

FOR THE FARMER.

Why Some Farmers do not Succeed.

They are not active and industrious. They are slothful in everything. They do not keep up with improvements. They are wedded to old methods. They give no attention to details. They think small things not important. They take no pleasure in their work. They regard labor as a misfortune. They weigh and measure stingily. They are wasteful and improvident. They let their gates sag and fall down. They will not make compost. They let their fowls roost in trees. They have no shelter for stock. They do not curry their horses. They leave their plows in the field. They hang the harness in the dust. They put off greasing the wagon. They starve the calf and milk the cow. They don't know the best is the cheapest. They have no method or system. They have no ears for home enterprise. They see no good in a new thing. They never use paint on the farm. They prop the barn door with a rail. They milk the cows late in the day. They have no time to do things well. They do not read the best books and newspapers.

A Farmer's Liability to His Hired Men.

There are duties of a master to men, which, if not faithfully performed, render the master liable for the injury resulting to the men from such failure:

1. To exercise due care in the hiring and retention of employees.
2. To exercise due care in the purchasing and retention of machinery.
3. To exercise due care in keeping his buildings and premises in safe and proper condition.
4. To exercise due care not to expose his men to other than the ordinary risks of the business for which they are hired.

Among the general duties of the last group are: One of the risks which a workman assumes when he engages in any employment, is that which arises from carelessness on the part of his fellow workmen. If two farm hands, presumably competent, are set to work together, and one carelessly injures the other, the injured workman has no claim therefor upon the master. But if the master failed in the first duty above set forth, i. e., if he hired a man whom he knew to be incompetent, or if he did not exercise due care to ascertain that the man was competent, then he, the master, would be liable for injury suffered through such incompetence by another workman, without fault on the part of the latter. To illustrate this point: Suppose a farmer hires a careless boy and sets him to driving a spirited team; if the boy by his carelessness allows the team to run away and injure another workman, the farmer will be liable. He has here failed in his duty to exercise proper care in the selection of his employees. But if he had used the caution of an ordinarily prudent man in selecting a person competent to drive the team, and the man so selected had still proved careless and allowed the team to run away and injure a workman, the master would be relieved from liability for the damage done.—[American Agriculturist.]

The Farmer's Station.

"We made a singular discovery the other day," remarked an official of a road running into Chicago. "About three miles beyond a certain station on our line there is a farm house by the side of the track. Just beyond the farm house is a little creek, over which there is a small bridge. About four years ago some repairs were made to that little bridge, and, of course, the bridge gang had put up a sign-board, 'Run Slow' on either side during the day or so the bridge was weakened. When they had finished their work they went off and forgot the signs. The fact is, the boards had disappeared, and they didn't take the trouble to hunt them up.

Some weeks afterward, no one knows just when, those signs reappeared in their former places. Nobody knew who put them there or what for. Nobody cared. If the section men noticed them at all they thought the bridge men had done it. It was none of the engineer's business why they were there—it was their duty to observe regulations, which required them to slow down at all such signs. Observe regulations they did. For about four years not a train had passed over that little bridge without slowing almost to a standstill. The culvert, for that's all it is, has been as safe as any part of the roadbed, and yet stopping and starting trains there has cost this company thousands of dollars. Yes, it costs money to stop and start trains. You are wondering how it all came about, of course. Well that farmer stole those boards and put them up at his leisure. For four years he has been going into the town or coming from it on our trains, getting on or off right at his own door.

It was a slick scheme, and how he must have laughed at us and enjoyed it all the while. But his game is up now, and the engineers are having their revenge by keeping up an infernal screeching of their whistles at all hours of the day or night whenever they pass that farm house."

The Origin of Horse-Shoeing.

According to the *Blacksmith and Wheelwright*, it is evident that horses were not shod in Egypt, Assyria or Palestine. The latter country was supplied with horses by the Egyptians. Solomon paid 150 shekels of silver, equal in value to \$75, for each horse. This was a high price, the difference in relative value of a shekel and a given weight of wheat being con-

sidered. Isaiah speaks of horses whose "hoofs shall be counted like flint"—a valuable quality where they were shoeless. The Syrians and Hittites were supplied with Egyptian horses by Solomon, who thus turned an honest penny by this means.

