

OLD FRIENDS.

We love them very dearly, the old familiar places...

We love the soft and springing sod, oft as our footsteps press it...

There's one wide branching maple that was tall when we were tending...

The trees, the hills, the pastures, the lanes we oft have trodden...

We love them very dearly, the old familiar places...

In Heaven I think the road will wear a look like ours at home...

His Two Constituencies

CHAPTER I

IT WAS years since we had met. We parted in anger—she in tears...

"Mater," I said, "I leave the matter entirely in your hands; I have the greatest confidence in your discretion."

"You are a very intelligent and capable man," she said, "and I have no doubt that you will do what is best for me."

"I am not as bad as all that," she said, "but I am a woman of surprising energy, immediately commencing asking many curious people to our dinner parties."

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"It is his own fault," said my mother, when she was comforted; "he is so flippant."

"The agent?" she became sorrowful. Again Alice had to comfort her. To do so she said kind things about me, but my mother would not agree with her.

"He has disappointed me. He will not obey me. I have begged and begged him to pay attention to Miss Western, of the castle. We should have had their influence." She wept again. Alice comforted her.

"My mother went on: 'He will not be serious. If he would only marry some solid, strong-minded girl! But no, he insists on going his own way. Yet I'm his mother.'

"Alice turned her reproachful gaze on me. 'I think it is very unkind of you not to marry when your mother tells you to.'

"But the ladies won't have me," "I don't believe you ever asked them," "To do so would be preposterous," "Why would it be preposterous?" "Take your case, for instance."

"My case?" She blushed violently. My mother was startled. "Gerald, I forbid you to talk any more nonsense, she said, rising hastily and leaving the room."

"We were left alone. There was a silence, broken by Alice. 'Did your mother really and truly ask you to propose to me?'

"Really and truly," she reddened charmingly. "Why didn't you?" "I do! I do!" I responded, eagerly, rising and going toward her.

"Your mother is so sorry about you," she said. "She is so unfortunate in her son. I should like to make her happy."

"If you are not returning to parliament, I will break her heart." She brightened up. "We will compromise the matter. If you are not returned, I accept you."

"She ran and told my mother, who entered the room between tears and smiles. 'It seems a ridiculous arrangement, but Gerald is always absurd. I don't know what I want. I feel as if I were standing on my head.'

Later on we went to the declaration of the poll. I was returned by a majority of 20. My mother immediately began to weep bitterly.

I looked at Alice. They were shouting for me to address the crowd. "I am an unfortunate man," I said. She was looking on the ground. "I always wanted to be an M. P.'s wife," she whispered.

For the second time I kissed her in public.—Black and White.

SWIFT MODE OF RUNNING.

Ski-Running in Norway Is a Much Faster Mode of Travel Than Indian Snowshoeing.

It is a very difficult task to explain to one who has never seen ski or ski running what it really means. Ski are really very simple instruments. They consist of two long narrow strips of wood, pointed and curved upward in front. In Norway the ski are generally about seven or eight feet in length and from three to four inches in breadth.

At the center under the foot they will be about an inch thick or a little more, beveling off to about a quarter of an inch at either end. The under surface is flat, often with a groove along the middle, and is made as smooth as possible. They are fastened to the feet by a loop for the toe, fixed near the center of the ski, and a band, which passes from this round behind the heel of the shoe, and which can be tied very tight, writes Dr. Nansen, in Land and Water.

I remember an incident which happened to an acquaintance of mine in America many years ago. He was an engineer, and was surveying for a railway far west on the prairies. The winter had set in, and deep snow had covered the fields. Being a skillful ski runner, he made himself a pair of ski.

The same day he had been out trying these for the first time, a group of Indians came along on a track consisting of two parallel grooves or furrows in the snow, and having never seen a similar track before, they followed it up to make out what kind of an animal it might originate from. They followed the track straight to the door of the Norwegian's cottage, where they saw two strips of wood leaning against the wall. They measured the track and they measured these wooden things, and found that they were of exactly the same breadth.

