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VALENTINE, - NEBRASKA.

A base hit in time may save the time.

The iron will of the average man is nothing but pig iron.

Civic reform is awaiting the invention of wireless politics.

A woman invariably has more listening than speaking acquaintances.

From the epicure's point of view fine feathers do not make fine birds.

Any man who is determined to enjoy life, whether he does or not, is a true optimist.

A bachelor imagines he's a born diplomat because he is able to settle his affairs out of court.

Happiness consists in finding some one to love and in working for that some one.

Even the man who lives a useless life may serve a purpose by posing as an example to others.

The lady who plays bridge whilst cannot be expected to countenance the man who plays poker. That's different.

If old Geronimo has repented of all his sins he is to be congratulated on his speedy work. The feat beats riding ninety miles in nine days.

"William Shakespeare," says the Cincinnati Enquirer, "probably did not write the Shakespeare works." This throws the whole question open again.

A writer in the Paris Figaro says the Sultan of Turkey is doing more for civilization than any other monarch in Europe. Still, that isn't saying so much for the sultan.

Altogether, the Humberts seem to have made a profitable business transaction. Having collected their \$10,000,000 in advance, they can afford to stay in prison five years at \$2,000,000 a year.

Japan now proposes to trade Corea to Russia for Manchuria. As Japan does not own Corea and Russia has no title to Manchuria, both nations would profit by the bargain, like men trading stolen umbrellas.

Profiting by the disastrous experience which has practically stripped the older settled States of their original magnificent forests, the interior department has set aside 6,000 square miles of land in Alaska as a timber reserve. Lumber is an article of such scarcity in Alaska that there has been imprudent cutting of trees in the timber belts for mining and building purposes. By establishing a system to enable the lumbermen to use matured trees without destroying immature growths the forests may be so conserved as to yield a continuing supply.

Despite a vigorous and rational propaganda cremation as a mode of disposal of the bodies of the dead grows little in general favor. According to German statistics the total number of incinerations after death in Europe and the United States during 1902 was only 9,020, of which France, despite her declining birth rate, furnished nearly half, and the United States, despite their vast population, less than a third. When grief caused by death is not personal the hygienic argument for incineration seems convincing, but when the personal test arrives subjection of the dead to the furnace turns human feeling away from the crematory. Nothing which science or art can devise robs the coffin of its living agony. Securely incased, the gentle earth continues to appear the most kindly receptacle of purposeless human hearts.

The biggest thing in England isn't the king. It is precedent. The Englishman is content to do things as his father and his father's father did them and doesn't seem to be able to learn the meaning of the word, "Progress." Just now the shoe statistics make good reading. John Bull is a famous shoemaker. Once he could point with pride to his shoe product. English shoes were clumsy, but they were well and were what the English were used to, so John Bull was content and pleased with his trade and his methods. An American business man doesn't ask for any better opportunity than is afforded by a competitor who is satisfied. "Let well enough alone," isn't worth a red cent as a business motto. In 1892 the United States sent to Great Britain 1,507 pairs of shoes. They were better than the English shoes. They were well, were artistic in shape and finish and cheap enough to find ready sale. In 1893 we exported 498,027 pairs of shoes. In 1902 the United States exported 3,966,766 pairs of shoes, and more than 1,000,000 pairs went to England. They were valued at \$2,013,890. In addition, 1,495,587 pairs went to various English colonies. The business is growing in spite of the efforts of English manufacturers, and it all goes to show that the American workman and the manufacturer make a team that is invincible.

deserted farms are in New England and all the women who have to earn their own living are restricted by circumstances to the cities. Two essays recently read before agricultural societies in the Central West suggest a wider and truer view of the situation. One essayist told of a woman who bought a farm, when overworked forced her to retire temporarily from her profession. She hires a man for outside work and a woman to do the rougher housework. She enjoys pure air, fresh vegetables and plenty of milk and butter and eggs, and receives enough money for the hay produced on the farm to meet all her expenses. The heroine of the other essayist was a successful stenographer, who, wanting a house of her own, pitched upon a three-acre place which was far from cities, but within reachable distance of several summer hotels. By study, perseverance, tact and common sense, she presently found herself marketing every year five thousand pounds of honey, fifteen hundred ducks and quantities of fine fruit. Probably there is not a county in any State which does not offer similar opportunities for tired women to rest by change of occupation, and meantime earn a living; or for ambitious women to take up fruit-growing, market-gardening, poultry-keeping, or some other specialty, and carry it on to a profit. We glory in the women who have sought out such openings. Their number should increase.

