

FARM AND GARDEN NOTES

ITEMS OF TIMELY INTEREST TO THE FARMERS.

How a Scythe Is Ground—Seed Corn—Secrets of Success with Co-Operative Creameries.

SELLING YOUNG PIGS.

There is no quicker way to get money in pork than to keep a few breeding sows and sell their pigs when ready to wean or soon after. There is always a good demand for such pigs, and at considerably more than their pork value. It is known by everybody that the young pig makes more growth with the same feed than it will at any later period of its life. But the seller of the pig gets the advantage of this without being at any expense to care for and feed the animal. Therefore his profit is greater than that of the man who buys from him.—Boston Cultivator.

STACKING STRAW BY MACHINE.

Pneumatic tubes have many uses, but one of the latest is attracting a great deal of attention for its novelty. This is a tube for stacking straw. It is built in sections, and is controlled by metal strips, pivots and arms. The straw is drawn into the tube, through it with great velocity, and by a turn-table and swinging arrangement like a crane is evenly distributed on the stack. The angles can be changed at will, and the whole machine is practical and manageable.—The Ledger.

HOW A SCYTHE IS GROUND.

The bevel edge of a scythe is always on the lower side, that which is toward the ground. This is necessary, or in cutting the scythe would be carried down to the ground, while the bevel, being from the ground, in cutting, the blade is carried up as the stroke is made. The steel in the blade is solid at the edge, and is now laid on both sides; indeed, as steel is now made as cheaply as iron, practically, there is no reason why the whole blade should not be of steel, and this is now the case, for it is far cheaper to roll the blade out of a bar of the steel at one operation than to take more time to weld in a narrow strip to make the edge. Labor is more costly than the material now, and so scythes are made wholly of steel. In stoning a scythe, the stone should be held flat to the blade on the flat side, and on a bevel on the bevel side, just the same as the grindstone is used. Few persons who use a scythe understand this, but it is of much importance in the work.—New York Times.

A CHEAP GARDEN HOSE.

A good hose is necessary in nearly all gardens, but they are very expensive. I have used one which I made myself, and which answers the purpose very well, but it will not stand very hard pressure. During 1895 I used 100 feet of it, and this spring made 150 feet more. The cost for 150 feet was \$3. I get a 20-ounce white ducking and cut it into strips sufficiently wide to go around a 1-inch pipe. The strips will be about 5 inches wide. Sew with a good No. 8 thread, on a lock-stitch machine, and repeat, sewing back in the same place, then over cast with ravelings from the same cloth. Paint with two coats of boiled oil, but no turpentine. Let the hose hang in air eight or ten days, until the oil is thoroughly set. The hose can be made any desired length, but short pieces last better than long ones. One piece forty or fifty feet long and two 50-foot pieces are convenient.—New England Homestead.

SEED CORN.

Let every farmer test his seed corn before planting. Last season was very favorable to the ripening of the corn, and the germ was probably in good condition in most cases at the time of husking. Most farmers are likely to believe the seed corn is all right, and their confidence may lead to serious loss. How many times vast numbers of farmers have been forced to replant their fields on account of their mistaken confidence! No examination of the kernel is conclusive as to its germinating powers. Plant some out of doors as soon as the weather is warm and springlike, about the time of sowing oats, and after a time dig it up and count the grains that are sending out healthy, strong sprouts, and also those that have failed. If you find more than five grains in a hundred that fail to germinate, look for better seed corn.

To select the grains for test, take one grain from each ear until you have a hundred, and plant them. If you have already shelled the corn, see that it is thoroughly mixed, and select a handful from the sack. The germinating power of corn is destroyed when subjected to a hard freezing before it is thoroughly dry. This may happen also if seed corn, well dried, is placed in a damp place, and, where the germ is softened by moisture, exposed to severe freezing. The defective stand in most fields, wherever it is found, is on account of poor seed.—H. H. Fitch, in Sac Sun.

ADMINISTERING MEDICINE TO CATTLE.

