

Returns from prison wardens in thirty States and Territories show that out of 31,176 convicts 489 are imprisoned for arson or incendiarism.

A Manitoba man has invented a car-heating device. Manitoba has sent us many a cold wave, so it is about time she sent us something in the heating line.

The sardine crop is a failure this year, but that will not make any difference; you can get your herring, young bluefish and young everything but sardines, but all labeled "Sardines a Thru!" just the same as usual.

An estimate of the value of the products of the orchards and vineyards of California in 1887 has been made which shows a total of nearly \$18,000,000. More than five-sixths of the whole amount was produced in central California.

It is not generally known that the coeducation of the sexes is carried on without restrictions in the University of Texas. Young men and young women are admitted to the same classes in every department and are eligible to degrees and honors without exceptions.

One of the big bridges of the world will soon be ready for traffic. This is the iron railroad bridge across the Missouri a few miles below Kansas City. It is 7392 feet long, weighs 31,275 tons and is fifty feet above high water, with towers reaching to a height of 200 feet.

The Russian government offers prizes for lamps that will burn heavy unrefined naphtha oil; first, 2500 roubles for a single lamp of cheap construction; second, 1000 roubles for a lamp of better construction. The Russian war minister offers three prizes each of 500 roubles for a stove that will burn naphtha refuse; for a cheap galvanic battery for electric lighting and third for phosphoric substances to be used in illuminating.

Emil Pasha, whom Stanley was sent to relieve, but who subsequently sent word to Europe that all the relief he needed was an open way to the sea coast, seems to be well enough off at Wadaleh, not only to attend to the advancement of civilization in Africa, but to do something for the cause of European education. The natural history branch of the British Museum at London has lately received from him a valuable collection of African bird skins, mammals and butterflies, besides some anthropological specimens, with a promise of another consignment of such things at an early day.

Some idea of the extent to which mechanical ingenuity and efficiency have advanced may be had from the following statement: "It is now possible to construct a complete sewing machine in a minute, or sixty in an hour; a reaper every fifteen minutes, or less; 300 watches in a day, complete in all their appointments. More important than this, even, is the fact that it is possible to construct a locomotive in a day. From the plans of a draughtsman to the execution of the work by the workmen, every wheel, lever, valve and nut may be constructed from the metal to the engine intact. Every rivet may be driven in the boiler, every tube in the tube sheets, and from the smokestack to the ashpan, a locomotive may be turned out in a working day, completely equipped, ready to do the work of a hundred horses." Without such machinery and the skilled labor to operate them, the civilized world of today would be an impossibility.

All competent observers in Russia agree in representing the condition of the peasantry since the emancipation of the serfs as very wretched. Each rural commune is responsible for the relief of its own poor, and Sir R. Morley, in a foreign office report just published, says that the officials are quite incapable of relieving all that was done for the peasants by the 103,000 large landed proprietors whose interest it formerly was to work well and constantly. Since 1861, accordingly, there has been permanent famine in about fourteen provinces, and it is officially stated that in the larger provinces, such as Kursk, Tambow, and Kostroma, over 100,000 peasants have abandoned the plots of eight acres each allotted to them. The number of beggars in seventy-one governments is given as 3,000,000, of whom 182,000 are peasant proprietors. The most hopeful remedy suggested is the formation of labor colonies, which have been successful in Germany.

Punishing a Prince.
An anecdote told of the young Prince of Italy shows that the bringing up of kings requires lessons in democracy. One day when the Prince was playing with the daughter of one of the ladies of honor he got into a quarrel with her and at last said in an autocratic tone: "Now, then, I'm going to cut your head off." The little girl commenced to cry and the king, who chanced to be passing, on learning what had happened had his son placed in close confinement for fifteen days, in order to impress him with the fact that nowadays kings may no longer decapitate their subjects as in the good old days of yore. —[Boston Journal.]

Taming Birds.
A New York woman, who has great success as a bird tamer, says the secret of her power is in making the birds believe she is afraid of them. At first they despise her and peck at her for her cowardice, but when they find her still more humble and amiable they grow sorry for her and kind to her, and finally end by being fond, the fondness of the strong for the weak.

FOR FARM AND GARDEN.

Deep or Shallow Frames.

