AGRICULTURAL.

The Farm This Month.

BY D. T. MOORE.

February is not a very busy month on the farm, and yet many outdoor matters will require attention. While caring for live stock will be the first duty of farmers, there are various seasonable labors that must be performed. Concerning the more important operations which demand care and action at this juncture we offer sundry hints, suggestions, and reminders in the hope that they will prove of service to readers specially interested or actively engaged in the pursuit of agriculture.

Though the latter part of February and the early part of March is the immediate forerunner of spring, and hence calls for some earnest work and careful planning and preparation for the future, it affords rural: ists which leisure for reading, study, and the acquisition of knowledge pertaining to their vocation. They should embrace every opportunity to listen to and participate in discussions on practical and scientific subjects in which they are vitally interested. For this purpose the meetings of farmers' clubs and institutes, and like instructive associations, should be religiously attended with a view of obtaining all the useful information possible. "Knowledge is power," and it is as indispensable to the tillers of the soil as it is to those engaged in any other occupation.

LIVE STOCK NOTES.

Good care of live stock is the imperative duty of the farmer at this season. It is of the first importance to keep domestic animals in good heart this month, so that they may enter spring in a thrifty condition. All kinds of stock pay for being kept clean, warm and well fed, and they need more than ordinary care to bring them safely through the winter. Liberal feeding is the first requisite in wintering farm animals, and there is also true economy in providing ample protection from inclement weather. Keep their appetites keen with frequent changes of food; a change will often give animals an appetite when everything else fails. Remember that animals well wintered are half summered," and don't neglect them at this critical juncture. Every barnyard should have conveniences for feeding and watering, and an abundant supply of pure water.

Horses should not be too constantly confined in close, warm stables, as they become tender and subject to colds, etc. They need daily exercise, but should be well blanketed when left standing in bleak places. A team will not be injured by steady work through the winter if well fed, properly groomed and kept from undue exposure. Horses used on slippery roads should be kept properly shod.

Cows may be safely milked tolerably close to calving if the milk is good. It is usually enough if a cow gives dry one month. Incoming cows should be well sheltered and have generous rations of forage and bran, but no heating food, like corn or meal, for two or three weeks before calving. As the cows come in, select the best heifers for raising and fit others for the butcher. The young stock, and all others infested with lice, should have the skin rubbed with a mixture of sweet oil and kerosene in equal parts.

Sheep need an abundance of wholesome food, plenty of pure air, and a dry yard and sleeping quarters. A warm stable and plenty of roots will conduce to the health of breeding ewes. Early lambs can be made to pay good returns in May or June. Farmers having a good market for lambs and calves should see that they are well cared for and fed that they will prove profitable when at the right age for slaughter.

Swine, well bred and fed, pay extra dividends. Breeding sows now need good care and room for exercise. Store pigs should be well housed and fed to assure thrift. Light and frequent meals are best for profitable growth. It is good economy to give swine clean, warm quarters at this season, with liberal rations and plenty of litter.

Poultry should now have extra care, for eggs bring good prices and broilers will soon command "cash money." An authority knows that eggs can only be expected from hens that are "at home" in a warm, dry house, provided with abundant food, both green and dry, lime, gravel and pure water. As we have before advised, a good incubator will manage it, pays; but don't undertake artificial hatching unless you have a reliable machine and can give the business proper attention.

THE ICE CROP.

Ice is the great winter product of the country, the only staple crop that grows and matures in frigidity—and simply costs the labor of gathering and storing. You supply the water and nature does the rest. The season has thus far been favorable for forming ices, and in most northern sections there is an abundant crop, already ripe for harvesting. Every one interested who is within reach of an ice plant (stream, pond or lake) should at once prepare to secure a supply of what is now regarded as a necessity, by providing the necessary conveniences, sawing and implements for cutting, handling and storing. The sooner this is done the better for it is well settled that ice should be harvested without delay when it reaches a sufficient thickness. This varies according to the part of the country in which it is produced, but the weather has been so frigid that ice must be thick enough to harvest throughout all this region. Ice is altogether too valuable a product to be neglected, especially when it costs so little. It is not only essential to the comfort of humanity in summer, but almost indispensable in various departments, both rural and urban, and notably in those engaged in dairying. Let no farmer who reads this fail to harvest a good supply in the season.

THE CROP OF FIREWOOD.

Firewood is another important crop. Though it is accessible at all seasons, and may be secured at any time, winter is the most favorable for harvesting wood and, especially when there is good sledding for hauling it home or to market. Farmers who have wood lots should cut and haul an ample supply before spring opens, and then see that it is properly prepared for use when wanted. An article that is essential to provide warmth nearly two thirds of the year, and a necessity for cooking during the whole (for but few farmers use coal where wood grows), ought to receive the special attention of every husbandman who would practice true economy and manifest proper regard for the comfort and convenience of his family. It is taken for granted that no rurdist who reads this journal would subject his wife, daughter or female help to the indignity of preparing firewood out doors in all sorts of weather (as do some so called farmers), and hence we offer no admonition touching a matter worthy of universal condemnation.

