It is still a question whether things are wicked because they are nice, or nice because they are wicked.

Superior quality and extra quantity must win. This is why Defiance Starch is taking the place of all others.

Advertising Thread.

As an advertisement of its thread a well-known firm has, after several attempts, connected Europe and Asia across the Bosphorus with 1,250 yards of cotton.

Swimming Harder Than Climbing.

An Austrian physician, Dr. F. Mueller, has made experiments which demonstrate that swimming is harder work than mountain climbing.

True joy comes the more silent as it penetrates deeper.

Difference in Divorces.

From 1858 to 1888, thirty years, 7,321 divorces were granted in England. From 1867 to 1886, nineteen years, 328,716 divorces were granted in the United States.

Excuse of Kaffir Witness.

"I am too ill to come to court today; I remand the case to to-morrow," was the excuse sent by a missing Kaffir witness to the assistant magistrate at Kimberley.

Women and princes must both trust somebody.—Selden.

Present Day Amber Is Resin.

According to the best modern authorities the so-called amber found in Syria, India and Madagascar is not amber at all, but a resin, nearly allied to copal, which is the product of leaf-bearing trees growing at the present day. True amber is the resin of acicular trees long since extinct, and there is a good deal of conflict among scientists as to which geological period it belongs to.

Flight Through Frozen North.

The Lapland limited is perhaps the most curious of through express trains in that it carries fewer passengers and runs over a longer distance than any other train. This flyer leaves Stockholm, Sweden, once a week during the summer months and runs straight through to Narvik, a Norwegian harbor, within the Arctic zone. The distance is 1,336 miles.

Pension Consumptives' Families.

In Germany, when a person breaks down with consumption, he is sent to a government sanatorium, where he is kept until he recovers or dies. In the meantime his family receives a weekly pension from a fund to which the patient himself contributed when he was in good health. By this means the risk of spreading the disease is avoided.

Perfume and Moth Preventive.

A pleasant perfume and moth preventive is made of cloves, caraway seeds, nutmeg, mace, cinnamon and Tonka beans—an ounce of each. Add as much Florentine orris root as will equal the total amount of the other ingredients. Put together, grind into a powder and put in little bags among your clothes.

Time of Lighting Flash.

F. H. Glew of London has calculated the time of a lightning flash to be one nineteenth of a second. He obtained this result by means of a photograph made with a vigrating lens, which indicated the multiple image taken and the rate of vibration of the lens.

Stamps Not Historically Correct.

On some of the postage stamps of St. Kitts-Nevis, England, the authorities have depicted Columbus gazing intently through a big telescope. As a matter of fact, telescopes were not invented till over 100 years after Columbus was born.

Peat Supply of Sweden.

Sweden's supply of peat seems inexhaustible. In the province of Norrbotten alone there are 8,648,000 acres of moss land, and the total quantity of peat is estimated to equal a supply for two centuries of the present coal import to Sweden.

A man's work is from sun to sun, but a woman's work is never done.

Spying on Prisoners Condemned.

To listen to the conversation of two suspected housebreakers, the Llandudno (Wales) police placed an officer under the bed in the cell where the men were confined—a proceeding which Mr. Justice Wills condemned at the trial of the men.

A bachelor's ideal better half is a woman with money.

Hard for Both Sides.

"It's hard for us short people," said one little woman to another little woman in a Boston crowd, "when we're in a crowd where the tall people get all the air and we're smothered." "It's hard for us tall people to have all you small people filling up the floor so that we haven't room to walk," retorted the tall girl standing next her."

Stone Dust Brings Death.

The mortality from lung disease among miners living in Cornwall, including gold miners, is eight or ten times that of colliers and ironstone miners. The damage is done by the stone dust resulting from drill work, which cuts the lung tissues and enables the tubercle bacillus to gain a footing.

Complete Nerve Skeleton.

One of the most interesting possessions of the museum at the Hahnemann Medical College in Philadelphia is a complete nerve skeleton made by Dr. Rufus B. Weaver, the famous neurologist. It is said to be the only specimen of the kind in the world.

Birds at Church Services.

Birds nest freely in the rafters of the ancient parish church at Ivychurch, Kent, England. During the services the birds flit to and fro from pew to pew, and are often fed by breadcrumbs brought in the pickets of worshipers.

Japanese Education.

In Japanese public schools instruction is given in hygiene and physiology. A Berlin newspaper remarks that in this respect educational Japan is ahead of Prussia.

Mice Dislike Peppermint.

Mice have a great antipathy to the smell of peppermint, and a little oil of peppermint placed around their haunts and holes will successfully keep them away.

