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 des troying 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 | that the most delicate stomach will bear up his head, gave voice to a peculiar A SPECIFIC FOR MALARIA, squawk, lifted his wings and started off on a run as fast as his big webb 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 wabble. The gander ran maybe twenty yards, an 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 sparated 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 o' the year to get that hay in, an' here we're goin' to be ketched in a tearin' old shower in less'n an hour, or else there hain't no use in keepin' geese.'

"The farmer hurried down to the meadow, spurred up the men, and lent a hearty hand himself at the hay. Before many minutes had passed I saw clouds banking themselves in the horizon, and presently the mutter of distant thunder was heard among them. The farmer was right. In an hour's time one of the hardest thunder storms I ever saw was raging over that part of New Jersey, and it caught the last load | 15c of the old man's hay in transit. After "Wells' Health Renewer" resto supper that night I questioned my host vigor, cures dyspepsia, impotence, sexual debility. on the geese, and found that the reason he kept them was to keep him posted or the weather.

" 'They hain't never failed me yet,' he said. 'When I get up in the mornin and see them geese out on the pond a divin' an' a dressin' down their feathters as if they was gettin' ready to go to some party or other, I know that we're sure of clear, warm, dry weather, an' I make my calc'lations 'cardin'ly. If they hain' a dressin of themselves, much, but act kinder as if it was't o' a much account a sprucin' up, than I keep my eye on 'em. That's a warnin' that we're in danger of a spell o' weather. If the geese quits the pond an' don't go back much through the day I know the danger holds, an' I get ready for a set rain of a day or so. If they feed along awhile and waddle back to and urinary complaints cured by "Buchu-Paiba." the pond kinder chipper like, an' go to dressin' themselves and divin' then I'm pooty sartin' that they won't be no set rain commencin' that day. It the geese gits up all of a suddent an' tears around tike ye see 'em this afternoon, then there's a shower comin,' an' it's a a comin' fast, ye can bet.'

"So you need never wonder why some farmers keep geese around and still wish they were in Halifax. They are their weather prognosticator, and they believe in 'em as firmly as they do in the making of apple jack. This farmer told me another funny thing about these geese weather signals. He said that when they prophesy a storm the sounds they make are not like their cries at any other time. Consequently the farmers are never fooled by the cries of a flock of geese that may rise in the air from a place where they were out of sight, if the rise has been caused by any fright the geese may have been subjected to. An expert reader of goose signa's can tell the frightened cry from the prophetic shriek as far as he

"Never saw a goose plucking, hey? Well, it isn't a sight that would give you much pleasure. On the day set for stripping geese of their feathers they are enticed into some airtight outhouse. The pickers, who are always women, go among the geese with their heads and faces entirely covered with hoods fastened around the neck with a shirr string. There are holes for the eyes and also little holes at the nose for tresh air. From the neck down the picker is covered with a glazed muslin garment, to which no feathers or down will adhere. The pickers sit on low stools around a large and perfectly dry tub. There is generally a man or boy in the neighborhood who is an expert at getting the goose ready for picking. Everybody can't do that. The wings of the goose have to be locked together by a peculiar arrangement of the two near the shoulders, and while they are not tied or fastened in any other way, the lock is such that no goose can unlock it without aid. The feet are tied together with broad bands of soft muslin. When a goose is thus made helpless it is taken on the picker's lap and she plucks the feathers out rapidly but with such skill that she seldom breaks the skin or causes blood to follow. The air is kept full of feathers during the process, all of which settle in the big Distinctively Representative of tub at last. Before beginning a goose the picker brushes the feathers back the wrong way, so that she can see the class monthlies. skin. An expert can tell at a glance, by the color of the skin, whether she must exercise more than ordinary care in plucking it, or whether it is not better to let the geose go without plucking at that time. In every case the picker must be careful and not pluck the feathers too close under the wings. If a goess has been improperly picked in that respect the wings will drop and dr g on the ground.

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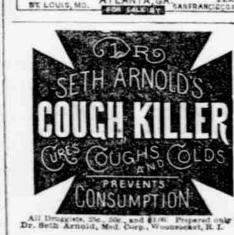
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Allegheny twp, Oct. 27, 1887.

A Hill That Shakes.

