

It is again feared that there may be a revolution in Spain. The Spanish revolutionists, however, seldom become so rash as to pass the threatening point.

Compulsory education and the restriction of child labor are being agitated in Iowa, where it seems no law on either now exists. It has been started by the discovery that children not over six years old are being forced there to work on the farms at a time when they ought to be attending school.

An enterprising banker has invaded New York City, selling bread at two and one-half cents a loaf. He figures that, after paying all expenses of material, baking and delivery, there is a profit of one-tenth of a cent a loaf, and he looks for a comfortable income from the great number of loaves that will be sold in so large a city.

Roughly, Great Britain exports about 50,000,000 tons of coal per annum to foreign countries, among her chief customers being France, Russia, Spain, America, Sweden, India and the East. The export trade is exclusive of "bunker" coal taken by steamships engaged in the foreign trade, which averages about 11,000,000 tons per annum.

With the opening of the new year the number of carriers employed in the rural free postal delivery service was raised to 6300. There are now pending 6700 applications for the extension of the service, which is increasing in popularity. It is estimated that 5000 of them will be granted by the establishment of that many new routes.

Chicago no longer sells to the middle west alone. In every state and territory of the Union last year, not even excluding Alaska, Hawaii, the Philippines and Cuba and Porto Rico, the Chicago commercial traveler has appeared with wares for sale. More than that, he has entered China and Japan and is again knocking at the doors of South Africa. He journeys to Mexico regularly and spends much of his time in Canada.

An incident showing the value of quick wit in taking advantage of the situation in an emergency occurred on the coast of England, where a number of pilot boats and fishermen, having been caught in a storm, ran for the harbor, but failing to get quite into safety made for the end of a long pier which was being erected where there was a "Titan" crane. The boats were run under it and hitched on to the tackle, when five boats and 15 men in them were lifted bodily into port.

In the Chicago Record-Herald Dr. George F. Shradly observes that the proper interpretation of the germ theory as applied to septic infection lies at the bottom of all the present possibilities of cure by the knife, and has made clean wound treatment the new religion of safety, for the countless number of otherwise doomed sufferers. The same doctrine of cleanliness must necessarily infuse itself into all the comprehensive systems of sanitary reform and disease prevention. It is appropriately placed next to that of godliness in its far-reaching beneficial ministrations. In its widest sense it controls all the baleful conditions of unhealthy environment and stamps out pestilence by cutting off all opportunities for its dissemination. A good water supply, effective drainage, clean streets and pure air make any city healthy. The best of all is that the public appreciates these facts and consistently second the laudable efforts of the health authorities to such ends.

The chief object of the American who travels is to "get there" in the shortest possible time. The time lost by the stopping of trains at stations to let off or take on passengers is sorely regretted by the traveling public, which prefers the express trains to the slower moving accommodations. Considering the great demand for faster trains and the efforts to build engines which are capable of great speed, it is strange that there has been no invention which would do away with stops for passengers, as has been done by the troughs for watering engines while in motion. A New York inventor now offers to the railroads what he regards as a satisfactory method of letting off and taking on passengers while the train moves at its usual speed. The invention consists of saddle cars to straddle the rails, the passengers being transferred from one to the other in transit. The inventor estimates that his arrangement would put down the time between New York and San Francisco to 50 hours.

IF YOU STILL SMILE.

Let others sneer if you still smile
And praise me for the things I do;
I'll still endeavor proudly while
All others sneer, if you still smile—
Yes, I'll go bravely on, and I'll
Be spontaneously rewarded, too.
Though others sneer, if you still smile
And praise me for the things I do.
—Washington Star.

Romance of Geronimo's Daughter.

The daughter of Geronimo, the most implacable foe that the white man ever had, whose visit to the Trans-Mississippi exposition here is remembered, will wed one of the hated race—that is now authoritatively announced.

Lola, the "Red Rose of the Forest," as her people called her, will marry Houston A. Ward, one of the wealthiest and most accomplished young men in Southern Texas.

And this happy culmination grows out of a singularly beautiful romance, one scene of which is blood-curdling and exciting enough to form the nucleus of a highly successful melodrama.

It was while flying for life from a prairie fire and a herd of stampeded steers that the love of the young couple was first revealed, and in such dangerous surroundings was their love plighted.

