

THE EVIDENCE OF GUNN.



thoughts of summary trials, decisive action, terrible sentences and quick retribution, intermingled with tormenting visions of austere courts, dejected offenders, and scenes verging on the agonizing of old. A horrible panorama of execution in some secluded spot in the gray dawn, the dismal fancy of the morbidly sensitive, and in the mind's eye is depicted the hapless and helpless victim as he totters on the brink of an open grave and receives the leaden messengers of death from the hands of an unfortunate firing squad, who are afterward seen to perform the sad duties of a burial party.

No, my innocent and civil brother, such conditions do not exist, nor have they ever existed in this glorious country except in time of war, and even then in flagrant and desperate cases only. Discard your gloomy thoughts and learn that in these piping times of peace, when every little offense and minor breach of discipline is investigated by either a summary, garrison, or general court-martial, it is not an uncommon occurrence for the judge of comedy to enter the inquisitorial chamber.

Who would think it? Comedy parading before a court-martial! Even so. Private Schute of Company B,—the infantry,—was assigned to answer to the awful charge of desertion, military prejudice of good order and military discipline." This charge is one of the stereotyped kind which, like charity, serves to cover a multitude of sins. It is always on tap, is used extensively, and will be found covering a large percentage of accusations against military offenders. When all other specific charges covered by the articles of war fail to meet the requirements of a case, the somber and well-worn blanket of "conduct to the prejudice, etc.," is spread over a sheet of legal cap and the entire onerous drama at the unfortunate offender's head.

On behalf of the prosecution three witnesses were introduced who testified in support of the heinous offenses alleged to have been committed by the prisoner at the bar. So positive and conclusive was the testimony of these witnesses that the judge, without the court deeming it unnecessary to call upon others who had been cited to appear. He rested the prosecution on the overwhelming evidence adduced, but to give the trial the proper legal flavor he asked:

"Private Schute, what have you to offer in defense?"

Rising slowly from his chair Private Schute gulped down a big lump of something which had gathered in his throat—he was an old hand at the business, having earned the sobriquet of "the private" by his ability—and, raising a pair of pleading eyes, the warrior spoke in tremulous tones:

"May it please the court, Private Gunn, my 'bunky' [a soldier bedfellow], was with me on the day in question, and I wish to introduce his testimony in support of my own. I also desire to testify in my own behalf. That is all I have to offer, and I confidently rely on the justice of the court."

Private Gunn, who was in convenient waiting, was called. After being duly sworn according to law, he testified to the identity of the prisoner, stated that on the day in question he was in the company of the prisoner, who, he alleged, was not intoxicated at any time.

Considerably startled by such conflicting testimony, old Maj. Hall, the president of the court, dropped the newspaper which he was reading, and other members of the court awoke from a lethargy into which they had pardonably fallen, the judge advocate opened his eyes in mild astonishment, and the prisoner smiled complacently, and, looking straight at Private Gunn, who was now the cynosure of all eyes, he remarked: "That's all."

Glad enough to escape, Private Gunn turned to leave the room, but before he could make his exit he was called back by the president of the court.

"Do you mean to positively assert," asked that officer, "that Private Schute was not intoxicated on the day in question?"

"Yis, sorr, that's what Oi do," answered the witness, as he cast an affectionate glance at his "bunky." "Oi wuz wid him nearly all th' day an' he niver got fall."

"Did you see him drink any liquor at all?"

"Oi guess he did, sorr." "Private Gunn, remember that you are under oath. Did you see the prisoner drink fifteen times?"

"Oi sh-sh-shouldn't wonder if he did, but he niver got fall," answered the stammering witness as he cast his eyes upon Schute with a please-for-give-me look that had its effect on the court if not upon the prisoner.

"The president of the court—an old veteran, whose heart was not half as hard as the strong lines in his face—arose from his seat and, assuming an air of dignity which the twinkle in his gray eyes belied, addressed the witness:

"Private Gunn, this court is not to be hampered by prevarication or half answers. What we want is the unvarnished truth without qualifying opinions. You say that the prisoner drank fifteen times, but that he did not become intoxicated. Now, between what hours did he take those drinks?"

"Betune tin o'clock in th' mornin' an' wan o'clock in th' afternoon, sorr."

"What kind of liquor did he drink?" "Whisky, sorr; nothin' in it."

