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American Volunteer.

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Poetical.

THE OLD PLAY-GROUND.

BY HENRY MORFORD.

I sat an hour to-day, John,
Beside the old brook stream,
Where we were school-boys in old time,
When manhood was a dream;
The brook is choked with fallen leaves,
The pond is pebbled with the stones,
I scarce believe that you would know
The dear old place to-day.

Farmer's Department.

Farm Work for December.

By the Editor.

The month of December is a busy one for the farmer, and it is well to have a list of the work to be done during this month. The first thing to be done is to get the farm in order for the winter. This includes cleaning up the barn, and getting the hay and straw stacked. It also includes getting the fences in good repair, and getting the roads cleared of snow. The next thing to be done is to get the farm ready for the winter. This includes getting the cows and calves in good condition, and getting the pigs and chickens in good condition. It also includes getting the farm ready for the winter by getting the fences in good repair, and getting the roads cleared of snow.

The Superiority of Educated Labor.

The most abundant proof exists, derived from all the departments of human industry, that uneducated labor is comparatively unprofitable.

Foreigners, and those coming from other States, who made their marks when they received their bills, earned the least; those who had a moderate or limited education occupied a middle ground on the payroll; while the intelligent young men, who worked in the mills in winter, and taught schools in summer, crowned the list. The larger capital in the form of wages. The inquiry was not confined to the work of the farmer, but extended to other departments of business, where the results of labor could be made the subject of exact measurement. This is universally so. The mechanic sees it, when he compares the work of a stupid with that of an awakened mind. The trader sees it, when he passes from an educated into an uneducated nation. There are countries in Europe, lying side by side, without bound or compass or chart, without word or land-mark. It could run the line of demarcation between the two, by the broad, level characters which distinguish the two. It is not the person, but the person's education, and the persons of men, women, and children on one side, and which knowledge has inscribed on the other.

MILCH COWS.

Even fresh cows, if fed wholly on dry food, will speedily fail in their milk.

It is a common mistake to suppose that a cow which is milked early in the morning, and fed on dry food, will produce more milk than a cow which is milked late in the morning, and fed on green food. The fact is, that a cow which is milked early in the morning, and fed on green food, will produce more milk than a cow which is milked late in the morning, and fed on dry food. The reason for this is, that a cow which is milked early in the morning, and fed on green food, will produce more milk than a cow which is milked late in the morning, and fed on dry food. The reason for this is, that a cow which is milked early in the morning, and fed on green food, will produce more milk than a cow which is milked late in the morning, and fed on dry food.

COITS AND YOUNG CATTLE.

If these tender animals are carelessly fed on rough, dry food, under the impression that it is too expensive to treat them with the same attention that is given to milch cows and working cattle, they will surely indicate, by their stunted growth and rough unshininess, the ill effects of this bad management.

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Miscellaneous.

THANKSGIVING SERMON.

By Rev. John Chambers, at 1st Independent Church, Philadelphia, Thursday, November 23, 1859.

The speaker read, as introductory to his Sermon, from the 8th chapter of Deuteronomy, and the 24 chapter of First Timothy. Then, after prayer, he said:

I have announced to you my purpose to retire my heart and mind from the political and military concerns of this country. I am an American citizen—an American Minister of the Gospel. I love this Bible. I love the God of this Bible. I love my country. I love the people of this country. I am a man of peace. I have a heart for the nation. I love it from its extreme Northern verge to the utmost limits of its Southern boundary. I love it from the spot where the sun first rays of the morning sun, to that far off West, where linger the last beams of the sun's evening retirement. I love it in its center to its circumference. I love it as a man, with a ready to live by its laws, and to die for its laws. I love it as a man, with a ready to live by its laws, and to die for its laws. I love it as a man, with a ready to live by its laws, and to die for its laws.

THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS.

The beauty of holiness, like the sun, is seen by its own light.

