

PICTURESQUE OLD CITY.

The Most Faithful Remnant of the Middle Ages.

Hildesheim, a Hanoverian Town, Contains Many Rare Historical Treasures—A Rose Bush 1,100 Years Old.

[Special Berlin Letter.]

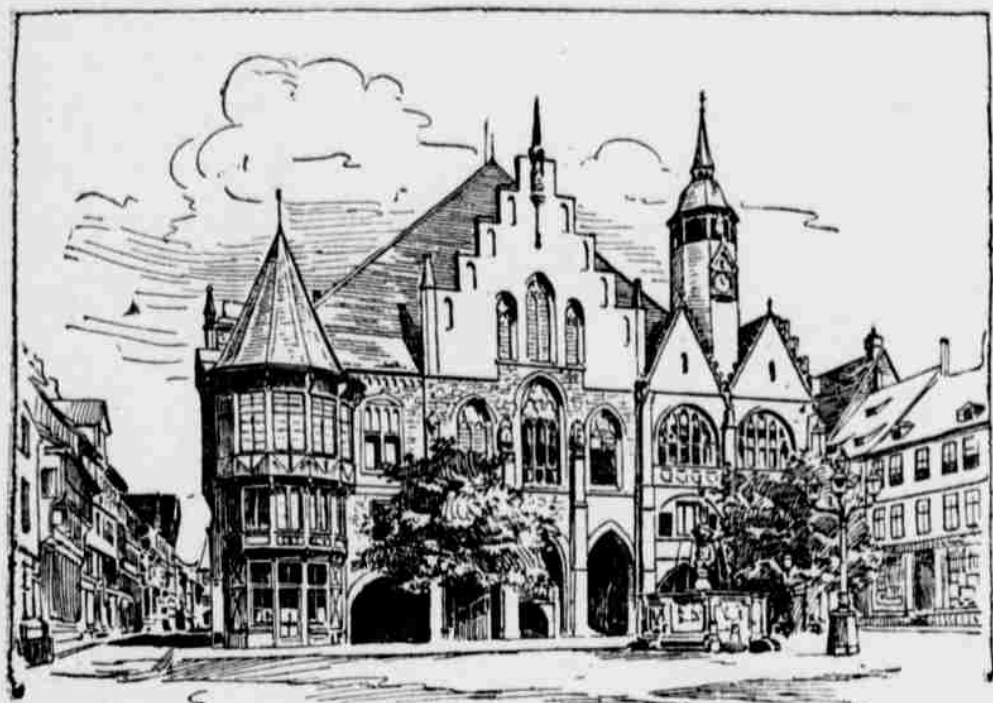
Hildesheim is one of the oldest and most interesting towns in Germany, and I recently spent a day there sightseeing. At present it lies in the Prussian province of Hanover, and it is easily accessible by rail from Brunswick. During the middle ages, though, Hildesheim was a powerful and very wealthy commonwealth of its own, and it waged war successfully against the bellicose bishops and dukes of the neighborhood. Its citizens were so proud and luxurious that on festival days they would eat and drink out of nothing meaner than pure gold and silver, and the world-famed "Hildesheim treasure"—a collection of rarely artistic and beautiful dishes, plates, tankards, etc., of solid silver, buried in times of war by a cautious Hildesheim burgher and now accidentally dug out of the earth again after the lapse of centuries—gives plain evidence of these bygone days.

To-day, however, Hildesheim is a provincial place, narrow, very bigoted and unenterprising; only its antiquities give it interest to the outsider. With Protestants all around it, it has remained Catholic, and is the see of a bishop. The name itself, Hildesheim, meant in the

In four niches are magnificent statues in more than life size of a few of the most famous known emperors, and a lower frieze shows, in three rows divided by ornamental strips, the medallion portraits (in bronze) of the entire line of known rulers, from Augustus down to the last, Romulus Augustulus, in 476. There are humor and rest, too, in some of the other sculptured ornaments, but it needs a close study to discover it, as the artists of those days loved to hide their humorous conceptions to the eye of the unwary.

Of distinctive interest, too, is a very tall building facing the central market square, a building which might properly be called the forerunner and prototype of the "skyscraper" of to-day, for it has eight stories and stands considerably over 100 feet high. It is also richly decorated and ornamented in its lower stories, and in color effects—for much of this is painted and heavily gilded—it is quite gay. Mottoes and shrewd sayings are likewise intertwined by the artists of these early days who built it—about the time of Luther.

