

HOT WAVE PHILOSOPHY.

When all the sky seems blazing down and sunshine curls the bricks
And General Humidity puts in his biggest
licks,
I welcome to my eyrie with a moist and
dripping palm
A placid old philosopher who runs a little
farm,
Who says imagination helps a deal in keep-
ing cool,
And who to comfort other men makes this
his simple rule:
To talk of piping, biting days, and drifting
winter storms
Whenever the weather pipes it up and gets
too thunderin' warm.
They're better far than fizz or smash or
juleps, sure's you're born,
The honest little narratives of Frigid
Weather John.
For though the sizzling summer time may
boil and steam and hiss,
Who'd ever, ever think of it while listening
to this?
"I never see'd a winter have a darnder,
sharper aidge
Than in the year of sixty-one, the year that
I drove stage.
I never had so hard a job attendin' to my
biz
For everything 'twas frizzable that year
you bet was crisp.
At last I done a caper that I hadn't done
for years,
I got a little careless and I friz up both
my ears.
The roads was awful drifted and I trod ten
miles of snow
And all the time that thundrin' wind did
nothin', sah, but blow.
Them ears of mine was froze so hard,
stuck out so bloomin' straight
I thought the wind would snap 'em off, it
blew at such a rate.
And when at last I hauled up home, the
missus bust in tears
And hollered: 'John, oh massy me, you're
going to lose your ears.'
But I—why, land o' goodness, I was cooler'n
I be now."
And he passed his read handanna up across
his steaming brow—
"I jest got out my hatchet, and chopped
two cakes of ice
And held 'em on my friz-up ears—'twas
Granny Jones' advice.
I didn't dare go in the house, but set there
in the shed
A-holdin' 'em two junks of ice to either
side my head.
The chunks weighed fifty pounds apiece—
that doctorin' didn't cost,
And so I got 'em big enough to take out
all the frost.
My wife at last came out to see what made
me keep so still
And there I was, sah, sound asleep and
snorin' fit to kill.
She got me in and gave me tea and helped
me inter bed
With that ere ice a-frozen tight and solid
to my head.
'Twas sport of cur's, I confess, but still I
slept complete,
A crystal palace on my head and soap-
stones on my feet,
It wasn't what you really call a calm and
restful night.
But when the ice peeled off next day them
ears came out all right."
They're better far than fizz or smash or
juleps, sure's you're born,
These honest little narratives from Frigid
Weather John.
—Lewiston (Me.) Journal.

Lottie's Blue Eyes

THE harrowing conviction was forcing
itself upon Miss Sophia's mind
that her brother, Rev. Harmon Pen-
dleton, at the mature age of 44, had
actually fallen in love. This fact was
in itself an offense to Miss Sophia, but
it was not all, for the minister had
committed the supreme folly of losing
his heart to a girl, and a most ob-
jectionable young person altogether
in Miss Sophia's eyes.
"Now, if he had only fallen in love
with Mary," mused Sophia. "She is a
most estimable young woman. But
that doll-faced, vain, frivolous Lottie—"
and Miss Sophia groaned. "A man of his
age and a minister of the Gospel to lose
his wits over a pink and white complex-
ion and yellow hair! Oh, it is too bad.
If I only knew of some way to disen-
chant him."
Just then two girls and a young man
passed along the street. One of the
girls was tall, dark-haired and stately;
the other was pink-checked and yellow-
haired. Her hands were full of roses
and her laughing eyes were uplifted
in the face of the young man by her
side.
Miss Sophia snorted with disgust.
"Flirting, as usual, the shameless
piece!" she ejaculated. "A nice min-
ister's wife she would make! Harmon's
an idiot!"
Then Miss Sophia suddenly awoke to
the fact that the hired girl had been
left much too long at her own devices,
and rose hastily to her feet. In so do-
ing she tripped over a stool and gave
her ankle a severe wrench.
A little later Rev. Harmon Pendleton
returned home and found Miss Sophia
with her foot on a stool and her ankle
swathed in bandages.
"Why, Sophia, what has happened?"
asked the minister.
"I've sprained my ankle," replied
Miss Sophia, with grim disgust. "I
can't so much as put my foot on the
floor."
"Whew, this is indeed bad!" mur-
mured Rev. Harmon.
"And it is not all," added Miss So-
phia. "Martha has just had word that
her mother is very ill and to come home
immediately. What to do I can't imag-
ine."
"Why, get another girl."
"Since when has it become so easy to
get help in Westonville at a moment's
notice?" ejaculated Miss Sophia, with
supreme scorn.
"I met Miss Armiger down the
street," said the minister, with sudden
inspiration. "She intends stopping on
her way home. Perhaps she can think
of a way out of the difficulty."
"I don't doubt it; Mary Armiger is
a most superior young woman," said
Miss Sophia, with emphasis.
"Yes, she is, indeed," readily assented
the minister.
"So utterly unlike her sister Lottie,"
supplemented Miss Sophia.
"Yes, they are quite unlike, certain-
ly," said the minister, quietly.
"Did you meet Lottie, also?" asked
Miss Sophia, fortively watching her
brother's face. "She passed with Char-
lie Saunders, making eyes at him as
usual. What an audacious flirt that
girl is."

