

Agricultural

POINTS ON MARKETING BUTTER.

Sometimes if men could only see ahead for a very short time they could make many or certain plans that would be the means of giving them success, the failure to make which causes total failure, writes H. S. Matteson.

Now I propose to explain some things that I find common in the butter market that cause loss, which if they were only known to most dairymen, and they would heed them, would be a benefit to them. Just how to explain matters is to me a question. I know of but one practical way, and that is to tell just what I see day after day as I go through the market.

A few days ago, while in a butter store, a customer came in looking for a purchase of several tubs, and the dealer began to show his stock. I noticed that each time the purchaser called for a package to be opened for the trial he invariably chose one that looked clean and tidy on the outside. While looking through quite a large stock he came to a bunch of tubs that were not only clean but nicely varnished or oiled on the outside; every cover was perfect, white clean timber, no knots or dark stained spots in the wood. When the covers were removed the butter was clean and smooth, covered with a parchment paper and everything about the package was tidy and attractive. The result was that his purchase was made from this lot, at 16c per pound, while at the same time there were other lots selling for from 12 to 13c; and as to the general appearance there was scarcely any difference in the quality of the butter inside the packages; and without doubt had some of the other lots been tried, he would have purchased from them.

After this deal was finished, with the permission of the dealer, I went through his stock on hand. And here is what I found—tubs with hoops black and slippery with mold, with nails driven in to hold them to the package, covers on which were spots where the blacking used for marking the packages had been spilled, covers split and colored from being wet, tubs covered with cheap, unbleached cloth with a heavy coating of common barrel salt, tin pails rusty and bruised, some of them with the tin coating off in spots, not one in fifty that looked wholesome and tidy, butter that was as white as lard, butter of a deep orange color, butter that was mottled and streaked like marble; some salted with cheap salt that was still not dissolved, and when the cover and cloth were removed, what was covered with specks of dirt. All of these things can be remedied, or entirely overcome, and any one or all are the means by which butter will remain unsold or will have to be sold at reduced prices.

Here are some suggestions for dairymen: Never use anything but a clean sound tub with perfect hoops and covers. Use parchment paper instead of cloth on the butter. If you use salt, which is entirely needless, on the paper, use none but fine, clean salt, and a very small amount. Never use tin. If you want small packages, say 5, 10, 15 or 20 pounds, use something made of wood, of which there are many kinds, among them white cedar, a very tidy, tasteful package. As to color, nothing comes nearer perfection than a good lemon. Unless you have a private trade, put your butter on the market as fast as made; for very few dairymen make an article that will not show an old flavor after being in the market for a few days. This proposition calls for the selling many times of some of the finest of June butter for a very low price; but with very few exceptions holding the butter puts it all at those very low prices, which if sold as soon as made, an early and better price will bring prices that will raise your average price much above the winter price for held summer make. Finally in every respect put your butter in the best of shape, the same as you do any other thing sold or put on sale from your farm. Do with it as you always do with a horse or cow when you put it on sale; you clean these up, and as with the horse put on the best harness and trappings—something that attracts and favorsably impresses a would-be purchaser; for almost without exception first impressions are strongest and quite generally prevail. Last of all, put your own name and address on every package in good, plain, attractive type; this will give a purchaser confidence in your goods, because he will know you are not ashamed of them, and this name is at the same time virtually a guarantee that everything is honest and straight.

WINTER CARE OF SHEEP.

The nearer we come to spring the more carefully should we look after the health of the sheep, says E. A. Vincent. A little neglect just now may cost more than we at first thought would be willing to admit. A prime requirement at any season of the year, but especially in winter, is that sheep should have plenty of pure water. I know there is an idea among many sheep men that sheep do not need much water in cold weather. In consequence of this mistaken notion, we not infrequently see the poor creatures knee deep in the snow banks trying hard to assuage their thirst by licking the cold snow. This is not right. The man who will not take pity on his flock after witnessing their efforts to get a drink in that way ought never to keep sheep. They need a great deal of water and must have it to do well.

In the way of coarse fodder, mixed timothy and clover, cut early, is the best of anything. Now and then some nice, bright oat straw may be substituted for hay. You will find that they will eat it with great relish, even leaving timothy for it. Every day a few whole oats may now be fed ewes sound to year. For sheep I place a high value on this corn. I

know of nothing better. I know some prize barley even more highly, and there is no doubt that it is good, but I have seen sheep made too fleshy by liberal feeding of barley. Now and then a feeding of bran may be given instead of oats and a frequent ration of turnips or small potatoes will have a decidedly good effect upon the digestion.

