AGRICULTURAL

WINTER FEEDING FOR BUTTER-MAKING.

Forty or fifty years ago it was a very rare thing for a farmer, no matter how many cows he had, to have milk during the whole winter, says a writer in Prairie Farmer. The cows dried up in November and came fresh again in April or May. If a cow came in before there was grass in the pasture an effort was made to feed her so as to keep her from drying up before grass grew. Sometimes they succeeded and sometimes—especially if a cow came in in February or March—they did not. Occasionally a farmer, more anxious than the average to provide milk for his family during the long winter, would have some particular cow that he thought better suited by nature to give milk in winter than the rest come fresh in October. If he was a particularly good farmer he would make an extra effort to keep up the flow of milk with this cow. If he had any "tame" hay, which meant in those days Timothy, cut some days after the "second blow" was off, she had some of that with corn fodder and cornmeal. He, or his wife, might even insist on the boys scalding or cooking the meal for her, because she, the wife, said it made milk better. Sometimes, in extreme cases, potatoes were added to the daily feed. Now, with all this effort, that cow would rapidly shrink in milk till toward spring she would be just stripping a little and that farmer would think himself fortunate if she did not dry up entirely before grass grew or he had other fresh cows. This cow would be fat—good beef—but the farmer would keep her to be fresh again the next fall, for she was his "winter cow." If any one had told farmers in those days that there would be more profit in having the whole herd fresh in the fall he would have been thought an idiot. And if he had said that more milk and butter could be got out of cows in a year by having them fresh in September or October he would have been set down as insane. Yet this is true, as hundreds of dairymen in the country know. Well, what was the matter in the old times? Why was it not true then if it is now? They did not feed right. That's the whole secret of it. To produce milk, cows need foods that contain a good proportion of albuminoids or protein, and not foods that are too carbonaceous. In the suppositious case I have given the foods were all very carbonaceous. The Timothy hay, cut when pretty well matured, cornmeal and corn fodder are all fattening foods. Succulent food is good, but potatoes are so very carbonaceous that their succulence combined with such foods failed of doing much good. And yet in those very days when men found it so very difficult to keep cows giving milk in winter for want of protein in the food, there were mills in the country where I live that were running wheat bran into the river to get rid of it, because the farmers would not give enough to pay for the saving of it. Here was the protein food that the "winter cow" needed, but the farmer said it was no better than sawdust to feed. There are some such old fogies on earth yet, but they are getting scarce.

Now the most progressive dairymen, those who are making the most money out of the business, have most of their cows come fresh in the fall and they give a good flow all winter, and after they get to grass in the spring are almost as good as fresh cows. The secret of it is, they feed right during the winter. Nearly every one has ensilage, although a few feed roots instead. They feed with the ensilage protein food, such as bran, gluten feed, oil meal or cotton seed meal and clover hay. They consult the chemists' analyses of these foods and the standards for best milk-producing rations, and form a combination accordingly that will make a balanced ration. I will give a few well balanced rations that are producing excellent results. By ration I mean a day's feed. My cows are having thirty pounds corn ensilage, well eared, five pounds clover hay, five pounds dry corn fodder, what little oat straw they will eat, perhaps two pounds; five pounds wheat bran and five pounds gluten feed, has been taken out at the factories. They are doing finely on this ration. Gluten feed is the corn after the starch or glucose has been taken out at the factories, and is high protein. I will say we have never fed a better food for the protein part of a ration. Here is another good ration: Twenty-five pounds corn ensilage, five pounds corn stover, five pounds clover hay, five pounds pea hay and ten pounds wheat bran. Here is one without ensilage: Sixteen pounds upland prairie hay, two pounds straw, twenty pounds roots, beets and carrots, eight pounds wheat bran and two pounds cottonseed meal. Here's another without either ensilage or roots: Twelve pounds mixed hay, eleven pounds corn stover, six pounds wheat bran, two pounds corn and cob meal and two pounds cottonseed meal. Every one of these rations are well balanced, that is, they contain about twenty-four pounds organic matter, from two and a quarter to two and a half pounds digestible protein, and from twelve and a half to thirteen pounds digestible carbohydrates and two-thirds pound fat. With a ration like one of these, if the quality of the foods is good and fed to good cows that have otherwise good care, they will do well in producing milk. These rations are for the average 1,000-pound cow. Some will eat more and some less. Of the coarse fodder they should have all they want, there being no need of weighing it. The grain ration can be guessed at near enough without weighing every feed. Weigh a measureful and find out how much that weighs. Cows should have as great a variety of food each day as possible and should be fed with perfect regularity. All cows in the herd should not have the same proportions in the different feeds. Some need more of the fattening food, like cornmeal, to keep them up, if they are inclined to run all to milk, and others need less of it if they are inclined to get fat. Milk cows should never be made very fat.

WINTER QUARTERS FOR HOGS.

