THE RECORD OF 1889.

Summary of the Important Happenings of an Eventful Year.

May 31 the Date of the Greatest Disaster in the Country's History.

Reflection of Floods, Storms, Earthquakes, Crimes, Accidents,

The Conflagrations, Political Changes and Other Features of the Year.

JANUARY.

1. Total eclipse of the sun, observed on the Pacific coast: destruction of the Richardson Drug company's store in St. Louis by fire, resulting in a loss of $250,000.

4. The C., B. and Q. strike declared off; "Red-Nosed Mike," the murderer, arrested; the "electric sugar" frauds exposed in New York.

9. Judge Barrett, of the New York supreme court, decides that the North River Sugar Refining company, because of its entrance into the sugar trust, has forfeited its charter; a cyclone blows down a silk mill in Reading, Pa., a nail mill in Sunbury, Pa., and wrecks many buildings in Pittsburg, killing 19 persons and wounding 104 in Reading, killing 2 and wounding 8 in Sunbury, and killing 21 and injuring 32 in Pittsburg.

14. Collision between a passenger and freight train on the New York, Pennsylvania & Ohio railroad near Tallmadge, O., eight persons being killed and seven injured.

15. The Delaware legislature chooses Anthony Higgins United States senator, he being the first Republican of that state ever accorded that honor.

19. A wreck on the Northwestern railroad near Elmwood, Mich., kills three persons and wounds five.

24. A $500,000 defalcation by Joseph A. Moore, financial correspondent at Indianapolis of the Connecticut Mutual Life Insurance company, comes to light.

25. Ives and Stayner, "Napoleons of finance," arrested in New York for defrauding the Cincinnati, Hamilton & Dayton Railroad company.

26. Gen. Boulanger elected to the chamber of deputies from Paris by 80,000 majority.

29. Street car railway strike in New York and Brooklyn. 6,000 persons being out.

FEBRUARY.

2. Fire in Buffalo, N. Y., destroys $1,000,000 worth of property.

4. Collision of the steamer Glencoe with a bark off Beachy head, fifty-two persons being drowned; twenty-four lives lost in a collision between the steamer Nereid and a sailing vessel off Dungeness.

6. Slight earthquake shock in South Carolina.

9. Civil Service Commissioner A. P. Edgerton removed by President Cleveland and Hugh S. Thompson nominated in his place.

11. Norman J. Colman nominated by the president to fill the newly created cabinet post of secretary of agriculture.

13. Congress counts the electoral vote and declares Benjamin Harrison and Levi P. Morton duly chosen president and vice president respectively.

14. An adverse vote overthrows the Floquet ministry in France.

15. A locomotive dashes into a street car at Chester, Pa., injuring six persons.

18. The explosion of a boiler wrecks and burns the Central hotel, Hartford, Conn., killing twenty-one persons and injuring twenty-five.

19. A $500,000 fire in Philadelphia.

20. The Georgetown (D. C.) university celebrates its centennial.

21. W. T. Woodward sells sixty-one horses for $142,630 at auction at Lexington, Ky.; M. Tirad forms a French ministry.

22. The bill admitting Montana, North and South Dakota and Washington to statehood signed by President Cleveland.

23. The bark Josie Troop sunk of Hatteras Shoals, and the captain and ten men drowned.

25. Explosion in a cartridge factory in Plymouth, Pa., kills eleven persons.

26. Announcement that Piggott had confessed the forgery of the letters on which the London Times based its charges against Parnell.

27. The St. Louis Express drops through a bridge near St. George's, Ont., killing seven persons and injuring thirty.

MARCH.

1. Piggott, the forger of the Parnell letters kills himself in Madrid.

3. Earthquake shocks in Ecuador.

4. Grover Cleveland steps out of the White house and Benjamin Harrison steps in.

6. King Milan of Servia abdicates in favor of his son Alexander.

8. Earthquake shocks in Pennsylvania, Delaware and Maryland.

11. Strike of 6,000 weavers in Fall River, Mass.

14. Explosion of boilers in Pittsburg kills five persons and wounds thirteen.

15. Thomas B. Kerr, treasurer of the Broadway surface railroad in New York, acquited of the charge of having bribed aldermen.

16. The American and German fleets wrecked off Samoa in a storm, and 146 lives lost.

26. The Spanish mail steamer Mindaway sunk in a collision near Manila, and thirty persons lost.

28. An unknown thief "holds up" the president of the First National bank at Denver, and compels him to deliver $21,000.

29. Interstate Commerce Commissioner Aldace F. Walker resigns; the senate rejects the nomination of Murat Halstead for minister to Germany.

30. Boiler explosion on the steamer Countess of Flanders, in the English channel, kills fourteen persons.

APRIL.

7. Great storm, high tide and loss of life on the Atlantic coast.

10. Collision on the Chicago, Santa Fe & California railroad near Lorenzo, Ill., kills five persons; twenty-five lives lost in a coal mine explosion at Castrop, New South Wales.

12. Intelligence received of the abandonment in mid-ocean of the Danish steamer Danmark, with 725 people on board, who were taken off by the steamer Missouri, Capt. Murrell, and saved.

13. Suicide of John Jackson, president of the St. Louis Elevator company.

19. Fire along the Hudson river docks in New York destroys $2,000,000 worth of property and kills one man and injures six.

22. Oklahoma, by presidential proclamation, opened to settlers; Massachusetts polls 50,000 majority against a proposed prohibitory constitutional amendment.

28. Wreck on the Grand Trunk railroad near Hamilton, Ont., seventeen persons being killed or burned to death.

30. Centennial of Washington's first inauguration as president of the United States.

MAY.

3. A train crashes into a wagon at Philadelphia, killing three persons and injuring five.

4. Dr. P. H. Cronin lured from his residence in Chicago and murdered.

5. Opening of the exposition in Paris to commemorate the centennial of the beginning of the French Revolution.

8. Many lives lost by a cyclone in Pratt and Rice counties, Kan.; the steamer City of Paris arrives in New York, breaking the ocean record by a voyage of five days twenty-three hours and seven minutes from Queenstown.

