

One funny suggestion in unexpectedly alighting from a bicycle is that of getting off a thing impromptu.

The story that kissing is good for indigestion probably was started by somebody who sells hot mince pies.

It looks as if rowdysism would be conspicuous by its absence from the base-ball diamond of 1908. Let us hope so.

The Mervina incident gives Abdul Hamid reason to suspect that the concert of Europe was a summer garden of air.

Spring, summer and autumn are the times for the amateur poet. Jack Frost's rime is the most reasonable for winter.

No evidence is required to show that wearing a campaign button on the lapel is no specific against the wearer turning his coat.

They are finding all sorts of things in Alaska and British Columbia nowadays excepting names which a white man can pronounce.

Two-thirds of the population and voters of Greater New York are either foreign born or native born of foreign parents. It's a cosmopolis, indeed.

"Divide and Conquer." It is an old military maxim, but a quarter of a million New-Yorkers have had a fine opportunity to learn that it fails in politics.

A beautiful young woman in New York who is shortly to be married has completely lost the sense of touch. She'll be sadly handicapped, financially, as a wife.

A Boston society girl has been sent to a sanitarium because of a "queer hallucination which leads her to partially disrobe whenever she is in a crowd." Does she imagine she is at the seaside or the opera?

Miss Amy Skillin, of East Corinth, Me., who found twelve four-leaf, three five-leaf and one six-leaf clovers on a single plant, the other day, is an extraordinarily lucky girl—lucky enough to have a better name some day.

Street-cleaning and improved sanitation are allies of temperance workers. "You come and live in our court," said a drunkard in a wretched London quarter, "and you'll soon take to the gin." A better environment, a larger moral hope.

The latest literary periodical makes a virtue of announcing that books will be reviewed in it on their merits, without regard to whether their publishers advertise in the periodical or not. Can it be that books have ever been reviewed on any other basis?

Prof. Thomas R. Frazer of the University of Edinburgh has discovered that the bile of a serpent is an effective antidote to its bite. But the difficulty in lassoing a snake and extracting his bile after he has inserted his molars will ever rise up as a wall of fire and cause the snake-bitten mortal to cling to that other and pleasanter and thoroughly efficacious extract of corn as the remedy to be clung to and revered.

With self-respecting and earnest men of good standing taking active part in politics, from the holding of ward primaries to the day of national elections, the basic system of American politics would be found sound and beneficent. Bosses would be impossible. Machines would be impossible. Better men would be found available for public office. Corruption in office would be rare. It is pitiful that as yet Americans themselves do not realize this fact as they should.

Are we not entirely too fast? Is speed to be the end of our efforts or only a means to something vastly better? Is it well to do work quickly. But is it so if we are only to keep on working? We should say not. It is not through booms and deals and record-breaking alone that the kingdom of heaven is to come to man. If increase of speed enables us to achieve more in a given space of time it should also enable us to have more leisure for the enjoyment of that which we have achieved. If it means more wealth it should mean more rightful use of wealth. If it means more work it should also mean more play.

Not very long ago a stray item of fashion reached a missionary among the Indians of the far West, to the effect that braided palm-leaf hats were such worn, and she remembered what she had thought that braiding was, when she was a little girl in Louisiana. It flashed upon her that corn-bushes might be used for the same purpose, and before evening she had gathered a crowd of eager Indian boys around her and taught them to fashion very presentable hats. "I believe they will sell," she told the young Indians, and they have been sold. "But even if they do not," one had replied, "we shall never have to buy any more for ourselves." So the nice braiding of palm-leaf, learned in childhood, has resulted in creating a new industry for the Indian. It is always so. Whatever is useful that one learns thoroughly and well is quite sure to come into service in later life.

It is a truth never to be lost sight of that it is not knowledge itself that

should be the aim of education, but rather the attainment of the power to gain it and to use it as an occasion requires through life. The well-educated man of the future will not be one whose memory holds intact the accumulations of years of study. He will forget much that he has learned at school and college, but he will rejoice in the ability to seek for what he needs, to find it and to arrange and use it in such a way as to conduce to the success of his undertakings and the richness of his life. The discipline which leads up to this power cannot be begun too early or carried on too faithfully through all the years of preparation for life.

