

THRESHING-IVILIZATION has as yet made little progress in Persia. Western modern inventions in agricultural machinery and scientific methods of cultivating have passed over this country without leaving any impression on the farmers. The land is tilled in much the same way as in the days of Noah! The simplest and most primitive tools and implements are still employed to break up and prepare the soil. The plow, drawn

by a pair of zebus, is a very crude affair. The share, made of soft iron imported from Sweden, is attached to rough wooden bars made by the village carpenter, and the plow is fastened to the heavy yoke by a chain. The soil is merely scratched on the surface, for the depth to which the share penetrates depends entirely on the physical exertion of the driver, who is often merely a youth. As soon as the rainy season sets in, generally somewhere about November, field work begins. Only two kinds of grain are grown in Fars, wheat for bread and barley for the food of the horses, donkeys and mules, though now it is also often used for baking purposes by the poorer classes. When the seed has been sown, a plank, five feet long by one and a half feet broad, pressed down by the weight of the driver, who stands on it, is driven over the ground to level it and to cover the seed so that it shall not be washed out when the fields are flooded by artificial irrigation. If the rains are good and plentiful, the young green blades soon show above ground; but if the nourishing element fails, artificial irrigation must be resorted to, and the few springs which exist in the Shiraz valley become worth a good deal of money. Water is scarce in southern Persia, and has to

be bought by most farmers throughout a dry season. On specified days in the week each field owner gets his supply for certain hours. The and to retain the water as much as possible each division is crossed by numbers of dams, two feet high which confine the water, and in this way the earth is thoroughly soaked. Where running water is not obtainable, wells and underground channels are dug. From the wells, some of which are as much as 60 or 100 feet deep, the water is drawn by horses or other animals. A rope attached to the harness runs over a wooden wheel on a gentry above the well mouth. The "bucket" consists of the skin of a sheep or other quadruped, from the neck of which the water flows into a basin level with the ground, and then through narrow channels to the growing crops. These wells can be seen and the squeaking noise of the wooden wheels heard throughout the land. The canals, very often many miles long, are covered aqueducts, through which the water is led from the mountains to the plains and villages. The soil thrown up in digging these passages form mounds at the mouths of the shafts, which are sunk at intervals of 25 or 30 yards. The digging of these canals is a special trade, and the secret of their construction is guarded jealously by the men who earn their living in this

The crops begin to ripen and harvesting starts towards July in the Shiraz valley, but earlier as one goes further south. The simple sickle is the only reaping implement used all over the vast country. When the crop is reaped it is not tied into sheaves, but is merely stacked up. When threshing time arrives, the simplest of machines appears on the scene. It is combined thresher and chaff-cutter. Between two broad wooden runners there is a pair of wooden rollers, in which short, wide, blunt knife blades are fixed. The upper part consists of four wooden uprights, on which a board is mounted as a seat for the driver. A pair of zebus drag this machine over the straw, which is spread flat on the ground, and is cut, or. rather, broken, up by the constantly rotating knives, while the pressure of the runners separates the grain from the husks. The weight of the driver supplies the necessary pressure. It takes eight or ten days to thresh out a stack, and when this is finished, if the wind is blowing freshly, the winnowing can begin. Again a very simple instrument, merely a wooden fork, is all that is used by the peasants. The monsoon, which blows in August and September over southern Persia, plays an important part in this proceeding. The winnowers start on the weather side of the threshed stack, tossing the straw into the air with their forks, the breeze blows the light chaff several yards to leeward, where it collects in a heap, while the heavy grain falls at the feet of the workers, and in this rough-and-ready manner the separation of the grain from the chaff is effected. The remaining operations of harvesting are very simple. The chaff is baled up in large, specially made nets, and brought on donkeys to the villages, while the grain follows in bags on the backs of camels or donkeys. The poor people are now allowed to glean over the fields, sifting the dust and gathering such grain and chaff as are left. Before the grain goes to the mill it is cleaned once more in a stone mortar with heavy wooden

