

Humorous Department.

An Army in Himself.

It was the custom during the war, for all the gentlemen who from age or other disabilities were not in the army, to visit any soldier who came home sick or wounded.

Bill Tucker lived in the pine woods not far from Col. L's plantation. He was wounded at Fredericksburg and came home on a furlough. As usual Col. L. no sooner heard that Bill was at home and wounded than old Dan was hatched to the buggy and a basket of "something good" was prepared by Mrs. L. Bill was not much hurt, and intensely flattered by Col. L's visit. It happened to be Sunday and several of the neighbors had dropped in, so Bill Tucker laid himself out to entertain his company.

For some time the conversation was general and consisted of inquiries after the absent boys. Finally, Col. L. asked, "Well, William, tell us how you got hurt."

"We-e-ell, colonel, I'll tell you," said Bill. "You see our brigade was on them 'big roll' hills I was telling you about, and just about that in the morning, Gen. Lee rides up, he did, and he said, 'What is Gen. Hoke?' And Gen. Hoke, he says, 'He is, general, says he, and Gen. Lee, he says, 'Gen. Hoke, who is the bravest man you've got in your brigade?' And Gen. Hoke, he says, 'General, Mr. Bill Tucker is the bravest man I ever seed, and he says, 'Call him here, and Gen. Hoke, he says, 'Come here, Mr. Tucker, if you please, and I come, I did, and I tuck off my cap, polite like, and I says, 'Good mornin', General Lee, good mornin', General Hoke, and they says, 'Good mornin', Mr. Tucker, and Gen. Lee, he says, 'You Yankees is a comin' after me agin, and I says, 'General, I'm powerful sorry, 'cause somebody's bound to get hurt, and he says, 'Mr. Tucker, they tell me you is a brave man, and you must help me, here's a brand new belchin' rifle and a box of explosion balls, and I want you to get out yonder behind that thar wall, and don't you let 'em come, and Mr. Tucker, and I says, 'General, I'm gwine to do my best, but, general, don't you let 'em tank me, and he says, 'Mr. Tucker, you can count on me doin' my best and I'll tell Stone-wall Jackson to look out for you, too.'"

"Well, sir, I went out and laid down behind that thar wall and I tuck out my explosion balls, and laid them handy in the cracks of the wall, and bimeby, about sunrise, General Hoke he hollered out, he did, and he says, 'Look out, Bill, they're coming, and here they come, and I laid thar all day, I did, and I shot 'em with that belchin' rifle and then explosion balls, a goin' and a comin', I tell you. And bimeby, way long yonder, just afore night, one great, long Yankee he, he waived his handkerchief till I stopped firin', and he got up, he did, and he says, 'Mr. Tucker, great God-damn, is you gwine to kill us all?' And while I was a foolin' talkin' to him, some one crep up and shot me in the arm, and I was bore off from the field, and two South Carolina and a Virginia regiment was sent up to take my place.—Columbia State.

Some "Lepper."—With that keen interest in the athletics typical of the Irish race the section gang was one Sunday engaged in discussing that subject, exploiting the performances of certain athletes.

Said McGinnis: "I rambler once on a feller over on the old sod that stood on his two feet and lepped over a ditch thirty feet wide."

"Sure that's no jump, at all, at all," said the section boss, filling his pipe. "I knew a lad by the name of Kiduff who went out huntin' in the wilds of Africa. He ran into a bunch of hyenas who made for him, droppin' his gun, he started to run, and run he did for ten miles, with the cannys-balls gainin' on him at every step. Unbeknownst to him he ran straight up to a river that was a mile wide. Without stoppin' he took a mighty leap and landed on the other side."

"How's that for a jump Dan?" said the boss.

"He must have been a fair jumper," said McGinnis. "But I think of the shirt he had!"—Housekeeper.

