

Gatling, the gun man, has invented a plow that does the work of 60 horses. But what can the ordinary farmer do with a contrivance of that kind?

The vote of Nevada fluctuates very little. In 1892 it was 10,878; in 1894, 10,508; in 1896, 10,305; in 1898, 10,011, and in 1900, 10,196. No other state in the Union has such a record of an almost stationary vote.

A once popular play hinged upon a paper hidden in "The Leather Patch" on a pair of trousers. Truth, thus dard by fiction, now produces from the hollow wooden leg of a Trenton junkman \$15,000 a will and a temperance pledge. Fiction always was outclassed in this match.

Bermuda is to be equipped with the largest floating dock in the world. The structure was recently launched at Wallsend, England, having been constructed there for the British government. It has a lifting capacity of 17,500 tons, and an area of 69,000 square feet. It will, therefore, accommodate the largest battleship afloat.

The annual report of the farmers' cooperative society in Iowa, shows that last year it handled and marketed products to the value of \$616,264, at an expense of \$4030. It is claimed that the amount saved by the society during the year ended July 9, 1901, on the basis of the volume of business done, was \$84,000, which would give its 600 members an average of \$1403 more than they would have received if they had marketed their products in the old way.

It often happens that the introduction of an invention intended to take the place of something already in use, actually results in increasing the use of the latter. The telephone, for example, as many people thought, would take the place of the telegraph to a great extent; on the contrary, while its use is constantly increasing, the use of the telegraph is increasing, too. It is the same with the electric light and illuminating gas. Census reports show that the use of gas, in spite of the introduction of the electric light in buildings of all kinds, including private dwellings, has steadily increased during the past 10 years.

As a result of the Anglo-Japanese agreement it is expected that there will be something like a vogue of Japanese fabrics and styles in the fashionable English world. The consummation of the Franco-Russian pact was for several years the dominant factor in the creation of the Parisian modists and milliners; hats, cloaks and gowns were made to suggest in their outline or decoration, the Cossack tradition. In similar manner, it is predicted that some modifications of the quaint Japanese robes and packets, handbags, etc., will find their way into the toilet of the English gentleman, where the kimono indeed has already established itself.

The Philadelphia Record quotes the following letter from Pulaski F. Hyatt, United States Consul at Santiago, Cuba: "As the question of land ownership in Cuba is under discussion, for your information I write to say that, so far as sugar plantations were concerned before the Spanish-American war, out of forty-seven sugar plantations within my consular district of Santiago and its dependencies not one belonged to a person who claimed to be a citizen of Cuba. By far the larger share belonged to British subjects, although long residents upon the island. The balance was pretty evenly divided between French, German and Spanish citizens, while two belonged to American citizens—one small one to Chester A. Whitney, near Santiago, the other to a man by the name of Rigley, near Manzanillo."

The Egyptian pyramids are soon to come out of their darkness of 5000 years, and will be accessible to all tourists. General Director Maspero, of the society which has in charge the preservation of the antiquities of the country, has been experimenting with the electric light, and began his work on the temple of Karnak, at Thebes. The experiment met with so much approval that he has decided to light the inner passages and catacombs of the great pyramids. This will provide Egyptian tourists with new attractions, and they will be able to penetrate to the innermost recesses of the pyramids. The fighting will be of especial value to women, who have confined their investigations of the pyramids of the left shore of the Nile to climbing up on the outside, as they were afraid of the intense darkness within. With the introduction of the electric light the tombs of the Pharaohs will be accessible to all.

LIFE AND DEATH.

So he dies for his faith. That is fine—More than most of us do. But say, can you add to that line That he lived for it too?

In his death he bore witness at last As a martyr to truth. Did his friends do the same in the past From the days of his youth?

It is easy to die. Men have died For a wish or a whim—From bravado or passion or pride. Was it harder for him?

But to live—every day to live out All the truth that he dreamt, While his friends met his conduct with doubt And the world with contempt.

Was it thus that he plodded ahead, Never turning aside? Then we'll talk of the life that he led. Never mind how he died.

—Conservator.

The Usual Ghost.

By HALE HOWARD RICHARDSON.

We were talking about ghosts and psychical phenomena in general when Litigow volunteered a story.

"I don't repudiate the ghost business, boys, but this is my nearest approach to an apparition. It was down in Rio—"

"Then it was lizards," interrupted Gammons, disgustedly.

