

**THE GREAT LAKES FILLING.**

**Natural Causes which Threaten their Existence as Inland Seas.**

Serious complaints are being made by Montreal shippers that their boats are delayed in transit through the canals owing to the lowness of the water, and that this lowness is owing to the falling of the level of the lakes. It is said that the water level in the lakes has sunk gradually for many years, and that it has now reached a level when the Government must do something to remedy it or undertake such works as shall secure a constant and steady supply of water in the canals. The changes in the lower lakes were first noticed in 1888. Since then a great change has been observed, the draught of water steadily, though slowly, decreasing. Prof. Selwyn, of Ottawa, being interviewed, said:

"There is no doubt that the lakes are filling up, very gradually perhaps, and it may be millions of years before any serious change may take place in the larger lakes, but in the shallowest, Lake Erie, which is only 120 feet average depth, the effect might be much more serious at an earlier date. The reason of the lake filling up is quite obvious. When first I went up into the West in 1873, I found that the process of filling up had commenced, and in my report I drew the attention of the Government to the fact. In my interviews with the Indians I found that their legendary lore contained traces of their knowledge of the fact that the lakes were filling up, and not only so, but I found, going back into their legends to time immemorial, that some time or other, perhaps many generations ago, some of our great valleys were lakes, which have been filled up. In this legendary story I have every reason to believe, as my own geological researches tend to confirm it, and in my own personal experience I have known many large water holes completely filled up."

"On my son's farm in the West there was a pond, with a stream running through it, of several acres, which, in 1881, was some 3 feet deep, and off which he took a magnificent crop of hay. This filling in is increasing rapidly, and while much more rapid now than in former years, will continue to increase more rapidly yet. You ask the season of this. It is self-evident that while the mass of the territory drained by the myriad streams of the West, all running into these ponds and lakes, was thickly wooded, the trees not only served to hold the water, but to prevent the washing way of the soil by means of their numerous roots. As the country becomes cleared, so these safeguards are removed, and after heavy rains the waters pour down unchecked off these lands, and percolating through them as well as running over them, carry with the streams immense and ever-increasing volumes of silt or soil. As long as this is borne along by the velocity of the streams it has no time to settle, but when the rivers fall into the deep still lakes, the law of gravitation makes the silt sink to the bottom and gather there. The same thing has been seen in many parts of Europe, where rapid and impetuous streams run into the sea, and thus come the curious natural phenomena which are now affecting our own lakes. When you take the thousands of miles of watershed drained by countless streams, all coming into the great lakes, you can form some small idea of what the proportion of silt, increasing yearly with increased cultivation, being deposited in these lakes must be."—New York Times.

**An Extraordinary Boat.**

One of the most extraordinary boats on the great lakes is not a whaleback, but is a passenger car transfer operated in the Straits of Mackinac by the Duluth, South Shore & Atlantic Railroad. It has an enormous capacity for carrying cars, but its peculiarities are its strength, its shape and the number of its steam engines. It carries twenty-four steam engines for the performance of the various requirements of the business it is in. The hull of the boat is as solid as the walls of an old-time blockhouse. The bow rises up and away from the water so as to hang or slant over it as if it were a hammer, and that is what it was built to be. This is because the boat is an ice-breaker, intended to keep a channel open in the straits all winter, or to make one whenever she is pushed into the massive ice that forms in that cold region. The big boat advances toward the ice, and showing her nose upon its edge, lifts herself upon it. Then a screw propeller under the overhanging bow performs the work of sucking the water from under the ice to enable the boat's weight to crush it down the more easily. Thus the destructive monster makes her way steadily through the worst ice of the semi-polar winters of that region, climbing up on the ice, crushing it down, scattering it on either side, and making no more of it than if it were so much slush.—(Boston Transcript.)

**Mystery of a Lost Diamond.**

"Nearly two years ago," says the San Francisco Bulletin, "quite a stir was made at Mills College, California, about the loss of a valuable diamond pin belonging to Miss Maud Sparks of San Reno. Servants and pupils were suspected and much notoriety was given to the case in the papers. Miss Sparks was removed from the school in consequence of the supposed theft. Lately, when one of her old gowns was being ripped, the pin was found in the drapery of the garment, where it had been safely concealed all the time."

