

WIND ALWAYS BLOWS

TERRIBLE AND UNCANNY CAVITY ON A TEXAS RANCH.

There the Wind Sucks and Whirls with Fatal Insistence in All Kinds of Weather—Cattle, Horses and Trees Engulfed in the Mysterious Hole.

In the Peach Creek neighborhood is a place known as the Hole in the Ground, which is the only place in Texas, as far as known, where the wind blows up and down, a regular gale. The hole is on the cattle ranch belonging to Claus Baumgartner, and close to the creek between high, wooded bluffs. Peach creek is really a bayou, its waters level with the sea and running only during freshets caused by excessive rains. High south or north winds are the only ones to ruffle its usually placid surface.

But it does not matter how placid the waters of Peach creek may be, how straight and unbending the trees on the bluffs may stand or how lazily the clouds drift through the air, there is always a gale at the Hole in the Ground. It blows and roars and whistles and shrieks as only a raging hurricane can do in its mad career. The hole is a costly affair to the man who owns it. The low ground on which it is situated is the only place where his cattle can get water at the creek. It would be all right if a fence could be maintained around the hole, but that cannot be done. Every time the wind veers to the east everything above ground between the bluffs is sucked into it, snapping the stoutest fence posts like pipe stems, and snatching coils of barbed wire as if they were filmy gossamers. At such times horses, cattle and sheep that happen to be on the flat are doomed. Strong horses, caught in the eddy of the mysterious wind, are as helpless as flies in a gale. They plunge and leap and struggle for a minute, then they are pressed down, whirled around a few times and go down never to be seen again.

The hole itself is about 300 feet across the top, with slanting sides. No one has ever dared to go close enough to be able to look down into it and see what the bottom is like. The sounds of the wind vary from a hoarse roar to a keen whistling noise. The prevailing winds, except an east wind, do not seem to affect it in any way, for in calm and storm, rain and shine, night and day, winter and summer, it puffs and sucks and whirls and eddies to suit itself.

Twice in the memory of man Peach creek has overflowed its banks high enough to run into the hole. The last time was during the general overflow last summer. The water then rose to a depth of four feet on the flat where the hole is situated. For a minute or so the water would pour down with a gurgling noise, then the earth around seemed to hump itself for a moment and the next there would be an explosive sound, when it would come up again in a solid column 100 feet high. When this column broke the waves rushed against the adjacent bluffs and were whipped into foam. This was repeated every minute or two until the water in the creek went back again within its banks. After the water had receded and the hole had resumed its usual labor of sucking and puffing wind once more, the ground around was literally covered with the bones of dead animals on which it had gorged itself for many years before.—St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

FAITHFUL SHEEP-HERDING DOGS Instances of Their Wonderful Intelligence Are Numerous.

"The most celebrated breed of shepherd dogs ever known in the West," said Jud Bristol, the old-time sheepman of Fort Collins, Col., "were those bred from a pair of New Zealand dogs brought to Colorado in 1875. I had several of their pups on my ranges and could fill a volume with instances of their rare intelligence and faithfulness.

"I remember one pup in particular. He was only six months old when he was sent out one day to work on the range. At night when the herd was brought up to the corrals, we saw at once that a part of the herd was missing. There were 1,600 head in the bunch when they went out in the morning, but when we put them through the chute we found that 200 were missing. The pup was also missing. Well, all hands turned out for the search. We hunted all that night and all of the next day and did not find the lost sheep until along toward night. But they were all herded in a little draw, about five miles from home, and there was the faithful dog standing guard. The wolves were very plentiful in those days and the dog had actually hidden the sheep from the animals in the draw. The poor fellow was nearly famished, as he had been for thirty-six hours without food or water. From that day he became a hero, but was so badly affected by hunger, exposure and thirst, subsequent overfeeding and petting that he died not long afterward.

"This same pup's mother was an especially fine animal. One night the herder brought in his flocks and hurried to his cabin to cook himself some supper, for he was more than usually

hungry. But he missed the dog, which usually followed him to the cabin of an evening to have her supper. The herder thought it rather strange, but made no search for the dog that night. But next morning he found the gate open and the faithful dog standing guard over the flocks. This herder, in his haste the night before, had forgotten to close the gate, and the dog, more faithful than her master, had remained at her post all night, though suffering from hunger and thirst.