Finally Got to Fighting.—Bishop Woodbridge of Kentucky was discussing the southern mountaineers, among whom he had lived and worked for many years. The question of family feuds was brought up and the bishop related the following anecdote:

"A certain family had attended a reunion which terminated in a free-for-all fight. The offenders were taken before the local justice of the peace, who questioned an old woman as to the particulars of the fight. Her description was typical of the mountaineers' attitude toward strife and bloodshed.

"Well, judge," she said, "Jim Lewis got into an argument with Hank Budds. Budds smashed Jim over the head with a stick of cordwood, busting his head open. Then Jim's brother, slashed Hank up with a butcher knife, and Lorry Barry shot him through the leg. Larry Stover went with Lou with an axe, and then, judge, we just naturally got to fighting!"—Philadelphia Times.

An Awful Punishment.—A homely, hard featured, elderly temperance speaker of the feminine persuasion in the course of a lecture before a somewhat mixed audience found occasion to say:

"My friends, as I passed along the street at an early hour this morning, I saw, lying in a drunken stupor amid the ooze and slime of the gutter, a poor, fallen, besotted fellow being. No Good Samaritan came his way; the passersby hurried on with merely a curious glance and left him to his shame. But as I paused beside him as he lay the thought came to me that, fallen as he was, that man had perhaps a wife, a mother, a sister who loved him. So, kneeling, I brushed aside the stains from his face and smoothed the matted hair back from his brown—and, dear friends, I kissed him."

Thereupon from the rear of the auditorium came the sympathetic comment of an interested hearer: "And you just served him right!"—Harper's Monthly.

Has This Chap a Bible?—A commercial traveler tells of seeing in a West Virginia cemetery this epitaph: "Sacred to the memory of James Perkins, for thirty years senior partner of the firm of Perkins & Parker, now Parker & Co., who hope to merit a continuance of your patronage."—Boston Transcript.

Farm and Fireside.

Commercial Feeding Stuffs.

In view of the great economic importance of proper feeding, it would be difficult to over estimate the advantage which would follow a better understanding on the part of feeders generally of even the elementary principles which underlie the principles of feeding of animals kept for various purposes. It is true, of course, that much remains yet to be learned concerning animal nutrition, but the immense amount of research of the most painstaking and accurate character which has been carried out has resulted in the recognition of certain broad principles which are of the highest practical value to the feeder, whose interests demand the maximum yield of productive labor from work stock, and milk, flesh, etc., from other animals, in return for labor or money expended for feeds.

The lack of positive information in regard to the most important respects of animal nutrition is certainly not sufficient justification of the attitude of some so-called practical feeders, who prefer rule-of-thumb methods, developed in practice under a given set of conditions and thought to be applicable generally, to the conclusions of equally practicable and impartial experimental studies of a scientific character. The system of state inspection fed during the last few years, has been largely suppressing adulteration and misbranding, have proven of the greatest advantage in bringing purchasers of feeds to inquire more carefully than ever before into their composition and the use which the animal body makes of the various nutrients contained in them. The effect of these laws is not one of their unimportant benefits. Reputable dealers and intelligent purchasers naturally wish to secure the best feeds for the price asked, and as the value of stuff depends upon its adaptability, palatability, the amount and digestibility of nutrients it contained in it, both the seller and the buyer are interested in acquainting themselves with the chemical composition of the feeds offered to them by manufacturers and in obtaining as much knowledge as possible in regard to the digestibility of their valuable components, as well as the palatability and adaptability in general of all kinds of feeds.

Manufacturers are taking an increased interest in the preparation and intelligent marketing of their products, and competent and conscientious salesmen may greatly assist buyers in purchasing feeding stuffs on the proper basis and not merely by brand name or the price. The increasing necessity for accurate information in regard to composition and value of feeds on the market must result in a better business basis for the trade and a brief elementary discussion of the nutrients in feed and their function in nutrition is appropriate in these publications, giving the composition of all feeds sold in the state. Bulletin No. 444, Mississippi Experiment Station.

Cow Stable Notes.