The Salvation army has settled its first "farm colony" at Soledad, Monterey County, California. The San Francisco Call, describing the scene at the departure, quotes Major Winchell of the army as saying: "We have drawn up an official contract which contains no more restrictions than is considered necessary to guarantee good faith from both parties. It provides that no less than \$1.50 a week shall be paid by the colonists on each acre of land they take up, but this payment is not rent, for each colonist is credited with the amount on the purchase of his little farm. No one will pay a cent more for the land or the improvements than it actually costs, and it is presumed that at the end of ten years the colonists will be sole owners of their farms. If we can accomplish this we shall consider we are doing a great work. During the time these payments are being made the colonist agrees to abide by the rules and regulations that may be necessary for the preservation of discipline, and also agrees to submit to the decision of the officers of the colony in any case where they may be called upon to arbitrate. With honest, practical, hard-working men this scheme cannot possibly fail."

It has long been known that cheese is one of the most valuable articles of table food. Its value in economical diets is thoroughly established, but in this country it has not been given its rightful place upon the table of working people. The English laborer finds it as appetizing as butter and as nourishing as meat. The English novelist, it may be said in passing, recognizes its importance by classing it with the essentials of life in "Bread and Cheese and Kisses." Recent discoveries of the Wisconsin experiment station of the nature of the inherent digestive quality of cheese will give a decided impetus to the always increasing use of this valuable food. It is only a cultivated taste which relishes the "live" essence of aged cheese, as it does the rank taste of gummy cheese that is "high." The knowledge that the fundamental changes in ripening cheese are not due to bacteria, but to chemical changes in the milk ferments, is not only a valuable scientific discovery, but it will have wide results in future methods of curing cheese, and aid the development of that particular branch of daily industry. Hereafter bacteria may be cultivated to give flavor to cheeses demanded by various palates, but the constituents of cheese which are readily digestible in the soluble condition of cured cheese can be considered as a chemical compound, and will doubtless be so prepared for table use.

There is not a single State nor territory in the Union in which there is not a trial for murder pending. In the State of Kentucky there are forty-seven cases concerning ninety-one prisoners for murder awaiting trial. In Virginia there are at least twenty-three charges of murder. In the first State only seven of the men in jail to be tried for the capital offense of murder are negroes. In Virginia there are eight. North Carolina has twenty cases or more, Georgia twenty-seven, Louisiana a score, Texas thirty-two or thirty-three, Missouri twenty-four, Illinois sixteen, Indiana seven, Michigan three, Ohio eight, Pennsylvania twenty-six, New York forty-two, Connecticut, Rhode Island and Vermont one, New Hampshire has just settled one of her three by a sentence of thirty years imposed upon a crazed assassin, California has twenty-seven cases on her docket, and altogether with a dozen more or less there are 280 charges of murder on the criminal dockets of the various States and territories. Some of these have only passed as yet from the hands of the coroner or committing magistrates, others are on trial, some are on appeal, and a few have gone through all the judicial procedure and the convicted men are only awaiting the executive action of the law to complete their record. What an awful showing this is. It becomes the more significant as it is observed that there is no dominating cause of these crimes, unless it be that in the large cities they are more frequently connected with robbery, love, revenge, madness, pure thirst of shedding blood, gain, jealousy, political wrangles, family feuds and drunken brawls are a few of the sources from which the homicidal acts have origin. Some seem not to have even the plea of madness, to which so many of the causeless crimes are referred. It is a mooted point whether legal punishment has any deterrent effect upon crime, but no one can note the terribly suggestive figures given above without an earnest wish that punishment have a real test.

A Narrow Escape. "You ought to have your ears boxed," said Miss Sharpleigh to young Freshman, who had just stolen a kiss. "Well," he asked, "why don't you do it?" "I would," she replied, "if I had a box large enough."