Some one fetched him with a chunk and Litigow proceeded,—

"It was down in Rio just after the rebellion, when the navy bombarded the city. I was there surveying on a projected railroad, and had hired a house on the outskirts of the town. All I needed was a room, but the price asked was so low, and the little garden with one or two orange and papaya trees looked so inviting, that I took it. The house was in bad repair, only one of the rooms down stairs being habitable by my standard. The other room was only floored in part, but would do excellently for my pony."

"What was upstairs I didn't know, as the steps of the rude stairway had been removed, and the opening above boarded over. The neighborhood seemed respectable, and there was a small baracca opposite with several companies of soldiers."

"The first night, strange to say, I slept undisturbed, but may be I was used up from an unusually hard bit of work. I was dimly conscious in the morning of remembering that my horse had been restless during the night, and of having accounted for it by flies. The next day was pretty warm even for May, and the night failed to acquire its accustomed coolness. I kept awake a long while. Then I noticed an increased restlessness in the pony, and while wondering what I could do for her comfort, some one began stalking in a deliberate fashion across the partly boarded floor. I expected to hear a voice, but my unknown visitor held his tongue, but maintained a mark-time sort of pacing to and fro."

"I jumped up without much attempt at silence, ran to the door and flung it open. The moonlight was sufficient to show an empty room, save for the quaking mare. The street door was securely barred, and I closed the window shutters, although it seemed impossible that any one could make a speedy exit by them. Then I went to bed again, speculating on the wherefore of the intrusion, but soon fell asleep."

"However, on the following night the same monotonous and slightly harassing pit-pat was resumed. The ghost did not keep schedule time, that is the conventional midnight, but had a great faculty of perceiving the moment of my falling asleep. I arose cautiously, pistol in hand, and stood listening by the door. Stamp, stomp—a somewhat irregular light and irregular step was certainly sounding from the other side. I could hear the mare dribbling out her breath as she trembled. When the footsteps seemed just opposite the door I burst in."

"But the pony was all alone. The moonlight streamed in the windows, for it had been too stifling to close the shutters. Daisy kept her head turned with frightened eyes toward a corner of the room, but there was nothing there. Somehow I felt loth to linger, and after soothing the trembling pony, went back to my room and shut the door carefully. Then I lit the lamp and read and thought and dozed till sleep overcame me altogether."

"Feliciano, the lieutenant opposite, said with a shrug of his delicate shoulders that no one stayed in that casa very long. He wouldn't stay five minutes after dark. So I invited one of the boys to the theatre and to stay with me all night. We had hardly blown out the light before the walking began. Donovan started up."

"Who's your restless neighbor, Litigow?"

"I don't know. Maybe two of us can find out," I answered in a whisper. "You pull open the door and I'll jump in."

"But Donovan wanted the honor of jumping in, and I readily consented. We listened till Donovan whispered, 'Now let me at him!' and in he sprang."

"By George! I heard him right there. Litigow, you're got a heart. There's been bloody murder! Let me out!"

"We didn't sleep much the rest of the night, because Donovan insisted on relating hair-raising ghost stories. I chafed him into coming again. We made ourselves comfortable in the room with the horse. A game of cards passed the time until 11 o'clock, and perhaps we took several swigs of Dutch courage. We blew out the light and lay down. I know I felt considerable suspense, reclining there right on

the ghost's stamping ground, and Donovan was breathing heavily.

"The suspense lasted long enough to make us a little sceptical of our apparition. Donovan turned over with a relieved grunt, and I relaxed myself for slumber. Suddenly Daisy gave a little snort and we were wide awake. The stomp, stomp, of the ghost's footsteps sounded resonantly through the room. Donovan groaned; I could not restrain a cold sweat. The step seemed at the very bedside. The moon had gained the zenith and left the room in shadow. I sat up."

"D'ye see it?" said Donovan, hoarsely.

"All I could distinguish was Daisy, with head turned toward the corner she had indicated in her alarm the night before. Indeed now that my attention was directed the sound did seem to come from there. I threw the small club I had viciously toward that quarter. Something intercepted its flight before it reached the wall, and it clattered to the floor in company with something else."

"I struck a light and Donovan jumped up."

"By George!" he said. "The ghost has dropped his walking stick!"

"He gingerly picked up a light bamboo pole about nine feet long. Simultaneously we peered upward; I held the light higher."

