

### Women of the Kaffirs.

The Kaffirs believe that a woman is a necessary appendage to a household; the women care for their huts and do all the housework, while the men watch the cattle. They do not always marry as young as they like, and yet the youngest and most attractive girls often go to the ugly, old men with plenty of money. A man is not worried because he cannot win the favor of the girl he wants. Her likes and dislikes count for little.

### Bring Messages from Dead.

There is a curious burial custom among the Mordovinians, who inhabit the middle Volga provinces of Russia and are professed Christians. They believe that a deceased relative forty days after interment returns to his old home. Failing his visible return the next of kin personates him, dressed in his clothes, and professes to deliver solemn messages from the other side of the grave.

### How Carpenter Drives Nail.

How many hammer strokes does a carpenter use in driving a nail? Perhaps not one carpenter in a thousand or one layman in ten times that number can tell, or ever thinks of it. The truth of the matter is this: The carpenter takes seven strokes in driving a nail into ordinary wood and twelve regular strokes and two finishing taps in driving nails into hardwood.

### What Actuates a Woman.

Tell the average woman that a maximum of mutton means a minimum of morals, and she will probably laugh at you and go on eating mutton (if she likes it). But assure her that a charming complexion will result from vegetarianism and the butcher may justifiably feel forebodings of coming disaster.—Exchange.

### That's All.

He: "Well, what have you there?" She: "Two of your old letters, my dear." He: "Umph! What's the first one—that 40-pager?" She: "One you sent me when I had a slight cold before we were married. This half-page is the one you wrote last winter when I was very ill with influenza. That's all, dear."

### Courtship.

Much intellect is not an advantage in courtship. General topics interfere with particular attentions. A man to be successful in love, should think only of himself and his mistress. Rochefoucauld observes: That lovers are never tired of each other's company, because they are always talking of themselves.—Hazlitt.

### "Skunt."

You have had crope, roke and drug, and what's the matter with skunt? A young lady a few days ago visited this part of the country who had never seen turpentine worked before and when she returned to her home told them that the pine trees down here were "skunt" up to the limbs.—Charlotte Observer.

### Country for the Rich.

It costs money to live in South Africa. A woman resident in Johannesburg pays \$60 a month for her cook and \$35 a month to a Hindoo servant. In India she would have to pay only \$5 a month for the Hindoo's services.

### Fifty Years a Pensioner.

James McCardle of Jamaica Plain, Mass., one hundred years old, has since 1852 been drawing a pension as a British soldier at six-pence a day.

### Back at Work Again.

Buffalo, N. Y., May 22nd.—(Special)—Crippled by Kidney Disease till he could not stand on his feet for the hours required at his trade, F. R. McLean, 90 East Ferry St., this city, had to quit work entirely. Now he's back at work again and he does not hesitate to give the credit to Dodd's Kidney Pills.

"Yes," Mr. McLean says "I was too bad, I had to quit. I could not stand on my feet for the necessary hours. It was Kidney Disease I had, and a friend advised me to try Dodd's Kidney Pills. I did so and after using six boxes am completely cured and am working as killing a 'pal' as before I was sick. I recommend Dodd's Pills to any one afflicted with Kidney trouble."

There is no form of Kidney Disease Dodd's Kidney Pills will not cure. They always cure Bright's Disease, the most most advanced and deadly stage of Kidney Disease.

### Largest Island.

The largest island in the world is New Guinea, 306,000 square miles; Great Britain is 83,826 square miles.

### Insist on Getting It.

Some grocers say they don't keep Defiance Starch because they have a stock in hand of 12 oz. brands, which they know cannot be sold to a customer who has once used the 16 oz. pkg. Defiance Starch for same money.

### Japanese "Hello!"

The Japanese "Hello" at the telephone is "Moshi moshi," or "Ano ne," with the accent on the "nay."

### Those Who Have Tried It

will use no other. Defiance Cold Water Starch has no equal in Quantity or Quality—16 oz. for 10 cents. Other brands contain only 12 oz.