"Whisky," exclaimed the astonished officer. "For the purpose of observing the prisoner drinking whisky at intervals of but twelve minutes, and yet you have the temerity to say to this court that he did not become intoxicated?"

"Ah, shure, major, it was sutler's whisky."

"No levity, sir!" thundered the major, who suppressed a smile as he asked: "Do you know what the word 'intoxicated' means?"

"Shure," replied the witness. "Well, what?"

"Well, sorr," answered the officer. "The dignity of the court was suffering. All the members were required to hide their faces lest their appreciation of the ridiculous might be observed."

Recovering from the mirth-provoking effect of the answers of the witness, the major corrugated his brow even more deeply, and to the intense amusement of the other members of the court he again resumed the attack:

"Do you know sir, when a man is intoxicated?"

"Never mind about any other person," said the major, in rigid tones; "do you know it?"

"An' course Oi do."

"Then according to your opinion, in what condition must a man be to be considered intoxicated?"

CLEVELAND AND THE TARIFF.

No Uncertainty Concerning the Intention of the President Administration. President Cleveland shows in his inaugural address that he has made no departure from the position he has always held on the subject of tariff reform by reduction of tariff taxation.

The policy he set forth in his inaugural address and in his repeated messages to congress in the same policy declared in his inaugural of 1893 to be that of the democratic administration. It is well to bear this fact in mind when speculating as to the character of the tariff reform bill which will be reported to congress next fall as the result of the summer's labors of the democratic leaders in congress and the democratic administration. It was Grover Cleveland who directed the attention of the democratic party to the necessity of tariff reform by tariff reduction and who by his persistence made it the dominant issue. In what spirit the work of reform will be entered upon can be understood by a review of the several declarations of President Cleveland on the subject. In every one of them, from the first to the last, it is clear that the work must be done with prudent regard for business interests and the welfare of the industrial classes. The task is to be reformatory, not destructive.

In his inaugural of March, 1877, he said that "a due regard for the interests and prosperity of all the people" demands "that our system of revenue shall be so adjusted as to relieve the people of unnecessary taxation, having regard to the interests of capital invested and workingmen employed in American industries."

In his first annual message to congress, December, 1885, he said: "Justice and fairness dictate that, in any modification of our present laws relating to revenue, the industries and interests which have been encouraged by such laws, and in which our citizens have large investments, should not be ruthlessly injured or destroyed. We should also deal with the subject in such manner as to protect the interests of American labor, which is the capital of our workingmen."

In the second annual message, December, 1886, he said that "in readjusting the burdens of federal taxation a sound public policy requires that such of our citizens as have built up an important industry under present conditions should not be suddenly deprived of the advantages to which they have adapted their business; but, if the public good requires it, they should be content with such consideration as shall deal fairly and cautiously with their interests, while the insupportable burden of relief from taxation is heaped on those who are not so situated."

In his famous tariff reform message of December, 1887, after declaring that "our present tariff laws, the vicious, inequitable and illogical source of unnecessary taxation, ought to be at once revised and amended," he said: "It is necessary to revise the country entirely of this taxation, and to intensively continue as the source of the government's income; and in a readjustment of our tariff the interests of American labor engaged in manufacturing should be carefully considered, as well as the preservation of our manufactures, or by any other name, but relief from the hardships and dangers of our present tariff laws should be devised with special precaution against imperiling the existence of our manufacturing industries. But this existence should not mean a condition of stagnation or regard to the public welfare or a national exigency, must always insure the realization of immense profits instead of moderate profitable returns."

In his last annual message to congress, December, 1888, he said: "A just and equitable revision of our tariff laws should be made for the relief of those of our countrymen who suffer under present conditions. Existing evils and injustices should be honestly recognized, and boldly met and effectively remedied. There should be no cessation of the struggle until a plan is perfected, fair and conservative toward existing industries, but which will reduce the cost to consumers of the necessities of life, while it provides for our manufacturing the advantage of free raw materials and permits no injury to the interests of American labor."

In his inaugural of March 4, 1893, President Cleveland said the people have "determined in favor of a more just and equitable system of federal taxation. The agents they have chosen to carry out their purposes are bound by their promises, not less than by the command of their masters, to devote themselves unremittingly to this service. While there should be no surrender of principle, our task must be to do so wisely and without heedless vindictiveness, and to give no punishment but the rectification of wrongs. If, in lifting burdens from the daily life of our people, we reduce inordinate and unequal advantages too long enjoyed, this is but a right and just incident of our return to the path of duty."