An apiarist in Maine expresses himself in Home and Farm on the subject of deep or shallow frames as follows: "I find by observation that bees on the approach of cold weather cluster below their stores, but the first very cold day you will find them at the top of the frames at the end next to the entrance, and as winter wears on and their stores are consumed they move towards the other end of the frame, taking the honey from the upper part of the frame the width of the cluster, and if the frame is narrow they sometimes take all the honey from the upper part of the frame and starve to death with plenty of honey below the cluster and on the adjoining frames.

"I am fully convinced that a long frame is better for wintering bees than a deep and narrow one. Give me a long frame, with the entrance at the end of the frame, and no more frames in the hive than the bees will cluster on, with plenty of good stores and a good chaff hive for wintering on the summer stands."

Distributing Manure Evenly.

On most long-tilled farms the yearly crop is largely dependent on the yearly application of manure. It is therefore important that the manure be evenly distributed; if not, the crop will be not only deficient, but unevenness of ripening, if of grain, will make what there is of it harder to harvest. This is especially true of commercial manures, which, owing to the small amounts used per acre, cannot easily be distributed uniformly so as to cover the entire surface even with the drill. On small fields with short bouts it is generally better done, for at each turn the drill puts in a fresh supply and sees that the tubes are working all right. If the bouts are long the farmer puts in a larger quantity, which is more apt to clog the tubes and cause them to distribute unevenly. The result is seen in a streaked appearance of the field after the grain is up, and this continues until harvest. More than half the value of commercial fertilizers is lost by imperfect distribution through the drill. Swam broadcast they are still more unevenly distributed and have the further disadvantage of not being in contact with the seed. It is this last circumstance that makes the drilling of commercial manures so widely popular. If the work is well done it gives the grain a quick, even start, and soon puts it into position to make its own way to a successful crop. —[Cultivator.]

Change of Pasture.

There is more good solid sense expressed in the old saying that "A change of pasture makes fat calves" than most people are apt to realize on a casual reading. Not only calves but all descriptions of live stock need for their highest thrift some little variety in the way of food, and the pastures, to maintain their best condition, need an occasional rest. Both stock and pastures are therefore benefited by a change. The stock coming into a fresh pasture find every variety of grass natural to it in full growth, and are able to fill themselves easily without too much exertion; and if the animals are of an improved character and quality they never fail to give a good account of the luxuriant feed. There are some grasses in the pasture which will not stand very close grazing; the sun let in too directly upon their roots acts unfavorably and they seem incapable of making much growth until after they have progressed to about a certain stage. If constantly grazed the pasture is certain to lose its due proportion of such grasses. It is better, therefore, for both stock and grass that the pastures be divided into several lots, that one portion may recuperate while another is being used. If there is a difference in its productive capacity—some portions growing more luxuriant food than others—it is well to make the divisions with reference to that fact, for if there is no profitable food on any portion it is better that the stock should not be suffered to tramp around over it. Suitable divisions of the pastures also enable the farmer to keep different descriptions of stock separate, which is quite desirable. Especially in periods of drought it is essential that the farmer should be able to manage the pastures with the greatest care and intelligence, for there is danger of the permanent stand being injured in such portions as are too heavily laden with stock at such a time. —[Breeder's Gazette.]

Storing Potatoes.

Digging as soon as the vines are dead and not leaving them to long in the sun are good points. To build sheds or carry the potatoes under a tree where there is only one tree on a ten-acre lot yielding from 200 to 400 bushels per acre, makes much useless labor. Stop and think before you attempt to carry 2000 bushels under trees to dry or to temporary sheds, either. I have seen people dig potatoes in a hot sun in the forenoon and leave them until after dinner and then pick them and throw them into a cart, and at night dump them down the cellar window to sweat and rot, and then complain about their rotting. I had a bin in the house cellar last year twenty-two feet long, five feet wide and six inches from the ground, and I began to fill it in August. By the middle of September it was from four to five feet high, and was so near the floor above that we could not empty any more in it. I took out the first load in December and sold them as fast as a first-class hotel wanted them, and the last load was taken out in April. There were four quarts of unsound potatoes in the

SEAL SKINS.

Interesting Processes of Preparing Them For Use.

An Inside View of a Celebrated Factory.

