

One of the humors of the Turkish situation is the insistence of the sultan in a recent circular to the powers, that an end shall be put to the miserable and disgraceful condition of affairs in Crete. That there is urgent need that something should be done, and done immediately, admits of no question, all accounts agreeing that the island could hardly be in a worse condition, not a single reform undertaken by the powers when they interfered to prevent Greece from effecting its deliverance having yet been carried out. Autonomy has not been established, the Turkish troops have not been withdrawn, a governor has not been appointed, nor a gendarmerie formed, nor has any power been willing to lend or guarantee the money needed to put the new administrative machinery into operation. As this condition is, directly and indirectly, wholly the result of Turkish misrule, the humor of the sultan's circular lies in the request of the oppressor for deliverance from the consequences of his own oppression, as well as in the plan he proposes for the accomplishment of that end. This is that he shall appoint the governor, who shall be a Christian and an Ottoman subject, that the whole Cretan population shall be disarmed, and that the Turkish garrison shall be increased, that is, in effect, that all arrangements shall be made to facilitate a general massacre. The coolness of such a proposal on the part of a sultan who has already agreed to the Turkish evacuation of the island, takes one's breath away, and shows that if the powers really mean to permanently restore peace and good government to Crete, they will not only have to give direct orders to the Porte, but see that they are carried out. The Hungarian premier said a fortnight ago in the Reichstag that the concert was still pledged to secure autonomy for the island under the suzerainty of the sultan, but what it means by autonomy, and whether its intervention is to be limited to academic suggestions or backed up by force, has yet to be known.

The first task before the powers is to compel assent to the evacuation to which Turkey has already consented, after which an autonomous government must be organized by the appointment of a governor, chosen from one of the minor European powers, say Sweden or Belgium, and the formation of a corps of gendarmerie, at least half of which must be foreign. Until such a force is created, the Ottoman troops will have an excuse for remaining, and as the Christian population will not disarm until they go, anarchy and murder must continue. This done, a loan must be made under European guarantee large enough to carry on the government and to help the people to a new start in life, the prolonged conflict and chaos in the island having exhausted all means and destroyed all industry. To accomplish all this should not, if the powers mean business, be a difficult matter, nor require much time; and the idea that they should hesitate to undertake it would, in view of the fact that they prevented the Cretans from putting an end to Ottoman misrule, and so are morally bound to fulfill the task themselves, be scouted, had they not so often proved their ineptitude. Of the chief difficulties in the way of their effective action the latter is the most formidable, for though the question is simply one of establishing order and good government in a former Turkish possession, and has been fully solved in Bosnia and elsewhere, the failures of European diplomacy thus far in Crete give little promise that anything of value will be accomplished. The fact that the sultan has in his circular ignored the pledges of the powers, shows how little weight he attaches to them.

NOT A MORAL LEVER.

There was an old lady in the city of Glasgow who greatly admired Doctor Chalmers, says an exchange, and she never willing missed one of his sermons. No doubt they did her good, but now and then they were somewhat "over her head," as the common expression is. One day she went home from church in great perplexity. Doctor Chalmers had dwelt much on a "moral lever," with which he wished to uplift human nature. What a "moral lever" was the little old woman could not divine. A friend took the poker and placed it on the bars of the grate, trying to illustrate the idea and make the imagery palpable. The old woman was not helped. She thought of the indignity done to the poker, the subject, the doctor and herself by so gross a materialization of the "moral lever," and bursting with indignation, she asked: "Do you mean to tell me that Doctor Chalmers would preach for an hour about a poker?"

THE FARM.

WINTERING OF LIVE STOCK.

