THE FARM.

Our Institute.

Yes, neighbor, I've been to the ins'tute,
Been there for two whole days.
An' I tell you, I'm mightily pleased, sir,
With some of their new-fangled ways.

Them speakers are rather peart fellers,
They know exact where to hit;
An' they strike right out from the shoulder
An' don't mince matters a bit.

They told us all about butter
From the time it comes out of the land;
How to feed, an' to churn, an' to handle,
Till you get the cash in your hand.

An' how to feed pigs at a profit,
Was told in a mighty neat way;
The pig's a machine for consumin'
The surplus, an' makin' it pay.

The sheep with its wool an' its mutton,
Has a duty to do an' to pay,
T'wards keepin' the farm an' the farmer,
Whate'er politicians may say.

Even the hen, that pesky old critter,
That scratches creation all o'er,
Might be made to pay for her keepin'
An' perhaps a leetle bit more.

The farm's a machine for producin'
The products that all of us eat;
An' the farmer that don't feed his farm, sir,
Will find in the end that he's beat.

To be sure, I have made some money
Out of my old farm, that's so.
But dame Nature gives rather grudgin',
An' dollars piled up mighty slow.

But these fellers' ways are more winnin';
They flatter the old dame, some way,
An' she yields up her treasures more handsome,
An' that's what makes farmin' pay.

Yes, there are drawbacks in farmin',
An' some things that don't seem quite fair;
But then we have freedom and sunshine,
An' oceans of pure fresh air.

All trades an' professions have drawbacks,
Every business takes watchin' an' care;
An' it's labor, push an' endurance
That gets to the front everywhere.

The cities are teemin' with lab'rers
Who are beggin' for work in the street,
While the farmer has work in abundance,
With a home an' plenty to eat.

Of course, our towns an' our cities
Are centres of wealth an' of trade.
But it's on the farm, after all, sir,
That the wealth of the nation is made.

Than the singin' was fine, now I tell ye,
It just riz me out of my seat;
An' then there was girls that spoke pieces
In a way that was hard fur to beat.

Yes, indeed! I think that the ins'tute
Was worth much more than it cost:
But, of course, if a man hasn't been there,
He don't know just what he has lost.

—[Ohio Farmer.

Warming and Ventilating.

To warm a poultry-house does not require a stove. The house need only be kept at a temperature of 40 degrees, so as to avoid freezing. The illustration shows a lamp inclosed in a box, or placed on a swinging shelf. Above the lamp is a piece of pipe not over four inches in diameter, rather

LAMP FOR POULTRY-HOUSE.

flat, which may be made for the purpose. The lamp heats the under side of the pipe, thus creating a current of air, the warm air rising and the cold air coming in from the outside, thus giving ventilation as well as warming the air. The object should be not to have the air come in too rapidly, hence a damper should be arranged. It is better to have a pipe three inches wide and one inch deep, making it flat, so as to heat the air more easily. Our object is not so much to show the arrangement of pipe and lamp (a small oil stove is better) as to give the suggestion. By this plan you make the house dry, ventilate at the same time, and keep the temperature above the freezing point.

Reasons for Educating Farmer Boys.

1. Because from the farm is recruited much of the stuff for great men.

2. Because in after years he will never regret having a good education.

3. Because educated farmers, as a rule, make our best citizens.

4. Because it broadens him intellectually, and enables him to think better.

5. Because little of agricultural literature is readily understood by those deficient in their education.

6. Because if he has agricultural tastes it will make him a happier farmer; if others, it will help him into the right channel.

7. Because one's college days always afford memories upon which a person delights to dwell and the ties of association are lasting.

8. Because the farmer has more or less isolation and the time spent at a distant institution of learning affords an excellent opportunity to get an insight into other people's ways and thoughts.

9. Because he will observe better and utilize his observations and experience to better advantage for being educated.

10. Because at the outset he should be better equipped for the work of life than the ordinary day laborer is.

11. Because there is a crying demand for educated farmers, especially for the purpose of breaking up the ruts which prevail in nearly every agricultural community

12. Because there is monetary value in education. Real estate commands a better price in a community where people are intelligent and educated than where they are ignorant.