Most men have two objects in life; one is to become rich, the other is to become richer.

### BEWARE OF PAPERS.

#### "METROPOLITAN" SHEETS ENEMIES OF THE PEOPLE.

There are some exceptions, but they are few and far between—The Paid Agents of Advertisers and Balaiah Interests.

The following, taken from Walter Vrooman's paper, illustrates clearly the wisdom of extending the circulation of our party literature, if we would have the people know the truth:

The attempt of the gold press to array the agricultural producers against the city laborers, and the mechanics against the agriculturists, is cruel and deliberate. And this power to deceive and mislead carries with it the power of life or death.

Suppose I were to go to Mr. Jones and tell him that Mr. Smith had declared to me that he was going to shoot him on sight, and that I had seen him purchase a revolver for that purpose; and then I should go to Mr. Smith and tell him that his friend Jones had just armed himself to the teeth for the purpose of killing him, stating that I had heard him swear and curse and declare before heaven that Smith should not live another day. Now, suppose these two neighbors, heretofore warm friends, were to approach each other, and Smith, as a precaution, would reach his hand toward his hip pocket, and Jones, in order to save his life, would pull out his weapon and fire, both men shooting each other at the same time.

The result would be two dead fools, the victim of one live liar.

Now, the modern newspaper is a corporation, formed for the one purpose of paying dividends to stockholders. In order to make money it must serve the people who have money, for now all the profits of the great dailies are derived from the sale of space in their columns, the receipts for the sale of papers not covering expenses. The business manager, with a few exceptions, controls the editorial department and dictates all policies. So we poor wayfarers, hungry for information concerning some important interest, seize upon a learned editorial in a great metropolitan daily, and while we think we are being instructed by the weighty opinion of some friendly and scholarly writer, we are in fact reading the paid advertisement of our enemies, placed in the paper to confuse us. When, in the news department, we read a speech or an interview, it is often so garbled that the meaning is quite changed. And what we consider to be a simple statement of fact is often a doctored narrative, containing fictitious figures, and printed for the sole purpose of misleading the public.

#### Humor of the Trusts.

As was to be expected, the biscuit trust has announced an advance in the price of its products. For certain brands of goods the price has been marked up as high as 30 per cent. over former prevailing rates. A peculiar feature of this increase in price is that it is made on the staple products of the trust. The advance is much less pronounced in the finer grades. As usual, the people who have the least money to spare are made the victims of the combine. Staple grades are, of course, much more largely in demand than the finer grades, and an increase of price on the former means more profit to the trust than an advance in the price of the latter. With a delicate sense of humor the managers of the trust say: "It is true the wholesale price has been advanced, but not enough to affect materially the retail price." The retailers will see the fun in this when they buy a bill of goods at a 30 per cent. advance in price and then try to sell them to consumers at the old rate and make a profit on the transaction. But the poor people who are forced to pay larger prices for the necessities of life through the beneficent operations of a Republican protective tariff will not be able to see the joke. When the nail trust, the machinery trust, the enamelled ware trust, the beer trust, the thread trust, the cotton hose trust, the tinware trust and the rubber goods trust follow the example of the biscuit trust, then the merry humor of the situation may dawn upon the people. The trusts are in the saddle. On with the dance.

#### More Money Needed.

The Hon. George A. Groot, of Cleveland, Ohio, left the Republican party five years ago because he believed its financial monometallic policy a mistake. Two years ago he received the entire vote of the People's party in the Ohio Legislature for Senator. He was an enthusiastic Bryan supporter, being chairman of the committee to notify Mr. Bryan of his nomination by the national silver convention. Mr. Groot considers the money question the one of greatest moment in the present political situation, and thinks that those who depend on a tariff bill to relieve the present financial distress will be greatly disappointed at the final result. He said recently:

There is a great change of sentiment in Ohio since the election, and the change is going on very rapidly. Not a day passes that a number do not tell me they are satisfied that they made a great mistake. They have come to realize that the money question is the only one really before the American people, and which will never be truly settled until it is settled right. McKinley and his administration will not give us any more money and the people begin to appreciate the fact. Business continues to grow less, not only in Ohio, but everywhere else in the country. Times will not improve in the next four years, but will grow steadily worse each year. My reason for making the statement is because there is no more money being put into circulation, more is being stored away in vaults.

population is constantly increasing, making a larger volume necessary for the transaction of ordinary business. Either of the above causes will cause a fall in prices, and a constant fall in prices means increasing hard times.