A breeder of experience, writing in a western paper, says that with all young stock, while it is very essential to maintain a steady growth from birth until they are sufficiently matured to finish for market, at the same time it is very important to secure this growth at as low a cost as possible. During the summer, young cattle, sheep and horses can be kept growing with good pasturage. With hogs it is nearly always best to feed some grain. But as colder weather sets in the pasturage will fail and it will be necessary to put them on dry food. So far as can be done it is always best to make the change to dry food gradually. A very good plan is to pen at night when the nights begin to get cool and to give a light feed of roughness, gradually increasing as may seem necessary. By having stock in a good, thrifty condition in the fall, it will be much easier to keep thrifty. Stock allowed to run down while in pasturage require the best of treatment after they are put on dry food to get thrifty again. With good hay as fodder, young stock, cattle, sheep or horses may be kept growing with very little grain, provided, of course, that they are comfortably sheltered. Generally the amount of grain necessary to keep stock in good condition during the winter when fed liberally with good roughness depends upon the warmth and comfort of the shelter provided. Stock exposed to all kinds of weather during the winter will require considerably more grain than those comfortably sheltered.

But generally when grain is reasonably cheap a sufficiently better gain can be secured by feeding a little grain in connection with the roughness to make such feeding profitable. A still more economical ration can be provided by cutting, at least, a part of the roughness, adding some ground grain and wheat bran. When fed in connection with other materials in this way some bran can nearly always be fed to good advantage. There is one good advantage in feeding bran when it can be secured at a fair price and that is in addition to supplying the young animals with the elements needed for the growth and development of bone and muscle it adds nearly its cost in the increased value of the manure heap. It helps to make up a complete ration and can nearly always be fed to young growing stock to an advantage. It is an important item in wintering growing stock economically to provide warm dry quarters. In order to lessen the waste in feeding these should be provided with good mangers in which to feed all kinds of roughness and a tight trough or box in which to feed grain. Bedding should be provided at night, not only as a means of adding to the comfort of the animal, but also to absorb and save the liquid manure. The feeding should be done regularly, supplying only the quantity that the animals will readily eat up clean and a sufficient variety to keep the animals with a good appetite. Have salt where they can help themselves, and water regularly. Whenever the weather will permit let them run out at least a short time; the better air and the exercise they will take will be helpful. With care in this way the cost may be materially reduced, and lessening the cost means an increase in profits. Stock ought to gain steadily in winter as well as in summer, and will do so if the proper conditions are supplied, and unless a gain is made the feed consumed is practically lost.

RASPBERRIES AND BLACKBERRIES.

One of the most difficult things in our horticultural work is to properly care for plantations of raspberries and blackberries after they have become established, writes J. H. Haynes. To keep them in narrow rows and to keep the spaces between rows free from weeds and suckers is a difficult matter, especially if we use deep cutting implements. The persistent suckering of red raspberry and blackberry in the spaces aggravated by the use of the cultivators which breaks the roots and causes them to spring up by the thousands, must be overcome, if our plantations would be made productive and lasting. To accomplish this I have pursued the following modes of planting and of culture: The first requisite in proper planting is to have your ground thoroughly plowed, harrowed, and made level and free from all rubbish, stones or other impediments to a thorough cultivation afterwards. This should be done this fall for next spring's planting, because, as a rule, of late years our springs are so short that there is too much to be done for the time we have. In spring just as soon as it is possible the land is furrowed in rows six feet apart and furrows made deep as possible. In the bottom of these furrows we put our plants, covering them sufficiently to start them growing, and filling up the furrow by subsequent cultivation till our land is as level as before furrowing. The only thing is to be careful when planting blackcaps that you do not plant them deeply in the bottom of the furrow lest in case of much wet weather the plants would be smothered, but when they once start then you are

