

## AGRICULTURAL.

### When the Rain Comes Down on the Trees.

When the rain comes down on the dark green trees,  
And on leaf and needle, on branch and bole,  
The globules trickle, and pause, and roll,  
When the rain comes down on the trees!

These are the sights that the robin sees  
When the rain comes down on the dark green trees,  
And from leaf and needle, from branch and bough,  
The diamond drops come filtering through,  
When the rain comes down on the trees!

The wind-flower hanging a pearl-rimmed head,  
Where the wet moss covers its stony bud,  
While the cowslip lifts its gleaming cup  
Some share of the hurrying drops to sup,  
When the rain comes down on the trees!

And the lambs close-throated by the dark-stemmed plane,  
With ears low drooping in the long green lane,  
While there by the brink of the whispering rill  
The dog-tooth violet drinks its fill  
Of the rain that comes down on the trees!

And the kingbird trailing his strong-barred wings,  
While out in the clearing a sparrow sings,  
And the robin's mate turns his eye's bright rim,  
On the sward that his widespread dark vans skim,  
While the rain comes down on the trees!

And here in the orchard—a shaft all gold—  
An oriole slipping from hold to hold,  
Whose swift wings spill from the pink-lipped bloom  
A something half-raindrop and half perfume,  
While the rain comes down on the trees.

Such are the sights that the robin sees  
While the rain comes down on the dark green trees,  
And hill and valley and plain and wold  
Are wrapped in the thin gray glittering fold  
Of the rain that comes down on the trees.

W. H.

### In Manitoba.

An official bulletin gives the following information about Manitoba:

**Live Stock**—As might be expected from the very favorable weather, reports of the most satisfactory nature are made of the condition of stock. During the month the pastures provided an ample supply of rich grass, and a rapid change in condition was the result. Stock are reported free from disease and in a most healthy and thriving condition.

**Fodder Crops**—A good deal of attention is apparently being paid to growing green crops for fodder this season over the Province. From almost every point reports state that more or less area has been put under crop of this kind. Millet, Hungarian grass, corn, oats and peas are among the varieties principally mentioned as being sown. Large areas are apparently devoted to Hungarian grass and millet. Corn is also reported from quite a few places. Peas and oats, mixed, appear to be sown quite generally, and in many cases alone are sown for the purpose of being cut for fodder. In many instances mixtures of oats and other seeds are sown together, all apparently experimenting for the purpose of arriving at the best possible results.

**Dairying**—This branch of industry is not receiving the attention that it should in a Province like this which is so eminently adapted for dairying purposes. The reasons are many, among which may be mentioned the long distances in many cases that cream and milk have to be drawn, the unsatisfactory prices realized by farmers for their milk and the want of factories and creameries in many places where at present there are none. The number of milk cows in the Province is shown to be 75,968. Of this total the greatest numbers are found in the eastern, south-central and northwestern districts. These figures would seem to bear out the statements of many correspondents that the number of cheese factories and creameries in the Province are not sufficiently numerous to utilize the cream and milk that could be and is produced in a great many localities.

**General Farming**—The pamphlet contains a table giving the number of farmers in the Province, together with the average quantity of land put under cultivation by each. The number of farmers shown is largely in excess of that of last year. The number reported last season was felt to be considerably short of the actual number then in the Province, and this, together with the natural increase of settlers since that time, may account for the increase. The total number of farmers is shown to be 18,937, and the average area put under crop by each is 78.5 acres. This area is an increase of 5.5 acres over the average of last year.

**Farm Lands**—Another table gives the average prices per acre respectively of improved and unimproved lands in the Province, and also the respective per centages of land taken up by settlers and that are fit for cultivation. The respective cash prices of improved and unimproved lands are shown to be \$10.85 and \$6.96 per acre. These figures are somewhat higher than those reported at the corresponding date of last year, the difference in improved lands being \$1.42 and in unimproved \$1.53 per acre. The highest priced lands are shown to be \$14.39 per acre, in the central group, and the lowest, in the northwestern, \$6.11. Unimproved lands vary in price from \$3.66 to \$10.37 per acre.

The percentage of the land shown to be taken up by settlers is 62.7 per cent. of the whole. This is 5.2 per cent. more than was shown to be taken up last year. The proportion of land suitable for cultivation is 72.8 per cent.

### Transplanting a Tree.

The Laird of Dumbiedikes, when on his death-bed, said to his son Jock, "When ye hae naething else to do, ye may be aye sticking in a tree; it will be growing, Jock, when ye're sleeping." Scott himself followed the advice of Dumbiedikes, and many is the tree still standing at Abbotsford planted by his own hand.

