On the Farm.

FARM LIFE IN JERSEY AND GUERNSEY.

Agriculturists visiting Europe should not fail to take a tour in the English channel islands, of which Jersey and Guernsey are the principal. Here they will see some primitive methods still in force, but they will see how much may be made out of a small space if farmed in a thorough and careful way.

The climate is early in these islands, with a fair quantity of sunshine, not much frost and a moderate amount of rain. No hay stacks are to be seen and the islanders nearly all use peat moss as bedding for their cattle. In both islands they make the most of the sunlight by erecting large glass houses, thus putting most of the land to the growth of grapes, tomatoes, etc, without using artificial heat. They also grow early spring flowers, chiefly daffodils, narcissi, iris, ixias, freesias, etc., large quantities of which are sent daily to the principal English towns. Kidney potatoes are also shipped to England in immense quantities, and so large is their growth in Jersey that their exportation gives the chief success to its port.

With their cattle they are very successful, chiefly through skilful management. The Channel island cattle are milkers essentially, and are treated as such, protected from bad weather, fed rather sparsely, but kept warm in shippens, cowsheds, in winter and tethered on the fields in spring and summer, made to eat up their allowance profitably, yielding a large supply of very profitable milk at the least cost of production. The islanders treat their cattle very kindly, each being spoken to by name, taught, commanded, rarely scolded and never abused. Throughout the islands cattle are very plentiful and very similar both in feature and disposition. All heifer calves are reared: veal and beef come mostly from other lands, but none to live. Only Ireland is allowed to import cattle and they have to be killed within five days of landing. In Jersey the butter is always of good color, although it is sometimes very soft, occasionally full of water, sometimes hard and granular. The whole milk generally is churned. It is shut up in a cupboard or close room for three days, often for six, to ripen or get ready for churning, and in various ways exposed to loss, as if only indifferent quality of butter was sought. The best butter is made in Guernsey, if we may judge from market values, being about 50c to 60c per pound in Guernsey and 30c to 36c per pound of 17 ounces in Jersey.

Land is very expensive in both islands and consequently house rent is dear. Living is fairly cheap. Wages are about the same as in England, or say $3 to $4 a week for a day laborer. These islanders all desire to live upon their own land, and that necessarily creates a keen demand for the land and an artificial value, as almost everyone with money buys some land and puts up glass houses. The islands are used as seaside resorts by visitors from England, especially in the spring. The language spoken is a patois, not pure French, but a mixture of Normandy and Brittany French. The townspeople all speak English. The French coast is only one-half an hour's steam from some points, and in the case of a war between England and France, the Channel islands will be the first to feel the effects.

THE PRODUCTION OF GILT-EDGE BUTTER.

Gilt-edged butter cannot be made from inferior cream, neither can first-class cream be produced from tainted milk, therefore in treating upon the subject we must begin with the cow and her food and care. While individual cows of any breed may possess exceptional merit, yet it seems to be well established that the Jersey and Guernsey stock have the characteristic of imparting a superior color, grain and flavor to their product. Their butter fat globules are larger than those of any other breed, consequently the separation of their cream from the milk is more rapid as well as more thorough, the cream is more quickly churned and the butter of better grain. The butter produced by cows well fed and cared for will be of better color, texture and flavor than that from cows otherwise handled. Bran, mixed feed and middlings make a smaller fat globule, which not only produces finer grained butter, but does not separate from the milk in the form of cream as readily as the fat from the heavier grains. Gluten meal produces softer butter than corn or cottonseed meal, and although it is well adapted for winter feeding, it should not be fed in warm weather, when butter must be firm if it is to be rated as gilt-edged. Sour ensilage, musty and moldy hay, fodder and grain must be carefully avoided, for no amount of subsequent care can counteract their evil effects.

Feed well; feed liberally; give your cows all they will eat; that is the express purpose for which you keep them. They are only machines for converting rough produce, averaging $16 per ton, into butter, a concentrated product at $500 per ton. Have regard always for the health and comfort of the animals. Do not let them lie upon a cold, damp floor, nor leave a door or window open with a cold wind blowing upon them. Remember that ice water is just as cold in January as it is in July, and that water can be warmed with wood at $3 per cord cheaper than it can with hay and grain. Five dollars per cow for the winter would be a low estimate of the value of warmed water over that of ice water. Gilt-edged butter cannot be made from milk produced in close, ill-ventilated stables nor from milk of ill-fed or diseased cows. Never use a wooden milk pail and never use your milk pails for anything else. Keep your pails, your strainers, your cans and creamery tanks clean, and your separator room free from foul odors.