On sunny days sheep like to run out for a while in the sunshine, but at night and on stormy days they should be provided with a dry shed, furnished with straw or other litter to keep them dry. Sheep are exceedingly sensitive to a damp sleeping place. When yearning time comes on, the ewes should be taken into a good warm pen, particularly at night. Cared for as I have outlined there is little danger that the sheep will not come through all right and do well all through the summer.

A HANDY FARM CART.

On nearly every farm there is one or two pairs of unused cultivator wheels. With these a cart can be made which will save much labor, and many steps. Especially is this so where there are half grown children about. They will enjoy working with the cart and will do much of the feeding, haul wood and cobs, and do many chores that would otherwise take up the farmer's time and attention.

A box about 2 1/2x3 1/2 feet and six or eight inches in depth is set on an axle long enough to give the wheels plenty of play, in such a manner as to nearly balance, the heavier end leaning toward the handle, so the one pushing or pulling it will have little weight to carry. To the sides of the box fasten with nails or bolts, three inch boards, extending three feet from the box and about five from the axle. Bore an inch hole through the ends and put a round piece of wood, such as an old pitchfork handle or other strong wood, into these holes, fastening the ends by wedging firmly. This will serve as a means of propelling the cart. Underneath the rear end of the cart, standards can be spiked or bolted on, so that the cart will always remain in nearly a horizontal position when the propeller releases the handles.

OLD WEDDING GIFTS.

Giving wedding presents is an old custom, but the custom differs in different countries. Scotland's penny weddings were peculiar. They were called penny affairs, but the invited guests contributed shillings, and occasionally a half crown, and out of the sums thus collected the expenses of the wedding feast were paid. Germany has a "pay wedding" at which the bride receives her guests with a basin before her, in which each person entering deposits a jewel, a silver spoon, or a piece of money. In some parts of Germany the rule is that the expenses of the marriage feast shall be met by each guest paying for what he eats and drinks—a sort of European plan wedding, you might call it.

The prices paid for dishes and drinks are high, and the happy young couple make a handsome profit out of their wedding, often realizing a sum sufficient to start them pretty nicely in life. Often 300 guests are present at such a wedding. Sometimes the flow of presents is in the other direction. In Poland, for instance, a girl is not regarded eligible for marriage until she has wrought with her own hands cloths and garments for the friends who will accompany her future lord, and in almost all countries the wedding present system is similar to that which is familiar here, and which has become a serious tax.

The following are some of the queer customs connected with the wearing of bridal wreaths.

The German bride wears the myrtle for her bridal wreath, while the girl of the Black Forest adorns herself with the flowers of the hawthorn. In France and England and in the United States the orange flower is in vogue, while the maidens of Italy and the French provinces of Switzerland, use white roses. Pinks, carnations, and red roses are worn by Spanish brides. In Lithuania the bridal wreath is wound of the Syrian rue, on the Lonian Islands, the grape vine; in Bohemia, Corinthia, and the Kraai districts, of rosemary, and in Hesse, of artificial flowers, to which ribbons are added. In Norway, Sweden, and Serbia bridal crowns are made of silver; in Bavaria and Silesia, of gold wire, glass beads and tinsel; among the Fins, the Wends and the peasants of Altenburg, of paper, and in Athens of costly filigree. Bridal wreaths were in vogue among the pagans, and were introduced among Christian brides during the fourth century.

RECRUITING IN CANADA.

War Office Has the Matter Under Consideration.

A despatch from London says:—In the House of Commons on Tuesday, the Parliamentary Secretary of the War Office, Mr. George Wyndham, replying to a question on the subject, said that recruiting in Canada for the regular army of Great Britain was under consideration, and he was not prepared to admit that there were any obstacles to such a step on either side of the Atlantic.

MR. CHAMBERLAIN'S ILLNESS.

Physician Insists on His Remaining in Bed.

A despatch from London, says:—Mr. Joseph Chamberlain is confined to his home with influenza, and is, consequently, unable to attend either the Colonial Office or the House of Commons. He has also been greatly weakened by his recent attack of the gout. His physician insists that he shall remain in bed and receive the greatest care.

ALL ABOUT NEW ONTARIO.

THE COUNTRY IS RICH IN FARM LANDS, TIMBER AND MINES.

Plenty of Mining Land and Plenty of Chances for Those With Agricultural Tastes.