During the natural gas craze which swept over Indiana and which has, to long considered as one and the same ocsome extent, abated in this immediate cupation that but few farmers will ven-

The land was entered in 1816 by Thom- benefit is in the saving of manure, as Reagan, whose son Wiley Reagan, which is the most important occupation correspondent met to day two gentle- ing long fences is done away with. men who probably know more about the | Practical experiments show that by the circumstances surrounding the peculiar | aid of manure saved when soiling a sufof Wiley Reagan, said :

calamity would befall them should they remain on the hill, not that they were cause they were afraid the land would sink or break up, at least they thought it safer on more stable ground. The l far as known, have not occurred as fre- to the pasturage system. quently as formerly; but as the locality has for a long time been a part of a large open field, the chances for observation have been limited, and it may have shaken many times without hav-

ing been felt by persons. nearest the hill, to the northeast, was sickness among them. At night they affected in a similar manner, and at one | build a fire in the center of the hut and time the cellar wall of this house was buddle around it for warmth, with no badiy cracked and rendered useless, covering over them and nothing under The peculiarity of this hill-that it has them save a course mat. The women repeatedly shaken, and the phenomena | are, with a few exceptions, the ugliest | stated actually took place-is authenti- specimens of the human race imaginacated by many of Reagan's nearest | ble, and a sight of them will go far to

neighbors. foot of the hill, in a quagmire that seems to have no bottom."

In his last statement the gentleman | chewing batel nut. suggests a theory to account for the would produce a decided shock.

odor of coal-tar in damp weather, when | penalty for violation of the "Taboo" the wind blew from the east. Also, | being instant death. that in digging cellars and wells large fissures were found partly filled with substances closely resembling cinders,

dig a well near the house, but after tuted. A lady ordered an elegant easy going down some twenty feet the tools caused such hollow sounds the man came up instanter, declaring he would and sent to her home. She examined not finish it, as he was afraid the "bot- it carefully and critically, finally retom would fall out,"

Mr. Byram Baldwig, who owns the farm, states to his certain knowledge the hill has been "shaky" for over fiftyfelt a violent jar about 4 o'clock in the morning. Their dwelling is about day in the fall of 1883 nearly all the ripe apoles were shaken from the trees by they were startled by three flashes of light, produced by balls of fire, which shot up into the air one hundred feet, occurrence, and it is no doubt caused by the combustion of light carburetted hydrogen, commonly called marsh gas, or "jack-o-lantern."

Acother peculiar feature of this place is that the needle of the compass will not point to the magnetic pole, but inclines to the east. The temperature, too, is unlike that of the surrounding to the hill-not always cooler, not always warmer, but never the same.

We have heard a great deal of the supe-PORTLAND, Feb. 1.

that he considers it a superior article, and not long enough to spoil. far preferable to the quality of Port wine generally furnished in this market.

H. T. CUMMINGS, M. D.; Chemist to the State of Maine. Dairying on Small Farms.

Dairying and pasturing have been so

section says a Cambridge City (Ind.) ture to engage in the former without letter to the Cincinnati Enquirer, fre- first devoting a large portion of the quent mention is made of the feasibili- farm to grass upon which the cow may ty and probable results of boring for the | be allowed to graze during the day. inflammable fluid on "Shaky Hill." When this method is changed for that There are many who are positive in their of feeding at the barn yard it is termed belief that gas can be found there, and "soiling" the cows. Even those who in abundance, too. There are others do not believe soiling can be done profwho claim that it would be the last | itably involuntarily practice the soiling place in the world for gas or oil, but it method to a certain extent during the is certain that the locality or "hill" is winter season, for at that time the snow attended with very mysterious phenom- covers the pasture ground and compels the dairyman to prepare the food for The bill in quesion is a part of a low the cows and give his attention in the ridge of land running east and west barn yard. The principal objection to some two miles south, the hill compris- | soiling is that it requires a large outlay ing about twelve acres, being south- for extra labor, yet there is as much west, two and one-half miles, in the profit derived from the winter dairying northeastern corner of Fayette county, as there is during the summer. The real settled upon the hill in 1822. Your on the farm, and the expense of providactions of the hill, or rather plateau, ficiency of green food can be grown on than any others. One, the son-in-law a small plat to feed quite a number of cows, as well as to provide a better va-"The land on which it is situated riety of food and secure greater yields was bought about sixty-five years ago of milk and butter. Professor Stewart. by Wiley Reagan, my father in law, an | in his book on feeding animals, menearly settler who improved the farm and | tions how he fed four horses and seven built a log bonse on the highest part of | cows for fifteen days on the food grown it, the part lying east of a small creek. upon forty rods of ground; and he has soon after the family occupied the house estimated that forty rods of ground they discovered that at intervals there | will produce enough to equal the sumwas a pronounced disturbance of the mer feeding of one cow, but sets aside hill, as if moved or shaken by an earth- half an acre in clover as the allowance quake-this, too, while other sections for a cow during the summer. This reof the country were undisturbed. This sult is not the experiment of a single continued for several years, and finally season, but the work of fourteen years increased and became so marked that devoted to soiling, by which method the Reagan family became alarmed and the cows give 20 per cent, more milk built a new cabin on the west part of than when kept on pasture; and rye, the farm-across the creek. This was clover, orcherd grass, timothy, green done because they feared some dire oats and fodder corn, with ground food when required, compose the daily diet. The system is one that permits of the superstitious, as had been said, but be- gradual accumulation of wealth in the annual increased fertility of the soil, and though extra lobor may be necessary, set it is more effectual in operacabin was removed and there has been large space, consequently there is econtion, as it is not distributed over a CARRIAGES, WAGONS & SLEIGHS no dwelling very near the hill since. omizing in nauling loads to great dis-The character of the disturbance re- tances over the fields. Soiling may not sembles the sensation produced by an be profitable to those who have plenty earthquake, perceptibly shaking the of pasture and large tracts of land, but house, various articles of furniture, and it will enable those baving limited ares especially the cupboard and its contents to engage in dairying, when, by the of dishes, etc; shaking the clothesline, proper application of labor, they may something causing it to fall, with its realize larger prefits than those who deload of washing. The disturbances, as vote more land to dairying but adhere

