

TOPICS OF THE TIMES.

A CHOICE SELECTION OF INTERESTING ITEMS.

Comments and Criticisms Based Upon the Happenings of the Day—Historical and News Notes.

Beston objects to "fugitious adulation." Holy smoke.

The best way to protest against wrong is to take action for the right.

Still it must be admitted that bloomers look much prettier when they are worn by some other fellow's girl.

The accumulation of wealth is followed by an increase of care, and by an appetite for more. He who seeks for much will ever be in want of much. It is best with him to whom God has given that which is sufficient, though every superfluity be withheld.

There is a proper pride that is commendable, and which is the offspring and the safeguard of self-respect. We should avoid haughtiness, arrogance and presumption; but we may and should harbor a proper degree of pride—a pride based upon self-respect, and which prompts us to endeavor to preserve it.

The indemnity of 4,000,000 francs which China has just granted the French missions of Szechuen carries the promise of something equally as handsome for English and American sufferers from more recent outbreaks. We may be a little slow in Christianizing China, but Caucasian cannon in the treaty ports are powerful persuaders to decency.

Persons who practice deceit and artifice always deceive themselves more than they deceive others. They may feel great complacency in view of the success of their doings; but they are in reality casting a mist before their own eyes. Such persons not only make a false estimate of their own character, but they estimate falsely the opinions and conduct of others. No person is obliged to tell all he thinks; but both duty and self-interest forbid him ever to make false pretenses.

It is stated in a dispatch from Madrid that the war in China thus far has cost \$20,000,000. This is exclusive of the forced contributions the sugar and coffee planters have had to pay to the insurgents for carrying on the war or for buying war material, and ranging from \$25,000 to \$50,000 per planter. It will be cheaper in the end for the planters if the insurgents are successful. If Spain defeats the latter the former will be substantially ruined under the burden of taxation which will be levied by the Spanish government. The Spanish Treasury is already bankrupt and the deficit each year was growing larger before the war broke out. If the present revolution shall continue as long as the last one Spain will be plunged into a financial chaos.

One of the most foolish of all the silly statements that have been made by "Wiggins," of Canadian notoriety, is that in regard to evaporation from the great lakes. He is quoted as saying that the air passing over the lakes is unable to reload with vapor from them, the alleged reason being that "there is no electricity in the air, and without it the humidity will not rise." He pretends to think that the telegraph and telephone wires which cross the path of the air current reaching the lakes from the Southwest abstract the electric energy of that air, so that it is unable to take up vapor from the waters. If he understood the conditions about which he discourses thus absurdly he would know that the process of evaporation from a water surface depends on the temperature and relative dryness of the air, and that there is good reason to believe the process is a cause of electrical excitement, not one of its effects. It is astonishing that any one should suppose such claptrap nonsense as that attributed to Wiggins is worthy of being distributed to the world as "news."

A number of persons on duty in the meteorological service of the signal corps have petitioned the President for leniency to Private Thomas Gill, who some time ago knocked down his superior officer, Lieut. William E. Birkheimer, of the Third Artillery, and was sentenced therefor to four years' imprisonment in the penitentiary. The petitioners set forth that Lieut. Birkheimer is an overbearing, tyrannical, ungentlemanly officer, who has constantly sought to impeach the honor and standing of his associates, and has made life burdensome to them by his many despotic and brutal acts. If the facts set forth are correct there is good reason for the President not only to interfere and mitigate the sentence of the private, who had the manliness to resent his brutal treatment, but also to reprimand the martinet who was guilty of it. In civil life such an infraction of discipline would have met with a light fine or brief imprisonment. The imposition of this long sentence upon a man who only struck his superior when endurance had ceased to be a virtue, seems an act of harshness under the circumstances. Similar cases of petty tyranny and brutality have recently occurred in the German army, to which the Emperor has given his personal attention in the line of correcting the abuse of power. The President would do well to imitate the action of the young Emperor.

An incident so important as the air brake on a passenger train has been mentioned in the "Wiley." While it has been mentioned, it is interesting to know that the inventor of the air brake, George Westinghouse, was a Quaker.

late in the impossibility of the driver checking speed in time to avert catastrophe. There was nothing to rely upon but muscle, with an antiquated mechanical device against the tremendous force and momentum of electricity and physical law together. A conductor might see a human being on a crossing 300 feet ahead; running at the rapid pace which is all that recommends trolleys he could not stop the car in time to save life or prevent maiming. The new brake is automatic. Its effectiveness does not depend on the muscle of the driver. He has nothing to do but turn a handle six inches. That sets a spool turning on the axle and winds up the wheels in the length of a car. The strain being on the axle and not on the body of the car the comfort of passengers will not be disturbed as it is whenever the driver makes a frantic effort to use the present brake in an emergency.

