

which I hae been talkin', an' I think ye'll admit I'm richt when I say that what the farmer o' to-day needs tae mak' a success o' his calling is mair brain-power. Horse-power is a richt in it's place, but the day for main-strength an' ignorance is past, an' gin he's gaein' to keep on payin' one hundred cents on the dollar he's got to mak' use o' a' the faculties the Lord gave him when he started him oot. That's the way it strikes a chap lookin' on frae the ootside onway."

"Aye," says I, "I guess yer richt. A mon's heid was made to save his heels. Na doot ye've heard about the wee laddie wha was sayin' his catechism. When they asked him what was the chief end o' man he says, 'the end wi' the heid on,' an' we canna' say he wasna' richt. I'm wi' ye ilka time when it comes tae pittin' a high value on a guid head-piece. A chap needs it in his business, even gin he has naething mair to dae than give free advice tae his friends."

SANDY FRASER.

Marketing Farm Products.

Systems of marketing farm products and the demand for them at trade centers are the subjects of a special report by the United States Secretary of Agriculture. This report treats of the movement of farm products from the farm to the consumer through a great variety of channels. The simplest distribution is the direct one of delivery by farmer to consumer. The intervention of one, two, three, and even more, middlemen in the distribution is quite common. Onions raised in Kentucky are sometimes bought by a local merchant and shipped to Louisville, where they may be put into sacks and consigned to a New York wholesaler or commission man, who in turn sells to a New York retailer, who passes them on to the consumer, each getting a profit. Fruit often passes through the hands of five middlemen and eggs often are handled by at least four. Market places and warehouses aid the producer to dispose of his products, but, according to this report, farmers must associate themselves together for the purpose of assembling their individual contributions of products, of shipping in carload lots, of obtaining market news at places to which it is practical to send their products, to sell in a considerable number of markets, if not in many markets, and to secure the various other gains of associative selling. Co-operation in selling is the solution. The consumer can also cheapen the cost of farm products by co-operative buying and by reducing the expenses of retail and other local distribution. The United States Government purposes sending out field agents and correspondents to make estimates of fruit and vegetable supplies, to help producers to organize for marketing purposes, and to investigate storage, commission business and markets.

Willing to the Widow.

Editor, "The Farmer's Advocate":

Will some one please explain the following, satisfactorily? I cannot think it out.

1.—John and Mary get married and start house-keeping, probably farming. John receives \$3,000 as a start from his father; Mary receives the same sum from her father. They labor together and get along fairly well until ten or twelve years have passed. Meantime three or four children have been born to them. Now John dies and has made a will whereby Mary may enjoy the interest (the property of course was sold) of perhaps four or five thousand dollars a year as long as she remains his widow (the remainder of the property to be held in trust by some guardian for his children until of age). Should Mary, however, choose to marry again (and some of these Marys are almost compelled by circumstances to do so) she will lose all interest in this property, as the principal which furnished her yearly income now reverts back to John's children.

2.—John and Mary get married and start house-keeping the same as in No. 1, the only difference being that at the end of ten or twelve years Mary dies. Now Mary did not make a will, as she did not own anything to bequeath to anyone, it all belonging to John, who has undisputed possession of it, and therefore can do as he chooses with it. In all likelihood he marries again in a year or two, and perhaps another three or four children are born into this family.

How much of Mary's share of this estate will likely be inherited by her children? Should John die, and leave all his property to be equally divided among his children, Mary's children being so much older, would still not receive as much as John's later children, and, of course, Mary's share of the estate would be divided among all the children, while, should the second wife receive some money from her father, it usually is carefully managed that Mary's children do not receive any of this.