"The Newer Districts of Ontario" is the title of a pamphlet just published by the Ontario Government. It treats of the Rainy River, Wabigoon, Algoma and Temiscamingue districts, and is full of valuable information for prospective settlers. Mr. Duncan Anderson, of Rugby, Ont., prepared the pamphlet, under the instructions of the Minister of Agriculture. Mr. Anderson started out on May 16th, and was away until July 23rd. In this time he travelled 6,450 miles by rail, 525 by boat, 315 miles on foot, and 110 miles driving.

In the Port Arthur section Mr. Anderson found good crops of hay, barley, oats, spring wheat, potatoes, turnips, and vegetables. It is well watered, and there is a fair growth of poplar, spruce, jack pine, white birch, cedar and tamarack. The markets at Fort William and Port Arthur are good, and the prices paid are high.

THE WABIGOON DISTRICT.

The advantages of the Wabigoon district are summed up as follows:—1. Cheap land and easy terms. 2. The main line of the Canadian Pacific Railway passes right through the agricultural belt. 3. The best of local markets. 4. Sufficient timber for building, fencing and fuel. 5. The country is well watered with rivers, creeks and wells. 6. The soil and climate are particularly well adapted to the growing of fall and spring wheat, barley, oats, potatoes, turnips, and all kinds of vegetables and small fruits. Corn and standard apples don't seem to do so well, unless it be the very hardy varieties. 7. Grasses grow in great luxuriance. 8. A very healthy climate. 9. Good roads for a new country. 10. Plenty of winter work in the lumber camps; also hauling and chopping cordwood.

RAT PORTAGE DISTRICT.

The Rat Portage district had much mining land, and also farm land. The conclusions reached regarding the Rat Portage district are given as below: 1. That there are schools and churches in almost every part of the settled sections. 2. That plenty of employment can be had at any season of the year in the lumber camps; on the roads, and at the mines; and that wages are good. 3. The flies are bad on stock for a month and a half in mid-summer, requiring the cattle to be put in the stable during the day time. 4. The winters are bright and clear. 5. As a stock and dairy country it cannot be surpassed. 6. Local markets are good and likely to continue, as it is closely adjacent to the mining regions. 7. That one can have an easily cleared farm by locating on the burned land, or if a timbered lot be chosen, the settler will have plenty of profitable winter work at his own home as long as the timber lasts. 8. Good natural drainage, and splendid spring and well water. 9. The perseverance and industry will bring its reward in a good comfortable farm home, and a working man with limited means who wants a home can get it here.

ABOUT SAULT STE. MARIE.

In the Ste. Marie section there is some good agricultural land. There are 4,000 acres not taken up on St. Joseph's Island. On the island farms can be bought from \$50 to \$1,000, according to the soil and improvements. About Goulais Bay the country is somewhat broken and the land is generally in the valleys hampered in by rock ledges. The best soil is a sandy loam, which, when intelligently cultivated, gives very profitable results. Two-thirds of the timber on the uplands is hard sugar maple, iron wood, and black and yellow birch. There are also have, in addition to maple and birch, balsam, spruce and a few tamaracs. The maple land is not as difficult to clear, as the timber is more easily burned. The cost of clearing would be from \$12 to \$15 an acre. Wheat does well, and so do oats, potatoes, turnips and fruit.

MILLION AND A QUARTER ACRES.

The area of agricultural land in the district of Temiscamingue is estimated at about 1,250,000 acres. The soil is very uniform, and consists of a strong rich clay. The timber, chiefly balsam and spruce, is so thick and unbroken that the sun and wind cannot penetrate it. This land will stand any amount of cropping, and intelligently farmed will give very profitable returns. The surface of the land is smooth with few cradle holes. Upon the River Blanc, there are large tracts of level clay land, which were burned over a few years ago and could be brought into cultivation almost as cheaply as prairie land. It is not yet in the market, however. The timber consists of pine, spruce, balsam, tamarac, cedar, poplar and a scattering of white oak and black ash. But on the best farming land the timber has very little commercial value, except pine and cedar, which grow to a large size. But the bulk of the timber is balsam and spruce, ranging from five to fourteen inches in diameter. Vegetables of every kind grow to perfection, and so do small fruits, while all the cereals grown in southern Ontario, with the exception of the more tender varieties of corn, grow well. Here I saw fine crops of oats, barley, fall and spring wheat, clover, timothy, and clover hay, potatoes, etc. Some fields of hay grown on new land amongst the stumps would go over two tons to the acre. The proposed James Bay railway would put this in direct

connection with Toronto. Mr. Anderson says:—"I think it would be wise for the Government to raise the price of land here from fifty cents to one dollar per acre, using the added fifty cents to give increased aid to the first eighty miles of the line."