Houston A. Ward, who is certainly eager to become the son-in-law of one of the most notorious Indian chiefs that ever shed blood on the borders of Arizona, is the son of old Shanghai Ward, a famous mustang king of the Rio Grande country.

The old man died a few years ago, leaving his only son a splendid fortune in lands, mustangs and cattle.

Young Ward's boyhood was divided between Texas and Illinois. He usually spent the summers on his father's ranch, and the winters in the north, where he attended school.

As the result of this simple career he possessed a fine education and he is rather proud of certain trophies won on the playgrounds and a diploma won in the class-rooms of the college at Campaign, Ill.

Last summer the grass was scarce in the Rio Grande valley, and Houston Ward shipped some 400 or 500 head of cattle to the Indian Territory.

Finding abundant pasture lands, the young man remained for some time in the vicinity of Fort Gill, where he made the acquaintance of the pretty Indian girl who will soon become his wife.

The gallant Texan frequently sought the company of the dusky belle of the border, often dancing and riding with her, but he now says that he did not know that he loved her until one evening he found her fingers in his hair and upon opening his eyes, in flame and smoke, he felt the earth trembling beneath his feet, while his ears were filled with noise of a cyclone.

Houston Ward had been riding about over the prairie looking at his cattle, and, becoming tired, he dismounted and lay down on the grass in the shade of a tree, leaving his pony to graze at will.

He soon fell asleep and his pony wandered off to mingle with a large herd of cattle and a big drove of horses that were not far away.

The grass was very tall and most of it was dead and dry. Either some careless cowboy dropped a match or a spark from a hunter's gun set the prairie on fire. A strong breeze was blowing from the north and, as usual in such cases, it looked as if the flames increased the commotion in the air until a wind storm was driving the rapidly spreading fire before it.

The great herd of Texas steers stampeded the instant they scented danger and started south, bellowing with terror. The horses caught the contagion and mingled with the flying steers, snorting as if a pack of panthers were at their heels.

As the noble animal turned the horns of the steers crushed against the tree and several of the big grutes fell headlong, rolling over the very spot where the rescued man had been lying. Their carcasses were trampled to jelly by the sharp hoofs of the flying herd.

The sure-footed horse bore the Indian girl and the Texan away at the top of his speed, but more than 500 head of furious beasts were close to his heels and it was four miles to a place of safety.

"Ride straight to the river," shouted Ward, as soon as he was able to command his voice.

"I know, I know," replied the girl. "Maybe we can turn out of the way pretty soon," she added.

The earth seemed to tremble as if convulsed by an earthquake and the air was filled with a roar more appalling than the noise of the cyclone.

Ward turned his head and he was surprised to see the red eyes of the mad brutes and their white horns almost at his horse's tail.

Striking the foaming flank of the horse with his hat, he shouted:

"On, on, Lola, or we are lost!"

She turned her head and looked into his eyes.

"Let me slip off," she whispered.

"The horse could save you; I am too many."

The Texan comprehended her meaning, and in that moment of peril he realized that the Indian girl loved him.

Fearing that she might execute her suggestion and sacrifice herself to save him, he instantly grasped her in his arms, and it was in that moment of peril that their lives were plighted.

The horse came upon smooth ground and in a short time he began to get further away from the herd.

"Right there," says the Texan, "I made up my mind to love that little Indian girl forever, and I resolved that, if I escaped the danger that pursued us, I would do everything in my power during life to make her happy."

The noble horse continued to increase the distance between his heels and the sharp horns of his pursuers until he again encountered rough ground.

Ward at this moment for the first time, thought of his pistol, and hurriedly drawing the weapon he poured a stream of lead into the faces of the cattle.

He was gratified to see that the progress of the herd was slightly retarded by the bodies of the several animals that he killed.

Again the heroic girl suggested the idea of sacrificing herself to save the man she loved.

"If the horse falls," she said, "you must lie close to him and the cattle will jump over you."

"It was evidently her intention," says Ward, in referring to the matter, "to stand on the body of the horse in case he fell and make an effort to frighten the steers while I crouched by the side of our exhausted steed."