The man with the cheery smile. You all know him, and you are all glad you do. He is a blessing to his friends and strangers take to him. Everyone feels good when the cheerful man moves in sight. His coming drives out the shadows which have been lurking in gloomy corners. His advent is like a stray streak of sunshine, stealing in between gray clouds. No matter what the cheerful man's avocation is, everyone feels the better of having come in contact with him. He may be the grocery man, or the ice man, or the gas man, or the doctor man, but no matter what kind of a man he is, he is always welcome. If he is the grocery man, his smile gets him more orders than if he were gloomy. The most exacting housewife never notices short weight when the sunny ice man hands in the daily supply of frozen water. The gas man's bills are not half so hard to pay when they are presented by a collector with an illuminated countenance. And the cheerful doctor. He is a man who is a veritable blessing. His patients look for his visit longingly and his ring at the door bell is worth all his physic. Perhaps he has not anything like the ability of the physician who does not smile quite so expansively, but you just know that he has twice as much practice. The cheerful man is not in the same class as the affable man. He beats him by a head every time. The latter type is not always to be trusted; sometimes, just sometimes, his smooth, polished ways are only on the surface. But the cheerful man is nearly always good hearted. He loves his fellow men, and he would just as soon they knew it. He may not have anything to give but his cheering words and kindly looks, but they are given so generously that they are worth their weight in gold. The cheerful man is often abused for the very quality which really endears him to his friends, but if anything should happen to take him away from the haunts of men he is missed more than anyone can possibly imagine and mostly by the very ones who have often called him an intolerable nuisance. The cheerful man is all right, and everybody, always down deep, thinks so too.

Language Used by Tabby. A French professor has become the Columbus of Catland. He has learned the language of cats. The vocabulary is so small that it is a matter of wonder that the world waited so long for someone to put it among the things anyone may know. Here are some of the cat words he has learned: "Aello" is a request for food. "Allloo" is a request for water. "Lae" is a request for milk. "Bl" expresses a desire for red meat. "Bleome-bl" means kitty wants cooked meat. "Plee-bl" is mouse meat and is applied to any food which kitty fondles before devouring. "Meouw," uttered simply, is a greeting; uttered fiercely and with accent on the "Me" is an expression of hatred and defiance. "Meouw, vov, vov, yelwovow tow, ys-s-s-yow" in the yell of defiance in battle and is variously accented to tell of the progress of hostilities; "ys-s-s-s-s-yow" being the cry of battle madness. "Yew" signifies that the cat is in distress and needs human aid. It is uttered very softly. "Parriere" is a request to open a door. "Purriou" is the I-love-you of catland, and when uttered with rolling "r" and a rise on the last syllable is a call from a mother to its kitten.—St. Louis Post-Democrat.

A Matter of Doubt. "I suppose, my boy," said the stranger in town, "I can jump on any one of these cars and go to the park." "I dunno," replied the newsboy, "Anudder guy dat looked as clumsy as you tried to jump on one de udder day an' he went ter de morgue."—Philadelphia Press.

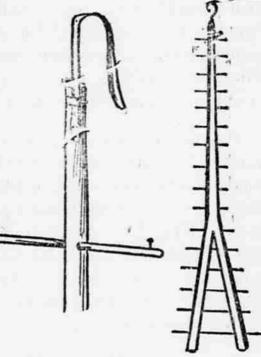
At the Play. "This is what they call realism, I suppose?" "I guess so. Everything seems to be real except the sentiment."—Detroit Free Press.



Home-Made Fruit Ladder.

The average fruit ladder, as found in most orchards, is not particularly desirable mainly because it is not designed for this particular work. The broad top of the common ladder makes it almost impossible to get it among the branches in a firm position. Where one has considerable fruit to gather, a special ladder constructed after the plan of the one in the illustration will be found not only useful, but will save considerable time in the fruit-gathering season.

A pole, preferably a green one from the woods, should be secured, having it of the desired length. The largest end should be split up about three feet and a brace inserted to keep the sides apart. The ends which stand on the ground should be sharpened or covered with sharpened pieces of iron, which may be blacksmith can fashion and attach. Bore holes one and one-half inches in diameter in both sides as far apart as the rungs are to be placed. The rungs should be formed of some tough wood so that they may not be made too bungling. At the top of the pole a strip of strap iron is fastened with a long hook so that it may be passed over the branches of the tree. The illustration on the left of the cut shows how the hook is fastened on. This ladder will cost but a small sum, and if well made will last for years.



HOME-MADE FRUIT LADDER.

It would be a good plan to have several of them of different lengths.