13. Because if farmers are better educated the unreasonable prejudice which sometimes exists against them will be allayed.

14. And because farmers need leaders in thought and action from their own ranks. Here a great field of usefulness opens.

Manure for Potatoes.

How much manure may farmers profitably use on their potato crop? The answer to this question must depend more than is often supposed on when the manure is got on the land, and the degree of its availability to promote early, vigorous growth. Some farmers who got the manure on their potato land late last spring, just before plowing, now declare that the manure hurt the crop more than it helped it. The manure was course when plowed under. It remained dry, as it had become, under the furrow until mid summer. When it finally began to ferment it bred the fungus which made the rot in the tubers. Had it been rotted in the fall, so as to be at once soluble, and then spread on the land in winter, the fertility would be incorporated with the soil. An early, vigorous growth would be the result, and there would have been no excessive hating of the soil just at the time the tuber were forming.

The Potato Beetle.

Since the potato beetle began his work the number of missed hills among potatoes has greatly increased. What is as bad as a missed hill is one that has a weak, spindling growth and next to that the enormous number of stalks which comes from planting whole small potatoes, freely set with eyes. All the success which can be gotten from potatoes depend more on the early stand procured, and this necessarily depends on the seed. It is not easy to select the best seed from a bin or pit. Those which have vigorous eyes, but not too far advanced, are to be preferred.

Fruit and Garden Notes.

The cherry, after being fairly started in growth, rarely needs any pruning.

Pruning as a principle in itself, tending to impair rather than increase vitality, applies more strongly to young, vigorous trees than to bearing ones.

On small places in many cases where nothing else can be grown to good advantage, good grapes can. Even one or two vines will furnish considerable fruit.

A good wash for cherry trees is a pail of common whitewash, one pint of soft soap, with one pound of sulphur, all mixed up together and applied with a brush.

If limbs get broken off by high winds and leave a jagged surface, they should be smoothed over with a sharp knife and the wound covered with grafting wax.

The Siberian and transcendent crabs are about the nicest of the various kinds of fruit trees to plant on the lawn. They are ornamental in flowers, the appearance of the fruit and the shape of the tree.

In the orcharding as well as the farmin of the future what will count more than the buying of more land is the taking care of what is already unused.

If trees are received when the ground is not in a good condition for planting, the better plan is to heel in, taking care to keep each variety separate.

It is often the case that raspberries send up more canes than the roots can well support. A good rule is to remove all in excess of four or five to each hill.

One advantage with low, branching fruit trees is that the fruit hangs so near the ground that it will receive less injury if it falls.

In transplanting, pruning is necessary to restore the balance after the partial loss of roots in taking up. Generally the better plan is to do this in the spring.

One disadvantage with grass in the orchard is that it makes too great a demand on the moisture and forms a sward that is injurious to the trees, while clover will not grow rank under the trees and does not injure them.

Nature's plan is to build up the tree and get it well established before she sets to work to secure its reproduction by seed. It is a positive detriment to allow a tree to bear fruit too young.

One advantage with small trees for transplanting is that a larger proportion of the roots can be preserved when digging up, while in addition, if they are to go any distance the transportation charges will be much less.

While the planter can only know approximately what varieties will suit in his locality best, at the same time there are a number of standard varieties that seem adapted to a wide difference in both soil and climate.

AN IMPORTANT DEAL.

The Erie and Huron Railroad Said to Have Been Purchased by American Capitalists.