Speaking of wood lot work, this is a good time to cut and haul timber; also to secure good oak, hickory, ash, and elm, sticks for wagon poles, ductions, plow beams, bolsters, and maul, hay poles, and many other purposes. It pays to have these things on hand, well seasoned and ready for use when ever wanted.

THE MAPLE SUGAR CROP.

This crop is now largely secured in February and March, whereas it was formerly harvested in spring—a result of change in the climatology of the country. Therefore possessors of fruitful sugar orchards should prepare to begin operations as soon as the sap running season opens. First put the camp in order and provide a good supply of dry fuel. We are many trees are tapped it pays to have all the modern improvements, which are quite different from those followed in fashion when readers who remember the frolicsome fun and hard work of the long ago sugar camp or "bush" can attest. But to produce good maple sugar and syrup careful attention and labor are still necessary. Cleanliness is the first requisite in the various manipulations of sugar making. All the utensils used ought to be of such material as can be readily cleansed, and sap should never be allowed to become sour before being made into syrup. The buckets, storing casks, or troughs, and boiling apparatus—indeed, every article used in the process of sugar making—should be kept scrupulously clean and convenient for use. With everything in order beforehand the labor of securing the best products of the maple—the most delicious of all our sweets, honey not excepted—may be rendered both pleasant and profitable, albeit skill and promptness in manipulation are also requisite to marked success. People will pay the highest price when assured they are getting a pure specimen of the sweetest of all table delicacies.

Farm and Garden Hints.

Overfeeding is detrimental to complete digestion and is a waste of food. While heavy feeding is the universal recommendation if a large yield is to be secured, yet it would be well to pause and consider the fact that the powers of an animal may be overtaxed and its digestion impaired. Regularity of feeding, and the allowance of a sufficiency should be observed, but nothing can be gained by going beyond the limit of the capacity of the animal. It is safe to claim that disease is more frequently the result of overfeeding than any other cause.

Clover hay is the best food for cows in winter, owing to its laxative qualities compared with many other foods, but there is no reason why it should be fed to the exclusion of corn fodder and other coarse foods that may be utilized with the clover. A ration of straw sometimes affords an agreeable change of diet to an animal that has been given nothing but grain and clover. It is cheaper to give a mixed food at all times, a variety being appreciated by all classes of stock.

A cellar should be dry at all seasons. If the chimney starts from the cellar floor a fireplace should be made in the cellar, so as to keep a wood fire burning occasionally, which serves not only to dry the cellar but also to ventilate it thoroughly. At the same time a cellar should not be warmer than 50 degrees above zero, nor colder than 40 degrees.

The air may be made to enrich the soil, and add nitrogen thereto, by growing clover and plowing under green manurial crop. Land that has been left in fallow has been known to increase in fertility by the nitrogenous matter carried down to the soil by the rains, which derive ammonic and nitric acid from the atmosphere.

Throw the sweepings of the hay loft and the chaff from the wheat in the poultry house, so as to induce the hens to scratch and work in the litter. When given an opportunity to exercise by scratching the litter will lay more eggs than when kept in a state of inactivity.

Butter and sugar take nothing of value from the soil. They are carbonaceous materials, and come from the air, the plants taking the carbon from the free carbonic acid of the atmosphere, which is converted into many materials grown or used on the farm.

Corn that has grown so as to mature early, and the seed selected for next year before the crop was harvested, as well as kept dry during the winter, will give better results next season as seed for planting than to use seed from the crib.

Nothing is lost that is added to the soil if a farm is properly managed. The coarsest manure will become plant food after a lapse of a certain period of time, but it is best to endeavor to have all manure in the finest possible condition.

Smutty corn is said to be very injurious to stock, horses frequently dying from the effects of the smut eaten with the corn. All grain containing ergot gives ill effects also. Grain for stock should be clean and free from all sign of disease.

An animal will petish if fed exclusively on one kind of food, no matter how concentrated or nutritious it may be, as there is no perfect food for all classes of stock except by affording a mixed ration.

Ducks should now be laying, and the eggs command a high price. Laying ducks should be given a liberal allowance of animal food at this season.

Wood and coal are cheaper than grain to keep animals warm, and many farmers consequently warm the feed and drinking water for the stock.

Geese and ducks are very partial to cooked turnips which may be fed with ground grain. Such food is better for them than too much grain.

Poultry Made Profitable.

