

THE FARM.

THE OLD HERD.

I can hear the tinkle, tinkle
Of the bells so soft and low
Which the herd bore through the
clover

Of the old barn long ago;
And to me no sweeter music
From the organ ever swells
Than the tinkle, tinkle, tinkle
Of the meadow's matchless bells.

In the morning of a boyhood
Which has never passed away
Did I drive the old herd homeward
At the closing of the day;
And to me sweet Recollection
Stories of that boyhood tells,
While I listen to the music
Of the old herd's homely bells.

There they came, up through the
clover,
O'er the path beloved of old,
Snowy "Floss," the chosen leader,
Nearly worth her weight in gold;
Homeward, o'er the fragrant blossoms
To the e'er remembered bars,
Where Melinda waits to greet them
For a milking 'neath the stars.

One by one they reach the brooklet
In the gleaming cool and clear,
While they drink the limpid water,
Not a sound salutes my ear;
But anon the old herd gently
Love and reverence compels,
And I'm dreaming to the music
Of its ne'er forgotten bells.

Barefoot boy alone remembers
Far away from scenes of yore
How the herd came through the clover
By the insects hunted o'er;
And full many a precious picture
With its colors bright and warm
Memory paints with magic brushes
Of the ever treasured farm.

Here the farm house love-encircled,
There a sainted mother's face;
Here a mound and there a cradle,
Baby's features he can trace;
And, to finish off the picture
Which of golden moments tells,
Single file across the meadow
Come the bearers of the bells.

At the window in the twilight
With the winds but half asleep,
Sits the boy who drove the cattle
Thro' the clover red and deep;
And he calls from out the lost years
Many a scene that bears a charm,
And his thoughts go flying backward
To a boyhood on the farm.

Does he smile? a sound that pleases
Seems to stir the maples now,
And a beam of golden sunlight
For a moment gilds his brow;
Fast asleep! but still in dreamland,
Under Recollection's spells,
He is wading through the clover
To the music of the bells.

GROWING AND FEEDING CATTLE.

This is an age of specialization and it is, speaking generally, neither possible nor desirable to run counter to its tendencies. Business is divided and subdivided into special lines, and by narrowing the draft men acquire special skill with which one seeks to combine many of these can hardly compete on equal terms. The Homestead believes that it can be carried too far, and there are indications that in the cattle business there has been too much disposition to separate the growing of stock cattle and feeding of finished steers. There are reasons why farmers should grow, one year with another, the calves they need for feeding, and should not grow stockers for sale. We are aware that drawing upon the limited experience of single years, one can prove almost anything with respect to the relative profitableness of these two halves of cattle production. Taking the experience of the last year nothing pays but growing stock cattle, and it does not pay to feed at all. Taking the experience of some other year when feed was short and cattle plenty, it is just as easy to show that it does not pay to grow cattle at all, and that it is cheaper and more profitable to buy stockers to feed. This year stockers have been worth about as much as finished cattle. In some other years the finished cattle are high and the stockers are almost given away. There are among our people so many price chasers that these changes rattle them and they get away from one branch to another with rapidity that only enables them to miss a profit every year. The thing that each farmer wants to do is to cultivate level-headedness as well as crops, and to develop steadiness of purpose as well as his live stock. With respect to cattle he can do this by growing every year as nearly as possible, just as many animals as he needs and no more, having no stockers to sell and none to buy. When feed is plenty stock cattle will be quite certain to be relatively high as compared with finished steers; when very abundant, as it is now, the margin will probably be obliterated entirely. On the other hand when feed grows scarce, it is the finished product that is high and the stock cattle is almost given away. The man who grows his own supplies, however, and feeds them will be likely to make a steady, moderate profit every year. When the first condition exists he makes it off the stockers; when the second occurs he makes it off the feeding. What we mean by this is that when a man has a good grain and bluegrass farm, if cattle production from start to finish be considered as an entire, indivisible operation, some money can be made; but if it is cut in two it becomes a sort of "gamble" as to whether the profitable end of the transaction has been selected for the particular year.