A Cleveland special says:—A railroad deal of vast importance to shipping interests has been consummated. It is the purchase of the Erie and Huron railway by a syndicate of New York and Cleveland capitalists. The railway is in the province of Ontario, Canada. It is 80 miles long and runs from Rondeau harbor, lake Erie, directly opposite Cleveland, to Sarnia, opposite to Port Huron on the St. Clair river. The road is crossed by all the trunk lines of Canada. It was reported to-day that the company had succeeded in floating bonds in the London market and a revolution may be seen within the next year in the shipments of lumber and coal. The company is figuring with the Cleveland Ship Building Company for the building of a steel transfer boat capable of carrying 21 loaded cars and 600 passengers. This it is proposed to operate between Rondeau harbor and the port of Cleveland. The distance is 55 miles. This will make a true line for lumber from upper Michigan to Cleveland via Port Huron and Rondeau. The Erie and Huron railway will be operated in connection with the transfer boats, so that coal, merchandise and other freight can be transferred in the cars in bulk without change to the province of Ontario, Michigan and the North-west.

Wool—"That was a mean trick Clarkleit's rival played on him." Van Pelt—"What?" Wool—"He wrote; 'O maid of Athens, ere we part,' etc., in the girl's album, and the rival changed the 'O' to 'Old.'"

ONTARIO GOLD MINES.

Remarkable Development During the Last Year.

Within the last year remarkable developments have been made in some of the gold-bearing ores of Ontario.

The Ophir mines, situated about sixteen miles north of Bruce Mines, in the district of Algoma, is being worked by The Ophir Mining Company of Chicago, with an authorized capital of three million dollars.

The quartz vein is from thirty to forty-six feet wide, showing free gold and a small precentage of sulphurets, copper, iron and galena. It is for the most part free milling, and can be mined and milled for $2,50 per ton.

The vein outcrops for a length of four hundred and fifty feet, and has been developed by several cuts showing a quarry of gold-bearing quartz. An incline shaft, eighty feet deep, sunk on the vein, shows extremely rich quartz all the way down. The amount of quartz in sight is estimated at two hundred thousand tons. Mill tests made by the Houghton School of Mines, Michigan, produced over $60 per ton, and samples from different parts of the vein have assayed from $57 up to $692 gold per ton.

A 20-stamp mill is now at work on the property, with a capacity of crushing from forty to fifty tons per day, and the proceeds of this should pay a handsome dividend on the full capital of the company.

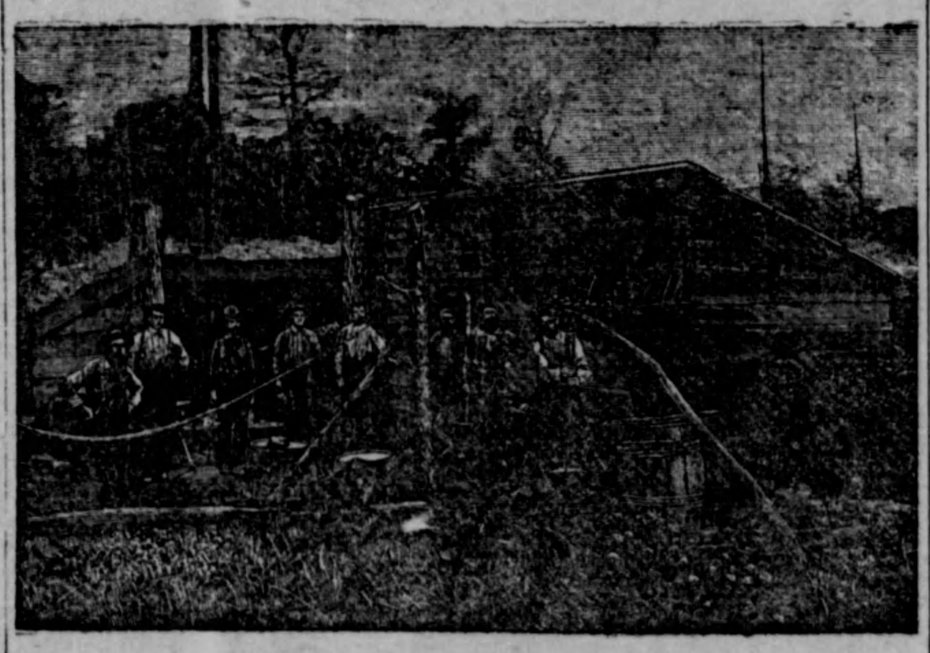
THE BELMONT MINES.