A Philadelphia man has designed a pleasure boat to be made of aluminum.

# THE YOUTH'S COMPANION

Only a few Announcements can be included in this advertisement, but they will enable the friends of THE COMPANION to judge somewhat of the scope and character of the reading that will be given in its columns during 1892—the sixty-fifth year of its issue.

**Nine Illustrated Serial Stories.**

The Serial Stories for the coming year will be of rare interest and variety, as well as unusual in number

- Lois Mallet's Dangerous Gift.** A New England Quaker Girl's first Contact with "World's People"; by **Mrs. Mary Catherine Lee.**
- A Tale of the Tow-Path.** The Hardships encountered by a Boy who found Life at home too Hard for him; by **Homers Greene.**
- How Dickon Came by his Name.** A charmingly written Story of the Age of Chivalry; by **Harold Frederic.**
- Two "Techs" Abroad.** They set off on a Tour of the World in quest of Profitable Enterprises; by **C. A. Stephens.**
- A Young Knight of Honor.** The Story of a Boy who stood at his Post while Death was all around him. **Miss Fanny M. Johnson.**
- A Boy Lieutenant.** A True Narrative; by **Free S. Bowley.**
- Touaregs.** A Story of the Sahara; by **Lossing G. Brown.**
- Smoky Days.** A Story of a Forest Fire; by **E. W. Thomson.**
- On the Lone Mountain Route;** by **Miss Will Allen Dromgoole.**

**Hints on Self-Education.**

Articles of great value to Young Men who desire to educate themselves.

- Hon. Andrew D. White,** Ex-President of Cornell.
- President Timothy Dwight,** of Yale University.
- President E. H. Capen,** of Tufts College.
- President G. Stanley Hall,** of Clark University.
- President Francis L. Patton,** of Princeton College.
- Professor James Bryce, M.P.,** author of the "American Commonwealth."

**Practical Advice.**

- The Habit of Thrift;** by **Andrew Carnegie.**
- How to Start a Small Store;** by **F. B. Thurber.**
- Girls and the Violin.** A Valuable Paper; by **Camilla Urso.**
- A Chat with Edison.** How to Succeed as an Electrician; by **G. P. Lathrop.**
- Boys in N. Y. Offices;** Evils of Small Loans; by **Henry Clews.**
- The Girl Who Thinks She Can Write.** Three Articles of Advice by well-known Writers, **Amelia E. Barr, Jeanette L. Gilder, Kate Field.**

**Five Special Features.**

- A Rare Young Man.** Describes the life of a young inventor of extraordinary gifts; by **The Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone.**
- Episodes in My Life.** A Secretary, who have immediate charge of all the affairs pertaining to the office, which is located at Albany; by **The Count de Lesseps.**
- The Story of the Atlantic.** The regents issue each year three examinations, if desired, to the schools under their control. These examinations are upon all subjects taught in the various schools of the State. A regular and systematic course of instruction is laid down for the student which he is expected to pursue. When he has passed a satisfactory examination in all the common branches, he is henceforward considered an academic student and, as such, he is entitled to draw money for extraordinary gifts; by **Cyrus W. Field.**
- Unseen Causes of Disease.** The regents issue each year three examinations, if desired, to the schools under their control. These examinations are upon all subjects taught in the various schools of the State. A regular and systematic course of instruction is laid down for the student which he is expected to pursue. When he has passed a satisfactory examination in all the common branches, he is henceforward considered an academic student and, as such, he is entitled to draw money for extraordinary gifts; by **Sir Morell Mackenzie.**
- Boys and Girls at the Races.** A young doctor's queer patients; by **Col. George R. Davis.**

**Glimpses of**

- Housekeeping at Windsor Castle;** by **Col. H. G. Prout.**
- How Queen Victoria Travels;** by **Theo. Voorhees.**
- The Story of Kensington Palace;** by **Charles Paine.**
- How I Met the Queen;** by **An Old Brakeman.**

**Railway Life.**

- The Safest Part of a Train;** by **Col. H. G. Prout.**
- Success in Railway Life;** by **Supt. N. Y. Central, Theo. Voorhees.**
- Asleep at his Post;** by former Supt. Mich. Southern, **Charles Paine.**
- Roundhouse Stories.** Humorous and pathetic; by **An Old Brakeman.**