The Albany Press reporter describes the processes of dressing and dyeing seal skins in a large factory in that city. He says: "The building in question is the factory of Messrs. Treadwell & Co., and in it are annually dressed and dyed thousands of seal skins as well as many other furs of value. The firm has carried on the business for about fifty years, and for the last twenty-five years the work of preparing the fur for the market has been carried on in the present quarters. London is the great fur market of the world and all pelts of value are shipped there, whence they are distributed to all parts of the globe, principally to northern countries. The seal skins used by Treadwell & Co. are purchased in London, and thousands are imported direct by them every year. They embrace the Alaska and Copper Island seal. The Shelton seal has been about annihilated and no new skins are to be found in the market. The skins come packed in a barrel, like fish. They are packed in salt which with the abundant blubber of the seal forms a sort of brine and preserves the skin. They are generally used the season following their capture. The price of seal skin remains about the same every year, owing to the fact that the great Alaska Fur company regulates the size of each season's capture so as to just supply the demand. The contract with this government allows an annual capture of 100,000 seals, but often the actual number killed falls below this amount. The process through which the skin goes in the course of preparation for actual use in the making up of fur garments is very interesting. There certainly is nothing attractive in them when they are first taken out of the barrel, where they may have lain in salt for perhaps a year. They are first blubbered on a beam, a process in which all the fatty adherents are removed by scraping, and then thoroughly scoured on a table with strong soap suds until thoroughly clean. They are next unhaird, the long hairs being pulled out by the roots by a kind of hand-knives, leaving the fur in. The skins, which are usually of a slaty gray color, now, with the long hair out, become a light drab. The next step is to shave down the pelt to an even thickness. Next they are gotten ready for milling and passed through a fuller's mill that softens the pelt and thoroughly cleans the fur. The next process is to stretch out the skins and prepare them for the dyer. The dyeing process occupies about two weeks, after which both pelt and fur are thoroughly washed again. The pelt is second time shaved, this time quite fine, and is prepared to go through the milling process again. In the process of milling fine saw dust is employed, largely of mahogany and rosewood. This process both cleanses and softens. After this the fur is ready to be made up, and it is sent to the Broadway store of the firm where a large force is constantly employed working it up into every kind of garments demanded by the trade. In the preparation at the Van Woert street establishment each skin passes through nine different operations, and it is about six weeks after it is taken out of the packing barrel before it is ready to be made up. For a seal skin saque of the prevailing style, three or four skins are used. The skins after coming from the factory are all assorted according to the grade and only the very best ones employed in making up the high grade garments. Some single skins of the same batch may be valued at \$100, while others perhaps may not be worth over one-third as much. Add to these values the cost of the expert work in cutting and making up and one will readily see that it is not strange that seal garments command so large a price.

Farm and Garden Notes.

Ichneumon, lady-bugs and spiders destroy other insects and should be encouraged.

It has been claimed that Ayshires are more exempt from tuberculosis than any other breed.

Rail-fences are expensive on account of the ground they occupy and the weeds they protect.

Sheep manure contains 90 to 95 per cent. of the plant food contained in the rations consumed by sheep. It is therefore, a very rich fertilizer.

Professor Roberts of Cornell University is reported as saying that under favorable conditions it cost 11-2 cents per quart to produce milk.

Good clover hay is always considered as equal to any other. It is the standard by which all other grasses are compared, and no farm is considered fully supplied for the winter that has not had a crop of clover grown upon it.

It needs extra warm pens and good feeding to make late Fall pigs pay for wintering. As a rule pigs dropped in October or later should be sold for what they will bring. They will cost more to winter than they will be worth in the spring. Don't set your milk in shallow pans or crocks; get a portable creamery, or, if you can't afford that just yet, have some deep flat cans made, and set them in a tank of cold water. Time, labor and cream saved will soon enable you to buy a creamery.

The Adams Express Company is represented by the New York Voice as having learned by experience with their horses, which are out in all weathers, that blankets do more harm than good. Too much colding enervates animals of all kinds, human included.

A correspondent of Vick's recommends planting potato onions late in fall, so that they can get a little start before the ground freezes, for early use. Cover them an inch or more and pack the earth around the bulb. The correspondent has had 20 years' experience. In pruning trees of any kind it is better to have one strong branch or limb, than two or three weak ones. It's better to keep heads low than high. It's better to keep limbs thinned out than to cut back and make two close heads. Let the sun's rays in through all the trees.

