

Arkansas Love Story. Twelve years ago a pretty coquette of Calloway County, Ky., found her court reduced to two persevering suitors named, respectively, Eldridge Miller and William Schrader, who, having outstayed each other, now competed vigorously with each other for the last flirtation. Wisely concluding that her opportunities for a settlement in life were not likely to be so frequent as they had been, and that it was time to choose between the two, she decided to give her future lot to the lively lad, after due study of the subject, told Schrader, who was a widower, that she should always esteem him as a very dear friend, and placed her hand in that of Mr. Miller for life. As is quite common in such cases the gentleman selected for friendship accepted his fate with very bad grace, and refused unequivocally to forgive his rival's success. There ensued between the two a most hard feeling, which had for one of its final effects a determination of the young husband and wife to leave their native State and make a new home somewhere in the wilds of Arkansas. It was Miller's intention to turn prairie farmer in the Southwest, and found a homestead there for the two little ones multiplying in his household care in due succession; but the soil of Arkansas proved stubborn, the times hard, and, as the war of secession began about that time, he suddenly solved the problem of married life by joining the Southern army. Marching to battle, he left wife and babes in a most embarrassing condition of poverty, which, however, was patiently endured until the news of a great battle involving in its list of fatalities the sad tidings that they were widowed and fatherless. Upon recovering from the first shock of her bereavement, Mrs. Miller took refuge with her helpless charges in the hospitality professed by certain sympathizing neighbors in Henry County, Tenn., where, to her great astonishment, she was presently greeted by her old lover, Schrader. The latter explained that through continued regard for her, having finally resolved to seek a reconciliation with her husband, he had reached Arkansas only in time to hear of poor Miller's death in battle and her own departure. As an old friend he felt it his duty to follow her in the hope that he might be able to render some friendly office for her possible needs; and hoped that, for the sake of old times, she would call upon him as on a brother. All this was naturally grateful to the feelings of the penniless widow, away from all the associations of her early home and a dependent upon comparative strangers, and she showed her gratitude so plainly that his object took courage to say more. Kentuckian days were recalled, old sympathies revived, the patriot-dead mourned in concert, and a new union proposed. The end of it all was that Mrs. Miller became Mrs. Schrader, and went with her second husband to a new home at Crossland, in the State of her birth. There, after a lapse of nearly nine years, the Murray Gazette describes the household as wildly agitated by the unannounced arrival of a wonderfully ragged, bearded, and gruff intruder, who introduced himself as the late Eldridge Miller, otherwise known to the poets as a species of Enoch Arden, and informed that Schrader had been troubled them for a couple of children belonging to him. Mrs. Schrader having fainting and been removed, Mr. Schrader solicited some explanation of his guest's perplexing escape from the tomb; upon which that comical ghost related that he had been captured instead of killed by the Yankees; was taken prisoner to Chicago, and there liberated upon condition of going to the frontier and fighting the Indians; and by them held in captivity until the very recent date of his escape. In his old Arkansas home he was told of his wife's journey to Tennessee with the children, and remembrance; and had at last traced her to Crossland, to reclaim only his offspring if she chose to return with her second husband. The latter perceptive listened to this romance with reprehensible signs of incredulity, observing, in reply, that the story of the captivities was too attenuated, and that Mrs. Schrader would surrender neither herself nor her children. Then, a remark Enoch Arden, gruffly, "I'll see what the law can do for an old soldier." Mr. Schrader invited him to do his worst, and a suit was actually begun; but on the evening previous to the day appointed for the trial a private interview between the wife and her first lover ended in their elopement together, children and all; and they are probably back in Arkansas, where the ghost is troubling themselves about the lamentably deserted "Philip Ray."

