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A FARMER'S TALK TO FARMERS.

The North Pole Moves Down--The First Lamb--Born in the Open to a Cold World--The Oddest Thing in Life is How Some Things Do Happen and Some Don't--Things Which Cannot be Lost--Sheep Know What's Good for 'Em--Instinct Beats Reason for Animals--An Illustrative Instance.

(Written specially for The Bulletin.) Well, winter's struck on, according to present appearances. Up in this neck of the woods the last two months have been more like the second season of Nova Scotia climate, as once described by a native. They had but two real seasons there, he said; "six months winter and six months d-d-late in the fall." It's not much warmer nor winter, but quite "d-d-fall" for the last eight or ten weeks. But this morning our old friend of the North Pole has arrived. As I write, it is snowing and sleeting outside. The wind is blowing in vindictive gusts; already nearly a foot of snow blankets my lawn. It has drifted two or three feet deep along the fence. Occasionally a wing of the gale backlashes over my old-fashioned, big-throated chimney-top, and whirrs a current down, momentarily reversing the draft and sending a curl of smoke out from the stove. Then the fire takes a fresh hold and roars the wind-headed zephyr holistically back up the chimney.

Oh, yes, it's winter, sure enough, the first lamb, about two hours old, is shivering and bleating, and presumably thinking that this is a cold, cold world for him. I guess he'll "make a live of it." Old Mrs. Ewe is tending right up to him, and she seems to have ideas of his own, already, about the proper business of lambs. But it made me laugh with a curious mixture of amusement and disgust when I opened the barn-doors this morning and looked out into the yard. You see, I was sure I was milked and seemed to promise nothing more than a bit of rain. The barnyard was open on one side, and one of which is the enclosed sheepfold. It has been so warm, thus far, that I have not shut the sheep into their fold, night. It is open so they can go into it if they desire, and can roam about the yard, if they prefer that. But if there is a promise of lambs on the horizon I mean to shut them in overnight and during storms. Probably I do just that about six times out of seven. But that seventh time, when I've miscalculated or misread the weather, when I've left the sheepfold open into the yard and a sudden change starts a howling snow-storm during the night, or sends the thermometer down below zero, that seventh time is the one which a lamb will invariably pick out to appear on. And this morning, when I was awakened by the snow and sleet thrashing against my window, I said to myself, with a conviction that would have given odds of at least two to one against any opposing gambler: "Bet you there's a lamb."

And there was a lamb out in the yard, too. He was on a straw- and comparatively dry oasis amid the snow, and under a corner of a roof. But the snow was almost everywhere, and the wind was whipping viciously around the post. And he wasn't enjoying life--not a little bit. I called the ewe into the fold, and he followed. There they are now. Guess they'll both pull through; if they don't, as the young doctor said after a rather unlicky case: "I've saved the old man, anyhow."

Theoretically, I don't believe in luck. Practically, I guess it and discuss it very much as other folks do. Out of about a hundred winter lambs I've had come during the last few years nearly eighty have been born during howling snowstorms or in the midst of a below-zero "cold snap" when the environment has made necessary about four or five as much worry and bother as if they had come in sensible weather. Of course I'm in "luck," how can it be "luck"? But manifestly I'm not responsible for it. And it would really seem to me that Providence charges up such trials as happen to me, and I'm responsible for my own conduct. We're quite as much inclined to overlook Providence by loading the responsibility for our bad fortune on us as we are to overlook this non-existing but pesky "luck."

Granting that there's no such thing as luck, and granting that Providence isn't changing the laws of the universe every little while to help us or hurt us over the head; granting that everything happens in accord with an unvarying scheme of cause and effect--a sequence of events which we call "law"--granting all this, it's the oddest thing in life how some things happen and some things don't happen.

If I lose or mislay some small thing I am almost "certain-sure" to find it again. I've got so I never worry about losing a key or a pocket watch, or a broken blade and a cracked handle and a worn-out spring that I can't lose. I've dropped it in the hayfield and the following winter found it in the litter at the bottom of the cow manger. I've dropped it in the road and had it lie

there, unseen by seven dozen passing boys for a week, only to be scratched up into plain sight by a buggy wheel just two minutes before I came along to see it and pick it up. Last summer I dropped through a hole in my pocket somewhere in three acres of garden. I found it again. If I lose a pencil or a pair of gloves or an old boot, they turn up all right. If I don't find 'em myself somebody else will and return 'em to me. But two years ago a little notebook disappeared, in which I had kept down records and suggestions about various more or less perplexing garden crops during a dozen years' growing experience. With them, a book of more practical worth to me than any six volumes in my library, and not so much as a torn corner of a leaf from it has ever since appeared. Perhaps ten years ago a good watch slipped out of my vest pocket while I was cultivating corn. I missed it at the end of the row it must have fallen in, for I had looked at it before starting. Old Sorrel said the watch was in the broken chain dangling as I turned at the further end. But a long search failed to find it and I've never seen it since.