BRINGING IN THE CHAFF

pestles, to get rid of the remaining husks. The Persian wheat bread is sold in big, flat, pancake-like pieces called sangak (from sang, the stone), from the fact that it is baked in an oven with a floor of heated pebbles. As it is so thin, it is baked through into crust. and tastes best while still hot. As the poorer classes all over the south of Persia live on nothing else but bread.

the harvest means everything to them, and the price of wheat is a very serious matter. Bread riots break out if prices reach the famine point, and are a source of much trouble to the authorities. Many a governor has had to face them, and therefore it is the aim of every ruler in Fars as



A WELL FOR ARTIFICIAL IRRIGATION

soon as he enters the gates of its capital to fix a low price for the bread, which means that all the poorer classes praise him and stand by his side while the big landowners grumble and intrigue against him to get him removed to some other

#### THE REPORT OF THE PARTY OF THE

## Old-Fashioned Agricultural Implements

Times have changed in agriculture, as in many other things, and at the present day we can hardly realize the difficulties that beset the farmer upwards of a century ago. Early spring was often a trying time for him, when his supplies of cattle food were apt to become exhausted before the new grass appeared. There were then no turnips, mangolds, oil-cake, soy beans or similar foods to be procured and he had sometimes great difficulty in keeping his cattle from starvation, especially in the late districts. It is difficult to believe, but it is nevertheless true, that in parts of Scotland the cattle were at times so weak in spring from want of food that they were unable to rise from their stalls when the new grass did come. The custom therefore arose for farmers in a neighborhood to meet together and go from farm to farm for the purpose of carrying the helpless cattle out to the fields. This was termed the cattle lifting, a much more burnane method of "cattle lifting" than that which used to prevail on the borders.

In the wilder parts of Scotland, where gorse or furze was plentiful, the young shoots were often used in spring as a supplementary food for both cattle and horses. The shoots were cut down and then removed to the farm to be there crushed into a rough pulp which could be eaten by the cattle. It was eagerly devoured by them, and they throve upon it. Cows gave richer milk when they were supplied with grushed gorse, and the milk was free from unpleasant flavor, such as other green winter foods sometimes induce. Horses, too, relished the food.

Great faith was placed in the nutritive value of whin shoots. Indeed, so popular did whin diet become, that fields, especially where the soil was dry and light, were set aside for the whin crop, the seeds being sown in drills in March, so that the shoots became ready for use in the autumn of the following year. For several years in succession forage was obtained from the original

There were several methods employed for pulp ing the gorse. In small farms, where only a limited quantity was needed, the method usually adopted was to lay the young shoots on a flat stone or block of wood and hammer them with a mallet similar to that now used for driving in paling posts. Sometimes one end of the mallet was fitted with iron blades for chopping the gorse, while the other end was flat for pounding it. Otherwise a "rammer" or "bruiser" might be employed, an instrument consisting of a "shank of wood, three feet eight inches in length, a bulged out part to give the instrument weight on being used, and a base which is contracted into a square, and shod with an iron shoe embracing parallel iron cutters one inch asunder and three inches deep, and sharpened at their lower edge."

These methods, however, entailed too much manual labor where gorse was used in consider | cage were strong and so close together | force, when it was necessary to pull damaged article on me. She's all over able quantity. In such case a gorse, furze or whin mill, as it was variously called in different districts, was utilized. The whin mill was built after one of two types; the most common consisted of a circular stone, shaped somewhat like a millstone, standing on edge, with approximately a diameter of four feet and a thickness of a foot. In joined the press agent and the stran- killed himself. The doctor prescribed the center of the stone a hole was cut, through which a shaft about 14 feet long was fixed. On baboon is crazy about women; but he liked it so well that he got up in the end of the shaft was attached to an iron pin firmly fixed into an earth-fast stone, and the other end was fitted with tackling to which a horse could be yoked. The gorse shoots were then thrown into a circular trough or course, where they were crushed as the mill-stone slowly revolved. The in front of it he played entirely to her the rest of the night to save him. farmer occasionally stirred them up with a hayfork and sprinkled them with water to facilitate the crushing process. Crushing went on for about a couple of hours, by which time the gorse was sufficiently pulped to be eaten by the cattle.