The horse had no notion of falling. Once more his heels came in contact with clear ground and he carried his burden in triumph to the brink of the little stream.

Ward turned his head and with a shout of exultation he threw his hat in the faces of the leaders of the stampeded herd as the horse plunged into the water that the flames could not cross. The Texan knew that the hot steers would stop to cool their parched tongues, and when the horse had crossed the river he pressed a kiss on the Indian cheek and whispered to her:

"You have saved my life, and it belongs to you."

And he will keep his word.—Omaha World-Herald.

THE MOUNTAIN-LION.

The American Mountain-Lion the Champion Rough-and-Tumble Fighter.

From a story in St. Nicholas we clip this description of the old-time mountain lion:

There was a time when the American mountain lion was one of the most formidable animals in the world. The cat is the masterpiece of nature; and the mountain lion was one of the most terribly armed and powerful of the cat family. It was a compact mass of hard and tough muscle and gristle, with bones of iron, strong jaws, sharp teeth, and claws like steel pentknife blades. It was prodigiously strong, lithe, and quick, covered with a mail coat of loose skin that was as tough as leather. It had the temper of a demon, and was insatiably bloodthirsty. Withal, it had the proverbial nine lives of the cat tribe.

Against such an animal it was hopeless to match dogs. It was said, in the school books of 40 years ago, that "three British mastiffs can pull down a full grown Asiatic lion." Perhaps they could; but they would have been sorry if they had tackled a full grown American mountain lion of that time. He was not to be "pulled down" by anything; and if he had been "pulled down," that was exactly the position in which he fought best. With his back protected by the earth, and all four fearfully armed paws flying free, aided by his terrible teeth, and a body so strong that it could not be held in any position—well, when he was "down" was the time that he was most "up."

He once was found in all the Rocky mountain regions, from the jagged, haunted tropical forests of the extreme south to the home of the northern winter blizzard; but he attained his greatest size and ferocity on the sub-tropical plateau of northern Mexico, New Mexico and Arizona.

These animals are no longer what they were. The tourist or hunter of today cannot hope to find any of the old time power or ferocity.

AGRICULTURAL HINTS

Coal Ashes in Light Soil.
Coal ashes make light soils heavier, serving the same purpose as clay, but they contain but a trace of plant food. The best use for coal ashes is to sift them and use them in the poultry house, in order to afford dusting material for the fowls. They also act as excellent absorbents for the droppings and assist in keeping the floors clean.

When to Hatch Pullets.
Pullets for next year should be hatched early, as they will then mature and begin to lay before next winter. If not hatched until May or June some of them will not lay before the following spring. The eggs should be placed under the setting hens in February, which will bring the chicks out in March, and, if possible, all the pullets should be hatched at the same time, which can be done with an incubator. As soon as the young cockerels are of sufficient size for market they should be sold, as they will bring higher prices when young and afford more room for the growing pullets. This is the time to look a year ahead for winter eggs.

Burning Green Wood.
There are many farmers who seem to like to burn green wood, and no doubt some of them think it is economy to do so because it lasts longer. Others do it only because they think they cannot find time to cut a year's supply ahead and have it well seasoned and put under cover before the fall rains and winter snows have soaked it again. But it is certainly poor economy. Nearly all varieties weigh 50 percent more when green than when dry, and some even lose more than that in being properly seasoned. That adds to the labor of hauling and hauling, for what weighs one ton when dry weighs 2000 pounds when first cut. Now is this all of the loss? It takes heat to evaporate that extra amount of water. We believe the scientists say that when wood is burned entirely green 50 percent of its own heat is used up in evaporating the water. This makes 2000 pounds of green wood equal in heating power to 1000 pounds of perfectly dry wood. Of course few burn wood entirely green, but there are many who do not have it entirely dry or well seasoned. Any good housewife who has been obliged to use green wood for the kitchen fire can tell of delay in getting the meal in season, hindering her work and that of others, and of poorly cooked food because she could not get the oven hot enough. Then there is another loss, a loss of temper from the delay and the poor food. It is therefore a case of cruelty for any man to compel his family to burn green wood.