From the inaugural of 1885 to the inaugural of 1893 every reference to tariff reform is made on precisely the same lines. It is on these lines that the democratic tariff bill of 1893 will be constructed. No tariff bill not constructed on these lines will receive the signature of Grover Cleveland.—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

NOTES AND COMMENTS.

Mr. Cleveland isn't afraid to speak his mind, and he has a mind to speak.—Boston Globe.

The protection for protection's sake" business is now wrestling with the political winds of the world.—Secretary Carlisle thinks that the treasury situation is improving. That is about the way the case begins to look to most persons.—St. Louis Globe-Democrat (Rep.).

The opposition to Gresham for secretary of state came from the republicans and the democrats. This shows which party is the broader.—St. Paul Globe.

The declarations and pledges of the inaugural address represent the convictions not only of the larger part, but of the better part of the American people.—Butcher Courier.

The only persons interested in a dishonorable pension roll are the pension lawyers. All fish that comes to their net. Honorable soldiers are the ones most interested in keeping the roll a roll of honor.—Albany Argus.

Now that the thing is done and accomplished, due thanks should be turned to Andrew Carnegie for the invaluable assistance which rendered the victorious democracy.—Detroit Free Press.

Mr. Cleveland has declared the principle of duty as he understands them. There is no representative who will take issue with him on the sentences of his inaugural address. The logical conclusions are as plain as the principles.—Kansas City Times.

The public revenue only, sound currency and civil service reform are the dominant notes of President Cleveland's inaugural. The people have placed in control of the government the foremost representatives of these policies, he has a just right to expect that they will generously sustain him during the term of his administration.—Philadelphia Record.

When Mr. Cleveland was president before, "the fierce light that beats upon a throne" was not turned on his life as it is now. The insatiable biographers are now at work on his career as a child. They will tell all about his playing truant when the streams were right for fishing, his putting pins in his teacher's chair, of gambling with his mother, and pecking eggs. Writers are more than ready to say that when the lives of Washington were written.—N. Y. World.

While many of the republican organs are charging that it is the purpose of the new administration to wage a war of extermination against the industrial country here comes Clarkson with his editorial in the public clubs and the important information that "the cabinet of the new president is made up mainly in the interest of the great corporations of the land." Our republican fellow-citizens have not yet been able, it seems, to agree among themselves where they are at.—Louisville Courier-Journal.

Party Appropriations. There is a dispute between the representatives of the two parties as to the real appropriations made during the congress just closed and their relation to those of the previous congress. One view is held by the republicans, who take the figures of the legislative acts, and another by the democrats, who give weight to the continuous appropriations made by the previous congress, and which the last congress could not reject. Unquestionably the view presented by the latter is the more just. For instance, the pension bill of 1890 required an appropriation in this congress of \$100,000,000; the McKinley bill entailed an appropriation of \$20,000,000; the law turning into the treasury the fund accumulated by the sale of national bank circulation made it necessary to appropriate \$16,500,000 for the redemption of notes previously redeemed from that fund. These appropriations would not have been made but for the action of the Fifty-first congress, and the Fifty-second congress is in no wise responsible for them.—N. Y. Times.

Condition of the Treasury. Repeatedly during the last ten years the Times has drawn attention to the constant depletion of the treasury of the United States, and pointed out wherein the treasury statement was misleading. The report of the treasury authority and of republican organs was uniform denial that the funds had been endangered or that the treasury was in the slightest embarrassment. The republican secretary, Mr. Foster, retires, and says complacently in doing so "the treasury is down to bed rock—that is, for current purposes, it was practically empty when turned over to his successor. Not thus the Cleveland administration turned over the treasury to the Harrison administration. Then there was a surplus of \$10,000,000. The surplus squandered during four years of republican administration, there are current bills against the office to-day that, though audited, cannot be paid. The extravagance of the republican administration has depleted the treasury and has embarrassed at the outset the new administration.—Chicago Times.

USEFUL AND SUGGESTIVE.

