What is Needed to Make Rural

Schools Efficient in Every Hesspect-Interesting Statistics. The National Bureau of Education has issued a very interesting treatise upon rural schools, their progress in the past, and means of improvement in the future. It places great stress upon the fact that the rural schools should be made as efficient as possible. They furnish instruction for more than half the school population, all the formal instructions that they ever receive. The type presented is a familiar one: "A school composed of scholars of

both sexes, ranging in study anywhere from the primer to Euclid, housed in a school house and provided with one teacher, upon whom devolves all the instruction and discipline. Possibly the teacher changes every term; probably no systematic record of studies, classes or progress is kept, and each teacher takes up the work as if nothing were to fol-The teacher may be a person of excellent education, wise, conscientious, firm, loving and versatile; many such there are, and 'their works do praise them;' but a school may be favored in this respect one term and the next pass into the charge of a callow youth, a crude girl, or a man or a woman of inferior mind and a harsh, unsympathetic nature, who, for a consideration, makes 'confusion worse confounded' in juvenile intellects. Of supervision there is little, of inspection less, and of standards of scholarship and tests of work none but those the teacher has wit enough to

This picture, while it may be drawn too harshly to correctly represent exceptional instances, is certainly truthful in the main. Many of the best and greatest minds in this country started the foundation upon which their fame is builded in the country school, the "little red school house" dear to the heart and celebrated in song and speech; but that the possibilities of the rural school are susceptible as a rule to great improvement is an undoubted fact. One great drawback to the greatest success of the rural schools as educational factors is that the best teachers have not been obtainable. In 1881, in Rhode Island, thirteen per cent, of the teachers had only a common school education. In Georgia out of 6,128 teachers, 5,000 were possessed of only a limited educa-In all the States it has been difficult to find candidates for teachers who can easily pass the moderate grade required. In Michigan, in 1881, the State superintendent reported that twenty-six per cent. of the applicants failed in the lower grade or first trial, and that twenty-one per cent., were unable to stand the test of the final trial or examination. It is easy to see that there must be better teachers before we can have better schools.

The normal schools are great helps in improving the standard of school teachers, but the normal school system is now far from complete. There are 293,294 school teachers in the United States. Of course a large proportion of these are employed in ungraded schools. There are ninety-eight normal schools in the country, with an attendance of 30,000. As thirty per cent. of the teachers are changed annually, it is easy to see that the normal schools afford but a small part of the provision required for training teachers. No doubt the small salaries usually paid the teachers of country schools has a great effect in lowering the standard of the teachers obtainable. Special training is needed. The teacher who has a normal school education cannot be secured; for the country schools, because his talent is better paid elsewhere. To obtain better teachers, better salaries must be paid, and there must be more schools for the training of teachers. Communities should take a livelier interest in their schools, and aid their teachers by all legitimate means in their power. It is only by united action that the best success can be obtained, and country and city and county and State should work together in harmony, with the same high objects in view. Teachers should not be the creation of accident nor made by the force of circumstances. They should be especially fitted for the great work of education. Though the common schools are among the proudest boasts of the country, yet they may be said to be almost in their infancy as regards their possibilities. Teaching is a profession in itself, and requires aptitude and preparation as much as any

There is hardly anything in which time and money can be more profitably spent than in improving the country schools, in teaching and the methods of study, and it is to be hoped that far more attention will be paid to the subject than is now the case .- Burlington Hawkeye.

The Trumpet.

The trumpet is a universally popular musical instrument, and appears to have been known in all ages and all countries. It is said to have derived its name from turbo, a shell. It is constructed in modern times several feet in length, doubled up in a parabolic form and sounded by a mouthpiece. The trumpet has always played a prominent part in battle, as an alarm or summons; few things are more inspiriting than a flourish of trumpets. The old Eastern custom of proclaiming decrees or public notices with the sound of the trumpet has bequeathed us the vulgar saying with regard to a loud, boasting person: "Is his trumpeter dead?" The twin brother of the trumpet, the horn, owes its origin to the custom of blowing through the hollow horn of an

Davy Jones's Locker.

