

LIFE.

Come, track with me this little vagrant rill, Wandering its wild course from the mountain's breast, Now with a brink fantastic, heather-drest,

A CONTEST WITH THE WEATHER BUREAU.

By F. E. C. ROBBINS.

The young man in the linen suit, after attending to the slight errand that had brought him to Lufkin's store at Hardhack Corner, lingered for a little chat with the proprietor, who looked as if he might be a "character."

absorption characteristic of the specialist. Every day the rival forecasts were placed conspicuously on the wall, and every day Mr. Dole, according to his promise, called to compare them, and to discuss the degree of fulfillment of those of the day before, after which it became quite a habit of his to make a social call at the storekeeper's pleasant house near by.

ready, did you say, Fannie? Well, I'll go right in. And you must come, too, Mr. Dole. And have a bite with us. The invitation was accepted, and the simple 12 o'clock dinner finally assumed quite the proportions of a banquet, at least so far as time was concerned.

So absorbed did the little company become in the talk that no one noticed the lapse of time until darkness began to steal upon them. Then Grandmother Lufkin, mindful of household duties, peered anxiously through her spectacles at the face of the tall clock in the corner, while her husband sprang up from the table and hastened to the window.

In that confidence he still abides. "I've got a grandson," he is wont to say, "or grandson-in-law, I suppose you'd call him, that's connected with the Government. He works in the Weather Bureau, helping get up those predictions. Well, it's quite a science; and taking the country, by and large, it's amazing how well they hit it. But when it comes to predicting for just Hardhack Corner and vicinity, my grandson has to own up that the Government can't hold a candle to me."—Youth's Companion.

OUR DISAPPEARING TIMBER. Three Times as Much Used Each Year as the Forest Grows. Every person in the United States is using over six times as much wood as he would use if he were in Europe. The country, as a whole, consumes every year between three and four times more wood than all of the forests of the United States grow in the mean time.

FOR THE FARMER AND STOCKMAN

Sorghum as Stock Feed.

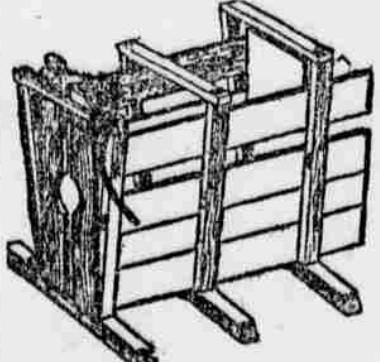
Professor George C. Humphrey, of Wisconsin Experiment Station, says that next to corn sorghum is very highly recommended as a late summer feed for cattle, hogs and other classes of stock.

Horses and Cattle Together.

Mr. L. T., of Fairmont, Neb., asks whether it is good practice to run different classes of stock together in a pasture. We never like to put vicious or troublesome horses in with cattle, for they are apt to annoy the cattle, but a few horses put in the cattle pasture will help clean up the pasture, for the horses will eat the rich growth around the spots where the manure of the cattle has dropped.

Rack For Dehorning.

The illustration shows a rack to be used either for dehorning cattle or ringing hogs. For silks use three pieces four feet long and four inches by four inches mortized for bottom of posts eight inches each side of centre to allow the sils and bottom boards to drop into place.

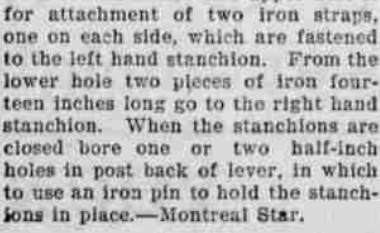


Rack For Dehorning.

eight inches long are tenoned to the sils. Three cap pieces two inches by four inches and four feet two inches long are mortised at the ends to receive tops of posts. The caps are of oak. One oak piece in front of the cap, which holds the stanchion, is two inches by two inches and four feet two inches long.

Improved Butter Churn.

The old-fashioned hand butter churn, so long associated with fresh air and country life, seems destined to be overtaken by others up to date and which require less labor to operate.



Foot and Hand Power Churn.

Early and Late Plowing. Experiments as to early and late plowing are made on bottom land with these results: The land was divided into six plots, each one of which was plowed alternately late and early, the early plowing, April 7 to 19, and the late plowing, June 3, all the plots being cultivated at the same time and with the same tools.

The Common House Fly.

Whence He Comes and Whither He Goes.

By HAROLD SOMERS, M. A. The common house fly (Musca Domestica) is a creature of such secretive habits that although from the very earliest times he has been with us, and the most ancient writers have mentioned and described him, still very little was known of his origin and history.