

### HOW SHORT THE SPACE.

By Frank H. Sweet.

How short the space! How much to do!  
How few and brief the days of men!  
So much to learn of false and true—  
And only three-score years and ten!

So little time to do things well,  
So much—so very much to know!  
And while we labor in our cell  
The years do not forget to go.

So many things that we might learn,  
If only time would stay its tide,  
And once again our youth return  
To keep the shadow from our side.

But ah! what cannot be cannot,  
We'll do the little that we may,  
And in some time-ignoring spot  
Perhaps find what we lose today.

—The Critterion.

### Where the Man With the Hoe Won.

It doesn't often happen, and no one save a favored few, knew why it happened this time. There is a little sun-burn in this story but no varnish, and let those who like a lacquered tale turn the page. She was a bud last winter and this winter she was married. Most of the buds stay on the stem a little longer than that, but considering how many there were who wanted her the quick plucking and bearing away is not to be wondered at in anything save in the personality of the flower lover who did the picking.

Frances Marvin's father had no money, but he held a place in society by force of intellect and family. There are not as many of those cases as there used to be. The girl was a beauty. If a novel writer were telling about her he would say she was regal. James Parker, LaSalle street stock broker, was not a novel writer, but he thought Frances was regal nevertheless. He had a thought of this kind from the moment he saw her. Parker followed Miss Marvin's movements as closely as he did the tape in the stock ticker. He was a member of every club in sight, and he drove and rode, and did all the other things that a man of wealth in society does when he knows how.

James Parker was a catch. Everybody said so, and the fact was pretty strongly impressed upon the Marvin family, but Marvin pere, who didn't care whether Parker was a catch or not, for Frances was to be allowed to make her own choice. Parker became the girl's shadow. He paid court, however, unobtrusively and with perfect tact. Frances was flattered a bit by the attentions of this man, for whom all the other girls had made a cast, to use a piscatorial simile, and had failed to get a strike.

Now, there was as well as James Parker one John Meadowcroft. Meadowcroft had a big truck farm out beyond Bowmanville. Curious, thing, but Meadowcroft worked his farm himself. He was a big fellow, something more than a trifle awkward, but with a fine head and a good face. He had an education and no capital except that which was represented by some acres of onion, carrot and potato beds and some hundreds of square feet of glass, under which the roses and carnations reached perfection when the winter blasts howl and the optimistic snow bunting whistles in the fields. John Meadowcroft was a graduate of the Amherst Agricultural College. Just what had turned him to farming people did not generally understand. A zoo, guess would have made it that Meadowcroft loved the country better than the town and took to gardening so that he could live at all times where he could smell the soil and see some clouds besides those of smoke drifting by.

One summer day a number of young people drove out beyond Bowmanville to see the massed color and beauty of a great field of flowers, which the newspapers had made pictures of and written about. It was "the thing" to go out to that spot of loveliness during the month of blossoms. It was there that Frances Marvin first saw John Meadowcroft, farmer. He had a pretty place for a home. It was naturally pretty, and John Meadowcroft knew how to enhance its attractiveness. James Parker was there that day, and being a man of acumen and worldly wisdom he saw that Meadowcroft, the farmer, thought that Frances Marvin was more to be admired than any flower of his field; love them all though he did, from the tiniest blossom to the big flaunting peony.

Meadowcroft had friends in the city. They were of some of the good old New England stock, who in their earlier days had known his father and mother. Meadowcroft had a way of overcoming obstacles. His friends said that some day he will be growing green chrysanthemums, and will do it without feeding the earth with dyes. At any rate he met Miss Marvin again and again. She was rather amused than otherwise at the attentions of this "farmer man" as her mother called him. There is something in sincerity that wins a way in all kinds of things, and finally Frances Marvin grew to like John Meadowcroft.

