

## ENGLISH WOMEN AS IDLERS.

The following article is from the London *Saturday Review*. It presents a view of woman's sphere and duties to which farmers and farmers' wives, to say nothing of other classes, in this country, are not accustomed:

Conceive woman obliged to take life in earnest, to study as men study, to work as men work! The change would be no more modification, but the utter abolition of her whole present existence. The theory of woman's life is framed on the hypothesis of sheer indolence. She is often charming, but she is always idle. There is an immense ingenuity and a perfect grace about her idleness; the efforts, in fact, of generations of cultivated women have been directed—and successfully directed—to this special object of securing absolute indolence without either the inner tedium, or the outward contempt which indolence is supposed to bring in its train. Women can always say with Titus; "I have wasted a day," but the confession wears an air of triumph rather than regret. A little riding, a little reading, a little dabbling with the paint brush, a little strumming on the piano, a little visiting, a little dancing, and a general trivial chat scattered over the whole, make up the day of an English girl. Woman may fairly object, we think, to abolish at one fell stroke such an ingenious fabric of idleness as this. A revolution in the whole system of social life, in the whole conception and drift of feminine existence, is a little too much to ask. As it is, woman wraps herself in her indolence, and is perfectly satisfied with her lot. She assumes, and the world has at least granted the assumption, that her little hands were never made to do anything which any rougher hands can do for them. Man has got accustomed to serve her as her hewer of wood or drawer of water, and to expect nothing from her but poetry and refinement. It is a little too much to go back to the position of the squaw, and to do any work for herself. But it is worse to ask her to remodel the world around her, on the understanding that henceforth duty and toil and self-respect are to take the place of frivolity and indolence and adoration.—Ex.

This may be said of too many town ladies, but in the country in Canada, ninety-nine out the hundred work far too hard; we would like to lighten their toil as much as possible. It would be better for them and for the rising generation, were their labors lightened and more time given for books and mental improvement.—Edt.

## CENT WISE—DOLLAR FOOLISH.

This old adage is exemplified in many instances, and how people can go on year after year in the same course, is extraordinary. There are actually men living

at the present day, who own good farms, and have not such a thing as a wheelbarrow, cannot muster half a dozen baskets to pick potatoes, corn &c., into, and when any job has to be done, it often takes as much time to fix up old trumpery to do it with, as to do the work. Wagons are kept which want overhauling every time they are used, and harness, collars and saddles are in such a tatterdemalion condition, that a very high wind would blow them all asunder, and, what is worse, they pinch backs and shoulders, and cause grievous sores, so that after a journey the animals look as if the teamster had become hungry on the way, and had been taking bits here and there to fry. A stocking above and one below the wound, tied around the collar, and the pinching another horse's back while the first gets well, is the remedy, and should both the stockings make two more tender places, another horse must be galled, that rest may heal the raw flesh. In attempting to mend any of this tackle, ten to one if the leather would hold the stitches, for, like the wagons, if not handled tenderly, any hasty hammering and repairing will shake out two fresh breaches for every refit.

Most people who have neglected their fencing, and not kept their gates in order, spoil their cattle, so that they are troublesome forever after, and woe to the poor man who may have to follow in charge on such a place, for purgatory would be comparatively a heaven to him.

Again, many farmers long for and search after cheap men to hire at low wages. They lock up and hang the keys on hooks, which the servants know all about, and they are robbed of this and of that, in addition to a portion of every day's work, so that here there is cent wisdom and dollar folly.—Country Gent.

## FOWLS IN THE HORSE-STABLE.

Fowls should never be permitted to have access to the horse-stable, nor the feed-room, nor the hay-mow. Their roosts should be entirely separate from the stable, so that they may not always be ready to slip in, whenever a door is opened; and that the vermin which infest poultry may not reach horses and cattle.

It is a well-known fact that fowls of all kinds frequently drop a very sordid, offensive, clammy, viscous ordure; and when allowed to go on the hay-mow, or in the feeding-room, or anywhere in the barn, they damage more fodder than we are want to suppose. We would as soon allow fowls to live in the kitchen, and to hop on the dinner-table while we are eating, and to roost on our bedstead, as to allow them to have free access to the horse-stable and barn.

Some horses are always afraid of fowls; and when one enters the manger, or rack, the timid horses will immediately surrender their entire right, however hungry they may be, to these lawless marauders. And after they have scratched over the feed, with their foul feet, and smeared a portion of it with their filthy droppings, a horse must be exceedingly hungry before he will eat his mess. Many a hungry horse has been deprived of his feeding of grain by a lot of bold, gallinaceous robbers that had learned when and where to fill their empty crops with the feed of a jaded horse. Let grates and bars exclude fowls and pigeons from the doors and windows of all horse-stables. Ex.

FACTS ABOUT COLORS.—There are many little arts which may be used about colored clothes when washing them, which tend to a look of newness as long as they are worn. These are some of them: A spoonful of ox-gall to a gallon of water will set the colors of almost any goods soaked in it previously to washing. A tea-cup of lye in a pail of water will improve the color of black goods. Nankin should lay in lye before being washed; it sets the color. A strong clean tea of common hay will preserve the color of French linens. Vinegar in the rinsing water, for pink or green calicoes, will brighten them. Soda answers the same end for both purple and blue.

SOMETHING FOR THE SICK.—A correspondent writes: Frequently we find sick people whose stomachs reject all kinds of nourishments until conditions follow that in many instances terminate fatally. In twenty instances in which I have heard the popular sick-bed nourishments prescribed and rejected by an invalid's enfeebled stomach, I have never known the simple saucer of parched corn pudding or bowl of gruel refused. The corn is roasted brown, precisely as we roast coffee, ground as fine as meal, in a coffee mill, and made either into mush, gruel or thin cakes, baked lightly brown, and given either warm or cold, clear, or with whatever dressing the stomach will receive or retain. Parched corn and meal boiled in skimmed milk, and fed frequently to children suffering from summer diarrhoea, will almost always cure, as it will dysentery in adults, and, I believe, the cholera in its earliest stages.—Stock Journal. [Some of our readers might try it and report results.]—En.