POULTRY.

Don't think that because you see dirty eggs and ill favored poultry in the markets, that you can send yours that way, too. If for no other reason, have enough respect for yourself and your work to insure your goods leaving your hands in the best possible shape. It is true that these things take time and work, but so does all respectable labor. When the market is flooded, your stuff, if uniformly first class, will stand a better chance than will that of the careless sloven.

The exercise that fowls get as they run from place to place searching for the bugs they eat, can be substituted by making them scratch for all the grain they get, in some cut straw or leaves thrown on the floor near those south windows. The object should be to make biddy feel contented. A hen standing around on one foot with her head drawn in never amounts to anything as a winter layer. The exercise also guards against disease as well as serves as a very invigorating tonic.

BEGINNING WITH TURKEYS..

The first requisite in turkey raising is good stock. The fowls should be healthy, of good shape, with heavy bodies and not too much leg; the hens either one or two years old. If older the eggs are fewer in number and more likely to have soft shells. The gobbler should be well matured and weigh not less than 18 or 20 lbs. Gobblers and hens should never be selected from the same flock. As to color, one may choose according to fancy. We prefer a bronze or a black.

MEAT MAKES EGGS.

If one can get refuse bone and meat at the butcher's at one cent a pound, the increase in the egg production will soon pay for a bone cutter. One pound of meat is worth several pounds of grain for making eggs. With one of the hand bone cutters costing only a few dollars one can easily cut meat and bone for a large flock of hens, as they need it only three times a week.

WHEN TO FEED ENSILAGE.

If used for cows, feed just after milking. Keep out of the stable until the milk has been drawn and removed from the barn. The odors from the ensilage are taken in through the breath rather than from the feed after it is eaten. If, then, it is kept from the cows while being milked, and some time before, it will not affect the dairy products.

COLOR IS NOT A FACTOR.

The fact that a hog may be white, black or red does not operate for or against him in the general market. Some buyers prefer white hogs, but this feeling is not pronounced and no premium is paid for white porkers.

The cremation law in Norway provides that all persons over fifteen years of age must have made a declaration before death in the presence of two witnesses desiring cremation. For those under fifteen years the declaration must have been made by the parents.

A new method of preserving meats, from which much is expected, consists in immersion in a 30 per cent, solution of salt, through which a continuous current of electricity is being passed. The curing is completed in from ten to twenty hours, when the meat is taken out and dried.

Two thousand two hundred acres of cedars are cut down yearly on the continent in order to make wood cases for lead pencils. There are twenty-six pencil works in Bavaria, of which twenty-three are in Nuremberg, the great centre of the lead pencil trade. These factories employ from 8,000 to 10,000 workers, and produce 4,300,000 lead and colored chalk pencils every week.

The Japanese Government has given an order for the construction of another large battleship in addition to the Asahi, Shikishima and Hatsuse, which are now being built in England. The new battleship will be the same type as the three vessels now under construction. She will be of 15,000 tons displacement, with 5,000 indicated horse-power, and of a contract speed of 18 knots.

In Nagasaki, Japan, there is a fireworks maker who manufactures pyrotechnic birds of great size, which, when exploded, sail in a lifelike manner through air, and perform many movements exactly like those of living birds. The secret of making these wonderful things has been in the possession of the eldest child of the family of each generation for more than 400 years.

IN THE EARLY MORNING.

At break of day how sweet to wake—
To hear the wind the casement shake,
And know, though howling storms may
. . beat,
Some other hand turns on the heat.

THE NEWS IN A NUTSHELL.

THE VERY LATEST FROM ALL THE WORLD OVER.

Interesting Items About Our Own Country, Great Britain, the United States, and All Parts of the Globe, Condensed and Assorted for Easy Reading.

CANADA.

A district military school is to be established at Belleville.

Diphtheria is ravaging the lumber camps near Sudbury.

The city of Winnipeg has sold $65,000 worth of bonds in Montreal.