Aristotle and Pliny mention the covering of horses' feet in stony places to protect the hoof from breakage and wear, but it is probable that such a covering was a bandage or boot, and used principally on long journeys. Suetonius refers to the dismounting of Vespasian's muleteer to shoe his mules. Wrappings of plaited fibre, such as hemp or broom, were used, as was also leather. In Japan the horses have clogs of twisted straw, of which a large supply is carried on a journey; when worn another is immediately applied. The American custom of shoeing would, no doubt, appear a barbarous custom in their minds. Capt. Cook refers to the fact that the Siberians and Kamtschatkans use travelling socks for their dogs.

Camels in old times were similarly provided. These boots were drawn on over the feet, and it does not appear that iron or other metallic plates were nailed to the hoofs. Such boots were shod with metal for the rich. The mules of Nere were shod with silver; those of his wife, Pappaea, with gold. For less stately purposes mules were shod with iron. Homer mentions brazen-footed steeds, probably a merely metaphorical expression implying strength. Mithridates and Alexander experienced great difficulty with their cavalry, owing to the soreness of the feet of the horses in long marches. The first certain mention of shoes being nailed to horses' hoofs is in the works of Emperor Leo. The practice of shoeing horses is said to have been introduced into England by William I.

In two respects the shoeing of horses in Holland differs from ours. First, to prevent slipping, the forehoofs are pared away to the toe and the shoe so fitted that the toes do not touch the ground when the foot stands flat; the weight resting on the middle and heel of the shoe. Second, the shoe is nailed on perfectly flat and close to the foot, which is flattened to receive it; the iron is thereby deprived of all spring and the hold of the nails is undisturbed. The frog comes in contact with the ground.

A Cholera Tragedy.

The outbreak of cholera at Toulon and Marseilles this summer has led to the papers printing many ghastly stories; but none have the element of loneliness and desolation more vividly outlined than an incident which happened at Toulon early in August. A. M. Berard dwelt there, with a wife and family, and on the epidemic becoming severe, left town to proceed to a safe country retreat. One old and trusted servant, a hale and hearty woman, was left behind, partly at her own request, and partly because she did not care to face the journey. She was well, she said, and she had no fear of the plague. She would prefer to remain, and the family acquiescing, bade her good-bye with a light heart. She went about her duties after they left as cheerfully as usual. The house was duly closed up, the shutters bolted, and only the great heavy front door, common in French houses, kept on the latch.

In a panic and plague-smitten city there is no need to fear that people will pry into each other's business; and so, although old Marie was not seen about for a day or two, no notice was taken of the occurrence. Day succeeded day, but no window was opened, and the door was never seen ajar. At length a week passed, and a gendarme, thinking it curious, pushed open the door.

A rat bolted across his feet as he entered; and there, spread all her length within a yard of the entrance, lay the decomposed body of the faithful servant, who must have been attacked with cholera and smitten with death just as she was on the point of crossing the threshold to seek for help or the last rites of the priest.

Statistics from a London Directory.

The population of London is sheltered by 550,000 dwelling houses, and the area of streets and squares embraces 122 square miles. Every day sees an average of 160,000 strangers enter the city, and 123 persons added to the population; while each year about twenty-eight miles of new streets are laid out, and 9,000 new houses erected. There are 129,000 paupers, upon whom 10,700 police keep a close eye. The population includes 120,000 foreigners, more Roman Catholics than there are in Rome, and more Jews than there are in Palestine. Two thousand clergymen preside over 620 churches and 423 chapels, of which latter buildings the Independents have 121, the Baptists 100, the Wesleyans 77, the Catholic 90, the Calvinists 10, the Presbyterians 10, the Quakers 7, and the Jews 10. The number of cats kept by the people is so large (700,000) that "cat's meat" is daily delivered at the majority of houses. The 3,000 horses which die each week are utilized to meet this demand.

A Terrible Weapon of Defence.

If a pompous wisacre tries to sit down on you, ask him rapidly a few questions like the following:

What, if any, is the difference between a kaiak and a caïque?

What, if any, is the difference between Jacobins and Jacobites?

What, if any, is the difference between the ear of Dionysus and the ear of Dionysius?

How do you accent vagary, coterie, and survey?

How do you pronounce pronunciation?

What is the meaning of the phrase to "bum your chuck"?

These questions will make it pleasant for him.

THE UNSPEAKABLE TURK.

Atrocities Perpetrated by him on the Bulgarians of Macedonia.

