

Says an amateur poultry fancier: "The only money in chickens is what they swallow."

Gotham will spend in round numbers \$100,000,000 for its municipal household expenses next year.

Two New York commissioners appointed to inquire into the sanity of a man indicted for larceny have declared him not to be a lunatic, "but a high-grade idiot."

President Hadley of Yale is reported to have said at the celebration of the quarter-centennial at Smith College: "As long as women colleges train women for good citizenship they will hold a right to exist."

To blame the missionaries as the sole cause of the troubles in China is to overlook the fact that other classes of foreigners have been coming in contact with the Chinese—for example, merchants, statesmen, politicians and promoters—and that politicians and promoters are famous hands at making trouble.

News comes from Danish West Indies that a species of grasshopper, hitherto unknown in the island, has made its appearance in St. Croix, and the planters complain of the damage done to the canes. It is feared it is similar to that which made its appearance some time ago in Cuba and was supposed to have been brought over in hay imported from the United States.

A new federation is in prospect. It is rumored that following upon the formation of the Australian commonwealth the long-talked-of federation of the British West Indies is to become an accomplished fact.

The aggregate investments of the United States life insurance companies exceed twelve hundred million dollars. This would suffice to pay the national debt, and the debts of several states besides; but it is more pleasing, somehow, to think of the private burdens which, distributed widely and in comparatively small amounts, this great fund will remove.

The extraordinary vogue of certain historical novels of the past few years is not so unprecedented a thing as reviewers would have us believe. Sixty years ago, when one of Captain Marryat's novels was running serially, vessels in mid-ocean used to run up the signal, "Has Japhet found his father yet?" and wait for the reply.

An American who visited the Paris exposition thinks its failure to realize expectations was due to two things. It was not sufficiently localized and its magnificent distances made people weary.

The earl of Chatham used to bow so low when he met a bishop that his nose could be seen between his knees. A saucy no less appalling to its subject marks, nevertheless, the ascent of our Indians in the social scale.

This is an age of freedom in dress and appearance. The story books of our grandfathers spoke of the eccentricity of a man who allowed a beard to grow on his face.

An object lesson on the beneficent results of arbitration were supplied by the joint board of masons and bricklayers in Chicago. This board was unable to come to an agreement in the case of an apprentice, and called in District Judge Grosscup to decide the troublesome question.

Molten wood is a new invention by Mr. De Gall, inspector of forests at Lemur, France. By means of dry distillation and high pressure the escape of developing gases is prevented, thereby reducing the wood to a molten condition.

The future wage-earning girl should have in her mind during the latter part of her school life the selection of her profession, writes Margaret E. Sangster in the November Ladies' Home.

LABOR AND INDUSTRY



What are we set on earth for? Say, to toil; Nor seek to leave thy tending of the vines. For all the heat o' the day, till it declines.

To wrestle, not to reigar; and He assigns All thy tears over, like crystallines. For younger fellow-workers of the soil To wear for amulets, So others shall Take patience, labor, to their heart and hand.

From thy hand, and thy heart, and thy brave cheer, And God's grace fructify through thee to all.

The long and bitter strike of 1897 in the bituminous coal fields of Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana and Illinois terminated in the autumn of that year, and one of the results was the joint inter-state convention of operators and miners, which was held at Chicago in January, 1898.

The number of men employed on British railways is nearly 400,000. The Western Federation of Miners now has 80 unions and over 10,000 members.

Over 1,000 tobacco workers struck recently on account of one of the employers hiring three non-union men. The threatened strike of miners in the gold mines at Victoria, Col., has been averted by the managers agreeing to compromise.

The Journeymen Brewers' union will levy an assessment of \$1 per member to create an A. F. of L. defense fund. Several others of the national unions may take similar action.

A recent compilation of statistics show that out of 98 chief national industries in a given year only 29 gave men employment for 300 days in the year.

The Pennsylvania Steel company has received an order for 6,000 tons of steel rails from the East India Railway company. The order was secured in competition with English manufacturers.