11. Maj. J. W. Wham, paymaster United States army, robbed of $29,000 by bandits, near Cedar Springs, Ariz.; James D. Fish, ex-president of the Marine Bank of New York, released from prison at Auburn, N. Y., through the clemency of the president of the United States.

14. William Kemmler convicted at Buffalo, N. Y., of murder, is sentenced to death by electricity.

16. Fire destroys 700 houses in a suburb of Quebec.

19. The steamer Augusta Victoria arrives at Sandy Hook from Fastnet, making the ocean trip in five days, twenty-two and one-half hours, breaking all previous records.

21. At the Berlin conference Germany agrees to restore Malietoa to his post as King of Samoa.

22. The corpse of Dr. Cronin discovered in a sewer in Chicago.

28. Retirement on account of age of R. C. Drum, adjutant general of the army, the first private soldier who reached the ranks of brigadier general.

31. Breaking of the dam of the South Fork Fishing club, and the destruction of Johnstown, Pa., and other places, by the rushing waters, 4,000 or 5,000 lives being lost and $75,000,000 worth of property destroyed.

JUNE.

2. Great floods in the Chan Ping and Ping Yuen districts in China, and 6,000 lives lost.

6. Fire at Seattle, Wash., $6,000,000 worth of property being destroyed.

12. Calvin S. Brice elected Chairman of the Democratic National Committee; fifty children killed in a collision of sections of a Sunday-school excursion train in Ireland.

14. The Samoan commissioners at Berlin agree upon a treaty.

18. A proposed constitutional amendment defeated in Pennsylvania by nearly 190,000 majority.

19. Martin Bourk, Daniel Coughlin, Frank Woodruff and P. O. Sullivan indicted at Chicago for the murder of Dr. Cronin.

25. Sarah Jane Whiteling hanged in Philadelphia for the murder of her husband and children.

26. Collision on the Pennsylvania railroad near Latrobe, Pa., kills twelve persons and injures as many more.

27. Finding of the body of Anna Weiss, of Jefferson City, who had been murdered in the suburbs of West St. Louis.

JULY.

1. The "Angelus," a picture by Millet, sold at auction at Paris for $110,000.

2. Wreck on the Norfolk & Western railroad near Thaxton's, Va., and thirty lives lost.

3. Explosion of fire damp entombs 300 miners in a colliery at St. Etienne, France.

4. A $2,000,000 fire at Ellensburg, Wash.

8. John L. Sullivan defeats Jake Kilrain in a prize fight at Richburg, Miss.

9. Floods in Johnstown, N. Y., causes a loss of six lives.

13. Augustus Rosenberg kills his mistress and her four children in Boston and ends his own life by jumping from a window.

14. Centennial of the downfall of the Bastile celebrated in France and by Frenchmen all over the world.

16. E. D. Hogan ascends from Williamsburg, N. Y., in an airship and is never afterwards heard of.

18. Big floods and loss of life and property in West Virginia.

25. Celebration in Hawarden, England, of the golden wedding of W. E. Gladstone; failure of the dry goods house of Lewis Bros., of Philadelphia, with liabilities of $5,000,000.

26. Marriage of the Princess Louise, eldest daughter of the Prince of Wales, to the Duke of Fife.

28. The Boulangist movement receives a bad set-back at the elections in France for councils general.

AUGUST.

2. Arrival of the Emperor William, of Germany, in London on a visit to Queen Victoria.

5. The business portion of Spokane Falls, Wash., destroyed by fire, the loss being $6,000,000; fifteen persons injured at Tabor Station, on the Reading railroad, by a collision between a wild engine and a passenger train.

7. Mrs. Maybrick convicted at Liverpool of killing her husband by poisoning, and subsequently sentenced to death by hanging, but the sentence ultimately commuted to life imprisonment; an electric motor at Baltimore displays a speed of three miles a minute; Eben S. Allen, president of the Forty-Second Street Ferry railroad, in New York, arrested and subsequently sentenced to fourteen years' imprisonment, for issuing $130,000 worth of unauthorized stock; J. F. Collom arrested at Minneapolis charged with forgeries aggregating $275,000.

11. Judge Cummin, the head of the Pennsylvania flood commission for the relief of the Conemaugh valley sufferers, dies from disease contracted in the discharge of his duty.

13. The French senate convicts Gen. Boulanger on charges of conspiracy, treason and embezzlement, and he is sentenced to deportation.

14. David S. Terry, ex-judge of the California supreme court, while assaulting Associate Justice Field, of the supreme court of the United States, killed by Deputy Marshal Nagle.

16. John L. Sullivan convicted in Mississipi of prize fighting in that state, and sentenced to a year's imprisonment, but released on bail on appeal.

18. Great rain and wind storm and floods in Japan in which many vessels were sunk, immense amount of property destroyed and 10,000 lives lost.

19. Tenement house on Seventh avenue, New York, burned, and nine lives lost.

24. Legitime abdicates as president of Hayti, and his rival, Hippolyte, and his army enter the capital of that country, and the civil war ends.

25. Death of Henry Shaw, the philanthropist, in St. Louis.

26. Wreck on the Chicago, Santa Fe & California railroad near Kinsman, Ill., and fifty persons injured; Mrs. Robert Ray Hamilton stabs Mary Donnelly, her child's nurse, and was subsequently tried and sentenced to two years in prison.

31. The strike of the London dockmen reaches its height, 290,000 men being out; "Black Bart," the lone highwayman, captured in Wisconsin.

SEPTEMBER.