But rich gold veins have recently been found much nearer the front; in the township of Belmont, about one hundred miles east of Toronto, several important discoveries of gold-bearing quartz have been made.

The Crawford mine, in which A. W. Carscallen, M. P., is interested, has been worked for some months, yielding $10 per ton by the Crawford mill process. A shaft has been sunk to the depth of one hundred and twenty feet on what is known as the main vein, running east and west. Professor Chapman, of the School of Science and University College, Toronto, pronounces this, as well as two other veins, to be true fissure veins continuous across the property. These veins consist of a gauge of white quartz carrying a considerable amount of iron pyrites, some parts being much decomposed. These decomposed sulphurets are rich in gold, an assay by Professor Chapman showing $94 gold per ton.

A large deposit of magnetic iron, known as the Belmont iron mine, occurs to the south of the Crawford property, on Lot 19 in the 1st concession at Belmont. The ore here is of first class Bessemer quality, suited to make the finest steel, being rich in iron and very free from impurities. The Belmont Bessemer Ore Company of New York have leased this mine on royalty from T. D. Ledyard, of Toronto, and have built a railway to connect with the Central Ontario Railway, ten miles distant.

On the east side of this same Lot 19 several gold veins have lately been discovered, and are being developed under the name of the Ledyard gold mines. A shaft has been sunk to the depth of forty-five feet on an east and west vein, which is from four to six feet wide and very clearly defined between walls of talcose schist. The vein is found outcropping in several places, and has been traced for six hundred feet west of the shaft. A good deal of honeycomb quartz occurs here, carrying free gold and iron pyrites. These sulphurets are very rich, having assayed at different depths $117, $193, $195, $198, $318, $338 and $922 in gold to the ton.



LEDYARD GOLD MINE.

About two hundred yards west of the shaft is a knoll intersected with quartz veins, also containing visible gold and rich sulphurets, samples of which have assayed $210 gold per ton.

Besides these are several other gold-bearing veins which have as yet been only slightly developed.

These mines are well situated and easily accessible, being within ten miles both of the Canadian Pacific Railway and the Central Ontario Railway, and are situated in a well-settled country where labor and supplies are cheap and where even low grade ores would pay handsomely.—N. Y. Once a Week.

A BABY IN PAWN.

A New Security for a Board Bill Which is Alleged to Be Still Unsettled.

A Toronto despatch says:—A couple of days ago Mrs. Harvey, who, until recently, boarded with Mrs. John F. Stewart, 395 King street west, reported to the police that Mrs. Stewart was holding her 3-year-old child as security for board. Mrs. Harvey's story was to the effect that her husband had gone away to look for work, and she went to board at Mrs. Stewart's. Mr. Harvey failed to send her any money, and she was unable to pay her board. Mrs. Harvey's mother then offered to take her to live with her, and she got ready to go, but Mrs. Stewart refused to let her take either her clothes or her child away from the house.

Afterwards, through the intervention of friends Mrs. Harvey got her baby, without settling.

MONARCHS OF THE SEA.

Great Britain Asked to Share Her Greatness With the United States.

A British Officer's Plan for Maintaining Universal Peace Throughout the World.

A New York despatch says:—Sir. George Clarke, K.C.M.G., a distinguished officer of the English army, now located in Malta in the course of an article in the March, number of the "North American Review," replying to Mr. Andrew Carnegie's suggestion of a union between Great Britain and the United States, says:—The importance of the United States as a market for the products of British industry has been well pointed out by Mr. Carnegie but the involved complexity of business relations, brought about by the free transference of capital from one country to the other, defies all estimate. Only disaster to either, which must never come, would reveal the full extent of our mutual independence. Considering the enormousness of the commerce between the two nations, Sir George Clarke suggests that it is

OF SUPREME IMPORTANCE.

