Time Without End.

We have hundreds of times studied the grandeur of mountains and oceans, in summer and winter, in sunshine and storm, in our own and

We have hundreds of times, in the great cathedrals and churches of our own country and Europe, listened to music that has carried our thoughts far above this little world we inhabit,

But we have never been more filled with wonder and admiration and profound gratitude to the Almighty, than when on calm and beautiful nights, such as we have had many the past summer, we have looked up into the quiet heavens and watched the stars moving in grand procession across the sky, and thought of the Infinite Power that created and controls them in their great revelutions through space without limit and time without end. GEO. T. ANGELL.

Are You a Loafer !

About this season of the year speakers and writers are apt to say hard things about loafers, who are to be found in every town and at every railway station. When one is travellng around on the train, or goes to his market town, he is apt to think that every person who appears to be unemployed is a loafer. One of the definitions of this term is "an idle man." Did it ever occur to you that the expression is never applied to a woman? It is never used in connection with a man with a comfortable income, however idle he may be. We generally connect the term with some shabby white man, who lives with the least possible work and stands and sits around on the corners ready to discuss any question proposed. Or it may be a negro, who is ready to carry a valise a mile for a nickel, or to wait on you half a day for a dime and a chance at the kitchen. But are there no female loafers? They may not frequent street corners, but they are idle women in their own homes. They fold their hands and toil not, nor do they spin from January to December. The very fact that they are not obliged to work does not take them out of the list of loafers. More is expected of them from the fact that they do not have to bake and sweep and stitch. Before we are too hard on loafers let us see how much actual work we are doing. Are we producing anything? Are we contributing to the wealth or welfare of the world? Are we doing good as, we have opportunity, or are we only loafers? When a poor, moneyless fellow loafs around awhile it is apparently a small matter, but when an educated man with money in his pocket sits around and wears out chairs and bores people because he has nothing to do, he is more blamable than the other fellow. For a woman to waste her time, to sit with folded hands, or lie with closed eyes, dustry has continued, and is likely when she has abundant opportunity to, continue and increase to a much to do good, is much worse .- Ex- greater value, and answer better pur-

A Moving Mountain.

A traveling mountain is found at the Cascades of the Columbia. It is a triplepeaked mass of dark brown basalt, 6 or miles in length where it fronts the river, and rises to the height of almost 2,000 feet above the water. That it is in motion is the last thought that would be likely to suggest itself to the mind of any one passing it, yet it is well-established fact that this entire monntain is moving slowly but steadily down to the river, as if it had a deliberate purpose some time in the future to dom the Columbia and form a great lake from the Cascades to the Dalles.

In its forward and downward movement the forest along the base of the ridge has become submerged in the river. Large tree stumps can be seen standing dead in th water on this shore. The railway engineers and brakemen find that the line of railway that skirts the foot of the mountain is being c at aually forced out of place. At certain points the permanent way and rails have been pushed 8 or 10 feet out of line in a few years.

Geologists attribute this strange phenom enen to the fact that the basalt, which con-situtes the bulk of the mountain, rests on a substratum of conglomerate or of soft sandstone, which the deep, swift current of the mighty river is constantly wearing away, or that this softer subrock is of itself yielding at great depths to the enormous weight of the harder mineral above. - Holdthead Geographical Magazine.

Mrs. Ernest Hart, who recently made a trip around the world, ap pears to come to the conclusion that meat eating is bad for the temper. She says that in no country is home rendered so unhappy and life made so miserable by the ill-temper of those who are obliged to live together as in England. If we compare domestic life and manners in England with those of other countries where meat does not form such an integral article of diet, a notable improvement will be remarked. In less meat-eating France, urbanity is the rule of the home; in fish and rice eating Japan, harsh words are unknown.

The following pathetic appeal appeared in the Rocky Mountain News: "Lives of poor men oft remind us honest men won't stand no chance; the more we work there grow behind us bigger patches on our pants. Or our pants once new and glossy, now are stripes of different hue, all because subscribers linger and won't pay us what is due. Then let us be up and doing: send in your mite, however small, or when the snow of winter strikes us we shall have no pants at

PURCELL has moved into the Store lately occupied by R. T. Gee, and he is now pre-pared to show the prettiest and Cheapest line of Dry Goods ever brought to Union.

