

GOSSIP.

The late Judge Dykman once had before him a respectable-looking man who was charged with the theft of jewellery. The man pleaded guilty, but it was urged that there were extenuating circumstances. The defence introduced a medical expert, who swore that the prisoner suffered from kleptomania. "What's that?" asked the Judge seriously. "It's a—er—disease, your Honor." "What kind of a disease?" "Well—it's a—mental disease, that causes the subject to appropriate property not his own." "Makes him steal?" "Yes, your Honor; that is generally the case." "I know the disease," said his Honor. "I know, the disease, and I am here to cure it."

A "GENERAL-PURPOSE" COW.

The following special dispatch to the New York Tribune from New Brunswick, N. Y., shows that the special-purpose cow has been again outclassed in a "public" test:

"John Sutphin, a Franklin Park farmer, asked the police to-day to help him find a pet heifer which had strayed away from his farm. He declared she was a great fish catcher, and frequently would go to ponds on the farm, stand motionless for a time in the water near the bank, then suddenly thrust her head in the water and bring up a small fish in her mouth."

"On the advice of the police and with their aid, the shores of the Raritan river were searched. The heifer was found watching for fish near the landing bridge."

A SOUTHERN EXTRAVAGANZA AND A MORAL.

A lady residing on Butter Creek one night last week hung a bucket of cream in the well near the house so that it might keep cool. During the night a frog fell into the bucket of cream and in his struggle to get out actually converted the cream into butter. When the lady visited the well the next morning she found the frog sitting on a ball of butter washing his feet in buttermilk.—[Heppner Times.]

The real story is that two frogs fell in and one gave up in despair at once and drowned, while the other kept on kicking as described, and the moral is that if you keep up kicking (in a diplomatic manner) you will get that new cement floor, that starter can, etc., and your patrons will deliver clean milk.

THE ROYAL COMMISSION ON TUBERCULOSIS.

The Royal Commission, appointed in August, 1901, to investigate the connection between human and animal tuberculosis, has reached certain conclusions it considers as justifying an ad interim report, which, in effect, refutes Prof. Koch's much discussed theory that tuberculosis cannot be communicated by animals to human beings. The commissioners immediately attacked the problem experimentally instead of beginning by collecting opinions.

Their main conclusion is thus expressed: "We have most carefully compared the tuberculosis set up in bovine animals by material of human origin with that set up in bovine animals by material of bovine origin, and so far we have found the one, both in its broad general features and in its finer histological details, identical with the other."

"Our records contain accounts of post-mortem examination of bovine animals infected with tuberculosis material of human origin, and so far we have found the one, both in its broad general features and in its finer histological details, identical with the other."

"This, in the judgment of the commissioners, seems to show quite clearly it would be unwise to frame or modify legislative measures in accordance with the view that human and bovine tuberculosis bacilli are specifically different or that the disease caused by one is wholly different from the disease caused by the other."

The commissioners experimented with more than 200 bovine animals. Their present conclusions, which will be followed by a further report, strikingly support the view of the majority of English medical men, and are likely to lead to the strengthening of the regulations regarding the sale of meat and milk.

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