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### H. W. Campbell—Dry Farmer

In 1883, a tall, dejected man walked out of the sod stable in Brown county, Dakota Territory, leading a thin ox and a long-eared mule. All three were discouraged looking. As they pulled themselves over the windswept field stirring up a trail of dust, the man gazed sadly at a few grains of wheat that dared rear themselves into blades. Suddenly he stopped, dropped down upon his knees and began scratching at the few blades fighting up out of the depths of an old hoof print. Only in the tracks did the blades dare lift themselves; all around the ground was parched and lifeless. Why should wheat spring up in hard tracks and not in the loose ground? For an hour the man puzzled over the mystery. Today the Dakotas and Nebraska bloom with wheat as the result of that hour spent over the footprint of the long eared mule. The man was H. W. Campbell, who has developed 'dry farming' and put those states on the wheat map. To him belongs a large share of the honor of making the Great American Desert the Great American Cupboard. Dry farming was practiced to some extent by the Mormons sixty years ago, but it was left to H. W. Campbell to develop and explain it. Until he did so the farmers of the northern wheat zone barely eked out an existence; now they go to directors' meetings in autos. One and all, they rise and call Campbell blessed.

In brief; dry farming is a method to keep the moisture in the ground. In the Dakotas and Nebraska in the drouthy years, the sun sucks all the water out of the soil, leaving the vegetation to wither. Mr. Campbell preaches to the farmers, 'Put a cistern under your wheat field by packing the ground and keeping the moisture in.' This sounds very simple for a great discovery, but it has taken years to find how and when to do it. Mr. Campbell finally invented a machine which packs by pressing the soil at the base of the furrows, making the strip between each furrow as solid as cement. This method has practically reclaimed great stretches of non-irrigable lands. Its value has been well expressed by Benjamin An-

draws, chancellor of the Nebraska State university: 'An unassuming townsman of mine Mr. H. W. Campbell, has made a discovery worthy to rank with those of Watt, Eli Whitney and Edison, that of storing up water in the soil so as to make a very slight rainfall suffice to grow a crop without the aid of irrigation.'

Campbell practices what he preaches. He himself operates wheat farms following his own system; he has five farms, in all a totaling 2,920 acres, with a yield of close to sixty bushels to an acre. In addition he supervises twenty model farms where the farmers are taught to farm with their heads. The farmers in each district watch how it is done, and then the following season go and do likewise. Along with these he conducts a farm paper, and gives illustrated lectures and chautauqua talks.

Books this Nebraska farmer has written are read the world around; they have been translated into a dozen different languages—even into Russian. Machines that he has devised are in use in Odessa, Hungary, Arad, Hyderabad, and in Indian Punjab.

Mr. Campbell lives in Lincoln, Neb., where he has his offices and head-quarters. He was born in Franklin county, Vermont, and for half his life was foreman in a railroad machine shop. When he took Greeley's advice and landed in Dakota Territory he had a large family and a small pocket-book.

The government crop reports show that Campbell is the Elijah who sends Nebraska her manna in the form of wheat. During the last five years Nebraska raised 30,360,000 bushels of wheat, selling it at an average price of sixty eight cents per bushel. During the same period the Kansas and Iowa wheat crops fell below their records for the previous five years, while Nebraska gained over two bushels per acre—all by dry farming. This meant in money \$20,644,800, which signifies that dry farming is putting more than \$4,000,000 into the pockets of the Nebraska farmers each year. Campbell's contribution to the development of the state has been gratefully acknowledged by his fellow citizens.—Hampton's Magazine.

### LIST OF WOMEN AERONAUTS

Many of the Gentler Sex Have Distinguished Themselves by Their Temerity in Ballooning.

Women aeronauts are not only of today. The first woman of note was Mme. Nadar, who lost her life with her husband by being cast from a balloon at Neubourg, Hanover. Next we find Mme. Sage crossing the channel in 1785. The party set out with the intention of surprising a friend in the country, and descended very near their objective. Mme. Garnerin, sister of the inventor of the parachute, in five years made 40 ascents. This was from 1815 to 1820. Mme. Blanchard was the star under the empire. She had charge of the aeronautics at the coronation fetes, in consequence of Garnerin having incurred the displeasure of the emperor, the aeronaut having been the creature of misfortune. He ascended at Milan with a balloon carrying an imperial crown. The air currents carried him out of his course, and the next day, in making his descent, he broke the crown on the tomb of Nero. This untoward event cost him the emperor's displeasure, for the coincidence in some quarters was considered significant. Mme. Blanchard during her career achieved some note. At the marriage of the emperor with the archduchess of Austria she cast flowers on the procession from her balloon, and she did the same on the carriage of Louis XVII. on his entry into Paris. She perished in her seventy-seventh ascent, in 1819, through an explosion when aloft. Notwithstanding that husband and wife perished in their balloons, this did not deter other women seeking similar fame. In 1827 Mme. Johnson crossed the Mississippi in a balloon. Then for a time the novelty waned, and has just been revived, its second advent being marked in France by the foundation of a woman's club, under the direction of Mme. Surcouf.