The "nasal twang," so-called, of the New England people has long been a "source of innocent merriment" to our English brethren, especially to those who are so uncertain in their relations to the letter "h." Yet the great London dailies are discussing very earnestly just now the British origin of this peculiarity which has been so long charged up to the debit account of the Yankee. The Times traces it to Cornwall; the Globe to Sussex; and the Westminster Gazette to Wapping. There are a good many alleged "Americanisms" which prove on investigation to be unquestioned English origin. A recently returned traveler says that in the part of New England where he was born and reared the remains of a boiled dinner when hashed and served the next day bear the euphonious name of "bubble and squeak" and that he has been many times reproached for using a coarse "Americanism" in so speaking of it. He had, however, he continues, the fortune while in London to lunch one day at the Liberal Union Club and found on the bill of fare his old New England acquaintance with the familiar name printed at full length. It proved on investigation to be the same confection as that he remembered in New England; and the steward assured him it was a well known English dish which he had never heard called by any other name.

There is enough in the recent reports from the scene of the Cuban revolution to warrant the belief that the United States may yet be summoned to play an important part in the future of the island. Assuming that the reports as to the situation there are even partly true, it is evident that Cuba is nearer the establishment of her independence than ever before. Should she succeed it would be by no means strange if her leaders, regarding a protectorate as the most desirable form under which to administer the affairs of the island, were to appeal to the United States or Mexico to assume charge. The colored inhabitants of Cuba number about 35 per cent. of the entire population, and, as a rule, these people are poor and ignorant. Slavery has been abolished and education was made compulsory in 1880, but the time has been too short to permit of any real improvement in the condition of this part of the Cuban population. What to do with these inhabitants is a perplexing question with the insurgents, and it is probable that they would rather remain as a dependency on some other government than assume the difficulties of administration with so large a portion of the population unfitted to attempt self-government. And were the Cuban leaders to decide that the burden is too heavy they would be far more likely to appeal to the United States than to Mexico. While the Cubans and Mexicans speak the same language the two peoples are not bound together by so many ties as exist between this country and Cuba. Most of Cuba's trade is with us, and there are comparatively few products which it can exchange with Mexico. It is yet too early to assume that the result will be a victory for the insurgents. But vague as the reports are it is evident that up to date the revolutionists have the best of the struggle. In view of their spunky resistance and the reported weak financial condition of Spain it would not be surprising if the question of a Cuban protectorate were to be forced upon the attention of the next Congress.

Unusual.
What is this? An English jury, of presumable Philistines, award a literary man (Jerome K. Jerome) \$2,500 damages because driven from his home by the noise of an invading railroad—verdict based on the ground that a literary man has special rights. Genius then has at last scored one victory in this world! The great Wallenstein made the silence of a desert around him and worked out his campaigns at night and an English author has actually been judged to have a similar privilege! But imagine a dashed "literary feller" in America getting any such rights from an American jury—here in this land of hand organs and railway whistles. But, courage! Remember Jerome K. Jerome.—Boston Transcript.

Preparing for a Big Blast.
Preparations are being made at Long Cove, Me., for one of the biggest quarry blasts ever made in this country. The object of attack is a miniature mountain of granite, seventy-five feet in perpendicular height. In the face of this ledge, at the foot, a tunnel is being driven, which when completed will be T-shaped, the main stem fifty-five feet long, with two cross-arms some thirty feet in length each. Eight tons of nitro powder is to be put in this side tunnel, the other tunnel containing the big charge which will explode at the end of the main stem.

War Against Weeds.
I began fighting weeds more than twenty-five years ago. I first laid down the rule that no weed should be allowed to go to seed in my garden, and the result was that in a few years the labor of cultivating the garden was reduced to one-fourth what it was in the start, says W. F. Brown, in The Ohio Farmer. Next I applied this rule to a few acres of which I grew potatoes, sweet potatoes, pumpkins and winter wheat, and for the first few years I was trying to extend it to all the land I owned. It was a hard job, but I did it. Now I have a few acres of land which I cultivate, and I have no weeds.