"Like pouring soapuds down a sink-hole," has come, in the vernacular, to mean something particularly easy, and this is what giving a cow a drink most nearly resembles. Elevate the cow's head slightly, thrust the neck of the bottle into the mouth, and let its contents run down, and most cows will take it as fast as it will run. Where trouble comes in is where the bovines are refractory, where there is a cough or other laryngeal irritation, or where the animal is partially or wholly uncon-

scious and the guard over the respiratory passage is relaxed. The quiet method is the best with a quiet animal, and it is just as well to dispense with assistance, if possible. Assuming the drencher right-handed, he should stand on the right front of the cow, pass the left arm over her face, insert the fingers of that hand under her dental pad behind the point where the incisors meet it, and elevate the head to the right angle. Pass the bottle into the mouth well over the thick part of the tongue, and let its contents flow regularly and smoothly, as fast as the cow can swallow it. A less complaisant animal may require an assistant to stand on her left side and help elevate the head by grasping both horns, while the drencher may grasp the nasal septum with the fingers instead of putting them into her mouth. Really refractory animals may require roping. The head should not be elevated higher than is absolutely necessary, and should be released the moment any disposition to cough or choke becomes apparent. Either a horn or champagne bottle may be used, but the latter is best and most expedient. The tin drenching bottle sold by most veterinary instrument makers is very serviceable.—Pateley Bridge, in Farm and Home, England.

SECRETS OF SUCCESS WITH CO-OPERATIVE CREAMERIES.

The co-operative creamery in our State has come to stay, writes H. S. Bell, of Wisconsin. Though but recently introduced, it is well rooted, and is now experiencing a vigorous growth. In establishing a co-operative system, State laws governing corporations are always followed. This necessitates the selection of a board of directors, in which is contained the president, secretary and treasurer. Instead of the old-time combative committee on sales, the hiring committee and the purchasing committee, with their eccentricities and jealousies, the executive power is placed in the hands of one person, appointed by the directors and called the manager.

The manager purchases all supplies, employs the buttermaker and all necessary assistants, makes all sales, collects all bills—turning the proceeds into the hands of the treasurer—settles all differences between patrons and the company; and, in fact, is complete master of the situation, subject only to the dictates of the board of directors. If the manager employs a competent buttermaker, and gives him proper maintenance, he can hardly fail to succeed in the business. Among the qualifications of a competent buttermaker are punctuality, cleanliness, order, perfect knowledge of the chemical properties of milk and butter, a thorough understanding of machinery, a familiarity with the system of testing milk, and a complete knowledge of the chemistry used in the operation. With all these qualifications, the buttermaker must have the support of the manager. His supplies furnished must be of the very best; quality should be the first requisite, and price a secondary consideration. The manager should see that the milk furnished is properly cared for from the time it is drawn until it reaches the creamery.

An important by-law usually found in the co-operative creameries of Wisconsin, requires the manager to visit all barns of patrons, inspect the method of caring for milk, and see that cows have access to nothing but pure water. He can then reject milk improperly treated, or from cows drinking impure water. One great feature of the co-operative system in Wisconsin which tends to give the patrons a sense of confidence, is the monthly statement issued by the secretary, giving an itemized account of the business of the creamery for the preceding month, accompanied by a check for his dividend. It shows the farmer just how the factory is run.—American Agriculturist.

HOW BEE STINGS MAY BE AVOIDED.

A good many people are deterred from bee-keeping by the fear of stings. And yet one does not need to have many stings if pains are taken to avoid them. A bee will sting only in defence of its home or its life. There are times, especially when the honey flow suddenly stops, when bees are very jealous of any approach to their home. At such times you cannot come as near their hives as at other times. They do not often volunteer an attack if you do not come within a rod or two of their hives. But if you go too near the hive and a bee gets after you it will follow you a number of rods before it leaves you.

When a bee comes toward you, what ever you do, don't strike it. That may make it sting, when other wise it may have no other thoughts than just to scold a little. Just hold you head down and walk away. A bee will seldom follow inside the door of any building.

If a bee gets into a dwelling, the common thing is to be in terror for fear it will sting some one. It has no notion of the kind. You could not get it to sting in other way than to catch it and pinch it. In that case it would sting in defence of its life. No more can you get a bee to sting you if you find one out in the fields at work on the flowers. You may strike it or do what you please unless you catch it and squeeze it in your hand so as to threaten its life. You may catch it in your hand and hold it there loosely for an hour, and it may try to bite a little, but it will never think of stinging.

But when you come to actually working with bees, it will be a comfort to you to be protected in such a way that you need not fear their stings, especially about the face. At first you may want to wear gloves, but will probably give that up after a time, preferring a few stings on the hand to the discomfort and inconvenience of wearing gloves.