Some men go to war, fall in battle and are lost; others stay at home, fall in love and are lost in the matrimonial shuffle.

A father likes to have it said that his baby looks like him, but he gets mad if told he resembles the baby.

DAIRY

That Siberian Butter.

Probably no foreign subject connected with dairying has received so much attention from the press of the United States during the last few years as has Siberian butter. It has entered so directly into competition with the butter of all other countries that sell dairy products in the English market that we have been forced to recognize it as a great factor. Perhaps the matter has received more attention than it deserves; but there has been a feeling that this matter of Siberian butter is to become a very great factor in the competitive butter markets of the world. In other countries the area for the production of butter for export is limited, and no one locality is feared very much. But with Siberia it is different. There is there an immense stretch of territory that is admirably adapted to the production of dairy articles. Labor is cheap and transportation, being under the government, is also cheap. Butter seems to be about the only manufactured product of an agricultural nature that is being exported. Conditions are such that it seemed that it would be possible for the Siberians to undersell every other nation and so capture the best butter markets of the world. This thought has evidently been in the minds of the Siberians themselves, judging from the way they have taken hold of the matter. In five years the number of dairy farms there has increased five fold. There is, however, this protection to the other butter-producing countries, that the methods followed by the Siberians are yet crude, and much of the butter turned out is of poor quality. The war in the east has taken the attention of the government, and there now seems no good reason to suppose that the government will do much to improve conditions in the Siberian butter factories for some years to come. Should the Russian government take hold of the matter as vigorously as has the Canadian government taken hold of the dairy business in the Northwest Territories the quality of Siberian butter would be at once raised to a point that would make that country a dangerous competitor for every butter producing country in the world that sells its product in the English market.

When Butter Is to Be Stored.

When butter is being made for packing it can be handled differently than when it is made for immediate consumption. The butter that is to be used a short time after being made may have a high flavor, and some people like in it a taste of the buttermilk. It is a well-known fact that some of our butter that is the highest in flavor at time of making is a poor keeper on account of the amount of milk it still contains or of aromas that change into something else. This will be of interest to our readers on the farms who every year pack butter for winter use or sale. With such butter the advisable practice is to wash it so thoroughly that all the curd, that is, all the buttermilk, will be taken out of it. Thorough washing, to the point even of taking out most of the so-called flavor will put the butter in the best shape for keeping. This washing takes out of it the substances in the milk that act as food for bacteria and cause the spoiling of the butter. In the making of butter for ready sale one washing is frequently regarded as enough, but in the case of butter for packing it is best to wash the butter three times, which should take out of it about all the curd it contains. It must be remembered that when we speak of curd we mean simply the substance of the milk or buttermilk that is contained in it. Not too much salt should be added but enough so that the butter might be regarded as highly salted. On the farm it is an easy matter to pasteurize the cream by heating it. This will destroy the germs and ferments that cause the transformations in the butter and increase its keeping quality. The cream should be permitted to become quite sour before churning, as this also favors its keeping quality.

Rusty Cans.

Cans rusty inside and out are too generally used in the conveying of milk. One does not realize how extensive this practice is till he reads of a Chicago milk inspector getting after the shippers of milk and smashing the cans with an axe. If one will visit the different milk shipping stations he will be surprised at the number of such cans in use, or he would have been surprised if he had visited such stations before the Chicago milk inspectors began to get in their good work. It is doubtful if these old cans are of any use at all, even for the hauling home of milk from the creamery, when said milk is to be fed to calves and pigs. The rusting of cans is largely due to the manner in which they are made. The tinning is so imperfect that it is soon broken and the rust begins its work. Farmers would save much money if they had a regular organization for the purchase of cans, as they would thus be in position to secure good cans. As it is at the present time, a man is not certain of getting a good can even if he pays a good price for it. The large milk bottling companies can help out in this matter by buying cans and reselling to farmers, as they have exceptional facilities for buying cans of good quality. We believe that cheaply made cans are really at the bottom of much of the trouble farmers are having in this regard.

How Air Affects Cream.

A French savant claims to have found out that air affects cream very detrimentally on account of the oxygen in it. Perfectly pure air he would have us believe so affects the upper layers of cream that has stood for any time that to get the best results in the matter of flavor these layers must be skimmed off and not used in the making of butter. This is drawing the line very close, and we are not sure that he is right. In fact our scientists have looked into these matters very carefully and are of the opinion that perfectly pure air does not affect cream detrimentally. There is, however, room for further investigation.

AGRICULTURE

Soil Surveys.