### Profit in Ostrich Farming.

Ostrich farming in South Africa continues a most profitable business.

Superior quality and extra quantity must win. This is why Defiance Starch is taking the place of all others.

### Opportunity.

Opportunity is rare, and a wise man will never let it go by him.

# The CONVICT COUNTRY: OR: FIGHTING for a MILLION

BY CHARLES MORRIS BUTLER  
Author of "The Revenge of Pierre," "A Tenebrous Tragedy," "Antia," Etc.

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## CHAPTER II.—Continued.

"Yes, a vast, well-organized society, composed of people in every professional walk of life. It will be your business to discover this band and enter the organization as a member."

"And if I already know of the existence of such an organization?" very calmly asked Lang.

"Half the battle would be won!" exclaimed the detective excitedly. "I suspect, Lang, that you do know considerable about it, that's why I approach you in the matter. You are one who undoubtedly should know something about it—the crime you were charged with, together with the fact that you had command of money, certainly placed you in the proper position to know. But I know you are not a member of the society, for I have watched you too closely for that. What others may think I know that you are an honest man."

"Thanks for that compliment," laughed Lang. "I am not a member, of course. But, as you say, I should know something about it, and I do. While imprisoned in the Tombs, a man in the next cell to me made me the offer that for ten thousand dollars in cash he would guarantee me that I could escape, and be furnished with protection against re-capture. He hinted at being an agent of a powerful society, but I gave no heed to it at the time, because I relied on being able to 'fix' a juryman for less than that sum, if the worst came to the worst with me."

"I wasn't mistaken in you!" exclaimed the delighted detective, rubbing his hands together in his excitement. "You are the man for my money—and it will take money to see this thing through. I have a modest fortune of about fifteen thousand, the result of my savings for the years I have been on the force. Half of this sum I will put to your credit, if you

into the greatest danger. If I am lucky—with one chance in a thousand in my favor—I may become really rich and famous. I told Denver that I did not care for life; but I do! Life is dear to me; I will live to win the prize. I will live to show the world that even a man who has had his neck in the hangman's noose can make success out of life!"

## CHAPTER III.

The First Serious Set-Back.  
With that high aim before him, Lang soon left the saloon and retired early to bed, sobered by his unexpected offer and prospects.

All night long Denver had lain awake mapping out the plan of action that he wished Lang to follow; and in the morning the detective and Lang met as by agreement, at the office of a detective agency.

"Lang," said Denver, as the youth took a seat in the detective's room. "You have slept on my proposition; are you still of the same opinion you were last night?"

"I have had no occasion as yet to change my mind," responded the youth. "In fact, I am firmer in my resolve than ever. You don't want to back out, yourself, do you?"

"I should say not. And that being your answer, we will consider the question settled for good and all. To start with, I am going to make a new man of you—physically. Your long debauch has somewhat run down your natural hearty constitution. You must be given the benefit of a course of physical training which will enable you to withstand hard usage and privation if necessary; a thorough athletic training, in fact. You must be surrounded with all the protection possible in this great undertaking, and as a healthy body makes a healthy mind, we must not fail for the lack

of athletic association," answered Denver. "Learn to box, to wrestle, even a few lessons in sword play and target shooting wouldn't be amiss. You may never have occasion to use these accomplishments, but if you ever do want them, you will want them 'bad.'"

"I am now taking a course of boxing," replied Lang, "and can very easily make it include lessons in wrestling. As you have suggested 'arms,' I shall practice a few bouts, to become expert in the use of the short sword. The shooting galleries will give sufficient practice with the gun and revolver."

"You will put yourself in training at once." The detective paused abruptly, springing to his feet.

Lang and Denver had been sitting very comfortably together upon a leather lounge which occupied one side of the office; all of a sudden Denver sprang up and in one bound landed in the office chair, and grabbing up a pen from the desk before which he now sat, he began writing.