SCIENCE AND INDUSTRY.

In five years American trade with
Australia in leather goods has quad-
rupled.
According to chemical analysis, 15
parts of the flesh of fish have about the
same nutritive value as 12 parts of
boneless beef.
The oldest German coal mines were
first worked in 1195. They are near
Worms. England did not begin to mine
its coal until the fourteenth century.
A reasonably active man walks
about 297,200 miles, more than ten
times the earth's circumference, in 84
years, just trotting about his house
and office.
The rapid destruction of the spruce
forests of the eastern United States
may be realized when it is understood
that one daily paper used the growth
on 22 acres in two days, the wood hav-
ing been reduced to pulp and turned
into paper.
It is a common experience among
mountain climbers to find butterflies
lying frozen on the snow, and so brittle
that they break unless they are very
carefully handled. Such frozen butter-
flies on being taken to a warmer climate
recover themselves and fly away. Six
species of butterflies have been found
within a few hundred miles of the
north pole.
Aluminum has just been used for the
construction of a new fireproof curtain
to be used in the opera house, Lesancon.
The curtain is 60 feet wide by 54 feet
high, and its total weight, composed of
aluminum sheets one-twelfth of an
inch thick, will be 4,000 pounds. Had
sheet iron been used instead of the
lighter metal the weight would have
increased to 11,000 pounds.
The enterprising city authorities of
a small northern borough have been
trying the experiment of sprinkling a
street with sea water. They find that
such water binds the dirt together be-
tween the paving stones, so that when
it is dry no loose dust is formed to be
raised by the wind; that sea water
does not dry so quickly as fresh water
so that when salt water has been used
one load of it is equal to three loads of
fresh water. The salt water which is
deposited on the street absorbs mois-
ture from the air at night, whereby the
street is thoroughly moist during the
early morning, and has the appearance
of having been freshly sprinkled.
SMOKELESS POWDER.
The British army the four-legged
recruits are drawn up in a ring round
an instructor, who fires a pistol. Some
take the flash and report very quietly
and these are soon passed on to severer
trials, while the others have lesson after
lesson until they are quite convinced
that there is no danger to them and be-
fore long you might fire a seven-pounder
within a yard of them and they
would hardly look around. After this
they are taught to face fire—that is to
say, to gallop fearlessly up to a line or
square of infantry, blazing away with
their rifles, and to charge batteries of
quick-firing guns. Of course, only
blank cartridges are used, and so to a
trained horse going into battle for the
first time there is no difference between
the harmless thunder of the maneuvers
and the death-dealing storm which
sweeps over the battlefield. The poor
brute only learns what the difference
really is by bitter experience.
When smokeless powder came into
general use it was found that in many
cases horses which would face the
smoke of guns using black powder
without flinching flinched and shied at
the flash and roar unaccompanied by
smoke. Continental opinion is some-
what divided as to the moral effect of
smokeless powder on men and horses,
but the general conclusion seems to be
that in daylight it is not more terri-
fying than black powder, although
some hold that to see men and horses
struck down by an invisible agency
must necessarily be so. But it is gen-
erally agreed that the use of smokeless
powder at night has a much more dis-
turbance effect than that of the old
powder, because the flashes of the
guns, unobscured by smoke, are a great
deal more vivid. The fear thus inspired
can, however, be overcome by training,
but there is another fear which must,
in the nature of the case, be felt for
the first time on the battlefield, and that
is the often uncontrollable terror pro-
duced both in men and horses by the
whistling of bullets and the screaming
and banging of shells. Some authori-
ties have, indeed, said that since the
introduction of smokeless powder and
the great increase in the range and ac-
curacy of weapons, it would be im-
possible to keep cavalry in hand under
the fire of modern artillery, but this is
probably an exaggeration.—Pearson's
Magazine.
He Couldn't Help It.
"I am astonished to hear you say that
Fraleman told you all these things; I
gave them to him in strict confi-
dence."
"Yes, but he says you told them to
him during your late voyage to Eu-
rope."
"So I did, but what's that got to do
with it?"
"Everything. You can't expect a
man to keep anything to himself on his
first ocean voyage, can you?"—Rich-
mond Dispatch.
His Idea.
Little Gabe (in the midst of his read-
ing)—Why, I didn't know that rabbits
knew anything about arithmetic.
Farmer Hawbuck—They don't.
"But, paw, it says here that rabbits
multiply with astonishing rapidity."
Judge.
No Newspapers in Morocco.
The empire of Morocco is the most
important state that is absolutely with-
out a newspaper.—N. Y. Sun.

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