

The Free Pass Business.

The New York Herald of a recent date, referring editorially to the discharge of a reporter, said:

"We shall dispense with the services of any member of the Herald's staff who accepts free rides on railroads or free tickets of any sort, for the good and sufficient reason that a reporter who is embarrassed by such obligations cannot be depended upon to write honestly and impartially."

It does not say that he cannot write honestly and impartially but that he cannot be depended upon to do so. There is a good deal in the idea. The free pass business is an evil. A judge with a free pass in his pocket may decide against a railroad, a legislator with a pass may vote against an editor with a pass may attack it, but the tendency is the reverse and when the sense of duty overcomes the sense of obligation in any of these cases the individual most surely feel like an ingrate. Senator Vance's man expressed the idea:

"I run my coffee, drink my tea. Then I run around and talk about me."

Editors down here in our country are generally poor men and when a railroad extends its courtesies to them their natural inclination is to accept. The majority of them, however, publish the railroad's schedule in exchange for their passes, and if they are satisfied and the railroads are willing to call the account square the matter is nobody else's business and nobody has any right to interpose their. In our own case the speech which the schedule would occupy is of more value to us than a pass would be and when we cannot pay to ride we stay at home. This is a pure matter of business and if we had more space than we needed we might see it differently.

But it is the free pass business, pure and simple, that the Herald speaks of—the taking of something for nothing, or theoretically for nothing. Railroads are business corporations and if they give a pass to one man without any expectation of an equivalent, why not to another? If to a judge, why not to a minister? If to a member of the Legislature, why not to the members of the State Agricultural Society?

We are not criticizing the railroads for their policy in this matter—we never criticize them without good reason, because we believe in them—they have done a great deal for the country and it would be a sorry country without them; but it is a pleasure to occasionally stir up the public servants who ride around the country without paying for the privilege.—Statesville Landmark.

A Model Farmer.

The following signed "Milton Farmer," appears in the Milton, Ga., Democrat, of Alpharetta, and shows what a genuine farmer can do up in Northern Georgia to make his farm enable him to "live at home" in the trust sense.

There is a farmer in Milton county, who has been here ever since the county was made, and this farmer wants to know how many farmers of said county raise their support at home, except salt, sugar and coffee.

This farmer and a friend of his who was visiting him from Gwinnett county, were talking. The farmer asked his guest how many farmers here knew who were self-sustaining, and he answered, "I hardly know any."

"Well," said the farmer, "you see what we have on our table."

"Yes," he replied, "you have plenty."

"Well, it was all raised here on this farm. And we are wearing clothes from our sheep, spun and wove on our own loom, and we raised the sheep here that made the wool. Our shoes and boots that we are wearing were made with our own hands, out of leather off of cattle that I raised here. The stock that is pulling the plow was raised here, and the cows that give us milk."

"I shoe my own horses, make my ax-handles, hoe-handles, singletrees, make and sharpen plows, and do many such little things to keep the nickle at home. An old man told me when a boy that those who would not save a little would never save much."

"I have fertilized my wheat, corn and cotton, but did not purchase a sack of guano. I raised from eight acres of land 100 bushels of fine wheat with home made fertilizers."

"I will here say to the farmers, awake from your slumbers and look where you are going, and stop so much on going for such things as above named that you can make at home, and thereby those little will add to your heap instead of being carried from home to add to the heaps of others."

The New York World says:

It is worthy of note that the tone of the Northern press towards the late Jefferson Davis has been in the main just and generous. Here and there a rabid partisan has reflected the animosities of twenty-five years ago, but we find in the columns of the majority of Republican organs tributes to the honesty, the courage, the inflexible fidelity and the integrity of the Confederacy. This indicates that the civil war is really over. The Southern people in paying their homage to the man who once stood for their cause, have excited no hostilities in the North. They have only performed a duty, and all just-minded men respect them.

And the New York Times makes an observation to the effect that the Northern papers, except the republican organs, have made very many utterances concerning Mr. Davis.

Says the Herald: The most generous things that are being said of the once brilliant statesman who captained the lost Confederacy come from the lips of those who fought him most bitterly in the day of his power and fame.

Christmas Trees.