In the second type of mill another form of stone, shaped somewhat like a field-roller, was utilized. This pattern was not so common as the wheelshaped. The roller revolved on a flat circular don't believe a more human monkey was a large one. It was heaped on the and within six weeks he was wearing course paved with stones, and had one end rather thicker than the other to enable it more readily to turn round the circle.

In process of time these gorse mills gradually fell into disuse. As the land became better populated, gorse became less plentiful and cattle food more abundant. The introduction of turnips, too. provided a plentiful supply of food in spring, when it had formerly been very scarce. Farmers, moreover, grudged the amount of labor entailed in preparing the gorse, and were not unwilling that the apparatus should fall into decay.

#### INAPPROPRIATE.

Scruggs-While I have noticed many steamships named for cities, I have never seen one called after Cork

Buggs-It would never do to speak of the Cork's crew.

#### COULD NOT AFFORD IT.

Mrs. Snobbs-I wintered at Palm Beach this season and expect to summer at Mt. Savage. Mrs. Hobbs-I springed at Pratt City and expect to autumn at Bessemer.

#### HOW STUPID.

"Yes," observed a young medical graduate "all the communications that I receive have Dr. on them, but the senders will put the Dr. after my name instead of before it."

"See You Home Company." Commercial enterprise goes far and displays boundless ingenuity in these ance in a wheelbarrow covered with days of competition. But it is doubt- a sack \$6 cents, but conveyance is

which has been started in Belgium. hour of the evening and convey safely

desire to go home is greater than the ability to accomplish the journey. The charges vary. "Summary conveyance" costs but 16 cents, conveywalst. 26 inches; hips. 36 inches; The proportions should be observed, ful whether it has ever found a more a cart drawn by dogs. 50 cents.

# **Side Show Sidelights**

X.....X

**Diverting Chronicles of Circus Life** 

By FRANCIS METCALFE

X.....X

(Copyright by W. G. Chapman)

The fame of Jocko the Jealous, the amorous baboon, had preceded him to America, and when the animals from the Paris Hippedrome had been safely transferred to their dens in the arena he was the center of attraction as he limbered up his muscles in the large monkey cage, after the cramped accommodations of the small traveling box. He had gained a reputation as a masher in Paris; but never had the menagerie attendants seen him so as upon his first introduction to American beauty as exemplified by the fair woman who stood before his cage.

ANIMATED ART GALLERY.

Jocko was not the first male being who had been fascinated by the charms of the prima donna during her career; for she had been through the marriage ceremony so often that she could say it backwards, never forgetding to cross her fingers before saying. "Until death do we part." The Proprietor drew the Stranger's attention to the group before the cage, a mischievous smile on his face as he looked over the half dozen of callow youths who are always in the train of the prima donna

"Watch out for squalls over there," all of the blandishments known to an amorous baboon and although the words of his soft chattering were unintelligible, their import could not be mistaken by a past mistress of the gentle art of love making; but the prima donna could not be beguiled changed, for one of her male companions placed his hand on her arm to attract her attention and Jocko, giving a howl of rage, danced madly up tient when anything was wrong and and down on all fours, showing a we had to do disagreeable things to

THE AMOROUS BABOON AND THE | not the sort to meet the entire approval of the missionaries—so that a bargain was concluded and the woman's grief allayed by a generous share of the purchase price. As nearly as he could make out, she had found the little thing in the jungle when it was only a few days old and had reared it in place of a baby which had fust died. She was a low type of woman, even for an African savage, but the maternal instinct was strong enough to make her grieve for little Consul, as the captain christened him. The monkey grieved over the separamadly in love and so insanely jealous tion, too, but sailors make much of animals and he soon became recon-