A veil of some black material may be on the hat ready to be drawn at any time when the bees appear to be getting belligerent. It can be sewed to the edge of the rim of the bee hat, or it can be made like a bag, open at each end, with a hem at each end through which is drawn a rubber cord. One rubber cord holds it tight on the crown of the hat, and the other holds it about the neck or chest.

It may be some comfort to know that bee stings cease after a time to trouble as much as they do at first. The system seems to become habituated to the poison.—Massachusetts Ploughman.

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Milk should always be fed to pigs in combination with other food. It is a waste to feed it alone.

In every successful dairy district good farming in all lines is the rule; a good dairyman cannot be a poor farmer.

It costs twice as much to put a pound of meat on a pig a year old as it does to put the same amount on one six months old.

The more pork, the more beef, the more mutton and wool, the more butter, the more eggs and poultry produced on the farm the less the farm contributes to the outsiders.

Do not use wood ashes under hen roosts. They tend to liberate the ammonia, which is the most valuable part of the manure. Use dry earth, coal ashes or gypsum if you have it.

Every experiment along the line of feeding at the experiment stations corroborates the experience of every intelligent feeder that loss follows keeping animals after they are finished or ready for the block.

Empty barns in October are the logical sequence of empty furrows in spring. The young man may as well understand that there are no gratitudes in this life and that success is never reached "across lots."

There is always some waste from feeding whole oats, though they are less liable to pack in the horse's stomach; whole oats are preferred by many horsemen. But when the horse's teeth get poor the whole oat, not being masticated, is frequently voided as unbroken as when it entered the animal, and will grow when placed under favorable conditions. In such case it can do very little good. It requires more labor to cut and mix meal and cut hay, but it will always pay, not only in the saving of feed, but in the greater amount of work it will enable horses to perform.

Celery requires very rich and yet moist soil. It should be made rich by previous manuring, as a large amount of fresh manure put on the year the crop is to be grown makes the soil too dry, and though the celery will grow rank for a time it will become dry and pithy. If the soil in which celery is to be grown is found not rich enough, some quick acting nitrogenous commercial fertilizer will be found more profitable as well as cheaper than the quantity of stable manure needed to secure an equal amount of growth. The commercial fertilizer will not dry out the land as stable manure will.

PRETTY AND EFFECTIVE.

A Noble Charity Whereby Poor People in Berlin Are Aided.

The Jewish congregation of Berlin adheres to a time-honored practice to assist the poor of their own city, which is as pretty and effective as it is ancient. The custom has been handed down through several generations, and is still maintained. The congregation possesses a large silver urn, made more than a century ago. The urn is filled with gold and silver coin of different denominations. The urn is locked and the president holds the key. He alone may know the amount of money deposited in the urn. No one else is entrusted with that secret. When a child is born to a member of the congregation, when a death occurs in the family of a member, or when a member is about to marry off a daughter, the silver urn locked with its contents is carried to the house of joy or mourning, and left with the head of the household. The president follows a little later with the key, which he also leaves with the people before he departs. This same performance is repeated on every occasion of a similar character, and it has been in vogue longer than the memory of any one living in Berlin can determine. No exception is made to this rule. Be the member ever so rich or ever so poor, whether a millionaire or a rag-picker, the urn with the coin and the key must be carried to the house and allowed to remain there for a certain length of time, when they are again called for in the same manner as they were brought, the president taking charge of the key and the sexton taking away the urn.

Poor people take out of the urn as much or as little of the money as they need to defray the expenses which the family event requires, while the wealthy and those in comfortable circumstances add to it whatever their generosity prompts. No one except the president knows whether a respectable poor man has helped himself to any of the coin or whether he has added much or little for the benefit of others. In this way a poor man who strives to keep up appearances and is too proud to make his poverty known is afforded an opportunity to help himself to as much as he needs without asking for aid or even for a loan. The confidence thus reposed in each individual has never been betrayed or abused, and if it has no one is aware of it. The fund in the urn has never become depleted with the recollection of any member, nor has the congregation ever found it necessary to add one farthing to the contents of the silver urn from any other source.

NOTES AND COMMENTS.

Cycling is not a very dangerous recreation after all, as is proved by statistics. In England only thirty deaths were produced by cycling in twelve months. On comparing this number with the total number of the highway and street accidents through England and Wales, it will be found that barely two per cent. of them were caused by cycling.

