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| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Illdatrated Litbrature (Con.) |  |  |
| $\dagger$ Frank Lealie's Illugtrated Paper, N. Y., (m'thly edition) | 100 | 50 |
|  | ${ }^{4} 00$ | 376 |
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| $\dagger$ Canadian Live Stook and Farm Journal, "Household Companion" inoluded | , 1 | 60 |
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| $\dagger$ Pouitry Bulletin, N.Y. | 00 |  |
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| ${ }_{\text {- American }}$ Agriculturiat, N.Y. |  |  |
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|  | 100 100 | 00 |
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| Canadian Agriculturist, Peterboro, Ont. | 200 | 0 |
| tAmerican Miller - $\quad \underset{\text { Resigious. }}{ }$ |  | 0 |
| Homiletio Reriem, N. ${ }_{\\|}$. (renewala) |  |  |
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| Magazine of Christian Literature (new subs) | 250 | 10 |
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# gitlassen's fllustrated - <br> (PUBIMSEIED MONTTHILY.) 

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[Vol. 3, No. 12.

Origizal in Mabsey's Illustrated.

## RRat's ? ?

BY MOSA DUNE

(4)H, girls! I say,-Have you heard? It's really the most astonishing thing that has happened in this old 'Sleepy Hollow' since old Jacob Smiley's bank broke, and Jack Smithett's dog committed suicide."
These lucid remarks procceeded from Miss Rachel Rathbun, commonly known among her associates as "Ray Rattle," the suitability of this sobriquet being very apparent.
The girls addressed were seated in the cosy sitting room in Rose Lawrence'shome. They were all busily employed-Cora Nielson crotcheting at an intricate antimacassar, Laura Moreton with an exquisite bit of embroidery, and Rose seated at the machine finishing a dainty apron.
As Ray rushed into the room, announcing her wonderful news, she unfurled a stocking of alarming length, and as soon as she found breath, proceeded to account for it.
"My work isn't pretty like yours, girls; but I'm going to be useful as well as beautiful! I had no fancy work in a presentable state, so mother suggested Jack's stocking."
"Of course!" said Rose, —"Jack's stocking is welecmed, but please enlighten us!"
"Yes, do be a little more coherent, Ray. Your remarks are usually about as intelligible as Polly's yonder." Laura's hands had been idle for a moment, but after delivering herself of this thrust, she resumed her occupation.
"Thank. you, Rose, for the welcome, and Laura for the advice. But really, Charlie Green quite took my breath away, just now by telling me that 'Old Mortality' has resigned al last. . I knew we'd worry him into it at last."
"Really!"
"You don't say!" exclaimed Rose and Cora in a breath.
" Roy Rattle, aren't you ashamed to speak so of Dr. Raynor, or, for the matter of that, to repeat what Charlie Green says, as though anyone ever believed him."
"I humbly beg your pardon, Lady Laura," said Ray, "I had quite forgotten your friendly relations with the fossil, and as to believing it, Roy Clarke told me the same at the gate, and even your majesty doesn't venture to contradict his statements."
"Roy's father is chairman of the Board, and there was to be a meeting last night, so it may be true," said Rose
Cora looked up from her work to remark, "He used to be very strict, but then we tempted him sorely. You were always such a saucy baggage, Ray, I often wondered that he did not box your ears."
" Ah, you were such a prim precise little prude, it's no wonder that you escaped!" replied Ray, "Do you remember the day, Cora, that we dropped the pepper down his register, and presently, when he began sneezing, how funny he did look, and how he thought it must be 'La Crippe' that had gripped him, especially when his head ached too. His headache was the result of the hours he spent the night before concocting such a nauseous dose of algebra that my note book died, and I cremated it."
" Which, the book or the algebra?"
" Both, Mrs. Lawrence, for the book had swallowed the dose."
Before the laugh over the novel cremation was ended, Mrs. Lawrence had seated herself in an easy chair, and went on to say, "You seemed to be having such a lively time in here, I could not resist the temptation to look in."
"Oh, Mrs. Lawrence!" cried Cora, "Ray says Dr. Raynor is going to leave-that he has already sent in his resignation."
"Indeed! I'm very sorry to hear it," answered Mrs. Lawrence. "It will be very difficult to fill his place."
"Now, Mrs. Lawrence, don't say that. I've been hoping we'd get a Pestalozzi, with all the modern accomplishments."
"Ah, my dear, you expect too much. Don't you remember the old saying, When the old is gone, seldom comes better."
"I think so too, Mrs. Lawrence," said Laura, "Where we should get one better, we might get twenty worse."

" there, they've run foll thet against eadh other."
" Why, of course, Laura, ho might get drunk once in a while, or smoke in the schonl room, or swear at us occasionally, so as to give a spice to ordinary school conversation."
"Ray, behave!"
" I'o be sure he might, or we might chance to get a Kalmuck 'lartar or a Chinaman!"
"Ray Rattle!"
"I'm just suggesting the possibilities of the future. Fancy our stately Laura reciting 'Hiawatha' or 'Thanatopsis' in Kalmuck or Chinese."
"Fancy Ray Rattle being sensible for five minutes!" Laura was getting seriously angry, asshown by the way she snapped her silk when it knotted.
"That's beyond my imagnation, elastic asitis!" replied Ray.
"Try it, Ray, till we see how you would look," suggested Cora.
"All right, but I'll have to confine my remarks to Mrs. Lawrence. How do you like our new minister, Mrs. Lawrence?"
-""I think we shall like him very much ; he seems so earnest-"

## Ting-a-ling•a-liug !

"There"goes that door bell !" interrupted'Rose, nurrying to the window. "And if it isn't the very man, himself! Oh, mother, whatever shall we do with him? The carpet is up in the parlor ; Hannah broke a pane of glass in the drawing-room window, the wind comes in there like fury, and father's asleep in the ilibrary, and wont want to be dis. turbed and--"
"And the amount of the whole matter is-he'll iust have to go home and enme back another day!" interpolated Cora.
"What nonsense, girls! Rose, go and rouse your papa, then tell Hannah that we shall have anuther guest to tea!" So saying, Mrs. Lawrence went to meet her guest at the door.

Rose did as she was bidden, and presently returned to her friends. As she entered the room she found Ray hastily rolling upher stocking. "Why, Ray !" sle exclaimed. "What now? you surely are 'not going before tea? Hannah has it nearly ready.:"
"Pray don't place any obstacles in my way, (us Cora shoves her hassock in front of her). I'm fleeing from temptation in the shape of the minister. I feel that if I stay, I shall disgrace myself, and disgust 'his reverence' past recovery. So to preserve what little reputation I have, I run. Good-bye."

Cora ran to the window to watch her off. "Oh, girls !" cried she," "If there isn't Old Mortality coming up the street, and I don't believe she sees him. There, they've run full tilt against each other."

At this Rose and Laura rushed to the window just in time to see him raise his hat, and turn to keep step up the leaf-strewn street.
"Well, if that isn"t out of the frying pan into the fire with $a$ vengeance! Won't he have a treat? She is just in the humor to say anything."

- Laura has not forgotten Ray's remarks to her, as she says,-"I think it is disgraceful the way she does go on. It might be excusable in a girl of eight, but at eighteen, one ought to have a little regard for appearances."
'Nonsense, Laura! No one ever pays any serious attention to what Ray says-she is only a child. No ouc ever thinks of her as a grown up young lady."
"And then she has no respect for anyone. Why,

the other day she actually told Judge Handsell that his new mastiff was the ugliest looking creature she ever saw."
"Of course! What else could she say when he asked her? And the Judge laughed heartily and lised her all the better for it, although it wasn't complimentary to his taste. He told us all about it and said that the element of truthfulness was more fully developed in that girl than in anyone else of his acquaintance," said Rose.
Apparently Laura paid no attention to Rose's explanation, but went on to say, "And the other evening at Mrs. McDougall's she deliberately snubbed Harold Hume when he tried to be agreeable, and then carried on with that young Howard, the draper's clerk, till he doubtless thinks he is the equal of any of the young men in our set."
" Why should she not snub Harold Hume? I'd snub him too with all my heart if he attempted to be familiar. And I think it was splendid-just splendid of her to be kind to Mr. Howard. If he is poor he has a reputation that will bear inspection, and that is more than can be said of Hume." Cora spoke hotly, and Laura felt quite a pride in her coolness, as she replied,-"Well, I really do not see enough of the clerk, except in the way of trade, to know what he is, but I do know that Harold dresses exquisitely, dances divinely, drives the most beautiful turnout, and presents the most expensive flowers in the city, and as long as I enjoy the drives and the flowers, I'll not criticize the reputation."

Cora's eyes flashed and her lips parted to speak, when the tea-bell sounded, much to the relief of Rose, who had been an unwilling listener to this dispute between her friends.
${ }_{\square}$ Nestling among the hills down which runs many a silvery stream, that threads its way to the lake, stands the quiet little town of $L$-. The broad streets are shaded by trees which cast their shadows far and wide, and give the place that quaint oldworld appearance that becomes it so well. Partly on this account, and partly because of the quietness, of trade, it has been christened, "Sleepy Hollow."

Its High school on Chestnut Street and the College by the lake, have given the place the reputation for learning that it lacks for trade. Its people are inclined to regard slightingly the denizens of the neighboring burgh of $S$--, which owes its prosperity to its shipping and commercial schemes.

Our girls belong to very different families. Laura is the only daughter of Banker Morton, who has lately purchased the old Hickson mansion, and lives in state there.