In growing stock cattle for one's own feeding, the breeding becomes of even more importance than when they are grown to sell as stockers. What we do mean is that when stockers are a high price second rate stuff will generally command relatively more money than the best. But when a farmer intends to feed them himself it is only the best that he can feed to the best advantage. Really good stock cattle are, and for a long time have been, quite scarce. The carloads that used to be picked up a decade ago at any small shipping point cannot be picked up in that way any longer. They are bought now by twos and threes, and command a price that leaves no mar-

gin for the feeder, even with our cheap good. What the farmers of the cattle regions ought to do is to give to their herds of breeding cattle something of the same attention that the breeder of breeding cattle gives to his, with, of course, a closer confinement of his attention to strictly useful points. This involves careful selection of dams and the use of really first-class beef bulls. As to breed, that is a question of taste somewhat, and of the food, conditions, care, etc., with which the owner is likely to be able to surround them. But when the character of the selection itself should be from the best, usefulness in beef points being the criterion. It is the steady goer who wins in the long run, and the man who produces his own cattle, taking care to breed them well, and who will feed them, taking care to make them good will, one year with another, find his condition steadily improving. Of course, as a "flyer," there are seasons, such as the present, when all the money is in the stockers. There are seasons, too, when there is no money in feeding, and there are others when all the money that is made in the cattle business seems to be there. But, by regarding the production of beef as one operation, from the calf to the shambles, there is always some profit in it when there is profit in anything.

A WORLD WRECKER.

A French Funny Man Writes a Take-Off on Edison.

The astonishing progress of electrical science is neatly satirized by a Parisian paper, which imagines Mr. Edison in his laboratory hearing the news of a declaration of war between Great Britain and the United States. A young man, his assistant, rushes in pale and out of breath, and exclaims to the great electrician:

"Oh, master, war is declared! It is terrible!"

"Ah!" says the master. "War declared eh? And where is the British army at this moment?"

"Embarking, sir."

"Embarking where?"

"At Liverpool."

"At Liverpool—yes. Now, my friend, would you please join the ends of those two wires hanging there against the wall? That's right. Now bring them to me. Good! And be kind enough to press that button."

The assistant, wondering and half amused presses the button.

"Very well," says the inventor. "Now, do you know what is taking place at Liverpool?"

"The British army is embarking, sir."

The inventor pulls out his watch and glances at the time.

"There is no British army," he says, coolly.

"What?" screams the assistant.

"When you touched that button you destroyed it."

"Oh, this is frightful!"

"It is not frightful at all. It is science. Now, every time that a British expedition embarks at any port please come and tell me at once. Ten seconds afterwards it will simply be out of existence; that's all."

"There doesn't seem to be any reason why America should be afraid of her enemies after this, sir."

"I am inclined to believe you," says the master, smiling slightly. "But in order to avert future trouble I think it would be best to destroy England altogether."

"To—destroy England, sir—"

"Kindly touch button No. 4, there."

The assistant touches it. The inventor counts ten.

"—eight, nine, ten—it's all over. There is no more England."

"Now we can go quietly on with our work," says the master. "And if we should ever be at war with any other nation, you have only to notify me. I have an electric button connected with every foreign country, which will destroy it when pressed. In ten minutes I could destroy every country in the world, the United States included. Be careful, now, that you don't touch any of these buttons accidentally—you might do a lot of damage."

NINETEENTH CENTURY CAUTIONS.

If you are—

A lover, don't be too fond.

A father, don't be too harsh.

A mother, don't be too lenient.

A customer, don't delay your pay.

A dressmaker, don't delay your work.

An employer, don't be afraid of over-paying.

An employe, don't be afraid of over-working.

A husband, don't be miserly, nor flirt with liberty.

A son or daughter, don't be ashamed of your parents.

A pastor, don't be too dignified nor too coldly reserved.

A church member, don't be too hypercritical of the pulpit.

A wife, don't be extravagant, nor too exacting, nor unkindly censorious.

As a foe, don't be unmerciful.

As a friend, don't be captious.

If a neighbor, don't be too intimate.

As a salesman, don't overrate your goods.

As a purchaser, don't underrate your purchases.

As a lender be patient; if a borrower, be prompt.

If you are smart, don't be vain; if dull, don't talk too incessantly.

As a giver, don't parade; as a recipient, don't be ungrateful.

If poor, don't be envious or suspicious; if rich, don't be heartless.

THE CHEERFUL MAN.

Who does not welcome the man of cheerful and hopeful spirit? The happy countenance, the genial smile, the winning way, and the timely word have an inspiring and uplifting influence. Men are attracted and won, by a kindly manner and generous action. He is a benefactor who carries sunshine into the home, church and community. A bright optimism is always preferable to a gloomy pessimism.

PROTECTION FROM HARM.

Weren't you awfully frightened, Gladys, when the cyclone struck so near?

Oh, no, dear; George had his arm around me the whole time.

A GREAT GAIN TO PHYSICIANS.