The Hildesheim city hall, too, is worth a visit. The ancient structure has been repeatedly renovated, and it makes a very stately effect. To right and left of it narrow, winding lanes open, and an ancient well, built and dedicated to the saints during the cholera epidemics of the fourteenth century, spurts crystal water. Inside the city hall the visitor does well to view with special attention the banquet hall upstairs. Gigantic frescoes tell the striking events in local history, including the legend that has grown up about the ancient rosebush.



THE CITY HALL AT HILDESHEIM.

ancient German of its founders' days "Home of the Saints." Charlemagne himself is the ruler who, about 1,100 years ago, made Hildesheim one of the strongholds of the new Christian faith in the northern part of Germany.

He it was, too, who planted that ancient rosebush which is still putting forth myriads of buds and flowers every year, sheltered by the inclosure of the inner court of the Dorn, or cathedral, against the rough winds of winter, and still the greatest curiosity of all in the ancient town. A couple of years ago this rosebush began to ail and it was then feared that it was dying. But a learned old gardener was summoned

Fine oaken carvings and panelings supplement this. Not far from the city hall is the ancient chapter house of the Knights of the Temple, dating from the days of the Crusades. It is entirely constructed of rough rubble stone; the windows show the pure Romanesque arch, and the stone carvings, etc., are of the kind which the unskilled hands of the men of those days was able to contrive. But in front there is an addition, built against the original wall later, and much prettier and more finished. To-day there are no more knights in the building. Instead, a well-to-do baker has purchased the whole structure and is conducting his business inside. Sic transit gloria mundi.

Quite a number of other interesting old buildings are to be seen in the immediate vicinity, though the natives set no great store by them, being used to see them every day. It is a peculiarity of these Hildesheim patrician houses that they show a great wealth of outside paintings and rhymed mottoes. Many of these are funny or sarcastic, a few are obscene, or that to-day seem so to our more squeamish ideas.

The town, too, is full of old churches and convents, but it is not so easy to gain access to them and view their curiosities as it is in other towns. The whole ancient part of Hildesheim—and outside of a few streets near the railway depot there is nothing new—is about as pitiful a remnant of the middle ages as one may find anywhere in the world. The streets go uphill and downhill, often quite steep, and here and there they are so narrow that people inside the houses can almost shake hands across. These streets are cool in summer and mild in winter, but from a hygienic point of view they cannot be recommended.

WOLF VON SCHIERBRAND.

Leprosy in France.

At the international congress of leprosy, which has just been brought to a conclusion at Berlin, the startling fact was elicited that the disease is very prevalent in France, especially in the northern districts thereof, and that it is on the increase. This discovery and the data furnished by the French medical authorities contributed in no small measure to the resolution voted by the congress to the effect that leprosy is contagious.

The Wisdom of Nature.

The fish's belly is white and his back green because in swimming about in the water the white belly is the color of the light shining through the water, hence protects him from his enemy below. His back being green makes him, on the other hand, appear from above as part of the green water, and is his safeguard from hawks and other enemies.

FARM AND GARDEN.

POINTS ON DRAINAGE.

How to Keep a Road in Good Condition the Year Around.

The great enemy of good roads is water. It does more to injure them than any other one thing, unless it be narrow tires; but those can be changed by common consent or by legislation, while rain, like death and taxes, is sure to come and is certain to do harm unless it is carried off and away by a thorough system of drainage. If this is not accomplished, a smooth, compact surface cannot be maintained, and the effect of cold weather and frost will be disastrous.

Drainage is often neglected, or very poorly done, because the effect of water on roads is not fully realized. Roads only too frequently become the gutters of the country on account of being level, or even trough-like in shape, and because of being insufficiently drained, and the sides not kept clean so that water can readily flow off the surface. If the center of the road is not somewhat raised so that water falling on it will run freely into suitable gutters or ditches, pools and mudholes will be formed and the whole road become soaked, to its lasting detriment.

It is also important that a road be so laid that no water shall be able to find its way upon it from adjoining lands which may be higher and shed the rainfalls toward the roadway. It often happens, too, that the sides of a road are at different levels, and that at some low point the water from the ditch on the higher side flows across and joins the lower ditch, maintaining a perpetual mudhole at such crossing. The heavy rains of the past season have afforded many a startling object lesson of both these points, and inadequate gutters and ditches, more or less filled with obstructions, have been responsible for serious injury to the roads. From just these causes miles of macadam were so badly washed that thousands of dollars will be required to make good the damage.