PLENTY OF FARM LAND.

In concluding, Mr. Anderson says that in Ontario there are at least 2,500,000 acres of good land at present available for settlement—enough to absorb our surplus agricultural population for many years. The land is cheap; it is easy of access; the climate is healthy; money can be earned at the lumber camps; the mines and on the colonization roads; so that the settler and his family will be maintained in comfort during the first and second years until the farm produces enough to support his family. So for the struggling mechanic, day worker, and all those who are putting their labour on the market, there is a better chance for homes in the unlocated land of Ontario than staying in the overcrowded industrial centres, where the cry for work is becoming yearly more acute, for even if such have but a rudimentary knowledge of farming, they will be able to learn from their neighbors.

FAITHFUL ENGLISH SERVANTS.

It is probable that women have always been included among the employees of the post-office, says a writer in Chambers Journal. The writer can remember when the head of the post-office in the great town of Sheffield was a woman, and when there was a "postmistress" of Gibraltar. The post office sometimes "runs in families," and cases are not infrequent where a postmaster is succeeded by his widow or daughter, or other female relative. For the most part, such cases would indicate a desire on the part of the authorities to reward long and faithful service or to exercise compassion towards dependent relatives. Not only are postmistresses fairly common in these days, but postwomen—that is, female letter-carriers—are by no means uncommon.

There recently retired from the Bristol post-office a postwoman who was born in 1825, and who must have been delivering letters for the best part of sixty years. She was seventy-two years of age when she retired and it is estimated that she must have walked a quarter of a million miles during her long service. Although she served a very specially appointed district, she was never stopped nor molested in any way on her round, and it is needless to say that she gained the respect of all with whom she came in contact. The Lords of Her Majesty's Treasury, recognizing the exceptional circumstances of this woman's services, granted her half-pay in the shape of pension, and the inhabitants of her native village took the occasion of her retirement to present her with a handsome testimonial. She was a postwoman in the Bristol district has just succeeded her aunt as sub-postmistress, the latter having served for forty-seven years, and reached the astonishing age of ninety-five. The niece had served for forty-two years as postwoman so that she nearly was well on to sixty on taking up her new appointment. The post-office cannot be an unhealthy occupation, or its employees would not live to such advanced ages. But there are young postwomen as well as old, and here is the portrait of one who cannot be much above thirty, and who, attired in the official overcoat and cap, with a saucy felt hat and feather, looked uncommonly smart and business-like. She is the portrait of one who cannot be much above thirty, and who, attired in the official overcoat and cap, with a saucy felt hat and feather, looked uncommonly smart and business-like. She is the portrait of one who cannot be much above thirty, and who, attired in the official overcoat and cap, with a saucy felt hat and feather, looked uncommonly smart and business-like. She is the portrait of one who cannot be much above thirty, and who, attired in the official overcoat and cap, with a saucy felt hat and feather, looked uncommonly smart and business-like.

HUMOR OF THE INSANE.

There is Plenty of It, Says the Superintendent of an Asylum.

"I was sitting in my office the other day," said the superintendent of an insane asylum, "when one of the patients, a harmless fellow who is allowed to have the freedom of the building and grounds, came in, pale with indignation, and said that he had a complaint to make."

"What is it, your Highness," I said, for it was the Prince of Wales I was talking to.

"Are the rules of the palace to be observed or not?" he demanded. "I want to know whether our rules can be broken with impunity."

"Certainly not, your Highness," I said; "what is it?"

"I was coming down the corridor this morning," he said, "in a rack on the wall I saw a dozen red pails, marked, 'For Fire only.' Now is that right or not?"

"Well, then," he said, "John, referring to a keeper, must be punished. As I stood there he came along and filled the pails with water."

"He shall be executed at once," I said, and the Prince bowed with great seriousness and walked out of the room.

"This incident illustrates a trick which few people know anything about," continued the superintendent. "That is, that there is more unconscious humor about a lot of lunatics than there is genuine humor among sane people. Some of the things that my patients say and do are funnier than any of the things I read or hear from the outside world. I tell you, life isn't so prosaic as you'd think in an insane asylum."

FAITH IN YOUR DOCTOR.