A lady gives the *Western Rural* the following rules for making poultry profitable:

1. Make hens lay when eggs are dearest.
2. Breed stock when eggs are cheap.
3. Keep a non-sitting breed to lay when sitters are hatching, and pay expenses of the latter.
4. Breed as many chickens as possible and as early as possible. They all represent so much money.
5. Keep all the pullets. They are worth $2 each as prospective winter layers.
6. Kill or otherwise dispose of all hens after three years of age.
7. Breed the best flesh-formers for market. Keep them up to as great a weight as may be possible.
8. Well fattened, well-dressed poultry will always bring the best prices from the best customers.
9. If not accustomed to poultry, begin with a small number. Learn to make a success of the very, and then go on with a large number.
10. Do not neglect the little essentials to success, such as lime, gravel, meat, plenty of clean, water, green food, dust bath, etc. regularly supplied to layers.
11. Keep strict account of every cent of expenditure and receipts. Charge the poultry with all expenses, and credit them with all receipts. The droppings, at 75 cents per barrel, will go a long way to pay for feed.
12. Market gardeners and dairymen are particularly well situated to permit of their dealing profitably in poultry, the former have spare time in winter, the latter are among the best customers in the city. every town.

The Exodus from Kansas.

In spite of all that has been said about the prosperity of Kansas, says the Chicago *Blade*, the fact remains that the settlers on the frontier are having a harder time than can be realized by outsiders. They are comprehending the ullmeaning of the "Great American Desert" and are upon the verge of suffering such as they have never before experienced. The western third of the state has for the last three years had short crops—indeed almost no crops—and even the casual observer cannot fail to note the dire results. The eastern and central parts of the state are in the flush of prosperity, but their neighbors at the foot hills of the Rockies are giving up their claims and wandering eastward. All the fall the white covered wagons have been stringing along toward the sunrise, and even yet, with the sharp winds of winter, singing through the canvas covers, they are still on the way. The season has been a disastrous one, as was that of 1889-90. The corn failed entirely, not even fubbins showing on the majority of the fields. The wheat crop was a fair, but the acreage was small. The lack of corn made it impossible to fatten any stock, and even if this could be done the prices are not such as to encourage it. Many of the settlers have been struggling for six to fifteen years to make the desert blossom as the rose, and the lands of the buffalo grass and coyote are more fit for grazing than for agriculture, and their efforts have not been successful. That many have become discouraged is shown by the last census, which shows that the population has in the last decade actually decreased in many of the counties. In Rawlins, Decatur, Cheyenne, Wichita and a dozen other frontier counties there is remaining but barely enough population to keep the county in running shape. In Thomas county there is said to be less than 100 families, and in Gove less than 35. In both these were flourishing towns and hamlets two years ago. Relief is asked by those remaining, and solicitors are out all over the state gathering up the old clothing and extra provisions that can be spared. A camper who passed through here from Phillips county the other day told a pitiful tale of the sufferings he and his family had undergone this fall. He said they had lived on cornmeal and beans kept over from last year, and burned "buffalo chips" to keep themselves warm. He had been during the summer, together with a number of his neighbors, employed on the irrigating ditches of southern Colorado, but they were cheated out of their pay and returned home to find the farm unproductive and the wife and little ones in need. Their cattle could hardly be given away, good cows selling for $5 and $6, while their horses were almost too poor even to drag themselves from the country. The claims had been mortgaged long ago to eastern companies for more than they were worth, and, together with his neighbors, he had packed his few belongings into a prairie schooner and started for the east. He hoped to get as far as southern Illinois before January, and he certainly would never return.

Seventeen waggon loads of his neighbors accompanied him, and all told the same story. They said that those who remained through a blind faith in ultimate success or because too poor to get away would have a hard time. They had little to eat and less to burn and wear. Some of the men of the party had been in western Kansas since 1878 and seen all the vicissitudes of 17 years, including the grasshoppers and hot winds. They said that the loan companies held the majority of the land or would do so, as the rascally agents had manipulated loans with reckless prodigality during the boom times for the sake of the commissions. A farmer from Rooks county says: "The people of western Kansas no longer try to conceal the fact that many have left that section. Many have already gone, and many more are preparing to leave. There is no other way. Over 3,000 have left Rooks county alone. Many of those remaining are unable to get away. For miles over the prairies one can see nothing but tenantless cabins and abandoned farm machinery."

WINTER WRINKLES.

Charity covers a multitude of sins, but most of them contrive to kick off the covers.

Speaking of hydropathic cures, it strikes us that well water ought to be good for sick people.

"Then what reason have you for marrying?" "Really, no reason at all, only I'm in love."

Biles, I am told that you are a vegetarian?" "I am a rigid one. I sometimes drink cider."

When Shakspeare wrote that parting is such sweet sorrow he voiced the regret of many a bald-headed man.

Exhorter—"Brother, do you want to be saved?" Young Broker (absent-mindedly) —"Anything in it?"

