

nature-study spirit, upon his pupils.  
W. LOCHHEAD.  
Biological Department, O. A. C.

### A New Agricultural Text-book.

FIRST PRINCIPLES OF AGRICULTURE.—By E. S. Goff, late Professor of Horticulture, Wis., Minn., and D. D. Mayne, Principal, School of Agriculture, St. Anthony Park, Minn. Pages, 256; illustrated, colored plates. Eighty cents. American Book Co., New York.

Of several public-school text-books on agriculture which have come under our notice in recent years, this is the most attractive. That it was planned and largely written by the late Professor Goff, and introduced by ex-Governor Hoard, commends it at once to people who keep track of the progress of agricultural education. The authors had in view the principle prescribed for teachers of public schools in France, viz.: that letters on agriculture should be addressed to the intelligence rather than to the memory of children; that they should be based on observation of the everyday facts of rural life, and on experiments appropriate to the resources of the school, and that the reason for the results reached should receive special prominence. The topics treated include plants, soils, insects, weeds, dairying and stock-raising. The method is a compromise between nature-study and information. At the head of each lesson, the illustrative material required is mentioned, the good teacher will see that the observations and experiments are made, but the indifferent teacher is liable to permit the pupil to learn by rote the results; when these are stated in the text-book. The boy who is well taught will find this an exceedingly useful book. His father, if a farmer, will find much in it to interest him.

### Lions at Home.

From time to time our Home Magazine readers have had opportunity given them to study various phases of animal life as presented to them by that wonderful painter, Rosa Bonheur. Her paintings must always commend themselves to animal lovers everywhere, but perhaps more particularly so to those who spend their lives amongst them. They best can appreciate her accuracy of detail, her faculty of so understanding the creatures she paints that even in a band of horses or a flock of sheep each face shows some distinctive quality. To secure this accuracy, Rosa Bonheur lived upon the friendliest terms with all her animals, even on one occasion in her earlier days managing to keep a sheep in her rooms in Paris. As a girl, when the God-bestowed gift within her was a secret locked in her own breast only, the future animal-painter would play truant from school, lie on her back gazing skywards until her crude conception had shaped itself, and, then, smoothing the dust before her, she would take a stick, and, wholly oblivious of any who might be gazing at her, draw the form upon which for the moment her mind's eye was riveted.

How Rosa Bonheur managed to get upon such friendly terms with His Majesty the Lion King, his formidable-looking wife and their royal cubships as to give us this picture of their domestic felicity is a secret which we will not try to discover. H. A. B.

An Irish farmer asked a priest what a miracle was. He gave him a very full explanation, which, however, did not seem to quite satisfy the farmer, who said: "Now, do you think, your reverence, you could give me an example of a miracle?" "Well," said his Reverence, "walk on before me and I'll see what I can do." As he did so, the priest gave him a tremendous kick behind. "Did you feel that?" he asked. "Why wouldn't I feel it?" said the farmer. "Begorra, I did feel it, sure enough." "Well," said the priest, "it would be a miracle if you didn't."



They "Went and Told Jesus."—S. Matt. xiv.: 12.

"Have you and I to-day  
Stood silent as with Christ, apart from  
Joy, or fray of life, to see His face;  
To look, if but a moment, in its grace,  
And grow, by brief companionship, more  
true,  
Mors nerved to lead, to dare, to do  
For Him at any cost? Have we to-day  
Found time, in thought, our hand to lay  
In His, and thus compare  
His will with ours, and wear  
The impress of His wish? Be sure  
Such contact will endure  
Throughout the day; will help us walk  
erect  
Through storm and flood; detect  
Within the hidden life sin's dross, its  
stain;  
Revive a thought of love for Him again;  
Steady the steps which waver; help us  
see  
The footpath meant for you, and me."