Sailors call the sen "Davy Jones's Locker" because the dead are thrown there. Davy is a corruption of "duffy," by which name ghosts or spirits are known among the West Indian negroes, and Jones is a corruption of the name of

Davy Jones's Locker," he means, "He is tures many have taken are in their gradu-

Sealskin and Seal Catching.

"Seal fur will never become cheaper," said a New York dealer to a Mail and Express representative. "They may get higher priced though, unless some new seal hunting places are discovered in some part of this globe."

"Why will it never become cheaper!" "There are only four seal grounds of any importance in the world—the islands of St. George and St. Paul in Behring's sea, which belong to the Territory of Alaska, and the other two are the Commander islands, lying 700 miles west of these in the czar's dominions. The first two islands produce the greatest number of seals. During the months of May and June they come to these islands in flocks of thousands. Then the great slaughter takes place to supply fashionable world with sealskin sacoues. The Alaska Seal Fur company kill about 100,000 seals annually. They pay the natives forty cents for each seal they kill and skin. No firearms are used, as it would drive the animals away and spoil the island as a seal resort. They are killed with a single blow of a club on the head. Then the skins are quickly removed, partially cured and prepared for shipment to England, where

they are dressed and dyed. "It takes a great deal of care and work to bring the fur to the rich and glosay perfection it shows when wrapped around the form of a fashionable lady. First, all the coarse hairs are removed and then the fur is dyed the shade required. But it takes experts to do this, and in London only the art seems to be well understood. Now, the value of sealskins depends entire-

their successful treatment, and the color and smoothness of a permanent nature attained. It takes three of the sealskins to make a full-sized cloak. They should last the wearer seven years without losing their rich color, and at the same time retain their perfect appearance. The best cloaks are worth over \$400 apiece. The finest fur comes from young seals, between the ages of two and three years. When they get beyond the age of four the fur becomes stiff somewhat. At six years of age they are utterly worthless. Now, the great question is, how long will these seals last? and if they take a notion to desert these four islands, where will they go? The United States, it is true, has restricted the number to be killed annually at 100,000, yet at this rate will they not finally become extinct? Some think they increase so fast that this number is scarcely missed. Well, that may be true. But the great danger is that they may take a notion to emigrate to unknown parts of the world. In that case the sealskin sacque that figures so prominently as an article of dress and fashion now will become obsolete and added to the history of the dodos,"

A Choice Morsel.

We take the following choice morsel from a little book entitled "Poultry for Pleasure and Poultry for Profit:"

All things are given to us for our pleasure or our profit. As soon as thing ceases to be of one or the other, it is of no use; and as long as it does give us pleasure or profit, it is good for us. By pleasure, wish to be understood the innocent, harmless enjoyments of life, which make one better, and no one worse: by profit, that which is of gain to us, at no other one's loss.

We are so constituted that we desire and must have some kind of recreation. The professional man, man of business, merchant, clerk, mechanic, and all others, after a day of work and application. enjoy rest; and it is the best form of est to have something to enjoy thing to look at and care for that is pleasing. It is like the cool drink of water from the old onken bucket to the tired laborer. It is both rest and re-

freshment. To this class of men there are two things which seem especially well adapt-They give rest and reward. One is a good garden, the other is a well-kept flock of fowls. I believe a good garden, with flowers and growing vegetables, will almost insure happiness in doors; and a flock of clean, healthy, cackling fowls will make a pleasant husband or wife, and happy children. It is hard to cal-culate the value of such a flock.

