

**Couldn't be Imposed Upon.**

The amateur farmer looked wise. He had tramped or driven over a large portion of the farm, he had passed judgment on the richness of the soil, and had talked of the purchase of some improved machinery. Altogether he was very favorably impressed, and announced that he had about made up his mind to buy the land.

Then he noticed a little stream of bubbling water.

"What's that?" he asked, quickly.

"A spring," replied the old farmer, "one of the purest, coldest springs in this country."

"A cold spring!" exclaimed the amateur farmer.

"Yes sir, and as clear as crystal."

"Look here!" said the amateur farmer, sternly, "do I look like a man who can be imposed upon?"

"Why, no—"

"Would you pick me out for a man who did not know his business?"

"Of course not, I—"

"Then do you expect to unload this farm on to me handicapped by that thing?"

"Why, what's the matter with it?"

"Matter with it! Don't you suppose I read the papers? They kill crops."

"Springs kill crops?"

"Cold springs do. You can't fool me, old man, if I do look like a city-bred man. A cold spring is worse than a backward spring, according to the Young Farmers' Weekly, and you wouldn't dare try to sell me a farm with a backward spring on it."

The old man leaned against a rail fence and didn't know whether to laugh or swear, as he watched the amateur farmer stalk haughtily down the lane.

**The Musical Orang-Outang.**

A correspondent of the *Spectator*, who has been making experiments with various musical instruments on the animals at the Zoological Gardens, writes as follows with regard to one of his latest tests:

Our first visit was paid to "Jack," the young red orang-outang, which, since the death of "Sally," the chimpanzee, claims the highest place in animal organization among the inmates of the Zoo. He is a six-month-old baby, of extremely grave and deliberate manners, and perhaps the most irresistibly comical creature which has ever been seen in London. He is extremely well behaved, not in the least shy, and as friendly with strangers as with his keeper. His arms are as strong as those of a man, while his legs and feet seem to be used less for walking than as a subsidiary pair of arms and hands. He is thus able, when much interested, to hold his feet between two hands, and to rest his chin on a third, which gives him an air of pondering reflection beyond any power of human imitation. "He knows there's something up," remarked his keeper, as we entered the house, and the ape came to the bars and sat down to inspect his visitors. As the sounds of the violin began, he suspended himself against the bars, and then, with one hand above his head, dropped the other to his side, and listened with grave attention. As the sound increased in volume, he dropped to the ground, and all the hair on his body stood up with fear. He then crept away on all fours, looking back over his shoulder like a frightened baby; and taking up his piece of carpet, which does duty for a shawl, shook it out, and threw it completely over his head and body, and drew it tight around him. After a short time, as the music continued, he gained courage and put out his head, and at last threw away the cloak and came forward again. By this time his hair was lying flat, and his fear had given place to pleasure. The piccolo at first frightened the monkey, but he soon held out his hand for the instrument, which he was allowed to examine. The flute did not interest him, but the bagpipes—reproduced on the violin—scored a triumph. He just flattened his nose against the bars, and then scrambling to the centre of the cage, turned head over heels, and lastly, sitting down, chucked handfuls of straw in the air over his head, "smiling," as the keeper said, with delight and approval.

The profits of the Olympic Club of New Orleans over the recent prize fights amounted to \$42,650.

Sixteen mules, which had been at the bottom of a coal shaft at Pittston, Pa., for four weeks, were found alive and in fairly good condition.

Some time ago a number of cats were sent from Halifax and other places to Sable Island to destroy rats which were killing the rabbits there. The cats, after destroying a number of rats, played sad havoc with the rabbits. The cats becoming very numerous, it was decided to send a number of foxes to the Island to thin them out. The foxes did their work too well. They not only mowed down the cats, but killed all the young birds and destroyed thousands of eggs. This fact has been brought to the notice of the Government with a view to having the foxes cleared off the Island.

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