It is as easy to keep the cow stable clean as to allow it to be dirty much of the time. We notice that in some stables the manure is removed only once a day. This is a bad practice, for the air becomes permeated with emanations from the manure. Clean it away as soon as it drops, if you are about, or anyone else, to do the work.

In the large dairies engaged in the production of high-priced milk, the manure is removed as soon as it is dropped. The result is that the air never becomes foul, and a blind man passing through the stable would never suspect that he was passing through a dairy barn.

It often takes more time and effort to do a thing the wrong way than it does to do it the right way. This applies to almost everything about the dairy barn.

A dairyman engaged in the production of certified milk says that he is getting white-headed trying to get men suitable to milk cows and keep dairy things as they should be kept. This is a condition that plays into the hands of the farmer that has only a few cows. His supply of help comes largely from his own family and is, therefore, reliable. When he makes up his mind that he wants to, he can compete successfully with the big dairy company that is trying to get men who can milk under adverse circumstances, so far as expert help is concerned.

The platform where the cows stand should be made so short that the droppings fall into the trench behind the cows. Their lying place will be then clean at all times. The man whose cows go into the pasture in the spring with dried manure plastering their flanks has not yet learned how easy it is to keep his cows clean.

"Washed before we milked," whether the cows are dirty or not. The washing will prevent the dirt from being carried into the milk. The dust carries germs that hasten the souring of the milk. The dust itself is partly the cast-off material from the body, and this cast-off material is being constantly pushed away from the skin of the cow. Then, too, the washing keeps the loose hairs from falling into the milk, and the spring in the cow's hair become easy.

The simple way is to make the present small windows large. The windows behind the cows should be of good size and placed at frequent intervals. Light and air coming in behind the cows will help to keep the stable in a sanitary condition.

The old scheme of throwing the manure out of a little window behind the cows should be everywhere abandoned. The manure that is piled up in the open air in winter is partly washed by the sun, rain and wind. Make other arrangements for the manure accumulations and have them out of sight, if possible. A cement-lined manure receptacle will prove valuable.

How to Use Lime.—We have more questions about the use of lime than on any other single line of agriculture. There are several things which may be repeated over and over. Ground limestone is better on light soils than on heavy soils. Never buy lime without a guaranteed analysis, and figure from it which pound of lime is cheapest. For quick results you should use two pounds of ground limestone to one of burned lime. Do not use on potatoes or corn. Its best results are on clover, alfalfa, timothy, wheat

and garden crops. Usually it is better to use lime when seeding to grass, grain or clover. Do not plow lime under, but spread on the rough furrows and harrow in. You will seldom obtain good results by spreading on top of the soil. Do not mix burned lime with hen manure or any other organic plant food. The ground limestone may be safely used for this purpose.

CATCHING COLD.

How It Can Be Done and How It May Be Avoided.

Coryza is an inflammation of the mucous membrane lining the cavities of the nasal passages and may be either of the acute or chronic variety. In its acute form it is generally called "a cold in the head." The reason for this is that the given name of the system which tends to inflamed mucous membrane, the acute attack can very often be traced to exposure to cold, draughts or damp. It can perhaps just as often be traced to heat, dust and stuffiness, but whatever may be the final touch it is certain that the victim of the coryza was in a condition in which his powers of resistance were reduced or he could not have "caught cold."

It is of great importance that those people who spend many months of the year traveling from one attack of coryza to another should learn just where to place the blame for their trouble. It is a pity to get into the habit of blaming every open door or window or draughting every unexpected breath of air, because this only leads to the course of life most to be avoided.

If a person finds himself with the "catching cold" habit increasing winter by winter, depend upon it that something is wrong and that something is not fresh air, because that is the very thing he of all people most needs. In such a case the daily habits should be carefully overhauled.

Does the sufferer overeat, and especially does he take too much animal food and too little exercise? This mistake is at the root of the coryza habit in many cases. It is simply the sign of rebellion on the part of the overloaded system. Often the trouble may be traced to too much service being kept too warm and to an atmosphere dried up with steam heat and no ventilation. People who sleep in shut up, stuffy bedrooms ought to live in a state of grateful surprise if they do not have constant colds.