On the other hand, it is not a wonder there are so many quarreling, brawling families, when we consider how many ill-mated, quarreling and diseased flocks of fowls there are; some sneezing with the croup, and rolling to get rid of the million of mites which infest their quarters, black hens, dirty white hens, low hens, brown hens, speckled hens; some with top-knots, some with none some with tail feathers, some with none; combs and toes frozen; they roost on the wagon, and lay-if they lay at all-in the wood-pile; they look scrawny, dirty and saucy, and seem to hate them-

When we see a yard like that, nine cases in ten the man of the house never calls his wife by loving, tender names, and the children speak of the father as the "old man." Is it a wonder that a man who has such a flock of fowls goes to the insane asylum?

A young man who does not love choice fowls is an unsafe person for a girl to wed.

A Talk With a Photographer.

"It is the hardest thing in the world to get some folks into any kind of a natural position, or expression of countenance. They will put a kind of I'm to-be-photographed look on their faces when they come into the gallery and it generally stays there. Then the way some women dress! They have an idea that the more colors they get on, the bet-ter they look, and the result is that when they see their photograph and the curious effect produced by the colors, they'll blame the photographer, though we always tell them beforehand. Nearly all persons look better in a picture than in reality, except those having clear complexions. Some ladies, for instance, would be considered beautiful in side view of their features, while a front view is decidedly disappointing. Of course and Jones is a corruption of the name of in photographing them, we take the side the Prophet Jonah, who was thrown into view. Some look better with a hat on and some in full outdoor costume. But Locker, in seaman's parlance, means there is one thing you may not know, any receptacle for private stores. So and that is very few ladies look well that when a sailor says, "He'r gone to photographed in white, yet the only picgone to the place of safe-keeping where ation or wedding dresses."—Rochester Democrat-Chroniels. Democrat-Chronicle.

SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL.

A German engineer has invented an electric target on which a hand indicates the exact point where the bullet strikes it. That ingenious arrangement will do away with human pointers, and effectually prevent many accidents to life and

A process has been invented by Professor Eder of the State industrial school at Vienna, which he calls orthochromatic photography, and which enables the photographer to reproduce colors in exactly the same tones as they appear to the eye.

Cork, when carbonized, 62.80 per cent. pure charcoal, the greatest per cent, of any known wood. low, wheat straw and oak rank next in the order named, while maple and poplar are 83.75 and 81.12, or jat the very foot

Several agricultural chemists of Germany have been studying to improve heavy soils, and now recommend lime as a dressing. The crop for the first season should be potatoes; for the second, oats; for third the tares, or peas; and for the fourth potatoes again.

There are nineteen known metals valued at over \$1,000 per avoirdupois pound. The most costly is vanadium, which is said to be worth \$10,000 a pound. Of these nineteen metals only one is produced or used to any considerable extent, and that is iridium, which is valued at \$1,090 per pound. It is sometimes, but very sparingly, used in electrical ex-

TEMPERATURE PERCEPTION .- A German physiologist, Professor Eulenberg, has found that different parts of the body are very unequally sensitive to dif-ferences of heat and cold, the sense of temperature being most acute in the forehead and the back of the hands, and least active in the back and the upper part of the abdomen. At the former spots differences of about a third of a Fahrenheit degree were distinctly perceived, but at the other two points differences were only detected when reaching nearly two degrees.

When He Came Home.

"Hand me that collar button," demanded George Wellsby, turning with an annoyed air toward his little girl. Learn to let things alone, will you? There now, tune up and howl."

"George, don't speak to the child that way," said Mrs. Wellsby, depositing a shirt on a chair.

"Well, why can't she behave herself? Every time she sees that I am getting ready to go any place, she makes a point of hindering me. Let that cravat alone. "Put down papa's cravat, darling. She's too young to know any better.'

"No she isn't. Other people's children know how to behave. I'll bet I'll miss the train. I am sometimes tempted to wish that she had never been born." "Oh, George," exclaimed the wife, "I wouldn't say that."

"Confound it, she worries me so. haven't more than time to catch the train," hurriedly kissing his wife.

"Kiss me, too, papa." "I ought not, you are so bad," stoop ing and kissing her. "Good-bye. Will be back in three or four days."