To Germany the civilized world is indebted for one of the most enjoyable of all Christmas delights, the Christmas tree, says an old issue of the New York Post. The custom was little known in England before the marriage of Queen Victoria, and was, we believe, introduced by the late prince consort. We call it a gift from Germany, and yet behind the quaint figure of Kris Kringle, coming from the snowy woods, with the trees rising high above his genial shoulders, laden with gifts and glittering with lanterns, as he suddenly invades the lowly German cottage on a kindly errand bent, we see the yet more ancient toy pine tree, hung with oscilla, which boys and girls in ancient Roms looked for on the sixth and seventh days of the Saturnalia. But we who are not antiquaries are content to except these pretty customs, come whence they may, and to improve on them if we can. A wide gulf is fixed between the puritanic days, when Christmas was frowned upon as a remnant of evil superstition, and to-day, when nothing is too rare or good for the making of our homes bright and our sanctuaries beautiful in honor of the Author of the Christian feast. Wherever civilized man is found there in one form or another we find the tokens of adoration and gratitude.

Another newspaper says: The most popular tree for a Christmas celebration is the balsam. This tree attains perfection at the age of 20 years. After this it begins to wither at the top and gradually dies. The large balsam trees are cut in great numbers for churches and Sunday schools. They are cut as young as six years. They are merely bushes then, however, and are used mainly by private families. Next to balsam in popularity comes the spruce. This tree, although it attains a greater height than the balsam has a craggy appearance. It is cut when it is about ten years old. The color is not so good, being a yellowish green, which withers very soon. The cedar trees are only cut by special order, as the demand for them is very limited. But they are the most fragrant of the lot. White pine trees are used by the grocery and butcher shops to decorate with. They have a deep green color and last longer than any of the others.

Christmas Proverbs and Predictions.

A green Christmas makes a full graveyard.

A white Christmas, a lean graveyard.

Other sayings connect Christmas with Easter:

A green Christmas indicates a white Easter.

A warm Christmas, a cold Easter.

Easter snow, Christmas mud.

Christmas in snow, Easter in mud.

Its influence on the crops during the ensuing year is set forth in other proverbs:

If windy on Christmas day, trees will bring forth much forth.

If it snows on Christmas night, we expect a good hop crop next year.

Christmas wet gives empty granary and barrel.

"If on Christmas night," says a German proverb, "the wine ferments heavily in the barrels, a good wine year is to follow."

Somewhat uncertain is the prediction that follows:

If at Christmas ice hangs on the willow, clover may be cut at Easter.

The proverb that follows is somewhat obscure:

If Christmas finds a bridge, he will break it; if he finds none, he will make one.

Nor is this one very clearly expressed:

Wet causes more damage than frost before than after Christmas.

An-English proverb tells us: If ice will bear a man before Christmas it will not bear a mouse afterwards.

A German saying declares that: The shepherd would rather see his wife enter the stable on Christmas day than the sun.—Ex.

A Grown Man Attacked by an Eagle.

Frank Engleman, living a few miles west of Nashville, Ind., was attacked by a fierce, full grown gray eagle on Friday evening while on his way to town. When first noticed, the bird was at a great height, in mid-air. A minute later it swooped down upon Engleman with a shrill scream, striking him with terrific force, burying its talons in his clothing and flesh. Engleman was on horseback, and therefore at a great disadvantage. Before he could dismount he was badly clawed by the bird. The farmer was without any weapons, and could only defend himself with his bare hands. The fight lasted fully an hour, the eagle plunging at him from every quarter. Twice did the man attempt to run, but each time the great bird retreated. At length he caught it by its talons, and with hands and feet succeeded in slaying it. The bird measured six feet four inches from tip to tip.

An African explorer, one of the first to venture into the Dark Continent, wrote:

"In all the danger through which I passed in the long fever, and even in the criminal excess to which I, a young man far from home, was a half-conscious witness, one thread kept me from sinking into utter ruin. It was the knowledge that on the other side of the globe an old gray-haired woman was praying for me. No man can go utterly to destruction as long as his mother keeps one hand on him and the other on God."

Farm Notes.

A Massachusetts man found in his bean field a stalk which bore seven hundred and twenty-five beans.

Manure the grape vine. Do it in the fall. It will serve as a mulch in addition to acting as a fertilizer.

The sooner the hogs are slaughtered after the season becomes cold the better, as it will save food and labor.

The points of driven wells should be of brass, as iron points rust and clog, thereby preventing a free flow of water.

Be careful about the sweet potatoes. If not properly stored they will not keep. They are easily affected by any change of temperature.

Have a storehouse for leaves, and pack it full, collecting the leaves only on clear, dry days. Never store leaves closely when they are wet.

Old broken china or crockery ware should be pounded and given to the hens. It makes excellent grit for grinding the food in the gizzard.

Eight sheep may be kept for every cow, says a dairyman, as they will add but little to the expense, the sheep consuming many kinds of food that cattle reject.