Importance of Testing Milk.
There certainly is no factor that has been more potent in effecting the marked increase in the average production of dairy cows than the Babcock test. Herds averaging 300 to 350 pounds of butter a year are no longer considered anything phenomenal. More than this, the person who goes into dairy farming with the intention not only of securing an existence but also of making money, finds that he cannot afford to keep cows which fall below the 300-pound standard.

Yet look at the vast army of herds whose average annual production does not even reach the 200-pound mark. It is therefore not to be wondered at that farmers occasionally complain that dairying doesn't pay. With the aid of a Babcock test and a pair of scales it is within the power of every farmer to grade up his herd, in the course of a few years, to the 300-pound standard. The milk is to be weighed and tested for a sufficient length of time to know just what each cow is doing. To do this with the least amount of labor and at a fair degree of accuracy, test and weigh the milk of each cow for three consecutive days of each month. Of course a composite sample is taken, which will give the average test for three days, and will necessitate only one actual test. In making these tests, it may soon be discovered that some of the herd are kept at an actual loss, while others are yielding a good profit. The outlay for a tester will not exceed \$4, and the manipulation of the test is so simple that with a little study every farmer can use it for his purpose with sufficient accuracy.

The time is not far distant when all milk, whether for creamery, cheese factory or city supply, will be bought strictly on the fat basis; in other words, by the Babcock test.—John Nichols, in Michigan Farmer.

Use of Soil Protecting Crops.
At the Ohio experiment station crimson clover has proved too uncertain to be a satisfactory cover crop, our chief difficulty being to get a start during the dry weather which so generally prevails during the latter part of summer. We encounter the same difficulty with red clover, sown at that time. In fact there seems to be an increasing difficulty in securing a stand of red clover, sown at any time. Of the front-resisting leguminous plants which may be sown late in summer to gather the later formed nitrates, the hairy vetch seems to offer the most promise, chiefly because its comparatively large seed will permit deeper covering and therefore better condition to withstand drought than is practicable with the clovers; but our success has not yet been large with this plant.

Alfalfa is not to be considered in this connection, because it requires too long to become established. It belongs with red clover, as a plant to be started in the early spring, but it should be sown

when the ground can be tilled and the seed covered instead of on the surface as we sow clover. The cowpea and soy bean possess every requisite for a cover except one—they cannot endure frost. Their large seed permits deep covering; they love heat and are fairly drought-resisting; sown any time through June or July they will cover the ground with a dense growth before frost, and being legumes they have the nitrogen accumulating power of that order of plants. We have adopted the practice of sowing soy beans when the clover catch fails, and find them a very good substitute for clover, but the first frost kills the plant and thus ends its work. We find, however, that the ground breaks up in much better condition in the spring after having grown a crop of soy beans. In discussing cover crops, rye is not to be forgotten. It is not a legume and therefore adds no nitrogen to the soil, but no other plant of those mentioned, unless it be the vetch, will more effectually save the nitrates which are probably formed whenever the temperature is above the freezing point.—C. E. Thorne, director of Ohio experiment station, in New England Homestead.

Best Egg-Producing Foods.
The man or woman who raises eggs for market should be intelligent enough to find out from experience and experiment the best egg-producing foods. Yet often this seems to come slowly, and we find some sticking to food that has long been discarded as poor egg-making material. Probably one of the most general mistakes made in this respect is to depend too much on corn. It is difficult to convince some that corn is not a good diet for egg-layers. It is partly because corn is the easiest and handiest chicken food that amateurs can secure, for they can purchase this at any feed store. But this should not be the case with one who raises chickens for a living. Surely he should give them their proper place in the diet. It has its place in the food of the poultry. It is fattening and heating, and a little of it in winter is essential to the health of the chickens, but it should take second place to clover.

Experience has demonstrated the value of clover for egg-producing time and again. Clover has just the material in it to form egg shell, and hence it becomes an essential part of every ration fed to the chickens. It may not be generally understood that there are nearly 30 pounds of lime contained in each 1000 pounds of clover. The chickens fed daily with clover will consequently prove better egg layers than those denied it. The clover hay should be given to chickens in winter in quantities sufficient to satisfy them, and to make them eat more it is desirable sometimes to prepare it in various ways. Cook and chop it up, and mix it with meal or other articles. This will sometimes induce the hens to consume a great amount of clover every day. Cut up into short lengths and mixed with warm mash and then fed only as fast as the chickens will clean it up each day, is probably the most economical way to feed the clover. Some cut the second crop of clover and place it in the poultry yard for the chickens to eat and scratch over at pleasure. This of itself is all right, but it is rather wasteful. More than half the clover will be lost, and the chickens do not actually eat much more than the leaves. The stalks contain most of the lime, and these should be prepared so the chickens will consume them. Of all foods that can be raised on a farm for poultry, clover is not only the best, but probably the cheapest, and a field of it is as essential to the success of dairying.—Annie C. Webster, in American Cultivator.