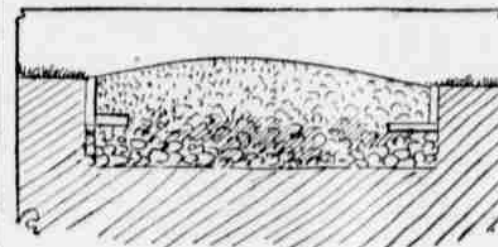
It is necessary for the surface of a road to act as a roof to keep the base dry, shedding all water that falls upon it, and ample drainage must then carry it entirely off the road limits. Side ditches should have a fall throughout their length, their size depending on the volume of water they are likely to be required to carry. If the water cuts their bottom the channel should be protected with a pavement of some sort.

Frequently it is impossible to make open ditches deep enough to drain the center of the roadbed, and in such cases side or central drains should be used. The foundation course of a macadam road needs to be sufficiently porous so that such rain as may soak through the top covering, or work in from the sides, may find its way into the earth, where it can be led off by drains. A drain of four-inch earthen pipe placed beneath each gutter at a depth of fully 3½ feet below the crown of the road, and covered with coarse gravel, pebbles or broken stone, nearly up to the surface, should be used, though if the road lies in a very wet place a larger drain located under the center of the roadbed is more effective. A slight fall is essential, and also a free, open outlet. With attention to these details, and a system of continuous repairs, it is not difficult to maintain a good roadway.—Good Roads.

PATHS AND WALKS.

They Add Much to the Comfort of the Farmer's Family.

The walks about farmhouses are too often not only unattractive, but at many times disagreeably muddy. The cut shows a plan for making a very neat



SUBSTANTIAL FARM PATH.

and permanent walk. A shallow trench is dug out, and the bottom filled with round stones. Smaller ones are placed on these and gravel on top of all. At either side are placed two strips of board, nailed together, as shown. This keeps the outer edge of the walk straight and true and free from grass, that will grow with the ordinary walk. The board at the bottom keeps out much grass that otherwise would grow in under the upright board.—American Agriculturist.

Cows Require Rich Food.

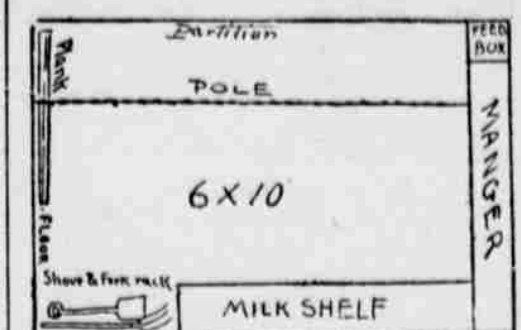
A cow cannot go from day to day, putting a pound or more of casein in her milk unless she has the necessary protein in her daily feed, over and above what is required for maintenance, to make this casein. She cannot put fat in her milk in paying quantities unless the material for it is in the feed she consumes. Hence the great importance of feeding a cow in such a manner as will enable her to do her best and at the lowest cost. This is accomplished as a rule by feeding properly balanced rations, due regard being had at all times to the relative cost of the several available food stuffs.—Dakota Field and Farm.

In the fall is one of the best times to set out raspberry plants.

FOR KICKING COWS.

A Stable Arrangement That Will Effect a Cure.

I have found the plan illustrated below a very good one for kicking cows. A pole three inches in diameter and the length of stall is swung in front through a ropeloop in the top of manger near the feed box. At the rear, about 20 inches from the floor, is a piece of plank 14 or 16 inches wide, with several auger holes from the left to right large enough to receive the end of the pole. When a cow is disposed to kick, I tie her head to a ring in front, put the pole through the rope loop, crowd her over against the partition, and put the rear end of pole in one of the auger holes in the plank. Next pass a rope around left leg above the gambrel, bring it up in front of right leg, draw tight and fasten to a ring in rear of stall. The



AN ANTI-KICKING STABLE DEVICE.

rope prevents kicking, keeps the cow at a hoist, and pole keeps her from swinging round or falling down. After a few times it is hardly ever necessary to use the ropes, as the pole put pretty low down will be sufficient to keep her quiet. Besides the pole, the illustration portrays the plan of my milking stable. There are two shelves, the upper about five feet from the floor (not shown) and running clear across the stable. In this I keep sponge and cloths to wash and wipe the cow's udder, a dish of salt, milking stools, etc. The lower shelf, about two feet from the floor and reaching about two-thirds across, is for empty pails, milk, etc. Shovel and fork are kept in the rack at end of this shelf.—Farm and Home.