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 "On a number of occasions the house little wonder is it that there is much convert one to the Darwinian theory. "There is nothing peculiar or differ- These creatures seldom wash themselves, ent from the ordinary in this or adjoin- and, as they are employed from one ing lands to point to anything strange, | year's end to the other in hard labor, excepting a large sulphur spring at the | their appearance is anything but enticing. The men pass their days in fishing or idling away their time smoking or

Both men and women are keer tradstrange behavior of the hill. It is prob- ers, and ever eager to acquire divara, or able that the elevation has for its foun- | native money, consisting of very small dation a thin stratum of Niagara rock | shells strung upon a thread, and which resting on this bog. A slight disturb- is counted by the fathom. Every ofance would cause this rock to vibrate, fense of every nature can be atoned for and this motion transferred to the hill by the payment of this currency, which | 66 is hoarded up in houses especially built The gentleman further stated: "In for the purpose. These houses are unmore recent years persons living imme- | der the "Taboo," and are so sacred that diately west of the hill have noticed an they are even secure from robbers, the

The Chair Suited at Last.

A furniture dealer tells a little story At one time a laborer was hired to that shows how some people are constichair of a peculiar kind. It was made marking that it suited her exactly with one exception-it was too soft. She had the man take the chair back to be seven years. He has experienced the made a trifle harder. The chair was repeculiar sensations, and only about two turned to the store and put aside, months ago his wife and hired hand Nothing was done to it. After the lapse of about a week the chair was sent three eigths of a mile from the hill. Of out again. The woman again examina large apple-orchard set out by Mr. ed it and this time the chair was too Reagan only one tree remains, the rest hard. She was sorry, but when she having died or were cut down. One paid so much to get an article for her own comfort she wanted it about right, the queking of the earth. Mr. Bald- so she sent it back to the store for anwin says that while driving near the other change. The chair was again hill one Saturday night with his wife put aside for a week or ten days, and sent out for the third time without having a particle of change made. This much like a sky rocket. It is said on time it was just right. She took the good authority that this is of frequent | chair and paid 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 butchregion. The same thermometer will er personally known to be an honest show a change of several degrees in man. If the meat has a reasonable going from different parts of the farm 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 the Principal and Proprietor, SWITHIN.C. SHORT-LADGE, A. M., (Harvard Graduate) Media, Pa. Altogether this is a very singular and if the color is fresh and not very and peculiar natural phenomenon and dark red, the meat is good; if the an investigation might prove interest- 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 rior excellence of Speer's N. J. Wine, and time for customers, if they take it at its of its being adopted in European hospitals | first weight ; it loses a little weight by in preference to their own wines. The most keping. When this is the intention, scinetific men of this country and fiquor have some of the bone trimmed off, assayers appointed by State government and the fat which is not needed for pronounce it a most valuable article for cooking, and let these trimmings be sickness. We cannot write more on this sent home with the day's marketing, subject now, but publish the following card, the bones for the soup pot and the fat to be fried out to use in the form of The undersigned, having become practi- drippings. After the meat is trimmed cally acquainted with the Wine produced let it be hung in the butcher's refrigerby Alfred Speer of New Jersey, would say ator until he pronounces it tender, but

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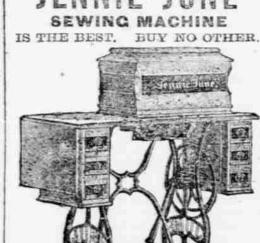
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D. M. CHUTE. Ebensburg, October 24, 1884.