safe. This deep planting is done for two purposes: First, to guard plants from drouth the first season, and second, to force deep rooting of plants so that they will be below the cultivator, thus protecting the roots from breakage. With these two precautions I am insured a fine season's growth and a fair amount of fine fruit the first season. The first season's culture can be safely done with any implement that will loosen the soil so that it does not run too deep. Even a double shovel will do good work by using small shovels. With the second season our trouble begins, for now an innumerable army of suckers will spring up, and unless subdued, will suck the life from our bearing plants. For this purpose I have made a cultivator, for its use proves its superiority over the general run of implements. This cultivator is run every two weeks in the spaces until every sucker and weed is eradicated and the top soil is as loose as dust. It should not be set to cut deeper than three inches. By its use my rows are uniform in width, all spaces are free from weeds and suckers, the soil is made drouth proof and all the strength of the roots goes to the fruiting plant and not to nourish suckers. The cultivator can be made for one horse or for two, of course running the one horse twice in the space. For a two-horse cultivator I use 4x4 hickory or oak. The A arms are six feet long and the cross arm four feet. The centre cross arm insures firmness. For the knives or cutters use bar steel one inch wide and three-eighths inch thick. Cut this into lengths of one foot. Have them bent in L form, the lower, or knife part, being three inches. This is drawn out to a sharp cutting edge and kept sharp all the time. Insert them in the beams in mortises, the knife cutting inside and slightly inclined to the rear. The upright arm of the knife should be sharpened for at least three inches. For cross arms use triangular harrow teeth, inclined to the rear so as to prevent clogging. For a one-horse cultivator the A arms need to be four feet and the cross beams two and one-half feet. It will require about eighteen knives and nine teeth for a two-horse cultivator, and for a one-horse twelve knives and six teeth. If you once try this implement you will agree with the writer that it is par excellence, the one for success in growing fine berries. It can be used in cultivation of currants and gooseberries where planted the proper distances, and with the same success as with the berries.

FEEDING FOR EGGS.

The profit is always sure when every detail is correct. Cheap food must not be estimated by the price paid for it in the market. The cheapest food for the poultryman or farmer is that which gives him the largest number of eggs. It matters not what the food costs, so long as the eggs correspond. It is the product by which we should measure and estimate.

Green bones are not used as extensively as they should be, because grain can be obtained with less difficulty and at a low cost, but as egg producing material the bone is far superior to grain; nor does the bone really cost more than grain in some sections. The cutting of the bone into available sizes is now rendered an easy matter, as the bone-cutter is within the reach of all. Bones fresh from the butcher have more or less meat adhering, and the more of such meat the better, as it will cost no more per pound than the meat and bone is almost a perfect food from which to produce eggs.

If the farmer can get two extra eggs per week from each hen in winter, he will make a large profit. We may add that if the product of each hen can be increased one egg per week only, in winter, that one egg will pay for all the food she can possibly consume, and it therefore pays to feed the substances that will induce the hens to lay. If the hens are consuming food and yet producing no eggs, they will cause a loss to their owner; and this happens every winter on a large number of farms. The hens receive plenty of food, but not of the proper kind.

A pound of cut green bone is sufficient for sixteen hens one day, which means that one cent will pay for the bone for that number of fowls. If one quart of grain be fed at night to sixteen hens, and one pound of bone in the morning, it should be ample for each day in winter. In summer only the bone need be given. Such a diet provides, fat, starch, nitrogen, phosphates, lime and all the substances required to enable the hen to lay eggs. As an egg is worth about three cents in winter, it is plain that it is cheaper to feed bone than grain, as the greater number of eggs not only reduces the total cost, but increases the profit as well.

The bone-cutter is as necessary to the poultryman as his feed mill. It enables him to use an excellent and cheap food, and gives him a profit where he might otherwise be compelled to suffer a loss. It is claimed that a bone-cutter pays for itself in eggs, and really costs nothing. Bones are now one of the staple articles of food for poultry, and no ration should have them omitted. They are food, grit and lime, all combined in one, and the hens will leave all other foods to receive the cut bone. If out fine, even chicks and ducklings will relish such excellent food, while turkeys grow rapidly on it. To meet with success requires the use of the best materials, and green bone beats all other substances as food for poultry.

NOTHING TO GRAB HIM BY.

Mrs. Gabbleton—I am told that Mrs. Hencheyck has lost all hold on her husband. Old Aunt Broadhead—Yes; I've noticed that he has shaved off his chin whiskers.

ITEMS OF INTEREST.

A Few Items Which May Prove Worth Reading.

Shoes made of porpoise leather are absolutely impervious to water. The loftiest cliff on the coast of England is Beachy Head, the height of which is 564 feet. In Puerto Limon, Costa Rica, the whiskey is so bad that the yellow fever will not attack any body who drinks it.

Twenty-seven onions, the combined weight of which was sixty-five pounds were raised this season by J. R. Douglas, of Albany, Oregon.

The trees in the streets of Paris are looked after by a public official appointed just for that purpose, and therefore the Parisian streets always look beautiful.

