

Contrary to the general belief that Ireland leads the world in its fondness for "praties," statistics show that the people of Germany and Belgium are the greatest potato eaters; the consumption in these countries annually exceeds 1000 pounds per head of population.

It is the testimony of those who have seen the great trees of California that much of the effect of astonishment is lost because the visitor approaches the trees through a forest of giants that gradually increase in size. Many pine ten feet in diameter are passed on the journey, and in this way the visitor slowly works up to trees that measure above thirty feet in diameter.

"You newspaper men amaze me by your persistence and enterprise. I have made \$10,000,000 in the lumber business, but if I could have employed young men like the newspaper reporters I would have made \$100,000,000 in half the time." That is the compliment that a millionaire paid to Julian Ralph after he had called for a certain piece of news at seven o'clock every morning at the millionaire's house, twice a day at his office, and at least once every night at his home again.

Suicide statistics, as recently published by an English doctor, show that taking the entire population of the world there is an attempt made every three minutes on an average by some one to take his own life. It seems that Saxony is the quarter of the globe where suicide is the most popular, the ratio there being 450 suicides in 1,000,000 deaths. Portugal, on the other hand, occupies the first place for infrequency of self-destruction, the proportion there being only sixteen to 1,000,000.

The State of North Carolina has inside its penitentiary only 226 convicts, of whom about 125 are kept at work making brick, while some of the others are making iron-work for rail way cars under a contract with a firm in Raleigh. The rest of the convicts, about 890 in number, are employed upon the State farms along the fertile valley of the Roanoke River. In these farms of 4000 acres are under cultivation. The product this year will out 100,000 bushels of corn, 1900 bales of cotton, 3000 bushels of wheat and 10,000 gallons of sirup, besides 1000 acres in pasture.

Nathaniel D. Gould, a native of Bedford, Mass., was the originator of juvenile singing in Boston. People would not believe that children could be taught to sing, and Gould only convinced them of the possibility by stratagem, relates the New York Tribune. He was an expert in penmanship, so he readily secured a large children's class for instruction in this branch. During the hour of intermission he would practice songs with them for apparent amusement. At the close of a quarter's instruction in penmanship he invited the parents and friends to a social exhibition, and there forced the conviction of the feasibility of his plan, which they had scoffed at as a delusion. This was soon followed by the introduction of teaching music in all the public schools of Boston by Professor Mason, whose name has been deservedly applauded, while that of Nathaniel D. Gould has been lost sight of.

Says the American Dairymen: "The abandoned farms of Massachusetts will soon be but a memory. An exchange tells us that there are now less than twenty of them. Since the Board of Agriculture of that State became interested in the matter the number has been rapidly diminished by sales. Investigation by the board proved that they were worthy of a better fate than abandonment, and that their former owners made a mistake in leaving them. The new owners are principally men acquainted with New England farming methods, and it is to be presumed, will work their purchases for profit. Besides these, other from States as distant as Illinois and Florida have sought out these abandoned farms and purchased them for homes. We hope the newcomers will prosper, and trust that they will devote part of their new-purchase to dairying. There is nothing like having a few good cows around to build up a place. A man must be very much discouraged or else fearfully lazy when he abandons his farm. In our opinion it was sheer laziness that was responsible for the abandoned farms in Massachusetts. When a farmer gets lazy he is the laziest creature that disfigures nature, and in return she always refuses to reward the work of his indolent hands."

DUTY. The camp-fire dimly burns Through the night and the snow, And over a frozen earth The wild winds blow. But the sentinel stands at his post As the hours creep by, While crowds grow heavy and thick In the sullen sky. His limbs drag hard, he longs To rest awhile. Yet over his white, cold lips Comes never a smile. For his heart is a soldier's heart, And his blood runs warm When he thinks of his brother-men Asleep in the storm. Then he shoulders his gun and draws A quick, deep breath; What foe shall conquer him now But the foeless Death! —G. E. Montgomery, in Youth's Companion.

OPENING HIS EYES.

BY HELEN FORREST GRAVES.