The winter care of hogs goes far toward settling the question of profits, says the Western Swineherd. If given a sufficiency of food during spring, summer and fall hogs will lay on a fair percentage of flesh and fat regardless of the care received, though proper care will increase it. But during the cold season now opening the question that confronts us is different. A portion of the food must serve as fuel to keep up warmth. How much foot must be expended that way depends upon how good care is taken in providing comfortable quarters for the hogs. If left to the full severity of the weather, practically without shelter, it will be found that about all the food fed will be consumed as fuel, and but little, if any, of it go into flesh and fat. In short, unless proper shelter is provided all that is expended in food will merely serve to sustain life, and the margin of profit be cut down to nothing. The hog that is fed a week and does not make a pound of gain loses to his owner the cost of the feed, the cost of the labor and the interest on the price of the animal. So it will be seen that self-interest demands that in growth and fat the hog must improve every day in order to be a profitable investment. Warm, well-ventilated quarters, pure water, with the icy chill taken off, are essential to continue growth and fat increase in cold weather. The hog cannot chill its stomach on ice water and make its meal on frozen corn and thrive as it ought.

We need not here describe any special conveniences essential to proper winter care of stock. The conditions on different farms in different localities vary so that where one man finds well-built lumber houses cheapest another must construct houses of straw, logs or even stone. There are one or two features, however, common to all constructions that meet the demand. They must be dry, well ventilated and accessible for cleaning out. If these points are well covered, all the rest are secondary. The cheaper hogs are the more essential it is that economy in food consumption in proportion to increase of flesh be used. Because corn is only 10 or 20 cents a bushel it is too generally reasoned that feed is cheap and there is no use of economizing. The error of such reasoning lies in the fact that cheap feed means cheap pork, and the margin of economy is just as broad on $2.50 pork raised on 20-cent corn as it is on $6 pork raised on 50-cent corn. The aim should be to not let cold weather interfere with growth and fattening. It is, therefore, cheaper to spend something on comfortable quarters than to spend it in food to keep up warmth without quarters. If imbued with the spirit of thrift, you are desirous of realizing the most possible from the efforts you put forth; consequently in the feeding and care of your hogs you should consider that every comfort which adds a pound of meat for the amount of food consumed is a profitable speculation for you.

THE LATE CUBAN LEADER

SOME CH RACTERISTICS OF THE GREAT GEN. MACEO.

He Once Applied to be Insured in a Canadian Company—Remarkable Facts Brought Out in His Application.

Canadians have not taken a great deal of interest in the guerilla warfare now being pursued in the Island of Cuba, and of which the chief feature would appear to be murder, tempered by dynamite. For the sake of humanity they would desire, indeed, to see the struggle brought to a close and peace once more restored to one of the fairest spots of earth. A great mass of stuff is printed for the sake of sensation; sanguinary battles have been fought—sometimes in the imagination; and, owing to the difficulty of obtaining the sober facts, the newspaper correspondent feels himself justified in giving full play to his fancy.

So far, General Maceo appears to have been the hero of the struggle. He was every inch a soldier. He hated Spanish rule, with an intensity which is only explicable when it is understood that most of the members of his family were shot by the Spanish Government in the previous rebellion.

His tactics were at once daring and baffling; he decoyed the Spanish troops, picked them off in detail, rushed upon them

LIKE A WHIRLWIND,

made a sweeping charge, and rode gaily away. There seems to be little doubt as to the death of the guerilla leader, though opinion differs as to the manner of the event itself.

In the last struggle for freedom, which began in 1868 and ended in 1874, Maceo took an active part. He escaped with his life, but carried upon his person no less than twenty-one gunshot wounds. He retired to Costa Rica with four bullets in his body. The wounds which these bullets made healed, and he carried the lead within him till the day of his death. He had seen his father shot at the age of fifty; of thirteen brothers he had witnessed the death of nine at the hands of the Spanish Government, the ages of the latter being, respectively sixteen, seventeen, nineteen, twenty-two, twenty-four, twenty-five, thirty, thirty-two and thirty-four.

With hatred for the Spaniard in his heart he acknowledged defeat, and bided his time. In 1891 he had established himself in Costa Rica, the government of which had given him some concessions for the purpose of establishing a tobacco plantation. He still hoped for the day when the Cubans would be again able to take the field, but in the meantime he did not disdain industrial pursuits. And one day, in August, 1891, he walked into the branch office of a Canadian insurance company, in Costa Rica, and made application for

A POLICY UPON HIS LIFE.

The man to whom he made it was the last surviving member of the Columbus family—Christopher Colon (Columbus)—descendent of the brother of the great discoverer.

And it is from this application that we learn the authentic facts regarding this singular being who was a born soldier, who knew no fear, and who was first and foremost an ardent patriot who cherished the one desire to free Cuba.

