

THE HOME

The Faithful Friend.

In a very humble cot, In a rather quiet spot, In the sun and in the soap, Worked a woman full of hope, Working, singing, all alone, In a sort of reverie, 'Till with the Saviour for a Friend, He will keep me till the end.

THE FARM

Belgium is now the greatest beer-drinking country in Europe; the annual consumption per head of the population being 26 pints more than in Great Britain and nearly sixty per cent. above the consumption of Germany. Also it is third on the list of beer-drinking countries, 70,000,000 liters of spirits being drunk every year. Twenty years ago there were 2055 public houses in Brussels; in 1881, when the last statistics were made up, there were (including the suburbs) 8,990. Since Belgium was separated from Holland in 1830 insanity has increased 104 per cent., crime 135 per cent., and the number of suicides 80 per cent. These increases were so utterly out of proportion to the growth of population that the conclusion is irresistible that the drinking habits of the Belgians have more than usually close connection with their morals and their sanity.

Hints to the Farmer.

PLAN YOUR WORK.—The wise farmer will plan his work before the season opens. He will decide as to crops to be grown, having regard to rotation and make arrangements for their planting and cultivation. Then he will secure pure seed of the best varieties, and the necessary tools and implements to carry on his operations expeditiously as well as economically. Whatever help is required will be engaged early, and his teams will be put in condition for hard work, so that there will be no delay when the season arrives for opening the spring campaigns.

TEMPERANCE

To Temperance Men.—(Soo's wha ha.) Let the day is now at hand For each valiant temperance band, Boldly joining hand in hand, To fight the demon drink. Hear the tender mother's sigh, And the wife's despairing cry, As they pierce the wanted sky, For help for erring ones. Hear the drunkard's loud lament Over wealth and time mispent, O'er example sadly lent In the cause of wrong. Think of what a mighty host— Men of talent fallen,—lost, Wrecked on life's enchanted coast, When skies were calm and fair. Think how many a loving heart, Nobly gentle, free from art, Are driven to act a demon's part Through drink's bewitching cup. Let these thoughts then nerve your hand; Firm and fearless take your stand; God shall help the noble band That fights its freedom's cause. Let not frown of foe dismay, Nor the voice of friend delay; Heaven's hand shall guide and stay, And give you rich reward.

Sparrows Kill a Cat.— There was a desperate battle the other day in Galena, Ill., between a big tom cat and a numerous family of sparrows that had taken refuge in a crab apple tree in the back yard of the First Presbyterian parsonage, and whose home had been invaded by the cat. The latter stealthily crawled up the side of the tree, and was perched upon a lower limb, watching for an opportunity to take in an unsuspecting sparrow, when suddenly the entire flock of birds flew out of the tree and encircled it, making a chirping noise so loud and exciting as to be heard all over the neighborhood. After flying about the tree for a moment, a half dozen or more birds flew at the cat like lightning, and drove their sharp-pointed, toothed bills into its body. The animal uttered a howl of pain, but was finally pounced upon by other skirmishers of the bird army, and pecked so unmercifully that it was compelled to let go his hold on the limb of the tree, and dropped to the ground. Before it could regain its feet for the purpose of making its escape, a hundred angry sparrows dove at the animal, pecking it about the head and back, until it was utterly powerless to defend itself with its paws, which it had first endeavored to make use of. The birds seeing the enemy was succumbing to the terrible punishment they were inflicting upon it, renewed the attack with redoubled vigor, and his captivity was soon stretched lifeless upon the ground, with his eyes picked out and his skull perforated in many places. As soon as the cat ceased to show signs of life the sparrows flew back into the tree, and continued their deafening chatter in honor of the victory.—St. Louis Globe Democrat.