The Township of Binbrook has carried prohibition under the local option law by 98.

Three steamers have been wrecked and many lives lost in ice jams on the Yukon.

Eight thousand claims have been made to the Government for Fenian Raid medals.

The Canada Atlantic and Parry Sound Railway last year carried nearly 11,000,000 bushels of grain.

The Ontario Tack Company, of Hamilton has shipped 20 tons of nails and tacks direct to the Yukon.

The Pontiac and Pacific Junction Railway Company will extend their line from Aylmer to Ottawa.

Work will shortly be commenced on a $40,000 steel bridge, over the Rideau Canal at Maria street, Ottawa.

J. H. Metcalfe, warden of the Kingston penitentiary, on leave of absence, is reported as gradually improving in health.

The Attorney-General of Quebec announces that marriages performed by Hornerites in the Province is illegal.

Several cannon balls have been found by workmen excavating between the Quebec Post Office and the Chateau Frontenac.

The Hamilton Board of Works will let a quantity of stone to be cut by hand, in order that the unemployed may have work.

The Governor-General has asked the people of British Columbia to subscribe to the Gordon Memorial College, through Lieutenant-Governor McInnis.

Last year the Government received $109,750 from the poll tax on Chinese immigration, of which $27,650 was paid over to the Province of British Columbia.

The Allan and Dominion line steamers, which leave Halifax on Mondays, will now wait once a month for a few hours, until the arrival of the Chinese mails from the Pacific coast.

The Customs Department has nearly completed arrangements for placing its officers under guarantee bonds. The total amount of insurance is between $900,000 and $1,000,000.

The Gatineau Valley Railway will be extended this year from Gracefield, the present terminus, to Maniwaki, which will be the terminus for some time to come. The distance is 28 miles.

Another case of suspected smallpox has been found at Montreal.

At the Montreal depot on Wednesday, 400 Chinese, en route for Mexico, were given their supper.

The Kingston Elevator and Transit Co., has asked for a bonus from Hamilton, to build an elevator there.

The Great Northwestern Transit Co. will replace the burned Pacific by a new steamer on the Sault Ste. Marie route.

The United States Government's claim against John and James Livingstone of Baden for $18,000 due as customs duties has been settled for $1,000.

Prof Henry Alleyne Nicholson, regius professor of natural history at the University of Aberdeen, is dead. He at one time occupied a chair at Toronto University.

Hon. James D. Lewin, Senator, who has been on the directorate of the Bank of New Brunswick for 48 years has just been re-elected president for the 42nd term.

A meeting of the Executive Committee of the Trent Valley Canal Association, was held at Peterboro', and a decision arrived at to begin aggressive action to further the work.

The Woodstock Town Council is nonplussed over the fact that the roof on the new Central Methodist parsonage has not been constructed according to the provisions of the fire by-law.

GREAT BRITAIN.

A combination of calico printers in England and Scotland is talked of, with a proposed capital of $50,000,000.

A relative of General Gordon has recently paid $150 for a hymn book which the Soudan hero used in his youth.

The North-Eastern Railway Company of England has just distributed $1,000 in prizes to the keeps of sixty small stations as awards for neatness and good taste.

It is reported that the British Government is about to impose countervailing duties upon French bounty-fed sugar, to force France into the movement to abolish these bounties.

The total amount of money coined by all the Queen's predecessors on the throne was £[illegible] 000,000. During the present reign the Mint has turned out £450,000,000, including £158,000,000 in India—a record for all time.

Prof. Richard Claverhouse Jebb, of Cambridge, who represents the university in parliament has been elected as Mr. Gladstone's successor to the honourary professorship of ancient history in the Royal Academy.

Wilson Barrett, the actor, has entered suit at London against Hall Caine and Charles Frohman to enforce his claim to the exclusive acting rights of "The Christian" throughout the world, with the exception of the United States.

The floor of the rotunda at the London Coal Exchange, where the merchants gather, is unique. It is composed of inlaid woods arranged in the form of a mariner's compass, with a border of Greek fret. Upwards of 4,000 pieces of wood are employed.

War correspondents were at it as far back as the time of Edward II. Scribes specially commissioned, were sent up with the English army which invaded Scotland at the time. Incredible as it may seem, not one of the London newspapers was specially represented at the battle of Waterloo.