Farm Hints.
Charred bone, as well as charred corn, is good for poultry.
In raising calves for the dairy, commence with the breeding.
Both cattle and hogs should have at all times full access to salt.
Give the hens all of the buttermilk and skim milk they will drink.
Less hay and corn stalks and more grain would be a good rule for many feeders.
Sometimes calves have fits, the result of indigestion. Correct the errors of feeding.
Always have the nests so low that the hens can step in rather than be obliged to jump down.
If horses have pin worms, try an injection of soapuds and weak tobacco tea night and morning.
A fat perch is best because of being the most comfortable to the feet and the best support to the breast.
When the bull's hair is rough and looks dead, feed a good quality of oil-cake and card him thoroughly.
An occasional dish of charred corn is good for the hens, brightening the combs and toning up the system.
If an abundance of good, sharp grit is kept constantly within reach of the fowls many diseases from indigestion will be avoided.
The success of the creamery depends on the care the patrons take of the cream. Fancy butter cannot be made from poorly kept cream.
The best way to feed corn to young chickens is crushed or cracked. For ducklings mix cornmeal and bran, equal parts, into a mash with milk.
The hogs that are reared when young on good sweet milk, turned out in the clover field in summer and topped off with corn, make the ideal creatures for the market.
The skeleton of an average sized man weighs about 20 pounds; that of a woman of average size about six pounds less.

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PRODUCE A RACE OF GIANTS.
Two Million Dollars to Be Spent in Scheme to Regenerate the French.

An attempt to breed a race of human giants, one of the most remarkable scientific experiments undertaken in modern times, is to be begun at Rouen, the ancient capital of Normandy. It seems that Count de Saint Ouen—a descendant of William the Conqueror—who endowed the undertaking to the extent of \$2,000,000 confidently expected at the time of his death that the fortune which he bequeathed would ultimately be the means of regenerating the French people, but though scientists admit that it may be possible to breed a race of giants they regard the scheme on the whole as anything but a wise one. The Count's scheme is practically one of selective propagation. His money is left to encourage giants and giantesses to marry. One per cent will be given away each year. One couple selected every twelvemonth will receive the comfortable sum of \$20,000 as a nest-egg with which to begin housekeeping and to support the little giants and giantesses whom the stock may happen to drop down the chimney. The Count de Saint Ouen was not the first to conceive such an idea. Frederick William, the first King of Prussia, and father of Frederick the Great, attempted it nearly 200 years ago. He collected 2,000 giants, whom he enlisted in a regiment known as the "Potsdam Guard." Many giants were kidnapped for this regiment. Frederick commanded his guardsmen to marry tall women, and it was his hope to propagate an army composed of giants. None of the men in the front rank of his Potsdam Guards was under seven feet in height. The scheme for cultivating giants, however, was abandoned before any important results were observed. Yet it is said that abnormally tall men in the vicinity of Potsdam today claim direct descent from Frederick's famous giant regiment. It is, of course, recognized that great stature can be inherited. The best evidence that such a characteristic can be developed by propagation may be found in the vestriers of Japan. They are much taller and very much heavier than the Japanese as a race, having for centuries been bred by selection.

Water for New York City.
New York City's average daily supply of water for the three boroughs of Manhattan, Brooklyn and the Bronx is 340,000,000 gallons, and the consumption of Queens and Richmond brings up the total to 350,000,000 gallons, a larger quantity than is used by any other city in the world, and nearly as much as is used by any other two American cities.

Mr. Marconi states that his company has a 15 years' contract with the British government for a wireless naval service at £10,000 a year.

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Practical Horse-Shoer and General Blacksmith.

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