

CYRUS THE CASH BOY.

How Cyrus W. Field Rose From Poverty to Riches—His Methods of Money Making—Great Enterprises Engineered. New York Morning Journal.

The procession in celebration of the first Atlantic cable has long since been eclipsed by grander pageants, and Atlantic cables have become as much matter of course as ordinary telegraph lines; but at that time New York had never before seen so splendid a show in the streets. The city was so crowded with sight-seers that the people slept in arm chairs at the hotels, or camped out in the parks. The military parade, the civil societies, swelled the large line; the trades union sent tableaux on wheels representing various artisans at work. Then, standing in an open barouche and bowing to the right and left in response to cheers of the crowd came the hero of the occasion, Cyrus W. Field, a tall, nervous-looking gentleman, with light brown hair and beard, a Roman nose, bluish-grey eyes, and the sanguine face of a born Yankee. As he was then, so Mr. Field is now—a trifle stouter, perhaps, and with a tinge of silver among his auburn hair. The years since this great triumph have touched him lightly.

A born Yankee Mr. Field certainly is. He first saw the light at Stockbridge, Mass., on October 30, 1810. He was the youngest son of a New England clergyman, who subsequently removed to Haddam, Conn. His brother, David Dudley, was given a collegiate education; instead of a classical education Cyrus received \$25 in cash and his father's blessing. With these treasures and a fair knowledge of reading, writing and arithmetic, he was sent to New York and obtained a situation as a cash boy in A. T. Stewart's store, at the liberal salary of \$2 a week. For three years young Cyrus worked and starved in the employ of the dry goods millionaire, and then a better and brighter life was opened to him as traveling salesman for a paper maker at Lee, Conn. Even in Stewart's establishment Cyrus made his mark by his energy and ability, and when he went away the clerks clubbed together and presented him with a diamond pin and a farewell supper. A. T. Stewart gave him nothing. Strangely enough Mr. Field has lived to see the name of A. T. Stewart as thoroughly painted out as if that millionaire had never lived.

Comforted by one good supper and adorned with his presentation pin, Cyrus threw himself into the work of selling paper with such zeal that in two years he had mastered the business. He then formed a copartnership in this city. His venture was unsuccessful, and in a few months he was bankrupt. The blow was a heavy one; he had been recently married, and had lost every dollar, but Mr. Field bore his misfortune with his accustomed courage. He started in again, and on the first day that he took possession of his new office he made the sanguine remark: "I shall make a fortune here in twenty years." Better than his word, he made his fortune in twelve years and retired, still in the prime of life, to enjoy that rest which he had never before known since his boyhood.

In a leisure moment he formed an acquaintance with one Gisborne, who had conceived the project of an Atlantic cable, and had procured a charter for the laying of the cable from the legislature of Newfoundland. The Gisborne's work had ended; but he talked it over with Mr. Field, whose leisure lunged heavily upon him, although he had traveled through Bogota, Guayaqui and Ecuador with Church who painted the "Heart of the Andes," to try and while away the time. Mr. Field became interested in Gisborne's scheme and one night, while studying the geographical globe, which still stands in his library, his interest flamed into enthusiasm, and he shouted: "It can be done, and it shall be done." The next night he called together his friends—Peter Cooper, Moses Taylor, Marshall O. Roberts, Chandler White and Wilson G. Hunt—and preached Atlantic cable to them until they were converted to his plans. A stock company was formed, the necessary capital for preliminary expenses subscribed; his brother Dudley acted as lawyer of the enterprise, and Cyrus sailed for England to wrest the money for the cable from British investors. No monk of old ever preached the crusade with better vehemence, and in a wonderfully short time, and in defiance of innumerable difficulties, the cable was commenced and the ships chartered to lay it.

Before the Atlantic cable was an accomplished fact Mr. Field had labored upon it for twelve years and crossed the ocean fifty-one times. The first cable would not operate, but lay dead in its ocean grave. The second cable spoke for three weeks, then parted and was dead as the first. In 1866 the Great Eastern succeeded in permanently uniting two worlds. Then all the terrible labors of twelve years were forgotten in the triumphs of success. Congress voted Mr. Field a medal; the queen of England knighted his associates, and he would have been Sir Cyrus had not his American birth and prejudices prevented.