"Shure, he dropped his cane going through that crack," commented Donovan, indicating a narrow space between the boards covering the stairway opening.

"We cocked our revolvers."

"Come down, ye loney spalpeen," commanded Donovan, as brave as a lion now, "or we fill your foggy carcass with port-holes!"

"The boards were displaced."

"Don't shoot, senators! I descend myself, and a good looking Portuguese dropped through and stood bowing before us."

"He smiled engagingly, and gave an expressive side glance toward the liquor. He responded quickly to my nod."

"You see, senators, our little bombard had not success. I take chance and fly, and herein hide myself. You will not betray? No? All! My clumsy espritu alarm you not? Others fled when I tap so, in two, three days. Ha, ha! and Feliciano, my cousin, the lieutenant, bring provisions. Tomorrow, next day, I think to escape. Your health, senators!"

"And the third night he was gone."

"The deuce!" complained Gammons. "I've had a better seance than that myself."—Waverley Magazine.

NOVEL OYSTER BEDS.

Seems to Be Chief Use of the Funny Turkish Navy.

The Turkish navy in 1878 retired behind the bridges up the Golden Horn, and there remained rotting until 1897, the only purpose of the vessels served being to act as mussel and oyster beds, from which the dock yard hands occasionally got a good feed. The ships were dismantled, in many cases parts of their engines were used for merchant vessels, and it is even said the propellers were taken to the palace to prevent anybody making use of them.

When the Greek war broke out, and daily rumors came of the Greek fleet doing immense damage to Turkish seacoast places, a feeling arose that the Turkish navy must be up and doing, and the sultan also saw that he must make a move. So orders were given for the fleet to get under way, and all the mussels were scraped off, the boilers patched with cement, and the fleet started. Not one of them was seaworthy, but they made a fine show, and the populace was satisfied. Their engines, however, were useless, and their decks so rotten that in some cases they could not carry the weight of the guns. Even when warping themselves out they had to borrow each other's cables, as they were only provided with one each. When they got into the Marmora they did not know what to do, but luckily captured a small coasting steamer, which piloted them to the Dardanelles. There several were leaking so badly that they had to be beached, while others went ashore of their own accord, and there they are to this day.

Again the sultan thought something should be done, so he entered into a contract with an Italian firm to repair and "re-everything" eight of the warships at a cost of £1,500,000. But the Italians wanted something to begin with, and after two years £130,000 has been forthcoming. Now the sultan thinks that his plans will be unremunerative, and he wants to break the contract, supporting his wish with all kinds of excuses. The "Shadow's" latest proposal is that the Italian firm should build a new cruiser as compensation for breaking the contract.

Listen to Papa.

There is a man who fancies he is at the head of the house. This particular man has several small children, and it pleases him to discourse a great deal on the training of the young.

A few days ago he had friends visiting him. His two little sons began to play about noisily. It is one of his theories that children should obey implicitly, and he wanted his friends to see how he carried it out in the training of his own family.

"Johnny," he said sternly, "stop that noise instantly!"

Johnny looked up in surprise, and then grinned a little.

"Oh, Freddie," he said to his brother, "as they went on with the noisy romp, 'Just listen to papa trying to talk like mama!'"

Travelers in eastern Siberia carry soups in sacks. They are frozen solid as stone, and keep indefinitely. Milk also is frozen and sold by the pound.

FARMERS' CORNER

Change of Run.

The opinion of M. Summer Perkins, given in Poultry Monthly is: Nothing will answer as well as complete periodical change of the poultry runs. To be sure we can remove some of the dirt, and replace with fresh earth but this is only partial. What we want is to seed down old runs to grass, or some other crop, which will find congenial soil for its rapid growth in the earth rich from poultry droppings, taking away the hens entirely and not returning them until the vegetative processes of the crop have completely renovated the ground. To make this change of runs readily facilitated we want light, movable coops and fences, so there will be little trouble in making the transfers. It is no use in saying it, large numbers of chickens and fowls are lost every year simply and only because breeders persist in penning them year upon year in the same spots, thus rendering the ravages of disease unavoidable and irremediable. Variety is the spice of life, and this applies to poultry runs in a very literal sense indeed.

Loss of Soil Fertility.