In this age of practical philanthropy, when men and women, especially women, are eagerly working for missions, or worried and worn out over church sales and suppers, we cannot too often be reminded that it was not the busy, bustling Martha who was especially commended by our Lord. Mary, who seemed to her energetic sister to be idly wasting time, had chosen the better part and the more important work. I don't think we 20th-century Christians are likely to make the mistake of spending all our time gazing up into Heaven, but we may make the opposite mistake of not looking up to Heaven enough—like Martha, we may be so occupied with active work for Christ that we have no time for communion with Him. Our Lord's words, spoken nearly two thousand years ago, are addressed personally and individually to each disciple to-day. Do you fall dead and lifeless on our ears, or are they as full of life and power as if we, like Saul of Tarsus, heard Him speaking from Heaven?

Our orders for private prayer are to enter the closet and shut the door. We need to be alone with God, and the worldly cares and pleasures in which we

the servant of the Lord that I am engaged with his Master."

He evidently thought that an audience with Christ was no more to be set aside without very good reason than an audience with an earthly king.

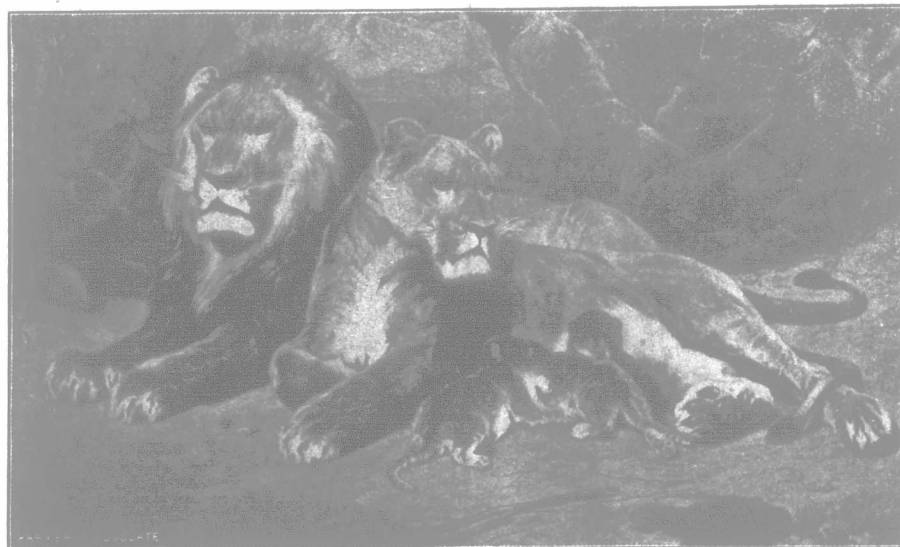
St. Bernard of Cluny, when walking in the cloisters with his brother monks, would sometimes say to them: "Dear brethren, I must go: there is Someone waiting for me in my cell." There is SOMEONE waiting for us in our room—do we let Him wait all day in vain? What a difference it would make in our lives if, several times a day, we spent even a minute or two low at the feet of Christ. Then we should indeed be like mirrors reflecting the beauty of His image, then our friends would take knowledge of us that we had been "with Jesus."

When John the Baptist had been killed by Herod, his disciples did the very wisest thing possible under the circumstances—they "went and told Jesus." So, also, King Hezekiah, when he had received a threatening letter from a powerful enemy, at once took it to the temple and spread it before God. So when we are in great trouble or difficulty we also may cast our burden on the Lord, but do we always take Him the little everyday difficulties, not only two or three times a day, but right in the midst of them? Bither it is true or false that He is willing to help us at any moment. If it is false then it would only be honest to disown Christianity altogether. If it is true, then it is the height of folly to struggle on alone.

"Once in an Eastern palace wide  
A little child sat weaving:  
So patiently her task she plied,  
The men and women at her side  
Flocked round her, almost grieving.

"How is it little one," they said,  
'You always work so cheerily?  
You never seem to break your thread,  
Or snarl or tangle it, instead  
Of working smooth and clearly.

"Our weaving gets so worn and soiled,  
Our silk so frayed and broken.  
For all we've fretted, wept and toiled,  
We know the lovely pattern's spoiled  
Before the King has spoken."



From a painting by  
Rosa Bonheur.