M. de Laveleye in the *Poll Mall Gazette*: In an article which this paper was good enough to accept not very long since I suggested, in the interests of humanity, that from time to time a separate sheet should be published containing exact accounts of the crimes and violence practised upon the unfortunate rayas of Macedonia, and that a copy of this should be forwarded to all the members of every European Parliament to excite general pity for this ill-used population. While awaiting the execution of this proposal the editor of the *Poll Mall Gazette* kindly allows me to assert in his paper such facts as come to my knowledge. Of course, as my sources of information are but limited, I am not acquainted with more than one-tenth, perhaps not even with more than one-hundredth part of the atrocities committed on the Bulgarians of Macedonia, but I tell what I know, leaving others to add to the sad story. Here are a few recent facts: During the month of July last forty-five murders were committed by the Turks in the district of Vellese (Krupouli, Macedonia), and at Bitolia (Monastire) sixty. Some of the most barbarous of these may be mentioned:

First—A band of eight men, headed by the bloodthirsty chief Feyzo of the village of Tchernilatcha (district of Prilep) set out for the village of Negilevo, and in the mountains attacked three Bulgarian shepherds of from 50 to 60 years of age, whose names were Naydo Tasseff Tcherenkewsky, Sowtcho Georgieff Teherenkewsky, and Christo Newkewsky. They bound them, cut off their ears and noses, and then by order of Feyzo, tore the skin off their legs, arms, and necks, calling out to them as they laid the veins bare to "bear witness before the prophet that we know how to shed Slav blood." After this their eyes were put out and they were cut to pieces.

Second—In the village of Podles, near to Valesse, lives a well-known assassin named Hamidaah. He acquired his farm (Tchiwlk), which, by the way, he forces the peasants to cultivate gratuitously, by violence. He met, the other day, a Young Bulgarian, about 25 years of age, and asked for the loan of his horse. The young man informed him that the horse was just then at work in the enclosure. Enraged by this refusal, Hamidaah dealt the young fellow such a blow on the head with his gun that it killed him on the spot.

Third—A Turk found a cow belonging to the herd of a Bulgarian straying in one of his fields. Without more ado he at once fastened the man guarding them to a tree and put five balls through his body.

Fourth—At Podles several Turks seized upon a woman whose husband was unfortunately in exile in Asia. They took her to their home, and most grossly ill-treated and assaulted her. She complained to the authorities at Welles, who refused to seek out the criminals. The unfortunate woman dares not return to her village, and is now at Welles, supported by the ecclesiastical community.

Fifth—In the village of Vintchany the Turks took violent possession of a young girl, and forced her to marry a Turk, living in the village. The latter treated her with extreme violence and ordered the girl to embrace the Mohammedan religion. The peasantry appealed to the authorities, who called in the police, and the complainants were taken off to prison. The wretched girl was among the prisoners, and was heard to call out in a voice quivering with emotion and agony:—"O God! are we handed over to tyrants, or have we a king to protect us? I have been torn from my family and barbarously outraged, and no one says a word in my defence." She was ultimately sent back to her home, but her assailants went unpunished.

Sixth—In the village of Nogilovo three Bulgarians were discovered massacred and their bodies most horribly mutilated. Their eyes were first put out, then their noses were cut off, then their hands and feet were amputated, and finally their arms were fastened behind them and their heads were cut off. These three unhappy victims were the village priest, a peasant who had brought him bread, and a passer-by who happened to be on the spot at the time of the crime.

Seventh—In the neighborhood of the village of Grago the body of an honest Bulgarian was found cowardly assassinated, and beside him lay his son grievously wounded.

Eighth—In one of the villages near Valesse a messenger, whose horse was walking behind him, was accosted by a Turk, who requested the loan of the horse. On the man's refusal, the Turk struck him dead with a blow on the head.

Ninth—In the villages of Nogyafzy and at Tcherivino, Bulgarians have recently been murdered by Turks, and in all these cases not the smallest effort is ever made to trace out and punish the guilty parties.

These atrocities are revolting to us, but the saddest part of them is the reflection that they are the necessary outcome of the situation created by Europe's intervention. Formerly it was to the interests of the Turks to treat the Bulgarians—who are the agricultural laborers—well; but since Europe has promised a better Government and an autonomy based on the principle of the most numerous nationality, the Mussulman's aim is to exterminate as many Christians as possible, so as to continue master himself. The Turks feel themselves menaced by danger, and they defend themselves by murdering and ruining those who would take their place. Europe ought not to have sanctioned the twenty-third article of the treaty of Berlin, promising guarantees to Macedonia similar to those accorded to Roumelia, if she can allow it at the present to remain a mere dead letter. England, who opposed complete freedom being

granted to Macedonia, is responsible for the great evils now weighing on this unfortunate country. It is, therefore, her place to put a stop to all this, and to insist upon the Porte's observance of the stipulation of the famous twenty-third article.