It is coming to light that the Chinese population of our cities, notably of San Francisco and New York, where the Chinese quarters are distinct sections, is gradually growing smaller. San Francisco has about 15,000 of the 50,000 Chinese population and almost prohibiting immigration.

So much has been heard about the possibility of the invasion of England that the newspapers suggest that England's militia, upon which the brunt of the defense would fall, be put into a better state of efficiency. At present this force drills for only about three weeks in the year, and has the whole of the rest of the year to forget what it has learned in that time.

The experiment station attached to the Mississippi Agricultural and Mechanical College at Starkville has done a great work in encouraging the growth of hay in that State. When it began its work in the premises the average yield in the State was but .83 of a ton per acre, whereas, last year, it was 1.95 tons, being 144 per cent above the average yield of the northern and central States of the Mississippi valley.

Reports from the Pacific Coast say that never in the history of the West have so many people taken passage on the steamers for Alaska. The discovery of gold in certain parts of the far-off Territory is, of course, the attraction for many of the visitors; but the increased facilities for transportation and the possibility of seeing some of the grandest scenery in the world have induced many tourists to choose Alaska rather than Europe as their objective point.

"Sweden," says a native of that country who has just been visiting it, "is building railroad, telegraph and telephone lines everywhere. Every farmer who has 100 acres or more of land has a long-distance telephone. It is the most magnificent telephone system I ever saw, and is very cheap. News of great import is flashed over these wires from the urban to the rural districts, and the average citizen is better posted on the current events of the day than in probably any other country in the world. I was in Sweden all winter, and only two inches of snow fell during the whole time."

This country, to people who have not looked into the matter, does not figure as a large owner of floating property outside of war vessels and those attached to the revenue and lighthouse service; but a recent careful estimate shows that on one part of the Mississippi River the nation owns over one thousand craft of different kinds. That is the stretch between New Orleans and Cairo, and the value of the vessels and their outfit for riprap, reversion and levee work does not fall much below \$6,000,000. When work is rushing there are at times 10,000 men employed on the vessels and in connection with the tasks assigned them.

From the census recently completed in Massachusetts it is shown that the females constitute more than 50 per cent of the population in each of the cities, except Gloucester and Quincy. The highest percentage is in Northampton, where it reaches 55.61, and the lowest in Gloucester, 42.37. The difference in Gloucester, where the males are considerably in excess, is said to be due to the peculiar character of the city, as the centre of the fishing industry. Ten years ago there were five cities in which the male population was in excess of the female; but the census also shows that the percentage which the females constitute of the whole population has declined in all but seven cities since 1885.

"In the Choctaw Indian Nation," says E. L. Craighead, of Ardmore, in the Washington Star, "there is no jail for convicted murderers. When I first went to the Indian Territory I settled in the Choctaw Nation, and hearing that a certain Indian was an excellent hand on the ranch, I hunted him up and asked him if he would work for me. 'I will work until the 20th of next month,' he said. 'Why not longer?' I inquired. 'I am to be hanged the 21st,' was his reply, in an unconcerned way. I hired him, and upon inquiry learned that what he said was true. But one man has ever failed to return for hanging after he has been sentenced, and my Indian did not prove an exception to the rule. On the day before the execution was to take place he left as calmly as though going on a visit, and the hanging took place at the time appointed. Notwithstanding his approaching doom the Indian made one of the best ranchers I ever saw, and I regretted to lose him."

Some of our famous athletes may think republics ungrateful when they compare their treatment to that of the Greek who won the recent footrace from Marathon to the Stadion. "Nothing," says the correspondent of the London Chronicle, "illustrates the character of the modern Greek so much as the extraordinary attention shown to the winner of this race. He has been treated as a sort of demi-god. All his sayings are duly reported, he has been escorted in a carriage by a detachment of troops; when he walks the streets crowds of respectable men and women follow, and the King of Greece has not only shaken hands with him, but both he and his father have been invited to the palace; private individuals have given him large sums of money; wine-

dealers, grocers and numerous other tradesmen have offered to supply all his requirements for a year free of cost, and a barber has been reported as having offered to shave him and cut his hair for the period of his lifetime free of cost."