"On another occasion this same dog was left to watch a flock of sheep near the herder's cabin while the herder got his supper. After he had eaten his supper he went out to where the sheep were and told the dog to put the sheep in the corral. This she refused to do, and, although she had had no supper, she started off over the prairie as fast as she could go. The herder put the sheep in the corral and went to bed. About midnight he was awakened by the barking of a dog down by the corral. He got up, dressed himself, and found the dog with a band of about fifty sheep, which had strayed off during the previous day without the herder's knowledge, but the poor dog knew it, and also knew that they ought to be corralled, and she did it."—Denver Post.

STATUE OF KRUGER.

One that Has Been Designed for Church Square in Pretoria.

A correspondent recently returned from South Africa furnishes the London Morning Leader with this print of the photograph—hitherto unpublished—of the projected Kruger statue, famous for two reasons: first, because the art-



THE KRUGER STATUE.

ist is daring enough to perpetuate the tall hat; and second, because the top of the hat is hollow, and "is to be kept filled with water, so that little birds may have drink." This is the thoughtful idea of Mrs. Kruger. Work on the statue, by the way, is just now suspended.

The Man Who Works.

"The man that is so far advanced that he likes the work he is doing," said Mr. Stogdole, "has reason to feel hopeful of himself. I suppose that the very great majority of us go through the work we have in hand the easiest way we can and get through it, skipping the hard places when possible, and thinking we'll be glad when it's finished; but the next job will be just the same; there will be just about so many hard places in it, and then we'll be wishing just the same that we could get through that job.

"The fact appears to be that we are always trying to shirk the present job. We mean well, in a feeble sort of way, and the next thing we tackle we are going to do right up to the handle; but when we strike that, when that becomes the present work, don't we try to shirk that, too? We do, indeed. And that's what we do all through life; daily putting off our best endeavors till to-morrow. Kind of a miserable thing to do, isn't it?

"But occasionally you meet a man who puts in his best licks every day, and rejoices in the labor; he doesn't care a continental what the next day is going to bring to him, he can handle it whatever it is; just now he's engaged with to-day's labor; and he does that up thoroughly and completely and searches out the last nook and cranny; he isn't trying to see what he can pass by, but what he can root out; and he goes home satisfied with his work, and he's the one man in a thousand that leads all the rest and his pay corresponds with his labors."—New York Sun.

The Oldest Church.

The oldest building in the world that has been uninterruptedly used for church purposes is St. Martin's Cathedral, at Canterbury, England. The building was originally erected for a church, and has been regularly used as a place for religious gatherings for more than 1,500 years.

If it weren't for the fool a wise man would never know how dangerous it is to blow into an empty gun.

MONTH OF CENTURY.

PROPOSED TO INTRODUCE IT IN THE YEAR.

Indiana Editor's Idea to Have a Year of Thirteen Months, All of Which Will Be of Equal Length—Advantages Claimed for the Plan.

At the Paris Exposition an attempt will be made to have the entire world adopt the new calendar of thirteen months devised and copyrighted by C. H. Bundy, editor of the Marion (Ind.) Morning News. It is to be urged before the commission already appointed to consider this ingenious new system, that it is the only uniformly practical method of measuring the flight of the years. No calendar in present use is satisfactory. The one used by Russia is twelve days out. That in use in China was four days wrong, but has just been corrected by an imperial edict. Our own is forced to drop a leap year in 1900 to be with the sun. Mr. Bundy's solution of the vexed problem is the introduction of a new month, which begins the year and is called Century, in commemoration of its adoption between two centuries. The name is urged as being particularly well chosen in that it is not local to America, but would be acceptable to every country.

Every month will then have just twenty-eight days. Every month and every year will begin upon Monday, which will also become the first day of every week, Sunday being the last. Every month will consist of just four weeks, thereby simplifying commercial transactions, and it will no longer be necessary to hunt up dusty calendars or almanacs to find upon what day of the week a certain date fell in previous years. Every day of the month will fall upon the same day of the week, year in and year out. Holidays, too, will always fall upon the same days of the week.

The plan only provides for 364 days, leaving approximately one and one-fourth days over on each year. As soon as enough of this time has accumulated to form several days an additional week will be added to the month of Century, making that year longer by seven days without disturbing the fixity of birthdays and holidays, which even under the present system are by no means 365 1/4 days apart, although we have come to regard them so.

There is some question as to whether the new month should come at the first or the last of the year. Mr. Bundy favors placing it at the first of the year, in order not to disturb Christmas, the people's favorite holiday.

Should the new month be placed at the first of the year some radical changes in holidays will be made.