1. Graham goes safely over the Horseshoe falls at Niagara in a barrel.

2. End of the coal miners' strike in Illinois by the acceptance of the operators' terms by the strikers.

3. Barker, Mont., burned and nine lives lost.

5. The celebration of the founding of the Old Log college, near Hartsville, Pa., attended by President Harrison.

6. Dynamite explosion in a cartridge factory at Antwerp, and 300 persons killed.

7. Report, generally supposed to be a "fake," that Steve Brodie went over Niagara falls in his rubber suit.

9. Storm on the Atlantic ocean, and great damage to property at Atlantic City, N. J., and other seaside resorts, with wreck of vessels and loss of life at the Delaware breakwater.

12. Resignation of Pension Commissioner Tanner.

14. Launching of the new cruiser Baltimore, which showed on its trial trip a speed unequaled by any other war ship previously built; end of the London dockmen's strike.

15. Walter G. Campbell, it is reported, goes safely over Niagara falls in a cork suit, but the story is believed to be a "fake."

19. Twenty persons killed and much property destroyed at Quebec by the fall of rock from Dufferin Terrace; Mrs. Hiram Snell, of Malad, Idaho, gives birth to three boys and three girls.

22. Election for the entire Chamber of Deputies of France, and the defeat of Gen. Boulanger.

24. A drunken engineer on a freight train near Chicago causes the wreck of a passenger train on the Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific Railroad, and the death of six persons.

25. A wild-cat engine crashes into a train on the Philadelphia, Wilmington and Baltimore Railroad, injuring twelve persons.

27. Collision between sections of a passenger train on the New York Central railway, near Palatine bridge, N. Y., five persons being killed and a dozen injured.

28. Details given to the public of the investment of $50,000,000 by two English syndicates in American industrial enterprises.

30. Sheriff James A. Flack, of New York, and his son, indicted for conspiracy to divorce the sheriff's wife by fraud.

OCTOBER.

1. Elections for federal and state officers held in the new states of North and South Dakota, Montana and Washington; meeting of the Pan-American congress in Washington.

2. Wreck of the steamer Geographique and the schooner Minnie Swift off the Canadian coast in a collision, and loss of thirteen lives.

3. Boiler explosion on the steamer Corona at False River, on the Lower Mississippi, many lives being lost; sentence to seven years' imprisonment of Gen. Lester B. Faulkner, at Buffalo, N. Y., for wrecking a national bank.

5. The grand jury at San Joaquin county, Cal., decides that Deputy Marshal Nagel could not be tried in a state court for killing David S. Terry in defending Associate Justice Field.

6. Loss of four lives in the burning of a restaurant in Winona, Wis.; hurricane in the Island of Sardinia, and the loss of thirty lives and the destruction of a large amount of property.

7. The proposed prohibitory amendment to the Connecticut constitution defeated by 27,000 majority.

8. Charles B. Bishop, comedian, dies during a performance at the Lyceum theater, New York; grand parade of Knights Templar at the triennial conclave in Washington, 15,000 being in line.

9. Guns of the dynamite cruiser Vesuvius successfully tested at Philadelphia.

11. The stallion Axtell, after trotting a mile in 2:12 in Terre Haute, is sold to a syndicate for $105,000, the largest price ever obtained in the world for any horse; a natural gas explosion kills a mother and her three sons in Bradford, Io.; the czar of Russia visits Berlin.

12. Five persons indicted in Chicago or conspiring to bribe jurors in the Cronin murder trial.

13. Rev. Dr. Talmage's Tabernacle in Brooklyn burned.

15. Break of a cable on the Mount Auburn Inclined Plane railway in Cincinnati kills six persons and injures four; eighteen persons poisoned by soup at Woodbury, N. J.

16. Explosion in a colliery in the county of Stafford, England, and fifty miners killed.

18. In Hamburg, Germany, is found the body of a woman mutilated like those murdered by London's "Jack the Ripper."

27. The Duke of Sparta, Crown Prince of Greece, and Princess Sophie, of Prussia, married at Athens.

28. Loss of the British ship Bolan on the voyage from Calcutta for Liverpool; thirty-three persons being drowned.

31. Discovery, at Consboken, Pa., that William H. Cresson, cashier, was a defaulter in $100,000, and had gone to Canada.

NOVEMBER.

1. A factory in Glasgow collapsed and forty women and girls were killed.

4. Molten metal escaping from a furnace in Lebanon, Pa., kills six men.

7. Marriage of ex-Secretary of State Bayard and Mrs. May Clymer, at Washington, D. C.; ex-President Cleveland calls on President Harrison at the White House; Miss Kate Drexell, of Philadelphia, worth $6,000,000, takes the white veil in a Catholic convent at Pittsburg.

8. Encounter in the postoffice at Lexington, Ky., between W. Cassius Goodloe, member of the Republican national committe from Kentucky, and collector of revenue for his district, and A. M. Swope, a former collector, in which Swope was stabbed to death, after having shot and wounded Goodloe so that he died a few days afterward.

10. Beginning, at Baltimore, of the celebration of the centennial of the establishment of the Catholic hierarchy in America.

11. The first lay congress of the Catholic church ever held in America opens in Baltimore.

14. John Crerar's will probated at Chicago, in which $2,500,000 was given for a public library in that city and $100,000 for a statue of Abraham Lincoln.

15. Bloodless revolution in Brazil, by which the imperial government was overthrown, Dom Pedro exiled and a republic set up, with Deodoro da Fonseca as provisional president.

20. Collision off the Maryland coast between the steamer Manhattan and the schooner Agnes Manning, in which the steamer was sunk and nine lives lost.

22. Hannah Southworth shoots and kills her betrayer, Stephen Pettus, secretary and treasurer of the Brooklyn Elevated railroad in New York.

24. Robbery of the car of the Pacific Express company on the Missouri, Kansas & Texas railroad at Pryor Creek, in the Choctaw Nation, Ind. Ter., in which $1,812 were stolen.

