THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE.

NDED 1866

other side, jumps up in the dust off his clothes, g passion, kicks s his property viciously, yanks it this way, then that, gets madder, then presently hoists it into the air and goes tearing away in an entirely new direction; ca nes to a weed: it never occurs to him to go around it, he must climb it, and he does climb it dragging his worthless property to the top; when he gets up there he finds that this is not the place; takes a cursory glance at the scenery, and either climbs down or tumbles down, and starts off once more-as usual in a new direction. At the end of an hour he fetches up within six inches of the place he started from and lays his burden down. He meets another ant, fights him about nothing, and each starts off in a different direction to see if he can't find something that is heavy enough to afford entertainment and at the same time valueless enough to make an ant want to own it.

Mark Twain, in the above passage, in his characteristic humorous manner, thus emphasizes the apparent waste of energy displayed by the individual ant. But if we turn from the individual to the colony we find the study of these insects has many lessons for mankind. We find among them a division of labor, and the ant colony had adopted this principle, which is one of the basic factors in the progress of human civilization, while every man was still his own butcher, baker, builder and jack-of-all-trades. Moreover, we find that the ants are the dominant race of insects in the world today, and that they owe this dominance in large part to the organization of their communities, to the fact that each individual works not only for its own particular ends but for the general good of the whole colony. Here we have a lesson which has as yet been only partly learned by mankind. If this lesson had been thoroughly learned, we should not only have no international wars, but no class war, no strife between those who work with their heads and those who work with their hands such as is the curse of the world to-day, but each would be willing to do his little bit for the general welfare of the human race.

A lesson on the value of co-operation is taught by the wolves, fierce and predatory animals though they are. This idea, that the united efforts of several individuals can accomplish that which is impossible for the single individual is well expressed in the lines:

"And this is the song of the wolf As the cry goes forward and back. The strength of the pack is the wolf And the strength of the wolf is the pack."

The study of parasites among animals and plants yields a very salutory lesson. All parasitic organisms are degenerates in the group to which they belong. They



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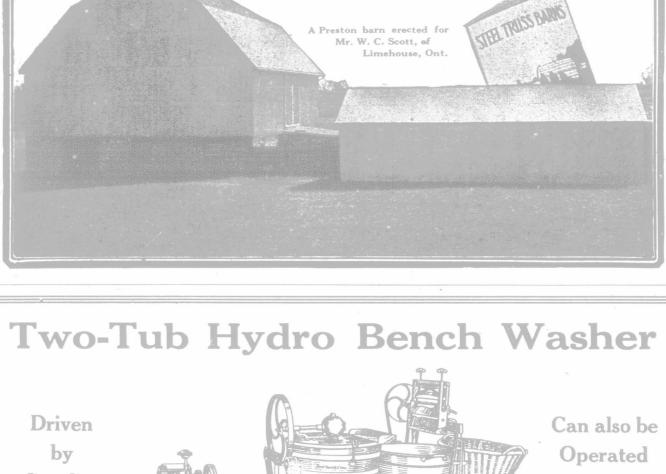
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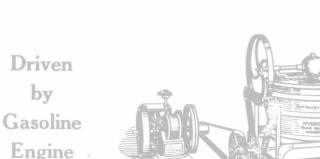
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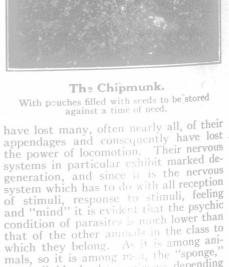
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mals, so it is among mon, the "sponge," the individual who is a ways depending on somebody else, looses his higher at-