

A MEMORABLE DAY.

The Earth Enveloped in a Mysterious Darkness.

Sages and Scientists Attributed the Phenomenon Which Filled the People with Terror.

The most memorable phenomenon of the heavens in modern times was that of remarkable darkness over New England May 19, 1781. That day, says a writer in the Chicago Times, made a more profound impression, has been more written and talked about, than all the auroras, comets and meteoric showers within the last five centuries.

Patriot and royalist each regarded the ominous sky and the threatening gloom as the evidence of Heaven's displeasure against the other, and the general conclusion was that the impending mystery would culminate in the fate of Sodom and Gomorrah.

The legislature of Connecticut was in session on this ill-omened day, and most of the members made no secret of their belief that now had come the great day foretold in the apocalyptic vision.

Mr. Speaker, it is either the day of judgment or it is not. If it is not there is no need of adjournment; if it is, I desire to be found doing my duty.

It was Friday and the intensity began soon after ten o'clock a. m. and continued till past the middle of the following night. The wind was from the southwest, and the darkness seemed to come with it from that direction.

Nothing was known beyond these boundaries, but there is reason to believe that a much greater area was involved.

Prof. Williams, of Harvard college, was indefatigable in observing, collecting and recording reports of the conditions attending this phenomenon, and to him the credit is due for the data from which it is possible to deduce the causes of this soul-harrowing dark day.

All was black as primeval night when chaos ruled the world and sun and stars were as inky spots in the heavens.

And now we come to the key that unlocks the mental situation and it becomes clear what it was that stood in the way of an understanding of this mystery.

An eclipse of the sun was claimed, but as the moon was near its "full" and probably one hundred and eighty degrees out of solar line from the earth, such a condition was physically impossible.

There had been immense land fires, where there was no one to report, covering perhaps many hundreds if not thousands of square miles, probably fanned by brisk gales, the vapor and sooty substances taken up by ascending currents from the heated surface and loaded on favoring breezes to be wafted over the land of the pilgrims.

The great middle and western states have time and again had this smokiness, which no one now thinks of regarding as supernatural. The only unusual feature of this occasion was the unusual combination of conditions.

The Tartars are supposed to have, as a nation, the most powerful voices in the world. The Germans, according to the London Lancet, possess the lowest voices of any civilized people.

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NO QUARTER

will do you as much good as the one that buys Dr. Pierce's Pleasant Pellets. This is what you get with them: An absolute and permanent cure for Constipation, Indigestion, Bilious Attacks, Sick and Bilious Headaches, and all derangements of the liver, stomach, and bowels.

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MODERN WOODMEN OF THE WORLD.—Mt. Hood Camp No. 59, Meets Tuesday evening of each week in Fraternity Hall, at 7:30 p. m.

COLUMBIA LODGE, NO. 5, I. O. O. F.—Meets every Friday evening at 7:30 o'clock, in K. of P. hall, corner Second and Court streets. Sojourning brothers are welcome.

FRIENDSHIP LODGE, NO. 2, K. of P.—Meets every Monday evening at 7:30 o'clock, in Schanno's building, corner of Court and Second streets. Sojourning members are cordially invited.

WOMEN'S CHRISTIAN TEMPERANCE UNION will meet every Friday afternoon at 8 o'clock at the reading room.

THE DALLES LODGE NO. 2, I. O. O. F.—Regular weekly meetings Friday at 8 P. M., in K. of P. Hall, corner Second and Court streets. DINSMORE PARKER, Sec'y.

TEMPLE LODGE NO. 3, A. O. U. W.—Meets in Fraternity Hall, over Kellers, on Second street, Thursday evenings at 7:30.

JAS. NESMITH POST, No. 32, G. A. R.—Meets every Saturday at 7:30 P. M., in the K. of P. Hall.

AMERICAN RAILWAY UNION, NO. 40.—Meets second and fourth Thursdays each month in K. of P. hall.

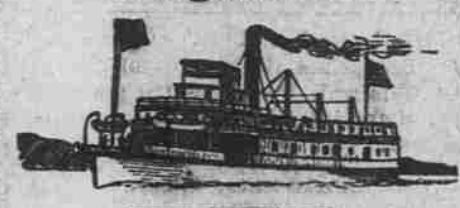
OF L. E.—Meets every Sunday afternoon in the K. of P. Hall.

OF L. F. DIVISION, No. 167.—Meets in K. of P. Hall the first and third Wednesday of each month, at 7:30 P. M.

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