

Wouldn't it look better if John Bull could take his defeats on the turf more gracefully?

Those immortals who were left out in the cold should get up a Hall of Fame of their own.

Every farmer should have an agricultural library, if only for the influence it would have upon the boys and girls in increasing their interest in the farm and the duties upon it.

The most touching contribution to the aid of Galveston sufferers is \$84, donated by the inmates of the Dunning poor-house and insane hospital, Illinois. This sum represents the sacrifices of 2500 unfortunates, who gave up smoking and other small luxuries to swell the fund.

It is a great pity that every attempt to propagate the blue joint grass of the Western prairies is a total failure. Could it be placed on the list of tame grasses it would be a most valuable addition. It will soon disappear entirely from the prairie section of the West, being unable to hold its own with the blue grass in the pastures and meadows.

French gallantry, of late years said to be banished from the earth, seems to have found an abiding place in the French courts. The judge who rescues a distressed American heiress's millions and restores them to the care of her anxious family is surely a beau chevalier, though he does not wear a sword and take great pleasure to die for one.

President Jones, of Hobart College, thinks that too much money is spent nowadays in furnishing college undergraduates with enervating luxuries and not enough in paying fair salaries to college professors. The professors, he says, are sadly underpaid, but for the lads whom they teach and who never pay the cost of the education they are getting, luxurious clubhouses are built and furnished, and a manner of life made possible which is insulting to their years, and not conducive to profitable training.

The latest development of science provides that ships can go to sea with frozen ammunition. A method of utilizing liquefied air on warships has been discovered which will render the explosion of a magazine, even when the ship is in action, almost impossible. The method is to so place the liquid air that it will freeze the ammunition to several hundred degrees below zero. In that condition it could not explode, even if a shell should burst in the magazine. Wonders will never cease.

Coast defense is the most important topic dealt with in the annual report of Chief of Engineers Wilson. He points out that the war with Spain had the effect of hastening the work on the coast defenses to such an extent that now, ten years after that long-neglected work was begun in earnest, he is able to report that fifty per cent. of the work is complete. Twenty-five of the principal harbors of the United States now have a sufficient number of heavy guns and mortars in place to offer an effective defense against naval attack. Existing projects contemplate the mounting of a great number of additional guns.

The cost to consumers of the anthracite coal strike calls attention to the benefits resulting in England from the Co-operative Wholesale Society. This society is a federation of 1046 retail co-operative societies, representing 1,053,564 individual members. By the operation of this society consumers are enabled to supply their wants at a purely economic cost—that is, not subject to the penalties of "jobs," combines—the common tricks of trade that affect prices under general conditions. During the first thirty years of the society's existence a profit was realized of \$6,731,725, that went back into the pockets of the consumers.

Vienna is excited over great jewel robberies that have deprived some of her finest dames of their gems. Not long ago the wife of a nobleman noticed while at a ball that her diamonds did not sparkle with all the brilliancy their cost demanded, and, looking closely at them, she discovered that they were not diamonds at all, but paste gems of the cheapest kind. She made a great outcry, and all the other women instinctively looked at their jewels. The outcries became general. It seems that all the women who live in the same quarter of the city discovered that their jewels had been taken, and had been replaced by cheap imitations. The work is supposed to have been done during the summer months.

Fools' Gold.

BY MRS. MOSES P. HANDY.

(Copyrighted, 1900, Daily Story Pub. Co.) It was the last grand hop of the season. To-morrow the band would leave, and thereafter, for two weeks before the final closing of the hotel, the remaining guests would dance in the parlors, to the sound of the piano and one violin. Lucy Alston found herself feeling melancholy, and somewhat sentimental. It had been a happy summer, the happiest of her life. She was well aware that much of her joy was due to the society of Horace Poindexter who was, to her mind, the most charming man she had ever met. Her experience of charming men, however, was small. Mrs. Poindexter took one of her nieces away with her every summer, and this year the lot had fallen to Lucy. Mr. Sturdivant came down to the Beach every Saturday, to stay over Sunday, and from the first he had singled her out as the especial object of his attentions. More than one person had warned her, more or less good-naturedly, as people will, that such attentions on his part were rarely serious. Her aunt, especially, had cautioned her. "Horace Sturdivant thinks himself a pauper," Mrs. Poindexter had said. "He has about \$5,000 a year, which to a man of his tastes, spells poverty. And every one knows that he will never marry any woman that is not an heiress."

