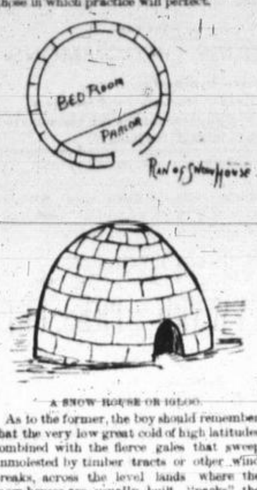
ARCTIC ARCHITECTURE.

POURTRAYED BY LIEUT. SCHWATKA, THE EXPLORER.

Aspiring Young Snow Builders Taught by His Experiences—Igloos of the Esquimaux—Hints for Boys Who Want to Use Nature's Material.

I have had scores of inquiries from American boys as to the best methods of building the snow houses used by the Esquimaux of the Arctic regions, as a result of my casual writings about these curious abodes when describing these strange people, so I deem such a subject would be interesting to most of these boys as well as a few others not necessarily ambitious enough to attempt this rather difficult Arctic architecture.

There are many difficulties to overcome, of course but they should be divided into two classes, or those which the boy cannot master in this country with any amount of practice, as those due to climate, etc., and those in which practice will perfect.



A SNOW-HOUSE OR IGLOO.

As to the former, the boy should remember that the very low great cold of high latitudes combined with the fierce gales that sweep unmolested by timber tracts or other wind breaks, across the level lands where the snow houses are usually built, "packs" the snow into a peculiar texture which he can never hope to obtain in our country, and which will make the building of the snow house a much more difficult feat than with the Esquimaux, even if all other things were equal between them.

ARCTIC SNOW BLOCKS.

This white polar pumice stone is "hard as a rock," and during extremely low temperature, 60 to 70 below zero, if a block of it be suspended and struck it will ring like a bar of tempered steel, although, of course, not nearly so loudly or sonorously. It never has the wet, soggy, and heavy texture of most of our snow, and is much stronger in resisting breakage of blocks when cutting them out.

ESQUIMAU IMPLEMENTS.

The only implements used by the Esquimau in building an igloo is a snow knife with a blade seven or eight inches long and a handle of nearly equal length so that it can be grasped readily by both hands. Formerly these were made in a rude way from reindeer horn, but where they can get them by trading with the whalers or fur traders they now use common "butcher" knives, removing the handle and putting on a new one of about double the length of the old one. To the novice of this country a common hand saw will be found as convenient as any and will need no change in its handle or other parts.

The snow blocks are to be made about two feet long, about a foot and a half wide, and six or seven inches thick. These blocks are to be cut from a trench in a compact snow drift whose depth is the width of the blocks and whose width is the length of the blocks. The builder stands in the bottom of the trench as he cuts (or saws) out block after block, placing them alternately to right and left of the trench on the snow drift.

Right here I would speak of an error that nearly all boys fall into who take an interest in this cold weather work. They have an idea that the snow blocks are in flat courses in the completed building, like we construct our houses, when in reality there is only one course, a spiral one leading from bottom to top, and which can well be compared to the old beehives, made of long rope that is wound round and round until a dome shaped hive is made.

HOW TO LAY THE COURSES.

When the first course is completed, which rests on the solid snow drift, the first block laid down is cut in two by a diagonal sweep of the knife upward from the lowest corner, where it reaches the last block laid on this course, to the diagonally opposite one, and on this incline the next snow block is laid, and which may be truly said to be the beginning of the spiral course which ends only at the centre and top when the igloo is done. Each block thereafter inclines inward slightly more than its previous fellow, until the last one, which we may call the key-block, in the centre and top, is perfectly horizontal, and firmly wedges in and binds the whole structure.

The snow house looks very much like the half of an egg shell cut in two parts perpendicular to its longer axis; and if a spiral lead pencil mark is drawn around this shell from the point on the edge, where it rests on the table, to the top, and about one-fourth of an inch wide, or between the lines, as measured vertically, then block-work courses are made on these by drawing upright lines every half inch, but "breaking" joints with, or overlapping those below; then the little egg shell as it rests on its rim, will look very much like the outside of an Esquimau igloo, or snow house.

Now imagine the shell to be about an eighth of an inch in thickness, pour in one-third (vertically) full of plaster of Paris—about a fourth to a third of an inch—and when this hardens slice off one-fourth of it by a vertical cut of your knife, and what is left will represent the snow bed, or bed room if you desire to call it such. The sliced off parts will then represent the parlor (hardly enough room to turn around without scraping the snow off the roof with the pointed hood of the reindeer coat), and just opposite the wall of the snowbed the door is cut—only large enough to allow a person to enter by getting down on his hands and knees, and even sometimes by crawling through flat-wise.

From twenty to twenty-five snow blocks are used in the average sized snow house, although the camping igloos, or those used only for the single night while on a journey, are much smaller, and certain fewer blocks of snow. Then again there are those built for permanent abodes and are correspondingly large and roomy, with probably forty or fifty blocks used in their construction.

CHOOSING ARCTIC SITES.

The young snow-builder having cut the required number of blocks lays his base course of them on the slanting snow drift, remembering to put one block back in the trench where the base course crosses it on the down hill side. The vertical crevices between the snow blocks are firmly cemented, so to speak, by working the snow knife up and down between them two or three times, the fine powdery snow produced acting like a sort of mortar to chink the crevices quite securely. Each block, as it is thus fitted to its previous fellow, is given a light but smart rap with the open palm of the hand on the free vertical edge before the builder turns to the next one to be put in its place.

Once completed so far, then take a shovel and cover the whole structure one or two feet in depth with loose snow, and you will have a true Esquimau igloo, into which you can crawl and enjoy yourself to your heart's content—if you are a true Esquimau. Stand from under if it shows signs of falling; although they are not dangerous.—Frederick Schwatka.

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