

IF!

If skies were bluer,
And fogs were fewer,
And fewer the storms on land and sea;
Were shiny summers
Perpetual comers—
What a Utopia this would be!

If life were longer,
And faith were stronger,
If pleasure would bid, if care would flee;
If each were brother
To all the other—
What an Arcadia this would be!

Were greed abolished,
And gain demolted,
Were slavery chained, and freedom free;
Were all earth's troubles
Collapsed like bubbles—
What an Elysium this would be!



MILKING.

One would think that the above subject is sufficiently well understood at the present time without any further instructions with reference to it, but never was there a greater mistake made. Hundreds of dairymen begin to complain that their cows are drying up early while they have good feed and plenty of it.

We were talking with one of the leading dairymen with reference to the matter the other day, and his opinion coincided with ours in this respect, and he claimed that more cows were spoiled by being improperly handled than by poor food. To get the greatest yield of milk the cows should be milked regularly, quietly and thoroughly, yet quickly. Generally speaking, twice a day is often enough, but there are cases when it becomes necessary to milk three times, but these are comparatively rare. At six o'clock, morning and evening, is as near the right time, all things considered, as any. Milking should be done quietly, without any scolding or kicking or otherwise hurting or exciting the animal, and she will then habitually come gladly for the operation, stand quietly and let down her full flow. It should be done thoroughly, as nearly as possible always by the same person. There is great difference in milkers; some will get the last drop, while others will leave the richest part in the udder. It has been proved to the satisfaction of all good dairymen that the strippings will yield from ten to twenty per cent. more cream than the rest of the milk; how important it is then, that the cow should be milked clean. Besides, if she is not made to yield all that she has daily, she will dry up sooner, and gradually fail in the quantity until it decreases perceptibly. Cows should never be hurriedly driven to and from the pasture, as it agitates and heats the milk, if before milking, and tends to make them wild after the milk has been drawn.

We had an opportunity of seeing the results of a change in the management of cows on Pleasant View Farm a short time ago. The proprietor, Mr. Southworth, met with a severe accident, which confined him to the house for nearly a week, during which time strangers were employed to attend the cows, and, although they were treated kindly, still it was different from their usual treatment; and the milk pail showed a much smaller yield, and the cows themselves became restless and refused to "give down" as formerly, although, as before stated, they were treated with the greatest kindness and milked by experienced hands. But when he was able to come to the barn again the cows soon filled the pails as usual, and that, too without change of food.

—Field and Farm.

The Carpet Beetle—Which appears to be a new pest, or has at least attracted more than usual attention recently, is the subject of a good many inventions designed for its destruction. A correspondent of the *Scientific American* (and friend of house painters, apparently), recommends the use of steam to be driven under the baseboards and in the cracks of the floors of rooms, from a small tea-kettle having a burner under it and a hose with nozzle attached to the spout. The beetle, however, does not confine itself to the floor, but infests closets, trunks and out of the way places, where it would be difficult to treat it to a steam bath.

M. Paul Braen, the famous anthropologist, is authority for the statement that the tallest man ever actually measured was a Finlander, nine feet three and seven-tenths inches high, and that the shortest man known reached a decimal under seventeen inches in his stocking-feet. Where was Barium?

From the Raleigh News.
OUR WASHINGTON LETTER.

A good deal of unfinished business is pending. The calendar shows 116 Senate bills which have reached the second reading, 7 committee reports, 91 bills in Committee of the Whole and 225 bills on the private calendar. Important among the bills before the House in Committee of the whole, and which will be acted on soon, is the Brazilian steamship subsidy; and the Texas Pacific Railroad scheme.

THE TOBACCO TAX.

At this writing the indications strongly point to the early passage of the House bill reducing the tax on tobacco by the Senate. The tardiness of the Senate committee in reporting the bill is apprehended: Once out of the committee, every confidence is entertained of its passage in the Senate. Opposition to any reduction is still interposed by Rann, the Commissioner of Internal Revenue. However, the strongest opposition, that stimulated last winter by Lorillard's money, has been abandoned or greatly modified. The Lorillards, of New York, the largest tobacco dealers in the United States and perhaps in the world, had large outstanding contracts and apprehended great loss would result to them by the proposed reduction. Contingencies have been provided against and now it is understood here that they are anxious to have the question definitely settled.

SOMEWHAT PERSONAL.

A man is not without honor, &c. Many and sincere are the regrets expressed here over the defeat of Messrs. Robbins, Waddell and Yeates. One of the able and accomplished official reporters of the House yesterday said to me:

"The country has lost one of its Congressmen in the retirement of Mr. Robbins." Said he, "I have been reporting for the House nearly thirty years, and I have been a close observer of men during that time. Very few men have impressed me more favorably. He didn't talk much, but what he said was to the point. I am truly sorry he is lost to the 45th Congress. But you people in North Carolina have your own peculiar way of doing things without regard to what anybody else thinks or says."