to both that the ocean routes of the world should be inviolate and inviolable, and here, he thinks, is a basis for union which will endure. Did the two countries form a naval league, combining their various fleets into one vast aggregation of sea power, they could dictate at will peace throughout the sea highways of the world. No two nations have ever yet been fully organized in peace with a view to joint action. Their combinations have been fortuitous and unprepared, their operations enfeebled by jealousy and distrust. The Anglo-American league would exclude any such source of weakness. Scattered all over the world are British harbors ready to become resting, coaling and refitting stations for United States ships. The navy department and the admiralty would be brought into close communication; the two intelligence departments could exchange information. The distribution of ships in given contingencies would be the subject of joint consideration. A free interchange of ideas as to the construction and armament would prevail. Finally, the basis of the league would be essentially democratic; since the welfare of the masses is intimately bound up with the security of sea borne trade, even though neither democracy has yet fully grasped the fact. Thus the advantage would be mutual, indeed, would be increasing to the American people, since it has become impossible for them to abstain from the responsibility of a great nation. Such abstention is incompatible with the effective maintenance of the Monroe doctrine. Samoa must have taught its lesson. If ultra-continental possessions have so far been eschewed, the time of their necessity must soon arrive. Whatever may be the temporary settlement of Hawaii,

THAT IMPORTANT OUTPOST

on the North Pacific must become American soil, and Captain Mahan has clearly indicated another part of the world where annexation will soon be needed. The Nicaragua canal, which American enterprise will certainly complete, must open a new era of responsibility, as President Cleveland evidently recognizes, while South America reveals a vista too extensive to portray. If, therefore, the assumption by the United States of its rightful position among the nations is inevitable, no first step could be so wise, so safe, or so natural as a naval league of armed neutrality with Great Britain. No other guarantee of peace on the seas could be comparable for effectiveness. No other policy could open out to the American navy such a noble prospect of world wide beneficence. As to the settlement of questions arising between the two countries, Sir George Clarke suggests that an Anglo-American council could effectively deal with most of them. As a last resort arbitration would still be available. The substitution of personal conference for smart despatch writing would mark an era in the relations of the two nations.

"What shall we name her?" said Mrs. Darley, as she gazed fondly at her first born. "We'll name her Yorick," replied Mr. Darley. "Yorick?" echoed his wife. "Why, that's a boy's name." "Indeed, it is not. Didn't Shakspeare say, 'A lass, poor Yorick?'"

"How is Skimmins getting along in his profession?" said one Hamilton man to another. "Quite creditably. I understand." "But he told me yesterday that he owed several thousands of dollars." "Yes. That shows how well he must have established his credit."

Miss Parvenue—"I'm going now, mamma." Mrs. Parvenue (turning from Lord Sansous)—"Now above all Harrietta don't forget to find out how Mrs. Topnotch makes her faux pas. I heard she made one last week, and we'll make some too, no matter how much it costs."

Warranted to wash—a Chinaman.

A tumbler full of whiskey—A drunken gymnast.

THE EARTH WILL SHAKE.

An Event Which An Austrian Professor Predicts.

The records indicate that people have been looking for the end of the world at intervals ever since the world began, and predictions of this character generally receive very limited credence; but when a scientific man of the standing of Prof. Rudolph Falb, of Vienna, makes a prophecy of this sort it is at least worth thinking about. Prof. Falb has a reputation all over Europe for meteorological knowledge and particularly for his extraordinary familiarity with the habits and customs of earthquakes.

His predictions of these seismic disturbances have been remarkably fulfilled. His prediction of the great earthquake at Zante last year was published in the press dispatches all over the country the day before

THE EARTHQUAKE OCCURRED.

Another example of his accurate foreknowledge on his subject is shown in the face that on March 31, 1893, he wrote to the Tourist Club of Vienna, accepting an invitation to lecture about earthquakes, but adding that he would like to defer it until after April 13, as an earthquake would occur by that time that would aid him in giving them enlightenment.