Mr. Wellsby is a commercial traveler, a kind and tender-hearted man, but subjected at times to nervousness. Seated with vivacious acquaintances, speeding over the country, a little voice would steal in between the roars of merry laughter and say: "Kiss me, too, papa."

In the sample room of the village hotel. between the inquiries of purchasers, he could hear the voice, and at night when he lay down he could see the little hands reaching toward him and could hear, 'Kiss me, too, papa.'

At morning when the sunbeams fell across his bed he thought of the bright little face at home and said : "God forgive me for wishing she had

never been born." "Wellsby, what's the matter, old fellow?" asked a companion. They were in a conveyance riding to-

ward an interior town. "I don't feel very well to-day." "Do any business back here?" "Yes, did very well."

"I didn't do anything, but I won't let it weigh me down. Got a letter from the house this morning. The old boy is kicking about expenses. Got a bottle of cocktail here." 'I don't care for any."

"Then there must be something the matter with you." On a night train going home. He could see the little hands. "Clack, clack, clack, clack, clack, clack by the could see the little hands."

"What's the news?" he asked of a friend, when he had stepped upon the

platform and called a hackman. "Nothing, I believe; everything's quiet."

"No scarlet fever or diphtheria raging, is chere?" "No, not that I have heard."

The familiar scenes brought rest to his mind. He looked back upon his trip with a shudder, like one who awakes and contemplates a nightmare through which he has just passed. "Good night," he said, paying the hackman. "A light burning. Julia is

expecting me," he mused, ascending the A ghastly face met him at the door, A voice in agony whispered: "Oh, George, our little girl is dead."-Louis-

ville Courier-Journal.

A lumber company operating in the upper peninsula of Michigan, has been seriously damaged, not by biped, but by real quadruped bears, which often come into the camp at night and injure horses and cattle. Six steel traps have been set for them.

A Chancellor's Opinion.

Hon. James Harlan, ex-vice-chancellor of Louisville, Ky., a brother of Justice Harlan, United States supreme court, says of St. Jacobs Oil: "I use it, and I know full well whereof I speak in pro nouncing it a most extraordinary cure for all that is claimed for it by its proprie tors. Every family should have it.

The manufacture of artificial ivory from bones and scraps of sheepskin is a new

The total production of pure bar tin in all the countries of the world in 36. 000 tons a year, and of this 12,000 tons are brought to the United States. It is asserted that the tin mines in the Black hills will soon be in a condition to furnish 3,000 tons per year.

DOCTORS FURIOUS. Shall a Physician Tell the Truth or Not! A Nice Point in Ethics.

A Sensible Health Official.

A Sensible Health Official.

Baltimore, Mb.—A decided stir has been caused here over the question as to the right of a physician to certify to the merits of a remedy not in the modern pharmacoposia. Dr. James A Stouart, one of the most eminent physicians in the South, and Health Commissioner of this city, rad analyzed a newly-discovered article, and certified officially not only to its efficacy but to the fact that it replaced old-time preparations of a similar character which, analyzes had proved, were adulterated and poisonous. The medisimilar character which, analyses had proved, were adulterated and poisonous. The medical and chirurgical faculty, of which he is a member, beld that he had violated the code of medical ethics, and much public interest was aroused because of the confidence felt both in his professional standing and official integrity.

It was argued that to thus place a limitation on the acts of a physician and especially of a health officer, was opposed to the spirit of the age; that such reasoning might have been logical enough when it was to the interest of rulers or societies to invest themselves

est of rulers or societies to invest themselves with a supernatural halo, but now when thought should be free and untrammeled, such things savored of barbarism. It was the duty of a physician, especially of a health officer, to condemn publicly any remedy which he knew to be injurious, but it was not right to say that he should be debarred from testifying to the marits of anything which he knew to be good. If this were so, the world would not receive the benefit of half the discoveries

not receive the benefit of half the discoveries made in art or science. Thus the people argued, while the faculty threatened expulsion and talked of time-honored customs, ethics, professional courtesy and traditions.

