



LIGHTS OF SHINAGAWA BAY

Physical Phenomena in Japanese Waters Said to Have Been Caused by Countless Animalculi.

Strange lights hover over the waters of Japan at various places. The burning spring that appears at intervals of several years in one of the land locked bays is a natural phenomenon that has attracted the attention of the scientific world. A new and curious spectacle made its appearance in Shinagawa bay recently, when a myriad of pale green lights shone in the placid waters and attracted thousands of spectators to the shore, East and West News states.

The savants of Japan are giving much attention to this curious freak of nature. One college professor likened the exhibition to the innumerable lights off the coast of Chikusen and Chikugo in Kyushu. The latter lights, however, are of a yellow-red, orange color, whereas those in Shinagawa bay were pale green.

Doctor Kishigami of the college of agriculture in the Tokyo imperial university collected a quantity of water from the bay. He has declared that the light is caused by countless animalculi. He describes these insects as gymnogyniums, belonging to the class Flagellata. Each measures one twelve-hundredth of an inch and has an alimentary canal. These insects must have been always present in the waters of that bay, but an excess of vegetable matter in the water so fattened and stimulated the animalculi that they became unusually luminous. The learned professor cites the appearance of the same phenomena at Hamburg in 1830, since which time no record exists of its recurrence until lately. The insects live at the bottom of the sea and come to the surface on rare occasions for oxygen.

GOOD OF COMPANY MANNERS

Obviates Arguments, Harsh Language Criticisms and Other Features in Ordinary Home Life.

There isn't any trouble in the home when there is company in the house. Everything runs smoothly, as a rule, avers the Columbus Dispatch. The children are better behaved, regardless of what mother says about it; father is more patient. There is no quarreling among the children-when there is company. Everything is cleaner, and more orderly, and voices are lowered, and correct language is used.

Which is to say, wouldn't it be a blessed good thing to have "company manners" in the home all the time? To have the breakfast pass off as quietly; to have as little harsh language; to do away with the usual family criticisms -wouldn't it be glorious if we used "company manners" whether there is company present or not?

It would be an awful strain for a while, to be sure. The whole family is under a strain when there's company in the house. But the general effect would justify the strain. There would come a time when it wouldn't be any strain at all; it would become a habit. Table manners would be improved. conversation would be more rational, criticism would be less bitter, dispositions would mature with the sweetness of ripened fruit that has grown in the sunlight.

Banish Idleness.

Idleness, rather than the love of money, is the root of all evil, and unneerfulness is one of the shoots from the root, asserts the Los Angeles Times. There is no such thing as idleness in nature. The worlds that glitter in the arch of the heavens are ever moving. The moon never stays in one place. The restless sea moans in and out over the harbor bar. The rivers gurgle and plash as they journey to the sea. The trees change their costume twice a year and grow a little every hour of every day in the year. The birds never roost at noonday, and man is the only animal who oversleeps himself. "A contented mind is a con-tinual feast," and the worker, whether he labors with brain or brawn, who finds delight in his work, who sings as he cheerfully lifts the hammer or laughs as he pens the thought that comes to him, is happy and content.

Early California History.

The first white men to visit San Francisco bay were of the expedition of Portola, a Spanish adventurer who became the first governor of California. Portola himself was not a member of the party which, 148 years ago. gazed upon the site of San Francisco and Oakland. The honor of discovery belongs to Father Juan Crespi and Sergeant Ortega, Gasper de Portola, "captain of dragoons and governor of the Californias," probably never saw the bay, but his name is perpetuated as the discoverer by the annual Portola festivals in San Francisco. Sir Francis Drake came near discovering the bay in 1578, when he landed at a point 30 miles to the northwest.

Rainbow Never Shows Complete Circle A rainbow never shows a complete circle, but at the most only a semicircle, unless the observer happens to be at a great elevation, as in a balloon, when more than half a circle can be seen, but never an entire one. Halos and rainbows also differ in the size of the circles or semicircles that they exhibit. The radius of a halo is about 22 degrees and that of a rainbow about 42 degrees. Other arches and circles are sometimes seen outside of both the rainbow and the halo, but the radii given are for the principal, or trimary, phenomenon.



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