FARMS OF INDIA.

The Hindoo Cattle are all of the Same Variety.

No Fences to the Farms--The Wheat-Growing Area.

The people of East India are not stock farmers, says Frank Carpenter in the American Agriculturist. The Hindoo peasants will have nothing to do with pigs or fowls. The only animals they keep are horses and cows, and the cattle all over India are of the sacred cow variety. These are magaificent animals, of a dove or light yellow color, possessing the aristocratic air of the well-bred Jersey and the big frame of the Holsteins and Shorthorns. They have great humps upon their shoulders, which rise fully six inches above the rest of the back, and which, strange to say, look by no means out of place. The Hindoos worship these cows, and I visited at Benares a noted temple in which a hundred sacred bulls were prayed to every day. It was in the center of the city, and it looked more like a stable than a temple. Imagine a stone court about the size of barn-yard, with an immense low band-stand in the center. Around the court let their be a row of stalls in which a hundred of these sacred bulls, with these big humps on their backs and with silky ears hanging down like those of a rabbit, stand with their heads toward the court. About the court other bulls are moving, and the sloppy, dirty stone floor is filled with men and women having the dark, handsome features of the Hindoos. They hold up their hands before the bulls and pray. Pretty girls feed them garlands of bright flowers, and at the edge of the court an old priest sits and puts a red mark on the forehead of each worshipper as he goes out. Now and then the bulls roar and stamp their feet, but as a rule they are as gentle as pet rabbits, and all of them are as fat as butter. The Hindoos bring water from the Ganges and offer it to them, and they would much sooner eat their grandfathers than chew beefsteak.

Their scruples, however, do not prewent their using these cattle as beasts of burden, and, from Singapore to Bombay, I saw carts drawn by these beautiful shoulder-humped animals, and in many of the fields I saw men plowing with them. The only other beast in common use in India is the water-buffalo, which is as homely as the sacred cow is beautiful. It seems to be a kind of cross between the pig and the hippopotamus, and it has wide, flat, curved horns, a neck which comes straight out from the shoulders, and a body which is bloated and ill-shapen. Its skin is covered with thin straggling black hair, which looks more like the bristles of a hog than the hair of a cow. It delights in wallowing in the dirt, and it is the most plebeian species of the genus bos. The sacred cows are milked, and the butter made from them is clarified and used by the Hindoos for cooking. A Hindoo will never use lard or tallow in any shape, and the Sepoy mutiny was caused by the story being circulated that the cartridges which the native soldiers had to bite were greased.

One of the curious sights of India is the farmer's pleasure-buggy. It is a sulky-like affair, made of bamboo fishing-rods and is covered with red cloth. It is drawn by one of those sacred bers: Great-great - great - grandpapa bulls, some breeds of which are famous Gengo, aged 130; Great-great-greatfor their trotting qualities and which grandmamma Tomi, aged 132; Greatcan almost make as good time as the average horse. The driver sits on the shafts in front, and there is just enough 99; Great-great-grandaunt Yoshi, aged room under the cover at the back for one or two people to sit cross-legged. When a farmer wishes to travel from from one part of the country to another he gets into one of these carts, and if he is a wealthy man, he will have a richly-colored blanket to put over his bullock. I took a ride upon one of united ages of the fourteen amounted them and found it as easy as any sulky at the close of last year to 980, and I have ever tried in America. There are no fences about the farms of India. Wooden fences would be an impossibility, even if they were needed. The white ants are the great pest of the country, and these will eat up anything wooden. India has a vast network of telegraph lines covering the whole Peninsula, and the poles for these are made of galvanized iron. The ties of the railroads have to be made of iron, and such few fences as I saw along the railroads were made of barbed wire fastened to sandstone posts. The great wheat-growing districts of India are in the north, and in the northwest provinces about fiftyseven per cent. of the country is used for wheat. The variety planted is not as good as that of Australia or California, but it is good enough to find a market in England, and the exports continue to increase from year to year. phia American.

An Aerial Hunt. I was standing on the bank of a stream on the pampas, says the author of "Argentine Ornithology," watching

a great concourse of birds of several kinds on the opposite shore, where the carcass of a horse, from which the hide had been stripped, lay at the edge of the water. One or two hundred hooded gulls and about a dozen chimangos were gathered about the carcass, and close to them a very large flock of glossy ibises were wading about in the water, while among these, standing motionless in the water, was one solitary white egret.

Presently four cavanchos appeared, two adults and two young birds in brown plumage, and alighted on the ground near the carcass. The young birds advanced at once and began tearing at the flesh, while the two old birds stayed where they had alighted, as if disinclined to feed on half putrid meat. Presently one of them sprang into the air and made a dash at the birds in the water, and instantly all the birds in the place rose into the air screaming loudly, the two young brown cavanchos only remaining on the ground.