One day Frances had been shopping with her mother. They had no carriage, and the North State street cars were luxurious enough for them. They met James Parker, and he walked with them when the shopping was done. It was one of those afternoons when the sun and the general brightness of things can make even a walk in the smoky streets of Chicago pleasant. Parker suggested that they walk home. When they had reached the

corner of South Water street their way as usual was blocked by great sacks and boxes. Parker had had one or two reasons of late to actually look with just a suspicion of jealous apprehension at a certain farmer from Bowmanville. He could not forbear pointing with his cane, with a sort of a smile to make it appear that he considered it in the light of a joke, at some placards which appeared above the sacks and boxes at the South Water street corner. The pointing was hardly necessary, for Frances Marvin's quick eyes had caught their significance. This is what they read:

Meadowcroft's Mild Onions.  
Meadowcroft's Prime Potatoes.

People all had it fixed that Frances Marvin was to marry James Parker. The girl half way thought so herself. She knew that several times Parker was on the point of a declaration. "Not yet," the girl had said to herself, and she had averted diplomatically the crisis, though she was beginning to think one day it would come and she would say yes. Her mother urged her and her own knowledge told her of an easy future as the wife of a man who had what was needful and plenty more.

One day the board of managers of the Mortimer Pierce Hospital for Cripples held a meeting. Funds were needed and a number of the young women of society who were interested in the charity agreed to ask some of those whom they knew were well able to give to help along the cause. Frances Marvin was one of the soliciting committee. Perhaps the mother was wiser than most in her generation, for she suggested to Frances that they ask James Parker for a contribution. She and her mother went downtown and at the mother's suggestion went into the office of James Parker, stockholder. Mr. Parker was not in. The office boy, who was new and not up to snuff, said that Mr. Parker was in his other office further down the street. "You'll find him on the third floor at the corner," said the boy.

Mrs. Marvin and her daughter did not know that James Parker had two offices. They reached the third floor of the corner building. It was a dingy place and on a rather dirty glass door appeared "J. Parker, Loans." They entered. There was an ante-room with two smaller rooms beyond separated from the first by a glass partition. A boy told them to sit down and Mr. Parker would be at leisure in a few minutes. Then—they couldn't help it—they heard a conversation. The voices were those of a man and a woman, and the man's voice was that of James Parker. The conversation ran like this: "I can't help it, madam; ten per cent. a month is what you agreed to pay and what you are bound to pay by this writing. You have already paid me, you say, an amount equal to the principal. That has nothing to do with it. If you can't pay you shouldn't borrow."

"We are in trouble at home, Mr. Parker, and I wish you could be a bit easy with us."  
"You should have thought of all that before madam. This debt is legitimate, and the law can't pick a hole in it. I want and must have my money or your furniture goes."  
There was something like a dry sob from the inner room. With a common impulse Mrs. Marvin and her daughter rose and left the room, though not till each had placed a card before the office boy, saying softly: "Tell him we were here." When they reached the street and were hurrying along as though to get away from a neighborhood of contamination, the girl said: "Mother, I have heard of such things, that men in business made much of their money in other businesses of which only a small part of the world knew anything. I did not know that Mr. Parker was one of these."

Some time after this a little party of people went to Bowmanville to see the flowers. John Meadowcroft met the visitors at the gate. He had a wounded squirrel in his hand. There was a tender solicitude in his eye as he examined the little animal and attended to its injuries. Miss Marvin thought of something else that had happened in a downtown office not long before. Something like a thought of comparison went through her mind, and not even the fact that a faint odor of onions came from the acres beyond the house could turn her from the full knowledge that here was the man.

People don't know yet how it came about, but just before Ash Wednesday some one who didn't know about it, quizzed James Parker about Frances Marvin, and asked when it was to be. "Don't you know," said Parker, and his face was a bit white. "She married the 'man with the hoe.'"—Edward B. Clark, in the Chicago Record-Herald.

**The Oldest Shovel.**  
The oldest shovel in the United States was made for the State of Massachusetts in the early part of the nineteenth century by Oliver Ames. It was recovered from the State Arsenal at Watertown, Mass., over fifty years ago, since which time it has been in the possession of the Ames family.

The through trolley lines in Ohio carry passengers at a cent a mile and sometimes run as fast as sixty miles an hour.

It upsets a bookkeeper to lose his balance.

### SOUTH AFRICA'S WEALTH

Gold and Diamond Fields the Greatest Known.