**Short Stories and Adventures.**

More than One Hundred capital Stories of Adventure, Pioneering, Hunting, Touring will be printed in this volume. Among them are:

- The Flash-Light.**
- My Queer Passenger.**
- Molly Barry's Manitou.**
- Shut Up in a Microbe Oven.**
- The Cruise of a Wagon-Camp.**
- Old Thad's Stratagem.**
- Very Singular Burglars.**
- The Tin Peddler's Baby.**
- Blown Across Lake Superior.**
- A Young Doctor's Queer Patients.**
- His Day for the Flag.**
- Capturing a Desperado.**
- In the Burning Pineries.**
- The Boys and the Wild-Cat.**
- On a Cattle Steamer in a Storm.**

The Illustrations will be improved and increased in number. The Weekly Editorials on the leading Foreign and Domestic Topics will be marked by impartiality and clearness. Household Articles will be contributed by well-known writers. The Children's Page will be more attractive than ever. The Illustrated Weekly Supplements, adding nearly one-half to the size of the paper, will be continued.

**"A Yard of Roses"**

**Free to January, 1892.**

**This Slip with \$1.75.**

To any NEW SUBSCRIBER who will cut out and send us this slip with name and address and \$1.75, we will send THE COMPANION FREE to January, 1892, and for a Full Year from that date. This offer includes the THANKSGIVING, CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR'S DOUBLE HOLIDAY NUMBERS, and all the Illustrated Weekly Supplements. New Subscribers will also receive a copy of a beautiful colored picture, entitled "A YARD OF ROSES." Its production has cost TWENTY THOUSAND DOLLARS.

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ADDRESS.

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"By a thorough knowledge of the natural laws which govern the operations of digestion and nutrition, and by a careful application of the fine properties of well-selected Cocoa, Mr. Epps has provided our breakfast tables with a delicately flavoured beverage which will save us many heavy doctors' bills. It is the judicious use of such articles of diet that a constitution may be gradually built up until strength is restored. Epps's Cocoa is a perfect food, and one which all who are suffering from indigestion, or who are weak and nervous, should use. It is a most nourishing and strengthening food. Made simply with boiling water or milk. Sold only in half-pound tins by Grocers, labelled thus: JAMES EPPS & CO., Homoeopathic Chemists, LONDON, ENGLAND."

**DONALD KENNEDY Of Roxbury, Mass., says**

Kennedy's Medical Discovery cures Horrid Old Sores, Deep-Seated Ulcers of 40 years' standing, Inward Tumors, and every disease of the skin, except Thunder Humor, and Cancer that has taken root. Price, \$1.50. Sold by every Druggist in the United States and Canada.

There are in the United States 200,049.79 miles of railroad track of all descriptions.

Causes no Nausea. Dr. Hoxsie's Certain Croup Cure is universally conceded to be the only safe and sure remedy for croup sold. It speedily allays inflammation to throat or lungs. Sold by druggists, or address A. P. Hoxsie, Buffalo, N. Y. Price 50 cts.

Chicago is to have a twenty-four-story steel building.

J. A. Johnson, Medina, N. Y., says: "Hall's Catarrh Cure cured me." Sold by Druggists, 75c.

London has 20,000 families living on 45 a week.

Commencement.

All claims not consistent with the high character of Syrup of Figs are purposely avoided by the California Fig Syrup Company. It acts gently on the kidneys, liver and bowels, cleansing the system effectually, but it is not a cure-all and makes no pretensions that every bottle will not substantiate.

A solution of bichloride of mercury is about the best material for taking insoluble ink out of linen.

Where is Johnsonville?

"I have bought a farm of 700 acres with the money made working for you, and as it is in a flourishing country I think I shall establish a town on it, and call it 'Johnsonville.'" This is an extract from a letter from W. H. Skinner. This young man started in business something over two years ago, with scarcely a dollar, and he has made wonderful progress. The first year his profits footed up to over \$4000. There are hundreds and thousands of young men in this glorious country of four-dollar-and-up who can do just as good work as Mr. Skinner. Write quickly to B. F. Johnson & Co., Richmond, Va., and they will give you an opportunity to do as well or better.

The custom of tipping servants is reported to be dying out in England.

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Sheridan's Condition Powder!

**EVERY MOTHER** Should Have It in the House.

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