Butter Scotch.—Boil together a cupful of sugar, a cupful of molasses, half a cupful of butter, a tablespoonful of vinegar and one-fourth of a teaspoonful of soda. Stir frequently, and as soon as the syrup will snap between the teeth after being dipped in cold water, remove from the fire and flavor to taste. Pour upon a buttered tin one-fourth of an inch thick, and when nearly cold mark off in strips or squares and wrap in paraffine paper.—Good Housekeeping.

Clam Broth.—Little neck clams are preferred for stews and broths; the large ones may be used for chowders. Wash three dozen in cold water, put them in a saucepan and cover with a quart of hot water. Boil fifteen minutes and drain. Remove the shells, chop fine the remainder and add them to the broth with a lump of butter and a pinch of salt and cayenne. Boil ten minutes, pour into a tureen and add a slice of toast.—Boston Budget.

English women are as uncertain as the fair New Yorkers concerning the wordly wisdom of some of them, it is recorded, venture on "a busy" conference, then repent and send it back to the long-suffering modiste to "take it in." The latest argument of the No Crinoline League is quite the funniest of all. Its originator has gravely pointed out that the garments of the last few winters has so weakened the majority of women that they are not strong enough to endure the great weight of the crinoline!—N. Y. Tribune.

Ragout of Hare.—Cut the cold hare into neat pieces as possible; make a gravy from the remainder of the gravy of the day before with a little butter and water, or by simmering the bones and trimmings with soup herbs and vegetables; lay the pieces of meat in the gravy when it is nicely thickened, strained and seasoned; simmer for five minutes, dish and garnish with points of toast. The most may also be minced and heated in enough of the gravy to moisten it; then heap on squares of buttered toast; garnish with slices of lemon and pass currant jelly with it. Squirrels, hares and rabbits may all be cooked according to the foregoing recipe.—American Ancestry.

Compte of Apples.—Place a cupful each of water and sugar in a porcelain or granite ware pan, add six cloves or a few bits of stick cinnamon, and allow the liquid to boil for fifteen minutes where it can not scorch; then remove the spice. Pare and core eight large apples of equal size or size of apples, and cook them in the syrup until they are done but not broken. Lift the apples out carefully, one at a time, arrange them, open end upward, on a large flat dish, and place two or three cubes of butter on each. A teaspoonful of jelly or any kind of marmalade upon each. Then boil the syrup until it isropy, and pour it over the apples. When cold the dessert may be eaten with any kind of cake. If a still richer and handsomer dish is desired, whipped cream may be arranged about the apples or heaped over them, or preserved fruit or preserves is used inside the apples may be strewn sparingly over the cream. This makes a very elegant preparation.—Delicieux.

SHE GOT THE GUM. Feminine Acuteness Was Too Much for the Penny in the Slot Machine. One cold day recently a well dressed and comely young woman stopped in front of one of the slot machines in the slot machines usually seen in drug stores and which shed chewing gum, chocolate, etc. This particular machine had been set outside the door on the sidewalk, lying in wait for the weak and foolish who might otherwise escape its seductive coils. She was standing in the store. From the calm countenance of the store in everybody's way in the drug store and accepting such patronage as is there bestowed upon it, this finis machine had gone out to deliberately tempt down in its victims. It was a cold day, but it will attest to be seen that when the young woman who was halted on the highway and publicly insulted and robbed by this machine gets left. The wind came around the corner like a bulldog snuffing for a fight. It looked as though the young woman would have all the cold to keep her from taking the penny out of the slot. She took the penny in her mouth, she sat it with one hand and worked a slot for gum with the other. That is, she tried it, but though the penny went in all right the gum wouldn't come out. She was mad, but she opened her pocketbook and took the penny out of it. She put the penny in her mouth, she sat it in the pocketbook up again. They shewed in the slot for luck and tried it again. But it didn't work any more satisfactorily this time than it did before. Clearly, any further attempts would be throwing good money after bad. A woman here to be seen out of a cent, and I could plainly see from my position inside the store that she was giving this highwayman a piece of her mind. The latter seemed to resent this by getting its slender legs tangled with the young woman's skirt, and when she tried to separate them she grabbed her and tripped her up and fell on her. In the briefest possible space of time the angry pair were rolling over each other on the sidewalk, now the machine on top, then the woman, but she was completely entangled you could only tell them apart by the legs, and each had apparently an indefinite number. The wind just got up and howled. It was plain that the machine was getting the worst of it, for its face was smashed, and gum and chocolate sticks were scattered all over the sidewalk. The drug clerk rushed out to the rescue of his infernal machine, and rushed out to the support of the woman. They broke away, however, before we got there, the machine having been "put to sleep," to use a pugilistic expression. The victorious woman didn't show a scratch, but rubbed her knee suspiciously and was as red as a lobster. She shook herself together, as if to learn whether she was all there, and then deliberately picked up two sticks of gum and turned to the astonished drug clerk.