The life and genealogy are set forth in the ordinary form in neat Spanish calligraphy. This, the leader was born on June 13, in the year 1846, in Santiago de Cuba. As has been said, his father was shot by the Spanish Government. His mother, aged seventy-four, was still in good health in 1891. Four of his brothers were still living. Nine were shot. There were two sisters, aged respectively thirty-five and forty-two. Maceo was five feet eleven inches in height, weighed a hundred and seventy-eight pounds, had dark hair and eyes, smooth skin and large bones.

Then he proceeds to give those particulars as to the gunshot wounds and the bullets. The latter are traced with great particularity from the point of entry to their final lodgment near his shoulder blades.

ALL FOUR BULLETS

were received in front—none behind, and all passed through his chest. And all this with simplicity and directness, as though he were setting forth an inventory of furniture.

After Maceo had told his story in brief upon this form, we have an annexed statement by the medical examiner which confirms the original record in all essential particulars, especially in regard to the bullets, of which there was no doubt whatever.

Finally, there is the statement of the agent, the descendant of Columbus—the whole forming a unique presentment, considering the character of the man, the leading part he played, his defiance of an army of two hundred thousand men, and the tragic ending, although he had so long in the thick of the fight, seemed to bear a charmed life.

This document, in due course, came to the head office of the company in Montreal, where it was curiously inspected without, of course, thought of the large theatre upon which the applicant was so soon to play his part, and to then tragically vanish.

Needless to say, the assurance was never completed.

BEAUTIFUL IRISH GIRLS.

It is said that Irish girls have the best eyes, the keenest wit, the brightest complexions and the most beautiful hands of all the women in the world, the hands of the American girls being declared too narrow and too long, those of the English girls too plump, German girls' hands too broad and fat, while the Spanish feminine hand is the least graceful of all.

BANKS OF THIS COUNTRY

THEY HAVE MILLIONS OF DOLLARS IN THEIR VAULTS.

A Short Sketch of Banking Institution and Legislation Affecting Them—Figures That Show Prosperity.

In the year 1817 the first bank was established in Canada. It was the Bank of Montreal, and was followed next year by the Bank of Quebec in Quebec. Charters were granted to both of these banks in the year 1821. From their establishment these banks performed the three special functions of banking, viz., receiving deposits, issuing notes and discounting bills. In the original charter of the Bank of Montreal was a clause that officers of the bank guilty of secreting, embezzling, or running away with bill, bond, obligation, money or effects should on conviction be deemed guilty of felony, the penalty attached being death as a felon without benefit of clergy.

Many banks were established between the years 1821 and 1836. Among these were the Bank of British North America, organized by Scotch and English merchants and incorporated by Royal Charter.

In the year 1830 the Banking Act was amended so that the total amount of notes of less sum than $5 in circulation at one time should not exceed one-fifth of the paid-up capital; that no notes under the value of $1 should be issued, and that all issues of less than $5 might be limited or altogether suppressed by the Legislature.

PRIVATE OR LICENSED BANKS.

The Government in 1835 provided for the establishment of private or, as they were called, licensed banks. These banks were permitted to issue notes under certain limitations upon depositing with the Government financial debentures to the amount of the contemplated issue. In the year 1837 applications were made for no less than nine of these licensed banks in Upper Canada.

It was in this same year that the Lower Canadian banks suspended specie payments owing to the demand for specie in the United States, in which country the banks had generally suspended during the spring of that year. Speaking generally, the suspension of the Lower Canadian banks continued until June 1st, 1839.

An extraordinary session of the Legislature of Upper Canada was convened June 19th, 1837, to devise measures by which the banks of Upper Canada might suspend specie payment, the law in their case making repudiation of notes to result in suspension of their charter. In spite of the opposition of Sir Francis Bond Head, the Lieutenant-Governor, a bill was passed, and one or two banks immediately suspended specie payments. Shortly afterwards the Bank of Upper Canada was compelled to suspend for a year and a half.

CAUSES OF SUSPENSION.

This was the first and only time that the banks of the Province of Canada suspended specie payment, one of the causes being the purchasing of their notes by the banks of the United States at a premium, the notes being then sent to the province and gold demanded, to be withdrawn from the country. The rebellion also caused the Lower Canadian banks to place their specie in the citadel in Quebec for safe-keeping, and a law was passed relieving them from loss of charter for repudiation of their notes, which continued to be legal tender.

With two exceptions all the banks prior to 1841 had the limited liability clause. But in 1841 the first session of the Legislature after the union, the Committee on Banking reported thirteen resolutions on which to found a uniform system of banking. The double liability clause was at this time generally introduced. The Banking Act of 1841 also imposed a tax of one per cent. upon the banking circulation.

A CHECK ON THE ISSUE OF NOTES

In 1850 an act was passed prohibiting any banks other than those incorporated by Act of Parliament or by royal charter from issuing notes. The tax on bank circulation was abolished, and instead thereof a deposit with the Government of provincial debentures to the extent of $200,000 was required. Bank statistics were required to be forwarded monthly to the Government.