In 1879 he celebrated, at his Gramercy Park residence, the silver wedding of the cable project, and here as in England the best society did honors to his achievements. William M. Evarts, in his commemorative address, declared "Columbus said: 'Here is one world, let there be two.' But Cyrus W. Field said: 'Here are two worlds, let

there be one,' and both commands were obeyed."

Mr. Field is the owner of the Washington building and other real estate valued at \$10,000,000. In stocks, bonds and other securities has \$20,000,000 more.

He owns a country house at Irvington and a mansion opposite that of his former business associate and recent rival, Samuel J. Tilden, in Gramercy Square. In Mr. Field's shirt front flashes one of the largest and purest emeralds in the world, and one often wonders as he admires that jewel whether Mr. Field really values it higher than the diamond pin presented to him when a poor cash boy by A. T. Stewart's clerks.

In Favor of Peace.

Some time ago, at a public gathering in Webfoot county, Col. Ladsman was selected to read the Declaration of Independence. He had not proceeded far when an old fellow, who had come with a large following of Dry Fork boys, shouted:

"Mister, whint sort o' artikle is that you're readin'?"

"The Declaration of Independence, sir."

"Wall, now, the war's over out here in this section an' we don't want none of that seesh business. I fit for the south, an' I sniffed a good deal o' smoke and stopped several pounds of lead, but when I flung down my old fuzee I agreed that the scrimmage was dun. Now, mister, I don't think that you air doin' right to come out here an' read that thing to the young folks. Lee's dead an' Grant's busted up, they tel me, so what's the use in all this hurrah business? I am as good a Southern man as anybody, but I never was no glutton. I've got enough, let me tell you."

"My dear sir," said the colonel, it is possible that you do not understand this document—a glorious emblazonment of principles for the establishment of which our forefathers shed their sacred blood.

"Needn't spill so much o' your education, mister, fur I 'low that you'll need it before you get to the end o' your row. I never toted college white-wash on the back o' my coat, but I've got years like a fox, an' a eye that can tell a blacksnake from a scorpion. That thing you've got there is rank pizen, ain't it Leviticus?" turning to one of the Dry Fork boys.

"That's what it is," Leviticus replied. "That thing, mister, nout been all right in '61, but it won't do now, for the cradle's rockin' in peace and the blue-eyed gal with the peachy jaws is singin' a sweet song in the orchard."

"My dear friend," said the colonel, "let me explain. Gentlemen please keep quiet. There is no need for excitement. When our forefathers were oppressed by the British government they threw off the yoke and declared by this paper" shaking the Declaration of Independence, "that they were free. They fought, bled, and maintained this avowal of freedom; and this glorious national structure the world has ever known."

"That's all right, mister," said the man from Dry Forks, "an' is talked of a heap puttier than I could do it, but the war is done over. I don't see no blood 'round here. Do you, Leviticus?"

"Ain't found none yit," Leviticus replied.

"No, fur it's all dried up. Now, pardner," continued the advocate of peace and the forgetfulness of war, "I want your warrant of arrest and talk about something that we slosh 'round in every day."

"I shall not put up this glorious paper."

"Ain't thar no persuasion?"

"No persuasion and no human force can make ice sheathe this great sword of argument."

"Oh, well, we don't want to have no trouble, but I reckon yer'll put it up."

"I swear that I will not."

"O, I reckon yer will."

"I'll die first."

"Oh, yes, you will. Put 'er up, now, an' come along with us boys. We've got a jug o' the best old stuff down here you ever seed, an—"

"Old gentleman—old patriot of a school whose session is closed—I am with you," exclaimed the orator, throwing a quid of tobacco with a loud "spat" on the bald head of a tax assessor. "I was taken in charge this morning by a party of Prohibitionists and have suffered much in the flesh. Now, my dear sir, my deliverer, lead me to the consecrated ground. The Declaration of Independence can wait several years longer; I cannot wait five minutes. Herb's to you, old patriot."—Arkansas Traveler.

A message received at the college observatory at Boston, from the European Association of Astronomy announces the discovery of a bright comet by Dr. Wolf of Zurich, on the 17th inst. The comet was observed at Strasburg Saturday evening. Strasburg position, Sept. 30, 18 44.67 Greenwich mean time; right ascension, 21 hours, 15 min., 23.3 sec.; declination 22 deg., 22 min., 54 sec.; daily motion in right ascension, plus 20 sec.; in declination, sou. 1.26 min. Observation at Harvard observatory to-night shows the comet discovered by Dr. Wolf is circular, 2 min. in diameter, and well defined, with nucleus of ninth magnitude.