If a thing is of little importance or value and I lose it I am fairly sure to find it again. But if it is of real value, then good-bye. "Good-bye" name "luck." But what in goodness' name shall we call it? As the theologians sometimes say, please assume a lapse of about nineteen and a half minutes between that last word and the paragraph following. I've just waded up to the barn again to take a look at the little buster. His mother has called him out of the fold, and he is lying, apparently dozing, under the open shed, again. Some years ago, when I was more certain than I am now that I know more of a sheep, I should have dragged him out and fastened him in, and neither of them could get out into the snow. But, the longer I live, the more firm is my conviction that I know what I want better than a sheep. And, "pari passu," the longer I live the more firm grows my conviction that sheep know what's good for them better than I do. I've just waded up to the shed and bushes instead of good hay, it's because weeds and bushes are better for them. Let 'em have the stuff if they want it. I haven't lost a sheep, where the wind blows and the snow drifts a little, and there's plenty of fresh air, why, let 'em. I've lost one or two sheep by trying to take care of 'em. Sunday morning, the coldest morning of the winter, the mercury dropping to 8 below zero. The icehouse of the Eagle Mill company has been filled with eleven inch ice. Four days of excellent sleighing was the result of last Sunday's mercury. Tuesday morning was the coldest morning of the winter, the mercury dropping to 8 below zero. Carleton Smith of Wyoming, R. I., returned to his place on the route after an absence of a number of days due to illness. County Commissioner Fred O. Vincent's car was in New York City the past week, the guest of relatives. Jay E. Eaton of New York spent a few days with his family in the village recently.

WASHINGTON COUNTY, R. I. ARCADIA. News from the Schools--Mills Start Up

Everett Woodman's returned Monday from a visit with friends at New York, Plainfield, Central Village, Moosup and Oneco, Conn.

Mr. Hadfield has returned home after a month's visit with his daughters. Mrs. Walter Pierce of Arkwright and Mrs. Benjamin Abdo of Hope, R. I., are in town.

Andrew Matteson and his brother George are cutting maple wood for Charles Cherry and family have moved from Browning Mill to this village.

Carleton Smith of Wyoming, R. I., has engaged to teach the school in the Lewis district, commencing Monday, Feb. 8.

Miss Ledia Nutting is ill and is being cared for by Lottie Barber. Miss Phoebe L. Richmond is teaching the winter term of school in this district.

The mills here resumed operations Monday after a vacation of one week. Senator George B. Reynolds is in attendance at the general assembly in Providence.

HOPKINTON. Seventh-Day Pastor Recovers from Illness--Choir Rehearsal

Rev. L. P. Randolph has sufficiently recovered his health to resume his pastoral duties. He occupied his own pulpit in the Seventh-day Baptist church Saturday morning and preached at Canoches' home in Saturday afternoon. Services in the First-day Baptist church have been omitted for two Sundays on account of the weather.

Deacon G. T. Collins has been visiting friends in Hope Valley. The Seventh-day Baptist choir met at the home of the organist, Miss Madeline S. Peterson, for practice Tuesday evening. Miss Valma Masterson, a former member of the choir, now of Westerly, met with them, as she was a guest of the chorister, William L. Maynor.

The storm of Sunday left the roads very icy and many are kept at home because of smooth horses. The sleighing is good, however. A. A. Church, who styles himself Dr. Church, recently passed through the village and delivered a short address to the pupils of the public school.

WEEKAPAGU. Joint Meeting of W. C. T. U. Unions--Deacon Collins' 82d Birthday. The ladies of the Ocean View W. C. T. U. met by invitation with the Pawcatuck and Westerly union at the home of Mrs. Clarie R. Frazier, No. 64 Fresh-street, Westerly, on Friday afternoon. The meeting was enjoyed by all. Refreshments were served by Mrs. Frazier. Walter James has rented the farm now owned by Edgar B. Chapman and will move there in the spring. Mr. James has been on the Davis farm for eleven years.