But it is a nice art and a delicate to transplant a tree or shrub. A tree is a sort of stationary animal, thrusting itself deep into the soil, and drawing its nourishment from air and soil both. It has a thousand little barnacle hands opening and shutting in the air, and a thousand mouths in its feet. It is a sort of vegetable Hydroid community, or compound individual. And, as in the case of the pelagic animal, to different members of a tree different functions are assigned; but you cannot amputate or wound any part of the delicate organism without injuring the whole. What is needed in transplanting a tree is patience, and again patience.

Properly, only a middle-aged man can plant a tree, he alone has acquired the re-

straining touch and the loving care requisite to success. Ha, there, be careful what you do! Don't break off the long-running root! Earth it up, tenderly, slowly; loosen the earth in advance with a spading-fork or trowel; don't begrudge the time. You can no more expect your plant to show vigorous growth if you chop off its feet, than you would expect your son to be indifferent to having one foot of his right leg and several toes of his left chopped off, with one or two fingers of one hand, and at the same time to suffer deep wounds in other parts of his body. The writer was told by John Burroughs that the Virginia creeper that covers his house in front was transplanted by him with such care in following up the roots that it ran up to the eaves the first year. And anybody can change the habit or locality of any tree or bush without the plant feeling it at all—by proper care. Begin this work early in the spring—last of April or first of May. Dig a hole of ample size, place in it the tree just a little lower than it originally stood, spread out all the fine rootlets, fill in pulverized earth until half of all is in, then pour in a pail of water and allow all to settle. This is to pack the earth around the fine rootlets. Then fill in the rest of the soil and trample down hard (unless the soil is a heavy clay). If the roots have been curtailed at all, cut off from the branchery about the same quantity as the tree has lost in the roots; otherwise the decimated rosette will exhaust itself in trying to supply sap and mineral matter to more foliage than it is capable of doing. For the circulation of sap in a tree is precisely like that of the blood in an animal body; each holds in solution and is the vehicle of solid nutrient particles, and the source of food supply must be equal to the wants of the structure to be supplied or atrophy and stunted life will be the result. Roots of a tree when out of the ground should always be kept moist and away from the sun; they will keep better "healed in;" i. e. covered with fresh soil, than in any other way. A light mulch around the tree when planted will keep the soil moist if the weather promises to be dry.

The abandoned land—what shall be done with it? Plant a goodly part of it in trees! It will pay, no matter whether you are a young man or an old. Plant ten or twenty acres with young white or honey locust trees, close together, and ten or twenty acres with sugar maples. No Northern tree grows more rapidly than the locust, and few are more valuable in the market for fence posts. As for the sugar maples, suppose it true that you may not personally live to utilize them for sugar making; you have at any rate a valuable property every year growing more valuable. And, in the case of both kinds of trees mentioned, remember there is no expense for manure from year to year. Only keep the cattle off, and cultivate a little till the trees get a start, i. e., if you plant small trees, as it will pay better to do. It would be well to plant trees from the seed in a nursery of your own.

### Thinning Fruit.

In a recent issue of the *Farm and Vineyard* is the following unanswerable argument in favor of thinning fruit:

It is evident that in developing the seed of any class of fruit or vegetable the vitality of the tree and vine is taxed to its utmost, while the elements of the soil are heavily drawn upon to supply the potash and other salts appropriated by the pit or seed. It takes a greater amount of nutrition to develop the seed than it does the pulp. The seed is nourished at the expense of all other portions of the tree. No matter how poor the soil, how slight the moisture, how much pulp is produced, the tree or vine will mature perfect seed in every fruit that sets, to the starvation of every other part of the maturing of seed. If more fruit sets on a tree than it can healthfully nourish the fruit will be small, stunted, and in proportion as they are denser thick will the size diminish.

It is patent, therefore, if we take 100 of the young fruit from each tree bearing 200, before the fruit has made much growth, the remaining 100 will be worth more than double the amount the whole number of imperfectly formed fruit would have brought in any market. Fully one-half the fruit formed on the average tree should be removed, and an equal number of bunches should be taken from the grape vines, if the best results are desired. The time lost in thinning is more than compensated for in the superior class of fruit obtained by the operation. Then, too, in thinning the fruit on the vine or tree the diseased or insect-blighted fruit can be removed and the remaining fruit be protected thereby, so that instead of getting wormy, scabby fruit at the harvest, there will be a well-formed and unblemished crop. The mistake made in allowing a tree or vine to overbear is the principal cause of disease, and the reason why the orchard or vineyard is prone to bear only every other year to its full capacity. By properly thinning the fruit annually, a handsome crop will be produced each year and the trees will be vigorous, thrifty, and well prepared to resist diseases which attack the weakly orchard or vineyard. Thin your fruit now.