For a few moments I was in ignorance of the meaning of all this turmoil, when suddenly, out of the confused black and white cloud of birds the egret appeared, mounting vertically upward with vigorous, measured strokes. A moment later first one and then the other cavancho also emerged from the cloud, evidently pursuing the egret, and only then the two brown birds sprang into the air and joined in the chase.

For some minutes I watched the four birds toiling upward with a wild zigzag flight, while the egret, still rising vertically, seemed to leave them hopelessly behind. But before long they reached and passed it, and each bird as he did so would turn and rush downward, striking at the egret with its claws, and while one descended the others were rising, bird following bird with the greatest regularity. In this way they continued toiling upward until the egret appeared a mere white speck in the sky, about which four hateful black spots were still revolving.

I had watched them from the first with the greatest excitement, and now began to fear that they would pass from sight and leave me in ignorance of the result; but at length they began to descend, and then it looked as if the egret had lost all hope, for it was dropping very rapidly, while the four ravenous birds were all close to it, striking at it every three or four seconds.

The descent for the last half of the distance was exceedingly rapid, and the birds would have come down almost at the very spot they started from, which was about 40 yards from where I stood, but the egret was driven aside, and sloping rapidly down struck the earth at a distance of 250 yards from the starting point. Scarcely had it touched the ground before the hungry quartet were tearing it with their beaks.

A Wonderful Japanese Family. "A thousand years in one household"

(ikka sen-nen) is an old Japanese saving, employed with reference to an event which, in respect of extreme rarity, may be classed with the sight of a dead donkey or a tinker's funeral. The Hochi Shimbun says that an in stance may at present be found in the household of a merchant called Mizuma Gensuke, who resides at Kanazawa, in the Saitama district of Sado. The family consists of the following memgreat-grandpapa Gembei, aged 101; Great-great-grandmamma Miyo, aged 105; Great-grandpapa Gensuke, aged 81; Great-grandmamma Kimi, aged 79; Grand papa Gempachi, aged 61; Grandmamma Toyo, agel 60; Papa Gankichi. aged 40; Mamma Tomo, aged 38; Uncle Genroku, aged 35; Son Genshichi, aged 14; Daughter Toki, aged 5. The consequently became 994 on the first day of this year, according to the Jap-anese method of calculation. Next New-Year's Day, supposing that death had not intervened meanwhile, the aggregate ages would be 1008, and as 994 is nearer 1,000 than 1,008, the family have resolved to celebrate their ikka sen-nen this Spring by a visit to the shrine of Ise, and afterward to Kyoto, where the whole fourteen, from the little tot of 5 to the grayhead-if he still has any hair-of 130, will do their sightseeing in company.

QUAINT AND CURIOUS.

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A centenarian who has just died ir England spent ninety-nine years of he: life in the one house.

The highest railroad bridge in the United States is the Kinzua viaduct on the Erie Road-305 feet high.

The town of Bethel, Mc., with nearly three thousand inhabitants, has no use for a lock-up, and proposes to rent out the building formerly used for that purpose.

At the funeral of John Cozzens, a prominent citizen of Spotswood, N. J., some one discovered that there were thirteen carriages in the procession and one carriage was withdrawn.

A letter written by George Washington in the year 1793, introducing Winstanley, the painter, to the commander at Georgetown, was sold recently for \$35, at Sotherbys, England.

A man with a penchant for statistics has computed that more than four million miles of blood pass through the veins of an ordinary human being during a lifetime of seventy years.

A wild rabbit in the streets of Biddeford, Me., was one of the "sights" that certain inhabitants of that city recently enjoyed. As a reward for his temerity he was allowed to depart in peace.

A Riverside (Cal.) man sent a piece of manzanita wood to a friend in New York recently. He has now received an order from a maker of musical instruments to forward a whole carload.

A special train of the Baltimore and Ohio Rulroad made the run from Philadelphia to Baltimore in two hours and sixteen minutes, the fastest time ever made over the new division with a single locomotive.

Leprosy in Civilized Lands.

According to Dr. Morell Mackenzie, leprosy, the scourge of the Middle Ages, has not become practically extinct among Europeans, but is really spreading. It has between 1000 and 1200 victims in Norway, is found also in Portugal, Greece and Italy, and is rapidly spreading in Sicily, in the Baltic provinces of Russia and in France, while the British Islands are not exempt from it. In the United States, cases have been found in California, in some of the states of the Northwest; in Utah and in Louisiana. Many cases exist in New Brunswick. In the Sandwich Islands the disease first broke out in 1853, and there are now 1100 lepers in the Molokai settlement alone. The disease is extend ing in the West Indies. In Trinidad there were three cases in 1805, 860 in 1878 and probably more than 1000 now. Leprosy exists in Australia and New Zealand, and is estimated to have more than a quarter of a million victims in India It may be added that recent investigations seem to remove all doubts that leprosy is contagious. The cause has been found by Hansen in a bacillus resembling the germ of consumption, and Dr. Arning of Hamburg has produced leprosy in a condemned criminal by inoculation.