Five thousand dollars a year seemed wealth to Lucy. She failed to attach due importance to her aunt's counsel. Mr. Sturdivant was assiduous in his courtesies; he waltzed delightfully and had "a tongue which might wile the



"Good-bye, dear, God bless you, good-bye."

laverock from the cloud." All the other women adored him; therefore, how could poor, unsophisticated Lucy fail to feel his fascinations? With "youth at the helm, and pleasure at the prow," how can love be always on the lookout for rocks and shoals?

Much practice had made Mr. Sturdivant past-master in the art of love-making. His eyes were volumes of affection, his voice a caress, his whole manner eloquent of tender and delicate admiration. Yet he had never spoken one word to her which might not have been proclaimed from the house-tops.

To-night Lucy felt vaguely uneasy, and bethought her of the wisdom which had been whispered into her ears. His air was sad and distrust, with an indefinable chill overlying its accustomed tenderness. They had danced together, the last waltz of the year, and the well-known music had a wonderfully mournful cadence to her sensitive ear.

"Oh, you girls, you frivolous girls," wailed viol, violins, and cornet in unison. Somehow it all seemed a dream, and Lucy gave a little sigh when the melody ceased, and the dancers stood still. She could have gone on waltzing forever, her hand on his shoulder, his clasping her waist, and his eyes looking into hers.

"Get a wrap, and come out on the terrace, the tide is in and the moonlight on the water is beautiful. I want you to see it," Mr. Sturdivant commanded rather than asked. She obeyed without question, and was back in a moment, with a fleecy shawl wound about her head and shoulders. "How pretty she is," he thought. The damp sea-air, which made other women's locks hang lank and limp, caused her's to curl in bewitching rings about her forehead. He gave her hand a tender pressure as he drew it through his arm, but he did not speak, and for a while they stood on the terrace in silence, watching the waves as they charged the shore, and retreated, baffled always. "How like it is to life," sighed Mr. Sturdivant, with his eyes looking out to sea. "Always the same vain striving for the unattainable."

Lucy bravely choked down the lump in her throat. "I feel to-night like Cinderella," she said. "The ball is over, and in a little while I shall retire to my nook, and take up my humdrum life again."

Mr. Sturdivant gave a little start. He had not expected the lady to end so soon. "How so?" he asked. "Mrs. Poindexter has taken rooms at the Alhambra for the winter. You will find that gayer than this."

"I shall not be with her. Auntie takes her nieces in turn, there are ten of us all counted, and I had my turn this summer."

Mr. Sturdivant experienced an unpleasant shock. He had already taken care to hunt up the will of the late Aaron Poindexter, and discovered, to his regret, that his widow had only a life interest in his large estate. However, that interest was absolute, and gave Mrs. Poindexter an income greater than an extravagant woman could easily spend.

Surely she might be expected to do

something for a favorite niece. He would be content with comparatively little. Now this house of cards fell to earth.

"I am very sorry. This, then, is probably our last evening together. I must go back to town early to-morrow morning, on business." Oh, the infinite tenderness and sadness of his tone! It held the cadence which the French call "tears in the voice."

Lucy pulled herself together with a mental jerk. She felt as though she had taken a plunge into cold water. This, then, after all that had passed during the last few weeks, was his farewell. But, no, he could not mean it.

"Not necessarily. South Stamford is not quite out of the world. It can be reached by rail from Boston," she ventured to say.

"Is that where you live? Child, it is as far away from my world as the antipodes. Besides, when a man knows himself too weak to resist temptation, what can he do but flee?"

"How can a man measure his strength unless he tries it?"

"Ah, you know so little of the world. When a man's lot in life is so hard that he dares not ask a woman to share it, what can he do but love and run away? Perhaps he ought not to love in the first instance, but human nature is helpless; a man is only a man."

"Has the woman no right to be considered? Suppose she loves too?"