Speaking of the country's growth the Philadelphia Ledger says that in 1800 only the country between the Atlantic and the Mississippi belonged to the United States. Since that the Louisiana purchase in 1803, the Florida in 1821, the Mexican acquisitions in 1840, 1850, and 1853, and Alaska in 1867 have been added. The increase, excluding Alaska, has been from 827,844 to 3,025,900 square miles, or three and five-eighths, but the growth of population has been from 5,308,483 to 62,622,230, or nearly twelvefold. In 1800 the inhabitants were a little less than 7 to a square mile; in 1790 they had been less than 5; in 1890 they were over 21. The place where the population is densest is the District of Columbia, which has 3830 to the mile; the next is Rhode Island, 318; then Massachusetts, 278; then New Jersey, 193; Connecticut, 154; New York, 125; Pennsylvania, 110; Maryland, 105. The other States and Territories run below 100, down to Montana, Wyoming, Arizona, Nevada, which have less than 1 inhabitant to the mile. The Census Commissioner notes that in Rhode Island and Massachusetts the density of population is as great as in many of the most densely settled European States, and that the entire North Atlantic division, pre-eminently the manufacturing section, has an average of over 100 inhabitants to the square mile. But it may be a surprise to some that among the old States Maine has only 22, New Hampshire 41, Vermont 26.

It appears from the well-informed Railway Age that for eight years the mileage of annual railway construction in the United States has been steadily decreasing. From nearly 13,000 miles of track laid in the wonderful year 1887 the totals have gone down by thousands and hundreds, until 1895 touched the lowest round for twenty years by adding only 1803 miles to our railway system. But this does not mean that the demand for railways is nearly supplied and that construction will continue to decrease. On the contrary, there is room, and will be need for additions far greater than the entire present mileage of the country. We have now something over 181,000 miles of road. To equal Great Britain in its ratio of railway mileage to square miles, we should have a total of 492,000 miles; to equal the abundant supply of Illinois we must have 522,000 miles; while if Massachusetts with its mile of railway to every four square miles of territory be the standard, the United States will eventually boast 772,000 miles of lines. That there is much railway building yet to be done the records prove beyond a doubt. When it will be done depends on condition yet to be developed. A considerable amount of work is already under way. During the first three months of this year 253 miles of track were laid on twenty lines, and including these our books already show sixty lines on which it seems reasonably certain that 1750 miles of track will have been laid by the end of 1896, with a possibility of much more. It all depends on the times, not on the question of finding room, or of demand for more railroads.

The Fluoroscope.

Mr. Thomas A. Edison has invented an apparatus, called the fluoroscope, by the aid of which a surgeon, instead of photographing with the X-rays the bones or other hard substances concealed under the skin and flesh of a patient, may actually see them. The machine depends for its action upon the property of rendering luminous certain substances, which chemists call fluorescent. Mr. Edison first determined, by experiment, that the best fluorescent substance for this purpose was calcium tungstate. The tungstate is spread in a smooth layer upon a piece of pasteboard which forms the bottom of a small box, having holes for the eyes at the upper end. A Crookes tube, enclosed in another box, is excited by a current of electricity, and if the hand, for instance, is to be examined, it is placed upon the box containing the tube. The observer then looks into the viewing box, whose tungstate-covered bottom is placed directly above the hand, and sees, with startling distinctness, the bones and joints, showing as dark and delicately graduated shadows, while the flesh is only faintly visible. The reason the bones appear is because they intercept the X-rays, and thus prevent the tungstate surface from becoming fluorescent where their shadows fall.

Human Heart Beats.

A remarkable calculation has been made by Dr. Richardson for the Medical Record. It gives the work of the heart in mileage, the amount of blood thrown through the veins, and winds up with giving the exact number of times the human heart will beat in a lifetime of 84 years.

Presuming that the blood is thrown out of the heart at each pulsation in the proportion of 69 strokes per minute, and at the assumed force of nine feet, then we must come to the following startling conclusion: That the mileage of the blood through the body must be taken at 207 yards per minute, seven miles per hour, 168 miles per day, or 61,320 miles per year. At the above rate in a lifetime of 84 years the blood mileage of the body is not less than 5,150,880, and in the same long life the grand total of heart beats will approximate 2,869,776,000.

The charities of Paris received \$3000 as their share of the recent cycle meeting.

FIDDLING FOR TURKEYS.

Hunting Device for Those Who Have Not a Wild Turkey Trained.