St. Agedore—"I think Miss Maze is a perfect poem." De Mascus—"I know it. At least she's a verse to me."

If you want to be a specialist, be rather a dentist than an aurist, for man has thirty-two teeth and only two ears.

If you want to see worldly ambition struggling with a righteous desire to be good take a woman to church with an old hat on.

Many men who pray loud and long in church have wives who are afraid to lock up and who are never known to talk above a whisper.

"Were you touched at the Minister's eloquence last night?" inquired Weeks. "Yes," returned Weatman, gloomily, "for ten dollars."

He (11:45 p. m.)—"Why, I'd do anything in the world for you." She (yawning)—"Yourwill? Then for heaven's sake sneak home. I'm sleepy."

Wooden—"I don't care what people say about Mr. Slyfox. I think there is a great deal of honesty in his face." Bullinch—"Yes all he has is there."

Visitor—"Isn't your mother afraid, Willie, of catching cold in those slippers?" Willie—"Huh, I guess you don't know them slippers? Ma uses them to warm the whole family with."

In India little girls wear gold rings in their noses. One of the advantages of this fashion consists in the fact that the ring-wearer does not have to take off her gloves to parade her jewelry.

"Tommy, you ought to be ashamed of yourself. I'm sure your Bible doesn't teach you to wait for another boy and throw stones at him." "It does's far as I've got. I'm only in the first part yet."

Safer when expressed.
A man may send his thoughts by freight,
If properly addressed;
But thoughts, like many other things,
Are safer when expressed.

Mr. Bullinch—"I hope, Johnny, you're keeping the dinty I gave you New Year's." Johnny—"Oh, yes, sir." Mr. Bullinch—"Have you written in it everyday?" Johnny—"Oh, no, sir; I haven't opened it at all."

As true as gospel.
Dead is the heart that never knew lover's bliss;
Hard are the lips that never formed a kiss;
Blind are the eyes that cannot see in love
A God-like treasure coming from above.

It does not take a woman many years to find out that men are a mighty uncertain set. But a man never entirely loses the delusion that somewhere in the world is to be found a woman about ten per cent. nearer perfection than the angels.

Colonel Candytuft—"Talking of the latest scandal, I fancy our old friend McNoodle was led astray by that flighty Fitzgiggle." General Horseleaf—"Not a doubt about it; in fact, the wife towed him in and the husband toe'd him out."

Nothing perfect.
No absolutely perfect thing exists—
The loveliest of objects lacks some charms.
In vain we scan the past and present lists,
Even Milo's Venus lacks a pair of arms.

"Well," said Mrs. McCuddley, after her visit to a notable social event, "I have heard about society people showing each other the cold shoulder, but from the way some that I saw were dressed I didn't wonder at their shoulders being chilly."

City Directory Man (to boarding house mistress)—"How many boarders have you, madam, that are steady boarders?" Boarding Mistress—"Well, Eve ten men that board with me right along, but there's only one of them that I call 'steady.'"

Thompson has just married a girl who brought him a fortune, but he has been unable to fall very deeply in love with her. "Do you know," he remarked one day to a friend, "she's so frigid that I'm afraid to take her in my arms lest I should catch the influenza."

In the Interest of Our Farmers.

The Minister of Agriculture at Ottawa has recently taken a step which is well calculated to give Canadian grown two-rowed barley a definite standing in the English market. Other action may be taken later on, but for the present what has just been done is important. Fifty English quarters, or 400 bushels by our measurement, have been selected of prize prolific barley and sent to England. The high commissioner will take charge of it there, and has already arranged that it shall be malted by one of the best maltsters, and brewed in one of the best known English breweries. A committee of experts will fix its value by this practical test. The barley was collected by Prof. Saunders director of experimental farms, and weighs 52 lbs. to the bushel. It is a fairly bright sample and shows a high germinating power. It may be taken as fairly representative of last season's crop of barley in Ontario, grown from the seed imported by the Government. As everyone knows, last season was not favorable for barley growing, and if this shipment is given a good rating our farmers ought to feel highly encouraged in their efforts to produce this cereal for the British market. It will be several weeks, of course, before the result of this test is known here, but in the meantime the action taken by Hon. Mr. Carling will commend itself to the judgement of all who are interested in the extension of our commerce. It shows that the interests of Canadian farmers are being intelligently looked after.

New Mother-in-law Joke.

Son-in-law—"I can't understand why the comic papers show such bad taste in constantly to publish jokes about the mother-in-law." Mother-in-law—"It is really the greatest injustice and I am glad to find a man at last who—"

Son-in-law—"Yes, it is the greatest injustice! A man is glad when he can, for a moment, forget his mother-in-law, and to be continually reminded of her in this way is positively cruel."