And now followed a very close investigation of these marvelous creatures, which were carefully measured on all sides. When the Norwegian, as by chance, came out of his cottage door, the natives darted away from the ski and looked at something else, pretending not even to have noticed. The Norwegian showed them, however, the ski and how they were used. They wished now to try them, but using them as they were accustomed to do their snowshoes, they made slow progress, and found them poor and slippery. The Norwegian then put them on and proposed to race with the Indians, and they were quite willing. But the surprise of these swift Indians, on their light snowshoes, was great when they discovered that they were only able to keep pace with him for a few hundred yards and then rapidly dropped behind, even though they were racing over their well-known prairies. Afterward the Norwegian helped them to make ski, and some of the Indians learned to use them tolerably well, although men who are not trained to use ski from early boyhood very seldom become skillful ski runners.

The motion employed in skiing has no resemblance to that employed in skating. While they are moved the ski are always kept strictly parallel and as close together as possible, and should not be lifted from the ground. Like Canadian snowshoes. On flat ground they should constantly be kept gliding over the surface of the snow, while being driven forward by alternate strokes from the hips and thighs, and the body is thrown forward in each stride. The length of the stride may be increased by propulsion of the staff which the ski runner carries in his hand. Uphill, if the gradient be steep, the ski runner will have to take from side to side, following a zig-zag course or go sideways, bringing the ski almost to a right angle with the slope. But downhill the ski runner often goes with a tremendous speed, and then it may well be possible that he could "outstrip the birds in flight." The ski now slide readily, and the steeper the slope the greater the speed, the one thing necessary being to maintain the balance and to steer clear of all difficulties, such as trees and precipices. The ski runner can go everywhere, over hill and valley, and nothing stops him so long as there is sufficient snow to move over.

A great art in ski running is the jumping upon ski. It is generally done down steep hillsides, which in the middle have some natural break in the ground, or where a bank of snow is built. Sliding with a great pace from the top of the hill onto this bank, the jumper, owing to the sudden break in the ground, is thrown far into the air, and after a longer or shorter journey through space, he alights on the slope below and continues his headlong course at an even greater speed than before. As a rule, he will even very much increase the length of his leap by taking a spring just as he leaves the projecting bank. The length of such jumps is very generally 70 or 80 feet, and in the latter years jumps exceeding 100 feet are recorded.

Just to Go Somewhere. It would be interesting to know to what extent the summer resorts profit from a simple desire to get away from home, without regard to the destination. The following conversation, overheard in one of the inland lake towns of Wisconsin, certainly demonstrates that no place is a summer resort to the residents therein.

"This town has considerable of a reputation as a summer resort, hasn't it?" asked the stranger.

"Yes, indeed," answered the native. "We have rowing, fishing, sailing, bathing, camping, the very best of accommodations, and the sports to be found anywhere, including golf and tennis."

"And yet I see many of your finest houses are shut up."

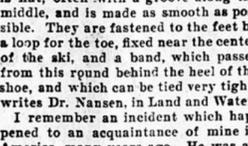
"Oh, yes. Most of the people who can afford it go away for the summer."—Chicago Post.

Secret Kept for Centuries. Chinese porcelain was common in Europe for 400 years before a German potter succeeded in finding out the process of making it. This Chinese pottery is scattered all over the world, and everywhere valued, but nowhere was the distribution more curious than in western Canada. Early in the century a Chinese junk was cast away on the Pacific coast of America just south of Vancouver island, and its cargo of willow pattern plates fell into the hands of the Hudson Bay company's officers. Still in the remotest trading posts of the fur traders a few specimens remain.—N. Y. Herald.

UNLOADING OF CORN.

Extension Box Which Saves Lots of Work and Adds to the Capacity of the Wagon.

A useful device can be made and attached to the back end of a wagon box so that the shoveling out may be begun at once upon reaching the crib. It will also add several bushels capacity to the wagon box. Make a sloping floor, a, a few feet long with cross-pieces on the lower side at b and c. Let the floor be



UNLOADING CORN MADE EASY. as wide as the outside of the wagon box. Then put on short sides nailed securely to this sloping floor, and extending forward a few inches past the sides of the box and on the outside of it. Take out the end gate and gate rods, put on this attachment and bore holes to correspond with the holes in the box and with four bolts secure it in place. The lower cross-piece, c, should extend out a little beyond the wagon bed on each side and come down against it, the sloping floor resting on the bottom of the bed an inch or two from the back end. If desired this attachment can be fastened on with stout bolts and staples instead of with hooks.—Orange Juice Farmer.

CLEANING BY STEAM. The Only Absolutely Sure Way of Keeping a Creamery in a Wholesome Condition.