The loss of fertility from the soil occurs in various ways, but the characteristics of soils have much influence on the loss, and something also depends upon the kind of manure or fertilizer used. One result of an inquiry regarding the mineral fertilizers used at the Rothamsted experiment farms, in England, is to show that neither potash nor phosphoric acid, when present in excess of immediate requirements, is liable to escape from the soil or to sink to a depth beyond the reach of plant roots, and that if such should happen the quantity would be very small. When barnyard manure is used both the potash and phosphoric acid contained in the manure have been found to descend in more liberal quantities, and to a greater depth into the subsoil, than when applied in the form of fertilizers. The excess phosphoric acid and potash derived from superphosphate and potash salts respectively accumulate in the first nine inches of the soil, but are less soluble than the same substances supplied in barnyard manure. The accumulations of phosphoric acid are less fixed, but, and consequently more available, when alkaline salts have been applied with superphosphate, and it is also the case that potash salts are similarly affected, in a beneficial sense, when there are accompanying applications of phosphate and nitrogenous substances. It has, therefore, been demonstrated that the loss from the soil is not as great as has been supposed, and that the soil has the power to retain the larger share of soluble plant foods near the surface, if it is not exceedingly porous. During the entire year the amount of water which falls upon a field is very large, and soluble substances are consequently dissolved, especially as the actual amount of water used by crops, compared with that which falls, is small. The rains would soon deplete the soil of its soluble mineral matter but for the power of the soil to retain potash and other substances. For that reason some soils are more valuable than others. The nitrates in soils are more easily carried away (than potash or phosphoric acid, hence it is possible that the loss in the form of nitrates may be large, especially during very wet weather. When the soil is dry, evaporation brings to the surface some of the nitrates carried down by the rains, and growing crops also prevent loss by protecting the soil, or by appropriating the plant foods. It is well known, also, that some soils absorb gases from the air, hence some of the ammonia lost from the soil is recovered in that manner, and the power of ordinary land plaster to absorb gases has enabled some farmers to gain fertility to their soils by its use; while ammonia is largely brought down by rains to the soil, the result being that it is converted into nitric acid. In the soil there is a large and abundant supply of plant foods, but they do not exist in forms which permit of their use except in limited supply. This is a provision of nature to prevent exhaustion of the soil, for if the plant foods in the soil were easily rendered soluble the soil would long ago have been deprived of them. But they are in the soil, and ready for use when demanded, but the soil will not give us these foods except when certain natural laws have been complied with, and even the farmer cannot rob the soil by taking therefrom more than a fair proportion unless he pays the cost of so doing to an amount which is really prohibitory to a certain extent. When a farmer exhausts a soil by excessive cropping, and without returning something as compensation therefor, he simply deprives the soil of its soluble portions, but even the poorest soil will have left, for a future reserve, its vast stores of insoluble plant foods.—Philadelphia Record.

Waste Products on the Farm.

The work done on the farm just before the busy spring plowing begins is very important. If proper consideration is given the matter of saving that which is usually lost by inattention to details. The great waste of unsalable farm products amounts to millions of dollars annually, for farmers do not seem to understand that it is not always necessary to send products away from the farms in order to find markets. The farm is the best market, in fact, that a farmer can have, for if he keeps live stock he will be able to sell his raw products by converting them into the forms of meat, milk, butter and wool. The difficulty is that the waste products on the farms are not properly utilized. One product, that of corn fodder, has been wasted for years, though now it is being put to use with the aid of the shredder, but it is in the manipulation and handling of the manure and weeds that the lessening of expense occurs. If at this season the manure could be worked over, so as to be rendered fine, there would be a gain in available plant food when the manure is spread on the land in the spring; that is, the farmer should not wait for the manure to decompose in the field, but should endeavor to hasten the work in the manure heap during this period of the year, as he can now do little or nothing in the fields.

Diseased Plants.

When a plant that has been making satisfactory growth suddenly drops its leaves, you may be quite sure that its health has been injured in some way. Possibly the cause may be the red spider, but if, after examination, you find none of these insects at work, you will be obliged to look in other directions for the source of the trouble. Before beginning any kind of treatment, try to find out what has caused the difficulty. When you have ascertained that, you can go to work intelligently. If the pot is too large, put the plant in a smaller one. If too much water is retained in the soil, the drainage must be defective. If too strong a fertilizer has been given, repot the plant, giving it a soil of moderate richness. If the heat of the room is too intense, temper it in some way and give plenty of fresh air.

In treating a sick plant let the soil get quite dry, then repot the plant. Give a small pot and remove all the diseased roots. After potting the plant, water moderately and wait until it shows signs of growing before giving more, unless the soil is likely to get too dry.