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N. B. If you decide to take Hood's Sarsaparilla do not be induced to buy any other.

100 Doses One Dollar

"German Syrup"

Here is something from Mr. Frank A. Hale, proprietor of the De Witt House, Lewiston, and the Tontine Hotel, Brunswick, Me. Hotel men meet the world as it comes and goes, and are not slow in sizing people and things up for what they are worth. He says that he has lost a father and several brothers and sisters from Pulmonary Consumption, and is himself frequently troubled with colds, and he often coughs enough to make him sick at his stomach. Whenever he has taken a cold of this kind he uses Boschee's German Syrup, and it cures him every time. Here is a man who knows the full danger of lung troubles, and would therefore be most particular as to the medicine he used. What is his opinion? Listen! "I use nothing but Boschee's German Syrup, and have advised, I presume, more than a hundred different persons to take it. They agree with me that it is the best cough syrup in the market."

Hereditary Consumption

Standard Time.

No timepiece is perfect, and there are no means on earth of keeping perfect time. The stars, however, furnish the necessary means: At the observatory in Cambridge, there are two principal clocks employed in keeping the standard mean time and the normal sidereal clock, which is the main standard of the observatory, to which everything is referred. The sidereal clock, as its name implies, keeps sidereal or star time, which gains about three minutes and fifty-eight seconds per day over mean solar time, with which we are all familiar.

The clock is of the finest workmanship, and is kept in a brick vault, underneath the observatory, where the temperature is as nearly constant as possible.

Every effort is made to protect it from any influence which might effect its rate, or, in other words, the amount of its gain or loss per day. This is necessary in order that the "rate" may be depended upon to give the correct time during spells of cloudy weather, when no observations can be made.

On every clear evening the error of this clock is carefully determined by observing certain bright stars with an instrument known as the meridian circle.

This instrument consists of a telescope mounted on trunnions like a cannon, and supported by a pier of solid masonry. It is so arranged that it can be directed to any point on the meridian, but cannot be pointed away from the meridian line. On looking into the eyepiece of this telescope, one sees a series of fine parallel lines, running north and south across the field of view, the middle line marking the meridian.

When a time observation is to be made, the observer first selects a suitable star from a printed star list, which gives the exact time at which each of the principal stars crosses the meridian. He then sets the telescope at the proper point on the meridian to intercept the star, and putting his eye to the eyepiece, waits for the star to appear.

As the star crosses each of the lines before mentioned, he presses an electric key which holds in his hand. The signals thus given are recorded electrically on a registering instrument called a chronograph, on which are also being recorded the seconds of the sidereal clock. The chronograph consists of a cylinder made to revolve by clockwork, at the rate of about once a minute.

A paper, wrapped around this cylinder, receives the record traced by a pen which is connected with an electro magnet in such manner that any signal made either by the operator of the clock, causes the pen to make a mark on the paper.

By examining this paper the observer is able to tell, within a tenth of a second, the time which the normal clock indicated when the star crossed the meridian.

Comparing this with the time taken from the star list shows the error of the clock. A comparison is then made between the sidereal and mean time clocks, which, after allowing for the difference between mean and sidereal time, shows the error of the mean time clock.

If the clock is slow, a slight weight is placed on the top of the pendulum bob, which causes the clock to gain slightly. If, on the other hand, the clock is found to be fast, a corresponding weight is removed, making the clock lose slowly. In this way the standard signals are kept within a few tenths of a second of the correct time.

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The Canada of the Future.

Chambers' Journal for January has an interesting article on "A Transcontinental Railway," i. e., the Canadian Pacific way, the concluding sentences of which run thus:—"The energy, the skill, and the science of the white man have roused Canada from the lethargy in which she has so long been entranced under the rule of her former inhabitants. Commerce and civilization have sprung up in the track of the railroad, like the flowers which arise beneath the tread of the virgin goddess of spring. Even now the vision of Longfellow's ideal Indian warrior seems well on its way towards realization:

All the land was full of people,
Restless, struggling, toiling striving,
Speaking many tongues yet feeling
But one heart beat in their bosoms.
In the woodlands rang their axes,
Smoked their towns in all the valleys,
Over all the lakes and rivers
Rushed their commerce and canoes of thunder.

Another fifty years of uninterrupted progress and prosperity will bring this vision to a literal fulfilment; and Canada, whether as an independent community or a self-governing dependency of the British Empire, will doubtless play an important part in the future history of the world."

Grey Hair Becoming Fashionable.

Having been informed that grey hair is coming into fashion, a correspondent of the *Sheffield Telegraph* writes: I took the opportunity of a representative gathering of society folk the other evening to glance at the coiffure of ladies. The merest glance round the assemblage was sufficient to show that the fashion of grey hair is a grisly fact. A charming lady near me who did not look a day older than thirty, was quite grey, and within conversational distance there were at least half-a-dozen with a more or less pronounced turn of grey in their hair. I take it that this fashion is a revolt against the all but universal system of dying the hair to a fashionable colour. I shall not be surprised if young ladies who do not number grey locks among their charms are by-and-by found to be resorting to hair powder, in order that they, too, may be numbered with the Grey Sisters.

