

The Farmers' Leader.

CANTON, S. D.

FARMERS' PUBLISHING CO., PUBLISHERS

THERE are always 3,500,000 people on the seas of the world.

THERE is over one hundred miles of streets paved with wood in London.

THE Japs administer the oath by cutting the witness' finger and taking blood to seal the swear.

FRANK D. MILLER, the artist, who has returned to Europe, was an art critic. His taste for gunpowder, contracted in the civil war, led him to join the staff of a London paper during the Russo-Turkish war.

THE late Jefferson Davis, while Secretary of War under the United States Government, recommended the introduction of camels for use on the great plains. The suggestion was carried out and there are still some half-wild camels in Nevada.

CANTON, Me., must be a fortunate town. Having no other use for their jail the selectmen have rented it to a man for a shoemaker's shop. The tenant, however, keeps a cell or two in readiness in case somebody should lapse from virtue.

Mrs. MILLER, wife of the Governor of North Dakota, dropped into the office of a newspaper at Dryden, N. Y., recently, and set a couple of sticklers of matter, as a reminder of the old days when she was a compositor in that office and the Governor was "making up" to her.

THE other day a couple of little girls came to a physician's office to be vaccinated says the Toronto Mail. One of them undertook to speak for the other, and explained: "Doctor, this is my sister. She is too young to know her left arm from her right, so mamma washed both of them."

AMONG the incidents of the late Grand Army reunion of Boston was the meeting of two brothers, natives of Maine, who had not seen each other since the war and each of whom supposed the other to have been killed in that conflict. One now lives in New York and the other in Vermont.

CARDINAL LAVIGERIE, of Paris, who has taken great interest in the slave trade which is still carried on in Africa, has offered a premium of \$5,000 for the best romance treating of this diabolical affair. Uncle Tom in Africa, it is hoped, will awaken public interest to the existence of this great crime.

A RHODE I-land man whose trunk was wrecked by the baggage smasher brought suit for damage, and in giving him a verdict for \$50 and costs the Judge said: "There should be 500 suits where there is now only one. No railroad has the least anxiety about a passenger's baggage. The way to bring about a reform is to go for their pocket-books."

GENERAL NOYES, of Ohio, who dropped dead in Cincinnati the other day, lost his leg while leading a brilliant and successful charge during the late war. On his way to the hospital in an ambulance he met Gen. McPherson, his commander, and said to him: "General, I got their works and (pointing to his shattered leg) they got part of mine; but it's Fourth of July, and I don't care a continental."

AMONG the things saved from the rubbish when the home of the late Henry Ward Beecher was broken up at his death were two leather bound books in which he had kept his farm accounts, and right in among the tables of dollars and cents, corn and potatoes, turnips, cabbages, etc., will be found descriptions of flowers or trees. In one instance several pages are given up to lamenting the death of his farmer.

THE meanest man yet is a Pittsburg doctor. He is a German, and his victims are newly arrived German girls. He meets them, tells them he needs an assistant in his business, proposes marriage, and then borrows what money and valuables they have and is seen no more. He does not propose to more than one girl at a time, but managed to engage himself to two each day until the police nabbed him. His excuse was that he needed money.

STAMMERS rarely, if ever, show any impediment to speech when speaking in whispers. On this fact a new method of treatment has been founded, which is as follows: In the first ten days speaking is prohibited. This will allow rest to the voice, and constitute the preliminary state of treatment. During the next ten days speaking is permissible in the whispering voice, and in the course of the next fifteen days the ordinary conversational tone may be gradually employed.

A NEW and useful employment has been suggested for women which promises rapid development. This is that of professional packer. The need of this kind of service is apparent to those who witness moving and transportation of household goods, now so much more frequent than formerly, or who see the interior of women's trunks or their valises. The cost of such help would be more than covered by the security and absence of loss, provided the women were trained, competent and faithful.

It was predicted by the American Manufacturer, Railroad Gazette, and many other class journals five years

ago that the result of laboring men's unions would be an offensive and defensive alliance on the part of great firms and corporations. The prediction has come true, and there is no sort of doubt that all the prominent railroad men have organized, and that iron shoe men and other manufacturers are quietly banding together for mutual protection.

