

## BEEF, BLOOD, BONES.

WHAT IS DONE BY A BIG CATTLE SLAUGHTERING FIRM.

**Scenes in a Packing House at Hammond, Ind.—What Becomes of the Parts of a Steer Not Used as Beef—Utilizing Odds and Ends.**

The steer is hanging by a leg to a strong iron chain, and the hide-rippers are busy. It is the rule in all packing houses for special men to skin special parts of the hides, and this is one reason why packers hide as so strictly alike in trim and take off, and why the tanners are usually willing to pay a cent per pound more for these hides than for those taken off in the country towns. The hide, tanned, is thrown into the hide cellar, a cool, pleasant place in the Hammond house, 250 feet wide by about 500 feet long, with another one in progress of building. The first thing the cellar men do is to sort the branded and unbranded green hides into separate piles, and it is remarkable how expertly and rapidly this is done by the old hands. Next comes the salting and packing away in piles. Coarse Syracuse salt is used in preference to all other kinds. It takes about three weeks in summer and four weeks in winter to thoroughly cure hides, although when tanners are in a hurry a little less time is given by mutual agreement and by using necessary precautions.

**UTILIZING THE BLOOD.**

The first run of the blood from the cut throat of the animal is collected in round, shallow pans, which are trucked to cool shelves, where coagulation soon follows, and then the albumen is dried and sold to button manufacturers, to be speedily made up for the use of the unsuspecting public, who are thus blood-stained, as it were, in a highly artistic fashion. Coagulated cattle blood is also used by calico printers for dyeing turkey red, and in the preparation of red liquor for printers' work. Dried blood serves to clarify wines, syrups and other thick solutions. In Scandinavia it is made into a kind of good bread for the poor. Doctors have recommended the drinking of warm, fresh cattle blood in cases of pulmonary diseases.

From the heads are carefully taken small pieces of meat, which go to the sausage factory. The horns find ready sale to comb and knife haft makers, being softened by heat and molded into numerous articles. The guts, after scrupulous cleansing, are packed in tines and shipped to dealers in sausage casings. Tripe is a nutritious and cheap food, and it is produced from the animals' stomachs, which are cleaned, boiled, scalded and placed in kegs for consumption. Tripe is sometimes pickled, according to the demand from buyers. The legs are steamed for what glue they contain, and also to soften the hoof, from which is extracted the celebrated neat's foot oil, which is valuable for keeping shoes soft and waterproof. These hoofs are finally ground up and sold to fertilizer makers. The shin bones, after being boiled, are in request for knife handles, being shipped to Europe. The Sheffield manufacturers in England convert these shin bones into handles for spoons and knives, backs for tooth and nail brushes. The jaw bones are saved in tin, in order to extract every possible vertice of fat from them. To go to the other end of the animal, even the extreme portion of the tail is cut off and sold to the manufacturers of curled hair.

**SAVING THE ODDS AND ENDS.**

The bladders, when dried and prepared, form useful coverings for the transportation of glaziers' putty, for oilmen, druggists, etc., and are valuable for placing over the jars in which the careful housewife lays away her preserves. The kidneys, which are packed in cans, are sold fresh to surrounding butchers' stores, or sent in refrigerator cars to distant points. The tongue are cunningly curled, put into air tight cans, and find their way to many a village at home and abroad, where they are useful for picnics and cold collations.

Hot tanks are great levelers, and every scrap of sinews, hoses, ropes, and fragments, and the liquor, when drawn off and cooled, produces glue or other available material. Even the dirt and residue at the bottom of the tank is sold as "tankage" for fertilizing, and refuse blood is eagerly collected and turned to account in refineries.