Because a man has a silvery laugh it does not follow that he has a rich voice.

EMIN PASHA'S PLANS.

His Scheme for Attempting to Civilize the African Lake Regions.

A longletter has just been received from Emin Pashn by the *Deutsche Colonial Zeitung*, which gives Emin's plans for governing the large region over which he has been placed.

"My first duty," writes the Pasha, "will be to create a central post in the interior. Owing to its fine situation I shall undoubtedly choose Tabora for this purpose. I shall place there a garrison of 150 men. I shall then found three or four large posts, in each of which I shall leave 100 men under the command of a German officer. My soldiers will at first be taken from the coast natives, but gradually I shall recruit garrisons for these posts from among the natives of the interior. They are quick to learn, they make excellent soldiers, have few wants, and will be content with small pay. My first choice will be freed slaves. Having established my principal stations I shall found a number of less important ones at well-chosen points, with 50 or 60 men in each garrison, commanded by non-commissioned German officers. In order to lessen the cost of the occupation, I shall require local chiefs to pay a tribute in ivory, and the natives to furnish us with grain. Carriers to take our goods to and from the coast will be hired in the interior at a small expense. The importation of powder, lead, and firearms will be rigorously forbidden.

"I shall attempt to acclimatize at the principal posts, domestic animals, such as camels and draught buffaloes. Each soldier will have a certain amount of land to till. I believe that I can make that part of the German possessions around the Central African lakes pay its expenses within three years, and that the imperial treasury will not be called upon to disburse at the outside more than 1,500,000 marks. Instead of attempting to expel the Arabs, I shall attempt to make them my friends and to get their cooperation for the suppression of the slave trade."

It is known that Emin has begun to carry out this policy. When last heard from he had established a station at Tabora, another at Victoria Nyanza, and was founding some of his lesser posts. He was having some trouble with the Arabs south of Victoria Nyanza, who were not taking to his appearance in the country they have so long troubled.

A LETTER FROM DR. NANSEN.

His Theories and the Plans He Has Formed for the North Polar Expedition.

Dr. Nansen has written to the Geographical Society of Berlin with regard to the expedition he will lead to the North Pole. "I have no doubt whatever," he says, "that there is a constant current flowing north from Behring Strait and from the neighborhood of the new Siberian Islands to the sea on the other side of the Arctic circle, between Spitzbergen and Greenland. This current certainly passes north of Franz Josef Land, and probably approaches near the North Pole; if it does not indeed pass over it. The Greenland polar current, which is seen running southward along the east coast of Greenland, is an extension of this current, and it was in this ocean river that the objects saved on the ice from the Jeannette expedition were brought south to Greenland. The current I speak of so also brings south along the East Greenland coast drift wood from Siberia and enormously thick drift ice, which certainly comes from the Siberian sea and passes over the Polar area.

"I shall use this current to reach the North Pole. It is my purpose to start from the west side of the new Siberian Islands. In a vessel which will in every way be made as strong as possible, I shall push as far north as I can. In order to guide the vessel through the drift ice I shall employ a captive balloon. By the use of this balloon I can, in clear weather, obtain a view of the ice conditions and of the sea for a long distance around the ship. When we can no longer push through, the ice we shall force our vessel into it, in order to drift with the current over the North Pole, or as near to it as possible, and I believe that within two or three years we shall be carried into the sea between Greenland and Spitzbergen.

"The articles from the Jeannette which were brought on the ice from the neighborhood of the New Siberian Islands, were three years in reaching the southwest coast of Greenland, at Julianehaab. We shall take provisions for five years, and I believe that with our splendid outfit and provisions for so long a time, we can safely trust ourselves to this north flowing current, and will emerge successfully from the Polar ice after having passed over or near the North Pole."

The Household Prize.

135 Adelaide St., W. Toronto, Ont.—"Your reliable preparation, St. Jacobs Oil, has proved a benefit to me in more ways than one. I have used it for quinsy (outward application) with very beneficial results, and for a case of rheumatism, where its action was swift and sure, and a perfect cure was performed. I consider it a remedy to be prized in every household." THOS. PEEBON, with John son & Brown.

Hoist With His Own Petard.

Mr. B., a book publisher, has a wonderful memory, and his knowledge of English literature is unavoidable that, when a friend wishes to know where any particular passage may be found he steers at once for Mr. B.