Habits of the Ostrich. There has long existed a belief that the ostrich, contrary to the character of all other birds, does not fly. This notion is, however, a very old one. This notion was shared by the writer of the book of Job is evident. It also prevailed a thousand years after the book of Job was written. See Job 41: 1-13. Even the great monsters draw out the breast; they give suck to their young ones; the daughter of my people, it will come forth like the ostrich in the wilderness. It is probable that this idea respecting the inability of the ostrich to fly is derived from the fact that if a flock of ostriches be chased, and among them there be some very young birds, the latter are left behind by their parents, and fall a prey to the hunters. But in reality the ostrich chooses in the matter. The wide sandy desert affords no place of concealment in which it might hide its young. Nature has not furnished it with weapons by means of which it can fight for them, and consequently it is forced to use the only means of escape by which it can avoid succumbing to its own life, as well as the life of its young, by flight. It does not, however, leave the young until it has fled by all means in its power to save them. For example, it sometimes has recourse to the manoeuvre with which we are so familiar in the case of the lapping, and pretends to be wounded or lamed, in order to draw the attention of its pursuers, while its young escape. In a recent case, a large number of facts, from which certain deductions were made, but nothing positive was elicited as to the cause of the trouble. We thought at the time, and still think, that the great fault of these investigations consisted in not making a thorough examination of the aborting ovary, and in not exposing it to the microscope, which had been done only for this purpose. It had been long suspected by members of the Little Falls Farmers' Club, that abortion was due to causes similar to those named by Dr. Briggs, and it was hoped that by the aid of the microscope the matter would be fully settled. The statements of Dr. Briggs seem to be confirmed by those of M. Bonley, well known for his researches concerning the diseases of cattle, such as carbuncle, &c. We see it stated that this gentleman has lately made a communication to the Academy of Sciences at Paris, based upon some investigations of M. Zundel upon epidemic, or what he calls enzootic miscarriage in cattle, as follows: He states that it has long been known that when a cow undergoes a miscarriage in a stable occupied by other cows in a condition of gestation, this accident does not remain isolated, but on the contrary, and in fact, very commonly, the remaining animals miscarry successively, as though a contagious principle had been discharged from the first cow, and communicated to all the others. It has already been shown by experiment, that if the liquids discharged by a cow that has just miscarried, be introduced into the vagina of another cow nearly at full term, the miscarriage will take place in the second case. According to Franck, this is produced by the micrococcus bacteria, which exist in an extraordinary quantity upon the fetal envelopes, and conduce to their decomposition. These being introduced into the vagina, multiply with great rapidity, penetrate to the uterus, and there initiate that decomposition of which we speak in the foregoing. It is then established that abortion among cows is caused by living organisms of the character referred to, we have reason to believe that a remedy will yet be discovered for this disease, which is proving to be one of the greatest scourges that has ever afflicted the herds of Central New York. There is no abatement of the trouble this year in Herkimer and the adjoining counties. We know of herds in which thirty or more cows had aborted during the early winter and up to February 15. In some districts the loss from this disease for a series of years has been more than the entire profits from the herd during the time. The question of "cause and remedy" is a troublesome affair, and of great interest to the dairy public, and we give the above facts in the hope that further examinations may be made, either confirming or refuting the statements which we alluded to. -X. A. Willard in Rural New Yorker.

FARM POULTRY.—Farmers frequently neglect their fowls, not so much from a conviction that they don't pay as because there are so many other things to attend to. Yet oftentimes the labor saving means of modern agriculture is not as profitable as that devoted to poultry. Of course much depends on location and the market. A flock of fowls such as is usual on farms, will in most situations, if rightfully managed, yield more in value annually (either gross or net) than a good cow. But no farmer expects that a cow can be tended a year and almost certainly, cut, and housed, and most considerable work. Fowls, if allowed their freedom, may be managed with much less labor than when they are yarded, but in any case a great deal of time must be spent in raising chickens in sufficient numbers to keep the ranks of the laying stock always nicely filled with birds not old, which is indispensable to success. It should be remembered that eggs are more profitable than table fowls, except in case of early chickens. BREAKING UP OF GRASS LANDS.—A piece of grass land that will cut two tons of hay per acre, or which will furnish an equivalent in pasture, cannot be profitably broken up, especially if the land is inclined to be rough or wet. Many fields which are now covered with coarse herbage, might by draining and manuring become covered with valuable and nutritious grasses, and where labor is scarce and high this course is far preferable to putting such land under the plow. Draining is often all that is needed to produce the change; sometimes a judicious application of artificial manure might be profitably used. IMPROVEMENT OF OVERFLOWED LANDS.—In California there are tracts of land along the rivers which are occasionally submerged, the soil of which consists of exceedingly rich alluvial deposits. They are called "Tule" lands. A company of capitalists are engaged in reclaiming these lands and bringing them into cultivation by means of a system of dykes or embankments. When it is remembered that this description of lands all over the country is of almost inexhaustible fertility, it is seen how important it is that they should be made useful instead of remaining, as they often are, hot-beds of disease.

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