**How we come to the utilization of the fat.** Oleomargarine is made as follows: The caul and best parts of the fat of the cattle are boiled down to a thin, transparent oil. Fresh milk is brought every morning to the packing house for mixing with this beef oil. The milk and oil are poured into the churn together, and a little pure prime lard is added to cause the mixture to flow more easily from the churn, which is driven rapidly by machinery till the yellow globules separate. This semi liquid mass drains into a large ice cooler for a short time. Then these globules are taken and kneaded together carefully, drained and the mass is salted by special machinery with good, clean, English dairy salt. The oleomargarine is colored by common annatto seeds, as used in all dairies, and thus prepared is put into clean white linen cloths by a neat looking girl, and, as ready for sale, is difficult to distinguish from real butter in taste or color.

Tallow is made by boiling the rough pieces of fat. The ox tail meat and bones constitute the chief luxuries obtained from cattle. Each car of beef carries a certain number of tails, which are mostly bought by the hotel keepers. Even the udder from a young, dry cow, when nicely corned and boiled, is very good eating. The ox gall is used for liniments, for the mixing of paints, cleaning clothes, carpets, etc.—Shoe and Leather Reporter.

**A Maiden's Fatal Disfigurement.**

"Did you ever notice that girl's mouth?" a critical friend said to me at a luncheon the other day.

"Yes, and what a pity it is, too; she would be awfully pretty if it were not for that one disfigurement," I responded.

"I'll tell you just what is the matter with her," said my friend. "She is rather shy, you know, and whenever she is embarrassed she draws in her lower lip and bites it. This habit is fatal to any one's looks and has utterly ruined the contour of her lower face, which used to be so lovely. Notice how her chin recedes and the lines that are forming around her mouth. That girl is only 20, but looks five years older. When she is 30, you mark my words, she will be a perfect old hag."

Here my friend turned to her salad and coffee while I studied the face of the girl in question. Sweet, shy, dainty in dress and manner, she would indeed have been very beautiful were it not for the one disfigurement. This fatal habit had fairly transformed her, and as I watched I noticed that whenever she was addressed the quick color would come into her face and that she would draw her lips every time without any exception. How I wished that I knew her well enough to tell her how she was marred by beauty and to beg of her to control her fatal habit before it was too late.—Buffalo News.

Nature made only stupid people; fools are a product of civilization.

## THE PAGODAS OF JAPAN.

Towers Which Control the Mystic Dragon of Wind and Water.

All the pagodas I saw in Japan were generally built in five stories, with very fine dark red woodwork and harmonious gray tiles, while beneath the shadow of each projecting roof are innumerable boldly carved dragon's heads peering from beneath the eaves and panels of fine wood carving between the stories. The summit is invariably crowned by an honorific symbol in metal, consisting of nine rings, disks or cupolas as the case may be, piled one above the other. On further examination we shall find that these rings and these accumulated roofs are developments of the same original simple emblem.

With regard to the construction of these towers there are instances in which the pagoda is of solid masonry throughout, but far more frequently it consists of two towers, one within the other, and between them a spiral staircase which leads to the summit. In this case the inner tower is generally divided into as many rooms as there are stories, the lower floor forming the temple wherein is placed the relic shrine, while, in some cases, is a miniature pagoda, while the walls around are adorned with numerous images of Buddha.

In many cases we find a pagoda erected within the court of a Buddhist temple as the storehouse of its relics. The honor thus due to Buddha was extended to such of his priests as were most distinguished for their learning and devotion, so that in many cases pagodas were erected to contain the ashes saved from the funeral pyre.

In later times, however, this primary purpose seems to have been abandoned and many of the more recent pagodas are said to have been built on the ancient model, but solely with a view to geomantic influences, the tall towers being supposed to have some mysterious effect on that strange, undefinable, but ever-present spirit of the dragon who rules over wind and water and who controls all human destinies. Several of the finest nine storied pagodas in the neighborhood of Canton have been erected solely for this purpose, in the belief that by their means lurking evils would be dispelled and the general peace and prosperity of the province insured.