26. Opening of the silver convention in St. Louis; fire at Lynn, Mass., destroying $5,000,000 worth of property.

27. The bark Germania sinks off the New Jersey coast, and the captain and eight of the crew are drowned.

28. Loss of $10,000,000 worth of property in a fire in Boston.

30. Fire in Minneapolis destroys the Tribune office and causes the death of seven persons and the injury of a dozen others; denial by Judge Anderson, at Salt Lake City, of applications for citizenship made by Mormons who had taken the endowment house oath in the Mormon church; nomination of Thomas B. Reed for the speakership by the Republican caucus of members of the house.

DECEMBER.

2. Opening of the Fifty-first congress and election of Thomas B. Reed as speaker of the house; six people burned to death in a tenement in Philadelphia.

3. Presentation of the president's message to congress.

4. Annual report of the secretary of the treasury read in congress; nomination by President Harrison of Judge David Brewer, of Kansas, for associate justice of the federal supreme court; the Farmers' and Laborers' Union of America open their national convention in St. Louis.

5. Announcement of the disappearance of C. F. Silcott, cashier of the sergeant-at-arms of the house of representatives, with nearly $72,000 of the funds intrusted to his care; arrival of Stanley and his party with Emin Pasha at Bagamoyo, opposite Zanzibar.

7. Four men burned to death and five others injured at a fire on a pier in New York: arrival of the exiled emperor Dom Pedro, of Brazil, at Lisbon; Caspar F. Clispy, at St. Louis, kills John Anson and his daughter, Agnes Anson, slightly wounds her sister and her brother and then suicides.

9. Peter Clausen killed by an electric light wire in New York; the chamber of deputies declares Gen. Boulanger's election invalid; Speaker Reed announces the committees on ways and means, elections, manufactures and mileage.

10. Panic in a theater at Johnstown, Pa., on account of a false alarm of fire, and ten persons killed and fifty injured.

11. Funeral of Jefferson Davis at New Orleans; centennial celebration in the hall of the federal house of representatives of the first inauguration of President Washington and the organization of congress.

12. Banquet of the Boston Merchants' Association, and addresses by ex-President Cleveland, Henry W. Grady, of Georgia, and others.

13. The Cronin case in Chicago given to the jury.

14. Influenza becomes epidemic in several of the leading cities of continental Europe.

16. The jury in the Cronin case brings in a verdict, which gives O'Sullivan, Coughlin and Burke life imprisonment, and Kunze three years, while Beggs is acquitted; influenza of the type epidemic in some parts of Europe discovered in New York; wreck on the Ohio, Indiana & Western railway, near Covington, Ind., in which J. H. Wilson, general superintendent of the road, and J. H. Cummins, trainmaster, were killed.

17. Charles H. Uhde commits suicide in St. Louis; Emile Guenther, in St. Louis, kills his father, George Guenther: fist fight near Butte, Mont., between John Gallagher and G. H. Ward, which resulted in the death of both.

20. Gas steal provided for by the St. Louis council, whereby the city would be victimized to the extent of $4,500,000; burning of the Guernsey building in St. Louis, with a loss of $150,000; robbery of the express car on a train on the San Angelo branch of the Santa Fe railroad, at Bangs Station, Tex., a brakeman being killed and $42 taken.

21. Announcement of the full list of house committees; disappearance of Chu Tong, cashier of a Chinese bank of New York, with $15,000 of the bank's funds and a young white lady who had been his Sunday school teacher; failure of the blank book manufacturing firm of J. Q. Preble & Co., of New York, with liabilities of $1,000,000; the Rawlins and White river stage robbed of $150 by two masked men, near Rawlins, Mo.

22. Silcott, the Washington defaulter, seen at Montreal; Charles Shealer kills his wife, three children and himself in Niles, O., while drunk; an English syndicate buys the flour mills of ex-Gov. Pillsbury and Senator W. D. Washburn, at Minneapolis, for $750,000; Capt. John S. Parker, formerly a real estate operator at Kansas City, drowns himself in the Potomac, at Washington.

23. Fight between Slavin, the Australian, and Jem Smith, the English champion, near Bruges, Belgium, which was declared a draw, although Slavin had the best of it from the start.

24. Intelligence received of a mine disaster at Angels' Camp, near San Andreas, Cal., in which sixteen lives were lost: fight between a deputy United States marshal and party and whisky peddlers in the Indian Territory, in which the peddlers were wounded and captured.

25. Race riot in Jesup, Ga., in which nine persons are reported killed and several others injured; elopement from Carterville, Ga., of Anna C. Jones, daughter of Sam Jones, the evangelist, with W. M. Graham, a court stenographer.

26. Great storm on the Atlantic coast, and several lives lost and much property destroyed.

27. Spread of influenza in the cities of the Atlantic seaboard, 25,000 cases being reported in and near Boston.

28. Ten persons killed and several others injured in a wreck on the Chesapeake & Ohio railroad, near White Sulphur Springs, Va.; 50,000 people reported as suffering from the influenza in New York city; eight negroes, charged with murder, taken from the jail in Barnwell, S. C., by a mob and shot.

29. Eleven persons burned to death in a dwelling near Hurontown, Mich.; Gladstone is congratulated from every quarter of the globe on his eightieth birthday.

30. Faribault, Minn., suffers a $80,000 midnight fire; Hal Reid marries Miss Bertha Belle Westbrook, a young actress from St. Louis.

31. W. F. Sanders is nominated by the Republicans and W. A. Clark and Martin Maginnis by the Democrats for United States senators at Helena.

Western Rural Dairy Suggestions

Each of the different kinds of churns has its friends and advocates. To say which is the best churn would provoke a useless controversy, we would say to a correspondent.

The dairy of this country would today be 25 to 50 per cent better off than it is if the infernal greed of the human heart had never discovered a process for making butterine.

The following appears in the Holstein-Freisian Register: The man who says his cows are cheaply kept, and makes this an argument for recommendation, don't know what he is talking about.