Lime and Sulphur Wash. Fruit growers are quite interested in the formula composing the new insecticide, lime and sulphur, but have found the labor of making it considerable because of the necessity for boiling the mixture. Recent experiments have shown that if potash or caustic soda is used there will be no necessity for boiling. The formula for making in this way is this: Take twenty pounds of sulphur, forty pounds of lime, five pounds of caustic soda and sixty gallons of water. Make a thin paste of the sulphur and dissolve the caustic soda in water.

In slaking the lime, use only enough water to make it boil rapidly. During the process of slaking, pour into the lime the sulphur paste, and then the caustic soda solution, adding water if necessary, and stirring rapidly until all bubbling stops, when dilute with water to the consistency and strength needed for the spraying. The use of this material in spraying is not only a decided check on scale, but very effective against various insects. Applications may be made in the late fall, in midwinter and in the early spring.

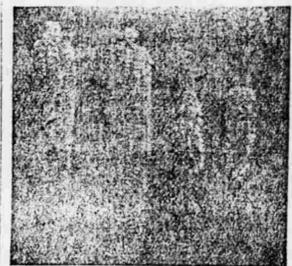
Crops for Orchards. If the soil in the orchard is in good shape and fairly rich, the best cover crop is undoubtedly crimson clover, and this may be sown at any time now. If the soil is poor crimson clover is not likely to succeed, so that something that will add humus to the soil should be used rather than to attempt to get the benefit of the legumes. For sowing in an orchard of this kind rye will probably be most satisfactory. It should be sown about the 1st of September, and plowed under in the early spring, and then the summer cultivation of the surface soil taken up again. It is quite probable that following this method will put the soil in shape so that another fall it will be fit to grow crimson clover.

Good for Hogs. Take six bushels of cob charcoal or three bushels of common charcoal, eight pounds of salt and one pound of Epsom salts, two quarts of air-slack lime, one bushel of wood ashes. Break the charcoal into small pieces and thoroughly mix the other ingredients with it. Then take one pound of copperas and dissolve in hot water, and with an ordinary watering not sprinkle over the whole mass and again mix thoroughly. This mixture should be kept dry. Feeding a portion of it twice a week furnishes something that the hogs demand and assists in taking off the gases of the stomach, expelling worms and regulating their conditions.—Winchester (Ind.) Herald.

Large Farm Families. One of the English agricultural societies has started a new form of competition along the line of the anti-race suicide idea. The first prize went to the farm laborer who had brought up and established in a career the greatest number of children. The winning family had a record of 19 children born,

17 brought up and 12 of these at work. The second prize winner had 15 children, 12 brought up, all usefully occupied. There were 10 entries, and those next in order had 16, 14, 13, and 12 children, respectively.

The Value of Fertilizer. The Purdue Experiment Station has been conducting a number of experiments with corn, using different kinds of fertilizer. The tests show that kainit is valuable as compared with straw or lime. The corn was planted the second week in June. The corn on the plots to which kainit or straw was applied made a continuous growth, and after the middle of July these plots could readily be distinguished from a distance by a darker color than



TREATED AND UNTREATED EARS.

that shown on the plots on which no fertilizer was used. The treated plots did not ripen as early as the others, and the fodder was slightly damaged by frost on September 27, although no injury was done to the ears. The corn was cut from the different plots October 3 and husked October 19. The yield and treatment are shown in the accompanying table:

| Plot No. | Treat. | Yield Per Acre—Sound corn, bushels. | Fodder, tons. |
|----------|--------|-------------------------------------|---------------|
| 1. | Straw | 48.4 | 2.30 |
| 2. | None | 28.6 | 1.39 |
| 3. | Kainit | 55.8 | 2.43 |
| 4. | Kainit | | |
| 5. | Lime | 52.4 | 2.43 |
| 6. | Straw | 25.1 | 1.48 |
| 7. | None | 48.6 | 1.92 |
| 8. | Kainit | 16.1 | 1.04 |
| 9. | Kainit | 69.4 | 2.43 |
| 10. | Lime | 52 | 2.21 |
| 11. | None | 15.04 | 1.04 |
| 12. | None | 4 | .96 |

The conclusion is that returns are bound to be profitable in land treated as were the plants in the experiments cited—especially as to kainit or straw. Another thing shown is that the influence of the treatment is bound to be effective for years to come, as the land will more readily respond to labor put upon it.