Scaly leg is caused by a minute insect which burrows under the scales on the hanks of fowls, causing them to enlarge. This may be cured by dipping the hanks of those affected into crude petroleum, or a mixture of lard and kerosene, or a mixture of lard and kerosene may be thoroughly rubbed into the scales. Repeat the treatment in ten days, and the cure will be completed.

Cleanliness in Japan.

Those who come around the world eastward, writes a St. Louis Globe correspondent from Nagasaki, find all the Asiatics from Port Said to the ends of China and Corea one in the great brotherhood of dirt, and sitting meditatively and in contented indolence in the midst of filth that would depopulate those countries by one epidemic, if there was anything in the theories of sanitary engineering, malaria, germs and microbes that could be applied to Asia. To them Japan is even more of a wonder and delight than to those who come to it westward from our very practical and prosaic America. The first boat and boatman in the harbor is a shining example of cleanliness. His one scant cotton garment may be patched and darned all over, but it is as clean as daily washing can make it, and the boatman himself is as clean as constant scrubbing, soaking in hot water and rubbing down with his illustrated Japanese towels can make him. The whole nation is amphibious, and although the government has done away with the public bath houses, where every one went in together, the constant bathing and splashing in tanks of boiling water has not ceased since the Arcadian fashion was done away with. The bath houses are the club houses, the places of public resort, where any one drops in for a smoke and a chat with his neighbor, and there is no special hour or limit to the indulgence. The lowest cooler do as much bathing as the men of high rank, and cleanliness is not, as in England, the badge and attribute of the better classes only. The clean faces, the well-scrubbed boats, the clean and sprinkled streets, the pretty little houses, with their toy balconies without spot or speck on their shining floors, are a contrast to the eyes that the mud hovel, the dirt floor, the filth, rags and repulsive people living just across the Yellow sea.

CLIPPINGS FOR THE CURIOUS.

The first British writers were Gildas, Nennine and Bede, in the seventh century.

In Mexico they have special funeral cars over the horse car routes to the cemeteries.

Amarath I. was the founder of the power of Turks, and reigned from 1357 till killed in 1390.

J. M. Cook of Howard county, Ark., raised a pair this year that weighed two pounds and four ounces.

Paris was known as Lutetia until 1184 when the name of the great French capital was changed to that which it has borne ever since.

The buyer of a large Cincinnati tobacco house, who is paid \$10,000 a year to know good tobacco when he sees it, neither smokes nor chews.

Though St. Paul's College, Cambridge, England, was founded as early as 1557, it was a place of education as early as the time of Roman dominion in Britain.

The origin of the expression, "Paint the town red," is credited to an energetic circus agent who announced the coming of his show in flaming red characters.

A rooster at Salem, Ill., is so fond of music that he will fly in at the window of his master's house and run to and fro on the keys of the piano, delighted with the sounds he evokes.

In 70, Jerusalem was razed and plowed over by the Roman emperor, Titus, in order to obliterate and make unrecognizable spots venerated by Christians. It was refounded, as a heathen city, by the Emperor Hadrian, A. D. 140.

Mrs. T. R. Cobb of Athens, Ga., has the original draft of the Confederate constitution as it came from the committee that drafted it. Her husband, a brother of ex-Speaker Howell Cobb, was one of the committee.

On February 17, 1571, Marcy Hill, near Hereford, England, began to move, bearing with it cattle, trees and hedges on its surface. It continued in motion for two days, overthrowing a chapel that lay in its path, and leaving, where it formerly stood, a chasm forty feet deep and thirty long. A similar phenomenon appeared in Dorsetshire in 1583.

Burglars' Tools.

P. J. Jennings, a New York engineer and machinist, tells an interesting story about his dealings with a burglar. He was sitting in his office one day a few months ago when two men entered with a design they wanted to make of steel. He took the job and turned it out according to order. The men came the next day, and after chatting pleasantly about matters of popular interest in the city, paid their bill and went away. Several other designs were brought him by the two men and he got to know them quite well. He did not learn their business, however, but it is a common thing to deal with men whom one knows only by sight and Mr. Jennings never bothered his head about it.

But he found out who the men were after all. One day they called to have him make half a dozen eight-inch steel screws. He promised them for 5 o'clock, but the men did not come. He did not see them on the next day or the next. On the third day one of Pinkerton's detectives dropped in upon him in the afternoon carrying a hand-saw. He opened it and threw a lot of curiously shaped pieces of steel on the table.