If you have common cows in the dairy buy a Jersey or two and mix the milk. If you will do that we feel pretty sure that you will go further in a short time, and either breed up or discard common stock altogether.

Did you, in your whole experience, try the effect of different rations upon the quality of milk? Suppose you experiment. Try corn meal, oat meal, bran, and all these mixed. Try different kinds of hay, if you have different kinds. Especially try clover, if you have it.

The keeping quality of butter is not to be scorned, as some writers think. Butter is not an article that can be kept at its best for any great length of time, but it is important that it should keep a reasonable time; and it is true that the clearer butter is of caseine the longer it will keep. In these days of machinery to hurl everything solid out of milk, it is especially to the interest of some people to declare the matter of keeping quality is of no importance.

Western Rural Dairy Suggestions.

The Wisconsin State university now has a dairy school. In our opinion, it has no more important department.

For running dude horse shows and exhibiting bogus butter the Chicago "gentleman" is a great success in his own esteem.

Oat meal is a grand food for the cow. If she has plenty of such food as oat meal and bran she will not need oil meal, which we so often recommend.

Foods vary in quality, owing to different conditions under which they are grown. That is one reason why a prescribed ration will not always produce the same results.

The time has now come when the dairyman will keep his grain in the bin and make nothing out of his cows or will give the cows all they want and add to the value of every bushel of grain that is fed.

An exchange says that we make butter to eat and not to keep. Therefore the keeping quality of butter is of no consequence. That sort of logic will not do, brother. Honest Injun, do you think it a bed-rock position yourself?

We suggest that the Illinois Board of Agriculture keep the exposition building cleaner during the fat stock show. While men are forking out the manure, instruct them to fork out the butterine. They might fork out the board, too, while they are forking.

Hoard's Dairyman asks if the Rural buys white oak cheese? Prrt of the time, and part of the time adulterated cheese, there being little difference in the quality. We reckon it would do our friend who is running the governor's paper a little good if he would spend a day among the grocery stores hunting up "good cheese."

A man may have a herd of shorthorns, or even common cows for that matter, that are as good as the average animal of the dairy breeds. But it would be an exception to the rule. If a man has such a herd he need not bother himself about getting the dairy breeds. If he has not a first-class herd he should get one, that is all.

A writer in the New York Tribune says: I prefer to keep a pleasant, courteous, obliging man to one considerably more efficient, but who is gruff, surly and selfish. These traits are as applicable to the "other side." "Life is not so short but that there is always time enough for courtesy." That is good business policy, and The Rural and Stockman would add that if we would apply that principle to the men we employ to handle the cows we would get more milk and butter.

A Milkman's Questions.

In Massachusetts the milkman whose cow gives him milk with less than 13 per cent of solids lays himself liable to prosecution if he sells it. Suppose now, on the other hand, his cow gives him milk with 18 or 20 per cent of solids, can he reduce it with water to 13 per cent and legally sell it? asks the Prairie Farmer.

Again, if he have one cow, the milk of which contains 14 per cent of solids, and another cow whose milk contains only 12 per cent, can he mix them and then legally sell the milk of both? If not, why not?

Small farmers and villagers may produce one-half of their meat supply in the poultry yard if they will give the subject proper attention. It is worth while to make the attempt.

MAGDA'S FIRST BALL.

A Story of New Year's Eve. By Helen Stoeckel.

Dearest Magda: At last it has been decided. Papa returned this moment from a committee meeting. Two weeks from to-day, on New Year's eve, the grand ball is to take place at the Exchange. Of course I am going. Oh, how happy I am. That is, only if you are going, too. My darling Magda, don't stop a moment to pray and plead until your parents grant their permission—promise me! As soon as you have it, write at once to your META."

"My Dear Meta: I can only write you a few hasty lines. There is nothing definite yet to tell, but I have confided all to mother, and she has promised to plead my case with papa. You know he is averse to balls and parties, like all men of learning. Oh, if he would only let me go this time! I dare not think of all the delights in store for me at this, my first ball. With many kisses, your MAGDA."

"All's well, so long as your mother is your advocate, you know; your father cannot refuse her anything. Dearest Magda, I am to have the loveliest ball toilette, a very dream of a gown. R— is to make it; you know, of course, how elegant his costumes are. Mamma has decided about everything. A jupe of pink peau de soie, embroidered with dainty bouquets de rose, a surplice of pink gauze, with tiny rosebuds nestling in its folds, around the decollete neck; an entree of pink plush, bordered with angona fur—heavenly, isn't it, Magda? And I am to find this lovely toilette, all ready and finished, under the Christmas tree. Write to me soon, how everything is with you. YOUR META."

"I'm going, Meta, I'm going! If you were only here, I could hug you to death with joy. At first papa would not hear to anything of the kind. 'A ball—certainly not. She is much too young,' said he. 'Dear husband, she will be eighteen next summer,' pleaded mother. 'Eighteen, eh? (I don't believe, dear Meta, that papa really knows how old his children are.) And while the girl is thinking of all this frivolity she'll forget all about her domestic duties.' 'No, no, dear papa,' I now ejaculated, 'I promise you that mamma shall be satisfied with me.' 'I have certainly been that with our daughter,' my mother asserted in her kindly manner. 'Magda is beginning to be a very sensible girl.' 'Haven't seen much of it, however—' I wouldn't let papa finish his sentence, but clasped my arms around his neck. 'Then I may go, father dear?' 'Have I said so, you blunderbus?' snarled papa, submitting to my fond caresses in spite of it. Suddenly he looked uneasily toward mother. 'You certainly do not expect me to go with you, do you?' With a gentle 'no, no,' mother quieted his fears. "I shall go alone with Magda, for we will find many families there of our circle of friends, whom we can join.' Papa breathed a sigh of relief. 'Well, then you had better arrange the rest between youaselves!'

