

Men who are always on the make never make much of anything.

By the looks of the court dockets this must be the open season for divorces.

Russia owes France \$1,000,000,000. That settles it. Russell Sage will never have any respect for France after this.

Alfred Austin calls his latest poem "Nemesis," doubtless because he realizes that it will not be pleasant to have it following him around.

The Mikado says he hopes peace will be restored before his next birthday. Evidently he doesn't expect to have another for several months.

Our old friend, Capt. Marryatt, used to put out a pretty fair quality of sea story, but he would furnish poor competition for Admiral Red's venery.

King Edward now wears a bracelet, but let it be said in his behalf that he does not, as yet, go about carrying his pocketbook in his hand or hanging his watch on a little hook upon his breast.

A London paper says a wife ceases to be a bride six weeks after marriage. Whether this is inherent in the constitution of things or the averaging up of the results of observation the paper doesn't say.

"Philippine forgetfulness" is reported to be spreading in army circles. Owing to peculiar conditions upon the island of the Philippines, soldiers who marry Filipino women forget all about it when they return to this country. The government at Washington thinks, however, that it knows of a cure.

War to-day is more costly than it ever was and in addition there are no compensations such as those used to be. In the old days the victors made wars pay for themselves. Their armies lived off the country through which they passed. Soldiers were billeted on the people, and whatever armies wanted they took. All this has been changed. Such campaigns as those conducted by Napoleon would be impossible at the present time.

The grafter is indeed a traitor—and of the meanest kind. He takes advantage of a place given him by the grace of the people to rob the people. His philosophy that he is in public position to levy toll on public funds is the philosophy of a traitor. His practice of dividing up or taking money on the side is the practice of a traitor. And this grafting strikes at the vitals of American principles. It makes a government of the grafters, for the grafters and for the grafters.

Every youth, no matter what may be the quality and standing of his family, who adopts a life of idleness and becomes a street loafer will soon bloom out as a criminal on the road to the penitentiary or the gallows. There is no escape from it but by a course of honest industry in such lines as may be open and available to each. Work is the duty of every man and he should devote himself to it until it becomes a part of his nature. Honesty is the opposite of idleness, vice and crime.

In these days of great benefactions let us not overlook the small practical gifts like that made by the Christian Endeavor Union to the hospital which serves the soldiers of Iowa and Illinois—a modern chicken coop, stocked with fine chickens. There is many such a worthy institution that would feel the richer for the gift of a cow, or a load of potatoes, or even a barrel of apples, and many persons with no large sums of money to spare could easily make such useful presents if they only thought of it.

It is a common charge against our countrymen that they have never learned to eat. Foreigners note this falling as conspicuous in the category of those deficiencies of deportment commonly termed "Americanisms." On this side of the water we regard eating as a necessary and sometimes annoying incident in the rush and scramble after dollars, while in most European countries dining is exalted to the dignity of a ceremonial rite. Americans must take this criticism of our table manners with good grace, for, generally speaking, it is just and merited.

Boston no longer uses the pike word "fish." "Sea food" is the high-sounding term now applied to the contents of the fish market. The Boston Herald says the change of word "seems to change the whole character of the place, for one sees glorious variations of the ocean's depths and the most appetizing odors are borne to the olfactories, whereas when one speaks plainly of 'fish' it is the very reverse." In other words, the fish by another name is not half so rank. Up to date Juliet's pretty words about the rose still hold good, but Boston may yet modify the phraseology to meet the needs of more exquisite refinement.

Two years ago the explosive or "internal combustion" gas engine was a novel, noisy and usually ill-smelling contrivance. Today there are many gas engines of two hundred horse-power

in operation, several of three thousand horse-power building, and builders will take contracts to construct them of twice that size. In fact, the trouble now is not to find the gas engine, but to provide the supply of gas for running it. In the natural gas fields a cheap and almost ideal fuel is at hand. In some places the formerly wasted gas from blast furnaces is used to develop great power, and in others the engines are used in connection with dynamiting gas plants to run auxiliary electric lighting apparatus. The gas engines are compact, do away with the need of boilers and firemen, avoid the leakage of power and heat common to steam piping, and require no high-pressure part except the cylinder in which the explosion takes place.

