WHEN IT IS MIDNIGHT

How the Traveler Loses or Gains a Day in a Tour Around the World.

For all ordinary purposes, the day begins at sunrise, and actually day begins at the first second of time after midnight wherever you may happen to be. But this is not sufficiently exact for the purposes of navigation, since we know that when it is midnight at Philadelphia, for instance, it is nearly one o'clock in Portland, Maine, and not much after eleven o'clock in Chicago, Ill. On the land this makes very little difference in business affairs, except in the matter of telegrams.

To illustrate: The difference in time between Liverpool and New York is about five hours, so that a telegram sent from Liverpool at noon will arrive in New York shortly after seven in the morning, not allowing for delays.

Usually, the great boat races between Oxford and Cambridge are rowed about four p. m., and we hear the result at noon.

San Francisco is eight hours in sun time from England, and in consequence the California papers can publish at six a. m. news of happenings in England and the Continent at two p. m. of the same day.

This is interesting but puzzling, especially to navigators, and in order to prevent loss of reckoning it became necessary to fix on some particular spot where the astronomical or nautical day should begin.

According to the way in which this arrangement is now carried out, the first land that the new day dawns upon is Easter Island, about two hundred and thirty miles west of the coast of Chili, South America. That is to say, the second of July breaks here within a few hours of the first, having broken on the American coast to the east, and the two days run on alongside—the second in Easter Island and places west, the first in all places on the American continent.

We may, therefore, realize this idea—that at 7:20 o'clock any morning in Great Britain, or at noon in Philadelphia, the next day is commencing in the world, and is to be found at this little island in the Pacific Ocean, whence in due course it will travel round to us.

But to have thus the start of the world is not an unmitigated advantage to these islanders. Suppose one of them sails east to America, what is the result? He will find that they keep the day there under a different date, and he will have to reckon one day in his calendar twice over to put himself right with their notions.

On the other hand, if an American crosses from east to west this wonderful magic line where the day begins, he will find the dates in this fresh part of the world are one in advance of him, and he must needs strike a day out of his calender to keep up with the times.

This fact was curiously illustrated in the case of Magellan, the Portugese captain, who sailed around the world from east to west in 1522, and having crossed the magic line of "day's birth" in his wanderings, his calendar became, of course, a day in arrear. The sailors were completely ignorant of this, and finding, on landing at home, that their Sabbath was falling on a Monday, they accused one another of tampering with the reckoning.

It was not for some time that the true and simple explanation of the wonderful loss of time was discovered —*Golden Days.*

HARVARD'S ANNEX.

Prosperous Condition of the Women's Department of the University.

Perhaps the most interesting experiment of the day, in the line of the higher education of women, is that of the "Annex" at Harvard. When the fine and thoughtful educative work done for women at Michigan University, Cornell, Smith, Vassar and Wellesley is considered, he who would claim exclusive pre-eminence for any one would be rash indeed. But waving the question of ultimate results, the Annex must fairly be claimed as the most interesting in the process of presentation. The daughter of the poet Longfellow and the widow of the noble Agassiz are active in the work of the society, and the instructors are apt to be men of cosmopolitan reputation. The magnificent college library, Gore Hall, is freely open to Fay House, and the distinguished librarian, Mr. Justin Winsor, shows a constant personal interest and generosity to the woman students.

The Annex has now completed its first decade, and its growth has been an example of marked prosperity. The social life of the Annex has widened greatly since the establishment of Fay House. This year a new club has been formed by the young women, called the Emanuel after the college from which John Harvard graduated, a club which devotes itself to the consideration of philanthropy and ethics. The meetings are usually addressed by some speaker of note. Mr. Arthur Gilman says that they find in undergraduate women the same ability to grasp every subject presented that is found in the undergraduate men; that they show diligence and energy, and do not break down under reasonable and rational work, and that the women, as the men, are far better fitted for general life after the course of university study.—*Boston Traveller.*

—By pulling up the cabbage stalks and storing away and then setting out next spring as early as the soil can be worked into a good condition, a supply of early greens can be secured earlier than by sowing spinach or dandelion.

KING OKO JUMBO.

David Ker Tells How an African Potentate Doctored Himself.

King Oko Jumbo of Bonny—in whose august company Mrs. Ker and myself had the honor of being shipwrecked upon the west coast of Africa in the summer of 1885—was said to be a bit of a humorist in his way, but *we* saw very little trace of humor about him in the course of that disastrous voyage, during the whole of which he was probably the most wretched man on board. Indeed, what with his chronic internal malady, the ceaseless rain that prevented him from coming on deck, and the prolonged sea-sickness which, like Death in Shirley's famous poem, "lays its icy hand on kings," the poor King might well be weary of life at sea.

Nor were these his only troubles. Having never been out of his own country till the trip to England from which he was returning, he had naturally very hazy ideas of geography, and doubtless imagined his little kingdom on the Bonny river (which he was pining to see) to be somewhere at the other end of the world, many long months away from him.