It is now developing that we should have a practical soil survey of every state in the union, for every state in the union is engaged in the production of cereals, fruits and vegetables, as well as of grasses. The surveys in most of the states have been of the geological order. It was necessary that these surveys should be first made; for they are very valuable in indicating the composition of soil, and the outlines of the various formations are indicative of areas that will give largely the same results when put under the plow. The practical survey is however what we want. This kind of a survey is being made in Illinois, where, in addition to the geological survey, a test is being made of the ability of the soils to produce certain crops. The state of Illinois has appropriated a large sum of money for the carrying on of this work, but it is safe to say that the money is coming back to the state several times over. The examinations of the soil in the southern part of the state are bound to work a revolution in the farming of all that section. The discovery of the acid condition of the soil and the ease by which it may be cured is worth many millions of dollars to Illinois farmers and to the men that will yet invest their money in those lands. It is also almost certain that as a result of this work there will be a steady shifting of the population toward the southern part of the state, where the winters are mild and the climate good. The same kind of a practical soil survey should exist in every state. It takes money to carry on a work of this kind; and if the other states do not take hold of the matter in earnest they will find their own interests being injured by the growing importance of Illinois agriculture. The work that is being done in Illinois is not an index of what may be the condition in other states, and the state legislature that hopes to profit enough by the work in Illinois to make it unnecessary for it to appropriate money will find that it has failed to make a paying investment.

Patent Absurdities.

If farmers would read more they perhaps would be caught by the sharpers less often than they are. It seems of little use however to warn farmers against being caught by the various swindles that are being worked; for the reason that the farmers that are the dupes are the ones that do not read agricultural papers. We believe that very few of our readers are food for such sharks. Some time ago a farmer in Oklahoma was worked by a man that was selling patent rights for a preparation that he claimed would, if put on trees, kill all the borers and that if buried in the ground of an orchard would cause all the gophers there to leave. He also told the farmer that the experiment station had offered $3,000 for a half interest in the patent. The farmer wrote to the Oklahoma station asking if the thing was a fraud and received a reply that it was. The remarkable thing about such games is that they give enough revenue to keep the men that work them in good condition. This does not speak well for the acumen of the farmers that are swindled. The truth should be patent to all that there is no "cure-all" for any disease or insect. Gophers do not care what is buried in the ground an acre away and the borer does not care what preparation is put on the tree, so long as it is kept out of his hole.

Saving Irrigation Water.

The application of water to soil for irrigation purposes is a matter that is but poorly understood. The building of great reservoirs and the digging of expensive canals and the application to the work of the science of the practical civil engineer have been all elements of cost in the past. At the present time a good many other methods of applying water are being tried. One of these is sprinkling. This method saves the cost of irrigation ditches, but as a practical method has not yet been fully worked out. Perhaps the matter has not yet been handled on a large enough scale. However, there has certainly been a good deal of water wasted in the past, if recent investigations say anything. Last year in California trials were made irrigating in ditches one foot deep and irrigating by help of ditches three inches deep. To the surprise of the investigators it was found that in irrigating in ditches three inches deep at least one-third more water was required. As the three-inch ditches are quite generally used in some sections, it is evident that in such cases 25 per cent of the water has been thrown away.

Molasses for Milk Production.

Molasses for milk production is perhaps a new idea with most of our readers. In various parts of the tropical lands where molasses is very cheap, being a by-product of the sugar mills, it is being fed quite extensively, if we can speak of any dairy operation being extensive in a land where dairying is little practiced. In England and some other European countries experiments are being made with it, as it is quite cheaply obtained in some localities near beet sugar factories. It is not fed clear, but is mixed with various absorbents, among which are sphagnum moss and ground corn stalks. It can be fed only to the extent of one and two pounds a day, but is said to be very palatable and to be greatly liked by the cows. Probably if dairying develops much in the South, especially in the cane growing regions, we will hear of the increased use of this by-product for the feeding of dairy cows, as it is now being quite extensively used in the feeding of horses.

One of the commonest mistakes of the fruit grower is to neglect to cultivate his orchard.

Professor Oscar Erf has charge of the model creamery at the World's Fair.

Kilkenny Castle, Ireland, is one of the oldest habitations in the world. Many of the rooms are the same as they were 800 years ago.

Wedding Presents Go to Parents.

A Japanese bride gives her wedding presents to her parents as a slight recompense for the trouble they have had in rearing her.

Identification of Criminals.

It is proposed by a dentist that as a farther means of identification casts should be taken of prisoners' mouths.

Bronchitis Most Fatal Disease.

Bronchitis is the most fatal disease in England, next consumption, and then heart disease, pneumonia and scarlatina.

Moor the First Inventor.