A contract for building a life saving station at Portage Lake and Lake Superior ship canal has been awarded to J. B. Sweet of Marquette, Mich.

THE HOME CIRCLE AND FARM.

Farming Paragraphs.

A few years ago what is now the great onion tract of Chester, in Orange County, N. Y., was a worthless piece of land. To-day it would bring readily \$1,000 an acre. Last season on these meadows 120,000 bushels of onions were grown, which were sold for more than \$125,000. This season's crop will be even larger. There are no equally large onion tracts in the country.

Farmers who have kept a strict account with their stock say that a pound of poultry can be made for less than a pound of pork, yet the laboring man who has to buy both feels that he cannot afford to buy poultry very often, as it costs more than other meats. This leads the Concord Monitor to remark that the poultry-growing business may be much extended before the market will be overstocked so as to bring the price down to where it will not pay to raise.

Wheat is lower and beef higher than it has been before in a hundred years. Let us therefore turn the cheap wheat into dear beef and make the profit. This most nutritious of all grains is food for animals as well as for man. All that is required is that it be properly prepared. It is so full of gluten and starch that, fed whole, it forms in the stomach a solid mass not easily digested. Ground and mixed with chaff it may be fed to any animal with advantage in every way. It should be coarsely ground—"choppen" is the term—and then a bushel of it is equal in nutriment to four bushels of oats.

Selecting seed corn is a job it will pay the farmer to do himself, and not trust to the boys or help. By a rigid course of selection, with certain points in view, it is easy to make perceptible gains on the quality and yield of one's crop with passing years. The best time to make this selection of seed ears is while the corn is standing, but if it was then neglected, it may still be well done at husking time. Most men would agree that the main points to be observed are earliness of maturity, number and size of the ears, the filling out of the grain on the cob, the size of the stalk and the amount of leaf. Leave the husks on the selected ears, to serve for braiding them together and hanging them up to dry. They should be hung in a dry loft, or the peak of a corn crib out of the way of rats and mice to dry. By suspending the braided ears from stretched wires these pests, where present, will be prevented from reaching them.

For the Cook.

CHICKEN PIE.—For the crust, take equal parts of sour cream and butter-milk, one pint of each; a teaspoonful of salt and one of soda, and make a dough the same as for biscuit. Line the sides of a suitable baking dish (a milk pan is an excellent one) with this paste. It needs no bottom crust as it is apt to be heavy. Have the chicken already boiled until tender in water seasoned with salt and pepper to the taste. Cut the pieces up well and lay them in the dish, and put in bits of butter here and there. Then cover all with the water in which the chicken has been boiled. It must not be thickened with flour, or in the process of baking it will be too thick. Mold some butter into the remaining crust and cover the pie with it, wetting the edges and pressing them well together. Cut some slits in the center and bake in a moderate oven an hour or more. When there is no bottom crust the remains may be more easily warmed over.

TO COOK SALT PORK.—Soak the slices over night in sweet milk. Scald them in clear water in the morning and fry. Then dip each slice in a batter made of a couple of eggs, half a teacup of sweet milk, a pinch of salt, and as much flour as can be readily stirred in. Cover each slice thickly with this batter and return to the spider, and cook until the batter is done. With workingmen, this makes an agreeable variety.

COLD BISCUITS.—Those left over from tea may be made better than when freshly baked, by dipping them into hot water and placing them singly on the grate in the oven long enough before breakfast to let them get well warmed through.

The Scrap Basket.

The Medical Summary recommends the external use of buttermilk to ladies who are exposed to tan or freckles.

A piece of zinc placed on the live coals in a hot stove will effectually clean out a stovepipe, the vapor produced carrying off the soot by chemical decomposition.

If it is the husband's duty to do the heavy part of his wife's work, why isn't it the wife's duty to do at least the lighter part of her husband's work?—'tis a poor rule that doesn't in any wise work both ways.

Women are more to be trusted with money than men. Although hundreds of them hold positions of financial trust in this country, who has heard of a woman being guilty of embezzlement or defalcation?