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.

Portland-cement and skim milk make an excellent paint. If fresh bullock's blood and air slacked lime be mixed to the consistency of thick whitewash it also makes a durable paint.

The best way to apply salt to land is to mix it with the lime or ashes, one bushel of salt to ten of the lime or ashes being the proper proportion. It renders the lime more soluble, due to the chemical action.

Do not think the barn will be uncomfortable if you get it ready for winter now. You can leave the door or windows or both open for air if the nights are warm, only don't have a draught on the cows.

If a few guinea fowls can be induced to roost in or near the poultry house they will afford protection against chicken thieves. They are light sleepers and make a tremendous racket when disturbed at night.

Horse-radish is a weed in some sections and a profitable crop in others. It sells at about 5 cents per pound some seasons. It is readily grown on rich soil, but when once it takes possession of land it is not easily destroyed.

Truthful Sammy.

Col. Hadley was telling a fish story in the presence of some friends and his little boy Sammy.

"Yes," continued Hadley, "it took me half a day to land that catch. I caught him in the Colorado river in the spring of the year before the war. He weighed, after he had been cleaned, just 135 pounds."

"You can prove it by me, pa. Don't you remember, pa, how I slung him on a stick and carried him home?" remarked little Sammy.

"Oh, you little liar! I am ashamed of you," exclaimed Col. Hadley.

As Sammy is only 6 years old, his testimony as to what happened before the war is almost as reliable as the time a seven dollar watch keeps.—Texas Siftings.

WINNING FRIENDS.

The Value of Association With Able, Honest and Energetic Men.

It is bad policy to be haughty, repellent, unsocial. The most resolute and determined aspirant to wealth or position may stumble as he climbs, and if no one stretches out a finger to save him, may roll headlong to a depth far below the point from which he started.

"An eye for an eye, a tooth for a tooth," was the old law in Judea. A lift for a lift is the business rule of today; and it is sometimes broken by the unobservance, it certainly works better than the principle that man should care utterly for himself, neither giving nor receiving assistance.

But it is not from prudential motives merely that the energetic and persevering assist each other. All men of vigorous minds and elastic temperaments sympathize with effort. They honor the individual who has fought gallantly the battle of life, though reverses may have overtaken him; they recognize him as a kindred spirit, though he lies on his back; they are willing to give him a "boost," because they feel that he needs but a new foothold to assure his ultimate success. These are among the reasons why men who are true to themselves, are almost invariably true to each other, and why their friendship and sympathy mean something more than words.

Let no one, whatever his talents, his opportunities or his confidences in his own powers, despise the alliance of one who will be capable of achieving eminence in the business world without at least the indirect help of others. Therefore, let all young men who are entering business life labor in a manly and just way to make friends—and of the right sort.—N. Y. Ledger.

—He (at a New Jersey race course)—
"Several of the horses in this race have been scratched." She—"Well, I don't wonder; I was never so nearly eaten up in my life."—N. Y. Sun.

REALLY GOOD MANNERS.

They Constat in Making Happier Persons Whom You May Meet.

It has been the fashion to assume a strong indifference toward strangers, even if one does not feel it, and not only toward strangers in this manifested, but toward those who are associated together in business, and the ones whom one meets every day. It is not necessary for two people to fall upon each other's neck every time that they meet in order to be civil, but in the short life that we live here why not get on and receive all the good that we can. Strangers upon settling in a new place feel this way all a hard exterior, and when the cherry-faced, really Christian man or woman is met, it is a pleasure to remember the kindly look. It is like a perfect June day, or the bursting out of the sun after days of cloud and storm.

A woman who was assistant in a large school, one day said to the principal, who was a man, that the manners of the boys in the school were not such as they should be. The man, who was very dark naturally, turned a good deal darker and lost his temper. Then he burst out into a tirade against manners. He said that he did not believe in any such thing (all of the time growing blacker) and finally brought his foot down on the platform with a great jar, saying: "Some of the greatest rogues that ever lived had the most polished manners." That seems to be a poor reason, or no reason at all, why we should not cultivate pleasing and kindly manners toward each other. Not that the books on etiquette should be swallowed whole—for more than one of them has unreasonable and silly ideas—but there is a manner that is respectful, kind and right, and it is born of the kind, true heart every time. Its name is politeness.