Mrs. Raymond Tucker is ill. Mrs. Raymond Barber, who has been sick at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Albert Langworthy, is able to be about a little and is improving slowly. Harry Noyes of Watch Hill life saving station visited his parents one day last week. Deacon G. T. Collins passed his 83d birthday Thursday, Jan. 21. Mr. Collins is quite well and able to attend to his business.

CHESTNUT HILL. McGlaulin Place Sold to New York Purchaser--School Visitor on His Rounds.

Thomas McGlaulin has sold his place on Pine street to Mr. Gold of New York. Mr. McGlaulin retains possession of the house until May 1st, when he will drop through a hole in my pocket somewhere in three acres of garden. I found it again. If I lose a pencil or a pair of gloves or an old boot, they turn up all right. If I don't find 'em myself somebody else will and return 'em to me. But two years ago a little notebook disappeared, in which I had kept down records and suggestions about various more or less perplexing garden crops during a dozen years' growing experience. With them, a book of more practical worth to me than any six volumes in my library, and not so much as a torn corner of a leaf from it has ever since appeared. Perhaps ten years ago a good watch slipped out of my vest pocket while I was cultivating corn. I missed it at the end of the row it must have fallen in, for I had looked at it before starting. Old Sorrel said the watch was in the broken chain dangling as I turned at the further end. But a long search failed to find it and I've never seen it since.

Grange Officers Installed. The officers of the local grange were installed on Wednesday evening by Sister Hyde of Brooklyn.

Mr. and Mrs. William W. Palmer are visiting friends in Manchester and Hartford. Acting School Visitor William H. Bliss is visiting the schools of the town this week.

Miss Theda Champlin, who has been ill for some days, is improving. J. N. Clarke was in Hartford Friday.

Miss Lillian Goodrich is caring for Mrs. Church, who lives on the Utley place, near the lake, and is in a critical condition.

Miss Ruth Isham is seriously ill. Charles H. Tate, who has been confined to the house with rheumatism, is out once more.

The town meeting at Columbia on Saturday last was largely attended.

GURLEYVILLE. Received Word of Death of Charles Robinson--Notes.

Mrs. Martha P. Robinson has received intelligence of the death of her brother-in-law, Charles Robinson of Barre Plains, Mass.

Several from this place attended the lecture at Mansfield Center last Friday evening. Mrs. George Copeland, from Westwood Hill, who has been ill for several weeks, was taken to St. Joseph's hospital Wednesday for treatment.

Mrs. Mary Royce and daughter, Genevieve, have moved their household goods to Westwood Hill, and will make their home there. Mrs. A. E. Sumner, who has recently moved there.

Miss Julia Cerweny, from Merrow, visited at Mrs. John Wynn's over Sunday.

EAGLEVILLE. Eleven Inch Ice Stored--Mercury 8 Degrees Below Zero.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR. The Prevention of Insanity.

Mr. Editor--The Connecticut Society of Mental Hygiene has recently issued an appeal for more adequate provision for the care of the insane of the State. Charles W. Fiske, its superintendent, has written the following letter to the Boston Herald, in his thirtieth annual report, says:

"It is well understood that the most favorable time to cure insanity is in its first stages; on this account, it is constantly urged that all insane persons, just as soon as marked symptoms of the disease appear, should at once be sent to a hospital for the insane. This counsel has generally prevailed in acute and violent cases, but in the milder forms of the disease it is frequently object and delay. It is a great step to take; there are certain forms of law which must be complied with; then, the dread of its effect on the patient, the trouble attending the removal, and the anxiety about the situation and treatment of the patient in the hospital, etc., all these things cause delay, sometimes for weeks and months, and may prevent the patient from going till the acute stages of the disease are passed. The complaint is often made by superintendents that large numbers are sent to the hospitals who cannot be cured, because they come too late. This is given as one of the reasons why the disease cures are small; for, taking all admitted into our insane hospitals, only about 40 per cent. on an average, actually recover."

EDWARD BURRHA WILLARD, Everett, Mass.

MUSIC AND DRAMA. Yaw, the great Belgian violinist, is to come to America next season for the fourth time under the management of E. R. Johnston.