Keeping Sweet Potatoes. To keep well sweet potatoes should be dug when the soil is quite dry and afterward spread thin to cure for ten days at least in an outbuilding secure from rain and frost. Road dust one-third of which is composed of fine sand is best for packing in. Place a layer of dust in the bottom of box or barrel or whatever is used to pack in, then a layer of potatoes, being careful to cover every potato completely with dust before adding the next layer. The last layer is dust. We keep sweet potatoes in this manner all winter, and they seem as fresh as when first packed. We keep them in an outhouse until severely cold weather, merely covering the boxes with carpeting, etc. When severe cold sets in they are removed to a room where a fire is kept part of the day only. Failure to keep well is often due to too much heat or packing away in too warm materials.—Cor. Ohio Farmer.

Prolific New Wheats. New varieties of Russian wheat have been tested with good results at a branch experiment station in Kansas. Several kinds, Kharkov, Crimean, Theiss, etc., yielded over forty bushels per acre, and others ranged from thirty-five to forty bushels. The seed is being sold to Kansas wheat growers.

Farm Notes. The crab apple is one of the hardiest of trees, and as there is nearly always a demand for crab apples in market, they are found profitable by some. The blossoms are beautiful in spring, and the trees are more ornamental than some which are used for shade and ornament. The large and growing demand for pure jellies and preserves should create a larger market in the future for crab apples.

Roller process bran is, on the average, better than old process bran. Bran is rich in ash, or mineral matter, which renders it a suitable food for growing animals. It serves well for all foods which are lacking in line or bone forming material, and is valuable in the manure heap. It may not be equal to linseed meal or some other foods, for certain purposes, but it is a food that should always be used.

A city boy is greener in the country than the country boy is in the city. A dairyman recently hired a young city chap and sometime during the first week gave him the order to "salt the calves." He found out later that this young American had rubbed about a quart of salt into the hair on the back of each calf. Later horses running in the pasture discovered these salty calves and proceeded to help themselves, resulting in many instances in the hair being licked completely off.

Hothouse farming is not only profitable, but it seems to possess quite a fascination in the very nature of the work. Most florists and hothouse gardeners appear interested and even enthusiastic, while their sons often take special interest in the work under glass, and are not so likely to leave the farm as are other young men in the country. Gardening in moist, perpetual summer has both pleasures and drawbacks, but seems as near as anything to an ideal pursuit for men of women adapted to the requirements.

THE POPULAR PULPIT



INTERPRETATION OF LIFE

By Rev. P. T. Aitken.

Jesus saith unto them, My meat is to do the will of him that sent me, and to finish his work.—St. John, iv., 34. Life is a great desire. From the cry of the new born infant to the sigh of the departing soul there is a reaching out, a longing after, a never satisfied desire, for something beyond the attainment of the present moment.

The soul of man is so constituted that it cannot rest satisfied in itself. It needs some object which it may desire as the "summum bonum," the highest good, the all satisfying end, the final happiness. In order to live, one must desire.

There is an old saying, "As long as there is life there is hope." We can change that and say just as truly, "As long as there is hope there is life." Without hope, without desire, life soon falls, because life is but a boundless quest. We know that it sometimes happens that the flickering light of life in some soul is kept alive by the power of an intense desire—that when the animal strength is all gone and science looks for the end there comes a new power to the rescue of the soul struggling for a longer respite, and the spark of life is kept burning until the desire has been gratified, until the message has been given or the face of the beloved one has been looked upon once again ere the fainting soul falls asleep. And so it was with the life of the world. Without hope, without longing, without this innate and never failing desire, the world would fall asleep and all things would be as at the beginning. But when God created the heaven and the earth, when in the eternities of the past there came forth the power of life, there was wrapped up in that genesis the propelling, uplifting, expanding force of a great desire. Never could that life remain silent or passive; it must, consciously or unconsciously, reach out, long after, work for some end in the eternities of the future. So through the ages one eternal purpose runs.

Let us understand, then, that our life is made up of desires—that we are the creatures of a hope which passeth our understanding; that we are the product of all the past efforts of life to reach its final destiny; that we are the conservers of the energies by which future generations shall be enabled to reach the goal of their quest.

Let us realize that our happiness in this world, that our life in the future world, that our contribution to the life of the ages to follow, all depend upon the choice and direction of our present desires. Let us grasp this fact and we will tremble ere we choose the thing that shall be supreme in our thought and life. There have always been two ways by which man has tried to gain for himself the desire of life. The first has been by collecting and surrounding himself with things that will minister to his physical well being. This is the primary and lowest conception of happiness. We can trace it back to the earliest stages of life, and it probably arose from the instinct of self-preservation. The other way that man has tried to satisfy this yearning for a more perfect life is the cultivation of the intellect and widening of the horizon of knowledge. Neither in the gratification of the physical nor in the development of the intellectual has man found the end for which he exists.