"And so it is a fact, Meta, I am to go to the ball—my first ball. I shall, of course, not have so costly a toilet as yours, only a simple, white mull gown, which I am to help make up, but I don't care about that. You shall see how pretty I can make it look. Adieu for to-day. YOUR MAGDA."

"P. S.—Do you know who of our acquaintances will be there? If I only knew, it—if—"

"Why didn't you finish the sentence so cleverly begun, you little hypocrite? Do you mean our friends in general, or a 'very certain friend' in particular, about whose coming you are interested? But I am merciful and will tell you that he is really coming. Papa met him and he has promised. Lest you should not know who the party is designated by the little pronoun 'he,' let me enlighten you by saying that it refers to a certain Dr. Phil Arming, and it is whispered about that he has for some time exhibited great interest for the daughter of a certain professor, who may be no stranger to you. It is quite a remarkable fact that he too, inquired who was to attend the ball. He seemed just a little bit 'put out' when he heard you were going. Dear Magda, won't it be delightful?

"I am already engaged for the first waltz. Can you guess to whom? To-day the gentlemen on the committee purchased the cotillion favors and there are some charming trinkets among them. There are also some new figures —a fan figure, a butterfly figure. Wonderful, I tell you! The entire arrangement is a secret, however, and I mustn't betray it all. Your META."

"To-morrow is Christmas! I am so busy that I don't know where to begin, but cannot refrain from sending you a few lines. Let me congratulate you on your waltz engagement. What you write about Dr. Armsing is all nonsense; he has more important things to do than to bother about so insignificant a thing as myself. During the holidays I shall come to see you and all your lovely presents. Are you sure, Meta, that he will really be there? Your "MAGDA."

Christmas eve had come. Her charming, youthful face beaming with joy, Magda stood before the Christmas table enjoying her treasures, the fine, soft mull, the delicate sprays of forget-menots for her silken curls, the fine satin slippers, the handsome fan, the long gants de Suede, the pearl necklace which her mother had worn in her girlhood days and saved for her favorite daughter—it was all so lovely and beautiful that she could not stop gazing in wonder at the splendor spread out before her, and flitted back and forth between her father and mother to thank them over and over again for the generous gifts.

It was rather a pleasure than otherwise not to find her ball toilet finished and ready, like Meta, for there was much to study and think and dream about, while the busy needle passed back and forth through the soft folds A quiet, happy smile spread over her girlish countenance, while she sat bending over the work which the seamstress had confided to her nimble fingers, and they seemed to keep time with the joyous flight of her thoughts, until her mother, watching the hasty zeal of her daughter, exclaimed anxiously: "Child, how warm you are! Rest a little now; your face is all aglow."

And the great day came at last. In the little spare room, which for to-day had been turned over to Magda as a dressing room, her toilet was spread out piece by piece. The younger children gathered around their sister in dignified silence, the fourteen-year-old Charley and the little Elizabeth, whose excited, childish face seemed constantly to say: "Never mind, my time will come, too."

At dinner, which was served earlier than usual on that day, the mother looked a little pale and worn. "You have worked too hard, wife," the father said anxiously. "I hope Magda will be able to dress without your help." "I'll only arrange her hair." "Oh, no, dear mother, I can do it very well myself," cried Magda, quickly. "Come, lie on the lounge and rest, and after a while Hannah can help you dress. I'll need no one but Elizabeth, and you shall see how nicely I get along."

And Magda really did get along very well. Exactly at the appointed time the great work was finished. Charley and Elizabeth hardly dared look up at their sister, who seemed almost a stranger to them in her dainty gown, and bare, white shoulders and arms. It was but a modest little mirror in which Magda saw the reflection of herself, but the image which greeted her was very lovely, and made the girl blush with innocent pride at her own flower-like face.

"Let's go to mother!" The children ran ahead, solicitously opening the door to mother's room. A sudden expression of fright spread over their countenances as they paused on the threshold.

"Mother, dear mother, are you ill?" exclaimed Magda, hastening toward her. She was still in her house dress, leaning, pale and exhausted, against the back of her easy chair.

"Don't be worried, my child, it's only one of my nervous attacks and will soon be over. In half an hour I hope to be well enough to accompany you. In the meanwhile wait in your room."

Magda's father was anxiously endeavoring to soothe the sufferings of his pallid wife, and beckoned his daughter to leave the room.

Mechanically the girl obeyed and hastened back to the little chamber, which but a moment ago she had left with a heart full of glad anticipations, and sank upon a chair. Was it possible that this could be the end of her dream of pleasure? No, no, it cannot be. Without even clinging to a definite thought, she sat in the solitude of her little room, instinctively protecting her delicate gown against crushing, when Hannah's voice bade her come to her mother.

One look into the suffering face revealed to her the fact that she was no better. "My dear child," the mother said faintly, "it is impossible for me to go with you, but do not be discouraged, you shall not be deprived of your long anticipated pleasure. Your father will take you to the ball."

"But father cannot well leave you," said Magda, with quivering lips.

"He will only accompany you to the ballroom and transfer you to the care of our friends."

"And am I to dance while you are in pain, mother?"

"You have looked forward to this your first ball with so much innocent pleasure that I shall be only too glad to see you happy. Father will soon be ready; put on your wraps now, and do not keep him waiting."

Silently Magda kissed her mother's hand and repaired again to her room. Once sheltered by its narrow halls she locked the door and with her face hidden in her badds abandoned herself to unrestrained grief. Her heart was full of contending emotions. So this was the end of all her dreams and hopes. All her glad expectations had come to naught. Wasn't it her duty to remain at home? If her mother should grow worse—if something serious should happen to her while she was away—could she in all her life pardon herself? But the attack would go by—mother had often had it before. Was she suffering less then, because she suffered often? Could she devote herself to enjoyment knowing her mother to be ill? How kind and unselfish that mother had been at all times; how many sacrifices had she not made for her child—how could she hesitate to remain at home for the love of her? It was her first ball. And then, it was not the ball alone. Ah, she had hoped to meet the one to whom her innocent heart had gone out secretly in girlish love and admiration.