An interesting spectacle has recently been seen in the Orkneys. It is probably the first of its kind ever authenticated in living memory. A correspondent writes to a contemporary: "What is said to be a mermaid has been seen for some weeks at stated times at Southside, Deerness. It is about six to seven feet in length, with a little black head, white neck and snow-white body and two arms. In swimming it appears just like a human being. At times it will come very close in shore and appear to be sitting on a sunken rock, and will wave and work its hands. Many persons who doubt its mermaidness now suppose it to be a deformed seal."

OTTERS and minks were very scarce in Connecticut a dozen years ago, and it was feared the animal might become extinct, for their hides were worth from \$5 to \$10 a piece, and everybody hunted them. Then suddenly fashion changed her mind about the value of mink and otter skins, the price went down, and now the animals abound in the State again. No nameless otter minks become there that they are getting to be quite familiar with country people. Recently a mink, frightened by a sharp thunder storm, fled out of a meadow, rushed into a farmer's dwelling, and reared from room to room until a hound caught him up-stairs in a chamber. A still more remarkable incident occurred in Hartford a few days ago. A mink trotted right into the heart of the city, among throngs of people on the streets, and passed all kinds of dogs with impunity, and finally made his way into the back yard of a big store on Asylum street. In the yard men cornered him and tried to capture him alive, but he fought so desperately that they had to kill him.

It is comforting to know that the danger of being buried alive exists almost solely in the imagination. Yet this fear haunts the minds of so many of our fellowmen that it may hardly be regarded as strange, in some respects, that a number of physicians in a city near Philadelphia banded themselves together to devise means to prevent such a catastrophe in their own case. And when physicians could take such measures in view of a supposed danger, it is not remarkable that the community should have a special and exaggerated horror of being buried alive. But this horror is as unreasonable as is the timidity of the physicians referred to. There seems to be no good ground whatever for supposing that it is possible, in this enlightened age, for any person to be committed to the grave while yet living. Stories reporting such occurrences are by no means rare; but any one who examines them closely will certainly remark that they are wholly lacking in originality, and that there is in fact so strong a resemblance between them as to excite the suspicion that one has been copied from another. Investigation will show, too, that this suspicion is a well-founded one.

FIGS AND THISTLES.

[From the Ram's Horn.]
The way to qualify yourself to do great things is to be faithful in little ones.

Very little is said about Lazarus, but he caused more people to believe in Jesus than either Mary or Martha. The desire is father to the deed. Eve's real sin occurred before she touched the apple.

You haven't got much religion if you praise the Lord only when you feel like it.

The truth which of all others most deeply concerns man is the fact that God loves him.

Not to decide to be saved is to determine to be lost. By shutting the eyes you can blot out the sun.

Many preachers who are always discussing the question, "Shall we know each other there?" pass their next-door neighbors in the street without speaking.

Money that is not earned by means that God can bless has blood on it; no matter whether it come by sharp practice in business, selling whisky or stealing horses.

There has never been a day when God has not given to each one of us all we could and would receive from Him. The finest spring in the world can not do anything more than fill every vessel coming to it.

There is a good deal of difference between power and influence. St. Paul didn't have influence enough to keep out of jail at Philippi, but after he got in he had power enough to shake the concern to pieces.

Nobody ever begins to love God with his brains. Intellect alone never builds an altar to the living God. Knowledge of God must begin in the heart. A man falls in love with his wife first, and learns to appreciate her afterward.

Caution! Professional tramp—If you please, kind lady, could you spare a copper towards a poor man's lodging? I have been blind for fourteen years.

Mrs. Quickly—I really cannot help you. But there's a lady up the street who is very kind to afflicted people. She lives at ninety-five.

Tramp (distinctly turning his face toward the door)—But, madam, this is number ninety-five.

Mrs. Quickly—Ha, ha! So that's your blindness, is it? I thought as much; and if you don't be off jolly sharp, I shall give you in charge!

DOMESTIC ECONOMY.

HOUSEHOLD AND AGRICULTURAL TOPICS DISCUSSED.

A Budget of Useful Information Relating to the Farm, Orchard, Stable, Poultry and Kitchen.

THE FARM.

