

EASTERN COURIER.

Onward and Upward.

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AND THE YEARS GO BY.

Lightly sips youth at the wines of its joys,
Laughs at the charms of yesterday's toys;
Life is so long, and nothing afores,
And the years go by.

Little by little the world shows its dross,
Deepens the sense of enjoyment and loss;
Pleasure is wearing off part of its gloss,
And the years go by.

Now there is question and doubt and dismay,
Well time will alter, and truth will outstay;
Night is as needful, perhaps, as the day,
And the years go by.

Work multiplies and pleasures abate,
So much to do, and we are so late,
Duties still flocking now knock at the gate,
And the years go by.

Once—ah, we sigh! but we never can stop;
What is life for but to work till we drop?
Only one thought—to rise to the top,
And the years go by.

Age is oncoming, and what have we done?
Oh, we had dreamed of such victories won!
Whose is the fault, and what is undone?
And the years go by.

What do we hold but a handful of dust?
We were so wise in our first ardent trust,
Somehow we missed the real metal for rust,
And the years go by.

—Helen F. Boyden, in New York Observer.

that some one might come by before my numbed fingers relaxed their grasp.

"The water was fearfully cold. My head and shoulders rose above it; below, it was numbing every nerve. Frantic with fear, I wrapped my arms and legs desperately around the icicles. Occasionally I shouted for help, but only the sullen crash of the ice floes replied. Once I heard the roar of a passenger-train speeding by. In imagination, I saw the passengers in the warm coaches talking and laughing.

"With my nearness to death came a weak delirium. The darkness under the wharf seemed inhabited by horrible forms. Swirling arms in the water tried to drag me down. Liquid voices of the current mocked at me and gurgled threats. When I screamed, the echoes scared me into silence, and the voices of the darkness and the current again ridiculed my dying.

"Then my delirium changed, and I seemed to be mired in a swamp, hearing the call of the dinner-bell at home. In a voice that I let mother know where I was. The bell rang and rang. Again and again I shouted, until a response brought, back my wandering senses. It was the old Irish watchman who called, 'Billy! Billy, boy! Are yez down there?'

"My answer sent him hurrying back across the tracks as fast as his legs would allow. It was the bell of one of the yard engines I had heard. The crew had pulled up from the slip dock to get orders to the Junction, and they had rung the bell to let me know that I was wanted. Becoming impatient at my long delay, they started a search for me, and fate led the old man to the dock.

"How to get me out? Some men ran to the roundhouse for screws and axes, but the distance is considerable and moments were precious. The planking of the dock was of newly laid oak bolted to heavy stringers, and before the tools could have arrived and the thick wood been cut through I might lose my hold and sink.

"Probably I must have been drowned but for a brakeman named Louis Calvert, a boy little older than myself. He had been bred in the lumber woods, and had sailed on the lakes, and rail-roading had made him fertile in expedients. He saw at once what to do, and his plan was instantly accepted by the other men.

"A short spur track runs down to the river at this point and terminates in a large stop-block. Down this the engine was backed, while heavy tail-ropes and chains were brought from some way-car near. The spaces between the planks directly over my head and the two adjacent were enlarged by the one axe at hand, and a chain was passed under and looped round the board. Then the great ropes were passed back across the stop-block to the engine and there made fast. At the signal, the locomotive started ahead slowly, but the planks above me did not yield.

"The situation was too desperate for further caution. The engineer backed down, took as much slack as he dared, and then flung the full pressure into the cylinders. There was a rending sound, twenty feet of plank rose in the air, swung round, and slewed across the dock in the wake of the engine.

"In a bound Calvert reached the aperture, clambered down to me, and held me up until they sent down a loop of rope and lifted me to safety.

"Three days after that the superintendent gravely informed me that I was too young to be trusted so near the water, and sent me north to a station in the woods."—Youth's Companion.

AGRICULTURAL.

What a Careless Man Can Do.