HAT'S just what I was sayin'," said Peter Pinkeroff. "There ain't a farmer in Drowsy Dell I'd rather work for than Mr. Hale. His barn is a picture to look at, the stun walls an' fences is all plumb straight, and there ain't an improvement in hay-cutters or horse-rakes or threshers but he gets a-holt on it the first thing."

"Oh!" said Nancy. "Yess," drawled Peter. "Jest what I was sayin'. Right up to the mark. Ther' ain't no gittin' ahead of him. I do s'pose, now, he's made more money outen his farm than any other man in Park County."

"Humph!" said Nancy. Peter sat and looked at her, unconsciously winking his dull eyes as she washed and wiped the old India China dishes with a rapidity and skill which inspired him with involuntary respect. "Jest what I was sayin'," he afterward remarked. "Ezackly like chain-lightnin'. Never see any one work so fast in my life. Fairly made me dizzy."

"Well, Nan, there ain't no such hurry," said Farmer Hale, coming complacently in from the adjoining room, where he had been interviewing a carpenter on the subject of an addition to his barn. "Can't you afford to set down a spell?" Nancy Hale—a feminine copy of her tall, resolute-faced brother—shook her head.

"There's always hurry," said she, "till the works done!" "Jest what I was sayin'," said Peter, rubbing his horny hands and secretly calculating on the chances of his being asked to stay to dinner. "For I smelt chiggen fricassee, and I'm dretful peevish after takin' 'ow'."

Just then Nancy whirled around and looked at her brother full in the face. "Ain't there no dreens to carry this water away?" said she. "We generally pour it round the roots of the grapevines and plum trees," said he. "It's called very fertilizin'."

"Jest as I allus say," put in Peter. "Better'n bone-dust." Nancy took the shining tin kettle in her hand. "Where's the water faucet?" asked she. "Ain't none nearer than the well," said her brother, a little uneasily. "Come now, Nan, you're completely sp'iled, livin' in them city flats."

Miss Hale uttered a sniff. "And I hope you won't put no nonsense in Jenny's head," added the farmer. "I calculate it's put there already," said Nancy. "Why, Elnathan, your completely behind the times."

penier, returning her glance with the respect due to a woman who was reported to have "money out at interest." "That means more hay room and more cows, don't it?" "I expect likely, mom."

"Do they hev to go fur for water for the stock?" incidentally questioned Miss Nancy. "No, mom," said the carpenter. "It's brung right into the yard in pipes from the spring on Adder Hill."

"Save lots o' trouble," said Nancy. "Yes, mom. And everything is carried off same way. The barn's neat as any parlor. Squire, he's figured things down pretty nice."

"Humph!" snorted Miss Nancy. She lifted up the lid of the kettle, and the last Jonas Nailhead saw of her face it was surrounded, aureole fashion, with a cloud of fricassee-scented vapor. "She's a smart 'un," said Jonas Nailhead to his two-foot rule.

Miss Nancy Hale had left her position as forewoman in a corset manufactory to stay at the farm a month and help around, in order to give Jenny Hale, her niece, a chance to "chirk up." For Jenny was not over-strong this summer.

"I think it's airs an' graces," said Mrs. Peter Pinkeroff. "an' nothin' else." "Jest what I say myself," assented her spouse. "Cod liver oil, indeed," said Mrs. Pinkeroff, "and iron pills! When I was a gal, gentian tea and sassafras was good enough for anybody. I dunno what this world's comin' to."

"Ain't that jest what I'm allways sayin'?" retorted Peter, in aggrieved accents. Mr. Hale was full of his new building plans when he came in to dinner. Nancy was brusque and curt as usual. Jenny was quite silent, sitting there like a drooping flower.

"You must hurry and brace up, Jenny," said the farmer. "There ain't no time to lose. I've engaged three of Mr. Mendex's Alderney cows, and I mean to put the hull north meider into pasture this year. There'll be lots to do. I expect I'll hev to keep another hired man, what with the new team of oxen and the tobacco fields."