Not only is the fertility of the fields thus provided for, but even the learning and general distinction of the citizens. Such a one was erected in the district of Sam-shue in 1850 because the prosperity of the neighborhood had for some years been falling off and the candidates for secretary honors at the great examinations had been peculiarly unsuccessful. So a three storied pagoda was erected, each story consecrated to a different deity. The god of wealth as controlling the very foundations of prosperity occupied the ground floor, the god of money the second floor, while the god of learning reigned in the top story.—English Illustrated Magazine.

**The Fortress of the Future.**

The plan of fortresses at present adopted—known to the public, but the divulging of which can do no harm, as it cannot remain secret—is very peculiar and quite opposed to any aesthetic or artistic conception. A fortress is henceforth composed of an immense block of concrete of incredible thickness. It will offer to the eye only a square, oval or lozenge shape, the outside being a mere black without projections or recesses. It is not yet settled whether this block shall be surrounded by a trench, but all competent authorities in Europe seem to hold that one or several sheets of iron shall move round the block, and as powder will in future be smokeless, this cannon, always in motion and escaping the enemy's aim, will fire on a fixed point. This movable sheath will make up for the absence of trenches. At the angles of the block, moreover, if square, or elsewhere it is round or oval, there will be sheeted ducts, which will cover the base of the block and make assault impossible.

Of course the interior of the block will contain the equipments of a fortress. The entrance is underground, on the side opposite that where the enemy can appear. There will be air openings in the interior, which is lit up by electricity produced on the spot or at a distance. The magazine of projectiles is in a spot inaccessible to the explosions caused by shells coming without. The stores of other ammunition and of victuals are similarly protected. The hiding places for the men, and, in short, everything that has to be under shelter, are under ground and so placed as to be quite protected from the besiegers. Electric wires, both for messages and light, as also telephones, beyond reach of the besiegers, protect the fort against isolation—that is to say, against abandonment and discouragement. The underground existence of the garrison may not be very lively, and it will be well to ascertain as many men as possible to it; but that garrison will not exceed thirty or forty men per fortress.—London Times.

**Cypress Lumber Becoming Popular.**

Northern and eastern markets will in a few years be almost entirely dependent upon southern woods for fine lumber. Northern capital is pushing into Kentucky and Tennessee, and is also dotting Florida and the Carolinas with mills in the lumber regions, for the reason that many of the northern fields have become exhausted so far as certain classes of fine lumber are concerned. One of the coming woods that will be universally used for fine trimmings in a few years by northern builders is the cypress. Cypress shingles have been popularly known in the north for many years on account of their durability. But only in the past two or three years has the value of cypress for building purposes been recognized in the north. The southern states have been utilizing this wood for building material, and have found it to be one of the most durable woods as yet known. It is similar in figure and grain to Georgia pine, and is susceptible of a very fine polish, and, therefore, is used principally for wainscoting and inside furnishings. It is a soft wood, and when dry is of about the same texture as white pine. While a general product of all the southern states, where it grows in the lowlands, yet the best cypress comes from Florida and Louisiana. This is true, not that the wood growing in those states is any better, but for the reason that the millmen there know how to work it into smoother and better lumber than is manufactured elsewhere. Cypress lumber has never commanded the price in northern markets that it should command, having never exceeded \$30 per 1,000 feet.—"W. H. S." in Globe-Democrat.

**Dr. O. W. Holmes' Favorite Room.**

Dr. Holmes' favorite room in his Boston home is one in the basement, where, opposite a row of well filled book shelves, is fitted up a small carpenter shop, with a foot lathe standing near the window. It is possibly the surgical side of him that enjoys the clean cutting of this delicate instrument as it courses its way through the wood. The poetic side enjoys the picturesqueness of the carpenter's bench, with its gleaming tools, and there almost any every the genial poet may be found doing some little odd job with his hands, while his brain is turning over some delightful fancy that will be written out in the room overhead, by the low window overlooking the tranquil Charles.—Harper's Bazar.