"Were those made in your shop, Mr. Jennings?" casually remarked the detective.

"Yes, that's our work."

"Who did you make them for?"

"Now you've got me—it's more than I can tell. I never had any reason to acquire, and the men didn't bother about telling me."

"But you are sure you made that steel work here?"

Two days later Mr. Jennings was subpoenaed by the prosecution as a witness against two men who had attempted to crack the safe of a bank in Ellenville, Ulster county. He met a Harlem machinist and an ironworker from down-town at the courthouse in Kingston. Pinkerton's men opened wide their eyes when he took the pieces of steel that each had shaped and, putting them together, showed what a perfect sectional jimmy they made. —[New York Letter.]

Solving a Vexed Question.

Admirers of Lord Tennyson have long sought to ascertain to whom the poet laureate alluded in the opening lines of "In Memoriam."

I hold it truth, with him who sings
That one clear morn'g in divers tomes,
To me may rise on stepping stones
Of their dead selves to higher things.

Many poets have been mentioned, but hitherto the allusion has never been traced. A little while ago an inquiry on the point appeared in Notes and Queries, and has elicited the following reply from Rev. Dr. Gatty, vicar of Ecclefield, Yorkshire, whose years ago issued an able key to Lord Tennyson's great work: "The poet alluded to in the first stanza of 'In Memoriam' is Goethe. I know this from Lord Tennyson himself, although he could not identify the passage, and when I submitted to him a small work of mine on his marvellous poem he wrote 'It is Goethe's creed' on this very passage."

Both Waiting.

First Citizen—Do you want to see Mr. Smith?

Second Citizen—Yes, sir.

First Citizen—He is upstairs. I'm waiting for him to come down.

Second Citizen (a collector)—I'm waiting for him to "come down," too. —[The Epoch.]

Not a Proposal.

He—Do you want a little puppy, Miss Elith?

She—Am I to consider that as a proposal?

He—Not at all; good-bye. —[The Earth]

MEN WHO WIN.

Five Hundred Dollars Thrown Away—In All.

A good healthy body is almost sure to be found associated with good connections. A close student of human nature is rarely willing to place large matters of trust in the hands of another until he has seen the one whom he is to trust. To look for the fresh health and vigor, the honest frank countenance and manly form, and in fact all that attracts in a man. He doubts the dyspeptic with sallow skin, drawn cut features, the evident weak and irritable nature. He feels as Shakespeare makes Julius Caesar say: "I have met many a man that has gone to bed with a goodly body, but he has wakened with a feeble one."

He does not doubt the honesty of the poor unfortunate, but fears disease of the body will affect the mind, bring misfortune upon the individual, and lead to his ruin.

It may be unjust to the weak, but if the man has not the mental strength, he is wrapped up in his misery, he cannot take in the situation of the world, does not see that ideas are broadening, and that aims and teachings are advancing. How can such a man ever hope for success from such a man? The dyspeptic look, the wax-like complexion and sallow features, show that the man is far from the great light of man, the brain, is affected, or will be, at no distant day.

He discards the poor student of the body who goes wearily into the world. Discouraged at last he takes to his sick bed. He seeks medical aid. Lacking the broad ideas of the successful man of the world, he tries the same medical treatment that he has tried many times before. The same bigoted counsel is sought, the same drugs are administered by the same old family friend, until he has tried him months and years before, and his parents before him, and in such a way he drags out his miserable, unsuccessful existence.

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DAYLIGHT.

It is not by reasonably called daylight? As for instance, take the case of Captain Sargent S. Day, Gloucester, Mass., who wrote April 22, 1887: "Some time ago I was suffering with rheumatism. I used a small portion of St. Jacobs Oil and was cured at once. I have used it for sprains and never once have known it to fail. I will never be without a bottle." Captain Day also received a circular letter, and in reply under date of July 1, 1887, he says: "I used the Oil as stated and was permanently cured of rheumatism by its use." During the interval of six years there had been no recurrence of the pain. Also a letter from Mr. H. M. Converse, of New Bedford, dated July 2, 1887, says: "I was afflicted with rheumatism in 1880, and was cured by the use of St. Jacobs Oil. I have since used it for sprains and rheumatism, and it has never failed me. I have since used it for sprains and rheumatism, and it has never failed me. I have since used it for sprains and rheumatism, and it has never failed me. I have since used it for sprains and