The declaration of peace in South Africa, which is to be followed by the reopening of the greatest gold-producing mines of the world, and presumably by a general revival of business in that greatest consuming section of Africa, lends especial interest to a monograph entitled "Commercial Africa in 1901," just issued by the Treasury Bureau of Statistics.

Africa occupies fourth place in the list of the grand divisions of the world in its consuming power in relation to international commerce, the imports of the grand divisions, according to the latest available figures, being as follows: Europe, \$8,300,000,000; North America, \$1,300,000,000; Asia, \$900,000,000; Africa, \$430,000,000; South America, \$375,000,000, and Oceania, \$325,000,000. Of this total of \$11,630,000,000, the United States supplies 5 per cent. in the case of Africa, 10 per cent. of the imports of South America, 14 per cent. of those of Asia and Oceania, and 40 per cent. of the imports of North America exclusive of the United States.

That the gold and diamond mines of South Africa have been and still are wonderfully profitable is beyond question. The Kimberley diamond mines, about 600 miles from Cape Town, now supply 98 per cent. of the diamonds of commerce, although their existence was unknown prior to 1867, and the mines have thus been in operation but about thirty years.

It is estimated that \$350,000,000 worth of rough diamonds, worth double that sum after cutting, have been produced from the Kimberley mines since their opening in 1868-9, and this enormous production would have been greatly increased but for the fact that the owners of the various mines there formed an agreement to limit the output so as not to materially exceed the world's annual consumption.

Equally promising are the great "Witwatersrand" gold fields of South Africa, better known as the Johannesburg mines. Gold was discovered there in 1883 and in 1884 the value of the gold product was about \$50,000. It increased with startling rapidity, the product of 1888 being about \$5,000,000; that of 1890, \$10,000,000; 1892, over \$20,000,000; 1895, over \$40,000,000 and 1897 and 1898, about \$55,000,000.

Work in these mines has been practically suspended during the war. The gold production of the "Rand" since 1884 has been over \$300,000,000, and careful surveys of the field by experts show beyond question that the "gold in sight" probably amounts to \$3,500,000,000, while the large number of mines in adjacent territory, particularly those of Rhodesia, whose output was valued at over \$4,500,000 last year, gives promise of additional supplies, so that it seems probable that South Africa will for many years continue to be, as it is now, the largest gold producing section of the world.

### INDIA.

**Military Preparations on the Northwest Frontier.**

News by the last Indian mail was interesting chiefly because of the remarkable military preparations that are going on along the northwest frontier which are recorded. Considerable sums of money have been appropriated for increased accommodation for the troops that are to reinforce the garrisons of Nowshera and Abbottabad north of the railway line between Rawalpindi and Peshawur.

At Attock, where the above-named railway crosses the Indus by one of the finest bridges in Asia, powerful batteries have been constructed for its protection, heavily armed, has the principal one, Fort Attack, has been equipped with electric lights. The works are to be completed by next month, and the garrison increased.

Large sums of money have been appropriated in the military budget for equipment of the new rifle factory at Ishapore, and for the extension of the central gun carriage factory at Jubulpore. The rearmament of the native infantry regiments is also to be completed with as little delay as possible, a sum of \$345,000 having been appropriated for the purpose.

The reorganization of the light and heavy field artillery and the division and brigade staffs also absorb a considerable sum. To meet the possible military requirements, the rolling stock on the railways is to receive large additions. The army experimental balloon corps is to be exercised among the hills of the Yuzfai country by which the road from Nowshera to Chitral, in the direction of the Russian frontier in the north passes.

**Pussy Saved Her Life By Eating Her Tail.**

Workmen building a new house at First and Nell avenues, Columbus, Ohio, have been worried over a noise they have heard in the plastered wall of the structure. They became nervous and tore the wall out to ascertain the cause.

Here they found a cat, still alive, but worn to a skeleton, and the strange part of the affair was that the cat had eaten her tail off bit by bit to sustain life during the three weeks she had been a prisoner.

The feline had evidently strayed into the space between the plastering the night before the flooring was nailed on and had been there until discovered by tearing out the wall.—Indianapolis News.

