

Poetry.

THE HONEST FARMER.

Happy I count the Farmer's life,
His various rounds of wearisome toil;
An honest path with loving wife,
And offspring native to the soil.

Thrice happy, surely!—in his breast
Plain wisdom and the trust in God:
His path more straight from east to west
Than politician ever trod.

His gain's no loss to other men;
His stalwart blows inflict no wound;
Not busy with his tongue or pen,
He questions truthful sky and ground.

Partner with seasons and the sun,
Nature's co-worker; all his skill
Obedience even to waters run,
Winds blow, herb, beast, their law fulfill.

A vigorous youthhood, clean and bold;
A manly manhood, cheerful age!
His comely children proudly hold
Their parentage best heritage.

Unhealthy work, false mirth, chicane,
Guilt—needless woe and useless strife—
O cities vain insane, insane!
How happy is the farmer's life.

Miscellaneous.

A henhawk was attacked and killed by English sparrows at Hartford on Friday, when it flew into a tree where they had their nests.

A French newspaper points out how the passion for gambling is shown in England, so that even in wedding notices it is necessary to state that there were "no cards."

Mr. Harper's stallion Longfellow recently severely bit the arm of Sanford, a colored boy, who had interposed to prevent the horse from attacking another stallion, who had thrust his head into Longfellow's quarters.

Circuses are a little backward this season. Only five of them are the "biggest show on earth." Each of the other six are simply the "most complete aggregation on the road."

It is told as an instance of John Morrissey's generosity that when a Protestant church of colored people in Saratoga found itself in need it applied to him and was relieved by a gift of one day's receipts at his race course.

Little Compton, R. I., has produced an animal that seems to be half calf and half sheep. Its crop of wool bids fair to be abundant and fine, and if the hybrid proves to have the milk-giving qualities of the cow it will be a valuable breed to perpetuate.

The Hindoos have a strange religious prejudice which forbids them to kill snakes, and yet, according to statistics, 17,000 human lives were sacrificed in India last year to the bite of poisonous snakes!

Michigan has a law intended to prevent speculation in tickets at the doors of places of amusement. It forbids the sale of reserved seats within an hour of the commencement of the performance. The Mayor of Detroit is trying to punish several of the speculators, and the showmen are resisting.

If you want to make a starving man believe that you have any true religion, send him a large loaf of bread before you send a tract. The latter is never a good substitute for the former. If before eating he refuses your religion it is your fault, but if he refuses it after a good meal it is his fault.

A hen crawled into one of the churches in Jefferson City, Missouri, on a late Sunday, and laid an egg in the contribution box. While the minister was making an earnest appeal, the hen suddenly left her nest, and presenting herself to the chancel, cackled most energetically. The deacons discovered the egg when they went forward to get the boxes. The pious hen's contribution was adapted to the domestic rather than the foreign field. She thought, no doubt, that the lay element in that church was not sufficiently developed and active.

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