Lucy felt surprised at and a little ashamed of her boldness. But he was making the conversation impersonal, which gave her some excuse to speak. He shook his head. "Ah, no; in that case he is bound to protect her against herself. How can a man worthy of a name drag a woman he loves down to poverty, even though she does not wish to be parted from him? Good-bye, dear, God bless you, good-bye."

They were in the shadow of the pavilion, practically alone; he gave one quick glance around, then caught her in his arms and, holding her, kissed her passionately, once, twice, thrice. Never before had he so wholly forgotten himself. He loved the girl as well as he could love anything except his precious self, and her appealing eyes and quivering lips broke down his self-control. It was done in an instant; he released her so quickly that she had not even time to struggle; then he rushed her back to the hotel piazza, and left her, without a word.

Lucy sank into a seat to collect her breath. She was more indignant than broken hearted. This, then, was what the man called love. She thought of her father, who, with her mother at his side, had fought his way to independence, indeed to prominence; he was a local judge and had represented his district in congress. They found themselves, with all their children, passing rich on five thousand dollars a year.

"Thank heaven I am not an heiress to be married for my money," she said to herself, at last, fervently.

Upstairs Mrs. Poindexter was at her desk, writing to her brother.

"I have seen my nieces, in turn," she said, "and Lucy, of them all, I find most congenial. I wish to keep her as long as you can spare her. Despite the fact that Mr. Poindexter's estate reverts, at my death, to his relatives, I own some property, in my own right, and my ample income enables me every year to add something thereto. If I live a few years longer, as may reasonably be expected, the child will be fully provided for, the advantages which I can offer her meanwhile, are, I am sure, such as you and her mother will appreciate."

Shooting Stars.

According to Camille Flammarion, a well-known authority, what are called "shooting stars" are small bodies, weighing at most a few pounds, and consisting mainly of iron and carbon. They traverse space in swarms and also revolve around the sun in long elliptical courses like comets. When these little bodies enter the sun's orbit they are deflected toward the earth and great numbers of them are seen in a single night. Their brightness is due to the heat engendered by the energy of their motion. Their speed is enormous, 4½ kilometers a second, while the speed of the earth on its orbit is only 5 kilometers a second. Consequently when a shower of them approaches the earth in the direction opposite to its course, the initial speed is 72 kilometers a second; when they follow on its course they gain 16½ kilometers a second on it. Their mean rate of approach is between 20 and 40 kilometers a second. The friction engenders a temperature of 3,000 degrees, Celsius, subject to which they burst into flame.

Twine Made in Penitentiaries.

Minnesota's binding-twine plant, established in the state penitentiary, is as much a success as the like institution in Kansas. By this means the problem of convict labor has been solved in these two states to the satisfaction of about everyone concerned, including the labor unions. Members of the latter are gratified, as well as satisfied, as penitentiary-made twine is a direct slap at a trust. The farmers, too, are happy, as they get their binding twine at from 3 to 5 cents less a pound than is charged for the product of the trust. The only complaint in each state is that the penitentiary plants are not large enough to supply the demand.—New York Post.

World's Greatest Business Concern.

The postal service establishment of the United States is the greatest business concern in the world. The revenue of the postoffice of New York is more than \$8,000,000 yearly, with a net profit of \$5,000,000.

POPULAR SCIENCE.

A German astronomer who recently had the good luck to photograph a building at the moment when it was struck by lightning has after careful estimates found that the lightning flash measured five millimeters, or one-fifth of an inch across.

The latest experiments tend to prove that pitcher plants are not carnivorous, as has been so long believed, and that any apparent digestive action is due to external microbes that may enter the pitchers.

Some of the vast changes which the face of the earth has undergone are indicated by the recent discovery in the small lakes scattered among the extinct volcanoes of Auvergne in France of the survival of certain forms of marine animals. Salt plains exist there whose deposits were formed before volcanic forces upheaved the surrounding rocks and created mountain peaks and craters.