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AGRICULTURAL NEWS

THINGS PERTAINING TO THE FARM AND HOME.

Farmers Should Not Waste Good Time on Bad Jobs—The Area Which Various Depths of Water Will Irrigate—Salt Butter in the Churn.

The Farmer's Pay.
Many a farmer has yet to learn that his time is worth money. His pay for good work is certain, although usually late in coming. Every stroke in the hayfield and in the preliminary work of plowing, sowing and seeding is repaid drop by drop in the milk pail. Every whack at the witch grass in the corn field is appreciated by the cattle who eat the ensilage, and by the hens, who turn the grass into eggs and meat. Every pull at the weeds in the truck garden means at least a cheaper and better living next winter. Every task tells, if done with common sense, says the Massachusetts Ploughman. It is like payment in the form of a draft due in six months; sometimes longer. Whenever there appears no prospect of any direct present or future return, the farmer will do well to take thought before doing the task at all. An immense amount of digging and hauling and grubbing and drilling and lifting has been done by farmers for which there was no possibility of return, simply because the said farmers labored under the impression that their time was not worth estimating. There is sufficient work that will pay; some of it at once, but most of it in the near future. Do not put good time into poor jobs. Look out for your pay. Don't cheapen yourself.

Windmill Irrigation.
Of course, the deeper the water is below the surface, the greater is the power required to raise it. Consequently, a windmill of a given strength will raise less water and irrigate less land when the water has to be raised 200 feet than when it has to be raised 100 feet, says the Farm and Orchard. A 12-foot windmill is usually reckoned capable of doing the following, provided suitable reservoir is attached:
Water 200 feet below the surface, with a reservoir 20x20 and six feet deep, will water one acre or garden.
Water 150 feet in depth, with reservoir 40x80, one and one-half acres.
Water 100 feet in depth and reservoir 50x100, two acres.
Water 500 feet in depth and reservoir 60x150, four acres.

Where the soil is free from rock and well points can be easily driven, it will always pay to put up a windmill, if the water is within fifty feet of the surface, wherever there is a sale or demand for garden truck, and where the necessary water cannot be obtained by any cheaper method. Usually arid land near enough to town can be obtained for a very small sum, and as the total cost of a windmill and reservoir will not exceed \$250, it is like buying four acres of irrigated land for this amount, plus the value of the land in its arid state.

Salting Butter.
By all means, salt in the churn. Grinding salt into the butter on the worker is a thing of the past, and is not practiced by any of the first creamery and home dairy butter makers. It injures the grain, and is more apt to leave the butter mottled. One has to estimate the amount of butter color, and why not use the same rule in determining the amount of salt to use? After the butter is washed, let the water drain out of the churn while the required amount of salt is being weighed out. Then sprinkle the salt evenly over the butter in the churn, close the lid and turn the churn slowly for a minute or two; then let stand in the churn long enough for the salt to dissolve. If a lever is used, be careful not to give the lever a sliding motion, but press gently until the butter has a waxy texture. In packing, be careful not to tamp the butter in the churn; close the lid and turn. Do not leave any open spaces in the package. Level off the upper surface with a wooden straight-edge, and cover with a parchment of cloth circle. Wipe the sides and bottom of the package with a towel, so that it will have a neat appearance.—Stock, Farm and Home.

Intensive Culture of Cow Feed.
Mr. Bancroft, of Delaware, has demonstrated, says the Rural New Yorker, that one acre of his light soil will furnish a year's supply of food for one cow. A spring's crop of crimson clover and winter oats is put into the soil, and the ground at once plowed and put in corn or cow peas, which, in turn, go into the silo when ripe. After this second crop is harvested, another crop of crimson clover and oats is started. The ensilage from this acre will feed one cow a year. During her heavy milking season two pounds per day of cottonseed meal might be profitably added, but the cow could maintain a good yield without it. Mr. Bancroft even says that he doesn't care if one-third of the crimson clover and oats are "down" so flat that they cannot be easily cut to make more corn. This is the most "intensive" culture of cow feed we have yet heard of.

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succeeded entirely, I am approaching my ideal, and already see great benefit from it. I rely largely on a good stand of clover, and the use of the mowing machine on the stubble fields, and keeping our fence rows seeded to grass, and I have nearly annihilated the rag weed, which is such a pest to most Ohio farms.