Medicinal Results of Late Improvements in the Roentgen X Rays.

An important improvement has been effected by the General Electrical Company of Berlin in the Roentgen apparatus, and especially in the vacuum tube, so that it is possible to observe peculiarities in the interior of the head and throat, and especially the action of the lungs and heart, by direct inspection with the fluorescent screen. The results were demonstrated before medical men representing the chief European capitals at the recent twenty-fifth surgical congress at Berlin. The screen employed measured about ten inches by eighteen inches, and consisted of small crystals of platinum cyanide of barium dusted on to an adherent surface. Although the results obtained are probably capable of further improvement, still they were sufficiently good to indicate the probable value in the very near future of the "X" rays in diagnosing certain conditions. They were, at any rate far in advance of anything that has yet been achieved. It was thought on the discovery of the "X" rays that an new epoch in diagnosis had been reached. Experience, however, has since shown that the application of the discovery was restricted to the exploration of the extremities in the examination of

BONY STRUCTURE

and in the search of foreign bodies. The photography of the chest and abdominal cavity by means of the "X" rays has been attended with but small success, at least to be of any value in medical diagnosis. By means, however, of this new tube, which appears to afford the maximum energy in regard to the production of "X" rays, the labor and trouble of photography may be dispensed with, and a direct vision of certain abnormalities of the heart and in the chest may, as was shown in this demonstration, be gained.

The following were among the results shown: When the head was placed between the tube and the screen the thickness of the scalp was easily visible, the hair not appearing. The light penetrates the cartilages of the nose which are only visible in slight shadows. The frontal cavity and the antrum of Highmore are to be seen as distinctly lighter areas. In the neck are to be seen the shadows of the oesophagus, of the hyoid bone, and the cartilages of the larynx (bone), which both in rest and in movement are easily detected. If the light be thrown through the thorax, from behind, the screen gives the following picture: In the middle occurs a dark broad stripe, the sternum; on both sides are to be seen horizontal shadows crossing each other, which are plainly the ribs; the lower margin of the thorax is represented by a shadow, the left side of which is pale and thin, but the right side is intensely dark. The picture is still better if the rays be thrown from the front and the screen placed behind, only in this case the vertebrae are seen, and not the sternum.

THE SHADOW LINE.

which is constantly moved on inspiration and expiration for about three inches, is the diaphragm, and the darker shadow on the right side is the liver and the lighter on the left is the stomach. This picture shows, further, that the diaphragm and the ribs are situated at a very acute angle with one another. Another big shadow is seen immediately above the diaphragm and in the middle of the thorax. This shadow (that of the heart) consists of an intensely dark central part with a light periphery. This movement of the heart is distinctly visible, principally at the apex, but on close examination the movement of the aorta may be noticed also. The heart shadow and the movement are emphasized after a deep inspiration has been taken. If now the tube and screen be moved downward, the light is thrown through the stomach. The limits of this organ may be well seen, but the definition is far better after it has been distended by the administration of an effervescent mixture.

These results demonstrate pretty conclusively, we think, the possibility in the near future of the "X" rays becoming a powerful aid in diagnosis coupled with the employment of a fluorescent screen. Already it has been fruitful in not only confirming previous methods of diagnosis, but in affording means of ascertaining with some precision certain symptoms which by methods now employed would not be indicated. The movements of a complex joint, such as the carpus, were clearly seen, and will throw a new light upon surgical anatomy.

ODDITIES OF SCRIPTURE.

The longest verse in the Bible is the 9th verse of the 8th chapter of Esther; the shortest is the 35th verse of the 11th chapter of St. John; also the word reverend occurs but once—the 9th verse of the 11th Psalm. Here are a few more facts and figures: The word chickens occurs but once, in Matthew xxiii. 37. There are 3,566,480 letters, 773,746 words, 31,173 verses, 1,189 chapters, 66 books; the word "and" occurs 46,277 times; the word "Lord" 1,855 times. The middle verse in the Bible is the 8th verse of the 118th Psalm. The 21st verse of the 118th Psalm. The 21st verse of the 7th chapter of Ezra contains all the letters of the alphabet except j; the 19th chapter of II. Kings and the 37th chapter of Isaiah are alike. There are no words or names of more than six syllables.

CARELESSLY STATED.

(The proprietor of a dry goods store beckoned to one of his clerks: "Mrs. B. wants thirty yards of ribbon by telephone. Gosh! exclaimed a wild-eyed man from the rural districts, I'm a-goin' to see 'em send it. But he lost himself looking for the telephone.