Her father, when not engaged at the bank, spends most of liis time at his club, and about all he really knows of his daughter is that her milliner's, dressmaker's and school-bills are remarkably large. Indeed, judging by the said bills, she ought to be the best dressed and the most highly educated girl in town. Certainly she is the most expensively dressed, but at school she is surpassed by many of humbler circumstances, but of course her father knows nothing of this.

Her mother, al leader of fashion. Ah! what does that comprehend? A woman whose whole end and aim is to live well, to dress well, $i$. e., better than her neighbors, and to be a shining light in society. Her sole ambition for her daughter is that she may create a good impression in society and then marry well. So between her father's business and her mother's pleasure her noral nature has been wholly neglected. Is it any wonder, then, that she should express such views as we heard when speaking to Cora?

Rose is also an only child ...her father the most successfu! lawyer of the town, and her mother a lady in the truest sense of the word, have both done all in their power to shield Rose from the thorns of life. Better for her had she been allowed to fight her own little battles that she might have gained gtrength for the great battles that lie before her. Many a rose as tenderly guarded as she, deprived of father and mother, has come to grief through her ignorance of the world.

Cora is the second of a family of three. Rob, who attends college, older by three years. "Baby Lill," complete the family. It has been a good thing for Cora that she was a middle "child." She has not boen spoiled by being the eldest or the youngest. Rob has always domineered, or tried to, on the strength of his superior age, and his belng a boy. While Lillie has tyrannised over her to her heart's content. No matcer how angry she feels, there is never a sharp word for "Lillie," her baby, as she calls her. Her father, a professor in the college, her mother the daughter of another, she has inherited a taste for learning more than ordinary. But her love of fun saves her from the reputation of a bookworm. Many the "scrape" had she and Ray shared, till to speak of one suggests the other. Many a time has poor Dr. Raynor, the principal of the High School, when driven to his wit's end by their pranks, invited them to call on him after hours and lectured them on propriety, till at last the girls have dubbed bim "Old Mortality" "Ichabod Crane," and various other titles more saucy than complimentary.

Not that he is old either, for he is probably not more than thirty-five or six, but he is tall, dark. complexioned, wears colored spectacles, and never jokes.
"He never looked so solemn!" thinks Ray, as she wonders what he is going to say, as with a curt "Good-day," she turas abruptly up street towards home, but finds he means to go that way too, though be has just come down.
For half a block they keep step silently, till at last from the sheer necessity of saying something, she says:-" "Oh, Doctor, is it true that you are going away?"
"Yes, Miss Ray ! it is quite true."
Another pause. Then, " When will you go?"
"Immediately. I suppose you will be glad to bear that Mr. sheppard is to till the vacancy !"
"Whereare you going?" she asks the questional. most without thunking.
"To Germany again," is the reply.
Again a silence, and she wonders why he takes the trouble to walk with her, if he has nothing to say. They have never been friendly. It is a surprise to her now that she does not say anything to provoke him. Well, she will soon be home and then she will be rid of this embarras ing silence. They can see the house now, and the sight of it seems to rouse bim.
"Miss Ray, will you not say you are sorry?"
Ray looks up for a moment, and then laughs as she sajs:-"Why, Dr. Raynor! I should think you would be only too glad to be rid of me, to care whether I was sorry or not. You know that you and I have agreed to aisagree on nearly every subject."
"Please do not let us disagree now. I have felt our disagreements very keenly always, but to-night I leel as though 1 could not bear any more. 'Ihis is probably the last time I shall ever look upon your face, possibly it is the last time we shall ever meet, and I want lo go away feeling that no ono hates me."
Duing this speech Ray has stolen a glance or two at his usually pale fuce, and is surprised to find it fushed, and a mist about his eyes and a quiver in his voice, very foreign to it.
They have passed the house, and even she has forgotten to go in, so surprised is she by his manner.
At last she says, "I really didn't suppose we could manage a conversation without quarrelling, but if you put it in that light I can hardly quarrel with you, 'Two it takes to make a quarrel' you know. But I do not understand what you mean by never seeing me again. Of course you will come back with a string of letters more to your name re presenting some unpronounceable German degree. And you will find us all prosing along without a solitary degree.
"I think not. Only one thing would induce me to come back, and that I fear will never be."
"Oh, if that is the case, we need not look for your speedy return to Sleepy Hollow, the town of superb sunset, but to-night's sunset is past, and see where we are, and it is nearly darls, so I must hurry home. Good-bye!"
"May I not accompany you?"
"No, thank you, for fear I should not get bome for another hour. I expected to be home an hour ago but you led me astray."
"I should be very sorry to do that!" The gravity of his manner checks the flippant reply that rises to her lips, and again she wonders what new
spirit has taken possession of him, so instead of replying, she silentiy holds out her hand.
He takes it in both of his, and looking down at her, says: "Miss Ray, I have one favor to ask. Promise me that if ever you need a friend, that you will let me know. Believe me I would come from the ends of the earth to serve you. Please let me hear you say it. I shall be sure then that you will remember.'
She is too surprised to answer in words, but almost mechanically bows her head.
He èagerly watches her face, but seeing she does not answer, he suddenly stoops and leaves a kiss on the plump little hand which he still holds, drops it before she has time to remonstrate, and turns abruptly up the street, leaving her rooted to the spot, her astonishment apparently too great for her to move. When he has disappeared around the next corner she begins to realize what has taken place, and starts toward home, a regular tempest raging within her breast.
"I hate him! I hate him!" she says, grinding her teeth. "What an idiot I made of myself. And to think that he actually kissed my hand. I who have vowed over and over again that no man should ever kiss me but my husband (supposing I ever get one)."

Reaching home she rushes up to her room and commences a vigorous bathing of the offended hand till it glows as if with shame. After this she feels
somewhat relieved, and goes down to tea. Here she finds that her mother is laid up with a sick headache, her father not yet in from his round of visits to patients, and the juvenile members of the family in rebellion against cook's authority.

It taxes all her abilities to control household affairs for the next two or three days, and thinks no more about her encounter till one evening about a week later her father says at tea:

- Ray, dear! had you not better return to school to-morrow? I think mother can safely be left now, and you will lose the first days under Mr. Sheppard.
"Why did Dr. Raynor decide to leave so suddenly?" inguired Mrs. Rathbun.
"Did I not tell you? Oh, I believe in the pres. sure of other matters I forgot to mention it. Well, last week, he consulted Dr. R--, the famous oculist about his eyes, who said to him, 'Do not read a word that you can possibly avoid. Seek as great a change as you can. If possible, see Dr. K__, of Berlin. He may be able to help yon. I cannot. Do not be altogether discouraged, but I musit tell you the truth and that is, that there is about one chance in ten, that your sight may be preserved.'"
"Oh dear, dear! What a blow to a man of his ambitious temperament!" sighed Mrs. Rathbun.
"Please ex suse me mother, I don't feel quite well. I think I'll lie down.". This from Ray.


CHRISTMAS MORNING.
"Certainly, dear, you had better bathe your head."
When Ray reaches her room, she flings herself down by the side of her little bed, and sobs aloud. "Oh, how could I? How could I? And he was suffering everything in his eyes, and I made fun of his spectacles, and when he was going away I was hardly civil to him. Oh, dear! Oh, dear." Presently she got up and bathed her flushed face, and then kneels down and prays. "Oh, God ! please forgive me for being so cruel, and help him to forgive me too."
Two years later we find Ray still the right hand helper of her mother. The careless nonsense has settled down into a more staid, and, as Laura suggests, becoming demeanor, though there is still enough left to make the house breezy with good cheer.
Her busy doctor father, with a constantly in. creasing practice, finds her an ever-ready helper.
One evening he comes in to find the family seated at tea as we saw them once before. After discussing thefaffairs of the day, he says, "You can't imagine who I saw to day."
"Don't keep us in suspense, father. Tell us who at once."
"An old friend of yours, Ray."
"Mine father? Who?"
"Well, as you would not guess in a month, I'd better tell you. It was Dr. Raynor."
"Dr. Raynor?"
"Yes, Dr. Raynor. 'Such a change I never saw. He is perfectly blind. He said he never expected to return, but something seemed to impel him almost against his will, till this evening he arrived."
"Mother, may I go out after tea? I wish to make a call."
"Certainly, Ray, but don't stay late," answered Mrs. Rathbun."
"No, mother."
A sudden inspiration has come to Ray. She knows now, why she has so often of late thought of her former teacher-why she has wondered and wondered what his words at their last meeting meant. Now, as by inspiration, she understands, and her nature, true to itself, prompts her to go at once.

Up the leaf strewn street she speds, till she reaches his former boarding house. She rings the bell, and is shown into the parlor to wait.
Presently he appears at the door, and walk in, looking much the same as of yore, except, that the spectacles are gone, and instead of that, there are

"Winter."-From a painting by Geo. Montovel.
the clear brown eyes, looking as natural as everto look at them, no one would imagine, the light had fled forever.
He has not been told who his visitor was, and so stands a moment waiting for her to speak.
At the first word, a look of great gladness spread over his face, and he starts forward with outstretched hands, but before he reaches her he remembers that he is blind, a horror of that thought which he has never felt before, seizes him and he drops into a chair-is deadly whiteness spreads over his face, and at last he says, brokenly :
"Ray ! Ray ! I am blind."
The girl rushes forward and takes his trembling hand in hers, and just as he did at their last meeting, stoops and kisses it passionately again and again.