#### Cotton and Silver.

Cotton manufacturing in Mexico is flourishing, but in New England the wages of 40,000 operatives have been cut 10 per cent. because of poor business. In Mexico the conditions of success are made possible because of the free coinage of silver and the premium on gold, which serves as a barrier against imports from gold countries.

In discussing this question the Mexican Financier says: "Mexico's imports of cotton cloth from England during the past ten months have declined 7,862,600 yards, or 19 per cent., contrasted with imports for the same time last year, and imports from the United States have decreased 1,531,135 yards, or 25 per cent."

New mills are going up in Mexico, and those now in operation are reported to be making from 40 to 60 per cent. profit on their product.

Another important factor in the causing of poor business for the New England mills is the recall of Canada for the Dingley bill. As proof of this statement, the following monthly record of exports of cotton goods to Canada since the enactment of the Dingley law, in comparison with the same months last year, is significant:

#### Exports of cotton cloth to Canada (yards):

	1897.	1896.
July .....	1,477,538	3,744,754
August .....	832,623	4,310,471
September .....	809,895	3,997,790
October .....	597,498	3,334,479

This is not all. Exports of the products of American cotton goods to foreign countries generally have largely fallen off since the passage of the tariff bill. The Pittsburg Post shows that for September and October under the Dingley tariff the exports amounted to \$2,643,870, but for the same months last year, under the Wilson tariff, they were \$3,563,369, or nearly a million dollars more.

Thus the cotton industry is handicapped in two important matters. The Dingley tariff prevents exports to Canada and Europe, while the gold standard cuts off trade with Mexico.

The moral of the question is that bi-metalism is the best kind of protection. It at once breaks the back of monopoly and at the same time stimulates the home markets.

#### Economy in Hog Killing.

For those who have but one or two or even three hogs to kill, it is far cheaper to take these where a larger number are to be slaughtered, and where there are all conveniences, than to kill the hogs at home. Heating the water and getting ready generally take a good deal of time. When this is done the work of killing and dressing requires comparatively little time. It is far better for farmers to co-operate in this work. Every farmer who has only a few hogs to kill can have this job done for him much cheaper as well as more easily than he can do it for himself.

#### Corn Cobs for Kindling.

Corn cobs are often used for kindling fires. But while they light easily, the cob being solid does not create a draught of air and the fire soon goes out. Finely split kindling is much better, as it gives more heat, and thus sets fire to the heater wood. But if dipped in kerosene and placed under the wood, the cob will furnish heat enough to light dry wood in large places without using any other kindling. It is the only way in which kerosene oil can be used with safety in lighting fires.

#### Worrying the Cow.

A rough, quick-tempered man should never be tolerated around the cow stable. The cow loves quietude. Any disturbance which excites her lessens, if it does not stop, the secretion and flow of milk. It is very easy for an employe, by kicking and beating a cow just before or while he is milking, to lessen her milk flow by one-half. This is called "holding up" the milk. It is really a prevention of milk secretion, and the milk thus lost does not come down at any subsequent milking.

#### Reed Looking to the Future.

Tom Reed does not propose to be a hired hand for the present administration, particularly when he cannot help but be aware that the policy of the administration is in many respects not favored by the majority of the party and certainly not by the majority of the people of the United States. Mr. Reed expects to be in the political business long after the present Congress and the present administration have passed into history.—Ex.