Pulverizing the Soil.
A writer in the London Garden, who evidently understands the business, says that deeply worked and finely divided soils invariably yield far the heaviest crops, let the season be what it may, while ground that is only stirred a little and left in lumps, never really repays the small amount of labor expended on it. It is of primary importance that the ground for potatoes be well and deeply stirred, and finely divided at planting time. More really depends upon the preparation of the ground than on the quantity or quality of the manure. On no occasion, however, is the pulverization more important than in mixing manure with the soil, and in the experiments we have made, a certain quantity of manure was, at least, doubled in value by thoroughly grinding it into the soil, as compared with its value when plowed under in the common way.

Roop in Fowls.
I take good, strong vinegar and put what I want to use on a chicken in a tin cup and tie a small cloth or swab on a stick six inches long, and anoint the hen's head and neck with it twice a day for two or three days, according to how badly they have it, says the Country Gentleman. Use mittens or gloves, and change the vinegar and rinse out the swab when you change hens. Put logwood in the drinking vessels and pour on lukewarm water; give them no other drink. Let them out so they are not confined too closely. This cured them all right for me, even when their throats were so stopped up they could scarcely breathe. I have tried sulphur and lard, but that kills them for me.

Dry Food for Chicks.
A food for young chicks should never be sloppy. It will do no harm to moisten the ground grain a little, but no more water should be used for that purpose than to make a stiff, crumbly dough. It is better to feed even ground food dry if it can be done conveniently. One thing to observe is never to leave any food from the meal that has been moistened, as it ferments and assists in causing gapes, as well as leading to bowel disease. Scatter millet seeds over the runs of the chicks and let them hunt and scratch for them. They will be all the better for the exercise, and will have more appetite for their meals at feeding time.

Work for a Bull.
If he make a bull practically quite safe if he is regularly worked in some way. He may be made to run a one-horse power, to be used for cutting feed, grinding grain or cutting firewood. In the summer he may be made to work in a one-horse mower, to cut the green fodder for the cows, or even in the hay harvest, and in a wagon to do the work of a horse. He may also be used in the cultivation of the crops, and, by harnessing him properly, and putting a bit in his mouth, will be quite as tractable as a horse. By this healthful and useful exercise his value as a stock animal will be much increased.

Feeding New Oats.
Horses should not be suddenly changed from old oats to new, nor at any time be fed new oats in large quantities. The new oats will be all the more likely to be harmful if the hay is also new. Old hay gets more thoroughly dried than is possible for new. It is not only more nutritious for this absence of moisture, but it has not the laxative effect which is so weakening to a horse that new hay often has. It will pay to give several cents per bushel more for old oats than for new if they are to be fed to horses having hard work to do.

Muck for Stables.
Dig and dry a big lot of muck to keep the stables dry and sweet all winter, and to vastly increase the manure pile and farm's fertility, says Hollister's Sage. It is not best to draw this muck long distances before it has dried, but when sun and wind have reduced it to a powder one team can haul a large quantity. Its own fertilizing value is not great in most instances, but as a vehicle for carrying off the riches of stable liquids it has no equal for cheapness and effectiveness.

Overfeeding Pigs.
But nothing is surer, says the American Cultivator, than that a pig with food always before it will grow poor. Its digestive apparatus never has time to rest, and soon falls to work. There should be regular times for feeding, and these should be far enough apart to allow the pig to become hungry. A little less grain than will be eaten should be given, if the pig is fattened. The balance can be made up with clover pasture in summer and beet roots in winter.

Tobacco and Fruit.
The tobacco crop requires very rich land, and it is very exhaustive of fertility. Many farmers who go to growing tobacco, thinking that it is all profit, find that it takes most of the manure made on a large farm, with some mineral fertilizer besides, to produce a good crop. Whether this manure used for fruit growing would not produce greater profit is a question that tobacco growers the last year or two have been anxiously asking.

Dairy Granules.
Coddling is as injurious to cows as to children. It is not the child, boy or girl, who is set snow-balling, coating or skating in the dry, cold weather who suffers, either from cold or from skin disease, the only "coddling" around cows which I have to denounce, and in that way I have been able to save my cows from coddling, and I have no more to say on the subject.

KINSHIP OF ANIMALS.

Points of Resemblance in Organs and General Structure.