The next important change was the Banking Act of 1871, by which it was provided that banks should not issue notes of a less denomination than $4, and that they should hold, as far as practicable one-half their cash reserve in Dominion notes, and never less than one-third. Business could not be engaged in until $500,000 of stock had been subscribed, $100,000 paid up in cash and a certificate to that effect procured from the Government Treasury Board.

The amount of notes in circulation was not to exceed the amount of unimpaired capital. No dividend was to be paid that impaired paid-up capital, and no division of profits greater than eight per cent. per annum could be paid unless after paying the same the bank had a reserve fund equal to one-fifth of its paid-up capital.

NO BANK NOTES LESS THAN $5.

In 1881 an act was passed providing that banks could not issue notes of less than $5, and that all notes of less than $5 then outstanding should be called in and cancelled as soon as practicable. It was also provided that the notes of the banks should be a first lien upon the assets. The minimum of reserve to be held in Dominion notes was 40 per cent. The unauthorized use of the title of bank, banking company, etc., without the addition of "not incorporated," was made a misdemeanor. There are 38 chartered banks in Canada. At the time of the last census, in 1891, the paid-up capital of banks per head of population was $12.56. The circulation per head was $6.54. The reserve or rest fund of the banks amounted to $4.72 per head of population.

CANADIAN BANK SUSPENSIONS.

In all, fourteen Canadian banks have suspended payment, representing assets of over $32,000,000 and liabilities of over $15,000,000. Of these banks, eleven have redeemed their notes in full, one paid 57 1-2 per cent., and two are still unreported. Eight paid their deposits in full; one (the Mechanics) paid 57 1-2 per cent., and one (the Exchange) paid 64 per cent., exclusive of final dividend, and one paid 86 2-3 per cent.

THE CANADIAN BANKING ACT.

To-day the chartered and incorporated banks of the Dominion are governed by a banking act, whose chief provisions are as follows:

The capital stock of any bank hereafter to be incorporated shall not be less than $500,000, in shares of $100 each.

Five hundred thousand dollars must be subscribed and $250,000 paid to the Minister of Finance, and a certificate of permission obtained from the Treasury Board before business can be commenced.

Bank directors must hold stock on which $3,000 has been paid on a paid-up capital stock of $1,000,000; stock on which $4,000 has been paid on a capital stock between $1,000,000 and $3,000,000; and stock on which $5,000 has been paid where the paid-up capital is over $3,000,000. A majority of the directors must be British subjects.

Subject to the approval of the Treasury Board, the capital stock may be increased or reduced by the shareholders.

No Dividend or bonus exceeding eight per cent. per annum shall be paid by any bank unless after deducting all bad or doubtful debts, it has a reserve equal to at least 30 per cent. of its paid-up capital.

Every bank shall, subject to a penalty of $500 for each violation, hold not less than 40 per cent. of its cash reserve in Dominion notes.

The amount of notes of any bank in circulation at any time shall not exceed the amount of its unimpaired capital.

The payment of its notes shall be the first charge on a bank's assets in case of insolvency. Any amounts due the Dominion and Provincial Governments shall be the second and third charges, respectively.

Every bank shall pay the Minister of Finance five per cent. of the average amount of its yearly circulation to form a fund to be used upon the suspension of any bank for the payment of the notes issued and in circulation and interest. All notes in circulation are to bear interest at six per cent. per annum from the day of suspension until redeemed.

All notes in circulation are to be payable at par throughout the whole of Canada.

NOTES MAY BE DEMANDED.

Any bank when making payment is compelled, if requested, to pay the same or part thereof not exceeding one hundred dollars in Dominion notes of $1, $2 or $4 each.

Advertisements may not be issued in the form of notes.

The bank can lend money on its own shares or on those of any other bank or upon mortgage or real estate or on the security of any goods, wares or merchandise receipts as collateral security.

Except such as may be required for its own use no bank can hold real estate for a longer period than seven years.

Any rate of interest may be charged and allowed, but not more than seven per cent., can be recoverable.

By means of this act the face value of all bank notes is secured to the public at all times and in all parts of the Dominion, whether the banks are solvent or insolvent.

The amount held in trust by the Dominion Government for the Bank Circulation Redemption Fund was on 30th June, 1895, $1,821.37.

LARGE SUMS OF MONEY HERE.

The paid-up capital of Canadian banks in 1895 was $61,800,700. The notes in circulation were $30,807,041. The total amount on deposit was $190,016,989. The liabilities of banks were $229,794,322 and the assets $316,536,510.

Of the deposits $66,582,630 is payable on demand and $114,081,499 payable notice or on a fixed day.

For a number of years past the proportion of liabilities to the assets has remained practically the same, being about 70 per cent.

CEMENTS.

A Few Recipes Which May be Found of Very Great Value.