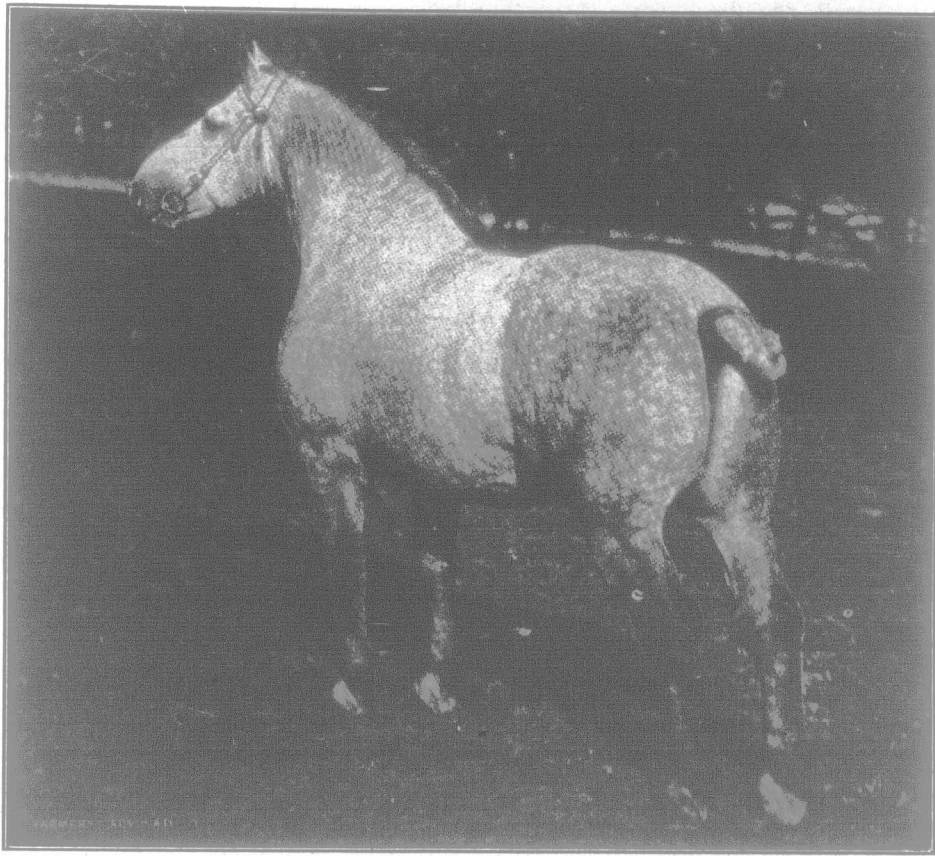
To me this way of disposing of the property seems very unfair. The husband is recognized as the provider of the family; however, in disposing of his property is he not overly anxious to

leave a good lump for each of his children when of age, and thereby treat his help-meet unfairly, and almost starves her and the children until they get old enough to earn a living or come into the legacy awaiting them?

Why make the struggle so hard for poor Mary with her children to care for? Why cut her out altogether should she commit the crime of marrying again? (I do not believe the number is so very great who choose to do so.)

Why, if they twain be one flesh, cast this part of his flesh out almost altogether for the sake of his other flesh which after all seems so much dearer? Will some one please answer these whys?

NOT YET A SUFFRAGETTE.



Imprecation.

Grand champion Percheron stallion at the Chicago International in 1911 and 1912.

Nature's Diary.

By A. B. Klugh, M. A.

It is rarely that "Indian Summer" reaches so far into the winter as to include Christmas Day, but that is what it did in parts of Southern Ontario this season. No snow on the ground, no cold wind and the thermometer at 40 degrees!

Now is the time to lay out plans for our studies of nature during the coming spring and summer, and we shall consequently devote a little

more important questions: "What does it do?" "How does it live?" "Where does it live?" "What are its relations to other forms of life about it?" But first comes the name, for a name is a handle, and a handle is a very necessary part of most of the things we use.

Now, many plants have two kinds of names, though a large proportion have but one kind. If they are generally and widely known, they have a common name; and they all, whether commonly known or not, have a scientific name. Scientific names are usually far from appreciated by the general reader; they are denounced as of uncouth sound, of great difficulty of pronunciation, and sometimes ridiculed as useless.