As a matter of fact, an earthquake occurred on April 8, and was felt all over Southern Hungary. Prof. Falb's prophecies go back over a number of years, have usually been made from nine to twenty months in advance, and have in almost every instance been correct.

Now, however, the professor's prophetic eye has shot across a space of five years, and he says that on November 13, 1899, the erratic wanderer known to astronomers as the comet of 1866, will reappear and collide with our globe; then "the fireworks" and —darkness.

By way of preliminary to the main event, however, it may be mentioned that according to the programme, the Atlantic cities on this continent are to disappear under a tidal wave next July or August, while Florida and California will probably become islands as the result of a submarine earthquake.

The most unpleasant feature about these prophecies is, as already intimated, the fact that they are not prophecies at all, strictly speaking, but scientific predictions based upon scientific investigations into mundane anatomy. To put his theories in as simple a fashion as possible, it may be said that Prof. Falb believes, first of all, that the deep-down interior of the earth is filled with a molten mass, which is subject to ebb and flow, just like the waters of the ocean.

Between the earth and this molten sheol, which is slowly cooling, there is only a shell of an average of eighteen miles in thickness upon which we mortals live and love and die. In some places the earth's crust is thicker than in others. Where it is thinnest the confined,

TERRIBLE FORCES OF THE UNDER WORLD,

chiefly in the form of gas, seek constantly to escape, and when the pressure of the atmosphere around the earth is lowest the gas finds an outlet, usually in well-defined districts, generally through the volcanic vent-holes.

But beyond the constant pressure of gas Prof. Falb has the theory that the sheolic molten mass beneath us is subject to the influence of the moon, which produces waves, and occasionally great tidal waves, which sweep around the inner crust of the world with terrific force, shaking the earth in its passage. Prof. Falb publishes every year a list of the days on which he expects seismic convulsions. These he calls "critical days"—and these days are those when the moon approaches close to the earth. The critical days given by Prof. Falb for 1894 are stated in the order of maximum disturbance as follows: August 30, September 29, February 20, March 31, August 1, April 6, January 21, May 5, and October 28. Thus the most serious disturbance may be looked for on August 30 and the slightest on October 28.

In connection with the great scientific contest between mother earth and the comet, which, to use a pharse current in scientific circles, is to be "pulled off" in 1899, is to be recalled that on January 14, 616, 10 people were killed in China by the fall of a meteor. In the year 823, 35 villages in Saxony were destroyed by the fall of a meteor and many men and animals were killed. On September 4, 1511, one man and four animals were destroyed by falling meteors near Crema. On November 4, 1749, a meteor struck the mast of a ship that was crossing the Atlantic, killing five seamen. Each of these cases can be regarded as the fall of a small comet upon our world.

It is comfortable to know that some Vienna scientists believe the comet is going to get the worst of it and point to the fact that the comet Lexell, when it went too near to Jupiter, was thrown off its course and sent flying out of our planetary system.

Lost in Alaskan Wilds.

Death from either starvation or exposure in the biting winter weather of southeastern Alaska, or perhaps suicide as the only means of avoiding the horrible fate in store for himself: such is the fate of M. Gross, a Canadian surveyor, says the Seattle Press Times.

Gross, with four companions, left Fort Wrangel on the 29th of last month, the party intending to hunt, fish, and perhaps do some prospecting. When they got to Portage Bay they made permanent camp. It was early morning and Gross told his companions that he intended to drive a little into the interior and would be back before night. He was cautioned against going out alone, as it was known that he was not familiar with the surrounding country, and it was feared that he might get lost in the woods. He disregarded the advice of his companions, however, and at 6 o'clock the same evening the other members of the party heard a shot in the brush some few miles distant. They hailed, and by other signs tried to guide Gross back to camp, but were not successful. The whole of the next day was spent in the search, which had to be finally given up.

Gross is said to have been from Victoria. He was last year a member of the Canadian survey party sent up to Alaska to officially determine the Territory's boundary line.