A pompous would-be wit and long ago thinking to puzzle him and make sport for a company at dinner informed them prior to Mr. B.'s arrival that he had written some poetry and intended to submit it to Mr. B. as Southey's and inquire in which of his poems the lines occurred. At the proper moment, therefore, after the guests were seated he began:

"Friend B., I have been a good deal puzzled of late trying to find in Southey's poems his well-known lines running thus, (quoting his own lines.) Can you tell me about what time he wrote them?"

"I do not remember to have met them before," replied Mr. B., "but there were only two periods in Southey's life when such lines could possibly have been written by him."

"When were those?" gleefully exclaimed the witty questioner.

"Somewhere," said Mr. B., "about that early period of his life when he was having the measles and cutting his first teeth, or near the close of his life when his brains had softened and he had fallen into idiocy. The verification belongs to the measles period, but the expression clearly betrays the idiotic one."

The funny questioner smiled faintly, but the company roared with laughter.

Standard Milk.

The editor of the *Mirror and Farmer* says that there ought to be no antagonism between those who uphold the private dairy and those who favor the creamery. We are all trying to make good butter and sell it at a paying price. When the private dairyman knows how to make butter, can take the time to make it, and market it to advantage, he can make more money than if he were to get the creamery to make it for him; and that the private dairyman can make better butter than the creamery there can be no doubt. There are no secrets in butter making, and the private dairyman can become just as expert as the butter maker at the creamery, and he has this advantage, viz: he can control the whole business, the care of the cows, their feed, the milking, the care of the milk, cream-raising, tempering, and churning. If a cow get a sick or seems suffering in any way he will not put her milk with that of the rest of the herd; if a batch of milk gets dirty in it he will give it to the pigs; if the feed gives the milk a flavor not altogether pleasant, he will change it, and so on with all the details of the business, because he has his own reputation and market to secure. When the creamery works up his milk or cream, his main object is to sacrifice much as possible to the creamery, and if the quality is not so good as it might be, he reasons that it is not his fault, and the creamery management ought to know enough to tell whether the milk is all right or not. This is not good morals, of course, but it is frail human nature. And the creameries—some of them—are at fault, too: when they pay for the weight of milk alone, the patron makes for quantity—and will breed, and feed for quantity—and will get it.

Natural Enough.

"Barnes made a great mistake when he married his typewriter."

"Does he complain?"

"Yes, he says she won't stand any dictation nowadays."

Struck With Lightning.

Neatly describes the position of a hard or soft corn when Putnam's Painless Corn Extractor is applied. It does its work so quickly and without pain that it seems magical in action. Try it. Recollect the name—Putnam's Painless Corn Extractor. Sold by all druggists and dealers everywhere.

Courtship or Marriage.

Marriage is an ordered garden,
Courtship, a sweet tangled wood;
Marriage is the sober Sunrise,
Courtship, Springs in April weather and mood;
Marriage is a deep, still river,
Courtship, a bright laughing stream
Marriage is a day possession,
Courtship, a perplexing dream;
Which of these, my wife, shall be
Crowned as best by their kind me!

Marriage is the blue day's beauty,
Courtship, the capricious morn;
Marriage is the sweet fruit gathered,
Courtship, but still frosed with thorn;
Marriage is the pearl in setting,
Courtship is the dangerous dive;
Marriage, the full comb of honey,
Courtship, the new-hunted hive;
—Which of these, dear wife, shall be
First preferred by thee and me?

O, the tangled wood was lovely,
When we found it, in bud May,
Parting curiously the branches
White with masses of the May,
Eagerly pushing paths explorings
Leading to we know not where,
Save that million flowers adored them,
And that birds sang their best for us,
Thrushes' joy-notes, Philomela's
Still more exquisite despair.

How we wandered!—Now our wild wood
Has become a garden plot
Something missed of that strange sweetness,
In the methodic order lot.
Ordered walks, and formal borders
For the wood-paths strange and wild,
Regularity and order, instead of
Where, the careless work flowers smiled.
—Summer grave and sober matron,
For young Spring the early child;
Which, O which preferred shall be,
Twelve years' wife, by thee and me?

Nay; the garden has its glory,
Stately flower and fruit nature;
And the wild wood had its dearness,
Strange delights in its wildness pure;
And the summer has full fruit,
If the spring has promised more;
And the fruit is better, if the deeper
If the young brook lengthen more;
And the real joy ablieth,
When the teasing dreams are o'er.

And the broad blue skies are glories,
If the morning was widely fair;
And the gathered rose is safer,
If the bude more piquant were;
And the pearl is rare and precious,
If the diver was full of glee;
And we would not change our honey
For the flower-quest of the bee;
—Sweet is Courtship, sweet is Marriage;
Crown them, darling, equally!

J. R. VERNON.

Submerged Cities.