And now he would dance with others. There were so many pretty girls he would quickly forget her. Their's was so quiet and reserved a home, God knows, the opportunity to meet him again might be long deferred! Until then his heart might have decided in favor of another.

Two heavy tear-drops forced their way through her fingers, then she resolutely raised her head.

"How could I hope for happiness when I do what is wrong? I will be dutiful and leave the rest to God," she whispered to herself, and began hastily to undress. Piece after piece of the dainty garments were placed on the bed, and then, as a last farewell to hopes and joys departed, she pressed her face for a moment into the soft mull clouds, slipped into her simple house dress and repaired to the kitchen to prepare, with her own hands, the tea which had so often helped her mother under similar attacks.

And, while her father stood with a heavy heart beside his patient wife, to bid her adieu for the next hour, the door opened and Magda entered in her every-day gown, carrying a cup of steaming tea in her hand. Her eyes were a little red from weeping, but around her mouth hovered a friendly, winsome smile.

"My darling child," was all her mother could say; but the tone in which she spoke the tender words fell like a soothing balm on Magda's burning wound, and when her father, so little inclined to any demonstration of affection, now patted her cheek and said with kindly praise: "You have done well, my child, I am proud of you," all lingering trace of bitterness at the sacrifice she had made disappeared.

She remained with her mother until she drank the tea, then helped her to undress and put her to bed.

An hour had elapsed, and Magda whispered to her father, whose anxious face appeared in the door, which he had softly opened, that her mother was asleep.

"Thank God," replied he with a sigh of relief, "the danger is passed for this time. We can now leave her safely to Hannah's care. I think that by to-morrow she will be herself again. But what shall we do with the remaining hours of the dying year? Would my little daughter care to walk with her old father? It is a clear, crisp winter night, and the fresh air will do us both good."

"And may we come along also?" exclaimed Elizabeth and Charley, who had been greatly perplexed by the sudden unexpected change in the programme of the evening.

"You may indeed," replied the father with unwonted good humor, "and when we come back, Magda shall prepare the Sylvester bowl for us, and we will await the New Year together."

Well protected against the cold with wraps and mufflers, the younger children taking the lead, Magda by the side of her father, the little troop soon started out into the clear winter night. The professor turned his face toward the public park. How strangely beautiful it appeared in this hour! Magda could not remember to have ever seen the winding, wintry walks at night time. Dazzlingly white the vast snow-covered swards expanded before her, bathed in the silver light of the moon, latticed here and there by the shadows thrown by an isolated group of trees. In somber hue the pines and firs stretched their arms skyward, while the tops of other trees stood out like trellised silhouettes against the nocturnal firmament. At times deep shadows fell across the path, making the wanderer's foot hesitate to step into the darkness lest it might sink into some unknown abyss. Not a breath of air seemed stirring, silently and listlessly nature in all her wintry grandeur laid before her.

Magda raised her eyes devoutly to the star-glistening sky. Holy thoughts and earnest resolutions passed through her innocent soul, while her eyes peered into the immeasurable depths, upon which looked down unconcerned about the change of time and events, the star-lighted heaven in all its lofty splendor on this last evening of an earthly year. How small was her own trouble, compared to the greatness of the eternal lamps of nature! How easy to lay her cares and burdens into the hands of God, whose will set them ablaze each night! "Let me be a good girl, dear God," she prayed, simply and full of devotion. "No matter what the new year may bring to me of happiness or pain, I will gratefully accept it from your everlasting hands!"

Suddenly the sound of approaching footsteps fell on her ear. The figure of a man appeared in the shadow of the pine grove beyond. With curious eyes Magda scanned the newcomer. Was it a casual pedestrian, shortening his route by traversing the park, or were there others like them, who sought the magnificent spectacle of this beautiful winter night?

As he emerged from the trees the moonlight fell full on his face. A tremor of happy fright passed through Magda's frame as she recognized in the lonely wanderer before her—Dr. Arming. Dr. Arming, who had occupied her houghts all day, and whom she believed at this moment in the midst of the enjoyment of the Sylvester ball!

Magda's father now greeted him: "Is that you, Dr. Arming?" he cried in surprise. "Where in the world do you come from? I thought you were at the ball."

"I was there," replied the doctor, betraying some slight embarrassment, "but left very soon; I—I was not in the right kind of mood for a ball. But I am scarcely less surprised to see you, Miss Magda, promenading the wintry park, instead of gracing the shining parquet of the Exchange."

"It is because she is a dear, good child," said her father, lovingly placing his hand upon his daughter's shoulder. "My wife was suddenly taken ill, and while we did not interfere with Magda's pleasure, she was too good a daughter to leave her suffering mother, and willingly renounced the anticipated enjoyment. It may not have been an easy task," he added, "but I can truthfully say it was gladly done."

"Such heroism deserves great praise," said Dr. Arming, cleverly turning from the professor's side to that of his young daughter. "And wasn't this to be your first ball, Miss Magda?"

"Yes, of course, but I have almost forgotten the ball," said the young damsel in a voice which left no doubt as to the truth of her assertion. "How beautiful it is here,"—and she gazed about with shining eyes—"it seems almost to me, that the last evening of the year is far better spent underneath God's vast open sky, than in the ball room."

"I am glad that you agree with my own sentiment, and I may confess to you that I am no great friend of New Year's eve balls. The custom of obliterating the solemn thoughts which the close of the year brings to every human heart by loud gayety and mirth never appealed to my liking. It's an evening which above all others belongs to the family. Of course," he added with a great sigh, to those who are so happy as to have a family."

Charley and Elizabeth took advantage of the favorable opportunity and took their father in their midst, drawing him along with them and overwhelming him with a thousand questions.