Get any gum, anyhow," she said.—N. Y. Herald.

FARM AND GARDEN.

THE POULTRY YARD.

Description and Pictures of Handy Coop and Laying Boxes. The readers of your paper generally have the best of everything planned before them, and, as it largely the contributions of practical men and women, these designs for laying boxes and coops for hen and chickens seem appropriate to be submitted for criticism and instruction. Both have been in use in our yard for twelve years past, and have proven satisfactory beyond any others that have meantime come under our notice. If neatly and well made,

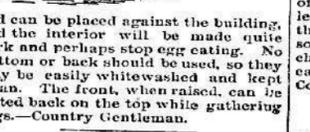


occasionally painted and properly cared for, they will last many years; some of ours have been in constant use for fifteen or more seasons, and the first need need not be great.

An empty shoe box or similar packing case will furnish most of the lumber. The material for the coop should be 3/4-inch, dressed on one side. The bottom frame 1 by 3 inches, halved together at corners; ridge-piece 1 1/2 inches; wire cloth in upper part 3/4 or 1-inch mesh. The slats for front, of hard, strong

wood, 3/4 by 3/4-inch, the center one movable, and all let into mortises, top and bottom. There is a movable bottom board, 19 by 29, of 3/4-inch stuff. The front board of coop can be best served with the wooden bottoms. We have abandoned hinges, as they rust fast. This board, when down, can be used to place feed on. The bottom boards will save many a brood from marauding skunks and rats.

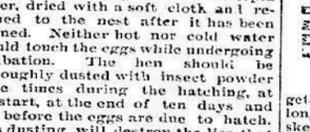
The laying boxes have the merit of discretion, which will please biddy and prevent excuse for a stolen nest. One end can be placed against the building, and the interior will be made quite dark and perhaps stop egg eating. No bottom or back should be used, so they may be easily whitewashed and kept cleaner. The front, when raised, can be rested back on the top while gathering eggs.—Country Gentleman.



CARE OF SETTING HENS.

Why a Sudden Change of Diet Is to Be Scrupulously Avoided. A setting hen should have the same food as she has been accustomed to, at least at first, and if any change is desirable it must be made only by degrees. A sudden change of diet may interfere with its proper digestion, cause the hen to have a diarrhea, and make her leave her nest, or foul her eggs, and sometimes even destroy her eggs. If a hen has diarrhea, while setting, it is desirable to give her a few drops of tincture of iron, or a few drops of water. This will usually check the diarrhea, and will also act as a tonic to the system. If a hen, by reason of this diarrhea, has fouled her nest, or if she has broken any of the eggs, the remaining ones should be promptly removed, and the water, dried with a soft cloth and returned to the nest after it has been cleaned. Neither hot nor cold water should touch the eggs while undergoing incubation. The hen should be thoroughly dusted with insect powder three times during the hatching, at the start, at the end of ten days, and just before the eggs are due to hatch. This dusting will destroy the lice that often cause a hen to set uselessly, or even to desert her nest, and will give her a fair chance, by coming into the world in a nest that is free from vermin. They will have enough to do fighting vermin without being handicapped at the start.

Do not sprinkle the eggs while they are hatching. It was an old-fashioned idea, but it was absolutely necessary, but by numerous experiments it has been clearly demonstrated that sprinkling eggs is entirely unnecessary, and sometimes it is possibly harmful. Where it can be done, it is best to set several hens at once. At the end of ten days test the eggs, removing the clear ones—a very little experience will enable anyone to do this successfully—and distribute the fertile eggs among the setters. If many clear eggs are removed a part of the hens will be sufficient to cover them, and the others can be reset. Ten days additional setting is a nest that is free from vermin in flesh, will do her no harm.—American Agriculturist.



ECONOMY IN FARM BUILDINGS.