Young ladies who contemplate becoming

wives, remember that husbands can't live on love alone—they must have something more substantial, and, as a rule, they want it well-cooked.

English authorities assert the effect of the "scientific" system of dress-cutting, by which women may fit their own clothes has revived the art of sewing, which is another way of saying that avarice has overcome indolence, and that woman are making their own clothes to save money. It would be a pretty bit of statistics if somebody could find out how many of these economical creatures belong to societies for ameliorating the condition of needle-women.

TO WASH SILK HANDKERCHIEFS.—Put a flat-iron on the stove, and when it is hot, wash the handkerchiefs through a very warm soap suds. If they are much soiled pass them through two waters. Do not rub the soap directly on the handkerchief. Then pass through another warm water without soap, and thoroughly rinse them; squeeze dry and iron immediately, to prevent the colors from running. A bit of muslin may be laid over the handkerchief to absorb the excess of moisture when the iron is first applied. For white handkerchiefs blue the last rinse water. Thus washed, they will look almost as good as new. For J. S. B.

A New Game for Children.

We mention this game, which we believe has never appeared in print, because not only many may take part, but, like really good games, amusement and perhaps some instruction may be derived in playing it, and any number may play at the same time. Let us suppose that ten children decide to play this game of "Names." Each player is provided with a long slip of paper and a pencil, and if one of the players has a watch so much the better; if not, a clock may be used. One commences by calling out; "Girls' names commencing with A; two minutes allowed." Each player then writes down all the girls' names that he (or she) can collect, and at the expiration of the two minutes "time" is called. Then the oldest player reads from his (or her) slip all the names he or she has written down—say Amy, Amabel, Alice, Ann, Annie, Amanda, Aileen, etc. All the other players, as the names are read out, cancel any name read out. If, for instance, all have written Amy, all cancel Amy, and count one mark. Say six players have Amabel, and four have not, each of the six have one mark, those who have not thought and written down Amabel, and so on through the list. The object of the game is to teach the children all girls' and boys' names. When the marks have been allotted for all the names the total of the marks are read out and noted on each slip. The players then proceed in a similar manner for all boys' names commencing with A, such as Alfred, Abel, Adam, Andrew, etc. The game can be continued till the letters of the alphabet are exhausted, but practically young players rarely care to "do" more than thirty sets, or fifteen letters consecutively.

Various names crop up, and the memory is well exercised, and children generally vote it great fun. Anyone introducing pet or fancy names, such as Pussy, Kit, Teddy, etc., forfeits two marks, unless it be arranged that they be allowed.

Lifting Geraniums.

When lifting geraniums, if wanted to flower in the house, select such as have made a very rampant growth; take care of all the roots possible, pick off some of the larger leaves around the bottom of the plant to check evaporation, but retain the tops of the shoots, as by so doing all the buds formed upon the plant when lifted will open and bloom, if kept in a shady place for a few days after being lifted and then placed in the full sun. If the plants are to be kept in the cellar, lift them with all the roots possible, cut the shoots well back and pick off most of the leaves, place them in a sandy soil in a box, and they will keep in a frost-proof cellar without much trouble, farther than supplying just sufficient water to keep them from shrivelling too much. Carnations can be lifted with good roots, potted, well watered and kept shaded for a few days, then placed in a window where there is plenty of light, and all the sun available, and they will bloom most all the winter months. It is wonderful how much enjoyment can be obtained from a few window plants during winter.—Ohio Farmer.

Deodorizers and Disinfectants.

I wonder how many of you housekeepers know that common brown sugar is one of the best and most efficacious deodorizers that can be used. This is well worth knowing, as it is always on hand, and ready for immediate use. If the air of a room from sickness or other causes has become impure, it may be purified by the following easy process: Mix in a cup some brown sugar, with sufficient water to make it a thick liquid. Put some hot coals on a shovel; pour on the coal a teaspoonful or more of the sugar and carry it carefully about the room. The smoke will entirely remove any disagreeable odor. If the sugar is strewn dry upon the hot coals it will blaze up and burn out immediately, without effecting the purpose desired, but mixed with the

water it will not blaze at all, but the vapor arising from it will continue to smoke until all the unpleasant odor is removed. One of the best disinfectants as well as deodorizers is chloride of lime. A jar of this should be kept in every house, as it is of inestimable value in many cases, and it is very inexpensive. Sprinkled dry over an ill smelling place or substance, it will unfailingly dispel the effluvia. It is good to use about sink drains, and a small dish should be set in every place where odors are apt to arise. A bit of this dissolved in water and put into the basin where one bathes will do away with all unpleasant odors arising from perspiration. For a simple remedy it will accomplish much good.