It was a woman who invented "condensed milk," which, while nobody wants it who can get the original article, is nevertheless of great value on journeys, on shipboard and for emergencies. It was such an emergency that led to the first condensed milk, for Mrs. Albert Cashinger of New Orleans, fifty years ago, had a sick baby and must get expert medical attention if it were to live. That could not be had nearer than New York City, and it was a long sea voyage away. How to keep the little baby alive through that voyage she did not know. But she had put up many preserves and many jellies in her time, and she began to experiment on milk, and succeeded, and put up a lot of jars of her original condensed milk, which fed her child through the voyage. This fact interested several people in New York, and finally Mrs. Cashinger gave her process away to a pack of glib fellows who made fortunes out of condensed milk and never gave her a cent.

There have been many scientists of late who have called crime a disease and said the guilty party should be sent to a physician or asylum and not to a jail or prison. They held that a person whose bodily organs were in normal condition would not deviate from the right way and that it is a sin—if there are any sins—to punish a person for a physical condition which he could not help. Now, there are those who go still farther and say love is a disease. The London Lancet, a conservative medical journal, has admitted the possibility of it that it has permitted the discussion of the subject in its columns. It would seem as if there could be no question on this matter—that if there was ever anything normal, healthy and most desirable it is love. Love is not only the foundation of life, but is the only element that makes life most desirable. Without it everything else is nothing. Yet there are those who argue that love tends to make one—not to say two—morbid and melancholy. Lovesick is so common a phrase that its meaning is at once understood. Lovers are always groaning and sighing. If they are bilious for a time they are soon tearful, "hoping and fearing in passionate pain." The pleasures that once satiated become flat and insipid. The presence of the beloved that promised an ecstasy of joy is often the occasion for tumultuous feelings hardly endurable. Even in novels love is shown to be anything but a constant joy, and the greatest of poets has indicated that the joy which is true by no means runs smoothly. Now, if it were the normal healthy matter which it is said to be, it ought certainly to give indication of health instead of sickness. But if love is a disease—which we do not admit it to be—the strange thing about it is that its pain is sweeter than any form of pleasure and its sighing and tears are more delightful than excitement and laughter. The loved would not exchange his apparent misery for a thousand other forms of joy, and on no account would he seek a remedy. He would not be cured if he could. To those who are merely spectators love may seem to be a disease, but appearances deceive and arguments do not count. The average lover is all right, is doing well and if let alone will prove his sanity all in good time.

**THE FORBIDDEN CITY.**  
L'Hassa is a Town of Fifth and Pollution.  
L'Hassa is a dirty town, according to the Englishmen who have seen it. "Black pools of water," writes a correspondent, "had flooded the wide, uneven space into which we emerged, and even the Chinese quarter to the right of us was dirtier than the Chinese sections generally are. The main drain of the town runs feebly between black mud banks, and in the open square before the Chinese amban's residence herds of black pigs rooted in rubbish heaps, which were more than usually repulsive in composition. To the left the houses of a few ragabags, or professional scavengers, were betrayed by the famous horn walls, which no visitor to L'Hassa has failed to notice. Perhaps the sight of these walls reminded one of that other duty of the ragabags—the cutting up and distribution to animals of the corpses of the dead. The cemetery is only a few steps away, and the reputed food of L'Hassa pigs became in a flash a disgusting probable reflection."

Force of habit.  
Cupid was laughing.  
"I'll bet I'd make a good street car conductor," he chuckled.  
"Why so?" asked Hymen.  
"Oh, I'm so used to telling people to 'Sit closer, please.'"

FREE...  
...and...