LOST IN THE SNOW DRIFTS.

Terrible Experience of Two Men in the Colorado Mountains.

The first report of hunger, cold, and death in the mountains comes from Eagle county, near Denver, Colorado. N. R. Smith of Dotsero started a week ago last Tuesday with Elbridge Forsyth and two teams from Dotsero for Coffeepot Springs for lumber and that night the storm began. On Sunday last the mail carrier reached Dotsero from Carbonate with the information that these men had not been seen since Wednesday, and as the storm had raged with unabated fury, it was known that something had gone wrong with the missing men. A relief party of four men was started at once, and after a struggle through the drifting snow and a furious gale of wind, they found Forsyth half dead from hunger and cold, and so weak that he was unable to move. When they asked for Smith the famished man pointed to a bank of snow some distance away and gasped:

"He died yesterday morning, and boys, you are too late for either of us."

The white mound was examined and Smith's body was found half covered with snow and frozen hard. In Forsyth's clenched hand was a scrap of paper on which he had written with his benumbed fingers a brief word to his wife as follows:

DEAR ADDIE: We cannot live another night. I want you to have everything. ROACH FORSYTH.

He was carried to Willow Springs and cared for. His feet are badly frozen, and he will be crippled for life. Nathaniel Rochester Smith, the dead man, came from Rochester, N. Y. He was one of the pioneers in that newly settled region and had faith in its future. His brother, Henry R. Smith, lives in Salida.

Forsyth tells the following story: Soon after their start on Tuesday they killed a deer. When the storm struck them they thought it would be of brief duration, but on Wednesday they found themselves hemmed in on all sides by deep drifts, and they were unable to get fuel to replenish their fire. They were then left in the cold with only raw deer meat to eat. That day they saw the mail carrier in the distance on his way to Dotsero, moving along freely on snow-shoes.

They tried to signal him, but they could not, and they saw him disappear. With this failure their last hope died. On Thursday morning the storm abated, and Forsyth made an effort to get wood. He was weak and could hardly move, and Smith cried to him, "For God's sake don't leave me to die alone," and Forsyth dropped down where he was found by the relief party. For three days they lived on snow and raw venison. Forsyth thinks Smith died some time during Thursday night, but he cannot tell exactly.

FACTS AND FIGURES.

An oyster produces 125,000,000 young oysters in the course of a year.

If the public drinking places of England were placed side by side in a straight line they would extend a distance of 700 miles.

The cotton product of the several cotton-growing countries is as follows: United States, 2,770,000,000 lbs; East Indies, 407,000,000; Egypt, Smyrna, etc., 269,000,000; Brazil, 44,000,000; West Indies, 16,000,000. Total 3,506,000,000.

Some idea of the extent of the California canned goods trade and capital invested may be gained from the fact that the total pack of the Pacific Coast in fruits and vegetables, including pie fruits, jams and jellies, with a fair estimate of the tomato, quince, and grape packs not yet completed, is 606,900 cases, 14,157,600 cans, or 37,118,000 pounds; and the cost of the pack \$1,830,120.

As to the depths reached in sounding the ocean. Lieut. Barryman obtained bottom at forty-five hundred and eighty fathoms a short distance south of the banks of Newfoundland. The depth of the sea is commonly exaggerated. People used to think that it ranged from seven thousand to eight thousand fathoms. The average depth is twenty-five hundred fathoms in both the Atlantic and the Pacific.

In the cotton States of Louisiana there are 197,000,000 acres of land in farms, of which 67,350,000 are improved. The cotton area actually tilled was about 44,000,000 acres in 1879. The crops in tillage now occupy about 53,000,000 acres, the difference representing the increase since the census from which the above figures were taken was made. The census value of farm productions for this section is \$547,000,000. During the first four months of this year \$54,000,000 was invested in Southern manufacturing.

A well educated person who possesses a college sheepskin, reads his Bible, his Shakespeare and the daily papers seldom uses more than 3,000 or 4,000 words in actual conversation. Accurate thinkers and close reasoners, who avoid vague and general expressions and wait till they find a word that exactly fits their meaning, employ a larger stock, and eloquent speakers may rise to a command of 10,000. Shakespeare, who displayed a greater variety of expression than probably any writer in any language, produced all his plays with about 13,000 words. Milton's works are built up with 8,000, and the Old Testament says all that it has to say with 5,462 words. In the English language there are, all told, 70,000 words.