Sir David Barbour, formerly Finance Minister of India, is going to Jamaica for the British Government, to see that the financial affairs of the island are straightened out. It is claimed that bad financing is responsible for the lack of prosperity, and Britain proposes to keep her West Indian colonies on an equal footing with the islands now managed by the United States.

A rather novel form of combined amusement and instruction has been arranged for the benefit of certain prisoners at Wormwood-Scrubs, London, who may be anxious to "turn over a new leaf" on their liberation. The National Health Society has obtained permission from the Prison Commissioners to hold a weekly "Homely Talk" on health and nursing with the women who are undergoing short sentence in the prison mentioned. These lectures will relieve the tedium of incarceration, and perhaps fit the hearers to become better members of society than they have hitherto been.

Mr. Justice Hawkins will now be known as Baron Hawkins of Hitchin.

Lord Aberdeen will be the new president of the British Empire League.

Charles Morris, 36 inches high, and Miss Goddard, 36 1-2 inches high, were married in London.

On his own statement, the professional fees of the late Sir William Jenner amounted to £13,000 a year.

The Empress Eugenie will start at the end of the month for a trip in the Mediterranean on the steam yacht Thistle.

The London Standard protests against the abrogation of the Clayton-Bulwer Treaty, unless with compensation and the neutralization of the Nicaraguan canal.

Efforts are being vainly made to suppress a grave scandal connected with the retirement and disappearance from London, England, of the Rev. Robert Eyton, rector of St. Margaret's church, and a canon residentiary of Westminster.

UNITED STATES.

Chicago physicians have made a nose out of chicken's flesh for Herman Wade.

Miss Lindboom is an applicant for membership in the Chicago Board of Trade.

It is expected that the United States Government will advance $40,000,000 to pay the Cuban army.

George Gould it is stated will return to New York as a resident and pay taxes but on a reduced valuation.

It is reported that the American Bell Telephone Co. is to be merged into the American Telegraph and Telephone Co.

Miss Alice Hamilton of New York has been declared insane by a sheriff's jury. She has personal belonnings amounting to $200,000.

The Fifteenth United States Infantry of Ohio, and the Fourth Regiment of Infantry of Illinois have started on their long journey to the Philippines.

Three commissioners of the Glasgow exhibition of 1901 have arrived at New York and will proceed to Washington to invite the United States to participate in the big show.

The Hawaiian Telegraph Bill for a service for 20 years from San Francisco to Honolulu, at $100,000 a year, is before the house at Washington. During the war $2,000 a day was paid in cable tolls.

The United States revenue cutters to be built on the lakes will be smaller than those recently constructed, not greater than 500 tons burden, and will cost about $165,000 each.

The boys of New York who hate going to school are in luck. The situation there for school accommodation is such that the boys who play "hookey" are not punished because the room is needed.

Florence Maud Schrady, daughter of Jacob Schrady, a wealthy New York lawyer, and a relative of the Goulds, is said to have eloped with a penniless student. She is said to have married John B. Byrne in secret.

A San Francisco paper publishes the details of an alleged anarchist plot to blow up a number of big hotels in that city. A letter giving the plans has been found in Alameda. The police are investigating.

Lee Chung a Chinaman from New York, called at the White House, and insisted on seeing President McKinley. He said he wanted to enlist in the United States army, and wanted the President to give him some soldiers so that he could go over and whip China.

Martha Bailey, coloured, 33 years old, is locked up at Baltimore, charged with the murder by poison, of George W. Kiah, also coloured, at Cambridge, and of his mother, Mary Jane Kiah. Arsenic was put into flour used for making oyster fritters.

Robert Jamieson, mining engineer, of Vancouver, committed suicide in Seattle, on Saturday, because he feared to face business difficulties and possible poverty. Mr. Jamieson followed his profession in Turkey, Asia Minor and England. He leaves a wife in Vancouver.

A surgical operation was performed on the Great Ice of Absalom Digbee, of Rodd township, Mich., a few days ago. The surgeon extracted from the opening a diamond ring. Mr. Digbee has been told that he swallowed this ring in his infancy. He is now sixty-five years of age.

GENERAL.

Storms are causing great havoc in Switzerland.