Jenny looked up quickly. "And ain't you goin' to keep no help for me, father?" "You! Mr. Hale dropped his two-tined fork. "There never was a hired gal help in this house, and there never shall be!"

"But you have three men, father."

lips first to one cold stone moulding, then to the other. "I'll do no more!" he repeated. He went home and called his sister. "Nan—Nancy! Where are you? Come here—I want to speak to you!"

Nancy came—tall, straight and uncompromising. "See here!" said Elnathan. "If you was goin' to live here in this house all your life, what would you do to fix it up—to make it real handy and convenient, you know?"

"What?" "I'm in real earnest, you know. Tell me, Nancy!" pleaded Hale. "And I want you to give up that business in New York, and come here and live with us. Come to think of it, there is a good deal of work to be done in a house like this, and Jenny's a slim piece arter all. So if you've a mind to speak to Juliana Hedgins to come here by the year—"

Nancy's hard visage softened. "Elnathan," said she, "I do b'lieve there's some common sense left in you, arter all. Yes, I'd rather live here in the old homestead than anywhere else, and Juliana's a real good worker."

Jenny came in presently, and Nancy loudly proclaimed the new order of things. The girl gave a startled look at her father, but Elnathan patted her head. "I've been sort o' thinkin' things over, my dear," said he. "Jone Nailhead shall come here and do what-over you and Aunt Nancy choose, and—you may not know it, Jenny, but your old father thinks a good deal of you!"

He kissed her, and stalked awkwardly out of the room. Jenny looked at Nancy with eyes brimming full of tears. "I—I never thought father cared so much for me!" said she. The neighbors were much surprised at the radical reforms which took place in the Hale household.

"Miss Nancy settled down for good," said they, "and a hired girl, and new buttery shelves, and brass water faucets in the kitchen and an iron sink, and Will Norris gone! There reg'lar ev'ry Saturday night! Is the millennium comin'?"

"Jest what I've always been a-sayin'!" sagely observed Peter Pinkeroff. "Squire Hale he sets lots of store by that sim gal o' his'n."

"He'll lose her pretty soon," said old Aunt Sandfield. "Will Norris is dead in earnest."

"Ain't that what I've said all along?" protested Peter Pinkeroff.—Saturday Night.

OUR NEIGHBOR'S EXHIBIT.

CANADA'S PRODUCTS AT THE WORLD'S FAIR.

Natural and Developed Resources of the Country Artistically Exhibited—Agricultural Products, Ores, Coal and Manufactures From the Atlantic to the Pacific.

Canada has made a display at the World's Fair which admirably serves its purpose of illustrating the natural and developed resources of her own vast territory. No department of the Exposition, says the Chicago Herald, has been slighted by Canada. Each big building contains a comprehensive exhibit, installed according to the best methods that could be employed to make it attractive. Possessed of resources so nearly similar to those of this country that but slight distinctions can be drawn, Canada has been animated by the spirit of competition more keenly, perhaps, than any other Nation represented at Jackson Park.

Great care has been taken by the Dominion officials to properly present the display in the Agricultural Building. A beautiful court covering 7000 square feet and rising twenty-five feet from the floor, stands, a model of its kind, on the north side of the center aisle. It is surmounted by a handsome trophy and by a large stuffed deer from the Rocky Mountains. The curtain which surrounds the court on four sides is made entirely of grain and straw tastefully and artistically arranged.

At the west corner of the court, Ontario, the banner province of the Dominion, has a large and tastefully arranged display. A handsome pavilion, made entirely of cereals and grasses from the Ontario Government Agricultural College at Guelph, is admired by all visitors. Samples of grain in glass jars constitute a beautiful trophy which rises to a height of fully thirty-five feet. The display of grain and cereals from the province of Quebec is one of the most beautiful in the



CANADIAN COURT IN MANUFACTURES BUILDING.

section. There is also a pretty showing of maple sugar and syrup, which are two staple products of this province. The display of grains and cereals from the great grain-growing areas of the northwest show the splendid quality and extensive variety of these staples from the storehouses of the Dominion. There is also a splendid exhibit of furs and stuffed birds which adds largely to the attractiveness of the display. The maritime provinces of the Dominion show splendid exhibits of cereals and grains. Here is the mammoth Canadian cheese which attracts general attention. There is also a display of biscuits, cheese, marmalade and aerated waters, bacon and hams. In the annex of the Agricultural Building, Canada has a large display of agricultural machinery.