Constance Collier, who is William Gillette's leading woman in "Samson," has been engaged to play the leading role in the new Bernstein play, "Israel," when it is produced in this country.

Lillian Nordica, who has reached the Pacific coast on the greatest concert tour ever booked for this famous prima donna, will give a New York recital at Carnegie hall, Tuesday afternoon, Feb. 16.

Harrison Grey Fiske has bought a play for Bertha Kalich named "The Broken Road." It is the work of Thomas Dickinson, a professor in the University of Wisconsin. The scenes are laid in the capital of one of the states in the middle west.

Mr. Padewski has called the Countess Maszella that he will be at the charity festa to be given Feb. 1, at the Waldorf-Astoria hotel. She will play the violin, will play Enrico Caruso to draw caricatures, and Antonio Scotti will sell pictures and photographs.

"Hafotz," an American tone-poem, is suggested by a Boston musician critic as an appropriate and sympathetic composition to be dedicated to "The Merry Widow" hat and be performed in the churches.

Lillian Blauvelt has been engaged as the leading soprano for the Mendelssohn centenary concert to be held in Albert hall, London, Feb. 15. She will appear in New York in "Hansel and Gretel" at Carnegie hall on Feb. 27.

Most people know what they think of the family cook, but those who are interested in knowing the cook's idea of the family can best get this viewpoint by seeing "My Jane's Pa," in which the famous Dixie girl, the violinist, is "Pa" and serving as the family cook.

"A Stubborn Cinderella," the new musical production which will be the attraction at the Broadway theater, New York, commencing Monday, Jan. 25, brings to Broadway an opportunity to see John Barrymore and Sallie Fisher, plianaxed by a company of about seventy-five.

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Henry Wolfson protests against the cable reference to Mischa Elman, the young violinist, as a prodigy. "This is against the tradition of the artist," he says, "and was never exploited as a prodigy. Mischa Elman is a young man of 19, who is coming for his first American tour as an artist, and wishes to be judged as such."

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Disease Germs--Our Danger

Pure Blood--Our Defense

Disease germs assail us on every hand and at all times,--when we are awake and when we are asleep. We cannot get away from them; but if our blood is pure they cannot harm us.

Your blood is not pure if you have any blood disease or ailment--scrofula, eczema, eruption, catarrh, rheumatism.

Nor is it pure if you are pale, weak, nervous, or are troubled with loss of appetite, or general debility.

You can purify it, you can enrich it, you can make it of the right quality and quantity, by taking Hood's Sarsaparilla, or there is no other substitute for Hood's Sarsaparilla in your case.

This great medicine probably has accomplished more than any other ever produced, in purifying and enriching the blood and curing all blood diseases and ailments and all run-down conditions of the system.

40,268 testimonials by actual count, received in two years--about 65 every working day.

They came from all parts of the world and from people in all circumstances of life, showing the universality of this great medicine.

A Horrible Hold-Up.

"About ten years ago my brother was 'held up' in his work, health and happiness and actions, so to promote the progressing evolution of nature through him, his conscious self."

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President Helps Orphans.

Hundreds of orphans have been helped by the president of the Industrial and Orphan's home at Macon, Ga., who writes: "We have used Electric Ritters in this institution for nine years. It has proved a most excellent medicine for stomach, liver and kidney troubles. We regard it as one of the best family medicines on earth." It invigorates the vital organs, purifies the blood, aids digestion, creates appetite, to strengthen and build up thin, pale, weak children or run-down people it men no equal. Trial bottle free. Guaranteed. Only 50c at The Lee & Osgood Co's.

A Religious Author's Statement. For several years I was afflicted with kidney trouble and last winter I was suddenly stricken with a severe pain in my kidneys and was confined to bed eight days unable to get up without assistance. My urine contained a thick white sediment and I passed some frequently day and night. I commenced taking Foley's Kidney Remedy and the pain gradually abated and finally ceased and my urine became normal. I cheerfully recommend Foley's Kidney Remedy. The Lee & Osgood Co.

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1 Divan \$ 22.00, now \$24.00

1 Mahogany Sofa \$ 25.00, now \$27.00

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PEOPLE'S MARKET, 6 Franklin St.

JUSTIN HOLDEN, Prop. Jan28d

This Ad.

and the recommendation of those that used it, sold ten gross of our Syrup of WHITE PINE and TAR last year.

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