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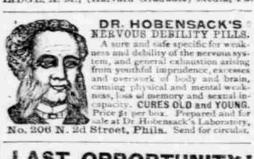
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A Cold Day.

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, Montano 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 togeth. er, the chinks being plastered with mud. The roof also was mud, and the floor was formed of cotton wood boards. which having been put down green. had shrunk till they left cracks which would eassly 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 the roof.

"In that little room I went to bed on the night of December 31, 1884, The bed was within arm's length of a big drum-stove, large enough to receive four-foot cordwood, as we dare not get out in the cold to Reep up the fire. had begun observations at the place a year before, December 17, 1883, and was not much surpirsed on retiring the last night of 1884 to find the spirit in the official thermometer down in the neighborhood of 50° below. I had often recorded 50 below before, but I thought that night before retiring that a pretty low temperature would be reached, a the air was painfully still, and the stars looked brighter and nearer than ever, I tossed about all night, trying to keep warm. The big stove I kept nearly red hot, but still the little room would not get warm. It seemed as cold as the outer air. Upon me I had piled covering equivalent to twenty thicknesses of blankets. Army coats, everything in the shape of protection, was heape upon my little bed, yet still I shivered under it all. No one can form an idea of the cold that night. I had to wen the heaviest mittens and my sealsking cap pulled down over my ears. Once reached my bare hand out of the bed ! throw another stick of wood on the fire and before I could get the wood in my hand was so benumed that I had to drop the stick. Mind you, all this time the fire was roaring and crackling.

"Well, at last the night wore away and about S o'clock, I guess it was, got up. I didn't have to dress, though but just slipped on my big buffalo show and made for the minimum thermomter. There the alcohol spirit was the one-tenth line below the 62 ma: When I saw that my heart jumped faenough to warm me up a little, as knew no other thermometer but minhad ever gone so low except in artic exploration. That remarkable degree cold was reached just about sunine. morning. The atmosphere itself seem ed frozen, and my eye could see farth. down the white snow-glistening prair than it ever had before. There was 1 a sound to break the stillness, and I fell like the artic explorer who stands in the silence of the eternal anows. The or thing that bound me to civil sation wathe smoke that came up from the d. tant army post, for United States troops are stationed there to watch the Indi ans. That day the temperature rose about 30 below, and four days later 11 rained. In those four days the range was 1000, the greatest range ever recorded.

" A lower temperature was never be fore recorded," continued the your man, "excepting in the artic region-Lieut, Greely recorded it only ninetenths of a degree colder than mine Mount Washington, which is considered the coldest place in the United States has only recorded as low as 42.25."

Nail These to the Barn Door.

If the iron wedge will not draw, but i fire of chips and heat it. Heap up and tramp down solidly the

show around the young fruit trees. Water, green food and meat, fowlmust have to prosper during the winter. Watch the outlets of the tile drains. that they do not become closed with ice. There is one part of the farm that is not benefited by drainage: the manure

Politeness pays in the cow stable. A gentle man gets more milk than a harsh

Straw and corn-fodder are best worked into manure by putting them through good animals.

The best preventive of trouble at lambing time is daily exercise for the ewes during winter. Take the bridles with you when you

to to breakfast, and put them near the stove while you eat. Separate the weaker animals ; the need extra feed, whereas with the

stronger they get scant feed. Profit in farming comes from the maximum crops, the products of winter thought and summer work.

ice do not give the crank a jerk. Both wheel and chain break more easily when very cold. Every farmer may be the architect of

If the chain pump is clogged up with

his own fortunes, and it poor policy to let the job out to luck. Harness hung in the stable is damage

as much by the gases and dampness there as it is worn by use. When green wood is used for fuel part

of the heat is absorbed to convert the water in the fuel into vapor. If you do not wish cloddy and lifele-

ground in the spring keep the cattle of the field when the soil is soft. Drive your horses a little to one

when you stop with a load on the sled This makes it easier to start the load. A fire burns better in a hot than in a cold furnace; it is equally true that B: animal well wintered is half summered If open, outdoor feed troughs are turned over at night they will not be filled

with snow and ice in the morning. If you place the ax near the stove for fifteen minutes it will cut better and not be so apt to break along the edge. The flavor of the fuel used for smoking meat is somewhat imparted to the meat ; hence the fuel should be selected earefully.

You have no right to feed a dog so long as you have not the money to provide your family with good papers and books.