Please don't !" he says, drawing it away, and again burying his face in his hands. "Don't make it too hard for me to do right. During all the time of trial I had one hope, that if my sight was restored, I might come back and see you again, but, when I knew that my eyes were doomed, I gave up hope indeed !
"Dr. Raynor, do you remember that last night so long ago, the promise you wanted me to make. I've come to keep it. I need you now, and remem. ber you promised to help me. I love you, though I never knew it till I heard you were blind, and I only guessed your secret when I had the same one myself."
During this speech, a red flush had spread over his face, and his fingers locked and unlocked convulsively.
At last he said: "Two years ago I could have thanked God with all my heart for this blessing, but now I can only remember that there are two hearts in misery instead of one."
"Mine is happier now than it has been in two years."
He went on, disregarding her last remark, "Then I could have asked you to be my wife, now,-
"You will, too," she interrupts.
"No! no! No honorable man could ask a woman to share his darkened life."
"Well, then I shall just ask you to let me share it. Yours is the only one I shall ever share. Please ask me. I should be ashamed to confess that I did all the proposing, though if you don't I certainly shall or get my father to do it for me."
"But what will your father and all the world say?"
"I think you will remember that I had not a very particular regard for the world's opinion in older days, and I care no more now. But come, I want you to say-'r Ray, will you be my wife?"
"Ray, will you be my wife?" he repeats.
"With all my heart," is the reply.
And so the feud is ended, never to be again opened.

THE END.

## The MASSEY-HARRIS and PATTERSON-WISNER WEDDING.

Scarcely had the public been made aware of the Patterson-Wisner amalgamation, and before this new organization had wholly completed its arrangements for business, a friendship sprung up between this new company and Massey-Harris Co., Ltd., which developed very speedily into courtship, and ere long Massey-Harris Co., Ltd., took the PattersonWisner Co. as its bride. While the bride, as is usual, has sacrificed her maiden name, all the good will which attached to it accrues to the bridegroom, and Massey-Harris Co., Ltd., boasts of having wedded into a good family. But, seriously speaking, what does this great consolidation of interests mean? What does it mean to the farmer? And the farmer's interest being the country's interest, what does it mean to the country? Is it a great monopoly which aims to "squeeze out" the remaining concerns in the business, and raise prices to suit themselves?

In a lengthy article published in our issue of June last we showed plainly how insane competition had brought ruin to the door of many well-known farm implement factories in Ontario, and the very unsatisfactory state into which the trade had drifted.

Matters were getting steadily worse, and a remedy had to be sought or most serious losses would be sustained. "How could the situation be bettered?" That was the question. Cheupening the quality of the goods-a measure resorted to by some-would but hasten on the crisis. While it could be argued, with trath, that the Canadian farmers got better goods and at lower, or certainly as low, prices as in any country in the world, to raise prices was so serious a matter, and so doubtful an expediency, as to be out of the question. What then? The consolidation of capital, the consolidation and condensing of management, the consolidation of patents, methods of manufacturing and manufacturing interests seemed the only solution to the problem. This would at once effect a great saving in both the cost of production and distribution. It was confidently affirmed that so great a saving would be effected in this way as to put the business in à healthy condition, and admit of earning a fair living profit without any attempt at raising prices. We are assured at the present time that such will doubtless be the result. If so, can there be any doubt whatever as to the direct and substantial benefit to the farmer and to our country alike.
The farmer can depend upon getting his machines at the lowest possible price, and having an abundance of capital, this new company can provide every facility and convenience for giving the agricuiturist prompt and efficient service, and he can be assured of getting the necessary repairs for time to come, conveniently and quickly, for all machines made by Massey-Harris Co., Ltd., or that were formerly made by the companies now composing it.

The management of Massey-Harris-Co., Ltd., as we are informed, are bending their energies and sparing no pains to complete a system of handling their enormous output of machines and• supplies in a manner that shal! be highly satisfactory to their customers.
Further, this Company now being possessed of the most valuable harvesting and seeding machine paients extant, and consolidating all the secret and valuable processes of manufacture, they have cvery opportunity of combining in one the good features of the several machines made by the different companies hitherto.

As a result they are now placing on the market the finest line of Self-Binders, Mowers, Reapers, Rakes, Hay Tedders, Combined Drills, Fertilizer Drills, Seeders, Shoe Drills, Cultivators, Harrows, etc., ever offered for sale.

Is this a great manopoly? Well, no, for there are still a dozen or more well known concerns in the business, but even were it a monopoly, the question is, will its policy le to do as "monopolies" are generally supposed to do-to "kill off" those remaining in the business, and "lift up" prices.

As to this point, the President of the Company, Mr. H. A. Massey, stated to the public press that such a move on the part of this new Company would simply be suicidal, and so it would. He said, "our policy will be one of live and let live both towards our competitors and those with whom we do business. We only want to earn a fair living profit, and such being the case, unless there is a decided advance in the price of raw materials, there will be no occasion to raise prices, since, in simplifying the method of distribution alone, we will save a large sum of money." Each of the four companies now constitutiug this new organization has heretofore maintaintd a very large staff of local and travelling agents; they have each kept up necessarily large office staffis, and at the leading centres each company has had a separate warehouse.
For instance, in the Citiy of loronto the Massey Manupacturing Co., formerly had large retail warerooms at 126 King St., East ; the Harris Co. kept up show rooms on Francis St., and a ware-
house for storage at the foot of Church St.; Patter: son and Bio. Co., and J. O. Wisner, Son, and Co. also maintained a local warehouse on Front St Now one warehouse alone will be sufficient ( 126 King St. Eant), and so also throughout all Canada and in foreign lands, one line of agencies and warerooms will answer every purpose.

Hence in this particular, as ove instance, it is self-evident a large saving will be aftlicted.
The peisonnel of Massex.Harris Co. L't'd. will not be materially effected by this addition to its ranks, except as follows:-Mr. J. D. Patterson, is to be elected a member of the Board of Directors, and appointed manager of the Woodstock Works. Mr. W. S. Wisner and Mr. A. S. Patterson, of Winnipeg, will also take an active part in the Company's affairs.

The Officers of the Company are:-H. A. Massey, President; J. Kerr Osborne, Vice President; A. Harris, 2nd, Vice President; L. M. Jones; General Manager ; W. E. H. Massey, Assistant General Manager ; J. N. Shenstone, Secretary ; C. D. Massey, Treasurer.
The Board of Directors is made up as follows H. A. Massey, Chairman ; J. K. Osborne, J N Shenstone, C. D. Massey, L. M. Jones, W. E. H. Massey, T. J. McBride, and J. D. Patterson.

Our Clubbing List contains about one hundred and fifty of the leading newspapers, magazines, and journals of the world, all of which we offer at reduced rates, in connection with Massey's Illustrated. In most in. stances the two periodicals can be obtained for the price of one. Any number of different papers and magazines may be ordered through us, and not only can a great saving be effected in the price by so doing, but als, the trouble and expense of making several different remittances to the different publishers, is avoided. About two thousand farmers availed themselves of our liberal club offers last year, who will readily testify to the great adovantages they gained. We will send a sample copy of the Illustrated together with a copy of our Clubbing List free to any address on application. Always address,-Massey Press, Massey St., Toronto.


a christmas greeting.
A mbrry Christmas, one and all, Rich and poor, large and small, To north, to youth, to east, to west, In every land whrre Chriat is guest, A Merry, Merry Christmas!
Now may. we love our neighbors nore,
Aud may we give from out our store,
That all may have a happy heart, And take a sladsome, joyous part And take a gladsome, joyous part

For when dear Christinan Eve drews nigh,
Be it the time when you and I Sball put away all wrong and sin, And bid the holy Christ-Ohild in, To bless our Merry Christmas!


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We wish all our readers "A Merry Christmas" and "A Happy New Year."

An outbreak of tuberculosis is reported at the Experimental Farm, Ottawa, and a bull and two cows suffering from the disease have been killed. Professor Saunders has taken all proper precautions to stamp out the disease, and he does not fear that any more cases will occur. The affected cattle were purchased from breeders in the West. The disease was first discovered by Mr. McMullen, M.P. for Souih Huron, while inspecting the live stock at the farm in September last.

The gratifying news comes from London, England, that land in the North.West is looking up. The Canada North-West Land Company reports farm sales of 32,975 acres for $\$ 164,742$ for the nine months ended September, compared with 14,646
acres at $\$ 76,823$ during the same period in 1890 The town site sales amounted to $\$ 19,602$ as compared with $\$ 34,637$. Of the Company's shares 5,011 were surrended, as compared with 2,461 during the same period last year.

Tire causes that have led to the abandonment of farms in Massachusetts have been investigated by the State Board of Agriculture. Among the causes given are: "Loss of young men by the civil war, emigration to the West, competition of western far'm products, unfitness of many farms for farming purposes, high price and poor quality of falm help, reaction in prices of farm products after the war, unequal taxation of farm property, better inducements in other lines of labor, city allurements, and shiftless farming." The movement was greatest between 1870 and 1890 , although it really began in 1825, and the greatest number of abandonments took place about 1880.