On the coast of Portugal is to be found the submerged city of Cetobriga or Troya, as the Portuguese of to-day call it, and which is said to have been built by the Romans on the site of a town found by the Phenicians. It was only by accident at the beginning of this century that the city was discovered. A fisherman in passing along his well known haunt saw walls of houses partially standing and well paved streets under the water of the Bay of Sines, and he soon communicated the wonderful news to the inhabitants of Setubal.

On examination they found a city in part submerged and running in toward the land. A society was formed under the protection of Government to make investigations. They found that the city had stood on a strip of land, nine miles long by three wide, bounded on the south by the Bay of Sines, on the north by the Setubal. Every old record was searched, and it was found that the newly-discovered city must have been Cetobriga, from chance writers, but nothing was known of its history or fate.

The city extends quite a distance along the promontory, but a large portion of it is submerged under the sea.

Another city submerged in the sea for one thousand years has just reappeared above the waters. The town of Haligon, north of Ning-po, in China, was completely overwhelmed during the Sung dynasty, and lay buried till quite recently, when the sea gradually receded, and exposed the remains of buildings.

Jules Verne describes another "City beneath the Waves" as situated off the coast of Peru.

There are also supposed buried cities and towns much nearer home, viz., Wales and Ireland, but this fact only seems to be founded on tradition, and is not authenticated.

IS LIFE WORTH LIVING.

The great frequency with which pale, sallow and enfeebled girls are met now-a-days is cause for genuine alarm. The young girls of the present generation are not the healthy, robust, rosy lasses their mothers and grandmothers were before them. Their complexion is pale and sallow or waxy in appearance and they are the victims of heart palpitation ringing noises in the head, cold hands and feet, often fainting spells, racking headaches, backaches, shortness of breath, and other distressing symptoms. All these broken chlorisis or anæmia—or in other words a watery or impoverished condition of the blood, which is unable to perform its normal functions, and unless speedily enriched with those natural remedies which give redness to the blood corpuscles, organic disease and an early grave is the inevitable result. Is not this prospect sufficient to raise the gravest alarm? Mothers are your daughters suffering from any of the symptoms indicated above, or from any of the irregularities incident to the critical period in their lives? If they are, act at once and you may have their lives that will save them. Delays in such cases are not only dangerous, but positively criminal. Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People is a remedy compounded especially to meet such cases. These pills are not a patent medicine, but a remedy prepared with the greatest care from the formula of an experienced physician, who has used it for years in his daily practice with unvarying success. These pills are especially rich in those constituents which stimulate the blood and give it that rich, red color necessary to present health and vigor. They are in all cases a never-failing blood builder and nerve tonic, acting upon the system in a natural manner, restoring health and strength to all who suffer from any form of depraved condition of the blood, or from any of those weaknesses peculiar to females. Dr. Williams' Pink Pills are sold by all dealers, or will be sent post paid on receipt of price (50 cents a box) by addressing the Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., Brockville, Ont.

Ghastly Domestic Tragedy.

A terrible murder and suicide were perpetrated early on Saturday morning at Tours. A man named Laurent, who was employed on the State Railway, had a violent altercation with his wife in the course of Friday evening, but the neighbors had no cause to apprehend that the quarrel would culminate in a ghastly crime. Laurent it appears, got out of bed in the middle of the night and renewed the scene of the previous evening. At last, in an excess of ungovernable fury, he armed himself with an American knuckle duster, and assailed his wife, felling her to the ground and beating her until she became insensible. Then, gazing a razor, he cut the woman's throat from ear to ear. Laurent next turned the razor against himself, but being unable to accomplish his own destruction with sufficient exception by this means he sought some other weapon, and with a revolver the man blew out his brains. When the neighbors arrived upon the scene they found the husband and wife lying dead side by side.

Highest Inhabited Building in Europe.

The most lofty situated building in Europe that is inhabited all the year round is an observatory near the top of Mount Etna, which is 9,200 feet above sea level. It is circular in form, built in two storeys and contains six rooms in addition to those used for astronomical observations. A hut on the Matter-horn, built by the Alpine Club as a shelter for climbers, is 3,500 feet higher than this, but it is never permanently inhabited, and is only used during the summer months. The Hospice of St. Bernard, in the Pennine Alps at the summit of the Great St. Bernard Pass from Switzerland into Italy, is 8,120 feet above sea-level.

Some Curious Fences.

Freaks in fence building are not uncommon in New England. Not many miles from New Bedford, for instance, is a fence with a curiously curved upper line and here and there a number painted upon it in white. On examination it proves to be built of pewdoors from a dismantled church. And a man attached to the life-saving station at Small Point, Bath, Me., has an unusual enough sword of the swordfish to build a picket fence 40 feet in length.

Recommended to Sufferers.

Gibbons' Toothache Gum Price 15 cents.

How many things served us but yesterday for articles of faith, which to-day we deem but fables