# THE POPULAR PULPIT



## HIGHER AND LOWER FORCES.

The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.—Matthew xxvi, 41.  
Jesus said this when he found the disciples asleep in Gethsemane instead of wakeful and watchful. His judgment on them is his estimate of humanity. He measured both its strength and its weakness. He said, "There is that in man which strives upward and there is that which drives downward." Christ did not start his estimate of humanity with wholesale condemnation. His idea of conversion was not that you must first pulverize and then reconstruct the whole nature. His idea was to feel along the whole character until he found some hanging; the divine could touch or wake, then he worked with that. So he dealt with Nathaniel, with the Roman Centurion, with Zacchaeus, even with the thief on the cross. Study his dealings with these people and see how he touched on their possibilities or something good in them, and worked with that.

It was a gracious thing to say this: "The spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak." It was so large in pity, so great in forgiveness. But it was more than that. It was a just thing to say. It gave credit to the good as well as admitting the evil. We get into the habit of forcing our opinions and judgments entirely out of the worst conditions. The Christ taught us to temper the worst with the best. Christ never preached that every one must first be crucified to a jelly before he can be reshaped, reformed, re-created. Study his dealings with people and you will find how he took the tough block of human nature and by the action of divinity upon it he brought out the "granite divinity."

Jesus never condemned or smothered over sin. No words as fiery as his against evil. But he did not lump everything indiscriminately, he analyzed every man. Among all the rubbish he always found something that was worth saving. "The spirit is willing," he said, "but the flesh is weak." A man cannot be as good as he wants to be, because his lower nature is too weak to keep pace along the track his spirit maps out. His lower nature needs to be strengthened into the temper of his higher spirit. That is widely different from imagining that the lower nature is to be destroyed or the higher can prevail.

Do not, however, mistake Christ's meaning. He did not exhort the disciples for their unfaithfulness. He did not palliate their selfish sleep. It is a bad use we make of his word when we make a proverb of it and use it as a sort of absolution for wrong doing. We say when conscience pierces or self-condemnation rises, "O, the spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak," and we think that wipes out the wrong. Such a use of Christ's word is fatal to its saving intent. Its real use is to make us vividly conscious of the two great forces in opposition in every man, that we ourselves may bring these two forces into tremendous conflict. This is the true battle of life. A willing spirit, but weak flesh.

What death struggles have waged between these two! The higher yearns for ideals of right rise the more intense that struggle is within you. Satisfied with a low level of life you do not feel the impulse that makes this struggle between the higher and lower forces in you, and that is an evidence that your whole spiritual nature is tuned to a low key. It is an evidence that you think meanly of yourself and that is a long step toward becoming mean. The man who thinks nobly of himself, in whom self-respect rises to high tide, will feel most keenly this limitation of his lower nature and will make the most manly efforts to free himself from the captive entanglements of the flesh. A true man will ask, "Is my spirit really willing? Is the Christ estimate a true measure of me? Do I in my spirit level up to the divine definition of possibility in me? Do I reach the dignity of human nature that Christ puts upon it?" Guessing is the soil to whom such a guessing of questions comes.

Here is a great stage of salvation to reach: "I in my intrinsic self am greater, stronger, more dominant than my lower, meaner self. I aspire to greater things than my passions. I am capable of nobler conceptions than my lusts. I am fitted for better things than my selfishness." This is reaching out toward the divine. This is "coming to yourself" as Christ puts it, in the parable of the prodigal son. Consciousness of your true self, that spiritual self, which Christ dignified by his recognition, consciousness of the high possibilities in you will step at last into the consciousness of the need of God in you to bring the whole of yourself, both lower and higher, into the region of God, which is Christ manifest in the flesh. Any way that you can open upward and Godward the better willingness of your spirit is the way for you to welcome the incoming God, the Christ of the conversion of weakness into strength, the Savior, who is the spirit of willing-

ness, the determination for the right, the true, and the beautiful.