## THE LOWEST STRATUM.

A SOCIAL CLASS THAT IS HOPELESS, AMBITIONLESS, LOST.

**The Antecedents of the Professional Pauper—How an Army of Beggars is Bred—Self-Destructiveness of Moral and Physical Degeneration.**

If we could get at a literal history of the lower strata of society in our larger cities we should be convinced that it consists of an element permanently degenerated. It is very seldom that a member of this class rises to anything permanently worthy. You must, however, consider society everywhere as consisting of three strata—the upper, which is cultured and yet very subject to degenerative influences; the middle, which is less plastic, but on the whole moves under the influence of a better class of motives; and the lower, which is settled in habits of mendacity and unchastity, and is frequently addicted to crime. Of course, by this lower class I do not mean the poor, and not invariably the drunken, for the poor are often the victims of misfortune, and the drunken are not seldom recoverable. But there is a class everywhere that is hopeless, ambitionless, lost; and the only good thing about them is that they die early, and, under proper restraint, the stock easily dries up and perishes.

I have at hand the statistics of one city of about 100,000 inhabitants. In this city it is ascertained that there are nearly 3,000 professional paupers. Now you would laugh at the idea that in America we have fixed castes. But we certainly have one caste—that of mendacity. Very few ever rise out of its ranks. Yesterday two children, very pretty, begged at my door. Their father is what I call a half caste; that is, he does work at inferior, brainless jobs; but he retains his instincts of beggary. I have severe qualms against giving to these little, brown eyed creatures, because I see they, too, have their instinct. They do not blush at asking. They can go from door to door without sensitive reversion. The man is a freak in his class. It is probable the family will not emerge. But I am sure that our habits of giving to beggars will prevent them from emerging.

**DESCENDANTS OF BEGGARS.**

Of the 2,000 reported from the city I have gathered, nearly all spring from about thirty-five families, that came to the city twenty years ago as beggars. They multiplied rapidly; some families having seventeen to twenty children. Of course this soon bred a small army of beggars. Marriages took place mostly within the limits of the caste. It is said that one young man, who left the ranks, and began a walk to do business man of the middle ranks of society, was looked on as a traitor, and attempled made on his life. He is the solitary exception in the history of these people, so far as known. Marriage laws have been wholly disregarded, and relatives have married and intermarried, until the relationship can hardly be traced. In one case a woman had married her own son after having lived with half a dozen men. The original thirty-five families were, so far as known, not interrelated when they first made their appearance; but now they are thoroughly a conglomerate. Beastly habits have steadily degenerated them, until now they are barely able to support their lives.

But it will not be possible to stop at this point, or we should despair of civilization. A happy law comes in to help us. The average life of the first generation of these people was about sixty years, but now, in the third generation, the average is about fifteen years. This is the fortunate end of moral and physical degeneration; it is self-destructive. It kills out vitality, and so we are rid of them. They will not work; they will beg. This is one distinctive definition of the degenerate. They will not put forth any effort to rise. Motive power is gone. They move on the line of least resistance. Shame is a lost faculty with them. They cannot understand their own degradation.

**ONE OF THE LOST TRIBE.**

The following history of one of the tribe I quote: "The family is hard to describe. They wander all over the country, living for months in hollow trees, or in rock bottoms. When cold weather drives them to shelter they will take any unoccupied premises they can find. From their beastly habits they are diseased, idiotic and deformed. They are like half civilized animals, governed more by instinct than by knowledge. The family numbers 137 persons. Several of the women have made themselves nearly blind by the use of acids to keep their eyes sore." Of another family the record says: "They have eighteen dogs, and have been known to have as high as thirty. Nearly every male member has served in the penitentiary. Recently a cow died in a pasture near the city, and after nightfall the entire family, consisting of over twenty, went out and cut up the creature, and carried it home to eat." This illustration, from a single city I give at length, because it is an exact parallel of what occurs in every city of size in the land. Besides, there are townships in every state, outside of cities, where there is something so similar that the lesson is the same.