#### Pauper Wages for Americans

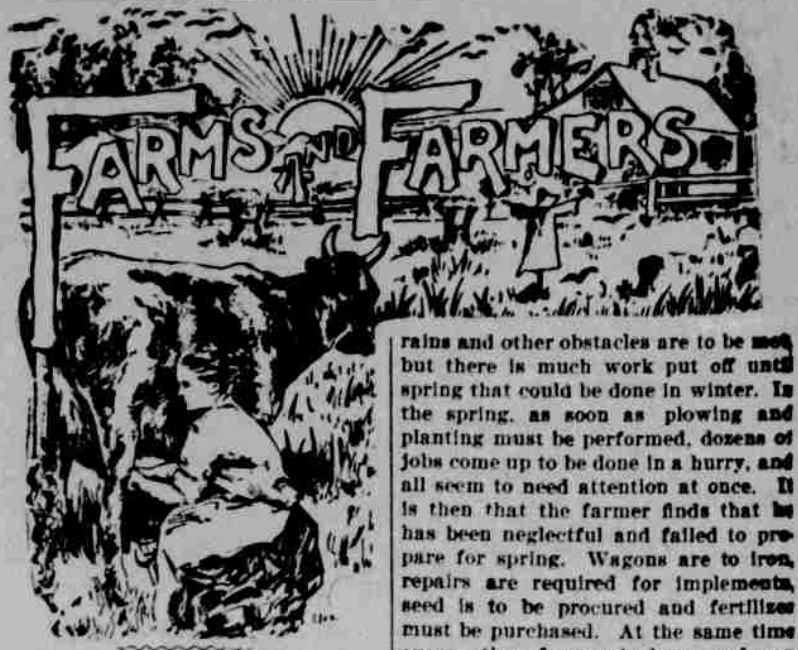
One of the first and most striking features of Republican prosperity is the inauguration of pauper wages among American workmen. We have heard a good deal first and last about the pauper wages of Europe, but before the end of Mr. McKinley's administration we shall see them fastened on the wage earners of the country in every sphere of labor.

#### Yokes for Oxen.

One of the simplest and easiest yokes for oxen is a wooden beam bound to the head by straps. Here the natural strength of the neck is brought into play and no hold-back straps are necessary, as the yoke does not work back and forth. The system is in common use in many parts of the world.

#### Bedding of Horses.

Furnish all horses and colts with good, dry bedding. Colts are apt to slip and become injured if kept on wet, bare floors, and it is absolute cruelty to make a tired work or driving horse go without a good bed. Try it yourself.

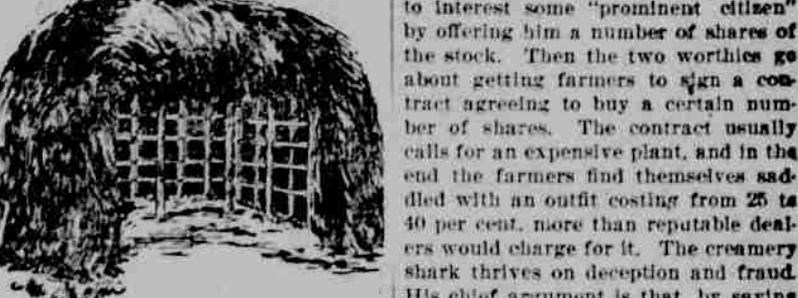


#### Cheap Shelter for Stock.

A framework of heavy poles, with poles or rails over it, and entirely covered with straw or corn fodder, is suggested by the New England Farmer as a very good, warm shelter at a slight expense. The satisfaction of having stock comfortable will amply repay the cost of it. Such a shelter will answer for poultry, pigs or any kind of farm stock. Years ago it was thought the proper thing to winter stock around the straw stack, "to harden them," but opinions have changed, and every one

#### Creamery Shark.

The "creamery shark" is again at work in New York State. What is a creamery shark? He looks like a man on the outside, and he can talk like a phonograph. He goes about trying to interest farmers in building co-operative creameries. His favorite plan is to interest some "prominent citizen" by offering him a number of shares of the stock. Then the two worthies go about getting farmers to sign a contract agreeing to buy a certain number of shares. The contract usually calls for an expensive plant, and in the end the farmers find themselves saddled with an outfit costing from 25 to 40 per cent. more than reputable dealers would charge for it. The creamery shark thrives on deception and fraud. His chief argument is that, by saving advertising and other expenses, he is able to give farmers cheaper rates for goods handled by old-established firms. Our advice is never to buy without first corresponding with manufacturers of long standing.—Rural New Yorker.