A young girl was going from her home in Connecticut to a school in Massachusetts, a distance of one hundred miles, and was obliged to go alone. She waited a weary time in Boston and finally took her train on the Old Colony road, every face being a strange one. After a few miles' travel she noticed that an old gentleman was regarding her, and his very kindly look reassured her. After awhile he came to her and asked her if she was traveling alone, and upon being told that she was he sat in the seat in front of her and talked very kindly and pleasantly, and before she left the car he gave her his card and attended her to the door of the car and carried her satchel. Upon looking at the card she found that the old gentleman was Presiding Elder Elm, and his "Peace be with you," as he left her, was a benediction that can never be forgotten.

It was a very exciting waitress who, when sent to wait upon a guest at a hotel, hesitated and said that she did not like to wait upon him because she had never been introduced. That seemed quite far-fetched, but it is as consistent as the story manners of the world-beleaving mind people whom we meet.

A young woman went to reside in a city where she was a total stranger, and in taking a morning walk always met a man who bowed and said, "Good morning." The first morning she concluded he had mistaken her for some acquaintance, but as he continued to greet her each morning in the same respectful manner, she knew that it must be his practice to so salute the people whom he met. Upon attending one of the churches there, she discovered that it was the minister of the church, a highly educated man, who had traveled much abroad, and was eminent in his profession.—Springfield (Mass.) Union.

Found in the Newspaper.

From Cresco, Iowa, "Plaintender": "I have never, as our readers for nearly thirty years can testify, written a 'puff' of any patent medicine. Duty as well as inclination impel us to depart from this studied silence, to say to our readers and the public that, having been completely 'prostrated with a violent and distressing cold, after three days fighting it with ordinary remedies and getting no relief from their use, we obtained a bottle of 'Clarke's Extract of Flax (Pain-Expeller)' and a steady improvement under its use." Large bottles only \$1.00. Ask for Clarke's Flax Soap. Best on earth, 25c. Both of the above for sale by J. H. Emms.

Every night when Senator Ingalls goes to bed he tries to think whether he has said anything during the day that he will have to deny.—Kansas City Star.

Bradfield's Female Regulator.

Should be used by the young woman, she who suffers from any disorder peculiar to her sex, and at change of life is a powerful tonic benefits all who use it. Write the Bradfield Regulator Co., Atlanta, Ga. for particulars. Sold by all druggists.

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Steam Plows.

That the method of plowing will soon be revolutionized to a great extent on the prairies of the West there can no longer be any doubt. The farmers are already clamoring for a steam plow that will be simple and practical, and they are certain to get it sooner or later. In this age of invention and improvement it is said that whenever a want becomes general, there always springs up something to supply the necessity. Every mechanical implement now in use, calculated to cheapen production and save manual labor, has arisen from the urgent needs of mankind, and hence the steam plow, suitable to the farmer of a few hundred acres, will sooner or later be an assured fact.

The self-binder did not make its appearance in the harvest field until the western prairies furnished more grain than could possibly be harvested by hand at a profit, and the steam thrasher soon followed, because the same want was the parent of both. The same may be said of the broadcast seeder, the press drill, and the gang plow. The old style grain cradle that our fathers used to swing, with their wide scythes and five crooked wooden fingers or prongs, is a thing of the most forgotten past, and has been laid aside forever, with the old-fashioned wooden mouldboard plows. In agriculture, as in everything else, new methods have been inaugurated, and in every step of progress the object has been to save labor and make farming easier and more lucrative.

A Sound Legal Opinion.

E. A. Bridge, Monday Esp., County Atty., Clay Co., Tex. says: "I have used Electric Bitters with most happy results. My brother also was very low with Malaria Fever and Jaundice, but was cured by timely use of this medicine. Am satisfied Electric Bitters saved his life."

Mr. D. L. Wicks, of Horse Cave, Ky., adds a like testimony, saying: "I positively believe he would have died, had it not been for Electric Bitters."

This great remedy will ward off, as well as cure all Malarial Diseases, and for all Kidney, Liver and Stomach Disorders, stands unequalled. Price 50c. and \$1. at T. F. Klutz & Co.

Trusts contain in themselves the elements of their own destruction. They were organized to suspend the law of competition and grind the faces of the poor. As their stocks dwindle and collapse on the market the public will shed no tears.—N. Y. Herald.

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That the road is never long to a friend's house.

That we have all forgotten more than we remember.

That busy lives, like busy waters, are generally pure.

That labor disgraces no man, while man disgraces labor.

That the strongest men are often the most tender-hearted.

That life is too short to be spent in minding other people's business.

That he who buys hath need of a hundred eyes, and he who sells hath enough of one.

That inclination never wants an excuse, and if one won't do, there are a dozen others ready at hand.—Good Housekeeping.

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