But one night (the very night before the shipwreck, by an ominous coincidence) we at length got him out upon the main-deck; and it was a fine sight to see our stalwart captain supporting the old man's tottering steps, and helping him on to the cane lounge set for him upon the after-hatch. The sick man brightened up wonderfully beneath the influence of good Captain Porter's cheery talk about old times in West Africa, and did his best to eat the food that we brought him; but no persuasion could induce him either to take medicine or to see the ship's doctor, who unfortunately happened to be a very young man.

"Medicine no good," said the old warrior, disdainfully; "doctor no good—no sabbee nothing. One time I sick at home; no can sleep two night. I make send for white man's doctor from English factory. White doctor come—young boy, smooth face, no sabbe nothing. I say: 'No can sleep now—you make me sleep.' Doctor say, 'Spose you take this bottle of sleep-stuff; you drink ten-twelve drop one time, ten-twelve drop other time, you sleep good.' I take sleep-stuff; I drink him all up one time. I sleep five whole day, five whole night! Eh, Captain? me sabbee better than doctor that time! Ha, ha, ha!"

And the King exploded into such boisterous laughter that all the features of his queer old face seemed to change places, and to dance a kind of insane quadrille in and out of each other, as if a hair's breadth escape from death by an overdose of laudanum were the finest joke in the world. But I could not help thinking that there are not a few Kings, in far more civilized regions than Bonny, who are just as useful and intelligent when broad-awake as poor Oko Jumbo was during his five days' nap.—*David Ker, in Harper's Weekly.*

—Guest (who has ordered cold roast duck and is out of patience)—"Waiter, how long must I wait?" Waiter—"If you will kindly have patience, the duck is not yet quite cold."—*Fliegende Blaetter.*

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FOR THE BLOOD.

Swift's Specific has cured me of a malignant breaking out on my leg, which caused intolerable pain. It was called Eczema by the doctors—four of whom treated me with no relief. I candidly confess that I owe my present good health to S. S. S., which in my estimation is invaluable as a blood remedy. MISS JULIA DEWITT, N. 10th St., St. Louis, Mo.

Our baby, when two months old was attacked with Scrofula, which for a long time destroyed her eyesight entirely, and caused us to despair of her life. The doctor failed to relieve her, and we gave Swift's Specific, which soon cured her entirely, and she is now hale and hearty. E. V. DELK, Will's Point, Texas.

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—In some parts of Africa a man's wealth is judged by the number of his wives. A man with sixty wives is looked upon as a sort of bonanza king. His wives probably go out washing at fifty cents a day, or make shirts at forty cents a dozen. In this country a man's wealth is judged by the number of dogs he owns. The possessor of eight dogs is generally too poor to pay school tax, and his wife takes in washing.—*Drake's Magazine.*

—Mrs. Drew, the daughter of Mr. Gladstone, is an efficient private secretary, and opens every letter of the daily eighty which on an average are delivered at Hawarden.

For the sake of one good action a hundred evil ones should be forgotten.—*Chinese Proverb.*

"If a woman is pretty,
To me 'tis no matter,
Be she blonde or brunette,
So she lets me look at her."

An unhealthy woman is rarely, if ever, beautiful. The peculiar diseases to which so many of the sex are subject, are prolific causes of pale, sallow faces, blotched with unsightly pimples, dull, lustreless eyes and emaciated forms. Women so afflicted, can be permanently cured by using Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription; and with the restoration of health comes that beauty which, combined with good qualities of head and heart, makes women angels of loveliness. "Favorite Prescription" is the only medicine for women, sold by druggists, *under a positive guarantee* from the manufacturers, that it will give satisfaction in every case, or money will be refunded. This guarantee has been printed on the bottle wrapper, and faithfully carried out for many years.

Better poor, young and wise, than rich, old and a fool.—*German Proverb.*

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"About a year ago I was taken with a severe pain in both lungs. I was first attacked with a violent chill, then a dreadful pain and then a cough accompanied by considerable fever. It looked very much like a bad attack of pneumonia. A friend of mine procured five ALLCOCK'S PLASTERS. One he put under each arm, one under each shoulder blade, and one on my chest close around my throat. In a few hours the cough ceased, the pain gradually abated, and I broke out in a profuse perspiration. I fell into a profound sleep, and the next day was almost well. I wore the Plasters eight days afterwards, and have never had any trouble since."

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The old lady who replied, when asked how her liver was, "God bless me, I never heard that there was such a thing in the house," was noted for her amiability. Prometheus, when chained to a rock, might as well have pretended to be happy, as the man who is chained to a diseased liver. For poor Prometheus there was no escape, but by the use of Dr. Pierce's Pleasant Purgative Pellets, the disagreeable feelings, irritable temper, constipation, indigestion, dizziness and sick headache, which are caused by a diseased liver, promptly disappear.

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Who coverts more is evermore a slave.—*Herrick.*

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