In some parts of China the punishment for murder is sleeplessness. The culprit is kept awake until he dies. Under this treatment a person lives nine or ten days.

All the street cars in Des Moines, Iowa, pass this post-office, and many of them have letter-boxes attached. A letter or other mail matter can be mailed at any point and the car is stopped to receive it.

Lewis Weaver, aged seventy, of Mount Pleasant Pa., has just buried his second wife, which makes the twenty-first funeral in his family. He has had twenty-seven children and buried nineteen of them.

John Hyman, of Loogootee, Ind., is proud of his calling, which is that of a cooper. He has had carved for his monument a marble barrel, with a keel on it, and the barrel bears these words: "A Cooper by Trade."

Elizabeth Bowles, aged seven years, of New York, was carrying a siphon of seltzer water. While ascending the stoop of her home, the siphon fell from her hand and exploded as it struck the stone step. A piece of the glass cut open her windpipe, causing death.

An immense horse-mackerel, eight feet long and weighing 500 pounds, was lately caught in a trap at Gardiner's Island, off the eastern end of Long Island, N. Y., by Captain Frank Tut-hill. Before being subdued, it leaped into a rowboat, which it smashed into three pieces.

Humming birds are domesticated by placing in their cages a number of paper flowers of tubular form containing a small quantity of sugar and water which must be frequently renewed. Of this liquid the birds partake, and quickly become apparently contented with their captivity.

An anti-swearing society has been organized in Owingsville, Ky. For every oath uttered by the members, they have agreed to pay five cents into the treasury. Nine of them engaged in a warm political discussion the other night, and the oaths rattled out brought in a revenue of \$17.65.

Mr. Hoodley, of Belleair, Florida, has a pet alligator, twelve feet long. Up to a few days ago, his neighbor, Mr. Dickinson had a pet pelican. The alligator took a fancy to the pelican and devoured it. Mr. Dickinson saw the bird's tail feathers disappear as the animal closed its huge jaws.

The steamer Florida, on a recent trip from Pensacola to Choctawhatchie, had a lighter lashed alongside. In some way a tarpon became fast between the steamer and the lighter, and in trying to effect its release it leaped on the steamer's deck. The fish weighed 175 pounds, and was six feet four inches in length.

A pretended oculist called on Mrs. R. Hawkins, in Perry, Ohio, and persuaded her to permit him to examine her eyes and those of her granddaughter. He hypnotized both of them, and compelled Mrs. Hawkins to bring to him \$57 from a place where it was concealed in the house. The hypnotic spell lasted twenty-four hours.

Two young men, hilarious with strong cider, were conveying four young ladies across a creek in a boat, at Hamilton, Ala. One of the men, in the exuberance of his merriment, stuck a pin in the other. The latter bounded from his seat, and in the act lost his car. The boat drifted to a whirlpool and sank, and the four girls were drowned.

A GROWING CITY.

Vladivostok Will Soon be Famous as a Railroad Terminus.

Open your atlas at the map of Asia and look for the city with the long name of Vladivostok, on the eastern coast, north of Japan. A few years ago this was only a little barren straggling town of a few thousand inhabitants, most of whom were Chinese fishermen, who lived in the deepest poverty. Now it is a rapidly growing city of more than twenty thousand inhabitants, and it will soon become one of the great ports and naval stations of the world. Last week the cornerstone of the new Russian public works was laid with great ceremony.

The importance of Vladivostok lies in the fact that it is the terminus of the Trans-Siberian Railroad which runs from Russia, a distance of over five thousand miles, across the barren stretches of Siberia. When completed it will have cost over one hundred and seventy-five million dollars, making it one of the greatest business enterprises of modern times. This railroad will give Russia a great port on the Pacific ocean and enable her to develop the rich coal and iron mines of her vast territory, all of which will add to the importance of the new city. Vladivostok is also well located for a fortress and it is expected that Russia will arm it and make it a base of supplies for her ships. Two months every year its harbor is frozen over, but the Russian government keeps a channel plowed through the ice with a great ice crusher.

OVER THE ICE TO YUKON.

MAJOR WALSH'S PARTY GO TO KLONDIKE BY LAND ROUTE.