Through Space Without Limit and From a Letter of Benjamin Franklin country; they are hardly considered TO BENJAMIN WATCHEN, MEMBER OF PARLIAas an essential part of the states; and MENT FROM THE BOROUGH OF CALNE

-WRITTEN IN 1784.

It is wonderful how preposterously the affairs of this world are managed. Naturally one would imagine, that the interest of a few individuals should give way to general interest; but individuals manage their affairs with so much more application, industry, and address, than the public do theirs, that general interest most commonly gives way to particular. We assemble parliaments and councils, to have the benefit of their collected wisdom; but we necessarily have, at the same time, the inconvenience of their collected passions, prejudices, and private interests. By the help of these, artful men overpower their wisdom, and dupe its possessors; and if we

remedy for luxury. I am not sure

that, in a great state, it is capable

of a remedy; nor that the evil is in

itself always so great as is represent-ed. Suppose we include in the defi-

nition of luxury all unnecessary ex-

pense, and then let us consider

whether laws to prevent such expense

are possible to be executed in a great

country, and whether, if they could

be executed, our people generally

would be happier, or even richer. Is

not the hope of being one day able

to purchase and enjoy luxuries, a great spur to labour and industry?

May not luxury, therefore, produce more than it consumes, if, without

such a spur, people would be, as they

are naturally enough inclined to be, lazy and indolent? To this purpose

I remember a circumstance. The

skipper of a shallop, employed be-tween Cape May and Philadelphia,

had done us some small service, for

which he refused to be paid. My

wife understanding that he had a

daughter, sent her a present of a new-

fashioned cap. Three years after, this skipper being at my house with an old farmer of Cape May, his pas-

senger, he mentioned the cap, and how much his daughter had been

pleased with it. "But (said he) it

proved a dear cap to our congrega-tion."—"How so?"—"When my

daughter appeared with it at meeting,

it was so much admired, that all the

girls resolved to get such caps from

Philadelphia; and my wife and I computed that the whole could not

have cost less than a hundred pounds."—" True, (said the farmer)

but you do not tell all the story. 1

think the cap was nevertheless an

advantage to us; for it was the first

thing that put our girls upon knit-

ting worsted mittens for sale at Phil-

adelphia, that they might have

wherewith to buy caps and ribbons

there; and you know that that in-

poses."-Upon the whole, I was

more reconciled to this little piece of

luxury, since not only the girls were

made happier by having fine caps,

but the Philadelphians by the supply

In our commercial towns upon the

seacoast, fortunes will be occasion-

ally made. Some of those who grow

rich will be prudent, live within

bounds, and preserve what they have

gained for their posterity; others,

fond of showing their wealth, will be

extravagant, and ruin themselves.

Laws cannot prevent this; and per-

haps it is not always an evil to the

public. A shilling spent idly by a

fool, may be picked up by a wiser

person, who knows better what to do

with it. It is therefore not lost. A

vain, silly fellow builds a fine house,

furnishes it richly, lives in it expen-

sively, and in a few years ruins him-

self; but the masons, carpenters,

smiths, and other honest tradesmen

have been, by his employ, assisted in

maintaining and raising their fami-

lies; the farmer has been paid for his

labour, and encouraged, and the

estate is now in better hands. In

some cases, indeed, certain modes of

luxury may be a public evil, in the

same manner as it is a private one.

If there be a nation for instance, that

exports its beef and linen, to pay for

the importation of claret and porter,

while a great part of its people live

upon potatoes, and wear no shirts;

wherein does it differ from the sot,

who lets his family starve, and sells

his clothes to buy drink? Our

American commerce is, 1 confess, a little in this way. We sell our

victuals to the islands for rum and

sugar; the substantial necessaries of

life for superfluities. But we have

plenty, and live well nevertheless;

though, by being soberer, we might

The vast quantity of forest land

we have yet to clear and put in order

for cultivation, will for a long time

keep the body of our nation labori-

ous and frugal.—Forming an opinion

of our people, and their manners, by

what is seen among the inhabitants

of the scaports, is judging from an

rious, while the country possesses all

the virtues that tend to promote hap-

be richer.

of warm mittens.

What occasions then so much want and misery? It is the employment of men and women in works that produce neither the necessaries nor conveniences of life; who, with may judge by the acts, arrets, and those who do nothing, consume necesedicts, all the world over, for regusaries raised by the laborious. To lating commerce, an assembly of great men is the greatest fool upon earth.
I have not yet, indeed, thought of explain this:

ence notwithstanding.