For China.—Make a very thick solution of gum arabic and warm water, and stir in a sufficient quantity of plaster of paris to make a thick paste. With a small brush apply the paste very carefully to the fractured edges of the china, pressing them tightly together. Leave the mended dish untouched for two or three days.

For Jewels.—Soak isinglass in water till soft, then dissolve it in proof spirit; add a little gum ammoniac, and mix with it one-fourth the quantity of tincture of mastic. It must be kept well stopped, and when wanted for use, liquified by the vial being immersed in hot water. This cement can be used to fasten jewels upon watch cases, etc.; also to mend china or to replace leaves torn out of books.

Japanese Rice.—A cement very much used in China and Japan is made from rice. Mix the best powdered rice with a little cold water; then gradually add boiling water till a proper consistence is acquired, being careful to keep it well stirred all the time; lastly, it must be boiled for one minute in a clean saucepan. This paste is delicate and beautifully white, almost transparent, and is well adapted for fancy paper work, or other things requiring a strong and colorless cement.

Waterproof Glue.—Glue is rendered waterproof by first soaking it in water until it becomes soft and then melting it with gentle heat in linseed oil. Or boil one pound of glue with two quarts of skimmed milk.

Egg Cement.—White of egg, heated to 212 degrees, and kept there awhile, will become dry, shrunken and horny. If the heat is carried a little further, it becomes converted into a substance which is so hard and tough that a valuable cement is obtained by smiply smearing the edges of the article to be cemented with white of egg and then heating it to a little above 212 degrees.

For Glass.—To a strong solution of alum add plaster of paris till the mixture is of the consistency of cream. It sets rapidly and, it is said, will unite glass, metal, porcelain, etc., quite firmly.

Cement for Knife-Handles.—A material for fastening knives or forks into their handles when they have become loosened by use is a much-needed article. For a cement for this purpose take one pound of yellow rosin and one-half pound of sulphur; melt them together and keep in a bar, or reduce to a powder. When needed, mix two parts of the powder with one part of iron filings, fine sand or brick dust; fill the cavity of the handle with this mixture. Heat the stem of the knife or fork and insert into the handle and when cold it will be found fixed in its place with great tenacity. A simpler is to take a small quantity of alum, put in an old tablespoon and place upon the coals until the alum is melted; then pour quickly into the cavity of the handle and insert the shank of the knife or fork; when cold it will be quite firm and will last for years, as I have found from personal experience.

For Leather.—Dissolve a quantity of gutta percha in chloroform enough to make a fluid of the consistency of honey. When spread it will dry in a few moments. Heat the surfaces until softened, and apply them together. Small patches of leather can be thus cemented on boots, etc., so as almost to defy detection. It is waterproof and will answer almost anywhere unless exposed to heat which softens it.

Waterproof Cement for Belting.—Leather belting can be permanently mended with the following cement: Melt together in an iron vessel gutta percha and pitch in about equal parts. Dry the parts to be mended with a hot iron and while hot apply the cement to the edges previously shaved, and press the parts firmly together until set.

THE RUSSIAN CZAR.

"It is a curious satire upon life," says a writer, "that the Czar—that dreaded, awful personage, representative of powers that are well-nigh superhuman, inheritor of traditions at once the darkest and the most august in history, and the absolute master of the resources of two great nations (for France is at this moment the handmaiden of Russia)—should be a delicate, amiable young man, afflicted with a nervous shyness in the presence of strangers, and clinging with an almost passionate tenderness to the womenfolk of his own family."

YOUNG FOLKS.

"BILLY."

Another Pet on Willow Brook Farm.

In the spring a little lamb was given to the boys, David and Leslie, and as usual there was great rejoicing over this new pet. As soon as he was large enough and strong enough to be a playfellow for the boys they began to lay plans for making a horse out of him.

In front of the house in the meadow is a half-mile track on which their papa breaks and trains the colts which are raised on the farm. It happened this summer that a colt was in training that promised some speed as a trotter, so of course, the boys being very observing little fellows, began to train the lamb as nearly as possible like papa was training the colt.

It was funny to see the queer looking harness they were continually manufacturing for him. They usually hitched him to an old chair in the back yard and he would stand patiently in harness while they pretended to drive him.

But as he grew larger they tired of this tame way of taking a drive; so, after much coaxing they induced papa to fit a pair of shafts to their express wagon; then the fun of training him began in earnest.

It is wonderful how much patience the average boy has when he is bent on accomplishing a purpose.

Nearly every morning after the colt had been worked out on the track you would see the boys in the orchard harnessing "Billy." It took a great deal of coaxing and pushing to get him through the yard and out on the track. The little wagon was brought up, and he was securely fastened in the shafts.