There is a false economy widely prevalent in the construction not only of barns, but of barns, stables and other buildings that are intended to shelter stock. Mere size of superficial surface does not count in this. It has not warmth, and whether animal heat is kept up by extra fuel in the stove or extra grass burned in the animal economy makes the cheaper built shelter the most expensive. It may seem to be economy to make the cheap, but it is far otherwise in the end. Building paper like the Neponset waterproof is now cheap and easily applied. It is true economy to use it not merely to double walls but to triple them, leaving two or three spaces of confined air between walls.

Arrangement of Pig Pens. The model pig pen ought to have three compartments—one for the feeding trough, with plenty of clean water, a second for dirt, where the hogs will leave their manure, and the third where the clean, dry straw or leaves, where the hogs may make their own beds and keep themselves and their feeding places clean. They will fatten as readily, and when ready for slaughter a healthy hog will be killed. The filth in which many hogs are raised is awful.—Luna A. Parker, in Farm and Home.

Goats are usually thrifty and vigorous, but require hearty food until they are old enough to be allowed a few rungs. They should be fed regularly three times a day.

DRAINAGE OF FARMS.

The Only Real and Practicable Method of Improving Wet Lands.

Where water after rains stands for a long time in the furrows and on lands, where the shoes of the farmer, except in periods of drought, are habitually clogged with sticky mud, and the hoofs of animals as they sink into the yielding mud, make cavities which maintain their shape for days, sometimes holding water, the necessity for drainage of some kind is too clearly indicated to admit of any doubt. For changing such unfavorable conditions, wherever the lay of the land will permit, open surface drainage is often resorted to at first.

While such drains are useful in some cases, in the matter of a permanent improvement of the soil they amount to but little and are liable to be the cause of impoverishment in the soil itself by carrying off fertilizing matter into the furrows and leaving it in the surplus rain that falls upon the ground can be led off from the surface in the same clear state in which it descended from the clouds, the soil receives no injury from its escape, but it is only a temporary and occasional peculiar condition that the will remedy.

This is so well understood by most cultivators, that other methods have come into use. One, formerly more common than at present, was to throw the wet land into high and wide ridges until spring. When the cultivation is about to begin these ridges are further widened and flattened out, affording a series of rather wide spaces, much better fitted for cultivation, but with very undesirable ditches between them, often holding stagnant water throughout the entire season. While such a practice will not draw fertility away from the soil, it consigns a considerable portion of it to non-usage and is otherwise objectionable in many respects.

The only real and practicable method of improving wet farm lands, by which their condition is permanently changed for the better, is by the use of underground drains for which tile is the most common and best material. Where these are placed at proper depths, say from three to four feet, and at suitable distances apart, varying greatly according to the compactness of the soil to be drained, and with a slight fall towards their outlets, whatever elements of fertility the surface water may contain will be strained out within reach of the roots of plants in its descent towards the drains. Furthermore, the upper line of the ground water sinks below the level of the drains, and the benefit of this form of drainage is realized by the soil above them becoming favorably changed in its general character and earlier and better fitted for crops.—Colman's Rural World.

Wire Is Used in Its Construction to Good Advantage. Gates made wholly of wood are heavy. Since wire has become so cheap it has entered largely into the construction of gates, proving light and serviceable. The accompanying sketch of a wire gate was sent us by S. Harrington. The form shown is one of the best as regards strength, durability and freedom from sagging. The frame of the gate is wood put together in the usual manner, with a long brace (b) placed as shown in the sketch and nailed in position. Holes are bored in the end pieces through annealed iron rods, and are secured by single strands of wire, seven or eight gauge. If the gate can be hinged to a building or a high post a wire support (c) can be used to prevent sagging. If a few links of chain are attached to one end of the wire it may be always kept tight, and in locking up another link.—American Agriculturist.

COMFORT IS necessary in order to make the most out of feed.

SPRINKLING carbolic acid through the bedding will maintain health.

If the colts are fed oats they will have a better framework or foundation.

THE principal objection to winter pork raising is the fundamental expense to maintain a large stock.

Do not feed fattening rations to growing stock, or food adapted to the growth of bone and muscle to the fattening stock.

THE hog will thrive on a greater quantity of food than any other farm animal, yet he needs a variety to keep him in good condition.

THE best indications that lambs are getting sufficient nourishment is a well-rounded body and a clean face and bright clean wool.—Live Stock Indicator.