### "Make Trusts National."

BY JAMES B. DILL.

Formost Organizer of Industrial Organizations.

ASSERT, without fear of successful contradiction, that the trend of matters among the corporations themselves is upward. This movement has its origin, in part, in the desire of the young corporations to draw a line of demarcation between itself and the corporation otherwise situated.

A national incorporation law would truly represent and be the formulated public opinion of the nation.

It should be optional with corporations, as in the case of the National Banking act, to organize under State acts if they choose.

It should prohibit the name "national" to any corporation but national corporations, compelling other corporations which assume the title to relinquish it.

A national corporation should be protected from State attack to the same extent that national banks are protected.

A national corporation should possess in every State all the immunities and commercial privileges guaranteed to natural persons by the Constitution of the United States and the constitutions of the several States.

National corporations should have freedom from State supervision and should be subject to taxation by the State only to the amount of property actually in the State, and then upon the same basis as an individual.

The national corporation should be subject to national supervision and examination, and at least private publicity should be compulsory, which would eventually result in a proper degree of public publicity.

An annual report should be made by the corporation to the Federal authorities and furnished to the taxing officers of the various States, in order that the corporation might be justly and correctly taxed.

A national corporation should pay taxes upon all its property locally where property is situated. Its stock in the hands of stockholders might be exempted from taxation of every nature.

### No Danger of Our Wheat Crops Failing.

BY W. S. HARWOOD.

THE fear which was quite recently expressed in scientific circles in Great Britain that the end of our capacity to raise the greatest of all cereals, wheat, was already in sight, had in it much to disturb. The spectre of ultimate starvation for a very large number of the race, however, seems to have been laid for all time by the investigations which have been carried on for the past decade at one of the stations in the great wheat region of the Northwest. This station, a department of the School of Agriculture in connection with the University of Minnesota, has been at work testing old varieties of wheat and creating new ones. Wheat, a self fertilizing grain, goes on reproducing itself through any number of centuries. The grain of pre-Adamic periods would, if planted through all the centuries, produce precisely the same wheat grown in that far time. So, to produce a new wheat, man must come to the aid of Nature.

To create a new wheat, pollen from one wheat flower is placed on the stigma of another wheat flower in the dawn of a summer morning, the fertilized wheat is encased in a mask of tissue paper to keep away the birds and insects, and, in due season, that which Nature alone could not accomplish has been done—a new wheat has been added to the plant life of the world. Hundreds also have been found wanting, when tested, lacking in some one essential, or in many; but out of the hundreds a few, less than a dozen all told, have been found to be superior to those from which they were bred—better in yielding power, stronger to resist disease, as rich in food qualities. Selection, too, has been an important feature of the work, the choosing of the choicest types for seed and breeding.—Scribner's

### Relation of Foods to Intemperance.

BY SARAH WILMARTH LYONS.

HEALTH is a perfect equilibrium of life's forces. To obtain this equilibrium through a knowledge of foods' use in the human system is now one of the leading questions with the student of science.

Investigations have proven that human energy is one phase or manifestation of electricity, and that this is derived mainly from our foods. This stored-up energy in foods, when liberated and united with oxygen, not only yields heat and energy to the body but force as well. The body is not only nourished but is operated upon and given action through the potential energy of foods.

The various elements in food must supply these same elements in man as used and exhausted by the daily routine of life, otherwise the equilibrium is disturbed and the parts or tissues that these elements nourish weaken, and in time become diseased. Such is the result of a one-sided diet.

All alcoholic drinks make an unstable kind of fatty substance which displaces true flesh. The fatty particles intrude themselves into the cellular structures of the body and in time break down, strong nerve and muscle fiber. The tissues of the body gradually weaken and become congested, enlargement of the organs of action follows, and a diseased condition results, as every organ of the body acts in sympathy with the others. This results in physical degeneration.

A pure government can only result from pure laws and pure men to make those laws. Pure thoughts are nourished by pure and healthy blood, which never needs a more powerful stimulant than that which is God-given, and that is oxygen.

### Astounding Statement About Rockefeller's Riches.

BY CAMILLE FLAMMARION,

The Well-known Writer on Astronomy.