The analogies of the creation teach us that everything is sign of one stuff and upon one plan, says the Gentleman's Magazine. Let a powerful example of this fact be taken in hand at once and some portion of the animal creation be utilized. Now, we have all of us necks, some of us graceful necks, some of us apoplectic necks, and some of us no necks at all to speak of. Again, the giraffe has a very long neck, the elephant a very short one, and the porpoise apparently stops short of one altogether. But in each we find seven cervical vertebrae—and seven only. Again, they, and human beings also, all have the same number and variety of muscles and ligaments. Some of them certainly are simply mere representatives; for instance, the powerful ligamentous nichae of the horse is but feebly represented in man. "Padding" accounts for all the rest—a little more or less of fat and cellular tissue. Our limbs form beautiful subjects for comparison. Throughout the vertebrates they never exceed four in number. They are all modifications of one type, whether we take the fins of fish, the wings and legs of birds, fore and hind legs of quadrupeds, or arms and legs of man. Comparing the legs of a bird with the leg of a man, we see that the complete leg of a bird shows the thigh bone, then the tibia or lower leg bone, and then in the place of the tarsus and metatarsus a single bone with, at its lower extremity, a small bone supporting the four toes. Primarily the analogy between the last five bones of the bird and the so-called tarsus, metatarsus, and toes of man does not seem very complete, but if the chick in the egg be examined its legs will be found to consist of the thigh bone, of the tibia, of two tarsal, and three or four metatarsal bones, and the toes or phalanges. The upper tarsal bone subsequently becomes ankylosed with the tibia and the lower one with the consolidated metatarsus. Now the analogy becomes much more complete.

The horse has but a single metatarsal bone (the third), with rudiments of the second and fourth. These rudimentary metatarsal bones of the horse are very interesting. By means of them it is comparatively easy to trace out his descent. The whale possesses the rudiments of hind legs, and the boa constrictor possesses also the rudiments of a leg and a pelvis, and the rudiments of the wings are discoverable in the apteryx. The third eyelid of the bird exists also in some amphibians and reptiles and in sharks; also in man as a rudimentary structure. The manner in which cows, deer, and sheep tear up the grass when they are feeding, plucking away at the tufts, is familiar to any observant man. The incisors of the upper teeth are wanting. The interesting analogy is the fact that the teeth are really there, but they are uncut—that is to say, they have never pierced the gum.

How to Prevent Lockjaw.
If your boy should have the misfortune to run a rusty nail in his foot, as my son did not long since, I want to tell you what to do for him, if your heart quakes, as mine does, at the very thought of lock-jaw. I had the doctor, of course, and he wanted to probe the wound, which was an ugly one, I can tell you, right on the ball of the foot, at the base of the great toe. Having a mind of my own, I made the doctor put the probe in his pocket, as long as there was no portion of the nail remaining in the wound. The remedies used were salt pork, carbolated vaseline, etc., but the wound continued to swell until the boy's foot seemed ready to burst with angry inflammation, while he suffered intolerable pain. I was in despair, when a friend from the country happened to drop in. As soon as she saw what was the matter she threw off her things excitedly and asked if I had any onions in the house.

Well, the upshot of it was that we pounded up raw onions and made a thick poultice of them and bound it right on the foot.
Talk about magic! I never saw any remedy act so like a charm. When I got ready to dress the foot about three hours after, the inflammation was subdued, the swelling had subsided, and the dear lad slept like an angel that night for the first time in over a week. He is all right now, thank Heaven, and I want every mother in the land to know about this simple, but wonderful, remedy for a wound of such a dangerous nature that even our best physicians sometimes fear to tackle it.—New York Journal.

Columbian Half Dollars.
Columbian centennial coins not heretofore circulated have been found frequently in change of late. They are the 50-cent pieces of 1893, and the reason given for their appearance is that many coin collectors and others believed that immediately after the Columbian exposition they would have special value as rarities, and so hoarded them for a premium.

They were so held for the better part of two years, but no appreciation in value followed, and now they have been freely circulated. They have a more attractive appearance than the regular 50-cent pieces, but this superior attractiveness has not, to any visible extent, mitigated the regret which collectors have had in parting with them. The silver coinage of the United States in use varies from time to time, according to no definite law with which the treasury officials are familiar. At times silver dollars circulate with much ease and freedom and there does not seem to be any serious demand for a greater number of the smaller coins. Again, 10-cent pieces seem to be greatly in demand, and the dollars are stored away in banks and trust companies and

in the treasury vaults, and are grudgingly received by business men, but silver half-dollars always circulate freely.—New York Sun.