EARTHQUAKE IN SPAIN.

People Passed the Night in Fields and Public Squares.

Further details of the destruction caused by the earthquakes in Spain have been received in a special despatch to the *London Daily News*. At Antiquera, a small city in Andalusia, twenty-eight miles north-west of Malaga, five distinct shocks were felt during Wednesday night and Thursday. Every one of the seven churches in the city was destroyed. A coffee-house fell to the ground while it was filled with people, and many of them were injured. Several other buildings were demolished, and many casualties are reported. During the whole of Christmas day and night the public squares were filled with people, and many of them were injured. Several other buildings were demolished, and many casualties are reported. During the whole of Christmas day and night the public squares were filled with people, who were afraid to re-enter their houses dreading a return of the shocks. At one time as many as three hundred people, were in one of the squares, kneeling on the pavement and praying for deliverance. At night many of them camped in the fields outside the walls or in the old city, which is built further up the hill, and was deemed a place of safety.

Later details concerning the earthquake show the damage to property and loss of life to be much greater than at first believed. The provinces of Malaga and Granada were the scene of the severest disturbance. Many parts of Albuqueros are in ruins, and 160 persons are believed to have perished. At Arzenas del Rey forty persons were killed. Disasters are reported from other towns. A slight shock has been felt in many places since Thursday. As far as known 500 persons were killed in Andalusia by the recent earthquake.

SERIOUS LOSS OF LIFE.

Official reports show that 266 persons were killed in the provinces of Malaga and Granada by the recent earthquake. The population of Granada is still encamped in the squares, and the richer classes lodging in their carriages along the promenade. The facade of the cathedral was seriously damaged by the shock. Many houses were destroyed in Jimena, and a whole family was killed in the village of Cajar by the falling of a chimney. Over half the inhabitants of Albuqueros were killed. Alhama is

MOSTLY IN RUINS.

The province of Malaga suffered equally as much as Granada. Commerce is paralyzed. Two hundred houses at Alfarenetzo were damaged. The panic is subsiding. The shock was not felt in the northern and north-west provinces. The Government has granted \$5,000 from the national calamity fund for the relief of the sufferers in the province of Granada.

FURTHER DETAILS.

Later advices show that 300 lives were lost at Alhama. Seven hundred and fifty houses and church were destroyed and 30 persons killed at Peñana. The town hall and many houses were damaged at Trox, and the inhabitants fled from the town panic stricken. It is now estimated that 600 persons were killed in the province of Malaga, including those killed at Alhama.

FRESH SHOCKS.

Fresh shocks, more violent than the first, have occurred at Trox and Alhama. The panic at those places has been revived.

The Proposed Saharan Sea.

With reference to the daring French project for flooding the desert of Sahara with what would be virtually a new sea, it may be well, says *Engineering*, to recall the opinion expressed by M. Elisee Reclus, that at one period in the world's history, the desert was covered by a sea very similar to the Mediterranean, and that this sea exercised a very great influence upon the temperature of France, as comparatively cold—or at any rate cool—winds blow over it, while now the winds which prevail in the great expanse area of a much higher temperature, and are, in fact, sometimes suffocatingly hot. The appearance of the desert seems to support the theory of M. Elisee Reclus, that it was at one time the bed of a sea of considerable extent, of which the great inland African lakes recently discovered are possibly the remains.

The present vast extent and configuration of the African continent would also appear to support the conclusion that at one time it comprised a less area of land than it does at present. The serious question which arises, assuming that the theory of M. Elisee Reclus is substantially correct, is, What will be the effect of the creation of a second African sea in the room of that which has disappeared? Would the temperature of France, and possibly even of England, be again reduced? It is a geological theory that in the glacial period of the world's history Great Britain was covered with ice and snow very much as Greenland is at present. Some great influences must clearly have been brought to bear upon France and Great Britain, which rolled the ice over so many hundred miles northward. What was this influence? Was it the large African sea which French enterprise is endeavoring to create? If it were, we should say that whatever the French may gain in Africa by the realization of a Saharan Sea would be much more than counterbalanced by what they would lose in France itself.

A Cure for Frost Bites.

The most effective remedy for frost bites: As soon as possible procure enough oil of peppermint to thoroughly bathe the affected part, and keep away from the fire until the frost is drawn out. Care should be taken to get the oil, as the essence will not have the desired effect.