

The matter which this page contains is carefully selected from various sources; and we guarantee that, to any intelligent farmer or housewife, the contents of this single page, from week to week during the year, will be worth several times the subscription price of the paper.

A VISION OF LIFE'S RIVER.

BY ENOCH H. SWETT.

I stood on the bank of life's river, That flows to eternity's sea; And I saw the snow-white foam divide And the waves recede on either side, As the boats sailed by on the rolling tide; And no boat sailed there for me.

While I watched the boats on the river, Sail away toward the boundless sea, I longed to join the passing fleet, The voyage of life and death to complete. And the shores of the fadeless world to greet;

But the boats sailed away from me, And I looked down the shining river, And the bottom sailed into the sea; As they passed through the billows of death's dark night.

To the shores of eternal life and light, Where their faith was changed to glorious sight, And their course was lost to me.

And I prayed, as I looked down the river, And a ray of the boundless sea, To Him who stills the Gennesaret's wave, Who, in His wondrous mercy, gave His life and death my soul to save;

For a boat touched the bank of life's river.

In its course to eternity's sea;

At the call of the Captain, to whom I had cried:

I stepped on board with His hand to guide,

And sailed away o'er the rolling tide, In a boat He'd prepared for me.

Thus my boat sailed away on the river, With a breeze setting in toward the sea;

And a golden light settled down o'er the scene, O'er the fields and forests clothed in green,

And the treacherous shoals I sailed before;

And merry dawned on me.

And I sailed not alone on the river,

In my course toward eternity's sea; For here and there on the silvery tide, On the radiant river, calm and wide, Other boats appeared my course to guide;

And I hope grow bright for me.

But the clouds arose o'er the river,

O'er the land and the boundless sea; And the gathering clouds obscured the light,

And the boats in their course were lost to sight,

And my glowing hope was sunk in night, And darkness fell on me.

While the storm swept down on the river,

And the billows rolled out to the sea; Of the sinking boatman along the shore,

Where the saints shall live to the end of time;

And glory dawned for me.

When I passed the bounds of life's river, And entered eternity's sea, I bade farewell to death's dark night, And approached the shores of fadeless light.

Where struggling faith was changed to sight,

And glory overshadowed me.

But alas for my course on life's river And eternity's boundless sea! For I learned when I woke on the fadeless shore,

I'd been sailing in sleep the waters o'er, In a vision of fancy, nothing more, And the vision departed from me.

Windsor, Vt., U. S. March 26, '94.

THE HOME.

The Payment of Small Obligations.

Few women, let us hope, are intentionally dishonest. The majority of women are fastidious in the conduct of their finances, shrinking from debt as from disease, and preferring to pay fully and honorably as they go. Yet now and then one hears a wall of complaint from people who suffer needlessly because of the heedless manner in which people keep them waiting for money which they have earned. A dressmaker said recently to one of her patrons: "I am nearly frantic when I think how hard I worked and how late I sat up to finish Miss—'s graduation gown, and now I am afraid I will never be paid. I have waited six months for that bill, and I cannot get one cent, though I have almost begged for it, even offering to take it in installments. I am distressed in retrenching because people do not have so many new things and others who have had them put off paying me."

On her way home the sympathetic customer thought about it, happening to know that there were no indications of want or straightened means in the family of the delinquent debtor, inferring that the thing was due to an ingrained indifference to paying for work when done. Probably there were at first a temporary inconvenience in settling the bill, larger amounts were paid, and still the poor dressmaker waited and wondered and grew frantic with worry, poor thing!

To defer even for one day the paying of the laundress who has acceptably finished her day's work in your kitchen, it may be, to force her to ask credit, grudgingly given to such an extent, at the grocer's shop where she deals, or else to send her children meagerly fed to their beds. People who have a comfortable balance in bank do not comprehend the straightened circumstances of the people who live from hand to mouth.

Coal-bins filled to the overflow are a very difficult thing from coal purchased in the dearest way, by the palful at a time, yet thousands of poor women can buy their coal only in very small

quantities or go without. Think of being calmly told to wait till tomorrow for one's wages, when neither stick of wood nor ounce of coal was on hand for the family fire!

Apart from the inconvenience, embarrassment, and misery entailed by laxity in paying what one owes, especially when the creditors are the poor and the debts are small, there is evident a serious lack of principle in persons who can comfortably continue in debt.

Any lapse in the right honor which insists on meeting each demand and paying it in full at the moment of its maturity involves a loss of self-respect and brings in its train a warped morality.