If the trouble comes from worms in the soil, take a piece of fresh lime as large as a teaspoon, and dissolve it in a 10-quart pailful of water. When dissolved, pour off the clear water and apply to your plants, giving enough to thoroughly saturate the soil. This will almost always drive out or kill the worms and seldom injures the plants. If one application is not sufficient, repeat it. Most plants are usually benefited by the use of lime water occasionally, as there is an element of plant growth in the lime. I depend on this in fighting the worms, and it generally gives complete satisfaction if used as directed.—Vick's Family Magazine.

Farm Butter Making.

At the recent convention of the Illinois Dairy association W. R. Hostetter, one of the leading dairymen of Illinois, discussed butter making on the farm, and pointed out that the comparatively low grade of farm butter was due to the lack of conveniences and to the small quantity made. He is convinced, however, that good butter can be made on the farm, and in order to do this the dairy house and the surroundings must have excellent drainage and must be so constructed as to get the maximum amount of sunshine. He advises getting the very best tinware for dairy purposes, as it is so much easier to keep good utensils clean. Never buy cheap cans, pails or strainers.

Get a good separator, and use some kind of power for running it, as it is exceedingly difficult to maintain a uniform speed when turning by hand. He has no set temperature for cooling cream and churning, as so much depends on weather, the dairy house, etc. As a general rule, he likes to ripen his cream at a high temperature and to churn at as low a temperature as possible. He usually churns

at 55 degrees in winter and 40 to 45 degrees in summer. The churn must be stopped at just the right time, or when the butter granules are about the size of a grain of wheat. He adds a little salt before washing. The amount of salt to be used depends upon the taste of the customers. He believes it is advisable to try to get customers to use fresh butter, so that it can be delivered once or twice a week. Formerly he had customers who wanted him to pack butter in the winter for next summer's use. Gradually they have all abandoned the practice. He advises putting up butter in neat packages, as this will do much toward making sales.—Dairy World.

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Poultry Notes.

It never pays to have a bad egg in the basket.

Cooked potatoes or turnips are always in order for poultry.

Look out for draughts in the poultry house. Draughts mean rump.

Charcoal is a necessity in every poultry house. Proper use prevents disease.

Eggs from an abnormally fat hen rarely hatch; more likely chicks die in the shell.

Oat meal, rolled oats, stale crackers or baked corn cake make the best food for chicks.

Don't fail to give the chicks fine grit. Scatter it on the feed, and let them get a supply early in life.

Don't overload the chicks. They need warmth for the first two days more than they need food.

Dust the hen with insect powder when the brood is taken from nest. Lice are sure death to chicks.

If you can furnish the hens with a little raw meat every day they will return the compliment by furnishing plenty of eggs.

Isolate promptly all fowls suspected with roup. You can tell it by their sneezing and by the whitish substance issuing from the nostrils.

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A CHINESE HOBGOBLIN.

Legend of the Celestial Brownies of 1,700 Years Ago.

An American father residing temporarily in China, writes this curious legend or fairy tale to his small son in Wisconsin: "We passed by some large mounds or tombs between here (Tongchow) and Chetoo. They have a little crown to them, somewhat like the Mohammedan graves, and are said to be the tombs of giants, who came here and held the province of Shantung for a long time, some 1,500 or 1,700 years ago, and the language spoken here was introduced by them. They are said to have been ten feet or more tall. And this is a story I heard: In the time of the story all the people were killed at the age of 60. Well, there was one man who loved his mother very much, and so instead of killing her according to law, he hid her in a sort of mound and carried food to her every day. At about that time there was a hobgoblin who destroyed the people, and it was said that he was destroying all the people in his part of the country, and that he was presently coming to this man. So in his trouble he went to his mother, and told her he was afraid he should not be able to bring her any more food. She said: 'Don't be troubled; take this black cat and put it up your sleeves, and when the hobgoblin comes you just let the cat go.' A few days after, while at the court, the cat began to squirm, and suddenly gave a dart and killed the hobgoblin, which was a big rat!"

Business Cards.

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Office on second floor of First National bank building, Main street.

DR. R. DEVERE KING, DENTIST.
Office on second floor Reynoldsville Real Estate Bldg. Main street Reynoldsville, Pa.

DR. W. A. HENRY, DENTIST.
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