Col. Waddell's defeat is keenly felt by his many friends in this city. Liberal and cultured, he is a favorite in Washington. He reached the city Friday night from New York and breakfasted next morning with Senators Lamar, Bayard and Thurman, at the hospitable and elegant home of Mr. Cochran. The announcement of his candidacy for the Secretaryship of the Senate was unauthorized. The matter is now under advisement, and I wish to be able soon to announce definitely his purpose to become a candidate. Intimations of support from unexpected quarters induce belief in his success. He is personally known to many of the Senators. Among the candidates announced are Mr. Watterson, father of the brilliant "Harry" of the *Louisville Courier-Journal*, A. C. Buel, a Washington correspondent and journalist of some reputation and McMahon, a lawyer and politician, of West Virginia. That Col. Waddell possesses decided advantage over any and all of these gentlemen is certain.

Much interest is manifested here over the probable action of the State Canvassing Board in Major Yeates' case. He, too is one of the popular members of the North Carolina delegation and has many warm personal friends in and out of Congress, who are looking anxiously to the result of this contest. His loss will be deeply felt in Eastern Carolina. I know something of the effort and diligence it cost him at the last session of the 45th Congress to obtain even small appropriations for his district.

Gen. Seales reached the city several days ago and has been at work on the Indian appropriation and Indian transfer bills. His re-election by a largely increased majority in these times of political demoralization has evoked numerous hearty congratulations, with the index finger pointing to the other end of the Capitol.

Mr. Davis and Col. Steele are expected to arrive in the city to-night. Senators Ransom and Merriam are also expected to-night.

If your Mr. Clingman has not already reconsidered he can hardly withhold much longer the unqualified avowal of his candidacy for the United States Senate. The "Capital" says always mean something: "We hope Gen. Clingman, of North Carolina, will be returned to us as Senator."

Gen. Vance is at his post and at work as usual.

The Probable Starting Point of the Yellow Fever.

Last September the New Orleans *Times* asserted that the yellow fever epidemic began its malignant course in the front part of the city, where "four thousand loads of kitchen garbage, which had been hauled to the dumping grounds by the city carts, had been brought back by the contractors and used to fill up the streets."

A committee of citizens, appointed by Mayor of New Orleans to investigate the matter, have reported that the charge is substantially correct. After describing in detail the horribly offensive condition of the filled-in streets and squares, the committee say "if the fearful pestilence did not originate there, it was largely fed by the evils made known, until the material was exhausted, when the roll of death added new victims to the feast."

HOW THE SMILE CAME.

An old man died the other night—died in his bed. The papers said that he was a poor old man, friendless, living on charity, and that his life had been drear and full of bitterness. The old man died alone, in the darkness of night hiding the darkness of death until his eyes opened to the brightest, fairest vision human eyes ever beheld. There was a kind and tender smile on his pale face when they found him dead. Men wonder at it, knowing how sadly and hopelessly he had fought the battle of life, and women whispered to each other: "Perhaps an angel's hand smoothed down his gray locks as the dampness of death gathered on his wrinkled forehead."

There were men there who had given him money, and women who had fed him. They knew that he was old and weak and poor, but they had not thought of his dying, and his white face shocked them. They had not stopped to think that one could go on fighting hunger and bitter poverty forever. The old man's heart was like a flint. He did not seem thankful for the food given him, and some times he was harsh to the children as they blocked his path. But, when men and women and children walked softly in to look upon the dead they forgave him everything, forgot everything, and said:

"He was a poor old man, and we sorrow that his life was not full of sunshine."

It was not strange that the face of the dead wore that smile. When the human heart has been embittered against the world—when an old man has been wronged by men, followed by hunger and driven to despair, he can not die with that burden on his soul. Heaven's gate must be open a little to let the glorious light of paradise shine into the dying man's eyes and soften his heart until he will say: "Men have not dealt by me as they should, but I forgive each and all." When the old man awoke in the darkness and felt the touch of death at his heart, there were no tears in his eyes, and he grimly rejoiced that his aching limbs were to find rest at last. He did not care whether anyone missed him, or what men would say when they entered his desolate room and found his corpse on the bed of straw. Then the angels threw back the gates and the light came. They came with it, singing so sweetly and tenderly that the old man started up in fear that he might lose a single note. They walked around him—they floated above him, and all the while his hard heart was growing softer and filling with such feeling as it had not known for years.

"Men have sneered at your gray locks and trembling limbs, but you must forgive them," whispered the angels.

"I can—I do!" he replied.

"Poverty has oppressed you—misfortune has walked with you—woe and sorrow have been your companions, but you must not blame the world," they whispered.

"I forgive all men!" he answered.

"Behold the light from Heaven—listen to the music which is never heard outside the golden gates except by the dying—look yonder and tell us what you see."

Peering into the glorious light while the film of death gathered over her his eyes, the old man read:

"None so old and poor and helpless that Heaven's gates are shut against them."

A spirit soared away with the flood of light, and it was only clay which the men and women looked upon the next day. They wondered at the tender smile on the white face—they had not heard the music nor seen the flood of glory which lighted up the bare old room.

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Marion	3 16 "	
Old Fort		
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STATIONS.	ARRIVE.	LEAVE.
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Marion	8 52 "	
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Hickory	11 40 "	
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Newton	12 52 P. M.	
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