It has been asserted that insects are particularly attracted by the colors of certain flowers. Felix Plateau, after investigating the conduct of insects in their visits to various flowers, concludes that while they may perceive colors and thus be enabled to distinguish, at a distance, between flowers and leaves, yet they show no preference among the different colors. Blue, red, yellow, white are indifferent to them. He thinks that the odor of flowers affects insects more than their colors do.

The French scientific journal, La Nature, calls attention to a recent report of the French Consul at Hawaii which, it thinks, throws light on some problems of ethnography. Not long ago a little schooner, dismantled and with its rudder gone as the result of a tempest, was drifted by winds and ocean currents from Tahiti to Hawaii, after eighty-one days of helpless wandering. Hawaiian traditions declare that in ancient days people came from Tahiti, drifting with the currents, and settled Hawaii. The adventure of the dismantled schooner seems to prove the possibility of such a migration, and it is suggested that the currents of the Pacific, which have not yet been sufficiently studied, may throw much light on the distribution of the native races among the island groups.

Geological observation long since proved that petroleum and its derivations are unable to rise in the geological scale from one formation to another, the principal deposits being hermetically sealed in the strata that contain them. It is assumed, this being so, that the so-called "surface indications" of gas and oil are principally due to the numberless fractures through falls by which the contents of the porous rock can reach the surface; if, therefore, it is possible for this imprisoned gas to escape in any measurable degree, then, it is argued, the present figures must indicate the remainder of pressure after "millions of years of waste"—if escaping now the pressure must be steadily falling unless through a constant replenishment. In all accumulations of oil and gas the structure or arrangement of the strata involved is the dominant feature, and this controlling influence becomes more and more clear as the gas and oil fields of the world are more adequately studied. It is thought probable that in the fields where salt water rises from deeply porous rocks under artesian pressure, the same pressure will be exerted on the gas and oil which with the salt water are the joint tenants of the rock. Doubtless the rock pressure of the gas wells in certain districts is due to the salt water that follows the gas.

A Blighted Ambition.

George had been working all the summer to get a place in the brass band as a cornet player, and just as his hopes seemed to be on the verge of fulfillment she met him on his way home from the postoffice, and, linking her arm lovingly in his, walked on in silence until they reached the popular walk.

There she stopped in the long shadows, and said:

"George, I wish you wouldn't play the cornet in the new band."

"Why not?" said he, in surprise. "It is the place of honor, and I get a great deal of attention by it, dear."

"Yes, I know," she said coaxingly. "It is so nice to have you noticed by every one, and all that, darling, but—"

She paused and hung her curly head a little lower.

"But what?" said he sharply. "Blowing the cornet makes—makes"—her voice sunk to a pouting whisper—"makes the lips so stiff and hard!" She won.—Answers.

How Mexicans Make Ice.

In one of the highest valleys of Oaxaca, Mexico, at an elevation of 8000 or 9000 feet, there is a flourishing ice industry, which is based on the well-known principle of the reduction of temperature by radiation of temperature during the night. The ground is covered with a large number of wooden troughs, which are filled with water, and during the winter nights a film of ice not more than one-eighth of an inch in thickness is formed. This ice is removed on the following morning, shoveled into holes in the ground, and then covered with earth. It rapidly solidifies and is then cut into blocks, and sent by mules to the cities below, where it is readily sold.—San Francisco Call.

FARM TOPICS.

When to Ripen Cream.

It is desirable that the ripening of cream, either naturally or artificially, should be at a temperature not exceeding sixty-five degrees, and after the ripening has been completed, that is, when the lactic acid has been well developed, it should be reduced still lower before churning, say, not to be above fifty degrees, and some of the best butter has been made at forty-seven degrees. Cheese also ripens best at a low temperature. The experiment stations have said that cheese ripened at sixty-five degrees was better than that which was allowed to stand in a higher temperature, and that ripened at fifty-five degrees was much superior to that at sixty-five degrees.

Food Affecting the Milk.

Numerous scientific experiments show us that linseed meal gives us a butter that is very soft and oily; when hay and coarse food are given as an exclusive food the butter is crumbly, white and insipid; heavy feeding of poor silage gives a butter that is not much better than lard, while butter from good silage that has been made from corn well advanced toward maturity has an excellent flavor and ranks among the best.