Tae Dominion Government have decided upon adopting a thorough immigration policy in the future, and to that end a proposal has been made for the co-operation of municipalities in the NorthWest in establishing a fund for advances to settlers to repay the passages of friends from Europe. It is high time that some energetic measures were adopted to bring immigrants to our fertile lands in the North-West, and in vicw of the magnificent results of the past harvest, it should not be a difficult matter, if the facts were properly brought to the notice of the people in other countries. The latest bulletin issutd by the Manitoba Department of Agriculture shows that in Manitoba alone the estimated wheat yield is over $23,191,599$ bushels. Counting in the Territories the aggregate will not be much below $30.000,000$ bushels of wheat for the Canadian North-West. The yield in Manitoba last year was $14,665,769$. The estimated average per acre this year is 25.3 bushels as compared with 21.1 bushels last year. The bulletin states that the wheat crop has undoubtedly suffered from frost to a considerable extent, and in the aggregate there will be at least 40 per cent affected. The estimated product of oats is $14,792,605$ against $9,513,433$ bushels last year, with an average yield of 48.3 bushels per acre against 41.3 last year. There is every reason to believe that contrary to the usual result, the threshers' yield of wheat will be greatly in excess of the estimated yield.

Tue cattle industry is one of the most important of those in which our farmers are interested, and it is therefore sonewhat disappointing to find that the exports this year are not as large as the previous year, nor have the results financially been as good. The season opened up actively, although several of the large exporters who had met with heavy losses last year, showed an inclination to operate cantiously. It was thought that prices would rule low but on the contrary they advanced, owing to the fact that a syndicate of American exporters early in the season purchased most of the distillery cattle in the country, about 10,090 head. As soon as this transaction became public stock raisers took advantage of the chance offered by increasing prices on their stock. The American speculators dropped a good round sum on their deal and it is uot considered probable that they will repeat the operation next year. Exporters are not yet fully advised of the financial results of the season just closed but many of them are aware of the fact that they have lost money both on stockers and fat cattle. The British markets have not been at all favorable for live stock this year, but it is hoped there will be a marked improvement for next season. This year the exports of live cattle from Montreal, were: 109, 194 head, against 123,036 head last year, a decrease of 14,442 , and the exports of sheep were 32 042 head against 43,372 last year, a decrease of 11,330. There were, however, between 2,500 and 3,000 head of Canadian caltle exported to Great Britain via United States ports, which, of course, will make the decrease so much less.

According to the official returns, the condition of agriculture in the United Kingdom is not im. proving. During the past season the area devoted
to the growing of cereals was reduced by 130,740 acres, that of wheat being less by 91,350 acres, while the average of green crops is less by 23,402 acres, and of hay less by 83,525 acres. But on the other hand the pasturage area shows an increase of 452,238 acres. It woud therefore appear as if the area of all crops which involve the expenditure of much labor in their cultivation is decreasing, which would bear out the complaint, which has become general in every purt of the kingdom, that farm labor is scarce. Stockraising is clearly the most profitable branch of agriculture, the number of rtock having increased during the year as follows: Horses 61,259 , cattle 553,528 , and sheep 1,866.793. The only decrease is in pigs, viz.: 80,276, which is confined entirely to Ireland. According to the estimate of Mr. J.B. Lawes, an eminent authority, the wheat crop of the past season, will fall considerably below that of the preceding year, and necessitate larger purchases abroad to supply the home requirements. The total British crop will amount to about eight and one-third million quarters of eight bushels, whereas the total consumption is placed at 28505,961 quarters, leaving the requirements of imported wheat at twenty millinn quarters or one hundred and sixuy million bushels. Canada and the United Suates will be able to supply this enormous quantity without difficulty, out of their abundant surplus. The yield of wheat in the United States is estimated at about $600,000.000$ bushels, or one-third more than last year, of which at leaut $150,000,000$ bushels will be available for export. It was announced a few drys ago that a ukase had been issued in Russia prohibiting the export of wheat and wheat products, to take effect from November 24 th, and even then it is reported there will not be enough to meet the requirements of the famine-stricken people. It would, therefore, seem as if there is good reasnn to believe that the price of wheat will rule as high during the next few months as was expected.

We would again urge upon the Farmers' Institutes not to overlook the question of teaching agriculture in our rural schools at their meetings. The action of the Minister of Education during the last session of the Ontario Legislature when a motion was introduced asking that greater local facitities be given to farmers' sons, by which they could secure a better education in their own calling than is now offered them under the existing laws, should receive careful attention. Strong pressure should be brought to bear upon that gentleman to make him alter his mind. In other countries farmers' sons, in the matter of facilitios for storing their minds with useful and practical information on the elements of agriculture, are highly favored. The expenditure in this direction is cheerfully made by the various governments as they know full well that it will result in great good to the agricultural industry. Teachers high up in the profession, the Dominion Minister of Agriculture, the Central Farmers' Institute and others have all given voice to the necessity of practical instruction being given in our rural schools, by specially trained teachers, in the rudiments of agriculture, but no progress has been made owing to the determined opposition of one man, who should ratber do everything in his power to get the system introduced. There are quite a number of good teachers who could be obtained, if they were given a slightly increased salary, who could devote a portion of each day to giving a short lecture upon such topics as the following: What is the snil; Difference between a rich soil and a poor one; Soils for particular crops, drainage, irrigation, ploughing, cultivation of the soil, etc. ; also on the structure of the cow, the horse, sheep and other animals, nature of various diseases and their treatment, principles of breeding etc.; besides tree planting, setting out small plants, care of plants, grafting and pruning. A course something like the above.would undoubtedly accomplish much good. Some of our teachers would soon be made competent to give this instruction by taking a course at the Agricultural College but it rests with the farmers to make a demand for their services upon the government and to insist upon its fulfilment. For the boy who wishes to remain on the farm. reading, writing and arithmetic are, of course, necessary but why vex his foul, and take up his time with duodecimals, permutations, etc., in arithmetic, with the positions of far-away small islands and obscure villages and with the intricacies
of grammatical analysis or critical parsing. Let us have less of these for him, and in their stead put a little general instruction in elementary agriculture, and he will find the benefit of it in after years.

Some people are continnally sneering at the Salvation Army and can see no good in what they doWhile some of their methods may not be above criticism, no one will begrudge a full meed of praise to General Booth for his practical efforts to rescue men from poverty and degradation, by teaching them to work, thereby putting them on the way to being useful members of society. We refer particularly to the establishment of his farm colony near Lrigh, Essex, a few miles from London, England. The farm was taken over in May last and is thus described in a recent article in a contemporary: It consists of 1250 acres, about 400 of which are arable, and the rest more or less rough pasture, marshes and plantations. Most of the rough pasture, which appears to have been neglected for many years, slopes steeply towards the Thames. Nearly all of it is a stiff clay, but some of the arable land is a nice loam on a gravel some of the arable land is a nice loam on a gravel $\$ 100$ per acre. An experienced fruit-grower says that the clay hills of rough pasture may be protitably utilized for the growth of fruit; and there may be 200 acres suitable for spade husbandry. But ant inspection of the land as a whole appears to have led many visitors to form the opinion that the reclamation of the farm after its years of neglect will be a work of great labor and difficulty. It must be remembered, however, that the enterprise was embarked in rather as a benevolent than a commercial speculation. The idea was to provide a training ground for the shiftless section of London's unomployed, and an opening for those who could and would work, but had no opportunity. An interesting feature of the experiment, so far, has been that out of the hundred and filty men now employed on the farm, who, of course, have offered themselves for the work, only one has previously been a farm laborer. In answer to an enquiry, one of the officers stated that it is a rare thing for a farm laborer to apply to any of the refuges of the Army for relief. This seems to point to the fact that the agricultural worker is better furnished for the struggle of life on coming to the great metropolis than his competitors. No doubt his open-air life has given him a better physique, and those who know the world of London labor, tell us that a large proportion of the drivers, stablemen, railway men, dock laborers, etc., are farm-bred. The results on the farm are already very encouraging. The workers take hold of their new employment much better than might be expected. The buildings erected or planned for speedy erection, will accommodate six hundred men, buta much larger number will be ultimately employed, as various industries, such as brickmaking-there is plenty of brick-earth upon the estate-carpentry, cabinet-making, bootmaking, tailoring, and baking will be carried on. A wharf on an arm of the Thames is being built, and from this a steam tramway is to be laid through the central part of the farm, so that direct communication with London will be established.