The first elements of wealth are that does nothing, my corn will be consumed, and at the end of the year I shall be no richer than I was at the beginning. But if, while I feed them, I employ them, some in spinning, others in making bricks, &c: for building, the value of my corn will be arrested and remain with me, and at the end of the year we all may be better clothed and better lodged. And if, instead of employing a man I feed in making bricks, I employ him in fiddling for me, the corn he eats is gone, and no part of his manufacture remains to augment the wealth and convenience of the family; I shall, therefore, be the poorer for this fiddling man, unless the rest of my family work more, or eat less, to make up the deficiency he occasions.

Look round the world and see the millions employed in doing nothing, or something that amounts to nothing, when the necessaries and conveniences of life are in question. What is the bulk of commerce, for which we fight and destroy each other, but the toil of millions for superfluities, to the great hazard and loss of many lives, by the constant danger of the sea? How much labour is spent in building and fitting great ships, to go to China and Arabia for tea and coffee, to the West Indies for sugar, to America for tobacco? These things cannot be called the necessaries of life, for our ancestors lived very comfortably without them.

A question may be asked—Could all these people now employed in raising, making, or carrying superfluities, be subsisted by raising necessaries? I think they might. The world is large, and a great part of it still uncultivated. Many hundred millions of acres in Asia, Africa, and America, are still in a forest; and a limit to their re-ources, and with industry great deal even in Europe. On a hundred acres of this forest, a man should be no limit to their development. and a hundred thousand men employed in clearing each his hundred acres, would hardly brighten a spot large enough to be visible from the moon, unless with Herschel's telescope; so vast are the regions still in wood.

It is, however, some comfort to reflect that, upon the whole, the quantity of industry and prudence among mankind exceeds the quantity of idleness and folly. Hence the increase of good buildings, farms cultivated, and populous cities filled with wealth, all over Europe, which a few ages since were only to be found on the coast of the Mediterranean; and this notwithstanding the mad wars continually raging, by which are often destroyed, in one year, the works of many years' peace. So that we may hope, the luxury of a few merchants on the coast will not be the ruin of America.

One reflection more, and I will end this long rambling letter. Almost all the parts of our bodies require some expense. The feet demand shoes; the legs stockings; the rest of the body clothing; and the belly a good deal of victuals. Our eyes, though exceedingly useful, ask when reasonable, only the cheap assistance of spectacles, which could not much impair our finances. But the eyes of other people are the eyes that ruin us. If all but myself were blind, I should want neither fine clothes, fine houses, nor fine furniture.

The Scuppernoug.

A correspondent of the Country Gentleman speaks of a Scuppernong grape vine from which forty bushe's of grapes have been sold for two successive years, and it is probable that it will produce fifty bushels this year. The vine is trained over an orbor some 25 feet long by 18 feet wide and is a foot in diameter at the ground. This is not at ali an uncommon size, and a vine might easily cover an area of 2,000 square feet. The Scuppernong will not thrive north of 37° of latitude, but it is well known as thick-skinned grape which keeps well and can be shipped long distances. It has a peculiar flavor, which is not disagreeable to many people, and it makes an acceptable wine. It reaches its best development in southeastern Virginia and northeastern Carolina, where it runs will and often climbs 40 feet or more into tree tops. improper sample. The people of the If allowed to grow with no pruning or case trading towns may be rich and luxu- except a trellis or something to run upon, it will usually give fair crops.

piness and public prosperity. Those towns are not much regarded by the

Prosperity in the South.

From all parts of the South come excel-lent reports of material progress. The Southern corn crop is greater than ever beshown, that their being in the possession of the enemy, did not necessarily draw on the subjection of the country; which bravely continued to country; which bravely continued to maintain its freedom and independthe experience of the last war has is a very different thing from what it was I has been computed by some few years ago. People generally have not yet learned to take into consideration the political arithmetician, that if every fact that the modern bye-products of cotton are worth nearly two cents a pound more, man and woman would work for four hours each day on something so that the farmer's six is really equivalent useful, that labour would produce to eight cents.