In speaking upon this matter of the food affecting the product a dairy journal says that not only the character of the milk may be influenced by the character of food, but every part of the animal system may be more or less influenced. The kidneys, liver and internal fat, the skin, hair and horns may be, each and all, more or less modified by food. The extent to which any of these changes may be made varies with the breed and with the individual and in all cases is limited within a comparatively short range.

The Cultivation of Small Plots.

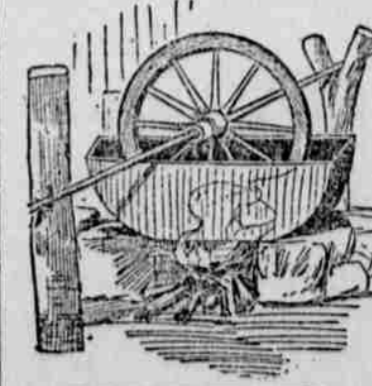
When one has but little land, such as is provided by a village lot, there can be but little space devoted to a garden, and it often costs as much or more to cultivate such a plot than the vegetables that can be grown on it would cost in the market, if one had to pay for the labor at a fair price. They cannot be worked with a horse because of the small size and the expense of digging, hoeing and other work by hand is too great to allow of any profit from the crop. Of course the clerk or mechanic who has leisure hours and strength to do this work can obtain fresh vegetables of his own growing much better than he can buy, if he understands raising them, but if he has to pay for the labor, he had usually better contract with some successful gardener to supply him. But for a farmer to use such small plots for a garden is folly. Let him so plan as to have it large enough to work with a horse, and then if he can produce a surplus, sell it at market rates and add to his income.

Storing the Hay Rigging.

One of the most unhandy things about the farm equipment to store away is the hay rigging. As commonly made with stationary stakes, it occupies a large space in every dimension. If so made that the stakes can be removed and the end ladders folded down closely, it will require less room for storage. Perhaps the best place for the rigging is the barn loft above the driveway. It can be hauled up with two ropes and two pulleys. If it can be folded up closely it is often stored underneath the first floor of a high basement, barn or shed. Being such a cumbersome and unwieldy affair, in half the country they are stored in the open air. With this treatment, unless painted every two or three years, they become weakened by decay in some vital spot and break down during the rush of haying or harvesting. If you do not care to paint them fully, then by all means thoroughly soak with oil where two pieces meet or overlap each other. This will keep the water from entering at these points and decay is thus prevented. Even kerosene oil is good for the purpose, as it penetrates deeply and quickly.

Boiling Wagon Wheels.

Nothing will preserve a wheel with wooden felloes, and keep the tire tight, as will treating them to a hot oil bath once in a season. Get a tinner to make you a pan about four inches wide and six deep in the middle, with a rounded bottom to correspond to the shape of a wheel, shown in cut. Set it



HOW TO BOIL THE WHEELS.

In an improvised fireplace and pour in the oil. When it is hot put in the wheel and turn slowly, holding in position by means of a stick thrust through the hub. A frame can be put up easily, or crotches set, to hold this stick. In this way two men can do the work quickly and well.—J. L. Irwin, in Ohio Farmer.

Card playing in England is an almost forgotten pastime.

KEYSTONE STATE NEWS CONDENSED.

PENSIONS GRANTED.

State's Finances—Receipts of the Fiscal Year Largest in Its History—Large Pottery for New Castle.

Last week pensions were granted the following persons: Chas. Ashton, New Brighton, \$6; John R. Mullen, Mt. Pleasant, \$10; William Phillips, Port Perry, \$6; William Gray, Carrolltown, \$12; Darius G. Doyle, Three Springs, \$8; Thomas G. Smith, Coles Summit, \$12; Noah W. Kuhn, Mercersburg, \$12; Thomas Wilson, Orbisonia, \$12; Vez Shaner, Lash, \$8; George Stone, Boalsburg, \$12; Susan N. Foust, Mt. Pleasant, \$8; Jeremiah Kohler, Lemoyne, \$8.

The next Legislature will be asked to pass a bill making the office of district attorney in the small counties a salaried one. At present they are paid fees and a number of them complain that the compensation does not justify them to perform the labor required. The bill will propose a salary of about \$1,000 in counties containing a population of 50,000 or less.