There are few things more important in the education of children than the fostering in them the right estimate of personal obligation. The child should be enjoined against borrowing and begging in his small transactions. Let him be held to strict account and responsibility as to his management of his allowance. Fidelity here will tell in years to come, when his dealings are no longer small, but affect great commercial interests.—From Harper's Bazar.

An Unconquered Field.

The ability of women to attack complex questions is an acknowledged fact; that this courage and ability is also to be large service to the world is also an acknowledged fact. There are two questions that vitally affect the lives of women which they have as yet not grasped successfully—those of servants and dressmakers. Both of these problems are forced upon the attention of nearly all women, but year after year goes by and the problems remain in their chaotic state. What complicates the situation is that the intricacy of women with the various philanthropic and charitable organizations brings them into relations with the very people who are on the surface. It would seem, would afford the natural solution of both problems—for themselves the demand for service, for the others the demand for wages or its equivalent. Lack of training is what prevents. The mass of people who stand in need of assistance are ignorant they cannot render service for which living wages are paid. We need a great training school, or schools, where the trades and muscles of those who could render service fully which there is always a market should be trained. The one revelation that this winter has made has been the enormous amount of untrained labor there is in the world. The various organizations endeavoring to help the unemployed have found themselves almost helpless because there were people, families, threatened with hunger and homelessness, who did not know how to do any kind of work other than the rough and hasty work of women—mothers of families—could not make the simplest garments. There is not a community where there are not more demands for skilled service than can be supplied. Women, who are the sufferers from this condition, which is abnormal, should solve it by scientific methods of training. It should be impossible for a willing worker to be so untrained as to obtain only the barest wages.

The one hope of the presence of women on boards of education is that they realize the two conditions, which create so strong a sentiment in favor of manual training that no boy or girl will leave school without at least elementary knowledge in manual skill. For the great mass who have passed beyond the school age, who are infants in knowledge, their hope lies in the women who are trying to devise ways and means of support for unskilled labor, combining to give life to the skilled labor that will solve the problems of domestic service and dress-making; and this can be done only as we have schools where training is free and broad and lodging are furnished and paid for by a certain term of service, the product of which means an income to the school. Much of the dissipated energy thought and money of a nation could with advantage be turned in the management of schools of domestic economy. Such schools would go far toward solving many of the problems that consume the energies of philanthropists and housekeepers.—The Outlook.

Great Britain's Drink Bill.

The Rev. Dawson Burns, now one of the oldest and best known temperance writers in England has, for years past, prepared and published a statement of the annual drink bill of England, Ireland and Scotland, compiled from the government official reports. His statement of last year has been recently published in leading English journals, and is as follows:

The quantities taken from the trade and navigation accounts, and the estimated cost is based on data that have not been questioned:

Table with columns: Liquors Consumed, 1886, Quantities, Retail Cost, Estimated in 1892. Rows include British spirits, Foreign spirits, Total spirits, British wines, and Foreign wines.

There was an increased expenditure on beer of £221,887; but the decrease on British spirits was £1,497,280, and on foreign and colonial spirits £382,824, a total decrease on spirits of £1,858,104. There was also a decrease on wine of £412,716. The decrease on spirits and wine was thus £2,270,820, and, subtracting the increase on beer, the net decrease was £2,011,433, or a little less than 1 per cent. on the expenditure of 1892.

take no intoxicating liquors, the average expenditure of consumers of such drinks was very much higher than £3 12s. 3d. The average expenditure per head was £3 18s. 11d. in 1892, £3 15s. in 1891, and £3 14s. 4d. in 1890. As between the three kingdoms, the expenditure per head on intoxicating liquors is the highest in England, Scotland being second, and Ireland third, the figures being £3 18s. 5d. in England, £2 2s. 9d. in Scotland, and £1 14s. 2d. in Ireland, £1 1s. 5d. There are no means of learning what proportion of the inhabitants of each kingdom at the age of twenty entirely abstain, and which country contains the largest proportion of the hardest drinkers.

According to American figures the liquor bill of 1893 in the United Kingdom was nearly \$700,000,000.

THE FARM.

STABLING THE COWS. Extracts from an Essay Recently Read by E. G. HOOD, of Wisconsin.

How to keep cows clean in the stable has been an unsolved problem. Drops, stanchions, various kinds and styles of stalls have one all proved themselves useless in this respect. Lately, however, I have been using a rack and floor which seem perfect. With Watts, I can say:

This is the way I long have sought: And now I find it not I found it not.