A Forest and Stream correspondent, writing from Greenville, Miss., tells how he went turkey hunting with a friend. They got off the cars at Anguilla, and Paul Denkens met them. With a pair of stout mules and a heavy wagon loaded with camp duffle they traveled sixteen miles over a rough road, finally camping near Darling Bayou on a high cane ridge. They took a live wild turkey gobbler that had been trained along with them in a box. The next morning before daybreak the two set out with the turkey, which was named Fox.

"We took our way through a most abominable thicket," he continued. "After passing through the cane we got into briars and tangled vines. In the darkness we floundered over logs and through water, at times waist deep, for four or five miles. We tethered Fox to a stake in the open and took our station by the root of a tree at a good shooting distance from him. Wash, the teamster, who toted the gobbler for us, was afraid the panter would surge him, and refused to go back a ways where he would not alarm the game.

"At daybreak Fox gave a mighty gobble, whereupon every bird, owl included, made answer, and among others was a wild gobbler's defiance. If a gobbler hears a gobbler he feels that he is obliged to see what the row is about, and that was the death of the gobbler that answered Fox. One day Fox was making a lot of racket in the camp. A couple of hunters heard him and they spent several hours trying to call what they supposed was a wild gobbler. They were very sheepish when they learned of their mistake.

"The turkey fiddle is an instrument used by those who haven't a live trained wild turkey. It is a cedar box bored out of inch stuff six inches long by two inches wide, with thin sides. The bow is a piece of slate one inch wide and three inches long. This bow is clasped between the thumb and forefinger lengthwise, and the furthest edge of the fiddle is drawn toward one across the slate. Like all other calls, this one is declared to be positively the best one made. With such an instrument as this a man went out turkey calling. Just as it got a little light he began to fiddle turkey songs in a way that set all the turkeys clucking in low tones, and the gobblers to yelling defiance, battle cries, and other things. One of the gobblers did not yell very much, but came charging at the man. The man had laid himself down behind a log, thinking that the turkeys would come up before him to be shot. The gobbler that didn't say much evidently did a lot of thinking, for all of a sudden the man heard a "put! put!" behind him so close that he made a discord like a wildcat's shriek. Before he could get his gun the gobbler was behind a three-foot tree, and scoting for dear life. All the fiddling the man did after that failed to fetch a feather.

Ice Tomb in a Glacier.

A skeleton has been found in one of the fissures of the Ademele glacier, in the Southern Tyrol, which is thought to be that of an American tourist of the name of Ruth, who disappeared in 1890. These fissures cleave glaciers at all angles, and it is very easy to slip into one of them. When once in it is hardly possible to get out without outside help; and the warmth of the body melts the ice around, so that the victim slowly descends by his own weight into the depths of the glacier, and generally starves to death. On looking into these fissures the most beautiful play of light in blue and green and rainbow colors is seen away down. But these are best enjoyed from the safe vantage ground of the upper, outside world, rather than down in the depths and close at hand. In some instances, it is said, bodies have been preserved down in these fissures in the ice for years.

Whales Had Legs.

The more remote ancestors of whales undoubtedly had legs. The sperm whale possesses a rudimentary thigh bone and tibia. There seems to be no question that the progenitors of modern whales were land animals, but their descendants took to the sea and ceased to require legs. These remarks apply to hind legs; the fore legs of whales are represented by their flippers. The ancestors of all marine mammals were land animals. The intermediate condition may be observed in the seals, which live on land to some extent. The porpoise is legless, but has rudimentary hip bones. The ancestors of modern snakes had legs and walked. The boa constrictor possesses rudimentary hind legs.

A Few Equestrians Left Yet.

The Riding Club, organized by some of the most prominent Germans on the north side, occasionally goes out in a body as if to make a public protest against the wheel craze. Last Sunday the club went two abreast out along the Sheridan road, braving its way through droves of scurrying bicyclists. Most of the men were large and broad-shouldered. They sat upright with military stiffness, and as most of them wore peaked caps and high boots the club had more of the appearance of a swell cavalry company. All the horses were handsome animals, high stepping and full of spirit. It was just as if they meant to say: "We want to show you wheelmen that there are still a few of us left."—Chicago Record.

Leafless Trees of Australia.

There are forests of leafless trees in some parts of Australia. They respire, so to say, through a little stem, apparently answering the purpose of a leaf. The tree is known as "the leafless acacia."