The change that can be produced in the human constitution in this respect by a continuous course of common sense applied to daily life is almost like miracle working. But the course must be begun today and kept up. The cold never must pay minute attention to the digestive process, and is probably better off to eat meat not more than once a day at the most. His bedroom window must stay open winter and summer, not two inches, but all the way open. He must accustom himself to cold water bathing. This does not necessarily mean ice water bathing. A bath thermometer is a cheap purchase and 65 degrees is cold enough for most persons.

Deep, slow breathing with the mouth closed should be constantly practiced, and never more faithfully than at the moment when a cold seems to be the effect of getting itself "caught."—Youth's Companion.

CLEVER ANIMAL CRIMINALS.

How Birds, Dogs and Monkeys Assist Bill Sikes.

France has been laughing over Bosch and his crew, says an exchange. Bosch, a youth of 18, went into a grocery in a suburb of Paris, and asked for some sugar. The shopkeeper, turning to get the article, was horribly startled by the sight of a large black crow sitting on a shelf with its head on one side and its beady eyes fixed on him.

He made a rush to catch the bird, but it flapped away to the top of some cases, cawing loudly. Eluding a further effort to seize it, the crow flew out of the door, Bosch after it. It was not till bird and owner both had gone that the poor grocer found that his ill had been riddled.

Paris is a favorite centre for the thief who uses animals as accomplices. About a year ago a foreign-looking man, rather flashily dressed, entered a jeweler's shop in the Rue de la Paix, and asked to be shown some rings. A tray was placed before him, but he asked for another.

The shop attendant turned to get them. The man did not move; but, as it happened, there was a mirror in the room, and the thief saw the counter, opposite wall, behind the counter, a small dog, the special purpose of detecting thieves. In this the attendant saw a tiny brown head peek out of the customer's pocket; then a long, thin, spidery arm flashed out, seized two rings, and vanished.

The attendant touched an electric bell, which summoned help, and the man and monkey were both arrested. The man turned out to be a Mexican. He had been traveling with a manager, had stolen the monkey, and taught the little animal to pick up any article which its owner had previously touched with his fingers.

His lodgings were full of stolen lace and jewelry.

A jeweler in Budapest was asked by a customer to procure two fine diamonds, and obtained them from Amsterdam at a price of £1,000 for the pair. The customer was examining them in a private room, when the jeweler was called away.

When he returned a few moments later the customer was sitting in his chair, but the stones had disappeared. A detective was sent for, but customer and room both were searched in vain.

The jeweler then noticed a small dog under the table, and it suddenly occurred to him that the creature must have swallowed the stones. In spite of the indignant remonstrances of the customer, the dog was taken to a veterinary and poisoned; and when the body was cut open, sure enough, the brilliants were in its stomach.

A great Dane was employed as accomplice by two French thieves. Some little time ago an elderly gentleman was returning to his home when he was dog-bounded against him, placing its forepaws upon his waistcoat. Under the pretense of assisting the dazed man, and brushing the dust off his coat, the thief succeeded in stealing his watch and chain.

Miscellaneous Reading.

AN ARMY OF NEGROES.

France Has Found It Necessary to Organize One.

Europe has never drawn the color line so closely as America has, but all military Europe is astounded at France's proposition to enlist an active army of 300,000 blacks from her colonies to offset that element of the present force which is burning with discontent and is no longer regarded as altogether reliable. It is evidently setting the black up as a check upon the growing democratic spirit of the white man in the army. The huge force of professional fighting blacks will constitute a giant fighting mechanism which will be given over to the nation's hands, but it is not likely to be received kindly by the French people who must support it nor the French soldiery who must tramp and camp with it.

