



INTERNATIONAL PRESS ASSOCIATION.

CHAPTER XXV.—(Continued.)

"Where to, m'lord?" "Palace Mansions."

"Yes, m'lord," murmured Charles to Barker, as they drove off.

"Ay," muttered the coachman, in reply. "And Mrs. Arris'll catch a Tartar in 'im, no mistake about that."

"They generally takes care of themselves," said Charles, with a cynicism worthy of his estimable master.

Coming events, they say, cast their shadows before, and Barker, who had been giving a small share of attention to Charles and gossip, suddenly pulled to his horses with a jerk.

"I desay they know it is the wrong time of year to be in town," returned Charles, superciliously.

"Likely enough, 'Osses is as sensible as Christians and sensibler than some," Barker rejoined.

As they got over the ground the "playfulness" of the horses did not subside; indeed, on the contrary, it increased, and to such an extent that by the time they turned into the Kensington High street they were racing along at express speed.

Barker, however, knew his work and did not give them the chance at all, and by the time they reached the corner of the road for which they were bound, they were going steadily again.

Unfortunately, at that point, however, that terrible maker of mischief, the unforeseen, happened—a little child with a balloon as large as a man's head suddenly let go the string with which she had held it captive; the balloon soared away and dashed into the near horse's face; the child screamed at the loss of her toy; the horse reared and plunged.

"My God! we are over some one," shouted Lord Aylmer. He was the kind of man who, on emergency, always appeals to the Deity, whom in all his ways of life he utterly and systematically ignores.

Barker, who was pulling in the horses with might and main, had already checked their mad speed, and a moment or so later turned the horses, with a face like chalk and a dreadful fear knocking at his heart that the motionless figure lying in the road would never move again.

"Let me pass; stand aside, Policeman, I am Lord Aylmer—my horses were frightened by an infernal balloon that a child was carrying. Is she much hurt?"

"Dead faint at present, my lord," returned the policeman, who had the woman's head upon his knees. "I wish we could get some brandy and some water."

Lord Aylmer looked around for Charles. "Charles, get some brandy and water from somewhere or other. He quick."

Just then a well-dressed young woman pushed her way through the crowd. "Let me pass," she urged. "Can't you see I've brought brandy? Stand back, you men. Have you never seen an accident before? Do you want to kill her? Stand back!"

"She was a handsome woman, scarcely more than a girl; her hands and face and speech betokened that she was gently born; her fearless speech putting into words what was in her mind, had the effect of causing the crowd to shrink back a little. "Is she much hurt?" she asked.

"Pretty bad case, Miss," answered the policeman, who was trying to get a little brandy down the unconscious woman's throat.

"Hadn't you better get her into my house? She can't lie here," she went on. "Has any one gone for a doctor?"

"I should get her off to the hospital at once, Miss," the policeman replied. "Would you? Poor thing! I was standing at my window and saw it all. You oughtn't to let your coachman drive like that," she added, severely, to Lord Aylmer.

answered. "If your man'll give me a hand we'll lift her in, in a minute."

Eventually the woman was lifted into the victoria and the energetic young woman, having rushed back to her home for her hat, got in also, and supported her in as comfortable a position as was compatible with her insensible condition.

"Oh, yes, my lord; I'm bound to do that," he answered.

Lord Aylmer was getting more and more nervous; he got into the cab looking white and scared, with his sinful old heart thumping against his ribs in a way that was very unusual with him.

Not because his carriage has run over an elderly woman and it was likely to prove a fatal accident, not for that reason at all, but wholly and solely because, when Charles and the policeman had lifted the unconscious woman into the carriage, Lord Aylmer had picked up a letter which was lying face upward in the roadway just where she had lain.

For evidently this respectable elderly woman, dressed in decent black was Mrs. Harris' servant; and if it happened that she did not keep more than one—why this accident would put her altogether at his mercy.

He was positively trembling when they reached the St. George's Hospital, and Barbara was carried in, not unconscious now, for the slight jolting of the carriage had brought her to again. Then there was a short time of impatient waiting before the doctor came to them—that is, Lord Aylmer and the young lady who had come with the patient.

"Broken leg," he said—"a bad thing at her time of day. And she is worrying about her mistress—wants to send and break it gently—Isn't in good health just now. Will you go?" turning to the young lady.

"I? Oh, I'm so sorry, but I'm due at rehearsal now—I must go off at once. Couldn't you go?" she asked, turning to Lord Aylmer.

"Certainly—with pleasure. Shall I get off the box?"



DEAD FAINT AT PRESENT. bringing her back to see the old lady?"