### A Portrait.

"Evidently this is a wrong tiger, but it is an original animal." Such was the verdict of a discerning Japanese critic, given at a time when the subject of our sketch burst upon the literary firmament. He was born in 1865, educated in the school that he afterward made ridiculous in "Stalky & Co.," and was famous in Indian journalism before he was 20. Ten years ago he filled the whole stage of contemporary letters, but there has been an adjustment of values. In a sense not to be emphasized, he is the "Man Who Was," though his grip is still irresistible. A great critic has called his characters vulgar, though admitting him to be an artist. When he is not politician or theorist or philosopher, he is fitfully a genius. In a crisis his voice can be the nation's, and it is then that it is most impressive. That is why his appeal is usually general and not personal. His biggest effect of laughter or tears is departmental. The fire and the whirlwind are his, and the still, small voice in such rare utterances as the "Recessional" and "Sussex." Mr. Thomas Atkins would go through fire and water for him. That is because his name is Rudyard Kipling.—T. P.'s Weekly, London.

### Perpetual Motion.

Not a few seekers after perpetual motion have seen their error, and have risen up to warn their fellows against a waste of hope and time. One of them came to the prosaic conclusion that if a perpetual motion machine could be invented it would have no utility whatever, as it would require all its energy for its own movement. Another discovered that the Bible forbids the quest, and begged all investigators to read Colossians 2:8: "Be ware lest any man spoil you, through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world." This view did not occur to John Wilkins, a seventeenth-century bishop of Chester, who gave much attention to these speculations, which, he said, "do ravish and sublimine the thoughts with more clear angelical contentments." Perhaps, the best apology for the perpetual motion craze was made by Hancock, the inventor of the London steam carriage, who said that if he had a hundred sons he would like them all to study perpetual motion, because it would acquaint them with mechanics.—John o' London in T. P.'s Weekly, London.

### Millions for New Schools.

Twenty-eight new schoolhouses, with accommodations for 66,000 pupils, are provided for by latest appropriations made by the New York board of estimate, and, with money for sites, a total of \$3,487,520 is appropriated. With the appropriations made a week ago the board of education now has \$10,000,000 which it can spend at once for new school buildings and sites. It will go for the 28 new school buildings and the new sites mentioned. The Brooklyn high schools will also get a portion of the money. The boys' high school will get \$400,000, the girls' high school \$100,000, and the Erasmus high school \$400,000.—N. Y. Evening Post.

### Lesson from the Past.

Dr. Samuel Johnson was visibly impatient. "Noll," he said, "I can't be always assisting you when you get into trouble, but I'll see that your account with your grasping landlady is squared this time—on one condition. You've got to turn out something in the literary line that will sell as well as one of George Harr McCutcheon's books." Thereupon poor Oliver Goldsmith, hastily turned out "The Vicar of Wakefield." It was the best he could do.

TRADE MORAL—If we were all mind-readers we would have no trouble in learning what merchant's goods are best. About one in every 1,000 of us is addicted to mental telepathy. To reach the other 999 of us, Mr. Merchant must advertise. Persistent advertising in this paper will make those 999 buy. The telepathist will buy anyhow.

### The Gift of Memory.

A writer in an exchange speaks in warm admiration of the power possessed by certain people of remembering faces and again recognizing persons they have met in the most casual way. He regards it as a great gift and one much to be desired. It is a gift, but it is by no means rare; in fact, a very common possession. What is far more rare, and not less to be desired, is the ability to associate the name of the person with his face. Innumerable are the men and women who remember faces well—too well, alas—who find it a trial of their lives that the names belonging to the persons identified by their eye vanish from their memory utterly at the critical moment.

It is indeed a desirable thing to be able to recognize instantly the people one has met, but only when this ability is accompanied with a fairly trustworthy memory for names. Otherwise it may be a questionable gift and even an affliction. For you may offer acceptable excuses for not recognizing acquaintances at sight, but when you have friends of long standing whom you encounter almost daily and then forget their names—for that there is no apology that will not be received coldly and with suspicion.

### Dogs of the British Upper Ten.

A hundred thousand dollars is the value of some thousand dogs owned by the upper ten in Britain, and some of these dogs are worth \$5,000 apiece. Pomeranians have made somewhat after the manner of babies of wealth. These mounds carry along pasteurized milk, filtered water, cologne atomizers, meat extract for warm beef tea, breasts of chicken and choicest pieces of beef; gold, ivory and silver tooth and hair brushes and combs; lace handkerchiefs, gloves, shoes, alcohol stoves for warming food, jeweled feeding spoons and an assortment of expensive colored ribbons. These little dogs go about in automobiles, sitting or lying in silk-lined boxes upon pillows of softest down, and are covered with quilts of elderdown.

### Vast Unknown London.

There is not a single man living who knows all London, who has been through every street, or into every crescent square and terrace. This seems a hard saying, and it is one which visitors from abroad or the colonies find it impossible to believe, but nevertheless it is absolutely and incontrovertibly true. Let any one take a map of London and try to mark in red all the streets which he can honestly say he has visited and he will have to confess that he knows but little of the metropolis of the world and that the red marked streets are but as nothing compared with those he has had to leave untouched.

### Understands It Better.

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