Preparation for Corn Crops.
It is not altogether the culture that corn and potato crops get while growing which determines their profitability. Quite as much depends upon having the soil thoroughly and deeply pulverized before the crop is planted. Sometimes it is thought that a mellow seed bed is sufficient. If the soil is full of vegetable matter that may decompose their surface preparation will be enough. If there are lumps and clods at the bottom of the furrow they need to be broken up pulverized and mixed with the surface soil. The effect of poor preparation is well in drought; but whatever the season it always pays to fit the soil thoroughly and deeply for any bred crop. It is as necessary for corn as for potatoes. The fact that corn roots ordinarily run near the surface does not do away with the need for a reservoir of moisture deeper down to be drawn upward where the roots can reach it by capillary attraction.

How to Grow Beans.
Most people consider that as easy as to "know beans" but the German Town Telegraph gives these directions: Choose a good piece of land, in the summer, manure thirty loads to the acre, plow in August; sow, to rye on September 1, crop it by feeding as soon as it is five enough before frost, and at spells through the winter. Keep feeding up to the middle or last of May, then plow it deep. Cap the stack well to keep out wet. Thrush the beans on a dry, clear day. Winnow and sift them, hand pick if necessary, sack them nicely, and you will get the top price. Use the same ground again and again, sow rye every fall, pasture it till May, and proceed as above. Here are two crops a year—pasture and beans. Both pay well.—Farm, Field, and Stockman.

Hogs and Hog Feeds.
The country is just now suffering from an unusual season of drought, which appears to be universal, both East and West, as well as in the South, in some localities. The consequence will be a shortage of feed for stock of all kinds. A piece of overproduction has ceased and a shortage will be the cry now by elevator men and grain speculators. While such is the facts to a great extent there will be a scarcity of feed. I advise farmers to be careful about disposing of their breeding stock, especially in the way of brood sows. It does not require a great deal of hard grain to winter sows that are intended and bred for spring farrowing. A piece of early sown rye makes most excellent winter pasture for old sows, if they are of the right sort, bred up to perfection; if not they had probably better be marketed and replaced with some of the improved early maturing breed, even at a sacrifice in numbers, for I always contend that there is greater profit in a few good hogs, well kept, than in a large herd of inferior ones, poorly kept.

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(Exit tramp, cursing his absence of mind.)—Pick-Me-Up.

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THE DAIRY.

Heifer Calves.
As our State (Wisconsin) is fast becoming a dairy State, the training of heifer calves with a view to make them grow into good milkers is an important matter. Several very good articles on the subject have from time to time appeared in your paper, so I will only note a few things not treated very distinctly in those articles. First, have a calf paddock as near the house as possible, allowing an acre to each three or four calves.

As soon as the calf has learned to take skim milk, put it into the paddock. My own practice is, let the calf suck four or five days, then gradually tone it down to skim milk. When two weeks old it will generally be ready to go into the paddock. Offer your calves water every day about noon, as plenty of water is as important for a calf as it is for a boy or man.

The main point is so to feed that the calf is kept in good thriving order without getting fat. To this end I am careful not to produce "second crop" milk, the calf too much skim milk at a feed, as an attack of scours puts them back at least a week. The skim milk is slightly warmed. When a month old I put a fistful each of bran and middlings into its milk. As soon as the warm weather curdles the milk, give cold curdled milk. Continue the skim milk as long as you like, say eight months, and the bran and middlings increase in quantity until grass the following spring. But the most important article of food for them is potatoes. Commence with potatoes when two months old, and continue it until the calf is a year old. Cut them into suitable pieces and give about a half a pailful once a day. See that they drink heartily of water at all times, especially in the winter. If they won't drink cold water, warm it. See that they drink with your own eyes. Never trust to your son or to your hired man about watering calves. They do not see the point.—Correspondent Farm, Field and Stockman.

Dairy Notes.
Cows are usually at their best at six to nine years.

SAL SODA is better than soap for washing dairy vessels.

Did you ever notice that the petted cow is almost always a good one. Treat all cows kindly.

The dairy is no place for the common "dorg"; experience has proved that over and over again.

If one man can keep five cows on five acres, to give back 300 pounds of butter each, why can't other men get ten cows on ten acres to do the same? If they can do it on ten why not on fifty?

Our rule for salting is an ounce to the pound, as that suits most of our customers. Our own taste is an ounce and a half. But we make butter to sell as well as to eat, so salt as the majority like, and go with the majority.

THE POULTRY-YARD.
Poultry Notes.

WHEN a chick frequently picks itself it is lousy. Buy some Persian insect powder.