"Thousands of people saw him after purchased him, and you can judge of the reputation he attained when I tell you that I was getting fifteen hundred dollars a week for him in Berlin when he died, and he was booked for the entire season at that price. People had seen him eat with a knife and fork, smoke a cigar, use a typewriter and do all of the stunts which simply aped humanity, but you had to live with the little beast to appreciate how intensely human he was. Everybody connected with the show loved him.

"When he was in company he was as well mannered as most men, but, few minutes." The monkey was using slon was a negro, which is strange when you consider his early associations, and if one came around when when a husky guy that looked like a he was loose he was apt to attack him. farmer came in with blood in his eye We had to consider that in traveling, and asked for the manager. I looked for Consul always stopped at the hotels with his trainer and sat about the lobbies, smoking his cigar like any into placing herself within reach of other guest, but if there were negro the hairy paws. Suddenly his mood servants about, we had to be very careful not to let them come near him. "He had the reasoning power of a child ten years of age; he was pa-

unnih munungan reles

DIEWIN MYZ TLA

she sat on the platform dressed in low neck and short skirts the lecturer had something to talk about, for the monagerle pictured on her was a thing of beauty, and the few choice texts like, 'Be good and you will be happy,' which were scattered in between the animals, were highly moral and elevating, and that was one of the strong points of our show. Merritt used to spread himself when he was telling how she was shipwrecked on a desert island and held captive by the cruel cannibals, whose high priests spared her from the menu to tattoo her with the symbols of their heathenish worship. It gave him a great chance to come in strong on the moral part, when he explained about the texts and told how they were added after the cannibals had been converted to red flannel shirts, silk hats and a vegetable diet, by the missionaries, and I have seen ancient maiden ladies moved to tears by this recital. So when he had to give his lecture without her, he got mixed up and called attention to the marvelous growth of hair on the face of the 'Circassian Beauty,' thinking she was the 'Bearded Lady,' and nearly pulled the ears off of the 'Dog Faced Boy,' trying to explain that he was 'The Man With the Rubber Skin.' Of course, that made trouble among the he said. "Jocko is affectionate now, of course, he had his prejudices and freaks, who are a mighty touchy lot but there will be something doing in a had to be watched. His special aver- anyway, and I have noticed that trouble always comes in bunches in the show business, so I wasn't surprised

ured him we found that he had taken

"It's funny how some people are al ways looking for a chance to get dam-

ages," said the Press Agent, settling himself comfortably in his chair, "We had a case of it when Merritt and I were running a dime museum out

west. The freaks all lived together at a large boarding house and one morning, when they reported for duty, the 'Tattooed Lady' was missing. It was

before the days when they were so common and we had spent a lot of money to have her decorated and made

her our star attraction. Of course,

none of the tattooing was visible when she was in street costume, but when

ost of her scale off

acknowledged the soft impeachment. "Look'ee here, wot kind of a skin game be youse fellers runnin' here?' says the guy and I took a good grip on the lead pipe and tried to turn away wrath by a soft answer, and quoting from our advertisement that it was a highly moral and intellectual entertainment.

around for Merritt, but he had gone

around the corner to get something

to drown his sorrow, so I slipped a

piece of lead pipe under my coat and

'Not by a dern sight, it ain't,' says 'It's a blasted man-trap to ketch the unwary, an' I'll have the law on ye an' make yer pay fer trifling with my young affections.' I have had some pretty tough things said to me in my day, but that was about the worst ever, and pretty nearly took my breath away, but he went right on.