Lions at Home.

are interested must not be allowed to slip in, as they will do if we leave the door ajar; or, in other words, if we think the prayer is an interruption to more important work. If we can't forget them, we can tell Him about them, and so keep them in their proper place. Daniel thought his regular, daily interview with God was of more importance than life itself. Certainly no little interruption would have been allowed to interfere with his prayers. A local preacher once called on Spurgeon, and was told that he was engaged. "Tell Mr. Spurgeon," said the visitor, "that a servant of the Lord wishes to see him."

The great preacher's answer was: "Tell

"The little child looked in their eyes,  
So full of care and trouble!  
And pity chased the sweet surprise  
That filled her own, as sometimes flies  
The rainbow in a bubble.

"I only go and tell the King,  
She said, abashed and meekly;  
'You know, He said, in everything—'  
'Why so we do!' they cried, 'we bring  
Him all our trouble weekly.'

"She turned her little head aside;  
A moment let them wrangle;  
'Ah, but,' she softly then replied,  
'I go and get the knot untied  
At the first little tangle!'

"O, little children—weavers all!  
Our broiery we spangle  
With many a tear that need not fall,  
If on our King we would but call  
At the first little tangle!"

Our orders are very plain and comprehensive: "Be careful for nothing; but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God." You see we are not only allowed, but "commanded" to tell Him "everything;" to ask His help and blessing in cooking, sewing or farming, or anything else we may be doing. The first Christian martyr looked up and "saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing on the right hand of God," and that great vision filled him with peace and triumphant joy even in the dreaded hour of death—and such a terrible death! But if we wait for a moment like that before lifting up our eyes unto the Lord, it is probable that we shall forget to do it when the moment arrives. The "ruling passion" is apt to be "strong in death," and if we look to Christ constantly now, our eyes will turn to Him instinctively in any great crisis.

Do let us use a little common sense in our religion. If an electric car were standing ready for use, how foolish it would be for the motorman to try to push it along himself, instead of making connection with the mighty, invisible power which can do the work so easily and well. And, I ask you, is it sensible to struggle on alone when Almighty Power is ready to come to our assistance? "I can do all things through Christ which strengthened me," says St. Paul. "All" things, large and small, important or trifling. A child may almost feel afraid to pray about a sick pet, but He watches over every "sparrow," and feeds the young "ravens." A young girl may think it irreverent to pray about the set of a new dress she is making, but God is particular about the dress of every flower, and "clothes" the grass of the field, so we may be sure that a matter which is important to a woman is not too trifling to consult Him about. If our requests are to be made about "everything," these must not be left out, for these are among the very things we are apt to be careful and troubled about. Can anything be beneath the notice of Him who numbers the very hairs of our heads? "God wants His children to find out that His hand is always within reach, no matter how dark it may look."

### A THOUGHT FOR THE COMING WEEK.

Sometimes people say when coming out of church: "It was a poor sermon, but the text was a good one!" So, if you have no time or inclination to wade through this discourse, I hope you will "read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest" the text—carrying it out in practice many times during the coming week.

"Of what an easy, quick access,  
My blessed LORD, art Thou? How suddenly  
May our requests Thine ear invade!  
To show that state dislikes not easiness  
If I but lift mine eyes, my suit is made:  
THOU canst no more not bear than  
THOU canst die."

HOPE.

### To Cook Ducks.

Grilled Ducks.—Cut the duck open down the back and flatten the breastbone. Rub the duck with salt and pepper, and put it on a gridiron. Have a bright, clear fire and cook to a nice brown. A delicious sauce for eating ducks may be made by heating a generous teaspoonful of dry mustard into a tumbler of currant jelly.

Young Ducks Fried.—Cut the ducks into six pieces each, wash each piece and roll in flour, sprinkle salt and pepper and a tiny bit of dry mustard over each, and then dip in a beaten egg and bread crumbs, and fry in butter to a nice brown. Slice some small tomatoes, and fry in the same dish with the ducks. Put the piece of duck in the center of a heated dish, and place the tomatoes around them. Meanwhile cook some French peas, and make a border around the tomatoes. Scatter chopped parsley over the whole, and serve.