Use earth as an absorbent in your poultry house, use freely, and keep a constant supply on hand.

NEVER ship an egg that is dirty or in any manner soiled. The appearance of an article is a prime factor in its sale.

CROP-BOUND fowls can trace their trouble to the lack of gravel or sharp, gritty grinding material, as well as to fibrous substances; such as potato and apple parings or grass-blades.

"Do duck eggs need sprinkling?" Why of course they do. If not, why does the duck when setting invariably take a daily bath and sprinkle her own eggs? Follow nature's laws and you will not be very far misled.

A LITTLE bone meal in the feed will help chicks to form bone, and they will push along much faster. Use meal prepared for chicks from selected bones. Common phosphate meal won't do—too many inferior bones go into its composition. For the large chicks give granulated bone.—Poultry News.

The eggs of ordinary poultry require, as a rule, twenty-one days to hatch, but this is by no means a universal rule. Cold weather or a prevailing east wind, will lengthen the time a day or more, while warm weather and an attentive setter will materially shorten it.

SOME housewives throw egg-shells into the fire, to prevent the hens from eating them, claiming that thus the bad habit of egg-eating is learned. If the shells are thoroughly crushed into small pieces before feeding, there will be no danger. Laying hens have an extraordinary appetite for the bits of shells, while the male will scarcely notice them—not out of politeness, however, for when other food is given, he is generally as full of get-up-and-get as any of them.

POULTRY raising, like any other business, is a trade to learn, and if one is so addicted to it, or has a liking for it, he will succeed. All beginners are advised to start with a few birds, increasing the number as they learn how to handle them. What every one wants is to produce eggs when they bring the highest prices, and also, poultry for market when it is not plenty. A place near a city is naturally the best, as one can readily secure customers that pay good prices for fresh eggs and nicely dressed chickens.

THE HOUSEHOLD.
Rules to Keep a Child Healthy.

Twice, or even three times a day, in very hot weather, the whole surface of the body should be sponged with water at a temperature of 80 degrees F., and after dried with gentle rubbing. The bracing effect of these baths is greatly

increased by the addition of rock salt or concentrated sea-water. Care should be taken to wet the child's head first, and to see that it is not in a current of air. The following rules being a portion of those recommended by the Obstetrical Society of Philadelphia, and published by the Board of Health of that city, are concise and worthy of quotation:

Rule 1. Bathe the child once a day in lukewarm water. If it be feeble, sponge it all over twice a day with lukewarm water and vinegar.

Rule 2. Avoid all tight bandaging. Have light flannel as the inner garment, and the rest of the clothing light and cool, and so loose that the child may have free play for its limbs. At night undress it, sponge it, and put on slip. In the morning remove the slip, bathe the child and dress it in clean clothes. If this cannot be afforded, thoroughly air the day clothing by hanging it up during the night. Use clean diapers, and change them often. Never dry a soiled diaper in the room in which the child lies, and never use one for the second time without first washing it.

Rule 3. The child should sleep by itself in a cot or cradle. It should be put to bed at regular hours, and be taught to go to sleep without be nursed in the arms. Without the advice of a physician never give it any spirits, cordials, carminative soothing syrups, or sleeping draughts. Thousands of children die every year from the use of these poisons. If the child frets and does not sleep, it is either hungry or else ill, it needs a physician. Never quiet it by candy or cake; they are common causes of diarrhoea.

Rule 4. Give the child plenty of fresh air. In the cool of the morning and early evening have it out of doors for a little while, then gradually tone it down to the shade of broad streets, or the public squares, or the park, or make frequent excursions on the river. Whenever it seems to suffer from the heat, let it drink freely of water which has been boiled and cooled by ice. Keep it out of the room in which washing or cooking is going on. It is excessive heat that destroys the lives of young infants.

Rule 5. Keep your house sweet and clean, cool and well aired. In very hot weather let the windows be open day and night. Do your cooking in the yard in a shed, in the garret, or in an upper room. Whitewash the walls every spring, and see that the cellar is clear of all rubbish. Let no slops collect to poison the air. Correct all foul smells by pouring chloride of lime into the drains and privies. Make every effort yourself, and urge your neighbors to keep the gutters of your street or of your court clean.