"'I deliver milk to that boardin' house down the street an' I see a likely lookin' gal there lately an' I wanted some one to help milk an' look after the house, so I asks her to marry me. She says she will, so we hitched up an' I never knew she was one o' yer dern freaks until it was too late. save she's a "Tattoned Lady she's all covered with picters."

'Well, what's the matter with 'em?' says I. 'Aren't they good pictures?' "'Good enough,' says he, 'for them as likes 'em; but I don't hanker after vicious set of fangs as his lips curled | him, appreciating that it was for his no decorations o' that kind an', b'gosh, in a hideous snarl. The bars of his benefit. Only once did we have to use I'll make yer pay fer palmin' off a snakes an' other beasts an' it makes me sick ter my stummick every time I

> thinks of 'em.' "How did you settle it-did he get damages?" asked the Stranger.

"Damages!" exclaimed the Press Agent as he wiped the foam from his mustache. "Why, Merritt came in. and when he heard the guy kick he lit

"'Blame your skin!' he yelled. 'I've for the liquor to keep a sailor happy for six weeks while he was doing that she was valuable, so they adjourned to concert was given, nothing would do a cafe to talk it over."

"With what result?" asked the Proprietor, as he rose from the table. "Well, Merritt got her back on the covered," replied the proprietor. "I a perfect gentleman, and the collection platform, the farmer sold his farm more yellow diamonds and throwing a wonderful intelligence to the fact that It to the captain when a native West bigger chest than the husband of a grand opera prima donna."

Apropos of the Turkey.

Senator Atlee Pomerene was carying a turkey at his home the other evening when he recalled a terrible experience of the early days of his practice as a lawyer.

He had just been married and had o go to a small town in southern Ohio to try a lawsuit. The case ran up to the day before Thankegiving without ending.

The lawyers were all anxious to get home for Thanksgiving, especially Pomerene. Towards the close of the afternoon session he suggested to the judge that as he had some new witnesses he wanted to look up, he would like to have the case continued.

"Young man," said the judge, shaking his finger sternly at Pomerene. "you've got more turkey in your eye now than you'll have in your mouth tomorrow. We're going to stick right here.

And he did.

This Bird Left No Descendants.

This is according to James Bruce. the eighteenth century traveler: "In 1621 there was brought into Abyssinis a bird which was about the biguess of a man, it could likewise neigh like a horse and mew like a cat. It was produced before the assembly of the judges and the priests, and there it spoke with great gravity. The assembly was unanimously of opinion that the evil spirit had no part in endowing it with these talents, but to be certain it was thought prudent to take magine the captain's trade goods were stincts were aroused and when we see was sent, but it died on the road."

### PERFECT HUMAN FORM

shape is entirely out of date, and what ing figures were given out by a group

What constitutes a perfect form is | thighs, 34 inches; calf, 15 inches; largely a matter of personal opinion. upper arm, 11 inches; forearm, nine Certainly however, the old hourglass inches. However, as I have stated before, there are many who would not a blessing it is. Recently the follow- deem this their ideal in many respects. Of course, if you are shorter of artists as being those of a perfect or taller, the proportions of your figure: Height, five feet eight inches: body will vary from these somewhat, weight, 140 pounds; neck, 13 inches; and your present state will reflect chest, 33 inches; bust, 36 inches; the habits and training of past years.

as nearly as possible, if milady would unexpected outlet for its energies than appear up to date in the newest that of the "See You Home Company" The same hip as bust measdresses. urement, with a ten-inch decrease in the waist line, are the lines recommended by the high-grade corsetieres of today for the woman who would to their domiciles those in whom the be strictly modish.-Woman's World.

