

OVER THE WAY.

To greet you with tender and honest words, And never a theme that you might regret.

THE FARMER'S LOT.

He keeps a wagon and a span with which to do his work, and a plow and a harrow.

DURING THE NIGHT

A Harrowing Predicament.

By Neil Wynn Williams.

Like many an other man, I have an affinity for awkward predicaments, and to submit to what is popularly known as an "experience" is—

With a rush, I fought my way up step and step to the hall above, and groped toward the dim light shining pallidly through a narrow glass window above the door.

But to make a long story a short one—there was nobody in the house. Not a living thing, with the exception of a dog chained up in the back-yard.

but I may add that this is a difficult question to propound, even to myself.

At the station, I told the inspector on duty all about myself quite like a little boy.

THIS HORSE IS A JUMPER.

Not many horses trained in steeply ascending and ridden by skilled jockeys could make a clean jump of twenty-one feet.

When George King, the cowboy, started out to "round up" a herd of cattle that was pasturing in the valleys of the Santa Ana River he invited an Indian, Juan Machado, to accompany him.

Immediately the Indian appeared to be in a state of abject terror and refused to take the trip, assuring King that the grizzly bear always overhauled such threats and that hunters who announced their object were sure to be eaten up.

The little horse needed no spurs, but darted onward through the brush with incredible swiftness, the angry bear following close behind.

Cats Can Swim.

"Can cats swim?" was asked of an old fisherman.

"Why, certainly," was the reply, "and that reminds me of a cat I once tried to drown that swam ashore.

Corn as King of Industry.

One of the reasons why the French of Canada could never hope to maintain themselves in the contest for supremacy with the English and the residents of the thirteen colonies was that corn could be grown north of the lakes and the St. Lawrence in limited quantities only.

Breeding Cattle in Peru.

Stock raising in Peru is confined to the breeding of cattle to supply the local demand for beef, and the hides required for native leather work.

POPULAR SCIENCE.

A blackbird will stand at the side of a hanging wasp's nest and deliberately tear it in pieces in order to get at the larvae, apparently undisturbed by the swarm of angry insects.

The German exploring vessel Mowat stopped on its last cruise at two small isolated islands, Matty and Durron, the inhabitants of which strikingly resemble the Japanese, though the islands are only a short distance from New Guinea.

In a recent paper by Francis Galton on "Finger-prints of Young Children," he demonstrated that clear prints of all ten fingers of a baby would suffice for after-identification by an expert.

The Arctic Ocean, says Nansen, is a kind of lagoon separated from the Atlantic by a submarine ridge, stretching from Spitzbergen to Greenland.

Astronomy in the nineteenth century has not only successfully cultivated, but has greatly enlarged, every field of investigation which it inherited from the preceding century.

To Build Big Pipe Mill.

The Susquehanna Iron and Steel Company, one of the largest of the Central Pennsylvania steel companies, has had a dispute with the National Tube Company.

Sues Druggist.

Mr. Julia K. Lidgett entered a peculiar damage suit against H. L. Guth, a Carnegie druggist.

Jury's Bill Held Up.

The bill of the Hotel Penn for the board of twelve jurors and two trustees in the Quin murder trial has been held up by the County Commissioners.

In Another Character.

If clothes do not make the man, they may be said, in a certain sense, to make the dignitary.

To Enlarge Jail and Merque.

The Allegheny County Prison Board decided to add a new wing to the jail.

Grand Stand and Stables Burned.

The grand stand and stables of the Altoona Driving Park Association, located near Altoona, were completely destroyed by fire.

Killed in a California Mine.

Samuel Simmons, of near Carlisle, has been killed in a gold mine at Seneca, Cal.

News in Brief.

Zelner Brothers, grocers and tobacconists, of Altoona, failed on an execution in favor of C. M. W. Keck, trustee, for \$5,989.

KEYSTONE STATE.

LATEST NEWS GLEANED FROM VARIOUS PARTS.

BUGLAR SHOT MERCHANT.

Overpowered J. P. Stier in His Store in Northampton County—Becks County Commissioners Object to Quarter Trial Expense—Pipe Mill Project Results from Dispute Between Company and Trust.

John P. Stier, of Johnsonville, had an encounter with a murderous burglar and was beaten and shot by the intruder, who escaped, though help was speedily at hand.

Model National Guard.

Adjutant General Stewart, Brigadier General Gobin, of the Third Brigade, and Major Richardson, superintendent of the State Arsenal, returned from Indianapolis, Ind., where they attended the national convention of the National Guard Association of the United States.

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THE SABBATH SCHOOL.

INTERNATIONAL LESSON COMMENTS FOR FEBRUARY 4.

Subject: The First Disciples of Jesus. John 1: 35-46—Golden Text: John 1: 37—Memory Verses, 35-37—Commentary on the Day's Lesson.

INTRODUCTION.—The choice of His disciples was a matter of great moment to Jesus. It was necessary that some of them should be witnesses of His life and work from the beginning of His public ministry.

CONNECTIONS.—We have here an account of John's testimony concerning Jesus. As soon as Christ was baptized He hurried into the wilderness, where He remained forty days. During His absence John had continued his work, but now at last he sees Jesus returning from the wilderness.

"Behold the Lamb of God." See v. 29, spoken in reference to Isa. 53: 7. All the disciples offered had been furnished by men; this one was provided by God as the only sufficient sacrifice for the sin of the world.

"What saith ye?" Jesus knew, but He desired some expression from them. The meaning is, "What is your d—stest your notion of me?" John answered, "Teacher, master."

"Come and see." A kind invitation to them to go with Him to His place of abode. He desired that they should know the salvation of God would come at the coming of Christ, they would see that with Him is the fountain of life, and in His light they would see light.

"Bethsaida." "The house of bread," so called because inhabited mostly by fishermen. There were two places by this name. The town where the three disciples, Andrew, Peter and Philip, were born, was on the west shore of the Sea of Galilee.

"Nathanael." Elsewhere called Barthelemy. He lived at Cana in Galilee, where our Lord performed His first miracle. Nathanael was about the middle of the apostles, and surely here was a great array of testimony with reference to the Messiah.

"Good—out of Nazareth." The question sprang from more dread of mistake in a matter so vital. He knew that Bethlehem (Mead, 5:2) and not Nazareth was to be the birth-place of the Messiah. It has been usually considered that his answer was proverbial; but it may merely have implied, "Nazareth, that obscure and ill-reputed town in its little, unfruitful valley—can anything good come from thence?"

"This year's famine in India covers an area of 250,000 square miles, on which is a population of 80,000,000 souls."

FACTS ABOUT AMERICAN CITIES.

Some Data Regarding Health, Population and Other Conditions.

Anticipating the work of the census takers and acting on instructions from congress, the department of labor at Washington has issued statistics relating to all the cities in the United States of a population of 20,000 or more.

It was found that there were 140 such cities and the statistics collected throw much interesting light on their status and development. The oldest city in the United States is Albany, N. Y., which was incorporated in 1585, Philadelphia dating fifteen years later.

Each member of the white house has had her favorite flower, except Mrs. McKinley, who expresses little preference, except an aversion to yellow flowers and a great love for blue ones.

Friendly Advice.

"Buff—I'd have you know, sir, that I'm a self-made man. Gruff—Well, I'm sorry for you; but keep it dark and don't worry, and perhaps you'll get along all right—Chicago News."

MARKETS.

Table with multiple columns showing market prices for various commodities like FLOUR, WHEAT, HAY, BUTTER, EGGS, etc., in Baltimore, New York, and Philadelphia.