Should an infant be attacked with summer diarrhoea the prompt attention of a physician is imperative, and since these articles are intended to point out the methods of preventing the ill of the "second summer" rather than of curing them, I shall avoid entirely the theoretical aspect of the subject.—Ladies' Home Journal.

Hints to Housekeepers.
Use all the sponged soap you like at the bath, but spare your face.

To MAKE waterproof writing ink which will not blur if the writing is exposed to rain: Dissolve two ounces shellac in one pint alcohol (95 per cent.), filter through chalk, and mix with best lampblack.

An original use of glass has been devised. Various colored pieces in odd sizes are pierced by three or four holes on the edge, and caught together by wire until they form a mesh or fretwork large enough for a panel in a transom.

GRASS may be removed from white marble by applying a mixture of two parts washing soda, one part ground pumice-stone and one part chalk, all first finely powdered and made into a paste with water; rub well over the marble, and finally wash off with soap and water.

A HINT for a pin cushion that is a sachet as well may be new to some. It is made square, with each corner of the inner covering cut off about three inches from the point. The outer covering is left square, the corners tightly tied, and each made into a tiny sachet. The powder selected for the filling must be that preferred by the owner.

THE KITCHEN.
Potato Balls.

To two cups cold mashed potato add an egg, a teaspoonful of butter and salt and pepper to taste. Form with floured hands into small round balls, and fry in deep fat.

Potatoes Hashed with Cream.
Chop cold boiled potatoes fine, and stir them into a cup of hot milk in which has been melted two tablespoonfuls of butter. Pepper and salt to taste. If you have cream, use this and half as much butter.

Dropped Fish Cakes.
One cup of salt cod picked very fine, half-cup milk, one tablespoonful butter, two teaspoonfuls flour, one egg, pepper to taste. Make a white sauce of two flour, butter and milk, stir the fish into this, add the egg beaten light, season and drop by the spoonful into boiling lard, as is done with fritters.

Chicken Mince.
From the bones of a cold roast, boiled or fricasseed chicken cut all the meat, and mince it fine with a sharp knife, chopping with it two hard-boiled eggs. Stir this into a cup of gravy, or, if you have none, use instead a cup of white sauce. Season to taste, fill a pudding dish or scallop shells with the mixture, and serve very hot.

Lyonnais Potatoes.
Slice cold boiled potatoes into neat rounds, cut a medium-sized onion into thin slices, and put it with a good tablespoonful of butter or bacon dripping into the frying-pan; when the onion is colored, add the potatoes, about two cups, and stir them about until they are a light brown. Strew with chopped parsley, and serve.

Heavy Muffins.
Two cups flour, two eggs, one tablespoonful mixed butter and lard, two teaspoonfuls white sugar, one teaspoonful baking powder, salt-spoonful salt, one cup milk. Into the eggs, beaten very light, stir the melted shortening, the sugar, the milk and the flour, well mixed with the salt and the baking powder. Stir well, and bake in thoroughly greased tins.

Parisian Potatoes.
From peeled and washed white potatoes scoop out little balls with the cutter that comes for this purpose. Boil them for five minutes, then put them in a frying-pan with two tablespoonfuls of melted butter. Stir them about until every ball is well coated with the butter, pour into a colander and set them in the oven until brown. Sprinkle with salt and a little minced parsley before serving.

DUPONT POWDER MILLS

ANNIHILATED BY STARTLING EXPLOSIONS.

The Town a Complete Wreck. None of its Houses Being Left Standing. List of the Dead and Injured—Many Made Homeless by the Disaster.

WILMINGTON, Del., Oct. 7.—Several startling explosions—some counted five, others seven—at 3:30 p. m. annihilated Wilmington a disaster at the Dupont powder works, on the Brandywine. A rush was made for the telephone, but nothing could be learned beyond vague reports of damage. An Associated Press representative hastened to the scene, and has wired that the whole section of the works known as the "Upper yard" is a complete wreck, and at least six lives were lost. One of the magarins went off, and rolling and drying mills near by, set on fire, and followed in rapid succession. There were at least seven distinct successive explosions. Every dwelling in the neighborhood is reported wrecked, unroofed or more or less damaged. Telephone inquiries from Westchester state that the explosion was distinctly heard in that section.

A messenger brought in the following dispatch, which shows that the worst has not yet been learned of the powder mill explosion: "Ten killed, twenty wounded. Rockland a complete wreck; none of its houses are left standing."