Agents of the company visit the hotels and restaurants at an advanced

that he could not get out to attack his a tooth, and I am glad it wasn't oftenrival; but he gathered up a mass of er, for it took seven men to control litter from the floor and showered him and they thought they had done prima donna and callow youth alike. a day's work when we finished. The "Jocko gave quite a performance last time he went abroad he was the tonight," said the Proprietor as he life of the ship, but he pretty nearly ger at the table after the show "That a cough medicine for him and Consul hasn't the discrimination of Consul, night, after his trainer had gone to right into him. the most intelligent monkey that ever sleep, opened the valise in which it

HE SMOKED HIS CIGAR IN THE LOBBY LIKE ANY OTHER GUEST."

lived. You may remember that he was kept and emptied the bottle. I a good mind to have you arrested for was never quiet in his cage, but if a guess there must have been laudanum stealing the pictures from my art galspecially well-dressed woman stopped in it, for they had to work over him lery. I have a claim on 'em, for I paid and when she moved away his eyes followed her as long as she was in lady passengers, who made a great job.' The guy got onto the fact that sight." deal of him, and when the customary

"There will never be another like concert was given, nothing would do Consul," said the Press Agent, shak- but that he must perform and then ing his head sadly.

"Never until the missing link is dis- was in evening dress and behaved like will ever be found, and I attribute his plate, and he was just about to present he associated entirely with human be Indian stepped forward to make a conings, almost from the day of his birth. | tribution. The money for the Seaman's

I got him from the captain of a tramp home went flying to the four corners steamer which traded to the West of the salon and the trainer had a difcoast, and I paid a goodish bit of ficult time in persuading Consul to remoney for him, too. I have never tire without tearing the clothes off of dared to tell his early history as it was the man whose only offense was his told to me, for fear I should be color. This was Consul's last voyage, laughed at for a liar; but stranger for he contracted pleurisy and died in things happen in the animal business | Berlin." than ever get into print, and if I dared

agent." The Press Agent looked at him reproachfully, but agreed with the propo- in the jungle than an animal born in

sition. The Proprietor, smiling at him ap-

thetic attitude. captain's word for what happened be- when I was traveling with a caravan fore I bought him, but from the way circus in France. One of the lionesses the chimp developed and the intelli- had a litter of three cube, and in the gence he displayed after he came into excitement of the moving and strange my possession, I am prepared to be surroundings, she killed two of them. lieve it. He told me that he got him We took the other one away and the from the natives at the mouth of a woman who cooked for us volunteered small river on the West coast, where to raise it. She became very much athe anchored his steamer to trade, tached to it and developed the theory a hen, and spoke Indian, Portuguese They came off about the ship in their that she could overcome its savage and Arabic. It named the king's canoes, but he did not care for the instincts by diet, and for a time it name; although its voice was that of rubber and ivory they had to offer and he was about to hoist anchor when was with her for about two years and one of them, who was in a small canoe grew to a fine animal, but she never with a woman, motioned to him to let him taste raw food. One day, when stop. in the stern, nursing what the captain stove, she pushed him with her foot dragged it away from her, in spite of sented it. Whether it was that alone, desperately anxious to trade-and I don't know; but all of his savage in- the superior of Mahebar. To them if

"Have you found that early associa-

risk my reputation by telling the tion with human beings makes the oththings which actually occur in a men- er animals easier to train?" asked the agerie. I should never need a press Stranger, and the Proprietor shook his head.

"No; I would rather train one taken

captivity. They do raise the pumas in

"He would walk the deck with the

pass the plate for the collection. He

South America and have them about provingly, consented to tell the history the houses as we do cats; but I of Consul, the famous chimpanzee, wouldn't trust one of 'em. And as for when the Stranger expressed his entire the bigger cats, the lions and tigers credulity and the Press Agent as there is no such thing as taming them. sumed an encouraging and sympa. They may be trained to do certain things, but they are never trustworthy. "Of course, I have to take the ship We had a queer illustration of that looked as if she were right. The beast The woman was crouched up he was comfortably lying before the thought was a baby, but when the man to get him out of the way and he reher voluble protest, he saw that it was or whether the odor of meat which she small chimpanzee. The man seemed was about to cook appealed to him, I the advice of Res Seia Christos and