A bulletin issued by the Ontario Bureau of Industries towards the end of last month, gives important information as to the yicld of grain and roots, the new crop of fall wheat, condition of pastures, live stock, etc. Fall wheat has turned out a remarkably fine crop-better than expected. It is undoubtedly the crop of the year, averaging 25 to 30 bushels per acre in many sections, and weighing from 60 to 66 pounds per bushel, in many townships averaging 64 pounds. The actual yield was $21,872,488$ bushels, as against $14,267,383$ lust year. Spring wheat is grown principally in Eustern Ontario, and with very few exceptions is reported to be a very fine crop, the yiekd being 10 ,ported to be a very fine crop, the yield being 10,-
711,538 or 210 per acre. In regard to barley the average sown is becoming less, and reports are variable. The drouth retarded its early growth, variable. The drouth retarded its early growth,
and the wet wealher at harvest affected its quality. The yield appears to be good, but the grain in the great majority of cases is badly colored In regard to two-rowed barley the reports disagree. All agree that the past season has been exceptionally favorable for this crop, but some are decidedly
against it, while others speak favorably of it. Oats as reported are the most variable crop, extraordin. ary yields and failures being reported from adjacent townships. On the whole the crop is far above the average, the yield being 40.8 bushels per acre. The 1891 reports may be briefly summarized as follows: fall wheat and spring wheat, extraordinarily good; oats, very good; barley and peas, good ; rye, medium. The autumn weather has been unusually favorable for the ripening and harvesting of late crops, and corn, beans, and buck wheat, werc every. where secured in fine condition. Taken altogether corn has been a satisfactory crop, and buck wheat was a fine crop, particularly in the eastern countiey. The reports regarding potatoes are rather discouraging. Only a few counties appear to have escaped the rot, the loss from this cause being estimated all the way from 5 to 50 per cent. Probably one-quarter of the unusually large yield has already gone by the rot. The crop of turnips has done pretty well, but mangels and carrots are unsatisfactory. Reports regarding the yield of fruit are not uniform, and the yield of clover seed is this year reported very light. The average of fall wheat sown in 1891 is at least 15 per cent greater than that sown in 1890, the increase being entirely in the western part of the province. The reasons assigned for the increase are the extraordinarily fine results of the crop this year, the low price of barley the past summer, and the very favorable weather of September for sowing Most of the land which had been specially prepared for fall wheat was in good condition, but a great deal of land has been put down to this crop that is dirty and poorly prepared as a consequence of the increased average. On the whole the condition of the land at sowing may be termed "fair." The general condition at the time of the reports from correspondents (Nov. 9) was hardly equal to that reported in 1890 . Owing to the long continued drouth and the uneven distribution of rain this fall, the reports as to pastures are variable, but the reports as to the good conditions of all kinds of stock are practically unanimous. Correspondents report the dairy as in a fairly prosperous condition during the season, although there was rather a scarcity of milk owing to the drouth. There seems to be an increasing interest in the manufacture of butter, and while in some localities both quality and price are said to be a little lower than last year, reports generally apeak of an improved quality and a slight advance in price.

Waste of time on the farm occurs when work is not done thoroughly. A break occurs, it may be, in a pasture fence, and, being in a hurry, the farmer lifts it into position and puts a few props under it. It may stand for a while, but probably the first high wind will loosen the props, and several hours may be lost in running after the cattle. There is a constant temptation, in the rusih of work. to patch up things "teinporarily." Such a plan keeps one constantly harassed by cattle breaking out, by leaking roofs, and tools out of repair. The "atitch in time" is something that appeals especially to an agriculturist.

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19t.-N News received that over 3,000 persons lost their lives Wa arm Sandringham rear hatence damaged by fire to the extent

2nd.--Death of B. Chaffee, a leading citizen of Montreal. Sharp frosts experienced in England.
3rd.-Major McKinley, Republican. eleoted Governor of Ohio; Roswell P. Flower, Democrat, Governor of New Ycrk; ${ }^{4}$ ililiam E. Russel), Democrat, Goiernor of Magraohusetts; Mr. Boies, Democrat, Governor of lowa; and Mr. Brown, Democrat, Governor of Maryland.

4th.-Another revolution breaks out in Brazil. News received of a terrille fire in Hankow, (hina, in which 200 women and children perisbrd, . New York Presbytery dismisges the oharge of beregy preterred
A. Briggs, of the Union Theological Scminary.
5th.-Adncurced that ex-Speaker Onimet will become a member of the Domidion Cabiuet aud Mr. Chapleau is satisfed. Gth.-Martin Flavin, McCarthyite, plenter M.P. for Cork, Ireland.
seated for an act of Hendersoon, M. M. for Halton county. un.
brihery by angent. seated for an act of brihery by an agent. Ci. George
Capps, Toronto, trampled to death while eudeavoring to stop a runaway team.
7th.-Earl of D"fferin honored hy being made Lord Warden of the Cinque Ports. Close of the Royal Conmission on the Baie des Onaleurs railway acandal invesigation at Weat Assembly.
9th.--Financial panic in Bylin, Germany, owing to the Mecent failure of two large ba, king firme. . Mr. Mr. Gibson, M1.P. Ho Lincoin. unseaird for corrupt, practicen of an agrnt,
and Mr. Tarte, MI P., Montmorency, ungeated for bribery of agents with his knowledge.

10th.-Annnunced that the Britigh and United States Governments have agre ed to arbitration in the Behring $S$ a dieyute. . . Jam. 8 Kirkwood elected M.P.P. for E"st Wellington. . Attenipte made to hlow up the Eyre Manufacturing Co's wo ks, LyD, Ont., and Mr. Eyre's private residence by dynamite ; the proptery damaged but no one
injured injured.
11th.-Terribo gales in the South of England, causing
numerous wrecke, great loss of life and damage to property numerous wreckp, great loss of life and damage to property. 12th.-The Shortt.Walleck monument unveiled in Qutbec. 13th.-Widespread conspiracy discovered to overthrow the Rustian Government. - P. H. Spohn, M.P. for East Simcoe, unseated. Lieut. Cnl. Macdonnell, Seryeant-at-Arms of the Dominion House of Commons since its incep-
tion, superannuattd with an annual allowance of $\$ 2,200$. 14th.-Liput. Col. Tilton, Deputy Minister of Fi-h Ottawa, sunpended for alleged irregularities with funds.
10th -Death of the Rev. Dean Ceddes, at Hamilton, Ont. 17th. - Petitions against the return of Con. Tisdale, Mr.P. South Norfolk, and A'eX MiNeil. M.P. for Nntth Bruce, dis-
m ssed.

18th-Tbirty six thousand coal miners reported on atrike in the Department of Pas do Calais, France. P. Petilion against the eleotion of John Charlion. M.P. North Norfolb, dismige bloodshed $\dot{f}$ ported in parts of kuseia.

19: h. - Mr. Haggart Postmaster General, is tendered an en thusiastic demonstration by his constituents at Perth, Ont.
20th.-Owen E. Murphy, implicated in the frouds upon the Dominion Publio Works Department, takes up his reeidence again in New Yorts.
the St. Lawredce tive

21st, - Corner etone of Toronto's new city hall laid by Mayor Clarke. . . . Mr. Truax, M. P. unseated for Fast Bruce.
${ }^{23 r d}$ - Infuen za reported to be spreading rapidly in France and Germany, many fatal cases occurring. W. L. Jackson, Mr. da Fonseca of Brazil recirne.
Balfour's puecessor as Chief Secretary for Ireland, returned for North Leeds without opposition.
24th.-Death' of Lord Lytton, British Ambassador to France 25th. - The conference of the National Union of Conservative Aosoociation at Birmingham, England, passes a reso ution thvoring the extension of commerce upon a preeferred pur'g of the Empire. contrantor. Montreal, and Richord White, managing edito of the fazeeta, arrested on a charge of seditions libel preferred by Mr. Nercier.
20th.-Sir Edwin Arnold, the distinguished pont and Orientalist, 1 - ctures in Toronto.

Death of Willianı Notman, the celebrated photographer of Montreal.
27 th.-Large number of reath from starvation reported in Rus.in. . Mir. Balfour, speaking at a Congervafive
meeting in Glagenw, declares that Hume Rule for Ireland is utbrly impossible.
20th. - Rev. Dr. John Hall. the popular pastor of the Fifth Avenue Preahyterian Church, New York, Itred at three times from the famine in Rusia reported.
30ヶh.-Ten persons killed and seversi injured hy an ex nlosion of gat in the Rlaokhurn market, Encland. Engagement between Chioese troops and rebels roported as imminent.


A Device for Measuring Land.
Take three strips of batten two inches wide, half an inch thick, and six feet long, and nail them together, us shown in the accompanying engraving. After fastening them together, saw off the ends so that the air-line distance from $A$ to $B$, from $s$ to C , and from $c$ to $A$ shall be exactly five and $a$ half feet. A man can stand erect in using this, and roll it over at a walking gait, each revolution measuring one rod. In commencing, place B at the 'starting

point, letting c be in the direction you are to measure, and a pointing upward. A colored tag should mark. a to remind you to count one each time it comes pointing upward. The advantage of this shape over that of a common triangle is that it permits straddling over slight objects or elevations, and thus does not measure the circuitous distance over them, a fault of all wheel measures. This measure is very light, a rapid worker, quite accurate, and reguires no stooping on the part of the operator.-American Ayricullurist.

## Preserving Wheet-Rims.

The device illustrated herewith is for oiling the felloes of a wagon wheel to prevent shrinkage. It is simply a narrow castion trough with a concave bottom, of any desired curve, width, or length, supported on legs near each end. The trough is partly filled with oil, a small fire kindled under it, with due precautions to prevent igniting the oil.


When the oil is sufficiently heated the rim of the wheel is immersed and slowly curned around as the heated oil penetrates the wood until the entire rim is treated 'The advantages claimed for this device over a rectangular trough of galvanized iron are, it ruquires less oil, as it conforms more nearly to the curve of the wheel ; being of castiron, it serves as a vessel in which to heat the oil. as well as to soak the felloes: it is more durable than galvanized iron, and no more costly. It is not patented.-American Agriculturist.