Then began the work of making him keep the track and go all the way around. After many unsuccessful attempts, this was finally accomplished, and before the summer was over he would actually draw the smaller boy around the "ring." No amount of coaxing, however, could induce him to go around the second time, the same morning. Whenever he came in sight of the yard gate he would make a dash for it. In vain they would lead him back to the track but go he would not. He stubbornly planted his front feet and would not budge an inch unless they turned his head toward the gate. Then he had a shower bath from the watering pot and was blanketed and led slowly about the yard before he was put back into the orchard for the day. Once I found they had slyly torn up one of papa's red bandana handkerchiefs to tie up his ankles because they had seen red flannel bandages on the colt; and we all had a hearty laugh when, one day, we saw empty spools tied on his feet in imitation of toe weights.

But the summer passed away all too soon and September brought with it school-days. No more time to hitch up Billy.

I used to feel sorry for the lonely lamb. He would stand by the hour peeping through the orchard gate waiting for his play-fellows. Papa took him down to the sheep but he would not stay. He jumped over all the fences and came marching into the yard, as much as to say, "I don't belong with the sheep."

One day the gate was left open and he went with the dog to meet the children after school. They said he was quite lame when he was turned and trotted home behind the carriage. But after two or three months of vain watching and waiting for his accustomed drive, he concluded to stay with the remainder of the flock, and by this time, I suppose he has forgotten that he was ever anything else but a common "sheep."

LOYAL TO MOTHER.

"Nine o'clock. O, dear how quick it does come," and Clara White looked at the long hands of the clock, with just a little shadow coming over her bright face.

"That is not very late," her cousin Effie said, who turned the leaves of the book that she held in her hands, as if to begin another chapter.

"But it is my bedtime, and I must retire at once," and Clara arose to go.

"Do you have to go precisely at nine o'clock?" Effie asked while she still remained in her chair.

"It is mamma's wish that I retire at nine o'clock," was the quick answer.

"But your mamma is away, and you have company. My mamma always allows me to remain up as long as I please when my friends are spending the evening with me, and—" Effie stopped before she completed the sentence, for there was a look of surprise on Clara's face that reproved her.

"It would be wrong to disregard mamma's wishes in her absence. While she might not insist on my retiring at exactly nine o'clock, I know that she does not wish me to remain up later than this time," and the honest little girl looked straight into her cousin's face.

"Well, I will go if you say so, but this story is so nice, and it is very pleasant by the warm fire. I think that the clock is too fast anyway," and Effie closed the book somewhat reluctantly.

"The clock is always right," was the quick reply of the little girl that would not be tempted to disregard her mamma's wishes.

In a few moments both little girls were fast asleep in their nice warm bed. Mrs. White came home from her visit at a neighbor's house at half-past nine o'clock. She stepped into Clara's room, before retiring, to kiss the sweet-faced little sleeper.

"Fast asleep, I knew that I should find her thus. She is so loyal to my wishes in everything that I think that she is the dearest little girl in the whole world," and as the fond mother said this softly to herself, she kissed the happy little dreamer again.

DON'T WORRY.

There is but one way out of the difficulty. It is impossible to avoid the causes for worry, for there is no day that does not bring its share, but the trouble lies in the fact that so many yield weakly to the depressions to which nearly everyone is liable, and do not make any effort to rise superior to their trials. Worry is not always the accompaniment of great troubles; it more frequently arises from petty cares, the constant jar and fret of which in time wears out the life. These can surely be put aside if one has the will to do so, and this is most easily done by substituting in their places thoughts of other and better things, which will take the mind out of self and selfish affairs and turn it in other channels.

DIDN'T PASS.

Why can't you get an accident insurance, Grumpy?

Because they say I'm too stiff to

"You don't mean to say you become engaged to him after but five hours' acquaintance?" "Certainly. How much time would you have me devote to one engagement.

CARL DUNDER.

He Buys a Gold Mine and Explains to a Police Sergeant.

"Good morning, Sergeant. Did some policemans lock oop a man last night named White? He vhas a frendt of mine, und if he vhas drunk I like to pay his fine."

The fat policeman was busy behind his desk as Mr. Dunder softly entered the station-house and made inquiry as above. It was a long minute before the officer raised the head and quietly replied:

"What has happened to you this time, Mr. Dunder?"

"Nottings happens to me. How could dey? Do you believ I vhas shwindled eafery day in der week? Can't I shust drop in to ask about Mr. White mitout I vhas shwindled?"

Mr. White was not arrested last night. Neither was Mr. Black nor Mr. Green nor Brown.

"Oh! Dot vhas all right. Mr. White vhas my frendt you know. So he doan' be arrested!"

The Sergeant made no reply, and Mr. Dunder started to go out. At the door he halted, waited a minute and then turned and walked back to the desk and said:

"Sometimes I vhas shwindled, of course, because I vhas green here dot vhas long ago. I vhas not green vhas now, and I shust want to see somebody come some goods for the least time!"

The Sergeant had to attention of everybody else to draw his face and put on an expression of extreme sorrow.

"Vhell, you see, I vhas tell you, my frendt, you vhas always believing vhat some fools. Humph! A great, big frendt, you vhas! I vhas a leedle schild or a crazy mans dot I can't take care of myself!"

