

FLAMES IN FORESTS.

SWEEPING FIRES THAT LEAVE WILD WASTES BEHIND.

Extraordinary Pecuniary Losses Inflicted by the Unfettered Element that Rolls Onward in a Mad Torrent of Rapacious Billows and Defies Man.

A forest denuded by fire presents a woeful sight. The trees are not entirely consumed. The burned trunks of all larger ones stand straight and tall, dead, but not destroyed. Sometimes forest fires rage over such vast areas that their smoke is visible from any point in a State. Dr. J. T. Rothrock, Commissioner of Forestry for Pennsylvania, shows that the potential loss of



A BURNED FOREST.

the commonwealth from each fire or each series of fires that devastate the timber-producing areas in Pennsylvania is \$30,000,000. The fires occur chiefly from two causes. Railroad companies burn their old ties along the right of way, without taking any precaution to prevent the fire spreading to the woods, and the small farmers in clearing wood-lands for farming purposes burn the brush and fallen timber, without caring whether the fire spreads or not.

The illustrations are significant as showing the desert condition which a fire, or series of fires, produces. In many parts of the United States one may see such tracts, over which fires have swept almost every year, destroying the young forest growth and ren-



STREET IN PHILLIPS BEFORE AND AFTER THE FIRE.

dering the soil, after each succeeding conflagration more and more barren. The deterioration in the picturesqueness of the country, or the loss in money to the person or persons who may own these districts for lumbering purposes, may more easily be imagined than told. What could be more dreary than the country shown in the two photographs?

The year 1894 will long be remembered in Wisconsin and Minnesota for the terrible calamities which occurred in July and August of that year. Intense



BURNED FOREST AFTER TWENTY YEARS.

heat and little rain had made the forests almost like a kiln. All through the summer fire had been feared and looked for, and by the end of July it was said that not less than \$5,000 worth of pine had been destroyed. The fire extended over a stretch of nearly fifty miles wide, and all that experience gained by woodsmen and lumbermen in dealing with forest fires availed nothing against the sweeping flames, which were driven like an overwhelming flood by a strong wind, leaving

death and destruction in their path. In the photographs presented herewith, which show a Wisconsin town named Phillips before and after the fire, one may see how completely the forest fire does his work. Phillips was burned July 27, and the loss of life would have been severe had not the inhabitants escaped by taking trains to places of safety.

In October, 1871, one of the most terrible fires in America on record broke out at Peshtigo, Wis., and more than 700 persons were burned to death. But probably the saddest fire was that which occurred in 1894—one glimpse of which, at Phillips, has already been had. The unfortunate place was Hinckley, Minn., and the calamity occurred on Sept. 1 of that year. Owing to the long-protracted drought, as is pointed out in the report of the State commission for the relief of the forest fire sufferers, the fires had prevailed in different localities for several weeks, but on that day the wind became a tornado, and a small fire then burning spread with frightful rapidity, and was carried on the wings of the tornado over a district covering nearly 400 square miles. A furnace blast swept over the fated district, and left behind it complete devastation. Every building in Hinckley was destroyed. So sudden was the onset of the flames that the people could only run from their houses and seek a place of refuge, without even an effort to save their household effects. Four hundred and eighteen persons, about one-sixth of the population of the district, are known to have perished by a most frightful death in the flames.

The Sun.

The sun around which the earth moves at a distance of about 93,000,000 miles is one of the great multitude of fixed stars. It is an intensely hot body, shining by its own light, while most of the planets are cool bodies and do not, therefore, give out light of their own. Compared with the earth, the



cheer. His father, they say, shed tears for very joy, and, as he dismounted, kissed him on the head, and said: 'My son, seek thee a kingdom suited to thy powers; Macedonia is too straight for thee.'

Bucephalus became from this time the property and the inseparable companion of Alexander. He accompanied him on his campaigns "sharing many toils and dangers with him," and was generally the horse ridden by him in battle. No one else was ever allowed to mount him, as Arrian says, "because he deemed all other riders unworthy." He is reported to have been a magnificent black charger of extraordinary size, and to have been marked with a white spot on the forehead.

CAPTURED CAT DEAD.

Famous Feline Rescued from the Spanish Battleship Cristobal Colon.
The famous Spanish cat, Cristobal Colon, captured from the Spanish battleship on July 3, died at the United States government station at Benton



SEÑOR CRISTOBAL COLON.

Harbor, Mich. This cat was in the cat show in Chicago and was awarded a special medal. Senor Cristobal Colon was a mascot on the Spanish man-of-war of that name.

"Mr. Meeker, your nose looks just like other folks' noses." "Hush, Willie!" "I heard you say the other day, mamma, that Mr. Meeker had had his nose to the grindstone for seventeen—quit that!"—Chicago Tribune.

How easy it is to let the other fellow do the work by reflecting that the exercise is good for him.

ness? 'I'll pay, by Jove, the price of the horse!' Laughter greeted this answer, but after some bantering with his father about the money arrangements, he went straight to the horse, took him by the bridle, and turned him around toward the sun. This he did on the theory that the horse's fright was due to seeing his own shadow dance up and down on the ground before him. He then ran along by his side awhile, patting and coaxing him, until, after awhile, seeing he was full of fire and spirit and impatient to go, he quietly threw off his coat, and



THE TAMING OF BUCEPHALUS.

swinging himself up, sat securely astride the horse. Then he guided him about for a while with the reins, without striking him or jerking at the bit. When now he saw that the horse was getting over his nervousness, and was eager to gallop ahead, he let him go, driving him on with a sterner voice and with kicks of his foot. In the group of onlookers about Phillip, there prevailed, from the first, the silence of intensely anxious concern. But when the boy turned the horse and came galloping up to them with pride and joy in his face, they all burst out into a

DEAN OF ILLINOIS TEACHERS.