Why is a sheet of postage stamps like distant relations? Because they are busily connected. The service of earthly temples are intended to prepare for the employments of heaven, and to direct their worshippers to its happiness.—W. Barton. "Well, John, I am glad that you shall tell your folks." "Oh, nothing—but if they say anything about us, you can just tell them that I've got a few." A disease resembling the cholera has broken out among the winter Western Tennessee, and is proving so destructive that the entire port crop of that section is threatened with annihilation. The tobacco crop of Kentucky for this year is stated to be twenty-four thousand eight hundred and fifty-four bushels, and is valued at one million nine hundred and fifty-eight thousand three hundred and twenty dollars. The practice of over-riding considerations of mercy, benevolence and good neighborhood can only be tolerated in courts where judgment is without humanity, jurors without hearts, and lawyers without souls. Dignity says, "if that gold woman recently exulted from an Indian grave on the isthmus, is of good size and will come on here, he will marry her." "I like that she would make a jewel of a wife." A correspondent of Porter's Spirit, says: "Did the United States ever measure to delay the European war?" An answer to our question, "Yes, they sent Morphy over to hold their things in check." "What is the meaning of a backletter?" said a reverend gentleman during examination in a parochial school. This was a puzzle. It went down the class till it reached a simple little urchin, who said: "Prays it be a flea." Smith, the other day, while looking at the skeleton of a donkey, and admiring and wondering at the structure of that despised animal, made a very malapropos quotation: "Am I said, 'I see a fearfully and wonderfully made.'" A man who has the vulgarly and pettiness to insult a once generous employer who has become a fellow employee with him, should be treated with significant contempt. Such an ingrate will doubtless find his fitting reward, sooner or later. There is no safer protection against burglars than to feed your lady, before going to bed, with green apples. It will certainly begin to cry before midnight, and it is equally certain that it can't be stopped before morning. Which caused a girl the most pleasure—to hear herself praised, or to hear herself called a liar to decide. A bachelor friend boasts the notion that "both cases are about equal," but allows that "much may be said on both sides." Oh ye poets and prophets, who aspire to write in periodicals, take care, pray ye take care, to cultivate a good opinion of your text. Have an eye to your poeticks. Do as the schoolboys do—put out your tongue and take pains. "Pompey, why is a journey found its work?" said a certain gentleman. "I don't know," said the other. "Well, out, I don't see 'zactly see any semblance 'twixt de two cases." "Well, den, nigger, I 'spect I'll have to tell you. Bekase it am fur de end of it." A butcher presented a bill for the tenth time to a rich skinner, and the skinner said the latter, "I don't see a pretty round bill." "Yes," replied the butcher, "I've sent it round often enough to make it appear so; and I have called now to get it squared." A merchant of a certain city, who died recently, left in his will a letter directing one of his correspondents to deliver the contents of his will to a certain clerk, and to say to the clerk: "Since writing the above, I have died."

THE STRONGEST MAN IN THE WORLD.

Acorn, who has astonished our readers some time since by his description of the wonderful feats of strength of Dr. George B. Winship, of Roxbury, Massachusetts, writing in the Spirit of the Times on the same subject, says:

Your young giant, Dr. George B. Winship, of Roxbury, continues to increase in strength, and now lifts with his hands, unaided by any straps or bands, except those given to him by the Almighty, ten hundred and thirty-two pounds! This I have seen him do, with as much apparent ease as an ordinary man can lift three hundred and fifty pounds. This extraordinary young man only weighs one hundred and forty-two pounds, and is but twenty-five years old. I have seen him do this feat of strength as he has the past year, by the time he is thirty-two years old he will indeed be a Sampson. He has delivered his lecture in Portland, Me., in Amherst, Mass., in Springfield, in Worcester, and in various other towns and cities, to overflowing audiences, and will repeat it in Albany, Troy, and Buffalo, and has invitations from more towns and cities than can possibly respond to for months to come.—He hopes, however, to visit us in the near future, and give us a lecture on his own strength. He is a giant in more ways than one.

ENGINEERING OF SPIDERS.

Some days since, while writing in my office, my attention was directed to a small spider descending from the under side of a table in the corner of the room, where it had stationed itself unmolested. A large horse-fly, many times too large for the spider (which was very small) to manage, had by some means become disabled, and lay on the floor. The spider descended to the fly, and, with some caution, began to entangle it in its web, and soon had it completely bound. The spider then ascended to the table, and descended again, and then continued to ascend and descend for some time, listening to the fly more completely each time it returned. I was at a loss to know its object in binding the fly so completely on the floor. Soon, however, it ceased descending, and appeared to be busily employed at its station near the table. I could not conceive what its object was in passing about so actively; but imagine my surprise when, in a short time, I saw the fly leave the floor, and begin to ascend towards the table. This was soon explained. The spider had attached a number of cords to the fly, extending from the table, and by stretching each to its greatest tension, and confining the upper end, the elasticity of all the cords, some fifty or more, was combined in raising the fly. By continuing the process of tightening one cord at a time, in some fifteen or twenty minutes the fly was raised to the table, and there deposited for future use.

HOW CHANGABLE THE WIND IS.

"How changable the wind is," said Mrs. Partington, upon her return from a walk in the city. "It is the changablest thing I ever did see. When I went up Cannon street, it was a blow in my face, and when I turned to go down, it went blow in my back."

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