## TESTAMENT VIEW OF SIN.

The expression, "the iniquity of my sin," sets forth the intensity of sin. Sin is deep, strong, violent and unrelenting in its pursuit of man. The old testament gives a sad, vivid picture of sin. It uses a variety of terms to describe moral evil.

It is something that is crooked. A sinner is a man who is not straight in his moral makeup. It is evil, indicating something that breaks forth. Sin rapidly grows, increases and multiplies. It is like this, when once it gets rooted it is impossible to destroy it. It spreads and becomes a blight and a curse to men.

It is simplicity, meaning the simple, natural, undeveloped man—a man without any fixed principles. Multitudes of these simple ones infest our cities. They are blind to danger, are easily tempted and seduced, and are the main support of brothels, saloons and gambling dens.

A man who sins is destitute of mind. He is described as lacking understanding, and following a tempter or temptress like an ox going to the slaughter, a fool to the correction of the stock, or as a bird hastening to the snare. Soon he is wounded and bruised and hurried on to the chambers of death.

The sinner is a fool. "The fool hath said in his heart, No God." Such a man conducts his business and carries on his affairs on the assumption that God is no far away that he is absolutely unconcerned in the conduct of this world.

## LABOR IN RELIGION.

Is not this the carpenter?—Mark vi, 3.

What a stoop of Deity into a carpenter's shop. The idea is in touch with the masses. God turns his common side to man. The mechanical world is enamored with the deed. They ignore creed, but laud the carpenter of Nazareth. The mechanic of the sky is their boon companion. They hold the village carpenter the headship of the brotherhood of man. The little shop amid the hills is a center of attraction. They look to the man in the frayed carpenter's dress as their deliverer. In the subject we have implied an apprenticeship. It declares religious trade. "No excellence without great labor" is an aphorism of magnificent truth. All that flourishes in art, science, literature, architecture, came from a life of tremendous toil.

Some people will never amount to anything because they are ever like the moon, full of change, unstable as water, fickle as the wind, seeking rest and finding none; all their toil is lost. It is the same way in some individuals who have nothing but worm-eaten piety to offer to the world. They have only a mud hut constructed in religion.

## PREPARATION FOR CHRIST.

By Bishop Samuel Fallows.

An English freethinker once attempted to belittle Christianity as a specially inspired religion because it was as "old as the creation." It is older than creation, for it is as old as the thought of God in calling the universe into existence. All the nations of the earth before the coming of Christ were concerned in the preparation for his advent.

Old Chaldaea had to do with the writing and preservation of the records to which Moses had access in giving to the world his portion of old testament history. Egypt was the great school of learning in which he was taught, and in whose deepest mysteries he was initiated. Their vital truths he transmitted for all the ages to posterity.

Rome built her stupendous military roads for the feet of the heralds of peace to traverse and erected her military camps for the radiating centers of Christian thought and life. All pre-existing centuries, with their histories, their legends, their philosophy, their art, their wars, their struggles, their defeats and triumphs were pointing to Bethlehem, to Calvary, to Olivet.

A divine idea was running through all climes and people unseen, or but dimly seen, to be realized at last in Jesus of Nazareth.

## CHURCH CURSED BY WEALTH.

By Rev. W. H. Reed.

Jesus called the poor blessed, but he said "Hardly shall a rich man enter the kingdom." It is difficult for a man of wealth to retain the virtues necessary for discipleship, and it is impossible for one who trusts in riches to have a place in a kingdom where meekness of character is the requisite. Riches tend to arrogance, pride and self-sufficiency.

More men proportionately are led away from Christ by wealth than are driven away by poverty. The fountain of most men's sympathies dry up as the gold is thrown in. Quite as many men need a smile as a sandwich, a hearty handshake as a half dollar.

## Short Meter Sermons.

Endurance is the fruit of endeavor. Hatred always hurts the hater most of all.

One of the great changes needed in the city church is to take the signs off the doors and put them on the collection plates.

