

"And cows' hair," he added, "is the very best thing to mix plaster with to make it firm and strong, you know. Buttons are made from the horns and bones, and knife-handles, and combs, and brushes."

"Dear me!" cried Annie, with shining eyes, "so many things," counting them up on her fingers, "beef and milk—and they use the milk for ever so many things—butter, and cheese, and ice cream!" smacking her lips. "Do you like cream on berries, Archie?" she asked, suddenly.

"Yes, indeed!" replied Archie. "I suppose your cream is so much better than that we have, I shall hardly know what it is. We use condensed milk to make ice-cream; but new cream must be much nicer."

"There, just notice that hen," cried Ben, determined not to relinquish his scheme without one more attempt. "That hen, roosting on the apple-tree, hasn't got a tooth in her head!"

"She must keep them in her stomach," laughed Archie; then, thinking that if this was the style of joking his cousins enjoyed, he would join in it, he added, "And not a single one of your cows has any front teeth on the upper jaw."

"Oh, yes, they have," said Ned, quickly. "Our cows are all right."

And Ben asked, "What makes you think so?"

"Why, don't you know?" asked the young natural history enthusiast, eying them in surprise. "A cow never has any front teeth on her upper jaw."

"Is that so?" said Ben, carelessly, trying to conceal his ignorance and chagrin. "Perhaps we'd better go in to supper now, Cousin Archie." Then he added, heartily: "I'm awful glad you're going to spend a few weeks with us. You've had a chance to learn so much we never thought of. We shall have jolly times together."

"I knew we would!" exclaimed Archie, cordially, "because you could teach me so many things I don't know. Now, I can hardly tell a pear tree from an apple or cherry tree."

"Is that so?" asked Ben, however with much respect even for his cousin's ignorance. "Well perhaps we can teach you some things."

"Waal! waal!" chuckled the hired man, as he strained the white foaming froth from the milk. "Fer a nine-year-old, that ther leetle city chap does beat all possessed! I'm right glad his pesky young cousins hes diskivered that the teachin' ain't a goin' ter be all on their side. It'll do 'em a sight o' good."

A little fellow, turning over the leaves of a scrap book, came across the well known picture of some chickens just out of their shells. He examined the picture carefully, and then with a grave, sagacious look, slowly remarked: "They came out 'cos they were afraid of being boiled."

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