The first condition of degeneration is not hereditary, but reverent. The evil man does not go back on the line of his animal heredity, but turns aside into paths that are neither human nor animal. The human creature acts precisely like a degenerate animal or insect; he becomes parasitic and lives off his neighbors. Some vegetable existences learned this trick long before man did it; and in doing so lost faculty and structural perfection. The comparison is very striking between a human hanger on and a parasitic plant that all its life clings to some other plant, sucking the life out of it. You never saw such a person who had not lost self-respect, many features, sound judgment and ability to use himself to advantage.—"E. P. P." in Globe-Democrat.

**The Science of Baseball.**

Lovers of baseball may find it convenient to keep in mind this explanation of the pitcher's curve from Mr. H. A. Proctor, if the ball is advancing without spin, or is spinning on an axis lying along its course, the cushion of compressed air carried forward by it is conical—or rather conoidal—and therefore resists the progress of the ball equally on all sides, affecting only the velocity. But in the case of the curve, where the ball is spinning on an axis square to its course, the air in front of the advancing side of the spinning surface cannot escape so readily as if there were no spin, and escapes more readily on the other side. Hence the resisting cushion of air is thrown toward that side of the ball where the spin is forward, and removed from the other side, and the ball is deflected from the region of greatest resistance.—Arkansas Traveler.

**Couldn't Hope Him in Again.**

Confirmed Bachelor—How time does fly, Miss Sesside! Why, it was ten years ago that you refused me on this spot.

Miss Sesside (who wishes she hadn't)—So long as that I was young and foolish then, Mr. Smith.

Confirmed Bachelor—But we are both older and wiser now.—Harvard Lampoon.

## TEETH WHILE YOU WAIT.

How the Dentist Tries to Defy Time as Well as Nature.

"Four and five dollar sets of teeth made while waiting."

That is a portion of an advertisement that caught a reporter's eye and caused a visit to the office of the dentist who had inserted it. Many men doubtless remember that certain of their relatives remained in solitary confinement for from two to three weeks while waiting the arrival of the ideal set of grinders. Is it possible that one can have one's own worthless teeth removed, an impression of the mouth taken and new teeth fitted, and all within an hour or two's time? The dentist, when asked that question, answered affirmatively. "You see," said he, "dentistry is progressing like everything else, and it is an every day occurrence for me to get up a \$5 set of teeth in an hour and a half. Although it would be much better if, after having teeth extracted, the patient would wait for a week until the mouth heals and the bone which surrounds the teeth be dissolved, still there are ever so many who come here and will endure the discomfort and pain which of necessity follows a quick operation rather than depart toothless.

"How do I do it so quickly? Well, by a method or process I use in vulcanizing, or 'coking' the rubber used for the plates which reduce that usually long process to an hour's time.

"No, it is not so satisfactory, nor is it any less expensive, but it is quicker. The price of a false set of teeth depends almost entirely on the number and size of the platinum wire which the teeth contain, and the quality and texture of the porcelain used in the teeth.

"Then, too, the small manufacturers of cheap teeth are continually cutting on another's throats, and the people get the benefit. The dentist has very little to do in determining the price.

"Countrymen and farmers buy more false teeth than do any other class of people. You see, Mrs. Jones, for instance, has the tooth-ache, comes to town, and after frantic attempts to get rid of the pain, has all her teeth pulled, and with a beautiful new set, with perhaps a little gold filling in front, returns to her village or farm. Mrs. Smith sees Mrs. Jones' teeth, and, not content to be without anything that Mrs. Jones has, she, too, comes to town and has porcelain substituted for bone.

"Country people don't take proper or even decent care of their teeth; and, besides, they eat too much pie. And they, too, are the people who want their teeth served up in an hour's time. A countryman comes to the city expecting to do shopping for 'the folks at home,' take in the town and provide himself, and perhaps his family, with a set of teeth, and all in one day. Sometimes he is successful, too.