Louis was for a moment at loss to understand Denver's actions, but had the good sense not to ask for an explanation nor appear surprised. It was soon made apparently clear, when into the room very unceremoniously stalked a personage, whom Louis instantly recognized by intuition as a detective.

Denver rose from his chair very deliberately, and while acknowledging his visitor's presence by a cordial nod of his head, spoke to Lang in a businesslike tone, in a voice rather loud, and evidently for the purpose of being overheard by the newcomer:

"Mr. Smith, I may or may not see you again very soon; however, if you follow my instructions implicitly," handing him a note at the same time, "you cannot go astray, and undoubtedly will recover the property."

Lang was somewhat hurriedly bowed from the office, not so quickly as to look rude, but before the visitor had a chance to get a critical view of him.

"I wonder who that man is?" queried Lang to himself. "Some detective, evidently, whom Denver does not wish to see me."

The same thought crossed the intruder's mind. He could add two and two together about as well as anybody. "Smith," that's kind of a cheap name!" he said to himself. "Evidently Denver doesn't want me to know this fellow. Just because he don't want me to know him is just the reason I should know him. That's only another score I owe Jim Denver, and I'll begin the payment by watching Mr. Smith!"

This was the first serious set-back. Lang was greatly disappointed in being hustled so unceremoniously from the detective's office, but he partially understood the reason, that the visit was unexpected and undesirable. The slip of paper given him by Denver hardly enlightened him:

"Beware of Regan—lead a double life—begin your training at once."

With it was a check for fifty dollars. "Since these are my instructions," said Lang, "and as I have nothing else to go by, I must begin my training at once. I don't understand what object Denver has in view in making an athlete out of me, but as he pays the bills I can but obey orders." And it was well that he did so.

### A Precocious Sportsman.

"The Americans are great Sportsmen," said Sir Thomas Dewar, in recounting his impressions of America. "From their earliest years they take a consuming interest in all sorts of contests and races."

"I remember one cold afternoon in New York seeing a poor little, ragged lad, with his nose glued against the window of a toy shop. I stopped beside him and looked down. But he paid no heed to me. His clear young eyes were intent on the window's bright and inviting contents."

"Without a word I slipped a penny into his cold little hand. He looked at the penny, and then he looked at me."

"Well, if this ain't luck," he said. "I've been wishin' for a cent, and here's one dropped right in me fist."

"What did you want the cent for, my lad?" said I.

"The urchin answered: "I wanted to get a night extry to see wot's won. I've got a dollar on Swallow in the third race."

### Familiar With the Disease.

Dr. William Osler of Johns Hopkins and Oxford, tells this story: An old darky quack, well known in a certain section of the south, was passing the house of a planter, whose wife was reported to be dangerously ill. Stopping at the gate he called to one of the hands:

"I say, Rastus, how's the missus?" "Well," replied Rastus, "the doctah done say dis mawnin' dat she convalescent."

"Humph! Dat ain't nothin', chile," said the old quack, with an air of superior wisdom. "Why, I've done cured convalescence in twenty-foah hours!"

### The Tub Was Too Full.

While we were spending our summer vacation at Point Alerton, one of our neighbors came to visit us, bringing her youngest son, Chester, about 3 years old. In the afternoon, while watching the surf, some one proposed to go in bathing. The little fellow thought he would like to go also. He did not enjoy it as well as he thought he would.

Later in the afternoon his mother said: "Chester, I noticed you did not enjoy your bath; at home you like to get in the tub."

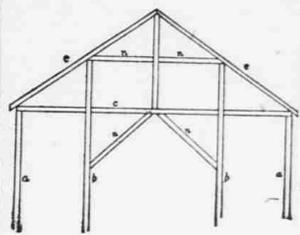
"But, mother," he replied, "that tub was too full."—Boston Herald

# AGRICULTURE

## A Cheap Hay Barn.

Protection could be easily and cheaply provided against the destructive and deteriorating effects of the weather for hundreds of thousands of tons of hay that are now stacked, more or less improperly, about the buildings and in the fields. No matter how well the hay may be stacked, there is always a loss of some material part of it when opening up in spring for the market. Much of it is ruined, also, for feeding purposes, as well as in marketable value. Hay exposed to the action of the weather during the winter season will lose more or less of its nutrient value, generally by a change that lessens its digestibility.