Lord Aylmer inquired, in a tone which was a delightful mixture of gallantry and fatherliness—a tone which had, by-the-by, stood him in good stead many a time and oft.

"Yes, it would quiet her down a little I dare say," the house surgeon answered.

"Very well. Make me liable for any expenses, you know," Lord Aylmer said, as he moved toward the door. "Can I see you into a cab, my dear lady?" he added to the actress.

"Thanks," she answered. "And may I have the honor of settling with the cabman?"

"Oh, no—very kind of you, but I always pay for myself. The Cornhill—good-by."

The cab rolled off, Lord Aylmer uncovered his handsome old head, smiled his most fascinating smile, and bowed with a profound air of respect, which was quite lost on the back of the retreating cab and its occupants.

Then he got into his victoria and said, "Palace Mansions."

"Yes, m' lord," answered Charles, woodenly; then remarked to Barker, as soon as he was hopped up on the box—"Palace Mansions; even broken legs don't put 'im off."

"Seems so," said Barker, Barker's nerves were all shaken with the accident, and he would have given anything he possessed for a nip of brandy; he was not therefore, very much inclined for conversation.

Oh, so you have not cut the chains, Master Dick; you've not burnt your boats behind you. What a fool you are, to be sure!"

He opened the letter without the smallest scruple, tore the envelope into a thousand fragments and scattered them to the winds, then settled down to enjoy the tender words beginning—"My own dear Dick," ending "Your loving and faithful little wife, Dorothy."

"So her name is Dorothy," he mused. "Strange that they should always lay such stress on their love and their faithfulness! They're all alike, I wonder who the Estler is that she talks about. Barbara is evidently the old girl who came to grief just now. Well, Barbara is safely laid by the leg for the next few weeks. Really, it could not have fallen out better if one had planned it all. But I wonder who Estler is? 'Esther hasn't come yet,' she says, 'but may come at any moment. I must find out about Esther.'"

When they got to Palace Mansions, he saw Dorothy looking anxiously out of the window.

"On the watch," he said to himself. "And pretty uneasy, too."

The lovely face disappeared when the carriage drew up at the door, and the smart footman, in his glory of crimson and white, jumped down and opened the door for the handsome old gentleman, who got out and went into the building. He knocked at the door of No. 3, and Dorothy, being perfectly alone, had no choice but to go and open it.

"Am I speaking to Mrs. Harris?" said the suave, wicked old voice.

"Yes," answered Dorothy, wondering what he could possibly want with her. "May I come in? I am Lord Aylmer, I have something to tell you. No, don't be alarmed; it is nothing very bad. Pray don't alarm yourself."

CHAPTER XXVI.

THE mention of his name—and as the policeman and the doctor, the young lady who had come to Barbara's aid, and the people at St. George's knew all about him, it would, he knew, be useless to deceive Dorothy as to his identity, so he boldly gave his own name and trusted to the chance of her not knowing that he was anything to Dick—Dorothy started as if she had been shot, and at the hint of "something to tell," which instinct always tells us means bad news, she staggered back, and would probably have fallen if he had not caught her.

"I beg you will not frighten yourself like this," he cried. "Indeed, it is not so serious as that."

"It is—!" Her lips could not utter Dick's name, her agony was so great; but her eyes spoke volumes in place of her tongue.

It never occurred to Lord Aylmer that she was thinking of Dick. He only thought how lovely she was in her distress, and wondered how he could best tell her the truth.

"The fact is," he said, blurring the truth out at last, "there has been an accident, and your old servant—"

"Barbara—is she hurt?" Dorothy cried in dismay.

"I am sorry to say that she is hurt. More sorry to be obliged to own that it was my own carriage which did the mischief. But won't you let me come in and tell you all about it? It is such a shame to keep you standing there."

"Oh, yes, of course. Forgive me, but I—that is, you have startled me, and I forgot that we were still here. Come in."

(To be continued.)

QUEEN MURDERS ENGLISH.

Many Errors Made in Her Address to Parliament.

If Corbett were alive he could still criticise the English grammar of the speech prepared for the sovereign at the opening of parliament, says the London News. The queen adopts this speech at her council on the advice of her ministers and it is then given to parliament as "her own words." It is important to observe that the president of the council and the minister who last saw the queen at Osborne in reference to the speech read recently is also the head of the education department. Is there an inspector of schools under him who would pass a reference to expenditure which is beyond "former precedent"? A question in English grammar might be set in the schools from the following sentence: "A portion of the Afridi tribes have not yet accepted the terms offered to them, but elsewhere the operations have been brought to a successful close."