A Canadian dairy instructor says: I am sorry to say that the creameries of Canada are not being improved as much as they should be, particularly in the way of equipment and sanitation, or in providing suitable store-rooms which can be held at a low temperature for storing the butter in. A great number of the summer creameries are being run on the cream gathering system. This necessitates an abundant supply of cold water which is oftentimes allowed to run over the floor, or in open gutters, and has a tendency to keep the room damp and prevent the churn and butter worker from becoming dry, and the result is that they soon become foul smelling. The remedy for this is to conduct the water away in pipes, and also attach a hose and a steam-pipe. After the churn is thoroughly washed, close the lid and insert the end of the hose in the buttermilk outlet, and then steam thoroughly for 20 minutes. The intense heat will destroy all germ life, and leave the churn dry and clean. This is also an excellent device for steaming the butter worker and utensils, and also the cans or tanks used in drawing the cream.

BRIEF DAIRY NOTES. Remember that the milk should be cooled as promptly as possible after it is drawn from the cow. Cool and aerate thoroughly, in order to prevent the milk from retaining unpleasant odors.

Ice water will chill and kill as well as fill the cow, and the thoroughly chilled cow cannot secrete milk freely. The dairyman who forces his cows to drink through a hole in the ice in winter should not expect a good flow of milk from the cows.

The milk cows should have abundant supplies of water. Milk is 75 per cent. water, and that fact shows how necessary water is to the cows. Moreover, the very fact that so much water must be drunk by the cow indicates that the water should not be much below the temperature of the cow's body.

Artificial ponds are not liable to contain pure water. Such ponds are generally located in basins or depressions on the farm, and into such depressions there is sure to be more or less drainage of filthy water. If the dairyman deems it necessary to have such ponds, he should at least fence them in, so that the stock cannot turn them into filthy wallows and sources of disease.—Farmers' Voice.

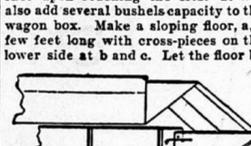
Nutritive Ratio in Food. Cows give a trifle more milk when receiving some succulent food, such as roots and ensilage, but practically the same amount of butter or other products. We select the cheapest foods and so mix them that the cow gets about one pound of carbohydrates. If we should feed a much wider ration, that is, one that contained more carbohydrates and carbohydrate equivalent than the amount stated, she would gradually lay on fat, shrink in milk, and failure to breed would probably follow; but when the above mentioned nutritive ratio is maintained, no such difficulties are encountered.—Prof. Haecker, in Rural World.

Variety Promotes Growth. Variety of food is essential to rapid growth of young stock. Experiments made in feeding pigs for four months on potatoes alone caused rickets, or softening of the bone. Other pigs, from the same litter, fed upon potatoes, oatmeal and phosphates, had normal skeletons, but there was a difference, according to the phosphates added. Those fed upon phosphate of potash had porous bones. The pigs that were given phosphate and carbonate of lime (as food ingredients) were healthy, thrifty and grew rapidly.

Dakota Woman Orchardist. Mrs. Laura A. Alderman owns the largest orchard in South Dakota. According to W. N. Irvin, chief of the division of pomology of the department of agriculture in Washington, she has, near Harley, Turner county, 150 acres in which are 8,000 trees, two acres being given to plums. Besides the trees there are 1,000 currant bushes, 1,000 gooseberry bushes, 500 grapevines and three acres of strawberries.



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WE NEED GOOD ROADS.

The Quicker This Idea Is Generally Accepted the Better for National Prosperity.

The work of the League of American Wheelmen in behalf of good roads is receiving recognition from some of the most influential sources in the country. The Washington Times gives the following editorial opinion:

The question of road-building in this country is receiving, as it should, increased attention from the public at large. There is no topic on which discussion is more profitable, and none upon which it is more important that public interest should be awakened.

The problem has been, in this country, an exceedingly difficult one, owing to the immense extent of territory over which highways have to extend and the diversified nature of it. In no other civilized country has a single modern government had to wrestle with the problem of making good, solid roads over thousands of miles of country, some swampy, some mountainous, and all more or less untrammeled by the laws of man. The Romans laid foundations of good roads all over Europe, and still remain the champion road-builders of the ages. But we had no Romans in this country to lay foundations for us, nor had we barbarians whom we could press into involuntary service to do the stone-breaking, even if we had wanted to emulate the works of Caesar.