As an illustration of how careful farmers should be in selecting a man to run a creamery a dairy paper says that, in a creamery handling 10,000 pounds of milk per day, it is easy for a careless or poor manager to lose \$1500 a year on the quality of the butter, \$3000 a year on the quantity, \$1500 on the consumption of coal and \$400 on that of oil. Creameries are a big thing for the farmer, and the selection of a man to run one is no trifling matter. The success of a creamery depends upon good management backed up by conscientious patrons.

Shelter For Young Fowls.

The young fowls which have roosted in boxes since being hatched should be provided with protection from cold rains during the night. The boxes are no longer large enough to allow a brood of chicks to huddle in them, and on that account most of them will sit on the ground outside, or perch themselves on top.

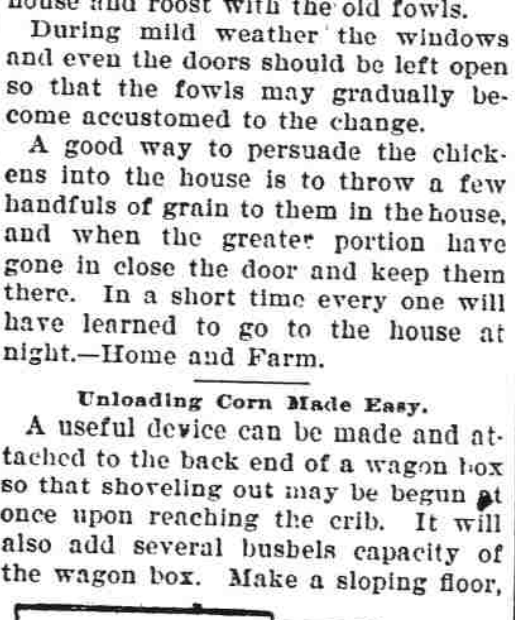
The exposure will, beyond doubt, give the chicks colds and from that roup will develop. Unless shelter can be placed over the boxes, the chicks should be taught to go to the poultry house and roost with the old fowls.

During mild weather the windows and even the doors should be left open so that the fowls may gradually become accustomed to the change.

A good way to persuade the chickens into the house is to throw a few handfuls of grain to them in the house, and when the greater portion have gone in close the door and keep them there. In a short time every one will have learned to go to the house at night.—Home and Farm.

Unloading Corn Made Easy.

A useful device can be made and attached to the back end of a wagon box so that shoveling out may be begun at once upon reaching the crib. It will also add several bushels capacity of the wagon box. Make a sloping floor,

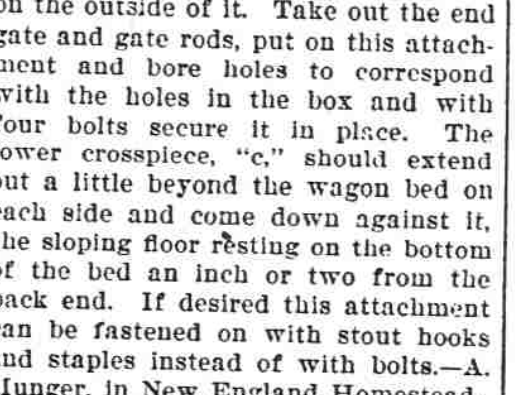


EXTENSION FOR UNLOADING CORN.

"a," a few feet long with crosspieces on the lower side at "b" and "c." Let this floor be as wide as the outside of the wagon box. Then put on short sides nailed securely to this sloping floor, and extending forward a few inches past the sides of the box and on the outside of it. Take out the end gate and gate rods, put on this attachment and bore holes to correspond with the holes in the box and with four bolts secure it in place. The lower crosspiece, "c," should extend out a little beyond the wagon bed on each side and come down against it, the sloping floor resting on the bottom of the bed an inch or two from the back end. If desired this attachment can be fastened on with stout hooks and staples instead of with bolts.—A. Munger, in New England Homestead.

Facility in Hanging Hogs.

The hardest work about butchering is hanging the hogs unless one has something that will lighten the labor. The device shown in the illustration is very satisfactory, and can be made at very little expense. It would require about seventy feet of scantling three and a half by two inches, two good pulleys and a strong piece of rope. The legs are seven feet three inches long. At the top are two frames. The side pieces of the upper one is eight feet long and the lower one is eight feet long and the lower one is eight feet long and the lower one is eight feet long.