In the reference to Crete we read: "The difficulty of arriving at an unanimous agreement upon some points has unduly protracted their deliberations (i. e., the deliberations of the powers), but I hope that these obstacles will before long be surmounted." What obstacles? As "the difficulty" is the subject in this sentence, "that obstacle" would appear to be the appropriate phrase. Observe also "an unanimous agreement." As in these days "unanimous" is not pronounced unanimously but youananimously, "an" before the word is an abomination in speech and in writing but lamely defended, like certain rhymes, as satisfying to the eye although offending the ear. As for the literary style of the speech, it is not likely to be used as a model in the secondary schools.

The piano player produces music by the pound.

DAIRY AND POULTRY.

INTERESTING CHAPTERS FOR OUR RURAL READERS.

How Successful Farmers Operate This Department of the Farm. A Few Hints as to the Care of Live Stock and Poultry.

The Hen or the Incubator.

Whether a farmer shall use a hen or an incubator for hatching his chicks will depend largely on the volume of his operations. If he keeps only a dozen or so hens it certainly will not pay him to depend on an incubator, but if he expects to raise several hundred hens a year, as we believe every farmer should, it will be advisable for him to secure an incubator as soon as he can. Incubators can now be purchased very cheaply, and the investment will be a permanent one, for it is probably true that so far as one man's life is concerned incubators never wear out. An incubator will pay for itself many times in the course of ten years. Not only so, but it will save much labor. And, while buying, it is better to get a large machine. A big flock of chicks is not so hard to look out for as a number of smaller flocks, as one can readily imagine who has had much to do with sitting hens.

The comparison of the hen and the incubator shows that much of the preponderance of testimony is on the side of the incubator. Who that has had to look after a dozen sitting hens has not wished that all of the hens could be combined into one big hen and that all of the chicks could be put into one flock? This is one of the most valuable things about the incubator. One can raise from one to two hundred chicks at a time and have the work all in a bunch. Another advantage is that the lice can be finally exterminated. In fact if a man begins right and takes care of his poultry as he should there is no reason in the world for ever having a louse among the poultry, if all of the chicks are raised in incubators.

This alone is a consideration of vast moment. When we use hens for sitting it is generally impossible to exterminate the lice. At least, even if they can be exterminated by extraordinary methods, they seldom are. Some time ago the Farmers' Review sent out inquiries to its readers as to the cause of losses in the poultry yard. The replies showed that more chicks were lost from lice than from all other causes combined. Thus the incubator removes at one stroke the greatest cause for mortality among chicks.

Probably the second greatest loss among newly born chicks is being trodden to death by the old hen. We sometimes hear people say that no one can care for a chick as an old hen, but the fact remains that the hen is so stupid that she will stand on a chick till the life is gone, even though the little one keeps up a constant peeping as long as it can. Instinct does not take the place of intellect. The writer has frequently lost the larger part of a brood through the stupidity of the old hen. This is especially true of heavy hens for mothers. With some of the heavy birds it is no unusual thing to go out to their nest every morning and find "another dead chick." So we believe that it will pay the farmer to substitute his own intellect for the instinct of the hen. This he can do in the purchase of an incubator.

Of course, like all other things, the running of an incubator must be learned, but this is not a difficult thing to do, provided one will listen to the advice of those who have run them for many years. It is not at all necessary for one to learn entirely in the dear school of experience. The main point in an incubator is to keep the temperature right, and to see that when the chicks come into the brooder they have enough heat to enable them to make a continuous growth.

The Air of the Stable.

Too little attention is paid to the air of the stable. Yet there are two reasons why the air should be kept pure. First, for the purpose of preserving the health of the cows; second, that milk drawn in the stable may not be polluted by the bad air. In the spring and summer and fall it is an easy matter to thoroughly air the stable in day time. Open all the doors and all the windows, letting in the sun as well as the wind. The work of the latter will be the more effective if care has been taken to keep the manure cleaned out, and if arrangements have been made to have the urine run off into tanks below or outside of the barn. The less the air is allowed to be polluted by these means the easier will it be to keep the whole inside of the stable clean and sweet smelling.

One of the greatest obstacles to pure air is the usual system of handling the manure. That is, a hole is cut in the side of the barn through which to throw out the droppings. The pile on the outside accumulates from month to month, and by spring has become a source of foul smells that penetrate into the stable through all the cracks, windows and doors. The manure pile against the side of the barn is a well of barbarism, and must be banished, both for the sake of cleanliness and that it may no longer be an offense to the eye. Once disposed of the manure question and it will be possible to keep the barn in a condition that will make clean milk the rule and not the exception. If we are to have clean smelling barns, it will be also necessary to have clean cows, for when cows are so badly kept that their flanks are plastered with filth, we cannot hope to accomplish a permanent good by opening the doors to the pure air. Stinking cows will shortly again make bad the air that has been but recently purified. Clean cows may be had by constructing the platforms where they stand, so that they will keep clean, and by building stalls in such a manner

that the cows will be compelled to stand straight.