And now we turn to the great interpreter of life, the one who is himself "the way and the truth and the life." What did he make the supreme and all important thing in life? The answer comes without hesitation, the doing of the will of God. "Jesus saith unto them, my meat is to do the will of him that sent me, and to finish his work." The world has never seen a life so perfectly happy, because no other life has been so entirely in accord with the divine will. Jesus Christ came not only to reveal but to do the will of the Father, and because he gave himself in perfect obedience there must have come to him the perfect happiness.

We can realize the desire of life, we can attain unto perfect happiness only in so far as we give ourselves to the doing of the will of God. There is no other way. Everything must be made subordinate and contributory to this one supreme aim, to do the will of God. Everything that conflicts with the will of God as revealed through Jesus Christ must be given up without question if we are to enter into the fullness of life; such is the gospel of Christianity. The message is that happiness and heaven and the fullness of life with God are yours when you can say with the Master, "My meat is to do the will of him that sent me, and to finish his work."

ABHORRS THE TURK. By Rev. Camdem M. Coburn. Any one who knows the Turk knows that he ought to be wiped off the face of the earth. The Knights Templar

in the crusades showed him that he did not own the earth, yet even to-day this scoundrel, whose hands for a thousand years have not been dry from the blood of innocent women and children, still holds the sacred sepulcher of our Lord. It is indeed time for a new crusade to be preached when in the face and eyes of all the powers this little insolent beast of prey can keep on defiantly and openly killing innocent Christians.

SPHERES FOR MEN AND WOMEN.

By Rev. R. A. White.

Men and women have respectively made certain characteristic mental and spiritual contributions to social progress, which have been dissimilar. Through an age-long specialization of function or division of labor the mental and spiritual dissimilarities of sex have been developed and accentuated. In general the tasks requiring the greatest strength of bone and muscle have fallen to men. The tasks requiring more prolonged effort, but under less tension, have fallen to women. New industrial conditions seem about to shift the line of the sexual division of industrial tasks. How far this will shift the mental and spiritual characteristics of men and women remains to be seen. The invasion of man's industrial and professional world by women must eventually have a very marked effect on sex temperament.

Out of this complicated sex division of labor appears a few marked contributions peculiar to each sex. They are never exclusive. Still they are more emphasized in the one sex than the other. First man appears as the provider. To hunt the game and bring it home was his business. When agriculture and industry took the place of the primitive life man still continued the provider. Upon him fell the responsibility.

Again, man has been the pioneer. In the great historic migrations we have no instance of a woman leading the migrating hosts. In explorations man has been and is still the pioneer. Man has been the pioneer in truth seeking and finding. Of some 600 religious sects only eight were founded by women, and these are comparatively unimportant. In philosophy and metaphysics, in invention, in the vast mental ventures which have transformed human thought, with few exceptions, the leaders have been men.

Out of all this have emerged certain not exclusive but characterizing virtues. First, man has excelled in aggressive courage. Woman also exhibits courage, but it is passive courage. The courage of the man is in action, of the woman in endurance. Another virtue of man has been honor. It sometimes appears well battered and frayed at the edges. No one says that woman also has not honor, but the life of man as warrior and pioneer developed a peculiarly masculine honor, which has been and still is very important in social progress. It arose in days when laws were lax or did not exist—when a man's word took the place of law. It still exists in business.

Man, the provider, the subduer, the pioneer, the creator of new institutions, with the accompanying virtues of masculine courage and masculine honor, has contributed in a special and characteristic way to social progress. With modifications man will continue to mold social progress in similar ways and through similar virtues. These masculine elements will affect the home, education, religion and business and give to each a masculine coloring which no merely feminine coloring can supply. Those who seek to make men and women similar in tastes, habits and aims seek the impossible and the unprofitable. Social, educational and religious life require for their full consummation and symmetry both the man and woman elements of mind and soul.

OLD AND NEW RELIGION.

By Bishop Samuel Fallows.

Man possesses a religious nature which in all lands and ages has found expression in varied forms. The foundation of all religion is faith in a power above man. It is a belief old as the human soul and as permanent as human existence.

All the old truths which pagan and heathen religions taught primitive Christianity affirms without their mingled errors. The love of God for man and the love of man for man as revealed in Christ have only just begun their glorious mission. Christ yet waits for his true throne. Humanity has not yet learned its new name, for it has not been interpreted completely with the spirit of Christ. Superstitions are yet to be removed. Bigotry has not yet been buried. Social antagonisms still prevail. "The staller Eden" has yet to come back to man.

Who makes quick use of the moment is a genius of prudence.—Lauter.