### All Over Long Ago.

Returned Traveler—"When I left the city was all excitement about a horrible murder, but I have heard nothing since."

Resident—"Oh, that was all over long ago. The detectives soon made an arrest."

"Ah, indeed! Was the man found guilty and executed?"

"Um—n-o, but I believe he was indicted."

### Effective Realism.

Long—I know an artist who painted a runaway horse. It was so natural that the beholders jumped out of the way.

Downing—Hump! My friend McGillp painted a portrait of a lady that was so natural that he had to sue her for his bill.

### The Harriers.

The members of the well-known Ranelagh Harriers' Club of London, Eng., know what is best when one writes like the following: Mr. W. F. Jefferies, member of the Club, says: "I find St. Jacobs Oil the best remedy I have ever used for sprains, stiffness and bruises. It quickly removes pains and swellings, and if rubbed into the muscles, it will be found of great benefit to all athletes. I may also add that several friends of mine have found the Oil a cure for rheumatism and neuralgia."

### SAVED BY A PANTHER.

When Will Garside went down to Brazil some years ago with his father to lay out a little branch railroad in the northern part of what was then the empire he certainly never expected to come back with gray hairs, but he did, and only six months from the time he left home, though only a boy of 16; and this is how it happened. Father and son took up their residence in a little flat-roofed house built of sun-dried bricks in a narrow valley through which ran the A—o, a tributary of the Orinoco. The weather was intensely hot, and for a long time, so the natives said, no rain had fallen. When it did come, they added, it would make up for lost time, however.

Neither Mr. Garside nor his son gave much thought to the matter, though, except to wish that a little shower would happen along now and then to cool things a bit. But a considerable part of the road was completed and the engineers were about to move on, when suddenly one afternoon the weather changed. Mr. Garside had gone up the valley to look out for new lodgings, when Will, who had remained behind to pack up, noticed that the light was fading rapidly. Then the sky grew from gray to black almost as he looked up at it; the next instant flashes of lightning broke through the gloom, the thunder boomed and howled, and then the rain torrent came down. After the first surprise Will went on packing up; nor was it until he had entirely finished that, looking up, he saw that the stream, now grown a rushing river, had begun to overflow its banks and to spread over the country. Still, however, he felt little alarm, until toward nightfall the water reached the house, which stood on a hillock not far from the river, and, rapidly rising, drove the boy out upon the roof. Then only did he realize his desperate situation.

The flood so often hinted at by the natives, the flood of whose terrible ravages they told so many stories which he had always regarded as fictions, the flood that swept all before it was upon him, and he was alone at its mercy. Even as he told himself this there was a crash, and Will had time to seize a projecting bough that overhung the roof and swing himself into the tree, when away went roof, house and all in the swirling torrent. But this was only the beginning.

In any moment, as he clutched the branch he had so luckily seized, he felt a shock that made his teeth rattle in his head and instantly the tall tree to which he clung was torn up by the roots as easily as a tuft of grass, and he and it went whirling headlong down the raging torrent together. As he was whirled onward through the darkness, for the sun had set, Will caught sight of two pale spots of greenish-yellow light close to each other and seeming at no great distance. They seemed to remain in one place, and as well as he could judge from their position were just at the other end of the tree trunk, close to the upturn roots. Suddenly the truth flashed upon him. These spots of light were the eyes of a wild beast, a panther probably, which must, like himself have scrambled on to the tree for refuge.

To sail through a raging flood on an uprooted tree is not a pleasant experience, but to make the voyage with a full-grown panther is still more unsatisfactory. Will's heart sank, and he was beginning to think it might be best after all to let go, leaving the panther to enjoy his company, when to add to his terror the fury of the storm began to slacken, the wind fell, the rain beat less violently and a pale gleam of moonlight broke through the hurrying clouds, which, faint as it was, sufficed to confirm our hero's worst fears. Crouching upon the trunk within a few yards of him was the largest panther he had ever seen.