SUMMER SMILES.

Mabel—"And so he had the assurance to demand that you marry him. What did you say?" Ethel—"I told him the supply was not equal to the demand." The deaf man no longer needs To walk the railroad ties; The scorchers find him on the street And wafts him to the skies.

"But what makes you think that Dawber would make a success as a sign painter?" "He hasn't the least idea of punctuation, and if he ever spells a word right it is only by accident."

"Make hay while the sun shines" Is advice often needed. "Make love while the moon shines" Is oftener heeded.

Miss Keedick—"Did you know that the wealthy Ruth Stopclock was married?" Miss Fosdick—"No; is she?" Miss Keedick—"Yes." Miss Fosdick—"Now I know why people call it the almighty dollar."

She—"You say, Mr. Guddiman, that you confine your reading to fields not commonly sought for." He—"Yes, miss; my chief pleasure is in reading the contemporary thoughts of the ancients."

I thought her mine—my rival watched Us ride away, then he Went straight and bought a tandem, and

Of course that settled me! "Oh, would you mind doing me a favor?" "With pleasure. What is it?" "Kindly remove that costly mantle out of your window." "Why, pray?" "I shall be passing your shop with my wife in a few minutes."

A little 4-year-old occupied an upper berth in the sleeping-car. Awakening once in the middle of the night his mother asked him if he knew where he was. "Course I do," he replied. "I'm in the top drawer."

Young Lightpayte—"How long does a man have to study if he wants to be a good lawyer?" Lawyer Sharpe—"Why do you ask that question?" "Because I am thinking of studying law myself." "Five hundred years."

"I often wonder just what she thinks of me," said the young married man. "It is easy to find out," said the elderly married man. "Just sit down on her hat and she will tell you what she thinks of you in less than a minute."

"Tommy—"Say, Mollie, I wish I had ten cents to get some candy with." Mollie—"Go and ask father who Socrates was and what is meant by the differential calculus. He's got company, and I shouldn't wonder if he gave you a quarter."

"After all," said the thoughtful girl, "the presentation of the engagement ring is a relic of barbarism, a reminiscence of obsolete conditions." "That's so," was the enthusiastic rejoinder. "I just wish it were the condition to give bicycles."

Stablekeeper (referring to robe)—"By the way, shall I put in a buffalo? The ride over the mountains will be a little stiff." English Blood—"Couldn't you let me 'ave a 'orse, you know? I'd rather not drive a buffalo the first time, you know."

BLASTS FROM THE RAM'S HORN.

Much doing is not so important as well doing.

A blind man's work can be measured with a cane.

If we could see better, the world would be better.

There is more life in one grain of wheat than in a bushel of chaff.

Put an angel anywhere and he will soon find something to remind him of heaven.

Building on a rock is an investment that pays dividends with every thunder clap.

It is the man who is least willing to practice who finds the most fault with the preaching.

Give some men a drum, and they won't strike a lick unless they can use it to lead the band.

Make a man laugh and he will be your friend. Make him weep, and he will be your brother.

Many a man who goes to church with a long face, sells goods with a measure that is too short.

STATE CARE OF DRUNKARDS.

A bill has been introduced into the Austrian Parliament to appropriate funds from the Imperial Treasury to build asylums for the care and cure of habitual drunkards. The bill provides that any habitual drunkard may be incarcerated in these asylums upon complaint made either by the victim's relatives or friends or by the town authorities.

TIME TO STOP.

I shall have to give up that case of Dusenbury's, on which I have been engaged so long, said the eminent lawyer to his friend. I shall feel rather odd with it out of the way, for it has been one of the standbys of the office for many years.

You have exhausted all legal expedients have you? No; but Dusenbury's money is all gone.

CAUSE AND EFFECT.

Enamored Youth—Your father seems worried about something to-night.

Sweet Girl—Yes, poor pa has so many business cares.

Little Brother—That isn't it. He's mad because the big dog he bought didn't come.

SUCCESSFUL PHYSICIANS.

Doctor's Wife—I understand that Dr. Cureall confines himself strictly to office practice.

Old Doctor—Yes; that is why he succeeds. People who are able to walk to an office are generally strong enough to get well without help.

NOTHING ELSE TO DO.

What is the matter with Jorkins and his wife? They don't seem to be as loving as usual.

Oh, it's nothing. They couldn't go away this summer, so they are having an outing at home.

Prof. Henry Drummond is dying at Tunbridge Wells, Eng

HEALTH.