Magda and the doctor followed slowly on. And while they wandered side by side through the moonlit park, the young man began to tell her in gentle words of the happy family life of his youthful days, and how earnestly he wished that the circle of home would once more close warmly and snugly around him. He told her of his dead mother, with whom he had always spent this evening of the year, of her goodness and tenderness, and the great loss her death was to him. Before either were aware of it, they had arrived at her father's house. With a polite salute the doctor attempted to withdraw, but the professor protested. "No, doctor, you must come with us. The old year has so wonderfully led you across our path that you must help us see its close."

"Will it not disturb your wife?"

"My wife cannot hear us in her room, and, besides, she fell asleep long ago. Magda will see to it that the punch will soon be ready."

Magda's nimble feet ran swiftly up the stairs. Charley and Elizabeth lent helping hands, and soon the little company was gathered around the family board, doing honor to the traditional fragrant bowl, which Magda had prepared.

The younger children provided all manner of New Year's eve entertainment, and even the grave father had to join in the throwing of apple peels and slippers, and try his luck at melting lead. Magda and Dr. Armstrong took part in the general merriment at first, but as the mystic hour drew near in which the old year surrenders its scepter to the new, they grew strangely quiet. Standing close to the slightly open window, they listened and peered into the darkness outside.

Suddenly the first peal of the midnight bell announced clearly and distinctly the changing tide. Magda clasped her arms around her father's neck, wishing him a "happy new year," and, making room for Charley and Elizabeth, turned to Dr. Arming, who had modestly stepped aside, so as not to disturb the little family scene.

"I hope the new year will be a happy one for you," she said timidly.

"Do not say for me alone—say for both of us, Magda, my darling," he whispered earnestly. It was all he could say then, for Charley thrust his hand into the doctor's with a "Happy new year!" over and over again.

Magda's face was bathed in girlish blushes; her sensitive mouth trembled as she felt her lover's gaze rest longingly upon her. Slowly, timidly she raised her face to his, and their eyes met in a happy promise, while his hand folded gently over her two dimpled ones.

The doctor had gone, and the rest of the family had soon retired. Stepping softly along the hall, with her slippers in her hand, so as not to awake her mother, Magda slipped into the room, which she shared with her. But the mother heard the approach of her child. "Is it you, my little daughter?" she questioned gently. In a moment Magda was by her side, faltering into her ear the warm New Year's wishes for her mother's welfare. As the mother passed her hand caressingly over the girl's face she found the dew of tears upon the soft velvety cheeks.

"Are you still unhappy about the ball, my poor child?" she asked tenderly.

"Unhappy? Oh, mother, sweet mother, so happy, so indescribably happy!" And pressing her blushing face against the loving breast of her mother she whispered to her the exquisite hope which had unfolded to her on the threshold of the new year.

COWS FOR CREAM.

How the N. E. Farmer Would Have Them Fed for This Purpose.

There has been a long-standing disagreement between dairymen and scientists on the point of changing the percentage of cream by the quality and character of the food given. We have heard the statement made from the platform many times that the proportion of cream was a quality of the individual animal. All the while observing and critical dairymen have known they were changing the "richness" of milk by the character and quality of the feed given. An extreme exemplification of this was seen in the test trials of Mary Ann of St. Lambert and Princess II. Later on the scientists have explained that they were misunderstood, or rather that they did not state the problem as they meant it. What they wanted to state was that the relative proportion of the cream to the other solids in any cow's milk was not changed by the character of the foods eaten. This admits of the fact which every dairyman knows, that the proportion of water in milk is affected by food, and is not a fixed characteristic of the cow. The fixed relation of cream to other solids the work of the common dairyman does not enable him to prove, for while making butter the other solids of the milk are not to any extent concerned, while in making cheese the casein of the milk is the prominent controlling factor on quantity rather than the cream globules. Still, the theory of inflexible relation between the two classes of solids does not seem to be proved, and in the extreme feeding of the two cows referred to, is would be interesting to know whether a continuous relation was maintained. Certainly in the case of the tested cow, Toltre's Fancy, where the cream line showed seven-eighths of the milk to be cream, there was hardly room for a like increase of the casein solids.

More recently, however, the scientists have conceded another point. Still insisting that the relation of cream to other solids is a principle fixed in the animal, yet they now claim its natural proportions are not reached till the cow is so fed as to reach her normal capacity, and when that point is touched the influence of feed can go no farther. This places her "normal capacity" at the extreme of food influence. This virtually concedes all the dairymen have claimed, and brings farmers and scientists in close agreement. All there is left between them is the unimportant point whether there is a "normal capacity" beyond which the cow is not susceptible to influence from feed. This has never been questioned by practical men, and really can have no significance whatever. It thus becomes admitted that richness can be fed into the milk of a cow.

Shipping Hay West.

A majority of the hay that is being shipped into the principal markets of Montana is, we are glad to state, inferior to the hay grown in the valleys nearest the principal markets, says the Husbandman. This is a considerable advantage in favor of the local farmers. They are getting from $1 to $3 per ton more for their hay than the imported hay commands. The Dakota hay is less desirable than any upon the markets. It is shipped in by rail and is more convenient to handle than that grown in the neighborhood, but it is far from being a good quality. The baling is done with unusually good care. The outward appearance of the bales is good, enough, but the inside, when exposed is not so attractive. It is a mixture of dry and green grass, and the outside is usually made to look quite green and nice, while the inside is largely composed of last year's growth. We are told by some of the dealers that the dry is as good as the green, and that stock relish it, but are not convinced of the truth of such statement. The Minnesota hay, though inferior to our native product, presents a good appearance in the market, and is more desirable than the Dakota hay. Some allowance, however, is due for the Dakota hay on the market this year. The season was dry, and, to get hay at all, old grass, which had been left last year, had to be cut, but it is, no doubt, being sold at a profit to the producer. In ordinary years the grass grows much longer and is better hay than the late crop.

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