## Greenhouse Benches.

We present herewith engravings of two methods of constructing substantial greenhouse benches. The first shows the style of bench used by E. G. Hill \& Co. in their new range of houses at Rich. mond, Ind. The rails used were light T rails, such as are used on some street car lines. The rails
used by Mr. Hill were used on some line that had cause'to change to another style of rail, and were purchased at a low price; they answered the purpose just as well as new rails. As shown in the illustration, the cross pieces are of the same sized

rail only placed right side up, resting on the top of the front cedar post, and mortised into the other cedar post at the back. The three rails that run lengthwise are placed bottom side up, so as to allow a broad flat surface for the slats or other bottom material to rest on. The rails are held in proper position by pieces of board cut so as to fit in the spaces between them. But it is necessary to hold them in place only long enough to get the slates or other bottom material in position. The cedar posts are sunk eighteen inches in the ground, and are placed eight feet apart, but Mr. Hill thinks that they might just as well be twelve feet apart as eight. The side board is held in position by galvanized iron strips which pass through two slits in the board and clasp around the outside rail. These are placed four feet apart. This is the weakest point about this style of bench. The rest is as solid as a rock, and Mr. Hill confidently expects his benches to be just as solid twenty-five years hence as at prusent. The rails cost him $11 \frac{1}{2}$ cents a foot, and while the first cost is very considerable, even after having been in use for many years a good share of the amount can be gotten out of them by disposing of them for the price of old iron. For the centre benches the same system is followed, the rails being placed at a proper distance apart to suit the size of the slate, etc., used. The second illustration shows the style of bench in some of the houses of Mr. R. J. Mendenhall, Mindeapolis, Minn. Two pieces of large angle-iron, about three by three inches, run lengthwise of the house on brick piers set down about. eight feet apart, and for the bottom short boards are placed crosswise. The illustration makes the matter quite plain.-American Florist.

As it takes valuable fertilizing elements from the soil to raise the various farm crops, so the same elements are used, and lost, in the growth of weeds. An especial loss is incurred if the weeds are allowed to produce seed, since the growth of seed takes the most costly plant food from the ground.

Molching in winter may be freely performed with manure on dwarf pears and all berry-bearing shrubs, such as raspberries, currants, and gooseberries, and thinly on strawberries, the plants with green leaves being in danger of being smothered if too compactly covered. The soluble portions of the manure will penetrate the soil, and give additional vigor and richness to the growth.

On hardly one farm in ten, is any provision made for saving the liquid manure, which, as a fertilizer, is nearly equal in value to the solid portion. It is usually allowed to run down through cracks in the floor, or auger holes made for the purpose, and soak into the ground below. Water-tight gutters behind the cattle, or a liheral use of absorbents that are free from weed seeds, will make a vast difference in the fertility of the fields, which means increased crops, without adding materially to their cost.

The repair and renewal of running gear is often a burdensome expense to farmers. Notinfrequently this expense is largely increased by lack of care, or by ignorance of the effects which varied atmos. pheric conditions have upon the woodwork of wheels. These, if badly constructed at the start, are costly articles, though they be had as a gift. To attain the best and most economical resulti, it is necessary to begin with honestly-constructed gears, and then give them intelligent care. The idea is quite prevalent that wheels do best when housed upon an earth floor-a practice that is not only unnecessary, but under ordinary conditions, positively harmful. Besides the actual wear by use, the agents most destructive to running gears are moisture and the sun's heat. Unless the woodwork is thoroughly protected by paint or varnish it will swell whenever it is wet, causing "springing " of the spokes, splitting of hub and felly, and perhaps the "dishing" of the whole wheel. If a gear is not thoroughly protected by paint it can be readily seen that an earthen floor, usually quite moist, is, therefore, not the best kind of support. When wheels are long exposed to the sun's rays there is likely to be a shrinkage of the wood that opens the joints readily, admitting moisture. When it is necessary to leave a cart or wagon out of doors, let some old blankets or pieces of carpeting be thrown over the wheels, or, better still, have on hand a sheet of cheap cloth large enongh to cover body, wheels and all. Frequent painting of furm wagons, sleds, etc., together with care as to exposure, will save many dollars of expense.... A light carriage or wagon that is driven upon. the road should have its rims painted and the whole vehicle varnished at least once a year. That will go a long way toward protecting it from the action of the weather.

## givive Stock.

MaNy dairymen, wisely, reserve the heifer calves from their best cows and raise them for dairy purposes. If, as is frequently the case, they turn out to be inferior butter producers, the failure is rarely ever assigned to the true cause-the inferiority of the sire. It seems strange that many who seem reasonably well-informed upon most subjects should be so blind as to patronize bulls that have none of the desired dairy qualities in their blood, with perhaps a body that is inferior in size and wanting in vigor. The only reasonable explanation would seem to be that they consider the dam as almost entirely controlling the character of the offspringa conclusion that is certainly not warranted by the experience of observing men. The bull exerts a greater influence upon the heifers that are sired by him than do their dams, while these same dams may have more influence upon the bull calves which they produce than has their sire. In thousands of farming communities, stunted little scrub bulls are kept for service, and from them are raised the dairy cows of the community around them-cows that rarely exceed a hundred or a hundred and twenty five pounds of butter a year. The profitable way is to take the best cows you have or can buy with the means at your command, and then procure a young bull, or bull calf, if expense is an obstacle, from a distinct dairy breed, bred from a cow that has proved to possess high qualities for the dairy, and has been a persistent milker during the year, and from a sire that has had a dam equally good. Let the heifer calves that come from mating this bull with the best cows be rearen, and when old enough let them be bred hack to their sire. So much inbreeding will be beneficial in intensifying the good qualities on the sire's side. In the meantime a bull calf of fresh blood and with fine dairs qualities can be procured and raised to take the place of the older sire. In such a way and $\mathrm{a}^{\mathrm{t}}$.small expense, a verv good dairy can be huilt up, and if the same idea of always procuring the very best dairy blood in the sire is adhered to, the herd will be constantlv growing better. This is good farm-ing-the raising of better animals each succeeding year.

## Movable Cattle Stanchions.

Some improvements on the common stationary stanchion are horewith shown. They are in use in the stables of a Minnesota subscriber and give good satisfaction. Being cheap and easily made, they are adapted to the wants of those who feed cattle in the winter and during the summer or who another year want this space for sometaing else. These stanchions are made of two-by-four-inch scantling and, being put together with wooden pins:or bolts, they may be readily taken apart and stored away when necessary. The bed piece is made of two two-by four-inch scantlings andso is the top piece, but in the illustration one is removed to show how they are fastened: A A are the stationary parts; C C the movable sides that hold the

cattle in ; E E are automatic fasteners which hold the stauchions shut. In stall A the stanchion is shown open. The space $H$ is filled with a triangular board to keep the animal from putting its head in the wrong place. When the animal puts its head in place, a push on $C$ closes the stanchion, $E$ drops automatically in place and holds it shut, as shown in stall $B$. As seen in the engraving, the movable part $C$ has no pin in the lower end to hold it in place, but one on each side of it. A pin at the top keeps it down when it is shut. In stall $C$ is shown how the movable part is taken from its place when taking the stanchions apart. Stall D phows a simple contrivance by which the cattle can be shut in if they know their places and let out too, without going in between them. A strong string $S$ is tied to the staple $N$, passes through the staple I and to any convenient place. Pulling on this will close them, and on the one attached at $W$ and $E$ will open them and let the cattle out.-American Agriculturist.

It is unwise to have hogs in large droves. Aside from the bad effects of crowding, the hogs will thrive better if graded into two or three lots. Some hogs fatten better than others, some are stronger than others, and these things should be taken into account in separating the swine into lots.

A leading dairyman says the best sign of a good cow is that she is so built that when in milk a portion of her udder can be seen behind her legs, as a side view is taken. The more there is to be seen the better; and if at the same time the udder comes forward so as to cover a goodly portion of the belly, she then can be, and quite likely will be, a copious milker. But before a very big price is paid for her, the quality of her milk should be tested, and if the buyer is particular she should be of the breed he is most interested in.

Tan rearing and feeding of live stock bring salva. tion to impoverished farms. Careful observation of the results of this winter's feeding will teach stockmen manv useful lessons by which they may profit in future nperations. Those caring for stock during cold weather, cannot he too careful of their personal safety. A frisky colt, a playful steer or bull may, without- viçious intent, in a plavful moment, do as great harm as a really vicious animal, ment, do as great harm as attendant cannot be too careful to avoid giving any animal, however gentle, an advantage over him. Improvement of the grass lands is a most important consideration with every farmer, as herein lies the foundation of the business, and
success in stock raising cannot be attained without good pasture lands. Then, the first thing to be done on a stock farm is to improve the pastures, and there is no better time or way to begin than by hauling manure on them during winter.

The sheep is the most profitable animal on rundown land, says John M. Stahl, in the Country Gentleman. Often it is the only animal that will yield any profit on such land. It will get its food from herbage so short or of such character that other animals would starve upon it. Its manure is well distributed over the ground. Land pastured by sheep, though pastuied hard, will usually increase in productiveness. It is not so generally recognized that foul land can be cleaned up by pasturing with sheep more readily and at less cost than with any other means. The sheep will eat weeds that other farm animals will not touch. It crops them very close and persistently, and the animal's sharp nose will get into out-of-the-way corners, where the man with the scythe would overlook weeds. Sheep clean land while they build it up. Run-down land is nearly always foul land. Sheep are the stock to put upon such landto pave the way for cattle or hogs or horses. Merinoes are better hustlers than the English breeds, and not so fastidious about their food.

There are three points that should be borne in mind during a calf's first winter. It should have dry, clean and warm quarters to gleep in. It should not have to drink large quantities of ice cold water. It should have au abundance of such food as will promote the growth of bone and muscle. Pens are much better for culves during their first winter than stanchions. They can be kept warmer in this way, can have a better bed to sleep upon, and they will grow better if given a chance to move about without the fretting caused by restraint. When calves are watered but once a day, and then with very cold water, the whole systent receives such a shock that growth is out of the question. This must be realized by every one who has seen these little things shivering over a trough of ice water, from which their thirst has compelled them to drink greedily. If older stock must drink this, at least let a sufficient quantity for the calves be tempered by a kettle of hot water from the kitchen stove. Fine hay, of which a part should be clover, if possible, with a little bran and crashed oats, and an occasional feed of pulped roots, will prove a desirable feed for calves at this time. They need no fattening foods, provided they are housed warmly, but plenty of the elements that give growth. If skim-milk can be spared for them, it will give good returns in increased size and in the development of the heifers. It pays to keep young things growing, for when growth ceases, not only is there no interest on the investment, but the time spent in caring for them is lost also.