The corn crop is so large that the South sufficient to procure all the neceswill this year have a surplus instead of being compelled to import corn for her own saries and comforts of life; want and consumption. The on look for her manumisery would be banished out of the world, and the rest of the twentyfacturing industries, and her cetton mills in particular, is better than ever before in her history, and in every substantial and material element of business the general four hours might be leisure and condition of the South is most encouraging and satisfactory.
In respect of Southern railroad interest

the reorganization of the Richmond Termi-nal system and the merging of the thirty or forty railroads composing it into the new Southern Railway is nothing short of rev-olutionary. As affecting Southern business affairs of all kinds its significance cannot be overestimated. It means the substitution in the pivotal industry and dependence of the country of order in the place of chaos obtained by labour from the earth and of stability and responsibilty in the and waters. I have land, and raise place of absolute irresponsibility. Never in the history of railroads was such hopecorn. With this, if I feed a family less chaos and inchiciency manifested as in the administration of the thousands and thou ands of miles of ralcoad directly and indirectly involved in the Rich mond Terminal system. Shippers could p'ace no dependence upon the railroads. They had no guarantee that goods confided to them would reach their consignee, or that goods they had bought would ever arrive. And above all they had no redress. There was no such thing as recovery of loss, even when the courts had done their duty and ordered restitution. It was one vast system of inefficiency, mismanagement, and worse, and its effect upon all mercantile

business was disastrous.

The new order of things is very different The Southern Rulway is the result of the pratical obliteration of between thirty and forty corporations, the elimination of millions of fictitious valuations and unreasona ble burdens, and it sets up in their place solid, resourceful, and vigorous railread system founded upon modern and scientific economics and of the first efficiency. This has been accomplished by Mr. Samuel Spencer, in comformity with the general plan and purpose of the reorganization undertaken by the great banking house of Drexel, Morgan & Co.

Mr. Spencer in addition to being one o the first railroad men in the country, was specially equipped for the problem in hand by his intimate knowledge of Southern rail road properties, and of those of the Terminal system in particular. Besides it is doubtful if anybody is better qualified for dealing with the fami iar ailment of railroad dropsy. When Mr. Spencer was elected President of the Baltimore and Ohio Ruilroad Company, one of his earliest acts in office was to take \$25,000,000 off the surplus of that great corporation by a simple stroke of his pen. It is to this gift of Mr. Spencer's that we may attribute the fact tant the Southern Railroad Company enters upon the conduct of its business, even after such conditions as have so long prevailed, earning its fixed charges and a very considerable

Taken for all in all, the business prospects of the South arc, at the present moof the country. It depends upon the peo-ple of the South themselves if these condi-tions are to continue. What they need is unintermited industry and a sound respect for law. If they have the good sense to abjure populism, and socialism, and anarchism, and see to it that the rights of property are observed in behalf of great and small, tich and poor, they can be as prosperlearned at such grievous expense and painful retardation. Her Reagans and her Hoggs, whom she is now at last repudiating have cost her untold millions of dollars, and have put back her natural and reasonable development by at least as much as fifteen years - Sun.

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AN OLD PILOT'S REMINISCENCES.

What Capt. J. W. Campbell Has to Say About the Upper Mississippi Capt. J. W. Campbell, of Fort Madison, Ia., a pioneer pilot of the upper Mississippi, writes thus about the past and present: "I emerged from the haze brush in northeast Missouri in 1844 to take a first peep at the wide world beyond. Having been infatuated in early youth with the cat fish and drift log business, it was but natural I should seek nautical pursuit. Consequently I drift-ed on board an upper Mississippi steamboat and began to serve as a cub pilot along shore between St. Louis and Fort Snelling. The first duty of a cub is to designate the difference between fore and aft-larboard and starboard-and with brains enough to determine if the current of the river runs to the north or

"He is then permitted to enter the pilot house and take the wheel, while his senior lights his pipe, and being constitutionally tired seats himself on an ele vated bench in the rear and looks complacently on. Presently, under the manipulation of the verdant cub, the wheel begins to spin from right to left-left to right-hard up and hard down; he strikes with his clumsy paws at the revolving wheel with the awkwardness of his matured namesake and involuntarily his pedal extremities come in contact with the spokes of the inner circle of the wheel below, thereby illustrating the results of centrifugal force by throwing him outside of the pilot house.

"But after a few more experiments of a similar kind he becomes more skillful, and with less exertion guides the boat steadily along, and then begins his great est task by learning the shores that he may distinguish unerringly one locality from another in the darkest night, after which he is directed to observe the following landmarks: 'Head of Island, Foot of Bend, Cut Bank, Willow Towhead, Big Hollow, High Bluff, Point-no-Point, Dead Cottonwood Tree, Tall Sycamore,' with many more, all of which by association become indelibly painted upon the panorama of the mind, and when they are recognized by the cub they become welcomed companions to him in the darkness of the night-a warning sentinel by which he avoids the breakers and reefs ahead.