"Mr. Dunder," softly began the Sergeant, as he walked out and sat down, "just tell me all about it, and let me advise you."

"Ha! ha! ha! So you belief I vhas played, eh? Vhell, I like to tell you dot you vhas mistook. Sergeant, I vhast shust $450 in mine pocket, und doan you forget her!"

"Oh! you are! How is it! If you have made a good thing, I'd like to hear about it."

"Vhell, you know vhat gold vhas, of course!"

"She commout der ground—out of a gold mine."

"Yes."

"Vhere vhas dot town called Lame River?"

"Lame River! Lame River! I never heard of it. You don't mean Cripple Creek, do you?"

"Dot vhas her. She vhas out West. Dot vhas der place vhere gold vhas so plenty dot you can't plant potatoes. Two days ago a strange man comes in my place. He was pale and seek. He leans his head down on der table und sighs und groans. He vhants no beer und no cigars. He shust vhants to die."

"And you let him die, of course?"

"No sir! I goes oafer und talks mit him and tries to sheer him oop. By und by he feels better. He vhas from dot Cripple Creek. He owns der biggest gold mine out dere. She vhas worth ten million dollar. His name vhas Brown, und he comes East to sell some stock to his friends."

"Oh! I see!" exclaimed the Sergeant.

"What you see? Vhas it a crime for a man to own some gold mines?"

"Oh, no. Go on with your story, Mr. Dunder."

"Vhell, doan' shpeak dot vhay to me any more. Dot man vhas seek. He loses his bank book, but he has some stock. Here she vhas—for $500. See, she vhas der 'Bully Boy' gold mine. How you like der looks of dot, Sergeant?"

"It's a nice looking bit of paper, Mr. Dunder. How much did you pay for it?"

"Vhell, you see, dot man likes me because I vhas tender-hearted. He vhants to go to a doctor, und send some telegrams, und pay his hotel bill. He doan' take $50 from me unless I take dis stock. If he doan' come back in two days dot stock vhas mine. Two days vhas gone und he doan' come back."

"And the stock is yours?"

"Shust so, Sergeant. She belongs to Carl Dunder, und I vhas $150 ahead of der game. Can you say any more dot I vhas greenhorns? You vhas a sharp man, but can you make $450 in two days? Sergeant, shake hand mit Carl Dunder!"

"A little later Mr. Dunder," answered the Sergeant. "Do you know what this stock is worth?"

"She vhas worth $500 any how, und mebbe twice dot. You vhas my frendt, but I can't sell her to you for less dan $500."

"That's too bad. I was going to offer you twenty-five cents for it to paste up on the wall!"

"How—how you mean?" gasped Mr. Dunder.

"It isn't worth twenty-five cents, but as we are old friends I'll give you that to help you out. You know the way down to the river, don't you?"

"What about the river?"

"It is a good place to jump into."

"Vhas—vhas dot man some shwindler?"

"Of course. Only dead beats and shwindlers come to you. The man does not own a gold mine. He was not sick. He called on you on purpose to get money on this stock, which isn't worth a row of pins. If you don't like to jump into the river, why not turn on the gas in your room and be found dead in the morning?"

"Should I die?" asked Mr. Dunder, with pale face and trembling lips.

"Of course! What's the use of living any longer? There hasn't been a month for the last five years that some one hasn't swindled you. The undertaker will probably come some gum-game on you at the very end—sell your cadaver for $25 and put bricks in the coffin."

"So—so I vhas shwindled!"

"You were. Shake hands, Mr. Dunder. Goodby to you, and as we are old friends, I'll see to your funeral arrangements. I suppose you want to be buried head downwards, don't you?"

"Sergeant—Sergeant!"

But Mr. Dunder could not get it out. He waved his arms about and moved his lips, but the words stuck in his throat. In a fatherly way the Sergeant patted him on the head and smoothed down his back, and then, taking him by the arm, led him to the door and gently worked him out. Mr. Dunder did not resist or look back. He limped down the street and around the corner like a man who had received an awful blow, and the Sergeant re-entered the station and proceeded to wind up the clock.

WILL MADE IN JEST.

A resident in Vevey, Switzerland, lately died, bequeathed a large property, which he was supposed to possess, to the "local hospital of the town."

There being two local medical charities—the Town Hospital and the Hospice de Samaritan—a lawsuit was entered by the former in order to decide its right to the legacy. After considerable expense had been incurred the dispute was abruptly brought to a close by the discovery that the deceased had indulged in a most unseasonable jest, and, in fact, did not possess a penny to bequeath.

HEALTH.

ALCOHOL AND DISEASE.