Grain Feed in the Fall.

It is the experience of all stock raisers that grain fed in the fall brings a larger return than if fed at any other time. If fed during the summer, when sufficient grass is abundant, the cattle eat it without a relish; but in the autumn, when the grass has become scant and dry, and when eating it continuously and exclusively for months has made the cattle tire of it, they will eat grain with a decided relish. This may seem a small yet it is hardy.

Sweet Corn as a Forage Plant.

Col. F. D. Curtis writes to the Rural New Yorker: One of the lessons of the year, which has been most forcibly taught, has been the value of sweet corn as a forage plant. I do not mean the spindling, washy, fodder corn most farmers are foolish—lazy—enough to grow; but fodder corn which has an ear in it. There cannot be too much of this kind of food on any farm. Next year the area here will be four times as great—all sweet corn. The seed is now ready to pluck—both early and late varieties. There is more food to be obtained in an acre of sweet fodder corn than of any crop; the work is less, and it pays several hundred per cent. profit. Mine was grown as follows: the ground was covered with manure—mind, I say "covered," not sprinkled. This was plowed under; the ground harrowed and furrows made three feet apart; the seed was then scattered in the furrows by hand, and a harrow was run lengthwise over the furrows to cover it. The same work may be done with a drill. As soon as the corn was well up, a cultivator was run through once in a row, and twice afterwards it was cultivated, working close up to the corn. Once it was gone over, and the weeds in the rows pulled out. There was no hoeing, as it was not necessary. It was kept mellow and clean. Next year, as early as possible, the early sweet corn will be planted on warm ground, and the larger kinds afterwards. There should be three kinds, with the Stowell's Evergreen, to cover the season. The early kinds will be ready for use the middle of July, and the Stowell's Evergreen can be used till October or later. Here is food for hogs, cows, or anything. There are pork, milk, butter, and beef in it. Pigs may be shut up in pens as soon as the sweet corn is ready to cut, and if fed all they will eat, they will fatten on it alone—that is, on my kind of stalks.

"Luck" on the Farm.

A Wisconsin dairyman uttered a great and pregnant truth when he remarked at a meeting of dairymen, that "it was not by special dispensation of Providence that a certain farmer received \$98 per head for the yearly product of his cows while his next door neighbor received only \$30 per head." So it is not a special act of Providence, remarks Mr. Henry Stewart, that on one side of a fence the corn yields 80 bushels per acre and the hay three tons while on the other side the products are 30 bushels of corn, and barely a single ton of hay. An enterprising farmer writes that he is cutting a second crop of clover, which yields a full ton per acre, and his neighbors wonder how it is. The secret is that this farmer used plaster on his clover, which made all the difference; and his other crops are equally conspicuous and remarkable because he uses fertilizers liberally as well as manure. The rain falls and the sun shines on all alike; but the better farmer gets the most good from the rain and the sun, because he prepares and enriches the ground better and so gives the natural elements better chances to exert their benign influences.

A New and Costly Anaesthetic.

One of the consulting oculists of the Mount Sinai Hospital, New York, had occasion to perform an operation for the removal of a mature cataract in the capsule of a woman's eye. He had learned, some time ago, the remarkable properties of hydro-chlorate of cocaine, which was discovered by a Heidelberg student while experimenting with cocaine. His discovery was that this drug, dropped into the eye, would render it insensible to feeling. This material the Mount Sinai surgeon, knowing that it had already been successfully used as a local anesthetic, used on the eyes of his patient, and the operation was performed without her suffering any pain what ever. Tuesday she was doing well, and the operation was regarded as thoroughly successful. The new anesthetic deadens the nerves, but does not injure them nor the surrounding skin. Theodore Hadel, superintendent of the hospital, said that it was not yet known whether it would act on other portions of the body as well as it did on the eyes. Its general use, he thought, would be prevented by its cost. The price at present is \$5,600 per pound.