"Negroes carry a good deal of porcelain and gold in their mouths, too, but they, almost invariably, want the most expensive sets, insisting upon gold plates and a plenty of gold filling. I have made a number of sets for negroes which cost \$100. But in a year's time a negro will manage to break the best set that I can make, and then, of course, he receives a bill for repairs.

The gold plates are, of course, incomparably better than the rubber or the celluloid, and if a patient can afford them I always advise their use."—New York Evening World.

**Superstitions of the Omahas.**

Mr. Frank Lo Flesche, an Indian who has for some years been employed in the Indian office, read an interesting paper before the Anthropological Society the other evening on "Funeral Customs of the Omahas." "The approach of death," he said, "is believed to be foreshadowed in various ways, not only to the person himself, but to others, who, by reason of their supposed skill in seeing the coming of death, gain reputation as prophets. They either have visions or pass through apparent death. The dreamer lies in the open air, in the midsummer, with the thunder rolling in the heavens, and listens for voices. These come to him from animals, clouds or merely the air. Such persons as can foresee death are eligible to membership in the 'Ghost society.' One vision is that of a woman walking, but not on the ground, surrounded by a halo of brightness, and always leaving a village or road. If they wear a placid, pleasing expression, the death will be from natural causes, from accident or in war; but if the face is distorted it is an indication that the person will die while engaged in a quarrel with another, and the soul is full of bitterness. Those who foresee can also prevent death, and are often called upon to render this service. One method is pouring hot water at right angles to the path leading to the lodge, while another consists of occupancy, with one whose death is foreseen, a sweat lodge built by the latter, pronouncing certain incantations and sprinkling the body of the client with the powder of the atenesia, supposed to be the food of the ghosts.

"The howling of a dog is also a token of coming death, but is not so infallible as the species of a dog accompanying the opening of earth lodge, and peering through the opening at the top. Then, with trembling limbs, the warriors, seated around the fire, seize mistletoe and chase the dog and kill him to propitiate the ghosts. To see or hear the voices of dead relatives is also a sign of approaching death."—Washington Star.

**Ecuador Behind the Times.**

There once was a steam railroad in Ecuador. During the time when Henry Meigs was creating such excitement by the improvements he was making in the transportation facilities of Peru, the contagion spread to Ecuador, and some ambitious English capitalists attempted to lay a road from Guayaquil to the interior. A track seventeen miles long was built, which represents the railway system of Ecuador in all the geographical, geological and looks of statistics; but no wheels ever passed over the rails, and the tropical vegetation has grown so luxuriantly about the place where they lie that it would now be difficult to find them.

Last year a telegraph line was built connecting Guayaquil with Quito, the highest city in the world, but there is only one wire, and that is practically useless, as not more than seven days out of the month can a message be sent over it. The people chop down the poles for firewood, and cut out pieces of wire to repair broken harness whenever they feel so disposed. Then it often takes a week for the line man to find the break, and another week to repair it. In the government telegraph office I saw an operator with a ball and chain attached to his leg—a convict who had been sent back to his post because no one else could be found to work the instrument. A fanaal clerk took the message and the money. There is a cable, belonging to a New York company, connecting Guayaquil with the outside world, but rates are extremely high, the tariff to the United States being \$3 a word, and to other places in proportion.—Wm. Elroy Curtis in American Magazine.

**Widows Wandering Disconsolate.**

The sultan of Zanzibar died recently, and now the sultan of Muscat has passed away. The number of widows wandering disconsolate along the shores of the Arabian sea and the Indian ocean is enormous.—New York World.

The Plattsmouth Herald  
Is enjoying a Boom in both its  
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EDITIONS.

## The Year 1888

Will be one during which the subjects of national interest and importance will be strongly agitated and the election of a President will take place. The people of Cass County who would like to learn of Political, Commercial and Social Transactions of this year and would keep apace with the times should

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