More Pure Air Needed.
Dr. Reynolds' report to the public health committee of the Chicago Civic Federation on public health in municipalities contained some valuable suggestions. Much of the disease and death in large cities was attributed to unsanitary conditions which might be prevented, especially overcrowding, the shutting out of light and air from dwellings and the general unhealthy condition of the slums. Attention was called to the fact that Paris and other cities had found it necessary to tear down buildings at great expense in order to get more air in the overcrowded districts.

It is time for the people of Chicago to consider seriously the matter of public health. During the warm weather fully 400 children die every week in Chicago, and the deaths of adults bring the total death rate up to 100 a day. There can be no doubt that a large proportion of these deaths could be prevented if the city would adopt a vigorous policy in dealing with the prevailing unsanitary conditions. Much is being done by private initiative to ward off some of the effects of these conditions. The city government should do its share by changing the conditions themselves.

There must be more efficient methods of collecting and disposing of garbage. The efficiency of the city's force of tenement house inspectors must be greatly increased. The smoke nuisance must be stopped. There must be strict regulations against overcrowding, and they must be enforced. The water supply must be made pure.

There must be numerous small parks and breathing spots scattered through the more thickly settled portions of the city, where the people live who can afford neither the time nor the expense of going to the large parks. This is an imperative need. The necessity and the expense of satisfying it will both become greater as time goes by.

These are a few of the needs of the city in the direction of sanitary reform. They should be attended to as promptly as possible.—Chicago Record.

Severe Salute.

A short time ago, writes a correspondent in Brazil, a most ridiculous affair happened at Rio de Janeiro. An ice ship from Boston entered the bay, commanded by a Captain Green, in the South American trade. Fort Santa Cruz, not recognizing his home flag, hailed him and ordered him to "heave to." But the worthy skipper didn't speak Portuguese, and the simple statement of the name of his vessel, which he hurled at the fort, was not at all satisfactory; so a blank shot was fired as a mild suggestion for him to stop. But he called for his revolver, and, pointing it skyward, fired six successive shots. Then a solid shot from the fort skipped across his bow, and then another, better aimed, passed through his foremast. The fort and two shore batteries opened fire upon him, and several of his light spars were cut away. But he held on his course rejoicing, loading and firing his revolver. Finally he reached quarantine, and came to anchor just as his flying jibboom went by the board. He was then so near the other shipping that they dared fire on him no longer, and the police boat, the custom house and the health boat all boarded him, together with the captain of the port, who, with more vigor than politeness, wanted to know, "Why the deuce didn't you heave to?" "Heave to!" ejaculated the astounded skipper. "Was that what you wanted? Good heaven, I thought you was saluting the American flag!" "Diable!" shouted the officers in chorus, and they set the case down as additional evidence of the lunacy which they regarded as a necessary ingredient in the American character.

The Horse Will Stay.

It is nonsense to talk about "the elimination of the horse." He is here to stay, and here to win as great honors as any gained by racer or roadster in the past. So long as men admire one of the most intelligent, one of the noblest of animals, so long will they ride the horse and drive the horse, and find a zest and pleasure to be gained in no other way. The progress of invention may bring into vogue for a certain time and to a certain extent many a curious vehicle. Like the "wheel," the horseless carriage may find, indeed, some degree of lasting favor. But until all lovers of outdoor exercise shall be placidly content to be mere motormen will the horse continue to find, year after year, his full quota of warm and appreciative admirers on the road.—Boston Globe.

Snake Hypnotizes a Cat.

Lewis Coolman, a prominent butcher of Somerset, Ohio, upon returning from a trip in the suburbs, saw a cat some distance from a dwelling looking intently at some object. He became so interested in the feline's strange actions that he hitched his horse, and then discovered that the cat seemed rooted to the spot by a large black snake, which was coiled, and with its head erect, looking intently at the cat, which had been charmed or hypnotized. Mr. Coolman secured a club and struck the snake, and as he did so the cat fell as if it had been struck. The next second it was on its feet, running in great fright toward the dwelling.

It is peculiar how soundly a man sleeps when his wife crawls over him on her way to the kitchen to make a fire.

Books are so cheap now that the poorest people can buy and own them, and the richest can burn and keep them.