"He is now prepared to stand a watch is no longer dubbed the cub, but is en titled to promotion and receives the cog nomen of 'star gazer.'

"It was much harder when I began for one to learn than at present, for the country above Prairie du Chien was uninhabited, except by Indians and a few white traders, but now we have villages and cities from ten to twenty mile apart, with government lights located at every difficult crossing on the river. While on my first voyage I was directed on passing the head of Coon slough to hold her on Wild Cat bluff, where now nestles beneath its shadows the prosperous village of Brownsville, and on ascending ten miles farther up we land on the east side of Prairie La Crosse, containing then but two houses. The upper one was occupied by a Mr. Mirick, used jointly as a residence and warehouse, and 100 yards below stood a log hut tenanted by a Mr. White, while the barren sand banks intermediate were dotted with Winnebago wigwams.

"On this bleak and lonely sand prairie of the past we behold at present a magical change. The name is abbreviated to plain La Crosse. Instead of two residents, we find here now a population of over 30,000 people. We hear the sound of the buzzing saw of mills less than a hundred yards apart for over five miles up and down the river, while in front along the shore are millions upon millions of pine lumber and saw logs awaiting to be towed down the river to supply the increasing demands of the great southwest.

"In place of one solitary steamboat landing here semi-monthly, we see them come and go by the dozen every twentyfour hours, for more of them are owned in La Crosse than at any other point between St. Louis and St. Paul, and my companions in days of yore, with the fledglings of today, have organized a pilot association here with over 150 members, who question the propriety of the government in appointing an inspector whom they deem inexperienced, "Again we are under way, passing

upon our left majestic bluffs arising sev eral hundred feet above the water's edge, while upon our right we view for mile in the distance the valley of Black river, whose pine timber has since added millions to the wealth of the pioneer settler. After steaming eighteen miles farther up this rock bound mountain shore I ob served pine trees growing upon a ledge of rocks, and on the the face below was etched the words 'George Catlin.' On viewing again this once familiar name, but by me then almost forgotten, my thoughts reverted quickly back to childhood's happy hours, passed in gathering goedes along shore for this great American traveler, an ever welcome guest at the savage wigwam or princely palace. We cross over to the right hand shore, and the valley is in our rear, while in front we behold the greatest curiosity on the Mississippi river, a conical island mountain, 700 feet in height, commonly called 'Mount Strombolo,' but by the early French voyagers La Montaigne que trompe a l'eau."—Chicago Times.

veremonious. Frenchmen are noted for their punctiliousness, but they have no monopoly of that virtue. A nice sense of propriety occasionally crops out in quite unexpected quarters.

"Pat," said the superintendent of one of our New England manufactories, "go down to the firm's office and wash the windows," Pat presently appeared in the outer

room with his bucket and sponges. "An' I was tould to wash the windys in the firm's office," he said to one of the "All right, that's it right in there,

answered the clerk, pointing to the "But they're in there," said Pat.

"Oh, never mind, go right in." But Pat still besitated. "Faith," said he, "an' would ye plaze be after goin' in an inthroducin me?"-Youth's Com-

An Optimist. Jennie (mournfully)-Just look at our

lovely green grass. Surely, when the snow comes, it will all die and wither. Charlie-Never mind, dear. Look on the bright side of things. Of course it willflie. But that will be our lawn fate. -Pittsburg Bulletin.

MY OLD UMBRELLA.

Old friend, neglected there you stand Behind my closet door, You've really grown too shabby now To carry any more.
To carry any more.
Around your rusty frame the silk.
In faded spleador clings,
while numerous little genteel darns.
To view the sunlight brings.

I need the space you occupy
Within my small domain;
And yet to throw you out, I think,
Would give me mental pain.
Some sad and pleasant memories Encircle your gaunt form, Outside of times you've sheltered me From sun as well as storm.

Yes, many a tramp, old friend, we've had In rain and pleasant weather: To weddings gay, and funerals sad We've often gone together.

And when with merry friends I've climbed The mountains—you as prop Helped me to triumph o'er the rest By gaining first the top.

When in a crowded car I've gone, And could not get a seat, Twas your crook'd handle held the strap, And kept me on my fect. But far above your usefulness, One memory sweet I see,
'Tis this—'neath your protecting shade
My John proposed to me,
-Elsie Hackling in Good Housekeeping.