Our present New Year's Day would disappear. Washington's birthday would fall on the 25th of January, "unless," as the author suggests, "respect should be paid to his memory on the new Feb. 22—the seventy-eighth day of the year instead of the fifty-third, as at present." There being no month with thirty days, Decoration Day would disappear. It is suggested that it be set for May 28. The Fourth of July would become June 17, if it continued to remain as now the one hundred and eighty-fifth day of the year. Thanksgiving Day would fall on the last Thursday in November, as at present, and Christmas on the last Thursday in December.

These changes are not deemed objectionable once the "shock" is overcome, and it is pointed out that their recurrence is already, under the present system, advanced one day each year.

The inventor of the proposed new calendar is confident that it will be adopted. It is claimed Commissioner Peck, the American Representative to the Paris Exposition, has promised his support when the commission meets. Mr. Bundy says the plan is growing rapidly in favor as it is becoming known and understood, and he has received many letters from prominent people approving the proposed change.—Cincinnati Inquirer.

HOW COLOR AFFECTS INDUSTRY

One Reason Why American Machinery Is Not More Popular.

A gentleman who has traveled much and has a very large interest in American export trade said, in conversation the other day, that the principal drawback to a wider extension of American commerce in certain parts of the world is that manufacturers in the United States do not sufficiently study the wants, the customs and the tastes of their prospective customers. "For example," he said, "a certain American firm sent some electrical goods, which were decorated in green, to Japan. They did not sell any. No Japanese would bring such things into his house; it would mean an invitation to the evil deities. Green is an evil color in Japan. What a Japanese wants is red things. Upon this simple matter of color rested the failure of that manufacturer to succeed in export trade.

A German employer of labor said: "I like American machines so far as their performance of their work is concerned, but they demoralize my men. They

come here in sober colors of paint and with no bright parts. The men who tend the machines do not have any brass to keep clean or any surfaces to rub and they get lazy. The German workman needs to be kept busy with things of this sort."

Here, now, are some practical instances of what the American manufacturer must learn before he can attain the widest success in the new field of foreign trade. Do not send to Germany catalogues in the English language or to Japan things decorated in green, or to the Isthmus of Panama anything with blue spots on it. It looks as if we need in this country a commercial kindergarten in which such information as the above may be taught to those of a curious and inquiring mind for their everlasting benefit and profit.



Ice will reach a lower temperature than 32 degrees if the temperature of the air is less than that. It will take practically the temperature of the atmosphere.

Liquid hydrogen is transparent, and the lightest as well as the coldest liquid known, a cork sinking in it like lead. A whitish substance seen at the bottom of the vessel on Prof. Dewar's first exhibition was really solid air or air ice.

The multiplication of new compounds in organic chemistry is something appalling. In 1883 the total number of carbon compounds recorded was 16,000, but a newly revised list by Dr. M. M. Richter enumerates not less than 67,000, and the end seems yet far off!

A Canadian engineer has invented a foghorn in which the noise is produced by half a dozen clappers striking a gong and actuated by electro-magnets. A dynamo, supplied with power by a naphtha engine, furnishes the current. About 600 strokes per second fall upon the gong, thus producing a practically continuous sound, and this is magnified and governed in direction by a megaphone. A small model of the horn is said to have made itself audible at a distance of two miles.

Recent investigation of the old problem of the diffusion of tin over eastern Europe and Asia Minor in prehistoric times, leads to the conclusion that about a thousand years before Christ the tin of the British Isles was carried overland to the Aegean Sea. The invention of the anchor led about 2,700 years ago to the opening of a marine route between England and the eastern end of the Mediterranean, and then the Phrygians controlled the tin trade with their ships. The short summer nights of North Britain were among the wonders that Greeks talked of in the days of Homer.

According to the recent studies of Signor De Sanctis, of Turin, children begin to dream before their fourth year, but are unable to recall dreams before the age of 4 or 5. This age, he concludes, is that at which a child first becomes distinctly conscious of self. Aged people dream less frequently and less vividly than the young. Women's dreams are more frequent, more vivid and better remembered than those of men. Criminals and delinquents dream much less frequently and much less vividly than other people. Two-thirds of the most depraved criminals examined by Signor De Sanctis were never conscious of dreaming. This is ascribed to lack of mental activity.