"Why not use common names entirely?" is frequently asked of the botanist. The answer is simple. Because the majority of plants have none, because in the case of those which have, the names are different in different countries and very often in various parts of the same country, and because the same name is often applied to several different plants. But a scientific name is standard and means the same plant in Ontario as in Florida, in Germany, or in France. As to their difficulty of pronunciation, it is more a bogey than a reality. Divide it into syllables and pronounce as in English and you will not be far astray. How is a scientific name composed? It consists of two Latin or Greek words—the first is the name of the genus, which is written with a

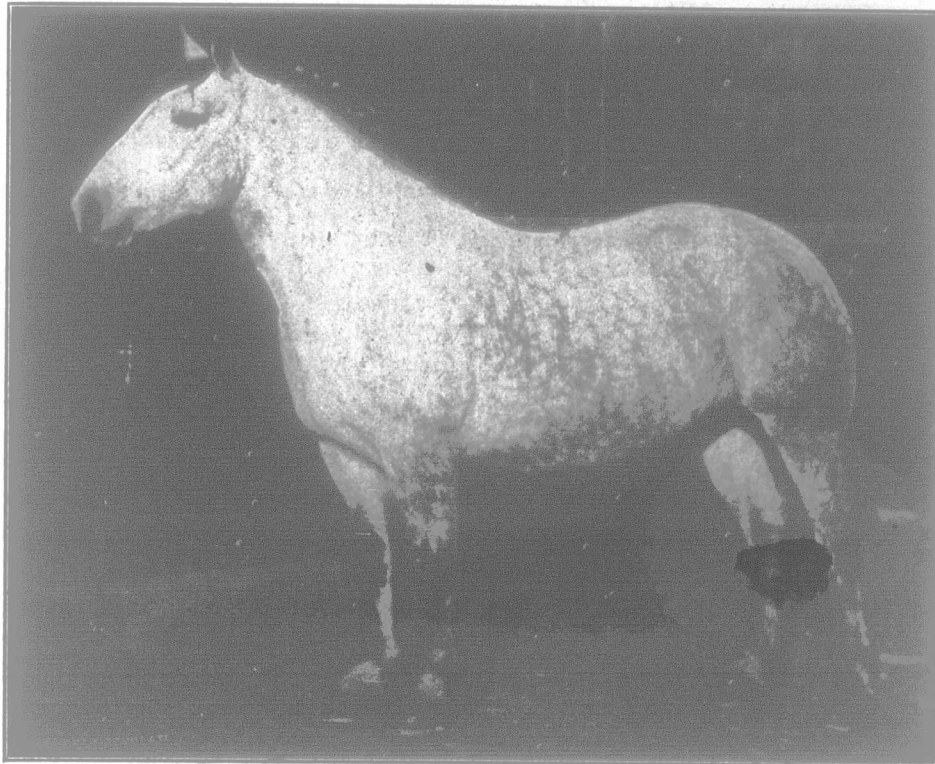
capital letter, and stands for a group to which the plant belongs, much as Brown does in the case of the name of a man; the second is the name of the species, and is the "christian" name of the plant, as James would be in the man's case. The specific name is written with a small letter. Then scientific names mean something; they usually describe some characteristic of the plant, as *Trillium grandiflorum*—the "large flowered lily with three petals."

Now, in order to find out the names of the

plants we meet in wood and field, it is necessary to procure what are termed "keys" or "manuals." With the aid of these and a hand lens, the plant may be "run down," that is placed in a certain family; then a certain genus, and finally the species ascertained. In the matter of the flowering plants, the ferns and their allies, the horsetails and club-mosses, we are fortunate in having an excellent manual which covers Eastern Canada—the seventh edition of "Gray's Manual." If one desires to pay particular attention to the ferns, he will find Clute's "Our Ferns in their Haunts" of much assistance. The study of mosses, lichens, fungi, and algae is a different matter, as it entails

the use of a compound microscope and a pretty extensive acquaintance with botanical literature. Some work on mosses, may, however, be done with the aid of Grout's "Mosses and Hand Lens" and some on the common fleshy fungi (mushrooms, "toad-stools") with Marshall's "Mushrooms."

In the field study of botany nothing serves to so quickly impress upon one the names and appearance of plants as to make a collection of



Hysope.

Grand champion Percheron mare at Chicago, 1912.