The State's financial officers announce that at the close of the fiscal year, November 30, there was \$6,649,988.77 in the State treasury, of which \$4,322,336.65 was in the general fund and \$2,327,652.12 in the sinking fund. During the year there was received at the State treasury \$17,494,217.78, the largest receipts in one year in the history of the State.

The New Castle Pottery Co. has been reorganized with \$100,000 capital to manufacture table and other ware. The main building will be 48x105 feet and the smaller buildings 80x100, and 100x55 feet respectively. Work has already begun and the plant will be in operation in six months. It will employ 200 people.

For the proposed soldiers' monument and memorial to ex-Gov. Curtin at Bellefonte about two-thirds of the requisite amount of money has been pledged. It is thought the remainder can be secured and the monument erected by October 7, 1901, the anniversary of ex-Gov. Curtin's death.

At the service in Christ German Church, of Harleton, the Rev. Mr. Schnecker, in a sermon against football, characterized the game as the devil's sport, and said that the patrons of the game are simply the devil's servants.

The capital stock of the Sharon and Youngstown Street Railway has been increased from \$200,000 to \$600,000. Work on the line between the two places is progressing rapidly and it is stated that cars will be running by June 1, 1901.

The Pittsburg, Somerset and Westmoreland Railroad Company has made a proposition to extend the road from its terminal 12 miles to Somerset if the citizens will take \$50,000 worth of stock in the enterprise.

The fourth death in the Gates shaft of the American Coke Company at Uniontown, occurred when George L. Livingston while working on the tippie lost his footing and dashed down the shaft over 100 feet to his death.

James Gibbons, a justice of the peace, and a prominent Democrat politician, was found dead in a chair at the St. Clair hotel, Pittston. Heart disease is supposed to have been the cause of death. He was 52 years of age.

The first rail machine at the Sharon steel works in South Sharon was put in operation for a test and a large number of rails cut. One hundred machines are now completed and nearly ready to be started.

James Patterson and George Johnston, colored, terrorized the people of Eastbrook, Lawrence county, and attempted to kill their employer, Winfield S. Moore, and are in jail at Greensburg.

Miss Louisa Sheppard, an actress of New York, has given up the stage to go into mission work. She will wed Rev. Charles H. Pridgen, pastor of the First Presbyterian church of Canonsburg.

An option on ten acres of ground at Braeburn has been secured by a New Jersey tube company and will be given by Park Arnold, with the stipulation that the company give employment to 500 men within a limited time.

Huffman M. Liston is back at Uniontown, after a sojourn in the Cape Nome gold fields. He reports the discovery of a mastodon's bones. He reports that Mr. Bartlett, of Pittsburg, has struck it rich.

At Washington the jury in the Carroll murder case failed to reach an agreement and were discharged after being out about 14 hours. Eleven stood for acquittal.

At Martins Creek, Northampton county, fire destroyed the cement plant of William Krause & Sons. Loss, \$200,000; insured. The works will be rebuilt.

By an explosion of powder John Petos and his three boys were dangerously burned at Smock, Fayette county. Petos was filling his powder can, when the youngest boy pulled an open lamp off a shelf into the powder.

Fifty students of Waynesburg college have formed a cadet corps, adopted the West Point uniform and will endeavor to have a West Point man as instructor.

The county commissioners object to the bill of Coroner F. H. Taylor, of Fayette county, and say the cost of 25 inquests should have been borne by corporations and not by the county.

Eleven milk dealers arrested at New Kensington and fined \$20 and costs each for adulterating milk, refuse to pay their fines and defy the authorities to collect them.

Charles Lehman, of Columbia, Lebanon hospital with broken ribs and an injured spine, due to a football game and may not recover.

The Sharon boiler works has received a request from Leeds, England, prices on the erection of three iron smokestacks at Buenos Ayres.

Thomas Taylor, a McDonald, was arrested for highway robbery of which he was the victim, got four years in penitentiary.

Harry Weiss, a pipe line worker, Mt. Pleasant, was found with a bullet in his heart. Su-