It will cost something to arrange the cow stable so that the air can be kept pure, but it will save money that would be spent in doctoring the cattle. It will also save now and then the life of an animal. Recently, on a big dairy farm in Illinois, a very fatal disease broke out, resulting in the loss of scores of good animals. Investigation showed that the trouble had begun with filthy stables, and that cleanly methods were not introduced till it was too late.

Thinning Fruit.—S. A. Beach, a New York horticulturist, made some experiments last year in thinning fruit. Of two Baldwin trees the fruit on one was thinned and on the other was not. The thinned tree yielded about 11 per cent less fruit than the unthinned tree, but ten per cent more of its fruit graded No. 1. Three trees, each of Baldwin and greenings, were thinned and an equal number of like trees were left unthinned. The thinned Baldwins gave about 21 per cent less fruit than the unthinned ones, but 22 per cent more of it graded No. 1. The thinned greenings gave about 6 per cent more fruit than the unthinned ones, and about 10 per cent more of it graded No. 1. In all cases the thinned fruit was so much higher colored than the unthinned fruit that its market value was increased from 10 to 15 per cent. The thinning and picking of the thinned fruit took about twice as much time as the picking of the unthinned fruit.

Dirt in Milk. Quite apart from the numerous micro-organisms which may be contained and thrive in milk—and from some of which, despite the greatest amount of care, the liquid can never be totally protected—there are other bodies which frequently find their way into what may even then be commonly called "pure" milk. The following substances, for instance, are stated by Professor Grotenfeldt, of Finland, to have been found by him in unstrained milk fresh from the cow: Particles of skin, small pieces of wood, fir leaves and shavings, parts of insects, linen and woolen threads, cobwebs, and other substances which may easily float in the air. The commoner impurities, however, are small particles of manure, which more commonly fall into the milk during the process of milking, the amount generally varying with the state of cleanliness of the hind quarters of the cow.—The Dairy World.

Angora Goats.—For several years past, in many of the western states and also in sections farther east, experiments have been made with the Angora goats and the results indicate that the breeding of them will be profitable in any section where sheep are successfully raised. These goats breed and mature about the same time as sheep and require much the same treatment. The fleece of the Angora goat is worth about 20 per cent more than that of sheep, and their flesh is considered by epicures as superior to mutton. They do sell better than sheep, as the meat is worth about the same price and the pelt much more. Angoras and sheep may be raised together, as they never cross breed.—EX.

Air-Washed Milk.—Our personal practice for some years in preparing milk for bottling showed conclusively that the passing of a current of cold, pure air, washed in the way suggested from every particle of dust or impurity, did have a good result, which was proved by the fact that milk so air washed, as we might say, kept sweet in the equally well prepared bottles for four days longer than the un-aerated milk. This practical evidence of the advantage of proper aeration and cooling, by pure, cold air, goes to show that if well done, in a scientific manner, the aeration of milk is useful for this purpose at least; and if so, it may well be believed that it will be found useful for the butter maker.—Country Gentleman.

Handling a Colt.—In handling a colt, its instincts and tendencies should never be lost sight of, such as kicking, striking and running away from anything it conceives to be dangerous. Its faculties of seeing, smelling and hearing are very acute, and are given it for self-preservation, which is the first law of nature. The experienced trainer will be patient, and not require too much of a colt at the start, but gradually bring him in contact with all imaginary dangers, until it learns from experience that they are harmless. No thoughtful or intelligent person will ever abuse a colt for being afraid of anything, for it simply intensifies its fear and makes matters worse.

What Breed?—This is a question that is frequently asked. In selecting a breed all must depend on circumstances. The man that wants to supply broilers should of course select some breed that is not distinctly an egg-producing breed. The man that wants eggs exclusively should use an egg breed. Above all things avoid a no-breed. The no-breed fowl can never be depended on. She may give good satisfaction and may not. There is the trouble. Some men can do better with one breed than with another, even though that breed be not the very best.

Grapes in Alcohol Fumes.—At the Delaware station an attempt was made to keep grapes by means of alcohol fumes. Two bunches of ripe Norfolk grapes were placed under a bell jar with two small bottles of alcohol. On December the grapes were plump and sound, and had nearly normal flavor, but their color had become somewhat darker brown. On February 19 they were still plump with a few exceptions, but had an alcoholic flavor.