PREPARING RATIONS.

Cooking Food for Stock Is Not a Profitable Practice.

We have tried several plans of preparing feed for stock and have come to the conclusion that it is only in exceptional cases that it can be considered advisable to cook the food. Under what may be considered average conditions, the additional gain secured with the stock will not pay a fair profit for the extra work required to cook.

With the dairy cows, growing calves and pigs, it pays to grind the feed—corn, wheat or oats, as the kind of grain being fed may be. With sheaf oats, no matter what kind of stock they are fed to, we like to run them through a good cutting-box, and then add a small quantity of wheat bran, and feed in this way. By this plan there is little or no waste in feeding and a very complete ration is made up. But with the average teams kept on the place, the growing beef cattle and the thrifty, vigorous sheep, there is no particular advantage in grinding the grain. Even with the classes of stock named, in a majority of cases to make grinding the grain pay a good profit, a feed mill should be owned and operated on the farm, as the expense and work of hauling to a mill and back, with the cost of grinding, will lessen very materially the possible profit. Where any considerable number of stock is kept a mill can, in a majority of cases, be made to pay. We are inclined to think that more or less of this work of advocating cooked food, through the press, is from parties interested in selling some kind of cooking apparatus.

There is one good advantage in grinding grain and in cutting roughness, that is, a better opportunity is afforded of making up complete rations.—Ohio Farmer.

MAKING SMALL CHEESE.

Seven Pounds Is an Excellent Weight for Family Use.

A great deal of inquiry has been made this season for some means by which families with perhaps only two or three cows could make full-cream cheese of their milk whenever they might for any reason choose to do so. Families want cheese as well as butter. Sometimes butter is very low, says Practical Farmer, and again the weather is too warm for the ordinary farmer to make a good quality of butter, because he has not the necessary conveniences for keeping milk and cream at the proper temperature. At such times and under such circumstances, if the milk could easily be made into a good quantity of cheese at home, it would be a matter of much importance, not only in the north, but especially in the south, where, as a rule, ice is not to be had to aid in butter-making. The Pennsylvania agricultural college has been working on the line of making small cheese to meet the exigency of these conditions. They have been making a cheese of about seven pounds weight. This makes a cheese of good size for handling and for family use. It is reported that Prof. Hayward, of that institution, says there has been a ready sale for all that has been made in that vicinity, and more could have been sold. The price received is 13 cents a pound, equal to 26 cents for butter.

IF YOU WOULD BE CORRECT.

Here Are Some Things to Observe and Some Others to Avoid.

It is right: To make visits of ceremony after four in the afternoon. When calling upon a mother and daughters to leave two cards, one for the mother, the other for the daughters. To eat vegetables from the same plate as the meat. The custom of serving vegetables in saucers is no longer in vogue.

For a young lady to wear her betrothal ring upon the marriage finger, the third finger of the left hand. For social correspondence to use plain white or cream-tinted stationery without lines.

To use black-edged paper for social correspondence during a period of deep mourning.

To use writing paper for all social correspondence with the address of the writer in plain, legible print in the upper right-hand corner.

To be punctilious about the dating of each communication.

To offer congratulations to a gentleman upon the announcement of his engagement.

To write letters to one's relatives and intimate friends announcing a marriage engagement.

To send a congratulatory note to a gentleman upon the announcement of his approaching marriage; to call upon a young lady within a few days after receiving the announcement of her engagement or to send her flowers, with a note expressing wishes for her future happiness.

To use discretion in the time of one's stay at any social function where hours are not specially stated.

To pay a ceremonious visit within three days after an invitation to a dinner, whether accepted or not.

To address all letters to gentlemen in the following manner: "Cyril Hamilton, Esq.," except a note of invitation, which should be addressed: "Mr. Cyril Hamilton."

To help one's self to olives with the fingers.

To serve bread at dinner, cut in thick squares, or to serve dinner rolls.

To serve butter at dinner only with the biscuits that accompany the salad and cheese.

To place the knives on the right hand of the table napkin, when laying a cover, the forks on the left hand.

To speak of eating soup.

To serve only a small amount of soup to each guest at a dinner.