The first piece of genuine mechanism the modern world saw, a clock, was the invention of a Moor.

Origin of Cossack.

Cossack (Kosak) is a word of Asiatic origin, meaning a highwayman on horseback.

There Is a Way Out.

Many men say we know what to do if we were at liberty. When one gets cornered the one thing not to allow is discouragement. It is useless, harmful and unnecessary. It is purely physical, and thoughtfulness with will power prevents it. Melancholy is death to good work. It can, with few exceptions, be rested, forced, exercised or doctored off.—Earl M. Pratt.

Enormous Cakes.

The most remarkable cakes ever made were among the gifts at the Victoria jubilee celebration. The finest of these stood thirteen feet high, weighed a quarter of a ton and cost $1,500. Another figured at the wedding of the Arctic explorer, Admiral Markham. On the top was a sugar model of H. M. S. Alert, wedged in the center of an iceberg.

To Renovate Milan Cathedral.

The facade of the Milan cathedral, which was completed in great haste in 1813 by order of Napoleon, and which has always been a blot on the building, is now to be entirely renovated.

Wise Words From Seneca.

If the mind be evil, it makes everything else so, too; but if it be right and since it corrects what is wrong, and mollifies what is hard, with modesty and courage.—Seneca.

Every time an old bachelor hears a baby cry he takes a fresh grip on his resolution to remain single.

BUNCH TOGETHER

Coffee Has a Curious Way of Finally Attacking Some Organ.

Ails that come from coffee are cumulative, that is, unless the coffee is taken away new troubles are continually appearing and the old ones get worse.

"To begin with," says a Kansan, "I was a slave to coffee just as thousands of others to-day; thought I could not live without drinking strong coffee every morning for breakfast and I had sick headaches that kept me in bed several days every month. Could hardly keep my food on my stomach but would vomit as long as I could throw anything up and when I could get hot coffee to stay on my stomach I thought I was better.

"Well, two years ago this spring I was that sick with rheumatism I could not use my right arm to do anything, had heart trouble, was nervous. My nerves were all unstrung and my finger nails and tips were blue as if I had a chill all the time and my face and hands yellow as a pumpkin. My doctor said it was heart disease and rheumatism and my neighbors said I had Bright's disease and was going to die.

"Well, I did not know what on earth was the matter and every morning would drag myself out of bed and go to breakfast, not to eat anything, but to force down some more coffee. Then in a little while I would be so nervous, my heart would beat like everything.

"Finally one morning I told my husband I believed coffee was the cause of this trouble and that I thought I would try Postum which I had seen advertised. He said 'All right' so we got Postum and although I did not like it at first I got right down to business and made it according to directions, then it was fine and the whole family got to using it and I tell you it has worked wonders for me. Thanks to Postum in place of the poison, coffee, I now enjoy good health, have not been in bed with sick headache for two years although I had it for 30 years before I began Postum and my nerves are now strong and I have no trouble from my heart or from the rheumatism.

"I consider Postum a necessary article of food on my table. My friends who come here and taste my Postum say it is delicious." Name given by Postum Co., Battle Creek, Mich.

Get the book, "The Road to Wellville" in each pkg.

First Big Expositions.

The first exposition was in Paris in 1798; the first in England in 1828, and in America in New York, in 1853. These were not international like the World's Fair. The first of these was in London in 1851.

Why They Hiss.

In West Africa the natives hiss when they are astonished; in the New Hebrides when they see anything beautiful. The Basutos applaud a popular orator in the assemblies by hissing him.

Japanese Adieu.

The Japanese word of parting is not "So long" or "See you later," but "Sayonaro"—"if it must be so."

Dogs in Funeral Cortege.

At the burial of a South London man his six dogs, draped in black, followed the cortege.

Germ of Good Cheer.

Tact is the art of adjusting the relationships between ourselves and others.

Every man thinks every other man has his price.

Politics: craft and graft.

The following is quoted by the Gaulois from a French government report: "To cut off his head is the most serious insult that can be shown to a Cambodian; happily, this prejudice is not shared by the other people of Indo-China."

Composition of Soda-Water.

There is no soda in soda-water. Every pint of soda-water contains two and a half pints of carbon dioxide, a gas. Therefore, when you drink one pint of soda-water you really drink three and a half pints.

A Thought for the Week.

If you are not honest in your buying and selling you cannot be honest in your praying.

Will Have No More Barmaids.

Johannesburg, like Glasgow, has banished the barmaid from its saloons.

A man is seldom successful who is diffident of himself.

A man's manners shape his fortune.—Danish.

W. N. U., Omaha. No. 32—1900