## The oultry 月and.

Ie you let the pullet start right, she will stay with you all winter.

The most profitable period for hatching and raising chicks for early broilers is from November to May, as not only are the winter months then utilized, but the highest prices are secured. The expenses, however, are less in the summer season, but the prices are lower.

By all means have board floors in your henhouses, and cover these with several inches of sand. They are more easily cleaned, avoid dampness, and if about two feet from the ground, are rat-proof.

A long shed closed toward the north and west is a better place for feeding fowls in winter than the house in which they ronst, as greater cleanliness can thus be obtained, and the fowls are induced to take more exercise. Even in the very coldest weather they should not be allowed to remain all day upon their perches.

During cold weather eggs should be collected twice daily. If they freeze and crack open in the nest, the hens will discover their contents, and acquire the vice of egg-eating. Freezing also destroys the vitality of an egg, and, as soon as the weather turns warm, decomposition will take place. For this reason and for the sake of greater cleanliness it is better to seep artificial nest eggs.

Some people get the idea into their heads that pure bred stock is more subject to disease, but that is a very wrong impression. True, any breed can be inbred until it is weakened in constitution, but by infusing fresh blood every year, pure breeds will be as thrifty and vigorous as cross-bred fowls, and certainly made more pleasing to the eye, and more profitable to rear, as many birds can be sold at much better prices than are paid for ordinary.crossbred or mongrel stock.

A splendid bill of fare for hens at this season is: Breakfast, bran with a sprinkle of oil meal, scalded and mixed into a tough dough. Served hot with potatoes, onions or celery tops chopped into it. A touch of pepper on very cold mornings. Dinner, a light lunch of whent, with hay chopped and steamed. Plenty of good, healthy scratching and dusting, and abundance of water. Sour milk, if possible. Supper, corn well parched in the oven and served hot. The hens like this and show their appreciation in the proper manner.

Most people seem to think that there are only a few things chickens will eat, but in reality they are almost omnivorous and especially do they welcome anything new. They are not like turkeys which require to be taught what is palatable. If the poultry raiser on the farm only keeps his eyes open, there are a great many odds and ends that may be gathered up and utilized for the fowls; as, for instance, the shattered corn on the floor of the crib. The rats may have eaten the heart out of every grain, but the chickens are thankful for the remainder. When the wheat is tbrashed, the screenings should be brought to the house. Better results can be had from boiling the wheat, corn and other grain, for if a fowl gets its crop packed with dry grain, and fermentation begins, cholera or some other disease is apt to ensue. The whole grains of sound wheat boiled until they crack open, form the most nutritious and wholesome of all foods. Shelled oats are, of course, fed raw, but only in small quantities.

Turre is nothing better for growth and perfect development of the pullets than mill, oatmeal, chopped clover and bran. Every element required is coutained is these and in such proportions that the digestive organs will not be overtaxed by needless effort to secure enough of what is needed. It is preferable to feed the milk in the form of sour curd, taking care, of course, that it is not kept too long after becoming sour. In this form it is highly relished by fowls, and seems to be assimilated with less liability to cause bowel trouble. It is best to grind the oats, is they can then be digested with less tax upon the bird. The clover is best' cut fine with a clover cutter, or by running it several times through an ordinary hay cutter, then mixed with an equal bulk of oatmeal and bran. This should be thoroughly moistened with boiling water, and nllowed to stand during the day, or over night, if possible, as it will then be so softened as to be readilv digested. The clover may be cut and used in its green state, or cut when in blossom and cured out of the sun, for use in winter. It is one of the best foods for growth, but on acccount of its bulky character must be fed in connection with more concentrated foods of a similar nature. In addition to those foods, an occasional ration of cooked vegetalles of various kinds will be beneficial. If confined in yards, a little ground meat, or lean scraps from the butcher's shop boiled and mixed with their soft food should be given them.

(Communieations intended for this Department shonld be addressed to Aunt Tutu, oare Massey Pazso, Masaey Streat, Toronto,

## A Cosey Window Seat.

The illustration below is intended to give economical and tasty housewives an idea of what may be done in sensible home furnishing at a small cost. Draped curtains are indispensable in carrying out the idea, but they are not necessarily expensive. There are now many kinds of printed muslins to be had that are dainty and quiet in coloring, the price of some being only ten cents per yard. The foundation for the seat is made in the form of a low

bench as long as the window is wide, and needs not be very smooth, as it is entirely hidden. Any kind of suitable material may be used to cover it with.

First pad the top of the bench evenly, then tack the cover over it smoothly and finish the front and the ends with a slightly fulled valance that just touches the floor.

A board the length of the bench and just wide enough to fit in the space between the window-sill and the top of the bench should also be padded and covered and then screwed in position. The two square cushions may be made of any material preferred, and it is a great improvement if the bench has an arm at either end.
A seat of this kind beneath a pleasant window makes a delightful place to sit and sew or read, and gives a room a very homelike appearance.

## Handy Pocket.

Some odds and ends of fancy work materials are used in the construction of a pocket to hold the handiserchief or a bit of work. It is cut eight inches square, with the exception that three and
one-half inches are taken from one corner, a piece of similar shape being fastened upon the sides of the bag as if turned over there. A layer of perfumed

wadding is placed between outside and lining, and a heavy chain-stitching of silk finishes the edge on both sides. Knots of silk cord-two colors, by the way-give the finishing touch to the corners and serve as a handle. Many will prefer to make this useful little bag in less crazy fashion, but the result will be satisfactory, however developed.

## Christmas Work.

Again is coming the gladsome season when we are ready, more than ever, to acknowledge the truth in the old song,
"For, rioh or poor, or well or ill,
'Tis better to give than get!"
Already there are merry, whispered conferences, and bits of work are often quickly and mysteriously tucked out of sight by those among us. who are not 80 generously supplied with money that we can afford to purchase outright any gift which strikes our fancy, and so cannot let our preparations go until "Christmas week." After all, there is much more pleasure in making our gifts, with a thought of the friends who are to receive them worked in with every stitch or stroke of the brush; we think, too, as a rule, that home-made gifts yield more pleasure to the recipient than those which any one may have for money, more or less. We illustrate a few which can be made easily and cheaply.

## pincoshion.

THE "Mikado" pincushion is something which any little maid can easily make for mamma or auntie. There are six sections, each formed of a square, four inches wide, of plush, velvet, brocade,

or any chosen material. The squares are folded to form half squares, and the edges sewed together, leaving an opening near the point, through which $t^{\circ}$ atuff with cotton, sawdust, or whatever is
desired. It is better to make these little cushiong first of silesia, or other strong cotton cloth, covering them afterward, with the nicer material. Stuff the sections as tightly as possible in order to make them of good shape. When done, join them together at top and bottom of one side; finishing the outer points each with a plush ball or tassel, and the top by a rosette of ribbon. This little cushion may be nicely made of different colors or material, or by alternating colors of plush or velvet in the sections, the tassels and ribbon matching both.

## BOTTERFLY BROOM OASE.

Harmonious shades of plush should be used for this, sll the edges being worked with a button-hole stitch. Fancy stitching with the same silk should be inserted upon the leaves, as shown in the engraving. The long roll corresponding to the body

of the butterfly is of plush, stuffed with cotton, and crossed five or six times with silk drawn tightly around it. The various pieces of plush should be lined with silk or satin, and a broad band placed across the back and stitched to the edges of the plush to hold the broom.

## Pretty Newspaper Stand.

Tee pretty newspaper stand may, in different sizes, be made to do duty as a music-rack, photo-graph-holder, or letter-case. The feet of the stand are cut from wood, painted with pink enamel, and stripped with bars of gilding. The sides are made

of very thin wood, or heavy mill-board, and the narrow strip which forms the bottom of the rack is of the same material. The rack is covered with moss.green plush, ornamented with appliques of pink silk, crouched on with gold cord, lined with pink silk, and finished with a heavy gold cord.

To temper earthenware which is to be used for baking put the dishes in cold water over the fire, and bring them gradually to the boiling point. When the water boils around them, remove them from the fire and let them remain in the water till it becomes cold.


## Wood Carving Parties.

Wood carving for boys and girls, women and en, promises to become one of the most popular winter pastimes, and for those who develop an ptilude for it, it not unfrequently pens a field to profitable employment. In England the matter is no longer a experiment. It has been tested $r$ years and found. a success. A ountry Rector there gives his exerience with what he terms, recreaon evenings.
"It has long been a question with ", he says, "how to retain our innence over our growing population, is to provide means of interesting od keeping them together.
" Almost against my judgment our Anghters extablished a Wood Carvgg Class. I thought it ' would never ay,' and that the 'boys and girls culd soon tire of it,' but neither of beqe things happened.
We set aside an unused storeroom pr the purpose, and beantiged it ith a coat of limewash, a chocolate ado, and some tables. A lamp hangs fom the ceiling, a griodstone occuics one corner, a fire blazes in winter a the hearth, while every Tuesday vening the place is alive with bright ces, and noisy with the sound of ammer and tools."
Some of the most intricate carving as turned out by a dressmaker's aprentice, while most of the "blocked "u" work came from the skillful hand the clergyman's youngest daugher. ()f course every young man carrics penknife ; and only a trifling outliay as required for a hoard of yellow the that they began to carve on, and te use of several-sized chisels. and poges. The clergyman himself rolled about with a hone, shairpeng tools, while his artistic and praccal daughters directed the workers.