### II.

But strange to say, with the added horror came also calmer reason, and presently Will perceived that, although the panther, crouching upon that bare, smooth stem, was plainly visible to him, there was little or no fear of his being seen, hidden as he was among that mass of leafy boughs. He soon concluded, moreover, that he was in little danger, even if the beast should happen to catch sight of him, its natural ferocity being apparently so thoroughly quelled by the frightful danger in which it, too, stood, that like himself its only thought was to hold on as firmly as possible. But soon the moon became clouded over again, everything was once more as dark as pitch, and away went boy and beast together through the gloom. How long that awful nightmare voyage lasted Will could never tell, but all at once there came a tremendous shock, making the huge tree quiver like a leaf and forcing the boy to cling to its boughs with all his strength to keep himself from being hurled far away into the stream.

When he could look again the fiery eyes were gone, and he heard a harsh hideous cry, half scream and half roar, mingling with the splash of the rushing waters. The monster had fallen off into the flood.

Thus rid of his terrible fellow-passenger, Will breathed more freely; but he had not much time to rejoice at his good luck, for just as he was beginning to think that the storm was a little less violent, and to hope that the flood had spent its force, something came driving right against the tree with a terrific crash, the branch to which he clung snapped like a reed, and in another moment he found himself struggling amid the foaming waters. The current drove him violently against some floating object, which seemed to be a large, round log with smooth sides. With an effort he succeeded in perching himself astride it, and away he went once more. A few minutes later the first gleam of daylight appeared, revealing to our hero's startled eyes a sight that made his blood freeze indeed. This log upon which he was perched was not a log at all, but a panther—probably the very one from which he had parted about a half an hour before.

Will's first impulse was to leap off again into the water, but he was reassured by perceiving that the monster seemed quite motionless, and, if not actually dead, was at all events so completely benumbed by cold and terror as to be incapable of harm. He had no wish, however, to prolong the acquaintance, and was looking round for some less perilous support, when a loud, hoarse shout of several voices at once made him turn his head, and he saw on the sloping crest of a high, broken ridge (the only part of the surrounding country above water) a party of Indians pointing him out to one another with looks of wonder and awe, evidently taking him for a supernatural being, as well they might, considering what kind of a creature he was riding.

Meanwhile the current bore him swiftly

towards them, and at length stranded him at their very feet. A few blows made an end of the exhausted panther, while Will, carried in triumph by the savages to the highest part of the ridge, was made as comfortable as circumstances would permit. It was a long time, though, before he recovered sufficiently to go in search of his father, and when finally Mr. Garside, who had been saved by being on hilly ground when the storm broke, again met his son, he was shocked to see that the fright and agony of his one night's adventure with flood and panther had streaked poor Will's hair with white. Beyond that, though, no permanent harm had been done the lad, who is to-day a fine young engineer of 27, and, I fancy, rather proud of his gray hair.

### Lord Salisbury Speaks.

Lord Salisbury, in a speech at the lord mayor's banquet last week, reviewed the labors of the present session of the Imperial Parliament. He said hard and valuable work had been done, and the obstruction formerly hindering legislation had almost disappeared. He rejoiced at the passing of the education bill as calculated to support the system of religion which the people loved. Regarding Ireland, Lord Salisbury said the Government had applied a successful remedy to evils long suffered there, and could look back on its policy with satisfaction. Five years ago he had expressed the belief that Ireland must be governed resolutely. Mr. Balfour's success was largely due to the fact that those serving under him were assured that they would be supported and not handed over to their enemies. Mr. Balfour's administration owed its success to persistence and resolution. Respect for the law followed, the people feeling that resistance to the law was futile. "The Land Act," Lord Salisbury declared, "will be found not to be a temporary palliative, but a permanent cure for the troubles of many generations. It will draw closer the bond uniting the two countries. England in the last election declared against the severance of the bond, and, I believe, the decision is irrevocable. Referring to foreign powers Lord Salisbury said he never knew a period when Europe was more tranquil than at the present time. In South America alone was there a weary quarrel and constant disorder. The English Government had been pressed to arbitrate in the Chilean dispute, and in the adjustment of the Argentine finances, but England could not undertake either task. Referring to the eastern question Lord Salisbury said that problem had not yet been solved, but Egypt and Bulgaria were showing such rapid development that they promised to settle the difficulty without any external interference. The premier next spoke of the value of the visit of Emperor William and the Prince of Naples in assuring the world of the peaceful ideas of the great powers. He said he hoped in the course of a few weeks to welcome to England the fleet of the French republic. There had been talk, he continued, of certain treaties threatening the peace of the world, but he knew nothing of them. He believed the nations would work in harmony with each other, more on account of their kindred interests than on account of mere paper treaties. Referring to the seal and lobster dispute Lord Salisbury said they dragged their slow length along with the calmness and slowness suitable to those animals. It was useless, he added, to imagine that the luxury of carrying on these negotiations would cease for any Minister for a considerable number of years.