A man was recently brought into one of the public hospitals of a large city suffering from a bruise. He had fallen backward across a narrow obstruction of some kind, and upon examination it was found that he had [illegible] bones of the [illegible] what is commonly called a case of the [illegible] and prolonged collapse followed. The unexpected, though comparatively rare, but not excessive, fall and the resultant severe shock have been [illegible] upon the already enfeebled heart, and prepared for a fatal collapse. The shock that he received immediately [illegible] and he died within a [illegible]

To the [illegible] a case of p[illegible] the doctor [illegible] man wou[illegible] indulging [illegible] an o[illegible] smile [illegible] poor [illegible] and pro[illegible] while to the [illegible] of such a state [illegible] to draw [illegible] a certain [illegible] the [illegible] upward course of a person [illegible] to stimulants [illegible] follows a natural law, beginning with a sufficient quantity of alcohol to produce a certain pleasurable sensation. He [illegible] himself quite as a matter of course, gradually increasing his daily allowance.

Alcohol stimulates the various organs of the body to increased work. By the increase of exercise the organ grows, and the larger organ makes larger demands. These demands the tippler interprets as a call for more alcohol, and so the round is continued.

Under excessive stimulation the substance of the body begins to change its character. Food which cannot be used is stored up in the form of fat. Watery instead of solid substances appear. Eventually the organs themselves change their appearance and begin to break down and decay. Then comes a crisis—through accident or some acute disturbance—and the unfortunate victim is unable to call on nature to help him against the shock—and death follows.

WET DRESSING.

A wet dressing, or compress, as it is called, consists of a moist cloth next the skin, a slightly larger piece of oiled paper or mackintosh above the wet cloth, and two or three thicknesses of a still larger piece of flannel above this, the whole bandaged sufficiently tight to exclude the air.

The object of a wet dressing is to relax and soften the skin and the flesh immediately underneath, and to act as a local sedative to the nerves. Its use tends to relieve congestion and inflammation. It also acts as a counter-irritant, drawing organic and deep-seated inflammation to the surface.

The wet dressing corresponds to a warm bath at 98 deg. to 100 deg. Fahrenheit. To be of service it should be continued for a considerable time.

This form of treatment is applicable to chronic stiffening of the joints, sprains and bruises of all kinds. The heat and swelling rapidly disappear, though the stiffness may require proper manipulation after the removal of the bandage.

By using it as a counter-irritant applied to the feet, it is possible to control the circulation of the blood in the brain. A convenient method is to wring a pair of cotton socks out of warm water, put them on the feet and cover them with two pairs of knitted woolen socks. A compress may be made for the hands by using gloves in the same manner.

Wet dressings applied to the pit of the stomach are of great value in inflammatory conditions of the digestive tract. In these cases we may simply use a towel wrung out of hot water. The towel is kept in position by two or three folds of flannel wrapped around the body, and should be changed every hour or two.

By moistening the compress with liniments, mustard, or antiseptic solutions, such various effects may be obtained as the particular nature of the case seems to require.

MEAT DIET FOR DYSPEPTICS.

The truth seems to be that a person subsisting upon a lean meat diet, while he may manifest a greater amount of strength than upon more natural dietary, and may be unconscious of any abnormal condition, is like a person in a powder magazine—he is in constant danger of vital catastrophe, says Medical Progress. The poison destroying functions of his liver and the poison eliminating capacity of his kidneys are taxed to their utmost to keep the proportion of ptomaines and leucomaines in the tissues down to a point which permits of the performance of the vital functions. The margins of safety which nature has wisely made very large in order to provide for emergencies, is reduced to the narrowest possible limit, so that anything which temporarily interferes with the functions of the liver or the kidneys, or which imposes additional work upon them, may be sufficient to obliterate the safety margin and produce an attack of grave or fatal disease. Invasion of the body by ptomaine producing bacteria, such as the typhoid bacillus, the bacillus of diphtheria, the pneumococcus of Friedlander, the shock resulting from accident and even the depression of severe cold may be sufficient to consume the meager emergency capital, and the result is acute inflammation of the kidneys, or death under chloroform, or from shock following an operation under anæsthesia.

A SAND BAG.

A sand bag will prove invaluable in the sick room when it has once been tested. Get clean fine sand, preferably sea sand, and dry it thoroughly. Make a bag about eight inches in diameter, fill it with the sand, the opening carefully closed, and cover the bag with a flannel cover. This will prevent the sand from sifting out. A bag of this kind should be prepared and taken for future use. When it is needed for a case of sickness it can be quickly heated by placing it in the oven. A bag using this a hot water bottle will never again be used for the feet or hands of a sick person. The sand holds the heat for a long time, and it can be tucked up to the back without being uncomfortable to the invalid. It is a good plan to make two or three bags and keep them on hand ready for use at any time, and one can be heating while the others are in use.

THE TOURIST'S TRADE MARK.

Biffers—Hello, Whiffers, what's the matter? You have a strangely sorrowful gait. Been sick?

Whiffers (with disgust and indignation)—See here, you [illegible] don't you know enough [illegible] em? I've been to Europe [illegible]