The Elbe has risen and Hamburg is partly flooded.

Five feet is the minimum height of the Russian and French conscript.

The present flow of lava from Mt. Vesuvius is said to be uprecedented.

Frenchmen are asked to subscribe for a $60,000 submarine boat for national defence.

Ahmed Fedil's force, the last Dervish army, has surrendered, Ahmed Fedil himself escaping.

It is reported that the Sultan of Turkey has ordered a lot of Krupp field guns and shrapnel.

It is said that the chief amusement of the Chinese Emperor is training goats and donkeys.

The German estimates, just brought down, show a surplus of 74,370,000 marks, or about $18,500,000.

Carl Jacobsen, the Danish brewer, has given the city of Copenhagen art treasures valued at $1,400,000.

The Hottentots, now one of the lowest species of mankind were ages ago one of the most highly civilized.

Serious fighting between rival chieftains, which may lead to international complications is reported from Samoa.

In Berlin, the pawnshop is a royal institution, and it is not allowed to make a profit. Its surplus goes to charitable purposes.

One of the latest achievements in chemical science is a pellet containing the concentrated elements of coffee, sugar and milk.

Count Tolstoi declares that he has to thank his bicycle and his vegetarian diet for the robust health which he enjoys at the age of seventy.

A bronze column, inscribed with a treaty between two cities, made in the third century before Christ, has been found in a Doric temple in Greece.

The official inauguration of the new telephone line between Moscow and St. Petersburg took place last week. The line alone cost 60,000 roubles, 29,400.

A Norwegian sailor on July, 1898, between Iceland and Greenland, sighted a heap of ropes and rubbish, probably the wreck of Andree's balloon on an ice-flow.

A despatch from Cologne, Germany, says a number of children have been mysteriously stabbed on the streets. One has died. The crimes resemble those of "Jack the Ripper."

Student riots have occurred at Palermo and Naples.

A statue to John Ericsson, the inventor, will be erected at Stockholm.

The Russian General of the Transaspian district has been ordered to take Herat.

Brussels is named as the place of meeting of the disarmament conference of the powers.

Dr. Guseppe Basso, of the Turin University, became infected while cultivating bacillli and died.

Bermuda is overrun by cats and sparrows. The plague has been discussed in the Colonial Legislature.

During the transportation of 1,170 Spanish soldiers from the Philippines, to Barcelona, 300 took sick and 44 died.

At the opening of the Parliament of Sweden Wednesday the speech from the Throne advocated the building of defences.

Prince Frederick, Crown Prince of Denmark, and Princess Louise, his wife, have arrived at Stockholm, where they are guests of Uncle Oscar, the King.

The Pope had a chill on Tuesday, and there were great fears for his life. But His Holiness quickly rallied. His physicians advised him, however, to hold as few receptions as possible.

Empress Frederick of Germany, who is said to be suffering from tuberculosis has arrived at Nice. Her Majesty is a guest at the Hotel des Auglais, where she has engaged eighty rooms until April.

There are supposed to be nearly 50,000 dentists practising upon people's teeth in the world. A dentist's case of instruments nowadays contains between 300 and 400 instruments,

A medical authority on the virtues of various kinds of food declares that the herring gives the muscle elasticity, the body strength and the brain vigor, and is not flesh-forming.

Mr. Pelletan in the French Chamber of Deputies, accused the Government of bad administration in the colonies, on which the loss to the country had been sixty millions.

Mrs. Tan Jiok Kim, late of Singapore, is buried in a $20,000 coffin. It was decorated with silk, gold and precious stones, and was the most costly coffin ever constructed in the Straits Settlement.

Among the Riffian pirates of Morocco the women do all the agricultural and other hard work, while the men, when at home, do the cooking and mend the clothes, including the women's.

The Czar and Count Tolstoi have met, kissed and parted at Tcolah, in Central Russia. The ruler has the reformer's promise of co-operation in the scheme for the limitation of armaments.

A professional school of electricity is to be established near Paris. The school is intended to furnish labourers and foremen with an electrical education and first-class instruction will be given in both theory and practice.

The mines in Manchuria, according to a report of a Chinese official, are situated in a country covered 12 feet deep with snow in winter, and infested in summer and autumn with an insect which makes life unbearable