### Days Five or Six Hours Long.

As the evidence of the earth's crust proves that our globe has lasted for incalculable ages, it becomes of interest to think how far the gradual elongation of the day may have attained significant proportions since very early times. It may be that even in a thousand years the effect of the tides is not sufficient to alter the length of the day by so much as a single second. But the effect may be very appreciable or even large in a million years, or ten million years, or a hundred million years. We have the best reasons for knowing that in intervals of time comparable with those I have mentioned the change in the length of the day may have amounted not merely to seconds or minutes, but even to hours.

Looking into the remote past, there was a time at which this globe spun around in twenty-three hours instead of twenty-four; at a still earlier period the rate must have been twenty hours, and the further we look back the more and more rapidly does the earth appear to be spinning. At last, as we strain our gaze to some epoch so excessively remote that it appears to have been anterior to those changes which geology recognizes, we see that our globe was spinning round in a period of six hours, or five hours, or possibly even less.

Here, then, is a lesson which the tides have taught us. They have shown that if the causes at present in operation have subsisted without interruption for a sufficiently long period in the past, the day must have gradually grown to its present length from an initial condition in which the earth seems to have spun around four times as quickly as it does at present.—Good Words.

### A Knife in His Breast for Six Years.

Captain Philip Osmont, a native of the Island of Jersey, who has been a resident of Stafford county for several years, has had a remarkable experience. Before coming to America Captain Osmont was of the men who go down to sea in ships. A mutiny occurred on the vessel with which he was connected and a hand to hand conflict took place between the mutineers and the officers of the ship. During the fight a knife blade several inches long was driven into the right breast of Captain Osmont.

When the fight ended he drew the knife (as he supposed) from his breast and threw it overboard. He suffered greatly from the wound, but finally recovered through the careful nursing of his wife, who was on the ship with him. When Captain Osmont threw what he supposed to be the entire knife overboard he had simply caught the handle, which was loose, and throw that over the ship's side, leaving the long blade remaining in his breast.

Some time ago Captain Osmont suffered a good deal with pains, and supposing he had the rheumatism he consulted Dr. S. W. Carmichael, of Fredericksburg, who discovered the presence of the knife blade and extracted it. Dr. Carmichael is of the opinion that the case is quite a remarkable one, the knife having remained in Captain Osmont's body for six years. Dr. Carmichael still has the blade in his possession. It is a dangerous looking instrument 4½ inches long and one inch wide, and is covered with rust and dry blood.—Richmond Times.

### Origin of "Whitecaps."

The term "whitecap" did not originate in this country, as can be traced back nearly a century to County Kerry, Ireland.

Nearly 100 years ago, when Ireland was more populous than at present, and when the people were not so harassed by British misrule, there lived in County Kerry a large and influential family named Whitecap, who whenever any of their neighbors became too obstreperous or immoral waited on them in the night, took them from their houses and gave them a sound thrashing with a cat-o'-nine-tails as a warning to desist from their wrong doing and evil practices.

Similar clans were formed in other sections of Ireland, all of whom were called whitecaps, not white caps, two words, as they are written in this country. The popular impression is that the appellation comes from the form and color of the headdress that the regulators wear when perpetrating one of their outrages, but this is a mistake, as the history of the movement proves. The whitecaps in Ireland were a terror to evil doers and were of value to the good order of the society of their day, but I don't know that there is need for them in any part of America.

### Cures for Drunkenness.

Dr. T. W. Crothers himself states a great truth when he says in The Popular Science Monthly that when a great truth begins to find public recognition it is always first welcomed by the credulous and visionary enthusiast, who forms the most extravagant expectations of it. Then straightway step forward the charlatan, who follows up this enthusiasm, trades on it and turns it to his own personal profit. Meanwhile, under all this heavy load of extravagant expectation on the one hand and quackery on the other, the real, solid scientific facts in the matter proceed slowly to evolution and at length become part of the world's acquisition.

So with drunkenness cures. When all the chaff is winnowed out, when the quacks are silenced and the frauds who pretend to perform marvelous cures have worked the mine of credulity till it is exhausted, it will be found that the much solid truth has been situated. Drunkenness is a disease and curable as other diseases are.

The doctor does not deny that the quacks have made some cures. The old pledge of the Washingtonian Temperance society also wrought cures. It was believed that there was some peculiar occult virtue in the mere act of taking the pledge, and that some spiritual power descended with the solemnly pronounced vow into the soul of the man taking it, which controlled thenceforward his mad craving for liquor. This belief had its due influence on the minds of thousands, and which it lasted did good. It was in fact the original mind cure.

In like manner, while the belief in these bare, the quack specifics for insanity will undoubtedly cure some drunkards. For the rest, it is tolerably certain that drunkenness is "an insanity of the border line type." Its origin is in a general defective condition of the central brain. When science knows how to remedy this condition, drunkenness will pass into the category of diseases remediable by medical skill.

### Utilizing Hot Wells.

An interesting item of intelligence from Hot Springs City is that the boiling wells a mile from that place are to be utilized for heating buildings. Hot Springs City is fortunate indeed if this can be done. There are several artesian wells that pour out great streams of boiling water. It is not mineral water, but just pure, clear, hot water, utilized heretofore only for bathing. But now a 6-inch pipe is to be laid from the wells to the town, and the fluid is to be introduced into business blocks and private dwellings to assure a summer temperature in cold weather. The saving in coal will be 50 per cent, as there is no expense about getting the water except to pipe it. It is to be hoped the supply will hold out, and that this unique experiment will be successful. The saving in dust, ashes, soot, coal smoke and labor is incalculable.

The method of heating buildings by hot water is coming to be recognized as the best. Florists found it out long ago, and now most of the large modern greenhouses that supply cut flowers to the trade are kept at the right temperature by the soft, steady heat. The machinery necessary to heat houses thus has become so complete and so reasonable in price that any house supplied with a constant flow of water can be warmed in the most healthful, cleanly and convenient of all ways.

The time will probably come when every well to do farmer will have his house heated in this way. Artesian wells are not so very expensive and many farms do not even need them, for they are supplied with never failing springs and brooks. A windmill will usually pump the water into a tank which gives the necessary pressure, and the piping can be done at not great expense. A small furnace and boiler will do the rest. There is really no reason why farmhouses should not have as complete arrangements for comfort as a city home.

The Columbian (O.) board of trade has done a public service in passing that resolution asking the World's fair authorities to see to it in time that restaurant keepers and boarding houses do not pile on extortionate rates during the exposition. The temptation to do this will be more than human nature can bear, unaided either by divine power or by a good, strong human authority. At the Paris exposition all was perfect except for this one thing. Restaurateurs fattened like cormorants on their prey, and the complaint of their extortion was universal. The fair authorities must make such arrangements at Chicago that when any fellow goes to putting strychnine on beef from the cows that got away from the flagship Santa Maria when Columbus discovered America he may be yanked up and made an awful example of.

Cholera germs will live in clothing, bedding and in the decayed corpses of those who died of it for months, perhaps years. The only safety is in burning all such clothing and bedding, and even the bodies themselves. The public for its own safety should learn to entertain the cremation idea to this extent.


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From Nephi and Eureka ..... 6:15 p.m.

From Terrace and Lynndyl ..... 4:00 p.m.

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For Castle Valley and Park City ..... 8:30 a.m.

For Ogden, Intermediate points and all points East ..... 8:00 p.m.

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No. 9—For Ogden and West ..... 10:00 a.m.

No. 11—For Ogden and the West ..... 11:45 a.m.

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