Canada has outdone her mother country in the neat and pretty curtains she has erected around her section in the Manufactures Building. The section is on the west side of Columbia avenue, with Great Britain on her north, Denmark on the south, and Belgium on the east across the avenue. Every foot of 16,000 square feet of space is crowded with manufactured goods from all parts of Canada. There are a great many lines of manufactured products in the Canadian court which will compare favorably with those of the older, more populous and more pretentious manufacturing countries. The cotton king has been at work in the Dominion, and in two long, well-finished native wool cases are most tastefully arranged many of the products of the Canadian cotton mills. Cotton fabrics of all kind are shown, and textile goods occupy a prominent place. Tweeds, meltons, braids silk thread and carpets are also extensively exhibited. Gloves, hosiery, underwear and ready-made clothing are tastefully arranged in glazed cases made of Canadian elm, birch and cherry. Two very pretty cases are filled with specimens of women's work from different parts of the Dominion. There is also a creditable exhibit of sole and harness leather. Scales, stoves and hollow ware, water heaters, horseshoes, stove polish, screws, rivets, spades, shovels and an immense array of like articles meet the eye in every direction. An exhibit of circular and hand saws of almost every pattern has attracted much attention, and it is doubtful whether in this department Canada is surpassed. A creditable display of boots and shoes occupies a prominent position.

At the west side of Canada's space is a very interesting and instructive exhibit made by the Department of Indian Affairs at Ottawa. Here, with the teachers, are a number of Indian boys and girls from the Government Indian schools in the distant northwest of Canada. These young people daily pursue their routine work just as if they were at home in their schools. All around are the products of the civilized Indian—grain that he has sown, tilled and harvested; flour that he has ground; roots and vegetables that he has planted and cared for, manufactured goods of many kinds that he has carefully put together and samples of the work of the school children of these Indian tribes under the guardianship of the Civil Government. There are also many curios of the warpath, the hunt and the trail.

The display which the Dominion makes in the Mining Building is a fair index of the natural mineral resources of the country. The Canadian section comprises an area of 10,000 square feet, and is on the main floor, west of the central aisle, extending back under the west gallery. Canadian flags and hunting give a gala day appearance to the most interesting section. Upon entering the large central court the visitor is immediately interested by the great pyramids of gold blocks representing the yield of that precious metal throughout Canada since it was first discovered in the far western province of British Columbia. The total yield of gold from British Columbia alone is estimated at something over \$53,000,000, while across the

continent the surf beaten province of Nova Scotia on the Atlantic has produced from her gold deposits since 1854 over \$7,640,000. In the banner province of Ontario extensive deposits of gold quartz are being worked largely by American capitalists, and here the output is estimated at nearly \$1,000,000 annually.

The samples of coal from British Columbia show an excellent quality, but anthracite and bituminous, of the inexhaustible coal fields of the Pacific province. Black diamonds are also taken out in large quantities in the province of Nova Scotia, and the sparsely wooded and illimitable areas of farming land in the great northwest of the Dominion have a plentiful supply of excellent coal. The province of Nova Scotia makes a poor show of coal samples despite the fact that she has some of the greatest coal areas on the continent.

The showing of nickel and nickel ore from the Sudbury district of Ontario is one which has attracted universal attention, not only of mining experts but of naval officers. The quality of these ores can best be indicated by the result of the recent tests made by the naval departments of Great Britain, France, Germany and the United States, in which Canadian nickel was found to have the greatest power of resistance, and was by all means the most suitable for the purpose of making armor plates for improved war vessels.