The accompanying illustration shows the end section of a shed that may be built of almost any timber that is to be had around the ordinary farm, and at very little expense. It may be built now or any time before the hay is harvested, or, if more convenient, it may be built over the hay after it is stacked. The roof is the only permanent enclosure. The sides are covered with any material that will afford protection from the rain and the snow and the sun. Some of the farmers in the eastern states use oiled canvas on the sides and ends, held securely down with poles or light timbers at the bottom. Others in the east, but more especially in the south, use evergreen boughs and corn stalks, more generally the latter, for closing the sides. The corn stalks are woven into long mats, with the ends cut even, made



much after the manner of making hot bed mats of rye straw.

The outside posts, "aa," should be from 9 to 12 feet long, according to the height of shed the farmer finds most convenient for his use. The posts, "bb," are from 12 feet up, depending on the height of the outside posts, "aa." These are set at least two feet in the ground, with a good flat stone at the bottom of the post hole to keep the post from settling. A shed about 30 feet wide will be found the most suitable for the general farmer, and the length may be extended indefinitely or a number of separate sheds may be built, as it is desired. The rafters, "cc," should be of 2x6 inch stuff, single. The cross plate or joist, "c," should be very strong, and of any size available that can be easily adjusted to place. The braces may be made of almost any light stuff at hand that may usually be picked up from the scrap pile. The posts may be set at from 6 to 10 feet apart and the rafters from 3 to 4 feet apart, one over each post and one resting on the plate between. The roof can be made of shingles, although the prepared roofing papers are cheaper and answer the purpose equally as well.—R. M. Winans in Farmers' Review.

## Improvement of Farm Plants.

There is no doubt that we can enormously increase the value of our farm products by improving our farm plants. What has been done in the past is merely a hint of what we can do. What has been accomplished has been done by a rather irregular, unscientific forward movement. Think of the evolution of the carrot from a little insignificant root, and likewise the development of the parsnip. As a real good illustration of what can be done observe the wild crab and compare it with our beautiful apples of many colors and flavors.

The work that has been done along the line mentioned has taken many centuries, but within my lifetime I have seen a wonderful change in the character of our farm plants. I can remember when the potato used to bear seed balls numerous, but now the plant has been so far developed away from its original self that it hardly ever produces seed.—Walter Bisby, Ashland Co., Ohio, in Farmers' Review.

## An Oat Experiment.

In a test in England, an unmanured plot produced oats at the rate of 27 bushels and 1,904 pounds of straw per acre. The application of 336 pounds of superphosphate per acre brought up the yield to 34 bushels of oats and 2,350 pounds of straw. When the same amount of superphosphate and 112 pounds of nitrate of soda were added the yield was 41 bushels of oats and 2,688 pounds of straw. When superphosphate was applied and 224 pounds of nitrate of soda in two dressings the yield was 47 bushels of oats and 3,136 pounds of straw. In each case the gain was double in value the cost of the fertilizers used.

## Cattle Ticks in Cuba.

A visitor to Cuba says cattle ticks are very numerous there and that it is useless to send northern cattle to Cuba unless they have been first immunized. Cattle that have been brought up in the South where they have been always exposed to the tick are immunized and can be taken to Cuba with safety.

## ANOTHER LIFE SAVED.

Mrs. G. W. Fooks, of Salisbury, Md., wife of G. W. Fooks, Sheriff of Wicomico County, says: "I suffered with kidney complaint for eight years. It came on me gradually. I felt tired and weak, was short of breath and was troubled with bloating after eating, and my limbs were badly swollen. One doctor told me it would finally turn to Bright's disease. I was laid up at one time for three weeks. I had not taken Doan's Kidney Pills more than three days when the distressing aching across my back disappeared, and I was soon entirely cured."