The United Garment Workers are stirring up organized labor and insisting that union men before purchasing clothing should see that it bears the union label. Dealers that do not handle union goods will be looked after by the organizers, who intend to pay Chicago a visit.

The East river bridge commission of New York city has decided that the wage scale of the Granite Cutters' union, \$4 per day, is the prevailing rate for that region, and must under the state labor law govern the stone work being done on the bridge approaches by the contractors.

The Pennsylvania law limiting the hours of factory labor for females to 60 hours a week and not more than 12 on any given day, and fixing the minimum age of child labor at 13 years, has been upheld and declared constitutional by the Superior court.

Journal. "I think it well for her, too, very quietly, but with intention, to cast about among her friends for suggestions, to act the kind offices of one and another, and to make known her need of immediate employment as soon as she leaves school. Many good positions are lost because of indecision, or false pride, or unwelcome reticence on the part of those who seek them. The mental attitude of the girl in search of employment should be neither indifferent nor patronizing; she should set in motion every legitimate means, and let those who may be able to assist her know something of her situation. They can help, and she can seek with much greater hope of success if the goal in view be something definite."

The New Zealand parliament, at its latest session passed a law prescribing a minimum wage for children. A boy under 18 may not be employed in a factory or workroom at less than \$1.25 per week, and no girl at less than \$1. The object of the law is to correct a long-standing abuse of the apprentice system, unscrupulous employers in dressmaking and millinery establishments having been accustomed to take young girls into their employ, keep them twelve months without paying them a cent in the way of wages, and then turn them adrift in order to take on fresh hands under the same conditions of non-payment of wages.

The railroad firemen are now complaining because the mammoth engines that are now being used are so hard to fire and they nearly kill the men who are assigned to them. These engines, with the same crews, do a little more than twice the work that engines did ten years ago. Some firemen have been relieved from this severe strain. An apparatus for mechanical firing is being experimented with on the Chesapeake & Ohio railroad.

John Bernardsky is the Polish leader of the strike in the anthracite coal field at Shamokin, Pa., says the Utica Globe. John is a cool, level-headed man and has great influence with his countrymen, who number thousands in that section of the state. The officers of the United Mine Workers have unlimited confidence in him and are in consultation with him daily.

The number of men employed on British railways is nearly 400,000. The Western Federation of Miners now has 80 unions and over 10,000 members. Many of the laborers at the League Island navy yard at Philadelphia are receiving but \$1.04 per day.

There are nearly 8,000 members of trades unions in Peoria, Ill., with 108 unions of the various trades. Over 1,000 tobacco workers struck recently on account of one of the employers hiring three non-union men.

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The Devil and the Don

An Episode of Mexican Railway Life.

"It is wonderful! Nay, more, it is marvelous, miraculous! Why, a hundred burros could not draw so great a load! No, not even a hundred of the best horses of Las Delicias! Come, my friend, let us instantly depart. Of truth, it is the work of the Evil One himself, and to remain longer would be to endanger the welfare of our souls. Let us never have railroads in our Mexico!"

Don Enrique was a provincial Mexican gentleman who had journeyed in that good, old-fashioned conveyance, a rattler of a diligencia, from his far-away rancho to the frontier town of Paso del Norte, where he had been persuaded, not a little against his will, to accompany a friend to El Paso, on the Texas side of the Rio Grande, there to view the wonders being wrought by the Americans.

The first railroad to enter El Paso had just been completed, and he saw for the first time in his life that wonderful machine, a steam locomotive. Its strange noises filled him with alarm; the foul smoke pouring from its stack almost strangled him, and, awestricken by its marvellous strength, he finally gave expression to his emotions, as shown above.

He turned a deaf ear to the laughing remonstrances of his friend, meanwhile piouly crossing himself, and insisted upon immediately returning to the Mexican side of the river; there, he felt, they would be safe from the malignant influence of the diabolical machine. And, upon arriving in Paso del Norte, he lost no time in starting back home, but it was with a heavy heart; he was oppressed with the fear that he had committed a heinous sin.