Pattl's High Notes A writer in The London World says of Mme, Patti's terms for singing in con-certs; "I have all my life had a weakness for ladies, and ladies have always had the weakness to know what is not their business, so I am going to betray a secret of the trade to the lady readers of this paper in order to let them get an insight into affairs discussed by everybody, although 'everybody' knows nothing about what is really the matter. From all sides I hear of the greediness of Mme. Patti, the exorbitant prices she asks, and how she does not care whether the people in whose concerts she sings are ruined so long as she receives her money. The fact is this: Mme Patti receives for every concert in the Albert hall £700-an enor-

mous amount, no doubt.

"Now let us see as to the ruin of the people who engage her. The expenses of the hall are about £100, other artists £200, advertising, etc., say £150; the whole forms £1,150 to £1,800 costs. The receipts of this first year's concert were about £1,700, of the second over £1,800, and the third will probably be still larger -that is to say, £500, £600 and £700 profit. I know that once in a concert in which she sang the expenses were a little over £1,200 and the receipts £2,143, with £153 taken for programme books. These are figures, not opinious. I have known what is perhaps still more astonishing. One evening the fog was so thick that I was reflecting whether I should go to the hall, imagining that Mme. Patti, whom I had to accompany, would not go. I went, however, after all, by the underground railway, and the receipts that evening left over £600

A Persevering Prisoner.

"Perseverance will accomplish everything." I had these words for a writing lesson once and I shall never forget them. It is a great thing to have perseverance. There was once a man who was shut up in a dungeon with walls 200 feet thick, made of the hardest kind of stone. He had no tools except a pair of scissors his brother had sent him in a loaf of bread, but he remembered that a drop of water will wear away a stone if it falls on the stone long enough, and that a coral worm, which is so small that you can hardly see it, will eat up and destroy a coral reef if you will only give it time enough. So he said that he would persevere and dig a hole through the wall of the dungeon with the seissors and escape if it took him a hundred

He had been digging about a year when the govornor pardoned him and jailer brought him the joyful news. But they couldn't get him to leave the dungeon. He told the jailer that he had undertaken to dig his way through the wall and escape in that way, and that he was going to stick to it, no matter how long it might take. The jailer urged him to give it up and walk out of the door, and even offered him \$10 to give up his dungeon to a new lodger, but nothing could induce him to change his mind. So he staid in the dungeon and dug away at the wall for forty-seven years, and every six months he had to pay a big bill for damages to the jail, and he finally died when he was half through the wall. This shows what a splendid thing perseverance is, and that we all ought to persevere. - W. L. Alden.

Tupper's Egotism.

Sir G---- D---, a personage not unknown to fame, once encountered the late Martin Farquhar Tupper on a Clyde steamer, and was accosted by him in thece terms: "I perceive that I am not the only distinguished man on board." Mr. Tupper smiled not as he spoke, being quite in earnest and, indeed, wishing to pay Sir G--- what he conceived to be a high compliment. This little incident occurred on deck. Presently Mr. Tupper went down into the cabin, but before doing so handed his umbrella to a young lady, a perfect stranger, to take care of it for him. "Young lady," he observed to the astonished recipient of the umbrella, "you will now be able to say in after life that you once held the umbrella of Martin Tupper." Same smileless expression as before. The story is told of Tupper that one evening he attended a dinner party after having lost his portmanteau in the afternoon, and at the table, when he had talked a great deal about his loss, a wit who was present interrupted him by saying: "If I had lost my portmanteau, Mr. Tupper, I, being an ordinary man, should have been justified in boring a dinner table with my grief. But you, Mr. Tupperyour philosophy is proverbial."-San Francisco Argonaut.

Rat Plagues,

The plague which the agriculturists of England are now suffering from the ravages of rats is not without precedent, in Canada. The nearest approach to this rat plague is the plague of mice which visited Prince Edward Island and Nova Scotia in the early part of the century. As long ago as 1699 the undue prevalence of mice in Prince Edward Island, or the Island of St. John as it was then called, was noted by the French settlers; and in 1774, both on that island and on the adjacent main land, a complaint arose that these animals were again too numerous and too familiar. In the latter year the mice visited the fields and ate up everything, including the potatoes, and having finished this disastrous work they turned their attention to literature, and consumed the leather binding of the settlers' books. - Ottawa Telegram.

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