THE Christian era has just completed its first milliard of minutes. Between January 1 of the year 1 and April 16 of the year 1902, at 6:10 p. m., just one thousand million minutes have passed.

The statement suggests a realization of the meaning of a thousand million in the abstract, and still more of a thousand million in the concrete form of money. John D. Rockefeller's fortune, for instance, is generally estimated at about two hundred million dollars, or, say, a thousand million francs. We all recognize that this is an enormous quantity, but the trouble with most of us is that a single million seems almost as remote from our possibilities as a thousand million, so that the greater sum does not differentiate itself sufficiently from the smaller.

Let us see, then, what Mr. Rockefeller's fortune of a thousand million francs means. It means that if a man had been working steadily day and night from the birth of Christ to the present time at the compensation of a franc a minute his total earnings would just now have reached the amount of Mr. Rockefeller's pile. A franc a minute is very handsome pay. It is \$12 an hour, or \$300 a day. A man getting \$300 every day, from the beginning of the year 1 to the present time, and consuming none of his earnings, would only just now have as much as Mr. Rockefeller has.

Or, putting it in another way, imagine a town containing 300 working people, each earning \$7 a week. The total wages earned by the people of this town, in successive generations all the way from the time of Christ to the present day, would not exceed the amount which one man has managed to put by in the course of a single lifetime. Truly, a thousand million is a great sum.

### One County's Yield of Freak Fowls.

In York County, Pa., in the past two months, a headless duck, a horned chicken, a one-legged chicken and three four-legged chickens have come into the world. All of these freaks save one died. The survivor is a healthy six-weeks-old chick with four legs, all of equal length. The chick

was hatched on the farm of John Fitzgerald, near Strinestown, eleven miles from York. The freak fowl is able to run as swiftly as any other fowl on the farm, occasionally bringing a third leg into requisition.—Baltimore Sun.

In real estate transactions deeds speak louder than words.

### THE KEystone STATE.

News Happenings of Interest Gathered From All Sources.

Patents granted: Jackson D. Carrington, deceased, New Castle, J. S. Whida, administrator, automobile; Kenton Chickering, Oil City, spool for sand reels, etc.; John Davis, Pittsburg, apparatus for purifying water; Frank B. Deitr, Coudersport, display case; J. Dempsey, Keating Summit, hammer; George H. Everson, Pittsburg, metallic sub-drilling machine; Elmer Flowers, Harrisburg, string fastening device; Henry F. Freed, Harrisburg, electrical transportation system; Glenn D. Gibbs, Pittsburg, stop cock for gas burners; Wm. S. Head and G. J. Dovey, Latrobe, carburetor; George L. Lyons, Bradford, curtain pole and shade roller bracket; Andrew B. Maccoun, Bradford, controlling system for electric hoists for elevators; Harry C. Peffer, New Kensington, soap; Ellis D. Read, Pittsburg, bottle or flask; Wm. T. Seddon, Minersville, battery; Benjamin Smith, Shippensburg, railway ties; Herbert Van Hatten, Meadville, refractometer; Samuel B. Whinery, Pittsburg, blue printing apparatus.

Pensions granted: Henry S. Lindley, Pittsburg, \$12; Stephen Hoffman, Pittsburg, \$6; Collin A. Kelllogg, Robesonia, \$6; Wm. G. Dubs, Fairfield, \$12; John B. Crawford, Nitany, \$10; David B. Coulter, Apollo, \$10; Chas. W. Shupps, Pipes Creek, \$17; James Penrod, Bradford, \$12; Ellis Baker, Montoursville, \$10; Oscar J. Phillips, Tioga, \$8; Chas. E. Goodwin, Sabula, \$12; Jacob Meese, McWilliams, \$12; Thomas Burns, Julian, \$10; Thomas Alexander, Pittsburg, \$12; Thomas E. Keen, Dubois, \$12; Wm. L. Mahan, Indiana, \$17; Edward Moore, Newton Hamilton, \$12; John W. Smith, Johnstown, \$8; John H. Love, Callensburg, \$12; Robert Beer, Erie, \$8; Anthony Day, Oil City, \$12; Wm. A. Chapman, New Castle, \$8; George Wisniewski, Lilly, \$10; Alice Reynolds, Pittsburg, \$8; minor of Thomas D. Woody, Franklin, \$8; Mary E. Taylor, South Solon, \$12; Hannah M. Sheppard, Rockland, \$8; Isabella Reid, Rose Point, \$8; Catharine McDonald, \$10; Margaret E. Evans, Worthington, \$12; Mary Decker, Strodes Mills, \$12.