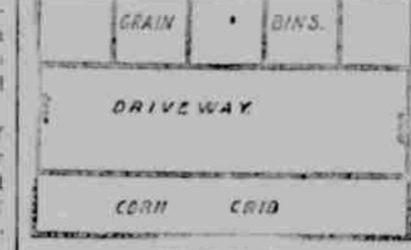


**A Combination Building.**  
Here is a plan for a combined corn crib, granary and wagon shed as given in the Ohio Farmer. It is 32x20 and 10 feet high to eaves, and has a tight floor, which is reached by means of a movable platform, D. The building is set up on short wooden posts, B, standing on a flat stone, C, and a galvanized iron pan inverted over the top, A. This makes it rat and mouse proof, if the platform D is pulled away from



COMBINATION FARM BUILDING.

the building when not in use. The plan is shown in the second picture. The grain bins are arranged with sliding boards in front, same as in any granary. The attic can be used for storing tools or anything else desired. In that case there should be a window in each gable end. The center or driving floor makes a good wagon and berry shed. The platform D can be made stationary by covering the lower part of the door, and the door sill, with sheet iron and extending the sheet iron strip out toward corner of building a foot or so on each side. Such an approach can be provided at each end, so that the team can be driven through the building. Instead of posts



FLOOR PLAN.

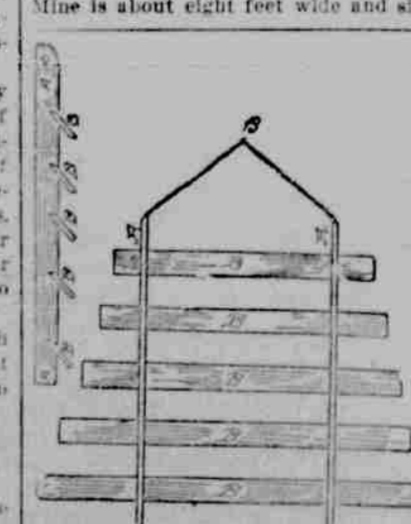
and inverted pans it is cheaper to set the building on 8-inch sewer pipe 2 feet long. Rats and mice can't climb the glazed pipe.

## Hogs for Next Season.

Hardly two men will agree in all respects as to what constitutes the best sow for breeding purposes, although the most successful hog raisers are coming around to the belief that the medium animal gives the best returns, so that the old idea that the brood sow should be of large size is being abandoned. Size determined on, then other characteristics should be sought. If the sow has had one litter it is easy to know if she is fitted to continue the work. If she was not a good mother, if she did not have the proper amount of milk (provided she was properly fed) then she will not prove a profitable mother for other seasons. When the sow is bred for the first time, then one is taking some chances, but it ought not to be hard, after the first year, to get together a fine lot of sows simply by remembering how they acted in previous years.

## Home-Made Plank Drag.

I have a home-made plank leveler and clog crusher which I think an improvement upon those made by overlapping planks, writes a correspondent of the Rural New Yorker. It does exceedingly good work, leveling so a field may be made as even as a floor. Mine is about eight feet wide and six



EFFECTIVE PLANK DRAG.

feet long. I have tried to show how it is made in the cut. Two planks are set on edge, and a series of planks notched into their lower edges, sloping backward at an angle of about 45 degrees. I have tried to present a view of one plank on edge, showing how the cross planks are inserted. I make the forward cross planks shorter than those in rear, so it leaves smoother work made thus. Board may be nailed on top to stand upon when it is desired to do extra heavy scraping.

## American Fig Culture.

Successful fig raising began in the vicinity of Fresno, Cal. Success dates from the introduction of the tiny wasp which secured the pollenization of the blossoms, and without which the trees had failed to set fruit. The first commercial crops were grown in 1900, the figs being of the Smyrna variety, which is a distinguished sort of re-

markably fine quality and appearance. As grown in California, the variety is superior in sweetness to the imported kind, and is as much superior to ordinary figs as the Washington Navel orange is to the common oranges. Four or five years are required from setting the trees before good-sized crops are produced, but the industry is making rapid progress and likely to supply soon an important part of the fig trade of this country.