THE FARM.— A gentleman from Nova Scotia writes us some letters, which, for want of space, we cannot give in full, but he says: "I had RHEUMATISM in the most malignant form, the worst case that was ever known in this place, and I am very happy to inform you that two packages of your medicine have cured me, and I am as well as ever I was in my life." These complaints in poorly ventilated work rooms, and want of proper exercise, are often unavoidable, but tend to produce dyspepsia, want of energy, and are especially in such cases, Hamilton's Quinine Wine and Iron is the best medicine to use. See that you get "Hamilton's," the original and genuine. Boys and Girls who are growing rapidly should ensure strong and healthy constitutions by given regularly "Phosphoric Elixir," to keep up the waste that is continually going on in the system during the growing period. Always ask for "Phosphoric Elixir" and be sure you get it. A gentleman from Nova Scotia writes us some letters, which, for want of space, we cannot give in full, but he says: "I had RHEUMATISM in the most malignant form, the worst case that was ever known in this place, and I am very happy to inform you that two packages of your medicine have cured me, and I am as well as ever I was in my life." These complaints in poorly ventilated work rooms, and want of proper exercise, are often unavoidable, but tend to produce dyspepsia, want of energy, and are especially in such cases, Hamilton's Quinine Wine and Iron is the best medicine to use. See that you get "Hamilton's," the original and genuine. Boys and Girls who are growing rapidly should ensure strong and healthy constitutions by given regularly "Phosphoric Elixir," to keep up the waste that is continually going on in the system during the growing period. Always ask for "Phosphoric Elixir" and be sure you get it.

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Worrying Over Things. The older I grow the less I feel like worrying over things. I am essentially optimistic in my tendencies. Worrying makes people gray, and wrinkled and bald, and I cling tenaciously to my youthful look. I often wonder why some men will help their wives to drink and increase their badness by trying to do so, and when their meals are a trifle late, or the buttons are off their shirts, I know a Christian man a "professor," a deacon in the church, who makes his wife's life a burden to her because of his ceaseless complaining and scolding about trifles. Do other readers know such husbands? Heaven forbid that one such has fallen to the portion of any reader of this. I call such men vicious. We allow too many trifles to fret and vex us. I once saw a man, famous for his mental vigor and great learning swell up and grow purple with rage because he couldn't find his hat. How easy it is for a man to make a family wretched by this habit of whining and complaining and scolding. Life is too short to waste any of it in such useless mouthings.

Curing a Stingy Boy. Jimmy was the stingiest little boy you ever knew. He couldn't bear to give away a cent, nor a bit of an apple nor a crumb of candy. He couldn't even bear to lend his knife, or his hoop or skates. All his friends were very sorry he was so stingy, and talked to him a great deal about it. But he couldn't see why he should give away what he would himself. "If I didn't want it," he would say, "I'd give it away myself. I want it myself." "Because it is very nice to be generous," said his mother, "to let a cent out of the pocket of other people. It makes you

feel better and happier yourself. If you give your sled to little ragged Johnny, who never had one in his life, you will feel a thousand times better watching his enjoyment of it than if you had kept it yourself." "Well," said Jimmy, "I'll try it." The sled was sent off. Jimmy looked on as though he were taking a dose of rhubarb. "How soon shall I feel better?" he asked by-and-by. "I don't feel as well as I did when I had the sled. Are you sure I shall feel better?" "Certainly," answered his mother, "but if you should keep on giving something away you would feel better all the sooner." Then he gave away a kite, and thought he didn't feel quite as well as before. He gave away a silver piece that he had meant to spend for taffy. Then he said: "I don't like this giving away things; it doesn't agree with me. I don't feel any better. I like being stingy best."

Important Facts about Alcohol. Dr. Norman Kerr states "that at least 120,000 of our population annually lose their lives through alcoholic excess—40,500 dying from their own intemperance, and 79,500 from accident, violence, poverty, or disease arising from the intemperance of others." Sir Andrew Clark says, "Out of every hundred patients which I have charge of at the London Hospital, 70 per cent. of them owe their ill-health to alcohol. I do not say these 70 per cent. were drunkards, but to the excessive use." Dr. Edgar Shepherd declares that 40 per cent. of all persons who come into the great asylum of Colney Hatch are brought there by the direct or indirect effects of drink. Dr. Mason, of Fort Hamilton, testifies that the principal cause of the insanity of children is the drunkenness of parents. Mr. Justice Kay said in 1881: "I know by my experience that 50 per cent. of the crime of the kingdom springs from drink." Our national drink bill for 1884 was \$126,349,256. With respect to the destitution of the London poor, which has so much distressed us all of late, one very significant answer was given before the Royal Commission on the London Working Classes. In reply to the Marquis of Salisbury, the Rev. J. W. Horsley, a specially competent authority, said, "You can hardly ever find a teetotaler living in a slum with his family in one room."

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