A few months later he was informed that a concession for the construction of a railroad in Mexico had been granted to an American company, whereupon he held up his hands in speechless horror. Reading use of his tongue, he denounced the impious government of his country in terms both vigorous and picturesque, but that accomplished nothing; and when the engineers who located the line of the road entered the bounds of Las Delicias he used all the diplomacy at his command to turn them aside, but to no effect, for the road was surveyed to pass within a mile of his house.

In due time the graders came, a motley crowd of rude, rough men who laughed in his face, and with many an outburst of impotent rage he saw them tear an ugly trench across the breadth of Las Delicias. Then came the tracklayers, and he raved and stormed like one beside himself as the lines of glittering rails crept up to and past his home; and he crossed himself in pious horror at the sight of the telegraph wires. He was not in the least mollified when the railroad company paid him a good round sum for his right of way across his property, and rejected with a superb gesture of scorn the annual pass that was also tendered him.

"No, no, señor!" he exclaimed indignantly; "I was powerless to prevent this desecration of my beloved country, but I did what I could. As yet the infamous government has not enacted laws compelling me to patronize your railroad, and until that be done neither I nor my family, nor yet my servants, shall imperil their souls by going near your train. Take back the pass to those who sent it, and tell them that I, Enrique del Toro, do exorcise it and them."

Don Enrique's opposition vexed the officials of the road but little concern; his was only one of many cases. Nevertheless it was decided to propitiate him by establishing a station convenient to his use, and a neat frame building was erected not far from his house. When the time arrived to select a man to have charge of this station, "Don" Evans, a man who was a thorough railroader and with a reputation for coolness and nerve, but who was utterly lacking in respect for Mexicans, was chosen. He was not the man to make overtures of friendship to Don Enrique, most decidedly not; and Enrique would have repelled such overtures had they been made. Weeks passed with each seeming to be insensible to the other's existence; but there were agencies at work that were destined soon to break down the barriers between them.

One morning a vaquero galloped madly to the hacienda, bringing Don Enrique the terrifying news that a large party of Apache Indians had swept down from the neighboring mountains, killing and burning, and were making for the hacienda. Many years had passed since the Indians had raided that country, and so Don Enrique was utterly unprepared for them.

"God of my soul, what am I to do?" he groaned. "We are too few to resist them. We must fly, but where? Oh, my wife, my daughter! Truly it is an evil day that has come upon us. We must fly from Las Delicias, but where can we find safety? There are no soldiers nearer than Chihuahua, and of truth the Indians would overtake us before we could go so far. And the poor man wrung his hands in despair.

Evans gave up, and, to escape further speculation, pushed forward his head on the Mexican's shoulder; his face was flushed with shame, and his eyes were rolling ludicrously from side to side, fairly speaking the disgust he felt.

"Ay de mí! I did oppose the building of thy railroad. I thought it the work of the devil, and I denounced the government for permitting it. But I was wrong—I, Enrique del Toro, do admit that I was wrong, and henceforth I am the friend of railroads—the telegraph, also. It has been the means of saving our lives, and therefore cannot be harmful to our souls. I am the friend of thy railroad, I repeat, and I will now accept the pass I once did refuse. Come to my house, my friend. It is thine. All that I possess is thine at thy pleasure."

He was trying to kiss Evans again, when a voice that shook with laughter called from the window; "Say, Evans, what's the matter with the good looking' daughter? I'd rather kiss her than the old man—I'll take her if you'll let me into the game."

"D— you an' the daughter, too!" Evans returned wrathfully, glancing at the grimy face of "Cusim Jimmey," which was framed in the window, and with a mighty effort wrenching himself free, he ran out of the room.

A year passed, and one day Evans halted the engineer of a train that was slowing into Las Delicias. "Say, Jimmey," he called, "do you remember th' little Mexican girl you saw out here last year—th' time you pulled th' extra, bringin' soldiers?"

"The one that was lookin' so lonesome while you was hagin' the old man?" answered Jimmey. "Why, yes, what's become of her?"

"She doesn't get lonesome that way any more," Evans replied, grunting sheepishly. "Slip on your best clothes an' dead-head out here to-morrow, an' you'll see her become Mrs. Evans."—Argonaut.