Pennsylvania will within the coming year pay out between \$400,000 and \$500,000 for bridges destroyed by floods and fires in the past six months, as the law compelling the State to replace bridges across navigable streams when they have been destroyed by flood, fire, etc., is being invoked in many counties. When the bridge is destroyed the county commissioners, through their attorney, present a request to the Attorney General asking for viewers, and the matter is taken into the Dauphin County Court, which appoints the viewers. If the report is favorable it is approved by the court, and the matter then goes to the Board of Public Buildings and Grounds, which sends out engineers to estimate the cost, and then the contract is let. Engineers are now out examining locations for twenty-one bridges that the State will build in Juniata, Clearfield, Jefferson, Lycoming, Bradford, Berks, Forest, Wyoming, Carbon, Wayne, Luzerne, Lackawanna and Sullivan. The engineers now engaged in preparing plans and specifications for the twenty-one bridges are M. D. Bowman, Mahanoy City; Herman Loeb, Pittsburg; Oscar Thompson, Phoenixville; Emil Swennesson, Pittsburg, and A. J. Whitney, Rome. The cost of the bridges is from \$500 to \$10,000 each, and there is apprehension that when the law becomes better known there will be a raid on the treasury. It is said an effort will be made to repeal the law at the next session of the Legislature.

General orders were issued from the headquarters of the National Guard of Pennsylvania announcing the following appointments in the medical department: First Lieut. John W. Coffin, of Beaver county, surgeon of the Tenth Regiment; Edwin H. Love, of Westmoreland county, assistant surgeon of the Tenth Regiment, and Franklin F. Arndt, of Lackawanna county, assistant surgeon of the Thirteenth Regiment. The following officers have been relieved from duty upon their own application and placed upon the retired list: Major George W. Neff, surgeon, Tenth Regiment; Capt. Joseph L. Hunter, Chaplain, Tenth Regiment; Capt. Anthony F. Machold, Company G, Third Regiment, and Lieut.-Col. Thomas H. Maginness, of Philadelphia.

William H. Pratt, who was convicted of the murder of his wife at West Chester, will have another trial, the court having granted the petition of his counsel. The pleas were many, based upon the argument that the verdict of guilty was not consistent with the evidence, that testimony was admitted that should have been rejected, and that several jurors were ineligible because of their having expressed opinions in favor of Pratt's guilt prior to their being drawn.

Hon. William S. Kirkpatrick, of Easton, notified the Board of Trustees of Lafayette College that he will accept the invitation of the Board to act as president of Lafayette during the leave of absence extended to President Warfield, who will go abroad until next year to regain his health.

The York County Historical Society elected 60 new members, one of them being Senator Quay. The society has just finished cataloguing and labeling its collection of books and relics.

The Presbytery of Chester met at Honeybrook and ordained Rev. Thos. Roberts Guy as an evangelist to go on the mission field in China.

Thomas L. Fawley, a commission merchant of Chester, narrowly escaped death from Paris green poisoning, resulting from eating new apricots on which the shipper had placed the poison to kill insects.

The home of Lewis Greiner, on the Cressona road, was entered and robbed of \$300.

Mrs. Anna M. Given, a resident of Renovo for the past 40 years, was found dead in bed. She was 73 years old.

The huckleberry season is opening earlier than usual this season owing to the wet warm weather of the past three weeks.

John Reilly, a youth employed at the Woodstock Mills, Norristown, is in a precarious condition as the result of a fall of twelve feet.

While cleaning out a vat at the works of the Sharpless Dye Wood and Extract Works, Chester, Morris J. Maris opened the wrong valve and was fatally scalded.