A CHEAP STRAW SHELTER, is forced to admit that it pays well to stable all kinds of stock.

#### The Coming Farmer.

The man who has worn out his farm will have his mind somewhat worn, and it will need overhauling before success will be fully reached in renovating the soil. The farmer's mind must be fed first, the food for the mind is education. When the farmer has a longing for more knowledge than he gains each week from these columns, then we have awakened in him a spirit of investigation to find out how to restore to his soil its lost crop capacity. He will begin to invest in stock and he will become more of a flesh-growing farmer and seller instead of a grain seller. Instead of selling his capital (soil fertility) with the grain he manufactures the grain into flesh, builds up his farm and gets on in the world more contented. The young farmers are becoming our reading farmers. They consider as a part of their equipment the knowledge of soils, the value and blending of feeds and the scientific rotation of crops. The farm is his bank, the soil his working capital, and with well-fed mind and soil he will be prosperous and contented.—Farmer Guide.

#### New Clothes Post.

It is believed that this clothes post will fill a long-felt want. It is fitted up with a double line running over a wheel at both ends. There is a support on which to set the clothes basket and a small rainproof box for holding clothes pins. One can thus set the basket of clothes down and proceed to pin them upon the lower line, moving the line along as fast as the clothes are put upon it, and thus hang out the whole wash without moving a step or once lifting the basket. If the ground be wet or covered with snow, this is an important point. This plan also saves much labor if one end—once wheel—can be attached to a post on the back veranda or porch, using the basket support and the pin box as on the regular post. This will obviate the necessity of stepping out upon the ground at all, either in hanging out or taking in the clothes.

#### Dispose of Unprofitable Cows.

The Toronto Globe says a Canadian farmer who kept twenty-four cows and two hired men, tested his cows with the Babcock test and found that eight were unprofitable. He disposed of them and let one hired man go, and at the end of the year found that he had made as much money from the sixteen as from the twenty-four. Now he has got down to twelve good cows, and expects as much from them as he made from twice that number. Now he can increase up to his original number as fast as he can find or grow good cows, and increase his profits.

#### Vaine of the Farm.

Waldo E. Brown, in the Cincinnati Gazette, says for ten years past he has estimated what his farm was worth to his family, and finds that at fair valuation the farm was paying over 60 per cent. on the investment, if only enough were sold to pay taxes, insurance and hired help. In other words, with a family of eight persons to be fed, the farm, valued at \$5,000, was furnishing what would cost, if bought in market, from \$400 to \$500, namely fruit, vegetables, poultry and dairy products, breadstuffs and meats, all of best quality and furnished in abundance.

#### Feed Fowls Slowly.

The great trouble with most fowl fanciers is that in their zeal to promote egg production they feed too heavily, and the fowls fatten instead of laying. Corn also is a bad feed for fowls, especially if shelled and thrown where the fowls can eat it as rapidly as they can pick it up. If one person shells by hand an ear of corn and throws it among thirty or fifty fowls the active ones will get it fully as fast as they should. The better way is to mix the grain and small grain as well among cut straw and let the fowls earn their living by scratching for it.

#### Ripening of Cream.

In winter cream rises slowly, and much of it falls to ripen as it should. The ripening is known by its turning slightly acid, without becoming bitter or in any way ill-flavored. Not all the cream should be put into the churning. That taken from the pans latest will not be ripened, and its butter fats will all be wasted unless they are saved by churning the buttermilk. The loss from this cause is much greater in many small dairies than these few writing them suppose.

#### To Lighten Spring Work.

Winter work cannot always be done to suit the convenience of the farmer, as severely cold weather, continued