Food for Young Chickens—Newly hatched chicks are much invigorated when they are allowed to remain undisturbed for the first twenty-four hours after they are free of their shells, and with rare exceptions they will then take as much food as they require. Even after this time it is a mistake to feed too often. Every three hours is quite as frequent as they require to be fed during the first week of their lives. When a week old every four hours is quite often enough to feed them. From the time they are a month old until they are three months old three meals will be ample for twenty-four hours. Never leave any food by the chicks after they have eaten what they will, unless it is dry food placed after dark where they can partake of it as soon as it is light. Between meals, however, they may be given a tablespoonful of millet seed to a dozen chicks, to induce them to scratch and be busy.

Eggs for Hatching—Eggs for hatching should be fresh, collected daily, smooth and nicely shaped, not too large or small, and from hens instead of pullets, unless the pullets are of last March hatch. They should be sold in lots of one hundred, and can be packed in ordinary shipping crates (those with pasteboard partitions). To keep them not over a week should be the rule, packed in the small end in a cool place; but they must not freeze. They will ship any distance. Another way of packing is to put the eggs in little pasteboard frames and pack the frames in square or oblong baskets, using chaff or bran to fill the spaces. Wrap each egg in tissue-paper, cover the basket with white muslin, attach an addressed tag, and mark on the muslin, "Eggs for hatching. Handle carefully." The baskets can be procured at any basket store.

Scalded Oats—When oats are scalded at night and allowed to remain until morning they make an agreeable change of food from the regular diet. Twice a week is sufficient to feed such food. Oats make better food in summer than corn, as they are not so heating in their effect; but some object to oats on account of the small proportion of grain compared with the husk. The scalding of oats softens the husk, woody husks and renders them very nutritious.

Milk for Poultry—In some cases milk is very plentiful, and only a portion is needed for fowls, it will be well to give the milk in the form of curd, by heating it until the whey separates from the more solid portions. This is very nutritious, and its constituents so nearly resemble the white of the egg that it is really an excellent article of food. Let no one hesitate to take from his waste milk whatever his hens will use, assured that they will yield five times over the return that swine or other stock would give for the same amount.—Farm and Fireside.

Sunflowers for Silage. The growing of sunflowers to be made into silage along with corn has been advocated by some high authorities and has been practiced to a limited extent by farmers in some sections. The object sought is to so increase the feeding value of the silage that the complement of grain to be added to the same when it is fed can be materially lessened. The sunflowers are grown in rows and cultivated much after the fashion of corn. Large yields of heads have thus been obtained; as high in some instances as eight tons per acre. They are gathered, run through a cutting box and mixed with corn while the silks are being filled. The stems are so woody that they are even considered unsuitable for being made into silage, hence the heads only are used for that purpose. The sunflower is of wide distribution, and may be grown in a great variety of soils. The humus soils of the prairie are well suited to its purpose. It has much power to grow under dry conditions. The Russian is the favorite variety grown at present in the United States.—Prof. Thomas Shaw in "Soiling Plants and the Silo," published by Orange Judd Company.

Injustice. "Won't you give a veteran something to eat, mum?" said Tired Thompson to Mrs. Whiffet. "You a veteran?" replied Mrs. Whiffet, unbelievably. "Yes, I was never a soldier, I'll be bound." "Madam," added the tramp, "you do me a grievous injury. I've done nothing but soldier all my life!"—Detroit Free Press.

of all that I could do! 'Thou hast'— "Oh, hello! Say, drop it! Turn me lower, you old fool! D— you, quit kidding me," spluttered Evans, speaking English, as was natural under such circumstances.

"—performed a miracle thou and thy railroad, and thy telegraph!" Don Enrique went on, not noticing this interruption and holding tight to Evans, who was struggling with all his strength to get away.

Evans gave up, and, to escape further speculation, pushed forward his head on the Mexican's shoulder; his face was flushed with shame, and his eyes were rolling ludicrously from side to side, fairly speaking the disgust he felt.

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