

A Chapter on trees. I was out on a Jersey farm, spending my vacation. The farmer had a big flock of geese, and he was eternally throwing the most hefty kind of Jersey words at them. One day I sat on the farmer's piazza talking with him. The geese were placidly cropping grass down along the road, a great big gander leading them on. Peace, tranquility and contentment spoke in every movement the law desiring 'bipeds made. "There wasn't a cloud in the sky. The farmer's men were working without much apparent vim at raking and loading hay down in a meadow not far away. Suddenly the old gander poked up his head, gave voice to a peculiar squawk, lifted his wings and started off on a run as fast as his big web feet would let him go. All the geese poked up their necks at the sound of the gander's voice, lifted their wings, and with a chorus of noises that only a flock of geese can produce, started after the gander as tight as they could waddle. The gander ran maybe twenty yards, and then, with a wild shriek, he took wing and flew in the direction of a pond a short distance from the road. The geese raised and flew after him, filling the air with their discordant cries. Gander and geese alighted in the pond, where they all gathered in a bunch, held a consultation or congratulatory confab in a subdued chorus of cackles, and went through all sorts of maneuvers on the pond for a time, when they sprang and swam about as placidly as they had been feeding a few minutes before. "At the first movement of the gander when he broke the tranquility of the feeding flock, my friend, the farmer, arose quickly to his feet, and as he turned toward the meadow, said: "There's them hands workin' as if they had all the rest of the year to get that hay in, an' here we're goin' to be ketchin' in a tairn' o' old shavin' in less'n an hour, or else there hain't no use in keepin' geese."

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**SPECIFIC FOR MALARIA, RHEUMATISM, NERVOUS PROSTRATION, and all other Diseases.**

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### DR. SINE'S SYRUP CURES COUGHS AND COLDS.

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### SETH ARNO'S COUGH KILLER.

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### A Hill That Shakes.

During the natural gas craze which swept over Indiana and which has, to some extent, abated in this immediate section says a Cambridge City (Ind.) letter to the Cincinnati Enquirer, frequent mention is made of the feasibility and probable results of boring for the inflammable fluid on "Shaky Hill." There are many who are positive in their belief that gas can be found there, and in abundance, too. There are others who claim that it would be the last place in the world for gas or oil, but it is certain that the locality or "hill" is attended with very mysterious phenomena.

### Dairying on Small Farms.

Dairying and pasturing have been so long considered as one and the same occupation that but few farmers will venture to engage in the former without first devoting a large portion of the farm to grass upon which the cow may be allowed to graze during the day. When this method is changed for that of feeding at the barn yard it is termed "soling" the cows. Even those who do not believe soling can be done profitably involuntarily practice the soling method to a certain extent during the winter season, for at that time the snow covers the pasture ground and compels the dairyman to prepare the food for the cow and give his attention in the barn yard. The principal objection to soling is that it requires a large outlay for extra labor, yet there is as much profit derived from the winter dairying as there is during the summer. The real benefit is in the saving of manure, which is the most important occupation on the farm, and the extra cost of the winter feeding of one cow, but equals half an acre in clover as the allowance for a cow during the summer. This result is not the experiment of a single season, but the work of fourteen years devoted to soling, by which method the cows give 20 per cent. more milk than when kept on pasture; and rye, clover, orchard grass, timothy, green oats and fodder corn, with ground food when required, compose the daily diet. The system is one that permits of the gradual accumulation of wealth in the annual increased fertility of the soil, and though extra labor may be necessary, yet it is more effectual in operation, as it is not distributed over a large space, consequently there is economizing in hauling loads to great distances over the fields. Soling may not be profitable to those who have plenty of pasture and large tracts of land, but it will enable those having limited areas to engage in dairying, when, by the proper application of labor, they may realize larger profits than those who devote more land to dairying but adhere to the pasturage system.

### A Most Primitive People.

The natives of New Britain are the most primitive people I have ever seen. Their huts are small and filthy, and little wonder it is that there is much sickness among them. At night they build a fire in the center of the hut and huddle around it for warmth, with no covering over them and nothing under them save a course mat. The women are, with a few exceptions, the ugliest specimens of the human race I have ever seen, and a sight of them will go far to convert one to the Darwinian theory. These creatures seldom wash themselves, and, as they are employed from one year's end to the other in hard labor, their appearance is anything but enticing. The men pass their days in fishing or idling away their time smoking or chewing betel nut.

### The Chair Suited at Last.

A furniture dealer tells a little story that shows how some people are consulted. A lady ordered an elegant easy chair of a pedlar which it was made and sent to her home. She examined it carefully and critically, finally remarking that it suited her exactly with one exception—it was too soft. She had the man take the chair back to be made a trifle harder. The chair was returned to the store and put aside. Nothing was done to it. After the lapse of about a week the chair was sent out again. The woman again examined it and this time the chair was too hard. She was sorry, but when she heard so much to get an article for her own comfort she wanted it about right, so she sent it back to the store for another change. The chair was again put aside for a week or ten days, and sent out for the third time without having a particle of change made. This time it was just right. She took the chair and had it for it, and was very sorry it had not suited her at first. The poor woman never knew that the chair had not been changed a particle.

### How to Choose Beef.

If possible, buy the meat of a butcher personally known to be an honest man. If the meat has a reasonable proportion of fat upon the back and running in little lines through the lean, and if the color is fresh and not very dark red, the meat is good; if very dark red, the meat is stale, and the butcher has kept it properly for a week or ten days it may be supposed to be reasonably tender. Most butchers are willing to keep the right length of time for customers, if they take it at its first weight; it loses a little weight by keeping. When this is the intention, have some of the bone trimmed off, and the fat which is not needed for cooking, and let these trimmings be sent home with the day's marketing, the bones for the soup pot and the fat to be fried out in the form of drippings. After the meat is trimmed let it be hung in the butcher's refrigerator until he pronounces it tender, but not long enough to spoil.

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### A Cold Day.

George A. Carden, who is connected with the signal office in Chicago, has honor of having recorded the lowest temperature ever noted in a civilized country. "Temperatura -62.1 below zero," was the message he sent from Polar River, Montana Territory, on New Year's morning, 1885. "The station," you must understand, said Mr. Carden, "was simply a cabin 10 by 12, made of cottonwood logs pinned together, the chimneys being plastered with mud. The roof also was mud, and the floor was formed of cottonwood boards, which having been put down green, had shrunk till they left cracks which would easily swallow up the legs of the only chair in the station. The only thing that made the room habitable was the fact that the hut had banked up with dirt that reached up half-way to the roof.