HEALTHY FACTS.

If your baby is delicate rub him with a piece of soft white flannel morning and bedtime. The hand of a healthy person is still better. Rub his back and legs, particularly.

Serious trouble of the eyes have been contracted by using public opera glasses, such as found for rent in theaters and elsewhere.

A French physician has recently discovered quite by accident, that the holding of the tongue out forcibly for several minutes stops hiccupping.

A baby during its first year usually gains about thirteen pounds in weight and nine inches in height.

Improperly nourished children cut their teeth harder and later than the well-fed.

An excellent diet for young people who may have inherited a predisposition to consumption or other serious diseases, is the frequent eating of thin slices of bread or crackers, thickly covered with nice butter. It is pleasant and healthful.

Tooth and hair brushes should be kept scrupulously clean and daily exposed to strong sunlight when possible.

Asparagus is of especial benefit to persons troubled with kidney or bladder difficulties. It is an excellent vegetable for the table and should be boiled in salt water.

So many persons are fond of cucumbers and onion salads, but the onions disagree. The rubbing of the wooden bowl in which the salad is prepared with an onion affords the flavor without the onion.

A vegetable and fruit diet is much better these sultry days than meat, and salt meats are very harmful to many. Remember it.

Yes, let the boys and girls have fun. The exercise they get at their jollifications often saves future doctors' bills. Besides the day is soon coming when there will be hard work and plenty of it.

There is no fruit more grateful to a fever patient than a good ripe watermelon. Let them eat all they want. You all ought to raise a big patch!

HOW COLDS ARE TAKEN.

A person in good health, with fair play, says the Lancet, easily resists cold. But when the health flags a little, and liberties are taken with the stomach or the nervous system, a chill is easily taken, and according to the weak spot of the individual, assumes the form of a cold or pneumonia, or it may be jaundice. Of all causes of "cold," probably fatigue is one of the most efficient. A jaded man coming home at night from a long day's work, a growing youth losing two hours' sleep over evening parties two or three times a week, or a young lady heavily "doing the season," young children overfed and with short allowances of sleep, are common instances of the victims of "cold."

Luxury is favorable to chill taking; very hot rooms, feather beds and soft chairs create a sensitiveness that leads to catarrh. It is not, after all, the "cold" that is so much to be feared as the antecedent conditions that give the attack a chance of doing harm. Some of the worst "colds" happen to those who do not leave their houses or even their beds, and those who are most inclined. Probably many chills are most exposed to changes of temperature, and who by good sleep, cold bathing, and regular habits preserve the tone of their nervous system and circulation. Probably many chills are contracted at night or at the bag end of the day, when tired people get the equilibrium of their circulation disturbed by either overheated sitting rooms or underheated bedrooms and beds. This is especially the case with elderly people. In such cases the mischief is not always done instantaneously, or in a single night. It often takes place insidiously, extending over days or even weeks.

MALARIAL FEVER.

This disease—also called fever and ague—is best described as a periodical fever. Its chief characteristic is not so much the nature of the single attacks as the peculiar manner of their repetition.

The two principal types of malaria are intermittent fever and remittent fever.

The intermittent type is characterized by recurring attacks, in which, as a rule, chill, fever and sweating follow each other in orderly sequence. One generally knows a few hours beforehand, by unpleasant sensations, and sometimes by headache, that a chill is approaching. The entire duration of an attack is usually from twelve to fifteen hours.

The periodicity of the attacks is most striking; they occur with regularity at the end of the twenty-four, forty-eight or seventy-two hours. During the intervening period the patient feels pretty well, and except in unusually severe cases is able to be about.

The remittent type of the disease has no distinct intermissions of the fever; the temperature is constantly about the normal, though marked remissions occur.

Malaria is caused by the presence in the blood of a parasite, a minute organism which can be seen only by the aid of the microscope.

The natural history of this parasite is not known; nor do we know how the organism enters, or how or in what form it leaves the human body. It is known, however, that these organisms are always present in the blood of a person suffering from malaria, and that they disappear with the disappearance of the symptoms, or with the administration of quinine.

Low, marshy regions, with abundant vegetation, badly drained, low-lying districts, old river courses, tracts of land which are rich in vegetable matter, and particularly districts which have been allowed to fall out of cultivation, are favorite localities for the development of the malarial poison.

In regions where malaria constantly prevails, it occurs most frequently in spring and autumn; in temperate regions it is at its worst in September and October.

Wherever it prevails the drinking water should be boiled, and unnecessary exposure to the night air should be avoided.