An exchange quotes a story said to have been told at a "charity dinner." A man was brought into the accident hospital who was thought to be dead. His wife was with him. One of the doctors said: "He is dead," but the man raised his head and said: "No, I'm not dead yet!" whereupon his wife admonished him by saying: "Be quiet; the doctor ought to know best."

THE RETIRED BURGLAR.

He Doesn't Believe in Luck, but Thinks Things Do Happen Curiously.

"I don't believe in luck," said the retired burglar, "but it certainly is curious how things happen sometimes. Going out of my house one morning, about a quarter of 1, I dropped my lantern putting it in my overcoat pocket, and broke the bulb. I had another lantern in the house—a new, perfect lamp—but it had never been used, and wasn't even filled; and it took me half an hour or more to fit up that lamp and so, of course, I started out that much later."

"I had the house I was going to marked, and I got there all right and got in and got to work. But it was tremendously disappointing: It was a good big house, promising-looking from the outside, but very lean inside, that is as to stuff that was worth carrying off; silver all plated, and that sort of thing; and I didn't find a blessed thing downstairs worth taking away. Then I started upstairs, hopeful, of course; but the fact was the outlook was poor, no doubt, about that with things running so downstairs, you couldn't expect much up. And I hadn't got half way up the stairs when I heard somebody at the front door outside putting a key in the lock. Say that looked as though it knocked out the last chance there was of my getting anything, even if there was anything there to get, but of course I wanted to look out for myself, anyway, and I made for the top of the stairs, to look for a dark pocket to stow myself in till I got a chance to pass out."

"But the second sound of the key put a different complexion on things; the man with the key had been dining somewhere generously. He got in finally, though, and clambered up the stairs and made for a room at the front end of the hall, and got in there and turned up a light. Then I didn't hear anything of his for a minute or two, and then he upset something with a crash that just simply shook the house. I looked to see everybody in it come rushing around right off, but nobody came at all; maybe they were used to such things, but anyhow they slept through this."

"Then I heard him for some minutes at work getting off his clothes, and I heard him drop one shoe, and then for a long time there was perfect stillness and then I heard him snoring. When I ventured to look in I didn't need my new bulb, he had left his light burning brightly, and there he was stretched out on the bed, partly clothed, and with one shoe still on, and sleeping so soundly you couldn't have woken him up without shaking him, and it would have been hard work at that."

"When I had rounded up his stuff I found a gold watch, a pair of diamond sleeve buttons, a pretty fair-sized diamond pin, and a pocketbook with \$71 in it. It looked as though he carried the wealth of the household, and I should have missed him if I hadn't dropped my lamp. I don't believe in luck, but if I did I should certainly think there was luck in that."

SPIDER WEB FACTORY.

Some ten years ago a French missionary started the systematic rearing of two kinds of spiders for their web, and the Board of Trade Journal states that a spider web factory is now in successful operation at Chalais-Meudon, near Paris, where ropes are made of spider web intended for balloons for French military aeronautic section.

The spiders are arranged in groups of twelve above a reel, upon which the threads are wound. It is by no means easy work for the spiders, for they are not released until they have furnished from thirty to forty yards of thread each. The web is washed and thus freed of the outer reddish and sticky cover. Eight of the washed threads are then taken together, and of this rather strong yarn cords are woven, which are stronger and much lighter than cords of silk of the same thickness.

HOUSEKEEPING IN ITALY.

An interesting letter from a lady of limited means who passed last summer in Italy tells an entertaining story of housekeeping in that sunny land, tragi-comic with the shadows of departed grandeur. "I have become a padrona, with seven enormous keys, so heavy that I have to carry them in a basket. I am not only a padrona, I am also a cook, art student, and should be studying Italian. Also it has been very hot—so hot that one felt as if there was little worth doing in this world, and one didn't care 'tuppence' who did it."

"Did you ever keep house in hot weather, with no ice and no screen, and in a land where the insectivora abounded?"

"We have the pestilence which hopped in darkness, and flies by the 500, and many, many mosquitoes and harvest mice, and green and blue beetles and harvest bugs that bite, and long-nosed grey beetles that plunge into the milk, and big grasshoppers that come zipping in through the windows, and a few centipedes and rumors of scorpions, and a mighty orchestra of cicadas thrumming and buzzing among the olive trees under my window. Every day brings some fresh discovery in the stinging and biting line. Fifteen minutes at a stretch of peaceful comfort has become impossible. With this wait finished, I will remark that the insect enemy is the worst thing about San Gimignano for my quarters, five rooms and a garden across the lane, I pay about \$6.40 a month, and for my beloved Maria, my servant, who comes for an hour and a half every day, \$1.60 a month. We are delightfully behind the times here. Everything is done here with hand labor, distaffs, plows, spinning wheels, farm implements as they were in Virgil's time."