### The Shipping of Cattle.

The Hon. Charles Tupper's Shipping of Live Stock Act had its first reading in the Ottawa House of Commons on Monday night. This is one of the most important pieces of legislation brought before the House this session. The growth of the Canadian cattle trade with England has been something phenomenal, having increased from 64 head in 1874 to 123,000 head in 1890. This growth, however, gave an opportunity to what is known as "tramp" vessels not fitted for the trade getting cargoes, and the loss on some of these vessels was so frightful that a bill was introduced in the Imperial Parliament to prohibit the importation of live cattle altogether. That bill has since been withdrawn, but it had the effect of calling attention to the imperative necessity of Governmental control of the shipping of cattle. The bill contains a provision that the Governor in council may make all necessary regulations and may appoint inspectors to see these regulations enforced. Most of the regulations are now in force in the regular line ships engaged in the trade. They provide that cattle shall not be carried on more than three decks, and not in the hatches or in any way that will interfere with the working of the ship. The space allowed for each head of fat cattle is 2 feet 8 inches and 8 feet in depth, and not more than four shall be carried in a pen. Stockers are allowed 2 feet 6 inches by 8 feet, and not more than five shall be carried in each pen. Regulations as to fittings, the width of passageways, ventilation, light, food, drink, etc., are also provided. The cost of inspection is to be borne by a slight tax on each head of cattle shipped; some 2 or 3 cents per head will, it is thought, be sufficient.

### The French and German census.

A comparison of the results of the French and German census is not remarkably encouraging to the French. The German census, as printed by the *Reichsanzeiger*, shows a population in 1891 of 49,520,842, which is an increase of 2,605,138 since 1885 and of 4,286,781 since 1880. The French census shows a population of 38,095,150. The census of 1881 returned a population of 37,672,048 and in 1886 the population was 38,217,903. If there has not been an actual decrease in the last ten years it is at least certain that the population is almost stationary, while that of Germany is making a steady and rather rapid growth every year considering its heavy emigration. Such a comparison of population as this census exhibits should induce serious reflections in the minds of French social economists and advocates of "revanche." It is not a flattering outlook for the French republic. It is particularly discouraging when the relative strength of the two powers is considered. In 1871 Germany and France stood in the proportion of 41 to 37 millions. Germany has grown since to almost 50 millions and France has almost stood still. Germany twenty years ago exceeded France only 4 millions. The Teutons now outnumber the Gauls by 11½ millions. Further comment is unnecessary.

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### The First Born.

Young Father—"I am amazed, shocked, my dear, to hear you say you intend to give the baby some paregoric. Don't you know paregoric is opium, and opium stunts the growth, enfeebles the constitution, weakens the brain, destroys the nerves, and produces rickets, marasmus, consumption, insanity, and death?"

Young Mother—"Horror! I never heard a word about that. I won't give the little ducky darling a drop, no, indeed. But something must be done to stop his yelling. You carry him a while."

Father (after an hour's steady stamping with the squalling infant)—"Where in thunder is that paregoric?"

### Pressed Into It.

"I thought you said you never would accept Charlie," said Maud.

"So I did—but he put his arm around me when he proposed, and—well, I yielded to pressure," returned Ethel.

# "August Flower"

Mr. Lorenzo F. Sleeper is very well known to the citizens of Appleton, Me., and neighborhood. He says: "Eight years ago I was taken 'sick, and suffered as no one but a 'dyspeptic can. I then began taking August Flower. At that time 'I was a great sufferer. Everything I ate distressed me so that I 'had to throw it up. Then in a 'few moments that horrid distress 'would come on and I would have 'to eat and suffer 'again. I took a 'little of your medicine, and felt much 'better, and after 'taking a little more 'August Flower my 'Dyspepsia disappeared, and since that time I 'have never had the first sign of it. 'I can eat anything without the 'least fear of distress. I wish all 'that are afflicted with that terrible 'disease or the troubles caused by 'it would try August Flower, as I 'am satisfied there is no medicine 'equal to it."

### Something New in Torture.

"I think I'll give up that dentist of mine."

"What's the trouble? Does he do poor work?"

"No, his work is excellent; but when he does any filling, and has stuffed my mouth with tissue paper, he begins talking on the tariff question. The man's a fool."

### After the Mile Run.

Classus—"It's funny about Smallcloes, isn't it?"

Pattibead—"How, funny? I don't see anything funny about him except his conspicuous absence of clothes."

Classus—"That's the very point, my boy; he certainly outstripped all his competitors and yet he came in last."



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