A FINE DISPLAY OF FRUITS. The display which Canada makes in the Horticultural Building is one of the most important and attractive in that department of the Fair. There are three Canadian courts devoted to fruit, vegetables and wine exhibits. An interesting feature of this splendid display of fruit is that Canada not only excels in the variety and quality of the harder fruits peculiar to a Northern country, but her pears, peaches and the small fruits from Western Ontario are as juicy, juicy character which at once places them in the first grade of fine fruits.

The province of Ontario has a large exhibit of over five hundred plates, embracing thirty-eight varieties of apples in a fresh state and 1400 bottles of various kinds of preserved fruit. In the center of the court is a display of fruits from the Government experimental farm at Ottawa. This province of Quebec has been more successful than any of the other provinces in keeping a display of fresh winter apples, of which there are over seventy varieties. Nova Scotia's display of the different varieties of apples from the famous Annapolis Valley is beyond criticism. The exhibit from British

Columbia attracts much attention because of the immense size of the apples and peaches. There is also a great variety of the smaller fruits. Prince Edward Island, the northwest territories and Manitoba have all creditable displays of the smaller fruits. In the vegetable court in the north pavilion is a display of root crops, vegetables, contributed by all the Canadian provinces and the Government experimental farms of the Dominion. This is the only exhibit of vegetables in the department of horticulture at the Exposition.

IN TRANSPORTATION BUILDING. Canada's exhibit in Machinery Hall is located at the end of the center floor, immediately opposite that of Great Britain. While this exhibit has many features of peculiar interest to visitors, many important lines are absent, and a number of the largest manufacturers are not represented at all. There is a good display of automatic and traction engines, compound steam engines, steam injectors and exhausters, high speed engines, fire engines, water wheels and working machinery of all descriptions. The display of woodworking machinery is one of the finest at the Fair. The exhibit of brick-making machines has attracted special attention.

The Canadian exhibit in Transportation Building is on the main center floor annex and in the west gallery. A feature of the exhibit consists of car couplers and chilled iron wheels, for which Canada is noted. There are also semaphores and headlights for use on the coast and a working model of the Chicago Ship railway, which is now being constructed across the Straits of Northumberland. This work when completed will shorten the ocean trip between Montreal, Quebec and other ports on the lower St. Lawrence River and Boston and New York by a number of miles, besides avoiding the dangerous shores of eastern Nova Scotia. The exhibit of carriages, wagons, carts and trucks is fairly good. Particular interest is manifested in the splendid exhibit of sleds. In one of the courts is a beautiful model of the sleigh presented by the sportsmen of Canada, a wedding present to the Duke of York and the Princess May. It is a magnificent specimen of Canadian workmanship. The display also includes a large exhibit of sporting and pleasure canoes, folding boats, snow shoes, toboggans, etc., for which Canada, as the home of the sportsman, has a world-wide reputation. In the annex of the Transportation Building is a full standard vestibuled train of the Canadian Pacific Railway.

entirely of Canadian manufacture, the cars being made from Canadian woods. One peculiarity about this exhibit is that the train was not built for exhibition purposes, but is an exact type of the regular trains on the Canadian Pacific Railroad.

WONDERFUL WOOD DISPLAYS. In the Forestry Building, Canada occupies 3000 square feet, situated on the main aisle and south of the central exhibit. The space is divided between the provinces of Ontario, Quebec, British Columbia and the Northwest territories. The Dominion has a large collection of photographs of living trees, contributed by the geological survey museum at Ottawa. The photographs are shown in frames made of the wood represented in the picture. The resources of Ontario are especially interesting to practical lumbermen, builders, wood and cabinet workers, and the birch, beech, cherry and other fine woods capable of brilliant polish attract much attention. From the Pacific slope the magnificent specimens of Douglas fir and cedar hand-split shingles 2 feet wide, or cut and spruce planking 4 inches thick, 4 feet wide and, if necessary, 100 feet long, and free from knots, are marvellous. Quebec exhibits pine and spruce in great variety. In the middle of its space is a trophy of pulp wood. It is a log of the white pine of Canada, cut from the tree in the rough to the pulp in long sheets, and, finally, the useful articles made by this indurating process.