The place of a manger is a rack for hay, slanting towards the cow at an angle of forty-five degrees. The other side of the rack is boarded up four feet high. Into this all the coarse fodder is thrown. The cut and ground feed is given the animal in a strong box, placed under the rack. The cow is held by a halter to which is snapped a rope. This is tied to a ring in the rack and gives her perfect liberty of motion as she can rub or lick herself at pleasure. The floor unlike most modern floors, is made of which damage dairy cows, is planked level. As the cow stands feeding at the rack a two by three inch scantling is laid down just forward of her hind feet and spiked firmly. Between this scantling and the rack a little dry bedding is placed. The cow in lying down soon learns to step forward and not lie across the scantling, but to step over the dry, clean and comfortable portion of the floor. When she rises the sloping rack forces her to step back and the manure is dropped. The bedding inside the scantling will remain dry until given to powder.

The bottom of the rack is twenty-six inches from the partition. The latter is frequently criticised, because it prevents visitors from passing along and looking at the faces of the stock; but the dry, clean and comfortable portion of the floor. When she rises the sloping rack forces her to step back and the manure is dropped. The bedding inside the scantling will remain dry until given to powder.

Hope for Sandy Lands.

There are many thousands of acres of sandy barrens in the United States and notably in the East, near good markets, which are being bought at fabulous low figures because incapable of producing crops. Since the recent introduction of "spurry" (Spergularia Arvensis) there is unquestionably a bright future for owners or buyers of such soil. Previous to the introduction of this useful plant, which has proved its ability to grow on sandy soil and not only yield a crop of considerable food value, but actually add fertility to the soil. Spurry, however, is not a new plant, having been known and appreciated since early in this century. It is an annual plant extensively cultivated in France and Germany for the manufacture of cattle, sheep and hog, and is especially prized as a food for milch cows, influencing the yield of superior milk and butter. It grows on sand that is too dry and hard to support clover or grass, and rapidly after three sowings may be ploughed in during the season to renovate and enrich the soil. Experiments prove that it will germinate even in dry weather. The latest sowing may be ploughed in the same way, which in turn may be ploughed in the following spring, and two more sowings of "spurry" made the same season. The crop may be fed both green and dry, and is fairly productive of seed, from twenty to twenty-five per acre being the yield. If "spurry" is ploughed in when partially ripe, only shallow furrows being employed, it is self-seeding. When the seed is sown it is harvested in the same manner as clover seed. Six to eight quarts per acre is the quantity of seed used for fertilizer and fodder. Spurry hay is best when cut after the formation of seed, but before it has ripened. When seed is the object, only four quarts per acre is used. This allows each plant to have more sun, and it branches better, producing seed instead of foliage. It germinates so quickly as to make the field look green three days after sowing if the weather is warm and moist, and can be cut for hay six weeks later. It is fit for pasture four to six weeks after sowing.

The effects of the soil after ploughing under this green crop are very noticeable and differ from anything noticed in the ploughing in of other crops. The land becomes much more compact, and where grass refuses to grow, or at best grows only in tufts, plants of even growth are noticeable. As a fertilizer for ploughing into orchards it promises well. All this promises bright things for the future of sandy land.—Retail.

Feeding Work Horses.

The system practised in feeding horses by large establishments, keeping as in some cases, several hundred head at constant work, may be of interest to managers of farm horses. The horses at work in Swift & Co's establishment, of Chicago, are uniformly in excellent condition for service. The teams con-

tered in the recent cart-horse competition were taken from their regular work, and their general good appearance was a matter of extended comment. Mr. Shibley, superintendent of Swift & Co's horse department, in explaining the management of these horses, stated that they fed nothing during the week but the best timothy hay and No. 2 white oats, and bran mash and hay on Sunday. No fixed rules are followed as to quantity, the amount being regulated by the requirements of the horse, which generally ranged from two to eight quarts per feed. The bran mash on Sunday, he stated, is a necessity to prevent what is commonly known as Monday morning disease, or spinal meningitis, which is due to overfeeding during enforced confinement following a period of hard work. It was stated that if full grain feed was given on Sunday a large percentage of their horses would be unfit for service at the beginning of the week's work. The disease is an aggravating one and quite difficult to cure.

This is a common experience with all managers of horses doing heavy city work, but it is seldom thought of in the treatment of horses doing farm work, although it is altogether likely that many instances of farm teams are traceable to this same trouble. The horse that is subjected to rigid work, requiring heavy feeding, cannot be safely taken off from that work abruptly without gradually continuing to feed, and even for Sunday's rest the plan of reducing the feed and making it of a laxative nature is highly recommended by the best authorities. Failure to observe this precaution may result in a well-developed case of this disease, but it has a tendency to lead to disease or disturbance of the functions in various ways hardly less injurious even if less apparent to the eye.—C. F. Curtis, in Rural Home.