But the matter soon assumed a new and surprising phase. A few days afterward a certificate appeared in the daily papers bearing the autograph signatures of Governor McLane, Attorney-General Roberts, Mayor Latrobe, city postmaster Adreon, chiefs of State and municipal departments, judges and clerks of courts, Federal officials and Congressmen, emphatically endorsing the action of the health commissioner, and concurring in his opinion as to the efficacy of the remedy, asserting that they did so from personal experience with it and practical tests and observations.

There could be no gainsaying such evidence There could be no gainsaying such evidence as this, but, as if to cap the climax, shortly afterward there appeared another certificate with autograph signatures of leading practicing physicians from all parts of the State, including the physicians of all the leading hospitals, the physician to the city fire department, the port physician, vaccine physician and resident physician of the city for the content of the city for the city physicians of infirmaries all endorsing the discovery and stating that it had been tested by them in hospitals and private practice for weeks with wonderful curative effect, and that analyses had shown no trace of opiates or poisons, prevalent in other cough mixtures. They further stated that they had been induced to take this step in view of the many hurtful preparations which contained narcotics and poisons and of the dangers consequent on their use. The reme dy in question is Red Star Cough Cure. Such a conclusive answer as this to the narrow arguments of the few, arrayed public sentiment on the side of the Henlih Commissioner, and it is significant that Dr. Steuart has since been appointed to office by the Mayor for a third term, and has had his appointment unanimously confirmed by the City Council. Owing to the high professional reputation of the gentlemen who endorsed his action, as

of the gentiemen who endorsed his action, as well as to the envisible standing of the owners of the remedy, The Charles A. Vogeler Company, of this city, wide-spread interest has already been created in the subject, not only here, but in Philadelphia, Washington and other neighboring cities. The feeling is generally expressed by professional men that Red Star Cough Cure, on account of its freedom from narcotics and poisons, inaugurates a most desirable new departure in medicine. This is the pronounced opinion of authorities like Dr. Fawcett, who has been for thirty-three years resident physician of the Union Protestant Infirmary, in this city, and Professor John J. Caldwell, M. D., member of medical societies of Baltimore, New York and Brooklyn, and with a long experience in and Brooklyn, and with a long experience in civil and military hospitals. Both of these gentlemen, together with no less than fifty other practicing physicians of Maryland, have publicly put themselves on record as to the svil of narcotic medicines, and the consequent value and importance of the new dis-covery referred to. It is conceded that public opinion has completely vindicated Dr. Steuart in his action, and that in his whole course he was actuated simply by an earnest desire to benefit the community at large.

GREAT BRITAIN gave last year for its foreign service \$4,500,000, Italy \$2,000,000, Spain \$1,000,000 and the United States \$325,000.

Above all other earthly ills, I hate the big, old-fashioned pills; By slow degrees they downward wend, And often pause, or upward tend; With such discomfort are they fraught, Their good effects amount to naught. Now, Dr. Pierce prepares a pill That just exactly fills the bill—

A Pellet, rather, that is all—
A peleasant Purgative, and small;
Just try them as you feel their need,
You'll find that I speak truth, indeed.

The desire for Egyptian curiosities has assumed the proportions of a craze in London.

The Merning Dress.

It is said that a lady's standing in society can easily be determined by her dress at the breakfast-table; an expensive, showy costume breakfast-table; an expensive, showy costume indicating that the wearer has not yet learned the proprieties. But no one need be afraid of being called "shoddy" if her loveliness is as apparent by daylight as at the hops. Perfect duty is never the attendant of disease; above all, of those diseases peculiar to women, and which find a ready cure in Dr. Pierce's "Favorite Prescription." Price reduced to one dollar. By druggists.

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Ask for Wells "Rough on Corns." 15c. Complete cure. Hard or soft corns, warts bunions. Use Dr. Israe Thompson's Eye Water if af-flicted with soreeyes. 25c, a bottle. Druggists. TYPE setting is taught in Japanese prisons



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