Will Reach Dawson in Two Months - Inspector McGregor Follows Two Days Behind His Chief with Horses, Dogs and Provisions.

J. B. McGregor, mining inspector of Major Walsh's staff, has left with the last of the administrator's party, says a despatch from Skaguay, Alaska. The Major started half of his party three days ago, and left himself the next day with a determination, cheerily expressed that he would certainly get through to Dawson City in January.

He takes one team of dogs only, for packing on the ice when it is reached, but he left Inspector McGregor, who will be several days behind him, to come on with horses and dogs and rescue him if he gets into a tight place. He believes, however, that Mr. McGregor will not catch up with him, but that he will be able, with the mounted police in advance of him with supplies, to push straight through.

OUTCOME EAGERLY WATCHED FOR

The outcome of the Major's endeavor will be eagerly watched for, as it is held that if he can get through on the soft snow, instead of waiting until February, others may do so.

Inspector McGregor is having made here sleighs with iron four inches wide. These are for the horses, of which he takes in ten. The Inspector will also take forty dogs. These were sent to Lake Bennett to be regularly exercised on the snow and hardened for the expedition. Three men go with the dogs and three with the horses.

Major Walsh on his way up will designate stations fifty miles apart, and at each of these stations a train of dogs will be left for the mail service. With stations well provisioned only fifty miles apart a regular mail service may be depended upon.

EXPEDITION IS WELL PLANNED.

Then, if Major Walsh should be frozen up when Inspector McGregor catches up with him, the horses will be used to pack in his personal belongings and feed for the animals.

It is a well planned expedition and there seems to be no reason why it should not go through. McGregor's party takes sixty days' rations for animals and 180 days' rations for the men.

There is a great activity in Skaguay building sleds, and several parties will not be able to restrain their impatience until there is a start on the snow. One of these parties is making preparations to take in turkeys, cranberry sauce and mince-meat to Dawson, with the hope of reaching there by the Christmas holidays.

BEEF TO BE TAKEN TO DAWSON.

Willis Thorne and his partner are sending in their cattle. The plan is to get the cattle to Lake Bennett, there kill them and freeze the beef then to sell it to come along the lakes, and get the remainder to Dawson City.

About four hundred head will be treated in this manner, so that Dawson about the beginning of next year, will be well supplied with beef for a time.

There is no diminution in the activity of Skaguay and Drea, both of which places are now running a race to supply facilities of transportation over the passes. Skaguay's tram road of wooden rails has about thirty men at work, and at Drea car wheels for a railroad up to near Sheep Camp have been delivered.

From this point it is proposed to make a tram road over the summit and to Lake Bennett. There was a story two or three days ago of a man found dead of starvation near the summit of the Drea Pass, but I have so far been unable to verify it.

NEW FOOD PLANTS.

Mr. Garton Said to Have Discovered Ways of Producing Them by Crossing.

What is alleged to be the discovery of Mr. Garton, an English agriculturist, has been tested exhaustively with the greatest success at the Earl of Winchilsea's experimental farm at Sleaford, England. It consists of applying the principle of cross-fertilization to grasses, clovers, cereals, and other food plants.

The Earl of Winchilsea's secretary says that the experiments were made, not only with plants grown in the United Kingdom, but with those of all foreign agricultural countries. Special varieties that are best suited to any particular soil or climate can therefore be produced.

The experiments have not been made public hitherto, in order that a sufficient quantity of seed might be raised to supply the demand when the important results were made known. Mr. Garton has already received applications from some foreign governments for seed.

The United States have effected crosses of wheat, but have not attempted to cross barley or oats. Mr. Garton has succeeded in all his efforts, and Great Britain is thus enabled to take the lead in supplying the world with new varieties of grains. This will be a potent factor in restoring prosperity to British agriculture.

Dr. Goodfellow, an expert, writes that Mr. Garton's methods of producing marvelous permanent types of cereals are most unique and original, and that comparatively useless cereals are converted thereby into the most valuable food plants.

The Umbrella modern feature tion.

In 1757 Jonas first went through carrying an umbrella from now, in 1890, celebrate the second most useful implement. As this is an umbrella it is not likely that its utility will be misapprehended. They are discussed of doing homage.

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THE SUN

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