Fruit is medicine to many, and its use saves calling the doctor often. Scions may be cut at any time while the trees are dormant.

Excellence in Beef Cattle.

(Condensed from Farmers' Review. Statistical Report of meeting of Kansas State Board of Agriculture.)

Prof. C. F. Curtis of Iowa spoke on practical excellence in beef cattle. Last fall a railroad man in Iowa had made the statement that there were 80,000,000 bushels of corn stored along the railroads in that state that could not be marketed at a profit. Things have changed some since then, but there is little doubt that something like the same conditions exist now in Kansas. Within his memory there had not been a time when the outlook for cattle raising was better than at present. He then gave an illustrated talk on the different breeds as beef producers. As we have previously reported this talk, we will omit it now. The subject of gains in beef per pound of feed was discussed.

Q.—In your experiments at the Iowa experimental station it is not shown that cattle having the same breeding and the same age differ greatly as to the comparative gains they can make on the same food?

A.—Yes, sir; there are differences, but those differences are more influenced by the manner of feeding than by the breeding of cattle. We have found that a coarse-bred animal will make more gain than a fine-fleshed animal.

Q.—What advantage do you find in the Shorthorns over the Herefords?

A.—Well, we have made some experiments and have not found much difference. Sometimes our experiments have been in favor of one breed and sometimes of the other. I do not think that we have carried our experiments far enough to be able to say for a certainty which is best.

Mr. Norton—You spoke of that three or four year old Hereford steer gaining more rapidly than some steers of another type. Did he not eat more?

A.—Yes, sir; the big steer is always able to make a better gain than a small one, but it costs more.

Q.—Will it pay to buy Mexican steers for feeding?

A.—I would not advise it as a general thing.

Q.—Is there any difference between the Herefords and Shorthorns as to their grazing qualities?

A.—I am not prepared to express an opinion.

Mr. Putter—I think there will be more money lost in going to Mexico and other places for feeders than we are likely to make up for some time. They will put these cattle and their expensive feed together and lose both.

Professor Cuthell, being called on, said that he agreed with Professor Curtis as to the amount of gain certain animals would make, but that there was an immense difference in individuals as to the use they could make of the same food, even when such animals were of the same breed.

A Member.—Some years ago some of the farmers in my vicinity bought some Texas cattle for fattening purposes. But with the Texas cattle they bought also the Texas fever and it worked general havoc. Many of the farmers that bought those cattle had been getting along well, but some of them lost so heavily through the fever that they went out of the cattle business altogether. That experience should be a lesson for all.

Mr. C. M. Beeson spoke on the possibilities and probabilities of Western Kansas. Western Kansas is now being used for purposes which nature intended it. Nature designed that part of the state as a grazing region. But the immigrants from Illinois and Ohio had in their mind's eye the pleasant homes they had left, with orchards and grain fields, and expected to reproduce the same conditions in Western Kansas. But the lessons of experience, though costly, are never forgotten. And the attempt at farming with grain as the only resource has been proved to be an expensive failure. The possibility of success in Western Kansas has been changed into a certainty.

Some Suggestions About Mold.

In the Produce Review Mr. Geo. Stillson says about storing tubs as below: I have just been reading your remarks regarding moldy tubs. I find the greatest trouble is where they are stored before and after packing. Many creameries are infected with mold, and thoroughly seasoned tubs stored in or near them soon become infected. Besides not one cooling room in fifty is clear from it. If stored in there but a short time tubs are infected. Steam will not kill the mold when once in the wood. I don't believe anything but fire will exterminate it. I find many unused cooling rooms filled with tubs when not in use, which I always discourage. There are very few cooling rooms that are good for anything but to keep flies away from articles. A good ice cooling room made by Stevens, the butchers' supply manufacturer of Toledo, I think would be good for creameries. It is the best dry air meat cooler I have seen. I am glad to see you ventilating the subject, but I don't think you give force enough to the storage room where tubs are kept before and after filling. Many store them in cellars, damp and musty, unfit for use. Dry storehouse or loft is preferred.

Infertile Eggs.—For commercial purposes infertile eggs are preferred to fertile ones. Roosters are of no value except when the eggs are desired for hatching purposes. If farmers would send infertile eggs to market, there would be fewer spoiled eggs to drag down the general market prices, for the infertile eggs keep very much longer than the fertile eggs. This would be a great thing in shipping to commission men, for the latter candle all eggs and throw out those that have begun to spoil. This loss is charged back to the farmer that sent the eggs to the commission man.

Every finely bred horse tends to raise the general price of all horses, while every scrub tends to lower it. After a shirt has been to the laundry about three times it is pretty well done up.