



DEVOTED TO AGRICULTURE, TEMPERANCE, SCIENCE, AND EDUCATION.

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THE PET LAMB.

This engraving after the masterpiece of the celebrated painter Collins' is one which will at a glance be understood and appreciated by all our readers in the rural districts. The scenery is decidedly English, but the subject universal. On what farm where there are children is there not a lamb selected from the flock to be a pet? Perhaps it was lame, or too weak to take care of itself, and being brought to the house was attended by the juveniles with such anxious care that it is now the fattest and strongest of the flock. When the butcher pays his periodical visit the children watch him with jealous eyes, and the pet is packed away into some secure place so that the visit may end without notice of it being taken. But when everything has been purchased and the butcher is paying his score, the lamb, which has been fretting because of the strange treatment it has received, breaks loose and makes its way into the yard, and is the innocent cause of the reopening of negotiations. At first it will not be sold at any price, for it is the "Children's Pet." The butcher thinks of the care it has got, of the milk which has been its daily food and of the cleanest grass that had been selected for it to graze upon, and in his mind he sees its "shoulders" resolve into coin paid by his most particular customer. A good price is offered and taken and the money paid. The mother is receiving it with a sorrowful face while the youthful mourners endeavor to attract her attention to one more appeal. Around the object of all this commotion is a circle in a different mood. One sturdy boy stubbornly resists the attempts of the butcher lad to tie up the lamb; another gives it its last basin of milk, fuller than ever before offered; a third vainly threatens all sorts of punishments to the disturber of the household peace; while a fourth gives the last parting hug to the staid friend unconscious of any evil, so soon to be hurried away and offered up on the altar of the propitiator of the village appetite. But their protestations are of no avail, and their friend is hurried away.

The grief is earnest but not lasting. For a few days the children will not taste lamb or mutton, but appetite soon conquers, love and their late companion is forgotten.

WHAT ARE BREWERY GRAINS?

This question seems to demand an answer at this time. The writer was not aware until lately of the extent to which they are used or he would sooner have brought the matter before the public. A few weeks ago, in the city of New York, he was asked: "Is it possible that Mr. — of your county has made provision in the cellar of his barn for storing away quantities of grains for after use?" The question could not be answered, but it provoked enquiry, and the fact appears that the dairy-men of the county are turning their attention in this direction.

Years ago he looked into this as it stands related to the temperance reform, and ever since in the matter of the poisons they contain, he has classed these grains with the beverages made from them. Since coming to Orange Co. he has been confirmed in this

poisons that are used first in malt liquors, such as ales and beer, are as follows: oil of vitriol, copperas, alum and strychnine. These are put into the vats when the mash and ground malt or grains are boiling, and are used in the fermentation also. The dross of these poisons naturally settles in the refuse grains, and has a tendency to make cows give a flow of milk for a time, which milk is not fit to use, and ought to be condemned. It will not make much butter. After a short time the cows, if fed on nothing else, will get full of sores and die. Such has been the result in Brooklyn, and hence they have a city ordinance forbidding the sale of such milk. The same results from a distillery. Cocculus indrous, laudanum, opium, sulphuric ether and oil of vitriol—these are run through in the mash, &c.

The quotation is from one who is authority in the whole matter of the adulteration of li-

formation is so much added to the general stock, and forms a nucleus for fresh combinations. The child should be encouraged from the earliest age to find all the instruction and amusement he can in illustrated books and papers, the text of which may be far beyond his comprehension. In an admirable essay by Clarence Cook on house-furnishing, in a late number of *Scribner's Monthly*, we find this:

"The habit of reading books, consulting them, seeking refuge in them, early and naturally formed, has more to do with culture than might be thought. The only way really to know anything about English literature, or any other literature is to grow up with it, to summer and winter with it, to eat it, drink it, and sleep with it; and this can never be if the book-case that holds the books in the house that we grow up in has doors that lock."

Books so used will grow soiled and shabby, will get out of their covers and become "dog-eared," but the minds fed from them will be full of ideas, and whether is it better that mind should be unpurged and rusty, or books should be clean and whole? By text, he may, under the tutelage of an intelligent mother, have laid the foundation of a knowledge of all the natural sciences. And this is better done when at home than anywhere else. An illustrated text-book in the various sciences may serve as a basis for oral instruction, or the mother may teach botany from the window garden, physiology from the child's own frame, geology from the garden and the pebbles found there, or from the coal burned in the grate, astronomy by taking the "nightly heavens as a little lot of stars belonging to one's own homestead." Unless a child can be sent to kindergarten, the best tutor for it until it has attained the age of seven or eight years is



position. An infant in a family where he knew the grains to be fed in the dairy was sick. The child was fed from the bottle and was suffering from derangement of the stomach, which no medicine seemed to reach. It was simply a case of slow poison, and had it not been arrested, would no doubt have proved fatal. A hint went to the family. One cow was separated from the rest and supplied with wholesome food, and on the milk of that cow the child recovered, and is now well. Here is a clew to the fearful mortality among children in New York. A late writer says that the great majority of these children are fed from the bottle, and it requires no stretch of imagination to trace the connection.

A document in my possession of recent date says: "Here in Brooklyn no man dare sell the milk of cows fed from the swill or rubbish from a brewery or distillery. Such milk is proscribed by our Board of Health, and is known as swill milk. A few years since, milkmen were indicted and punished for feeding cattle with the stuff. Many cattle thus fed died. In many instances they lost their tails and broke out in sores and corruption. The

quors, and if your readers are not satisfied they can have more of the same kind. Where these grains are given in connection with other feed, the influence on the animal is not thus marked, yet where they produce the flow of milk they carry with it their poisons. Any dairyman can test this influence of feed on milk by giving to his stock, for once only, onions or wild turnips.

The New York Board of Health may wink at this iniquity as they do at other adulterations of the article, the traffic in which is no longer a small one, but until Christian dairy-men can make black white there is but one course open before them. Charity forces the belief that the majority who have used these grains have been ignorant of their nature and effects.—*Ec.*

EARLY EDUCATION.

The age at which education from books should begin varies in different children, but it is desirable that the ability to read should be early acquired. The mind of a child is very much like a kaleidoscope; every new bit of in-

its mother, assisted by intimate and close companionship on the part of the child with the sky, the air, the birds, the insects, domestic animals, trees and flowers. The practice of confining children to an invariable routine of school duty from the time they are four years old till they are sixteen and older, often results in making mere automatons of them, and prevents the development of their natural proclivities. The main provision to be made is a chance to grow.—*Science of Health for April.*

—The *Medical Press and Circular* says:—If the rest of society consider that all doctors encourage men and women to drink, they are in a great mistake, and the sooner they are undeceived the better. We have had to record debates on the value of alcohol which have recently been held in New York, in Brussels, and elsewhere, and we have now to show that, as far as the Medical Society of London is concerned, there seems to be as great a difference of opinion as to the value of alcohol, whether as an article of diet, or as a therapeutic agent, as was found to exist among the speakers in New York and in Belgium.

*George Brown*