WHAT UNCLE SAM IS AT.

ITEMS OF INTEREST ABOUT THE BUSY YANKEE.

Neighboring Interest in His Doings—Matters of Moment and Curious Gathered from His Daily Record.

Pomona, Cal., possesses 60 varieties of olive trees.

The Highlanders of New York are to form a regiment.

Cornell students did not use wine at their last banquet.

A fence seventy miles in length, is being built to protect herds of cattle in Dakota.

Nearly a million persons make their living in the United States by electric industries.

Admiral Dewey has thanked the Boston City Council for naming a square in that city after him.

Alexander Graham Bell, upon his return to Washington, will build a Japanese garden at his residence.

Two women are employed as track-walkers in a section of the Central Pacific Railroad east of Wells, Nev.

During the eleven months ended with November, 546,852 persons visited the Congressional Library at Washington.

The work of constructing a huge raft, which is to contain 4,000,000 feet of lumber, has been begun in Portland, Ore.

It is said that the recent advance in security market values had added not less than \$2,000,000 to the personal fortune of William K. Vanderbilt.

Among saleswomen in New York Mrs. Russell Sage is said to bear the reputation of being the kindest and most considerate shopper in the city.

Rev. Dr. Hiram Hutchins, though 89 years old, is still able to take his accustomed walks about the streets of Brooklyn, where he has long been a familiar figure.

The Duchess of Marlborough received a Christmas gift of \$500,000 from her father, W. K. Vanderbilt. This will be devoted towards the purchase of a London residence.

Judge Felton, of Georgia Supreme Court, recently adjourned court because one of the witnesses preferred, instead of testifying, to keep an engagement to be married.

Representative B. F. Marsh, of Illinois, is an expert pool player. The other night he got started in a play at Willard's hotel, at 6:30, and did not stop till 8:30 next morning.

Major-General Ludlow, military and civil Governor of Havana, has for years been considered as one of the best authorities on municipal sanitation and engineering in this country.

Having no jail at Jerome, A. T., the police handcuff the arms of the prisoners around telegraph poles. The law-breakers, can stand, sit or lie down, but cannot escape hugging the pole.

The famous Bowers in New York was originally the road through the botanerie, or farm, of Governor Stuyvesant of the Dutch colony of Amsterdam. It was the post road to Boston.

The late Gen. Garcia, the Cuban, was a well-read man, and even in his perilous campaigns managed to carry about a few books with him, among which was invariably a volume of Caesar's Commentaries.

Speaker Reed on a recent cold night was riding in a crowded car, the front door of which the motorman persistently kept open. Mr. Reed at last called to him and asked why this was. "I want to keep warm," was the explanation. "So do the rest of us," said the Speaker. "Suppose you shut the door." He was obeyed.

The directors of the Galea Public Library have received a gift from President McKinley, in the shape of a portrait of himself, which he sends in commemoration of his visit to this city on the occasion of the Grant memorial celebration, April 27, 1893, on which occasion he delivered the address.

Gen. Shafter owns a medal of honor given him "for most distinguished gallantry at Malvern Hill, Va., August 6, 1862, while serving as first lieutenant, Company I, Seventh Michigan Infantry, in command of pioneers, voluntarily taking active part in the battle and although wounded, remaining on the field until the close of the engagement."

BETTER FUEL THAN COAL.

A newly discovered mineral which is of a lustrous black color and which as a fuel surpasses coal and all other substances heretofore known, is described by the Journal of Geology. It is found on the island of Barbados, in the Lesser Antilles, where the natives call it "manjak." It is thought that manjak is purified petroleum, great quantities of petroleum being found on the same island. It contains only 2 per cent of water and fully 27 per cent of solid organic matter, thus surpassing in utility the best asphalt of Trinidad, in which 30 per cent of water is contained, and which has been classed so far as the very finest fuel. Mixed with turf it gives heat far superior to any known.

LONGEST HEAD OF HAIR.

The woman who possesses the longest head of hair in the world is said to be Mercedes Lopez, a Mexican. Her height is five feet, and when she stands erect her hair trails on the ground four feet eight inches. The hair is so thick that she can completely hide herself in it. She has cut very frequently, as it grows so quickly, enabling her to sell large tresses to hair dealers every month. She is the wife of a poor sheep herder.

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