For sale by all dealers. Price 50 cents. Foster-Milburn Co., Buffalo, N. Y.

Umbrellas and self-respect when lost are seldom regained.

## STATE OF OHIO, CITY OF TOLEDO, I. ES.

FRANK J. CHENEY makes oath that he is senior partner of the firm of F. J. CHENEY & Co., doing business in the City of Toledo, County and State aforesaid, and that said firm will pay the sum of ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS for each and every case of CATARRH that cannot be cured by the use of HALL'S CATHARTIC CURE.

SWORN to before me and subscribed to my presence, this 6th day of December, A. D. 1905.

FRANK J. CHENEY, Notary Public.  
A. W. GLEASON, Notary Public.  
Hall's Cathartic Cure is taken internally and acts directly on the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. Send for testimonials free.  
F. J. CHENEY & CO., Toledo, O.  
Sold by all Druggists, etc.  
Take Hall's Family Pills for constipation.

High price of eggs doesn't seem to worry the one-night barnstormer.

**FITS** permanently cured. No fits or nervousness after first day's use of Dr. King's Great Nerve Restorer. Send for FREE 62-00 trial bottle and treatise. DR. H. H. KING, Ltd., 301 Arch Street, Philadelphia, Pa.

A woman's tongue is mightier than a man's strong right arm.

I do not believe Piso's Cure for Consumption has an equal for coughs and colds.—JOHN P. BOYER, Trinity Springs, Ind., Feb. 15, 1900.

Don't forget that the wisest owl occasionally hoots at the wrong time.

Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup. For children teething, softens the gums, reduces inflammation, allays pain, cures wind colic, etc.

Love is life's rainbow gold.

"Dyspepsia Tormented Me for Years. Dr. David Kennedy's Favorite Remedy cured me." Mrs. O. D. Dougherty, Millville, N. J., used over 30 years. 41-01.

Too many bills are apt to make a man feel bilious.

## LIVING TOO HASTILY

### AMERICAN WOMEN BREAK DOWN

Irregularities and Female Derangements Result—Cured by Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound.

Owing to our mode and manner of living, and the nervous haste of every woman to accomplish just so much each day, it is said that there is not



Mrs. Chester Curry

one woman in twenty-five but what suffers with some derangement of the female organism, and this is the secret of so many unhappy homes. No woman can be amiable, light-hearted and happy, a joy to her husband and children, and perform the duties incumbent upon her, when she is suffering with backache, headache, nervousness, sleeplessness, bearing-down pains, displacement of the womb, spinal weakness or ovarian troubles. Irritability and snappy retorts take the place of pleasantness, and all sunshine is driven out of the home, and lives are wrecked by woman's great enemy—womb trouble.

Read this letter:

Dear Mrs. Pinkham:— "I was troubled for eight years with irregularities which broke down my health and brought on extreme nervousness and despondency. Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound proved to be the only medicine which helped me. Day by day I improved in health while taking it until I was entirely cured. I can attend to my social and household duties and thoroughly enjoy life once more, as Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound has made me a well woman, without an ache or a pain."—Mrs. Chester Curry, 42 Saratoga Street, East Boston, Mass.

At the first indication of ill health, painful or irregular menstruation, pain in the side, headache, backache, bearing-down pains, nervousness or "the blues," secure at once a bottle of Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound and begin its use.



THE NEXT MORNING I FEEL BRIGHT AND NEW AND MY COMPLEXION IS BETTER.

My doctor says it acts gently on the stomach, liver and kidneys and is a pleasant laxative. This drink is made from herbs, and is prepared for use as easily as tea. It is called "Lamb's Tongue."

## LANE'S FAMILY MEDICINE

All druggists or by mail 25 cts. and 50 cts. Buy it to day. LANE'S Family Medicine moves the bowels each day. In order to be healthy this is necessary. Address, O. F. Woodard, Le Roy, N. Y.