THE HANGER READY FOR USE.

Skim Milk For Ducklings.

Some exhaustive experiments have recently been made by the Ontario Agricultural College on the feeding of young ducks. It was found that skim milk was a valuable and cheap auxiliary food for raising young ducks. Two lots of ducks were fed upon a mixture composed of equal parts of bran middlings and cornmeal. For Pen 1 the mixture was moistened with skim milk while for Pen 2 boiling water was used; Pen 2 also received a small amount of animal meat and cut green bone in their ration. At the end of six weeks all were weighed. The average weight of those in Pen 1 was over four pounds each, produced at a cost of 3.6 cents per pound. The average weight of Pen 2 was three pounds each, and the cost of production 3.8 cents per pound, the cost in both cases representing the feed only, without reckoning the eggs or attendance. During the next four weeks both lots were fed alike, and their respective gain was nearly equal. When the ducks were fifteen weeks old they were again weighed, showing a total average of eight pounds. Some chickens of the same age averaged three and three-quarter pounds each. Ducks have good appetites, and should be sold when at a weight of about five pounds each in order to secure the most profit.

The Winter Forcing of Vegetables.

The growing of vegetables under glass for the winter market has developed within the past ten years to large proportions. Entire ranges of modern houses are now devoted to it, in which are grown the entire list of tender vegetables. The special crops are usually confined to lettuce, radishes, tomatoes and cucumbers. The forcing of any winter crop is a matter of principle rather than practice, since local conditions have all to do with the methods of culture and the kinds of vegetables forced. Skill and management and close attention to details are the requirements necessary to success. Two fundamental elements, however, are essential, heat and light.

The former is needed with all crops, the latter is imperative where fruit is wanted. With such crops as radishes, rhubarb, lettuce and asparagus, where the vegetative part only of the plant is wanted, bright sunlight is not absolutely necessary, but with such crops as tomatoes, cucumbers, melons and beans, where the fruit is the aim, no

ARP ON SUICIDES

It is a Rare Event Among the Negroes.

SAYS THEY HAVE NO REMORSE

Old "Uncle Lewis"—Pistol and Poison Should Not Be So Handy.

The rapid increase of suicides in the south is alarming and provokes the serious study of our thinking people. Fifty years ago a suicide was a rare event among the white race and never heard of among the negroes. When it did occur, it was considered an evidence of insanity. I do not recall but one instance in my youth and that was that of a woman who jumped into a deep well when no help was within reach. But nowadays almost every daily paper contains an account of one or more self-murders, and even negroes have taken the infection, for they will imitate every vice and frailty of the whites. Old Lewis, who is my wood shop, asked me the other day how it was that the white folks kill themselves so much, and "de niggers didn't do it," said I, "white folks are more easily overcome with grief, or remorse, or distress, than negroes. You negroes don't borrow trouble, nor take it hard, you're not so anxious about to-morrow, or next week or next year. You don't grieve long over a death in the family; your emotional nature is of a low grade; your marriage relation is loose; in fact, it is on the decline since freedom came. The marriage records show that your legal marriage rate is 50 per cent less, according to population, than in the white race, and the decrease gets less and less every year. Your young men and women don't marry; they just take up and quit when they please, and so the men don't care very much about the welfare of their children, if they have any. Besides all this, Uncle Lewis, your race has a trait of stealing little things, and this accounts in a great measure for their indifference to the laying up of something for the future; something for the winter, or the rainy days, or for old age. If the worst comes to the worst, they know they can steal or beg. If your young folks, men and women, have got a dollar in the world, they will spend it for a watermelon, or an excursion, and take the chances. Now, Uncle Lewis, you remember when there wasn't a chaingang in the south, nor a hellous crime nor a brutal outrage, committed by your people, from the Potomac river to the Rio Grande. Now there are in Georgia alone over 4,000 of you people in the chaingangs, and there would be 4,000 more if all the little stealings were punished." Uncle Lewis had stopped cutting and was leaning on his ax helve. "Dat's all so," and he looked at me with a puzzled expression. "What I wants to know is dis: What must we poor niggers do about it? There is the rub. I couldn't tell him, but I did say, "Uncle Lewis, your race has got some mighty good traits, and I like to have you about us; you are like-hearted, good-natured, easy to please, and don't carry malice or revenge in your hearts. If you steal, you don't cheat anybody. The white race won't steal, but they will cheat, or take advantage in a trade, and that is worse. If you trust a negro with anything he will not abuse your confidence, but a white man will embezzle and defraud, and even the cashiers of banks will appropriate the bank's money, and falsify the books for months and years. Every race has its race traits, both bad and good. Some of your bad ones were almost run out by slavery, but they have come back again, and all your college education does not stop them. It makes it worse. There is nothing will stop it but work, constant work, every day, under some good employer. Work on the farm is your best safeguard, or work as mechanics under good contractors. Your people make good mechanics, and the white people employ them and put them to work as willingly as they do white mechanics. The negro blacksmiths and masons get good employment here and everywhere, and as for cooking and washing and nursing, your women have it all. The two races would fit together nicely if it wasn't for politics and idleness. An idle negro is a dangerous creature and should be taken up and put to work. He is much more dangerous than an idle white man, for he has no shame, and fears not God nor regards man. If I were a law-maker, I would make continued idleness a crime, for, as Ben Franklin says, "It is the parent of vice."

