

sary to the production of her own food supply and more.

Hundreds of thousands of pounds of butter and cheese are annually imported to this, an agricultural country. Cape bacon is scarcely to be had at any price, while stalled beef is unheard of. Beef, such as it is, is, of course, to be had in abundance, but the Colony depends on Great Britain and America to supply her with butter, cheese, bacon, etc.

Much is being done at the present time to improve the horses, cattle and sheep of the country, by the importation of the best bred animals of other countries to cross with the native stock. The country needs a denser working population, a dividing of the large estates into smaller holdings, and good live white colonists to occupy them. All these matters are receiving the careful thought of the colonists and good results are quite sure to follow.

At the present time the Government is sending out, at heavy expense, capable instructors to give free of all charge, practical lessons in butter making on the most approved methods. Some farms which we had the pleasure of visiting have in use the New Cream Separators, Churns, and Butter workers, with a result that we were given butter of as fine quality and flavor as our own best dairies could produce. The lack of suitable and sufficient water has been one of the Cape Colony's most serious drawbacks. There is, as I have already stated, but little surface water. The rivers, so called, are often mere sluggish streams of blackish water losing themselves in the rushes to re-appear in stagnant ponds, and becoming too often quite dry in the summer months. But this, as well, the Government is doing its utmost to remedy by aiding the farmers in well boring. It is astonishing how near the surface an abundance of good water has, in some localities, been found.

The early Dutch settlers bringing with them from the fatherland the love of sheltered avenues, were great planters of trees, and the districts first settled have splendid groves of oak and fir, while their old towns invariably enjoy the luxury of generous shade. The generations following have been sadly remiss in the matter of planting and the sections most recently settled, look naked and cheerless, indeed, in their all but utter lack of trees.

The roads throughout the Colony, considering its great distance and sparse population are, as a rule, very good. The science of road making has undoubtedly been studied by this people, so that the best possible results are invariably secured through the judicious expenditure of the money granted for the purpose.

The usual, and all but universal conveyance for driving, is the Cape cart, a strong heavy two-wheeled trap admirably adapted to this country of many hills and long distances. Most of the carts have two seats and accommodate four persons, others have three seats, others even four, and according to the size of the cart and the weight of the load, two, four and six horses are driven. Before the start the passengers and luggage are so placed as to balance the cart, so that no matter how heavy the load there is but little, if any, weight on the necks of the horses. The hills are taken at a gallop,

which necessitates giving the horses a short breathing when the top is reached. The teaming of produce and supplies is done on heavy wagons capable of carrying from 3 to 4 tons, and these wagons are drawn by spans of from 12 to 30 mules or oxen. A negro leads the foremost pair, while another boy wields an enormous whip with marvelous dexterity. Each ox has its name, and has as well, good reason to remember it, for the descending lash is its invariable accompaniment.

This country is a most pleasant one over which to drive. The mountains are ever in sight, and such glorious mountains in their gay and somber coloring, bathed always in a mellow haze, and spangled everywhere with wild flowers. Range succeeds range in a delightfully bewildering irregularity. The low bush growth covering alike the mountains and valleys, does much to compensate for the absence of forests. Now and then in the deep kloofs large trees are growing, but in the open they are seldom found.

Small game is abundant, and as we preferred driving in the early morning, we were always sure of seeing plenty of pheasants, partridges, hares, etc., while now and then a splendid buck would flash across the roadway temptingly near us, but it is close season now, and we were compelled to imagine how good the shooting in South Africa must be.

I shall go by sea around the Cape of Good Hope, and to the Orange Free State, and the Transvaal by way of Port Elizabeth.

BY AND BY.

Down the stream where the tide is clearer,
Farther on where the shores are fair,
Are the gracious forms we would fain be nearer,
The names we speak in the voice of prayer,
Be the voyage long they will be the dearer,
When after while we shall greet them there,
Farther on where the tide is clearer,
Down the stream where the shores are fair.

By and by when the sun is shining,
After while when the skies are clear,
When the cloud unfolds its silver lining
And shores of the peaceful isles draw near,
We shall free our tongues from their dull repining,
And fill our hearts with the words of cheer—
After while when the sun is shining,
By and by when the skies are clear.

British Columbia.

For over eight hundred miles British Columbia lies along the Pacific Ocean; but its coast line in and out the many bays, inlets and channels, and around its numerous islands would measure as many thousand miles.

It possesses one of the most remarkable stretches of inland navigation on the globe, remarkable for its bold shores, deep waters, numerous channels, innumerable bays and harbors, abundance of fuel and fresh water, and freedom from the swells of the ocean. The great outlying islands of Vancouver, 300 miles long, and Queen Charlotte, 170 miles long, and many lesser ones, form nature's gigantic breakwater to protect those thousands of miles of inland waters. The labyrinth of channels around and between the islands, that are in some places less than a quarter of a mile wide, and yet too deep to drop anchor; the mountains rising from the water's edge from one thousand to eight thousand feet, and covered with dense forests of evergreens far up into the perpetual snow that crowns their summits; the frequent track of the avalanche cutting a broad road from mountain top to water's edge; the beautiful cascades born of glaciers, or the overflow of high inland lakes, pouring over mountain precipices, or gliding like a silver ribbon down their sides, the deep gloomy sea-fjords cleaving the mountains far into the interior; the beautiful vistas opening up among the innumerable islets; mountain tops, domed-peaked, and sculptured by glaciers; the glaciers themselves sparkling and glistening in the sunlight, dropping down from the mountain heights like great swollen rivers, filled with driftwood and ice and suddenly arrested in their flow—all go to make up a scene of grandeur and beauty that cannot be adequately described.

The marvellous combination of mountain and water scenery along the coast is equalled, if not excelled, by the wonderful upheavals of the mountains of the interior—for hundreds of miles an endless succession of sharp peaks and deep valleys of precipice and gorge and rocks,



SCENE ON AN OSTRICH FARM.