

THE BOYS.

The following lines, by Dr. Oliver Wendell Holmes, appeared in the Atlantic Monthly for February, 1857. They were written, it is said, by a festive gathering of his old classmates. "The Boys" of Harvard College.

"She is his sister, you know. So he thought I did not know who it came from, and he changed his mind, and put it in his pocket and went off. When I teased him afterward to let me see it, he said: "No; there are some things a fellow would be a case to show."

The sons of Mrs. Slocum became prosperous business men, and after the close of the revolution they used every effort to recover their lost sister. In 1784 two of them visited Niagara, where a large number of Indians were gathered, made diligent inquiries and offered liberal rewards for any information of her.

The fast-freight lines, which have long been the bone of contention among railroads, and which were the main cause why the Baltimore and Ohio did not join the Saratoga combination, are experiencing considerable opposition from the roads of the West and Northwest.

THE NEW ORLEANS HORROR.

Details of the Burning of the Steamers Kyle, Bodmann, and Explorer.

The New Orleans papers contain the accounts of the recent burning of the three steamboats at the wharf in that city. The Times' narrative has the following: At 4 o'clock last evening a fire, which originated in the blacksmith shop on the starboard side of the steamer John Kyle, lying at the head of Gravier street, resulted in the almost immediate destruction of that steamer, together with the steamer Charles Bodmann and Explorer lying alongside.

How Snow Avalanches Form.

A Nevada newspaper, speaking of the avalanches of snow which have been so destructive to life and property this winter.

The purely sliding avalanches, or snow-slides, are such as occur in dry or merely moist snow, while the rolling avalanches take place when the snow is wet or sufficiently moist to form into balls by the action of the wind.

THE PUMPKIN.

(Written upon receiving the gift of a pumpkin pie.

Oh, greenly and fair in the lands of the sun, The vine of the good and the evil run. And the rock, and the tree, and the cottage and hill With leaves all greenness and blossoms of gold.

Wit and Humor.

ENGAGED for time—mummies. PRESSED for the next set—hens. NATURE'S spring suit—a bloomer.

Little Johnny's Composition.

THE MOTIF. This is the jockey which spiles my father's best close by eating and the rouses himself in the candle.

Tenacity of Metal.

Many experiments have been tried in France to test the effect of cold on railway axles. Many engineers suppose that accidents may be caused by the diminution of tenacity of the metal, but merely from its losing all its elasticity, owing to the frost hardening the surface of the earth.

Buried in the Snow.

A startling discovery was made in a Cherokee gulch, near Georgetown, on Saturday last. The facts, furnished by a correspondent of the News, are about these: In February three prospectors took possession of a deserted cabin near the head of the gulch, seven thousand feet above the sea level.

Consumption of Wood in France.

The Independence Belge gives some statistics relative to the consumption of wood in France. A large quantity of soft-wood is used for making toys, and to give an idea of the magnitude of this trade it will be sufficient to take one article alone, children's drums, of which in Paris alone 200,000 are sold every month.

Remedy for Nightmare.

Slight derangement of the digestive or other functions is often sufficient to occasion a temporary delirium in children, commencing during sleep and prolonging itself into the waking hours.

Stage of the Paris Opera House.

The stage is the largest in existence. Communication with the rear of the building can be cut off in case of fire by an iron curtain and iron doors, and a curtain of iron-work can also be lowered to keep the flames from the audience.

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It is estimated that if the English Channel is successfully tunneled, the 300,000 travelers who now cross it will increase to 3,000,000. A journey from London to Paris will then take but five or six hours, with the dreaded rough sea voyage taken out. The boring is to begin simultaneously in France and England, from the bottom of two great tunnels, each 2,000 feet deep.

Queen Victoria.

QUEEN VICTORIA writes for the London Times. Wages not stated.

DR. JACK'S VALENTINE.

There were half a dozen of the girls together—pretty creatures in the very first season of their long dresses—the eldest not quite sixteen. They were all braided and curly, with bows and ribbons—all smiles and dimples. It was Saturday before Valentine's day, in a certain year of grace, of which I will not give you the precise date, but less than six years ago and more than five.

Penitence and the Bench.

Mr. Justice Brett has just started respectable society by giving a lift to the prize-ring. It seems that in February last two men had a pugilistic encounter in a field in the neighborhood of London.

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