Rockland is a village on the Brandywine, fully a mile above the scene of the explosion. It comprises a large paper mill owned by the Jessup & Moor company, and about fifty dwellings, in which chiefly reside the mill employes. Its population is about 200. The evidence of destruction at that distance leads to the belief that the number of killed and wounded has not yet been fully ascertained.

The Dupont powder mills extend along the Brandywine, chiefly on the west bank and close to the water for about two miles. They are divided into the "Upper," "Hagley" and "Lower" yards. The former is three miles and the latter five miles from Washington. The report of damage done Rockland proves to be incorrect as to the locality, the name of Rockland being erroneously used for buildings clustered around what is known locally as the "Upper yard." There are some fifty houses, inhabited by employes of the powder mills, clustered here and there and there were all wrecked. The damage to property cannot be thoroughly estimated to-night. The force of the concussion even broke windows in some parts of Washington, four or five miles away.

The following is a partial list of the killed: MARTIN DOLAN. JAMES D. DOLAN. WILLIAM MCGARVEY. JOHN MATHIAS. WILLIAM DENNISON. JOHN DIETZ. THOMAS HURLIKE. JOHN HURLIKE. PATRICK DOUGHERTY. JOHN NEWELL. WILLIAM GREEN, and ROSE DOUGHERTY.

Several others are missing. The more seriously injured, as far as learned, are: DANIEL HARRIS. WILLIAM LOGAN. ANNIE and MARIE DOLAN. JAMES WARD. EUG FERRY. JOHN MCDONOGALL.

Mrs. WILLIAM McDOWELL and her 2-year-old daughter. LYDIA ANDERSON.

The office of the Dupont company is a wreck and six mills are in ruins. Several members of the Dupont firm were injured by falling walls and broken glass, but none of them seriously. The dead were all employes of the company and were in and about the mills that exploded. Several workmen are missing and are believed to have blown into fragments.

The first explosion occurred in one of the packing mills, where a workman named Gran was receiving a can of hexagonal powder to be shipped for the use of the United States government. In some way a spark was communicated to the can and it blew up. Instantly the packing mill exploded and the other mills in the upper yards, seven or eight in number, followed at intervals of less than a second. All exploded except the one where the rolling mills, in which the ingredients of gun powder are pulverized by vertical rollers of stone turning slowly around the center post.

Immediately after the explosion, the large building known as the "refinery," located near the center of the village, took fire. It was a matter of life or death to the whole village that the fire should be extinguished before it communicated with the powder building contained. The Dupont fire brigade succeeded in extinguishing the flames. Had the roof fallen, it is doubtful if any man, woman or child in the vicinity would have escaped death or serious injury. About fifty persons are made homeless by the disaster.

Latest and Correct News.
WILMINGTON, Delaware, Oct. 8.—The following is a correct list of the killed at yesterday's explosion at the Dupont powder mills:

WILLIAM R. GREEN. WILLIAM MCGARVEY. MARTIN DOLAN. JOHN HARRIGAN. MICHAEL HARRIGAN. PATRICK DOUGHERTY. JOHN NEWELL. JOHN HELLENER. MICHAEL HELLENER and MRS. ROSIE DOUGHERTY.

Those more or less injured number about twenty. The those who were killed were working in and about the magazines and mills, and, except in the case of three, were blown to pieces, so that only fragments of their remains have been found. It is the theory of the workmen that the explosion was started in some way by the soldering iron which a green man was using in soldering tin covers on cans of powder. The wounded are being cared for by neighbors and friends and the dead are being prepared for burial. William Green was buried this afternoon. Three or four hundred homeless people have been provided with comfortable quarters by their friends living in more favorable localities, and will be looked after until their homes can be restored.

The coroner summoned a jury this morning for the purpose of viewing the remains of William R. Green, so that they may be interred. It may be two or three days before he will be ready to hear testimony.

Old, But Chipper.
MONTGOMERY, Ala., Oct. 8.—Isaac Frazier, a negro 106 years old, died here yesterday. Some eight or ten years ago Isaac, who had worn glasses for many years, and who was then complaining of his defective vision, received what was called his second sight, and was able to see almost as well as ever, although up to his death he occasionally used glasses. After having passed his 96th year the old man was married.