Militarism lies upon France's back like a galling pack saddle. There are 629,500 men who are serving their enforced terms in the army, and the nation must support them in uniformed idleness. The nation is looking to economy, and the army is murdering the sort of things socialistic. French armies have always been famous for their fidelity and patriotism, but there is a growth of discontent in the present force that is alarming the government.

England is only across the Channel and Germany, bristling with steel, hangs upon the border. In Europe diplomacy has to be an art of niceties and every hour is a crisis. No one knows when all the men a nation can get out will be needed nor when the sword and patriotism of a people will be called upon to withstand a shock. France looks to her disgruntled army and is full of apprehension.

She must have troops who are available, and troops who are not touched with the disintegrating malady of discontent, and in sheer desperation the government now looks to the colonies. There is nothing the black man would rather do than fight. He wants to be kept to too much service just for the sport that is in it, and he has no thought of the right or wrong of his position, the injustice of compulsory service or the fact that support is imposing upon the workers of France.

The enlistments have been begun in Algeria, French Guinea and the west coast of Africa. There will be no difficulty in raising the proposed force, for all the hearts of the military career is regarded as the epitome of honor, and the natives are pouring in to the ranks in the hope that they will be used in active service.

At the head of the scheme are Col. Mangin and M. Messimy. Of course, Germany, the auxiliary to her shores, is the new force, and will certainly regard it as a new menace and a dangerous weapon in the hand of her enemies. It is usually estimated that while Germany has fewer men in her standing army than France she could put almost three times as many men in the field in case of actual warfare.

Germany at the present time has about 10,000 fewer men in actual service than France, and the addition of 300,000 fighting blacks to the French roll will increase this difference so greatly that Germany will be forced to act vigorously and quickly to maintain her standing and prestige among the nations. It is usually estimated that while Germany has fewer men in her standing army than France she could put almost three times as many men in the field in case of actual warfare.

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However incongruous the ensemble of the black-skinned force may eventually be, there is one thing that France counts upon, there will be no socialism in the ranks, there will be no lack of fighting spirit, and the quality of the soldiery will not depend upon the interest that the individual soldier takes in the welfare of the republic or the concerns of the working taxpayer.

The conservative element in the government is rather horrified at the thought of putting shooting material into the hands of more or less irresponsible black men, but the purple of leading them against white armies. There is something in the scheme that does not seem to have taken root as yet, but when the enlistment is complete and the army realizes just how much has been accomplished France may expect to hear from her enfeebled militiamen.

Every year France has 160,000 conscripts to enlist, and about half to its military corps. It takes three years to make respectable recruits of the peasant lads and sons of dry goods clerks, and at the end of that period they are turned back into the body politic to be a useful as they can be. After a period of comparative idleness in which they are given every opportunity to hatch revolutionary theories and iniquitous habits. The university does not seem to have taken root as yet, but when the enlistment is complete and the army realizes just how much has been accomplished France may expect to hear from her enfeebled militiamen.

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Were You Ever Stung?

Did you ever buy a horse in good faith at a good price—a good looker, a good traveler and to all appearances sound as a dollar coin and healthy—but balky? Then you were stung.

Did you ever buy an article, pull out the real money, pay for it and some months after have a bill presented for it, with nothing to show that it was ever paid? Then you were stung again.

Did you ever buy anything and in an off-hand way say, "Charge this, please." Then some day chatting with one of your neighbors find out that he had bought the same article for several dollars less money? STUNG.

The practical way is to Place Your funds in Our Bank—Pay with Checks; or if short of funds let us place you on a Cash basis by loaning you the money.

Four Per Cent Paid on Time Money or if placed in the Savings Department of Our Bank.

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YORKVILLE, S. C.

O. E. WILKINS, President.

R. C. ALLEN, Cashier.

IT'S HARD TO WORK Look Before You Leap.

When Suffering From Kidney Ills.

Many Yorkville People Find This to Be True.

Nothing so hard as a day's work with an aching back. Every sudden twist or turn brings sharp "stabs" of pain.

There is no peace from the dull ache. No rest from