Heredity and Beauty.

Heredity has much to do, of course with facial beauty and refinement. Generations of cultured associations and education will naturally produce faces of innate refinement and spirituality. If the course of such a life in a family is uninterrupted, it will lead more and more to beauty and refinement of features. But it is, unfortunately, rarely uninterrupted. There is degeneration in nearly every generation, either through crossing with coarser stock, or lack of education or moral influences or

A Cunning Thief.

A channing Three. Speak of the "spendthrift Yankee" to a London pawnbroker and the cold chills will go down his back in squadrons. He and his brethren have reason to remem-ber the man. Mr. Leighton, as the American was known, dropped into a loan office one day and desired an ad-vance on his diamond ring until he re-ceived remittances from home. The pro-vietor examined the iewel carefully and vance on his diamond ring until he re-ceived remittances from home. The pro-prictor examined the jewel carefully and accepted it as a pledge for \$750. It was redeemed and again pawned, then put in pledge once more, and the process kept up until the money lender grew well ac-quainted with the ring and its owner. One day "Mr. Leighton" sauntered in; "Same thing, same sun," he remarked in his usual manner. "All right, sir," was the reply, the pledge was laid aside without scrutiny and the cash turned over. This time no redemption followed, and the ring, on examination, proved to over. This time no redemption followed, and the ring, on examination, proved to be paste. It afterward came out that the "Spendthrift Yankee" had disposed of eighteen other imitations else-where by adopting similar methods.

The Lady Next Door. Mrs. W. envied the lady next door because she always seemed so well and happy. "She enjoys life and I don't." said the discontented woman. "How I would like to change places of the object of "Henry" of course I am, for I lady toldrect health. My dear Mrs. W., your face tolls me why you are not happy. You are suffering from functional derangements. I was a martyr to female weaknesses for years, but Dr. Pierce's Pailots don't nevery case of price (\$1) returned. Dr. Pierce's Pailots, one a dose. Cure head.

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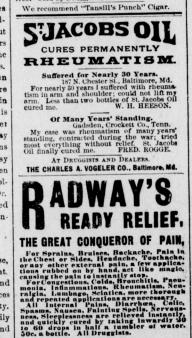
awaken the kidneys and liver to a healthy activity, without irritating or weakening them,

use Syrup of Figs.

use Syrup of Figs. <u>An Ardent Admirer.</u> Old Mrs. Weatherbee—"Good-bye! John, and do take care of yourself, and don't forget to bring me a large bottle of Dr. Toblas's Ven-etian Liniment; somehow 1 can't get along without it, and look out if they tell you some-thing else is just as good—for 1 for one wouldn't believe it, and I aln't no different to a host of others, either. Why, there's folly Ann Jones, Theresa : admington and Sarrah Clarke, and—"...Johias's Venetian Lini-ment that you want, mother! How many friends that old yemedy has, and you're one of them, and you're one of

ain't you?" All druggists sell it.

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DADWAY'S



" BOAT, AHOY !

e rapids are below you!" cried a man pleasure party whom he descried glidin party whom he descried gliding wn the stream toward the foam-ct. And we would cry, "Boat, the one whose life is being drawn

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swiftly down this stream toward the foam-ing cataract. And we would cry, "Boat Aboy "It to be one whose life is being drawn into the whirlpool of consumption, for un-less you use effective measures you will be wrecked in Death's foaming rapids. If your lungs are weak, break short, have spitting of blood, experience occasional odd chills creeping up your spinal column, with hacking cough, variable or poor appetite, feeble digrestion, with gradual loss of flesh, cold feet, lassitude or general debility, are easily faigued, don't disregard these pre-monitory symptoms. Thousands annually without experiescing half the above symp-toms and not heeding their timely warnings, are plunged into the releatles grasp of that hole surge-Consumption. You can't afford to fool away any considerable number of these unmistak-nothing has very symptoms. A poproaching danger! It's machines to triffe and experiment with ur-consumption of the Lungz, if takes in time and given a fair trial, is the world.

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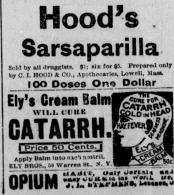
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tone and experimpurities, which floor statistics rills readily gives. Try it. "For five years I was sick every spring, but has year began in February to take Hood's Sarsaparilla I used five bottles and have not scen a sick day since,"-G. W. SLOAS, Milton, Mass.





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