About eight o'clock on the first night the rector's wife appeared, followed by a bevy of young ladies carrying big cups of coffee, tea and milk, and huge plates of home-made cakes.
"This is my part of the amusement," she said, and somehow or other chisels and dotters and hammers and knives worked quicker and more willing. ly after such refreshment.
(A wise way would be where a class is formed to make a small assessment for this purpose, so as to avoid the expense falling too heavily upon any one person, and to have a Refreshment Cemmittee.

But it must be stipulated what the refreshments are to be; and it is best to restrict them within such limits as those above mentioned; otherwise extravagance will creep in, and the Carving Class will come to naught.)
In Eugland we are told that the majority of these classes are not only self supporting, but positively profitable. Why should not such be the case here?
The necessary tools consist of a couple of chisels of different sizes for each person (one moderate in width, the other very fine for angles and corners). a small saw for cutting up wood, a good penknife, a Swiss knife, a dotter (which anyone can make by inserting a bradawl into each end of a small wooden mallet-one awl round-pointed, the other flat, with a nick filed in it so as to make two points), and a gouge for turning circles.
A more complete outfit comprises the following: -A parting tool, acorner-former, half inch and quarter inch gougev; three-quarter inch, half inch, quarter inch, and one-sixteenth inch flat chisels; two or three slow gouges, from a quarter to threequarter inches; a pair of compasses, a slip for sharpening, a bottle of oil, some glass-paper, some tracing paper (black or white), a vise, a mallet, a p $\in \mathbf{n}$ cil, and a carver's hench.

At last accounts after a lapse of several years, the country rector's class was still carving away, developing new delights at every meeting. The eyes of its members being trained to notice fresh beauties in God's works, as shown by their bringing in chance sprays of beautiful woodland leaves for "copy." Their hands meanwhils being taught to work deftly and neatly. They themselves-in their association with the ladies of the parish-being educated in refinement and self-respect, and their homes ornamented with bits of their own beautiful handiwork.

If lita were not so sad a thing,
Who then could think of being merry !
If God's will would hear altering
Hie plans we should not try to vary? Were we once tree from poin and care We straight would seek some oross to bear !
If upnn love a neal were set,
How many feals would then be broken !
If gentle speech were hard to get,
How many kind words would be spoken !If Geaven Wrere nnce denied ug all,



With trembling voice, though ardent look, He taintly asked her could she cook. She owned ghe could, and, bolder grown He asked her it ehe'd be his own
"I supposed you were wanting a hired girl"
A sign on an academy out West reads:-"Preeman and Huggs; Freeman teaches the boys, and Huggs the girls."
Thess policemen are luokier than the authors. The author has to oudgel his own brains for a living, while the policeman cudgels other folks.
Docron-It is a little diffioult to diagnose your case. Perhaps you have been eating too much. l'atient-Ioppossible. This放el is rua on the European plan.
He-Do you know anything about your ancestors? SheYes, everything. He-Then you have a family tree? SbeOh, no! 1 have a brotber runuing for ottice.
A young woman began a song--"Ten Thousand Leaves Are Falling." She pitched it too high, sorecehed, and stopped. "Start her at five thousand," cried an auctioneer.
A Sufficient Excuse-Choir Leader-Ach! that vas terrible, Miss Soreecher! You hat lost de tune; you are vay oud ! Mires Screecher-That's all right, Professor; 1 ooly went out to get the air.
Traviluen-" Ain't you asbamed to heg-a stout fellow like you? I should think you might work." " Picturesque beggar (drawing himself up):-"Senor, I asked you for alms, not for advice."
"Never would call a boy of mine 'Alias,'," said Mre. Jones,
Hunteville, Ala., "if $I$ had a hundred to name. Men by that name is allus cuitin' up capers. Here's Alias 'Chompsoo, Alias Williarns, Alias the Night-hawk-all been took up forstealin'."
Frigl.-Dudleigh-Do you know, Miss de Spinster is decidedly frigid in her manner, don't you think so? Walnustree -Rather! She alwayg reminds me of one of the recent discoveries in Pompeii. Dudleigh-What's that! WalnustreeAn ancient frieze.

Chollie ( chatingrssion.Chollie (glancing at bill o if they had it, Bella, but they haven't, apparently, so guess we'll have some plain Waiter-We have quail on tonst, sir, although it isn't on the bill. Chollie (sotto rore) -Shut up.
His was the greatest accom. plishment.- "Yes, my wift is earning Delsarte, my daugh my boy i leingitg tion, and dolin. Öh, we ehall soon be dolin. ©host we ghail soon be in town." "We? What are you learning, pray ?" "To endure."
Amby Secospsd-There wa only one piece of pie left on the plate, and Willie's mo ther pressed the visitor to take it. He declioed, but
she insiated. Willie had had no pie, and this was more than he could stand. In voice of bitter sarcasm he howled out: "Keep on wor rin' him, mav! Keep on worrin' him ! He'll take it after awhile!


On New Year's Eve Brown and Jones agree that smoking is injurious, and swoar off for a year,sunder penalty of twenty dollars.

The result.
Ong element of shrewdness is to reailize that the man you are dealing with may be more shrewd than youreelf.
He (wishing to he confiden-tial)-Pardon, Mige Rosalise, Enfant (gpitefully)-Yes, and they know French, too.
Physician to convalescent patient-"My bill, sir, for attendance during your late Siness. Panient- Ping over the bill and turning white "was I as aiok as all that?"
"Ps," said little Georgie, "what is a meteorologist!" "Why, my boy," thought. fully replied the father, Havent you seen the man who comes to Was-metpr now and he is a meteorologist,"

Mitgs Aonurn's Vraaeance. -Returned traveller: "I have often thought of that young Mr. Tease, and how he used to torment Mis Auburn about her red hair. Did she ever get even winh aso! She married him."


Brown,-I hate to amoko down cellar, but Jones might call unexpeotedly, and claim that twenty dollare.


Jowps.- It's a chilly place to smoke, but Brown might drop in, and twenty dollars is twenty dollare,

## Rax

"Farmer’s Daughter," Goderich, Ont., writer What to do with burnt matches is often a question that perplexes the soul of the tidy housekeeper, especially when there is no convenient fire int which to throw them. To leave them about is die orderly, and if careless people lay them down ere they are quite out, there is danger of fire. The best answer to this difficulty is in the following plan: Get a small glass tumbler and fit.it into small round basket. Japanese are the best, which can be had for a very small cost. Then cover the basket and tumbler with a strip of colored silk larg enough to draw over both. The frill at the tor should be about an inch and a half wide. Thi should stand up round the tumbler. If you liket use white or very light-colored silk, you can em broider it with tiny sprays of flowers, matching the ribbon which confines the bag at the top of the basket. Gather the other end of the silk to fit the bottom of the basket, and sew it round the edge with fine sewing silk. This plan leaves the tumble free and open to serve as a seemly and safe recep tacle for burnt matches.
L.P.B., Sherbrooke, Que., writes : I have ex perimented somewhat to ascertain the keepin qualities of washed granular butter and unwashed I find that butter thoroughly washed in pure watea when in the granular state, will keep longer that that not washed. I have taken butter from the same churning before it was washed, and thorough ly worked the buttermilk out of it, then salted i in the same way as the remainder of the churning which had been washed while in the granular form The latter kept perfectly sweet and good for one t two weeks longer in the summer months than the unwashed butter. By thoroughly washing the butter while in the granular form, all the casein and foreign matters are taken out, leaving only th butter fat, and giving it the true butter flavor, fre from the insipid sour curd taste. Its freedom frod curds, I think, will account for its better keepirf qualities also.
"Orchardist," Queenston, Ont., writes: Mos orchardists, either through ignorance or neglect will not fight the insects, so the fruit will be scarce and the price high. Thus our best plum grower say that the curculio advances the price of plum far in excess of the expense of so fighting him as $t$ secure a crop of the finest fruit. Its habit of fallin to the ground, and its general timidity suggest method of combating the curculio. Thus it is 0 ten found that by keeping a large flock of poultr among the trees, or even many hogs or sheep, a ful crop of fruit can be secured each year. In this cas the insects are eaten up, trodden on, or frightend away. I know of farmers who have in this way st cured full crops of plums with almost no exception while neighbors have obtained no plums at all Often a tree close by a door or path bears heavil, each year, while others not thus situated suffe severely. Here the insects are probably frightene away.
J.E.C., Brandon, Man., writes: It is a myster to me why so many intelligent men seem determine to spend their lives in the cities and towns workin almost night and day to make other people riche from their labor, whereas by using the same aI ertions in the country they could buy and pay fo a home they might call their own, and where the could enjoy the profits of their labor. Thousand of men are to-day toiling in shops and offices overcrowded cities, who might make good farmen if they were only willing and had the determinatio to succeed-a determination to roll out of bed five o'clock in the morning and work industriousd and faithfully, except an hour for dinner, until ss or seven in the evening, learning to drive work it stead of letting work drive them, and ready to any necessary labor, from cleaning a pig pen driving to church with one's own team. Any m who has good health, with a good wife to help his with the same intelligence and industry that would use to get a living in the city, can become? successful farmer.

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