## Prices for Horses Are High.

All the large horse markets report high prices this year. The demand was never better in all parts of the country, particularly for the best animals. Some very fine drafters have sold for as much as \$500 to \$600 in the Chicago market. These, of course, are exceptional prices, and have certainly been very remunerative to the growers.

In the financial depression that followed 1893 values dropped to so low a figure that breeders restricted their operations to such an extent that breeding stock went away down below the numbers kept in previous years. In fact in some localities that were more or less distinguished for their industry, it went almost entirely out of existence.

Fortunately with the revival of prices a marked revival is manifesting itself in breeding. Of course, there is a possibility that breeding may be overdone, but the probability that such will be the case is not very strong. The depletion of this class of horses has been so great that unless depression should come and should be severe those who are rearing draft horses may expect to find a good market for them providing they have been properly reared.

## Grain Led by Cotton.

The exports of grain and flour from the United States for the ten months ending October were less than one-half in value of those of the corresponding period in 1901 or 1902, and only one-third as much as those of the corresponding period of 1901 or 1902. Yet the total volume of exports for the ten months was \$90,000,000 greater than for the same period of last year, indicating that the shortage of grain products was more than offset in other ways. Manufactured goods seem to have made up the bulk of increase, the gain being over \$50,000,000 as compared with last year. Shipments of raw cotton also show a gain of \$22,000,000, suggesting that for the time, at least, cotton, rather than wheat, is king of the agricultural export trade.

## Farm Fences.

The legal fence should be of wire with a rail at the top so as not to obstruct snow, or to be affected by winds. The neighborhood could get along without any fences if suitable laws were passed. The coming age will know no farm fences. If the farmers could lay by all they spend on fences they would get rich. Farm fences and common pastures will both die a natural death soon. Both belong to a pioneer period which we have outgrown.

## Nursing Grass Lands.

When one has a meadow that has yielded good crops for a long time, but the yield is smaller with each passing season, there should be some let up in the cropping of such meadows. While many of them will be the better for reseeding, many of them will respond well to a top dressing of fertilizer and less cropping; that is, not cutting too close or gathering the second crop at all.

## Orange Vinegar.

California orange growers have discovered a new use for over-ripe oranges, which have heretofore been of almost no value at the orchards. They have succeeded in making a high grade of vinegar from the juice, the product being claimed superior to apple vinegar.

## Poultry Pickings.

No success can be achieved with poultry without cleanliness! It's a poor plan to wash eggs for keeping. Don't do it, unless eggs are to be used right away.

Whatever you do, unless you fatten for market, don't give an exclusive corn diet, and better not even then.

The cry now is for winter eggs. The poultry keeper smart enough to get them is the one who is successful financially.

For sweeping the hen houses, perches, etc., what better do you want than an old broom which the good woman has cast aside as too much worn?

Hens, in order to be able to lay well, must have a free supply of good drinking water, and the poultry keeper who wants and expects even a fair yield of eggs in cold weather must take all possible pains to furnish it.

Place a heated soapstone wrapped in cloth, into a box of proper size, and upon this put the dish containing fresh drinking water, with a cover over the dish which leaves only a small part of the surface of the water exposed. Do this and the water will not freeze.

Barns, outbuildings, back porches, etc., are poor places for poultry. Have the poultry house or houses, even on farms, in a sheltered place at some distance from house or barn, or so located that the hens will not be liable to make a nuisance of themselves.

To cure the chick upon whose throat gape worms have got a firm foothold, various methods of treatment are recommended. One is to remove the worms by means of a small feather, stripped to near the point then dipped in turpentine and sweet oil, and inserted carefully into the windpipe, twisting it and finally removing it again together with the gape worms that were loosened from the windpipe in the process.