Dehorning Young Calves.

A stick of caustic potash is the best apparatus with which to dehorn calves. The job can be done in a minute, causing only a slight wound to the skin, and a five-cent stick will dehorn a dozen calves. Moreover, this caustic can be procured at almost any country drug store.

It is a difficult matter to convince dairymen of so simple, quick and inexpensive a method can be effective and sure; nevertheless, it is a fact. I did not believe so, but as it did not cost much to try, I put it to the test, and to my surprise, with entire success. I have dehorned the calf and not but more than a month old to insure the prevention of all horn growth. It should be done when the calf is from two to four days old—the earlier the better. The embryo horn appears then like a little fleshy wart about as large as a split pea.

I take the calf's head between the legs, moisten the spot by applying to it a finger slightly dipped in water, and then rub well the little excrescence and the skin of the ear around it, touching a spot not larger than a ten-cent piece with the stick of potash for a few seconds, holding the calf's head still against my thigh, meanwhile, by grasping its nose with my hand, and the job is done for all time. I am much pleased with the results when I see, as I constantly do, three or four of my hornless two-year-olds drinking peacefully from the same water tub.—New England Farmer.

Oats for Calves.

No supplemental food is better than ground oats as a help in developing the heifer calf. As soon as she begins to eat hay she should have a little night and morning, fed dry. Begin with half pint of feed, or even less, and gradually increase the quantity until she will take a pint at a feeding. See that you keep her thrifty and growing. A calf which is once stunted by insufficient or improper food, will never make so good a cow as she would otherwise have been, no matter how much pains you may take subsequently to make amends for the early neglect. But the feeding is not the only thing with the calf which you expect to develop into a dairy cow. The training is almost equally important. She should be taught to lead by a halter, to stand quietly, and to bear handling long before the time when, as a cow, she will be forced to submit to these restraints. No forcible breaking in will be necessary if you are willing to take a little pains about these matters during early calf-hood, and it pays much better to do it then and in the way than later and more forcibly. With such treatment you can easily develop a kind and gentle disposition.

Wood Ashes for Wheat.

Some seventy-five yards from my door may be seen one of the many practical illustrations of the worth of potash as a fertilizer. The briars, weeds, small bushes, etc., surrounding a field were piled and burned before the field was ploughed. At the present time (December 25), the wheat shows four times the strength at that place of the rest of the field. I have no doubt the small amount of potash on the burned flat will more than double the yield.—J. H. Andrus.

To restore gray hair to its natural color.

As in youth, cause it to grow abundant and strong, there is no better preparation than Hall's Hair Renewer. It is not by the things that overthrow and destroy the influence of a Christian it is little things. Mole-hills are sometimes mountains.

I have a few Public School Arithmetics which retail at 25c. They cost about 20c. wholesale. A few are defaced a little with dirty finger marks, but I'll sell them at 10c. each as long as they last.

SNELL'S ACTUAL BUSINESS, and SHORTHAND COLLEGE, Truro, N. S.



A Little Daughter

Of a Church of England minister cured of a distressing rash, by Ayer's Sarsaparilla. Mr. RICHARD THOMAS, the well-known Druggist, 207 McGill St., Montreal, P. Q., says: I have sold Ayer's Family Medicines for 40 years, and have heard nothing but good said of them. I know of many

Wonderful Cures

performed by Ayer's Sarsaparilla, one in particular being that of a little daughter of a Church of England minister. The child was literally covered from head to foot with a red and intensely troublesome rash, from which she had suffered for two or three years. In spite of the best medical treatment available, her father was in great distress about the case, and, at my recommendation, at last began to use Ayer's Sarsaparilla. Two bottles, which effected a complete cure, were taken, and her father's health was restored to the strongest terms.

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If you wish your Linen to be White as Snow, Sunlight Soap will do it.

Can you test this? If you have never tried SUNLIGHT SOAP, ask those who use it what they think of it. Try it for yourself. The result will please you, and your clothes will be washed in far less time, with Less Labor, Greater Comfort, and will be whiter than they have ever been before, when you used ordinary soap.

How Is That

not the best way to decide the matter? First by enquiring what the experience is of those who already use it. Secondly, by a fair trial yourself. You are not committed in any way to use the soap. All we ask is: Don't Delay, try it the next washing day.

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