Another thing which has complicated the matter of making turnpikes is the rapid and phenomenally successful development of the railroads. They have cast their network of wires all over the country and absorbed the transportation business, so that where they went it was not so very necessary to have roads that would stand heavy hauling or promote fast driving. In Kentucky, famous for her good roads, travel by coach or horseback was common, and it was worth while for the community to make it easy and swift. Moreover, the configuration of the country favored road-building.

Of late years the bicycle associations have urged an improvement in the highways. A bicycle is a less patient animal than the horse, in some respects. It will work untiringly as long as it is humored, but it has to be humored. A good horse will endure because he must—struggling out of a boghole which has mired him to the depth of a foot or two, or picking his way over a siding mountain path covered with rolling stones, but nobody can get a bicycle to do that. A horse will stand the spur, whereas if a spur was used on the tire of a bicycle it would calmly lie down in the road. In short, the wheel is an exacting creature to ride, and the bicyclist very soon discovered that for his own comfort, if he intended to ride that wheel at his own sweet will, he will have to bestir himself and make the legislatures provide good roads for him to travel.

By whatever means the roads are improved, it is well that it should be done. The difference between a good road and a bad one may mean much to the community. It may make or mar the civilization of the whole region to be more or less accessible by turnpike. The quicker this matter of public highways receives proper attention the better off the public will be.

KEEPS WHEELS GREASED. An Automatic Oiler Which, According to Its Inventor, Saves Labor and Lubricants.

The labor of oiling wagon wheels by the usual method is somewhat arduous, and he who can perform the task without soiling the hands and clothes is an exception to the general rule. With the idea of doing away with the necessity for removing the wheels where the axles are oiled Van Don Roe, of Maury City, Tenn., has designed the automatic oiler illustrated herewith. It consists of an elongated oil cup secured to the hub between two spokes, with an opening cut through the hub and box to allow the oil to flow to the shaft. Inside the oil cup is a weighted plunger, which reciprocates at each revolution of the wheel, thus forcing a small quantity of oil through the minute opening in the wheel box. The force of the fall of the plunger is broken by a coiled spring at either end of the internal chamber, thus making the device noiseless, and it is only necessary to keep the shafts and boxes in good condition.—Cincinnati Commercial Tribune.

The World's Grain Crops. A synopsis of the estimate of the world's grain crops made by the Hungarian minister of agriculture makes the total production as follows: Wheat, 2,468,799,000 to 2,525,553,000 bushels; rye, 1,362,096,000 to 1,398,986,000 bushels; barley, 874,012,000 to 908,064,000 bushels; oats, 3,078,904,000 to 3,121,470,000 bushels; and maize, from 2,778,108,000 to 2,814,998,000 bushels. Supposing the countries the crops of which are included in these totals to be the same that were covered by the Hungarian estimate of a year ago, these figures are higher than those generally accepted.

Prepare Watering Troughs. One of the things that usually gets little or no attention is the supply of watering troughs at convenient places about the stockyards; and this neglect most frequently happens during the winter feeding period, just when stock need regular and full supply of water. The old-fashioned wood trough and tanks will do, if nothing better can be had; but the advantages of galvanized troughs for hogs, sheep, calves and poultry, and the galvanized steel tanks for cattle and horses, are so great that extra expense is warranted in using them.—Prairie Farmer.

HELP FOR WOMEN WHO ARE ALWAYS TIRED.

"I do not feel very well, I am so tired all the time. I do not know what is the matter with me."

"You hear those words every day; as often as you meet your friends just so often are these words repeated. More than likely you speak the same significant words yourself, and no doubt you do feel far from well most of the time."

Mrs. Ella Rice, of Chelsea, Wis., whose portrait we publish, writes that she suffered for two years with bearing-down pains, headache, backache, and had all kinds of miserable feelings, all of which was caused by falling and inflammation of the womb, and after doctoring with physicians and numerous medicines she was entirely cured by



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What Shall We Have for Dessert? This question arises in the family every day. Let us answer it to-day. Try

Jell-O, a delicious and healthful dessert. Prepared in two minutes. No boiling! No baking! Add boiling water and set to cool. Flavors—Lemon, Orange, Raspberry and Strawberry. Get a package at your grocers to-day. 10 cts.

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