When writing to a married lady, to address the envelope with her husband's full name. For example, "Mrs. James Wilson Hunter."

To address "The Reverend and Mrs. John Clarkson Hunt," or "Captain and Mrs. Alexander Martin Scott."—N. Y. World.

MISPLACED HAIRS.

Clarence Was Too Mischievous for the General Good.

In an insurance office in the city is a blonde-haired, good-looking stenographer, also an office boy, who shall be known in this story as Clarence. Now, Clarence and the blonde didn't get along well together. No matter why they didn't. Matters came to such a pass that Clarence said to the girl:

"I'll git you fired 'fore many weeks, see."

"I guess not," said the girl. "I'm just as solid with the old man as you are."

Thus matters stood for a time. Clarence went to the washroom every day after the blonde had been there primping, and he made it a point to gather every blonde hair that had adhered to the bristles of the brush. These, or some of them, he deftly placed on the coat of the old man, arranging them about the collar and shoulders. There they remained until the old man went home. Here they attracted some attention from his wife, and she removed them day by day without saying a word. When she had gathered a fairly good collection she called hubby's attention to the lock of blondined hair.

"There," she said, "I never did have any use for that girl; and now you can discharge her instantly, or I will come down and do it myself."

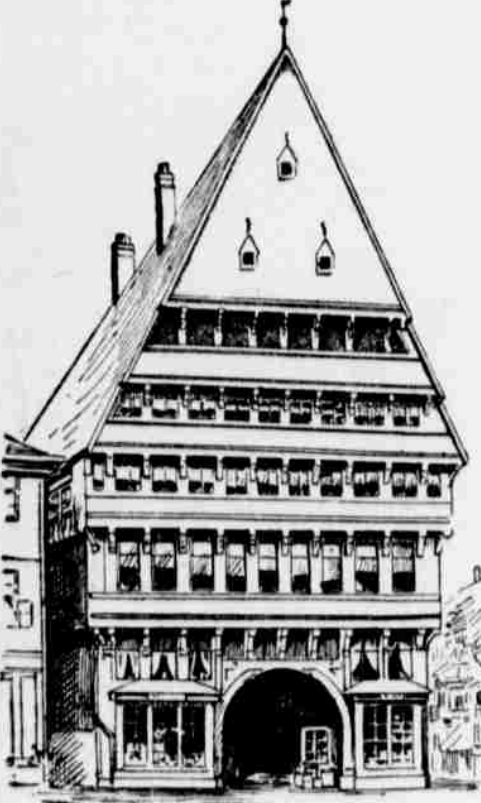
Of course, the girl had to skip, and the old gentleman explained the circumstances. Clarence overheard the explanation and chuckled. He wanted to tell the girl all about the trick, but he was afraid that it would cost him his job, so he let the matter drop. But he did give the thing away to a clerk, and the clerk told the old man, and he didn't do a thing to Clarence. He scared the boy nearly to death talking about divorces and family jars, and for a punishment he made the boy go to his house, and explain the whole thing to his wife. This brought peace to the family, and in justice the girl was re-employed. All is serene in the office now, but Bertha never speaks to Clarence. — Cincinnati Commercial Traveler.

Without Benefit of Clergy.

Miss Prun—Oh, dear! So you were on the City of Pekin when she went down? How many souls were lost?

Capt. Silt—All of 'em that was drowned, mum. She went down so blamed sudden, they wa'n't no time fer death-bed repentances! — Brooklyn Life.

—Poets must suffer before they can write, says a philosopher. After that the public has a monopoly on the suffering.—Chicago News.



COURTHOUSE AT HILDESHEIM.

who prescribed for the plant, tended it for months, put new vigor into its roots, and the following spring the bush showed its gratitude by becoming once more covered with pink roses—roses by the bushel. The roots and the thickest stems are protected by a pretty semi-circular railing of forged iron. Some graves of bishops and priests are near it, and the choristers' pillared halls are also close by. The top branches of this bush cluster under the roof of the rear wing of the cathedral, 50 feet and more.

Another point of interest is the so-called Roman emperors' house, an ancient patrician residence once belonging to one of the wealthiest burghers, who had it built in the fifteenth century and then decorated by great sculptors and painted by Nuremberg artists. The bronze and stone sculptures are of special moment to the student and lover of ancient, naive art, an art teeming over with ideas and original conceits, but not quite up to all the tricks of the modern technique.