Studies of the planet Jupiter during the opposition of 1899 have afforded some new figures concerning its rate, or rather rates, of rotation. These figures do not affect the round numbers in which the equatorial velocity of Jupiter's rotation is usually stated, viz., about 28,000 miles per hour. But they furnish additional proof that the motions visible on the great planet's surface are not uniform from year to year. Since the spring of 1897 the equatorial region appears to have experienced an acceleration of velocity. Relatively to the surface some 30 degrees north or south, Jupiter's equator rushes ahead with hurricane speed, between 200 and 300 miles an hour—in itself a sufficient indication that what telescopes show of Jupiter is not a solid crust but layers and masses of restless vapors.

Women in Brazil and Japan.

The legislative bodies of Brazil and Japan present a rather striking contrast in their policies toward the movement for the freedom of women. The senate of Brazil has under consideration a bill to authorize women to practice the learned professions, and the Japanese parliament has just passed a new press law which prohibits women from becoming publishers or editors on the ground that "the discharge of such work by females is neither becoming nor desirable."

Mormon Marriages in Mexico.

The laws of Mexico provide that a Mormon who wishes to take a second wife must present a certificate signed by his first helpmeet to the effect that she is willing; and he must also have the express consent of the second wife and her parents.

A woman playing a clarinet should be very funny.

ELEVATORS IN THE CAPITOL.

Persons to Whom Is Due the Credit of Their Introduction.

"I came here," said the veteran ex-member of Congress, "when elevators were unknown. Not long afterward they made their appearance in several of the large cities. They were considered an expensive luxury, and nobody dreamed of placing them in the capitol. Singular as it may seem, the first man to propose and advocate their introduction was a member from Texas. He was the heaviest man in the House, and represented the San Antonio district. His name was Gustave Schlegler, and he was born in Germany. At the time of his introduction of a resolution providing for an elevator in the south wing Watchdog Holman was chairman of the committee on appropriations. He fought the resolution, tooth and nail, on the score of economy. He regarded it as the acme of extravagance. Schlegler, however, was persistent. He fought Holman to a standstill, and was finally beaten by the strategy so characteristic of the Hoosier statesman. Even the city members voted against the resolution. The big German, however, had attracted the attention of the whole country. This pleased his constituents, and he was re-elected. He came back to the Forty-fifth Congress and continued the agitation for an elevator. He died near the close of the third session, much regretted.

"In the Forty-sixth Congress Robert Klotz of Mauch Chunk, a Pennsylvania Dutchman, championed Schlegler's hobby. He was so persistent in advocating it that one of his colleagues said to him one day: 'You want to be hoisted to your seat, do you? Well, the people will hoist you next fall. You will get all the hoisting you want then.' The prediction failed. Mr. Klotz was returned to Congress, after he had succeeded in securing an appropriation for an elevator. It was made in the Forty-sixth Congress in the sundry civil bill. Holman was no longer chairman of the committee on appropriations. His successor was the Hon. John De Witt Clinton Atkins of Tennessee. The fact remains, however, that the introduction of the elevators in the capitol was due to the efforts of two statesmen of German extraction."—Washington correspondent Philadelphia Record.

TRIAL BY FARCE

In Dreyfus Case Found a Parallel in "Alice in Wonderland."

There is a delicious bit of court nonsense in "Alice in Wonderland" that bears a striking similarity to the serious but almost as peculiar trial of Dreyfus. A recent writer has made the clever parallel:

"There's more evidence to come yet, please your majesty," said the White Rabbit, jumping up in a great hurry. "This paper has just been picked up."

"What is it?" said the Queen.

"I haven't opened it yet," said the White Rabbit, "but it seems to be a letter written by the prisoner to—somebody."

"Who is it directed to?" said one of the jurymen.

"It isn't directed at all," said the White Rabbit. "In fact, there's nothing written on the outside." He unfolded the paper as he spoke, and added: "It isn't a letter, after all; it's a set of verses."

"Are they in the prisoner's handwriting?" asked another of the jurymen.

"No, they're not," said the White Rabbit, "and that's the queerest thing about it."

"The jury all looked puzzled.)

"He must have imitated somebody else's hand," said the King.

"The jury all brightened up again.)

"Please, your majesty," said the Knave, "I didn't write it, and they can't prove I did; there's no name signed at the end."

"If you didn't sign it," said the King, "that only makes the matter worse. You must have meant some mischief, or else you'd have signed your name like an honest man."

"Let the jury consider their verdict," the King said, for about the twentieth time that day.

"No, no," said the Queen; "sentence first—verdict afterward."

Turkey Dressing.



A Cup of Water.

A cup of hot or cold water taken on rising in the morning is of much value with some people, for the mucous coat of the stomach is washed away, and its juices are more quickly brought into contact with the food.