Mrs. Woodworth Has Taught Twenty-eight Years in the Same School.

Mrs. Louise L. Woodworth, of Dixon, Ill., has the unusual record of having taught school for twenty-eight consecutive years in the same school and the same building, a record unexcelled in any other school or by any teacher in the state. Mrs. Woodworth has the



MRS. LOUISE L. WOODWORTH.

born faculty of teaching and keeps right up to date in her methods. She is not only a capable teacher, but a lady of refinement and culture, with a kindness of nature that endears her to her pupils, who devotedly love her. Mrs. Woodworth has been a widow for the whole length of time that she has taught, and, with all her school duties promptly accomplished, has brought up and educated her son and daughter, both of whom are married and settled in life. During this more than quarter of a century this capable woman has conducted the domestic affairs of her home after the best methods of the practical housekeeper, making of home management a labor of love, during which the suggestions for new ideas to be carried out in the schoolroom cooperated with the household task. Mrs. Woodworth has the pleasure of teaching the children of those who were once her pupils, and takes the same kind interest in their early educational trials. She is principal of the Third Ward schools, and her long term of service has been in the primary grade of the Third Ward schools. Her enthusiasm in her lifework is contagious, and her pupils emulate her in the example of faithful attention to duty.

WEALTH MADE HIM PROMINENT.

The Late Baron Rothschild Was a Man of Mediocre Mentality.

Baron Ferdinand James de Rothschild, who died in London not long since, was one of the most mediocre of this influential family of Croesuses, though he did gain some political prominence and was a member of Parliament when he died. He was born in Paris in 1839 and was educated in the Austrian capital. Early in his young manhood he removed to England, where one branch of this famous family has long resided. Baron Rothschild conceived a liking for politics and was made a member of Parliament at a bye election in 1885. He sat for Aylesbury until the general election of the same year and was returned. In 1886 he was again elected as a Liberal Unionist. He was re-elected for the same constituency in 1892 and 1895. In 1883 he was made high sheriff of Buckinghamshire and was a deputy lieutenant



BARON ROTHSCHILD.

ant and justice of the peace for that county, as well as a member of the county council. Like other members of the Rothschild family, the baron was an enthusiastic collector of art works.

Baron Rothschild was personally gentle, charitable and most democratic for a person of such vast wealth. He was stimulated to philanthropy for love of his dead wife, whose memory he honored even to the extent of erecting monuments to her in public places. His career in Parliament was not conspicuous.

The Vanderbilt Brothers.

Cornelius Vanderbilt carries no suggestion of aggressiveness, of impetuosity, of pride in and ambition for daring or brilliant coups. William K. Vanderbilt as he grows older more and more suggests the temperament, the aggressiveness, the persistency of his grandfather, the Commodore. His manner is that of the imperious and often impetuous business man. In his business hours he tempers his conduct by no etiquette that is conventional and no courtesy that is unnecessary.—Philadelphia Press.

Saved His Time.

"I've come to see your husband in the interest of the Knights of Labor, Mrs. Reagan," said a bland, elderly man, as the mistress of the Reagan household answered his ring.

"He ain't home," said Mrs. Reagan, with arms akimbo, "but I can promise you one thing, and that is, you'll get niver a night o' labor out av Tim Reagan, and it's no use tryin'! Sure and he'd knock off work in the daytime, if it wasn't for me keepin' at him till I'm that wore out there's no strength left in me!"—Youth's Companion.

Venice Will Be Drained.

Venice without its waters would be a far less picturesque place than it actually is, says the London Chronicle. And such a state of affairs, we are led to believe, may eventually come about. The regular increase in the delta of the Po has been studied by Prof. Marinelli. Comparison of the Austrian map of about 1823 with the records of surveys made in 1893 shows that the mean annual increase during those years has been about three-tenths of a square mile; and from all known data it appears that the total increase during six centuries has been about 198 square miles. The increase is continuing and the Gulf of Venice is doomed in time to disappear. No immediate alarm need, however, be excited, for Prof. Marinelli calculates that between 100 and 120 centuries will elapse before the entire Northern Adriatic will have become dry land.

Effect of Coffee Drinking on Eyes.

Snaitkin, according to the Medical Review, says that the Moors are inveterate coffee drinkers, especially the merchants, who sit at their bazars and drink continually during the day. It has been noticed that almost invariably when these coffee drinkers reach the age of 40 or 45 their eyesight begins to fail them, and by the time they get to be 50 years old they become blind. One is forcibly impressed by the number of blind men seen about the streets of Fez, the capital of Morocco. It is invariably attributed to the excessive use of coffee.—N. Y. Medical Times.

A Model Town.

A Colonia Juarez, Chihuahua, Mexico, correspondent of the New York World thus describes the model town in which he lives: "Ours is a town of about 1,000 inhabitants. Eleven years have passed since the first tent was pitched by the first settler. Now we have hundreds of dwellings owned by the dwellers—no millionaires, no beggars. We are in a chamber of the mountains 5,000 feet high. Fifteen miles of hills and hollows part us from the nearest railroad station. We have no saloons, no gambling, no smoking, no profanity, no round dancing at our socials. We have one police officer. Nearly every man owns a gun. Our academy building has 5,000 square feet of floors and 250 students. If you can beat this, please put in waste basket."

Mrs. James Brown Potter has scored a great success in "The Three Musketeers" in London.



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