I started to write about suicides, but gave up preaching Uncle Lewis a sermon and got off the track. Nineteen hundred years ago Plutarch, the Greek historian, said that self-murder was cowardice, for a brave man would suffer rather than take the life that God gave him. Self-murder was a heinous crime under the old English law. The estate of the felon de se was confiscated and taken away from his family. His body was buried on the highway without a coffin and a sharp stake thrust through it to mark the accused spot. Suicide was under the ban of the church, and no prayers were said for his soul. In no civilized country has suicide been justified, except in such cases as that of Saul, who fell on his sword because, as he said, "Lest these uncircumcised Philistines thrust me through and abuse me." Other than that other notable case the scriptures record, that of Judas, whose remorse was so dreadful he preferred hell or anything that would be a change. But generally it is "better to endure the ill we have, than fly to those we know not of." Almost every day we read of young men and young women killing themselves because of disappointment or disapproval, or about love or money. They must believe there is no hereafter, or all punishment ends with this life. Surely no Christian man or woman would think of self-murder. Wait, wait, young man, young woman; wait, I say—suffer and be strong; wait, I say—suffer

JACKSON'S PERIL.

Almost Forgotten Attempt on the President's Life.

On March 30, 1835, Gen. Jackson was attending the funeral of Warren R. Davis, a member of congress from South Carolina, at the capitol, and while walking in procession to take a carriage on the east front of the capitol he was approached by a man named Richard Lawrence, who presented a pistol within a few feet of him. The cap exploded, but did not ignite the charge. Lawrence threw the pistol away and drew another, which also missed fire. Gen. Jackson was also missed fire. Lieut. Gedney of the navy knocked Lawrence down, and the friends of the president tried to restrain him, but he said: "Let me go, gentlemen; I am not afraid. They can't kill me. I can protect myself." Lawrence was arrested and arraigned before Judge Cranch and committed. At the trial he behaved much as Guitau did, interrupting the proceedings and talking all the time, until the judge ordered him to be removed from the court room. A commission appointed to examine into his condition reported him of unsound mind. He was committed to an insane asylum, where he lived for many years. There was an attempt made to involve some political adversaries of Gen. Jackson in this attempt on his life, but the examination and trial revealed nothing but that it was the act of a madman. Gen. Jackson's escape from death was providential. The pistols were loaded very heavily, and after the arrest of Lawrence were fired, the caps exploding and igniting the powder ready in the pistol and sending the balls through several inches of plank. It was stated that Gen. Jackson said at the time that he knew where the attempt originated.—Washington Post.

Good Roads Notes

A Canadian's Views.

In view of the experience of the past wet year in the matter of roads, or rather the want of them, I venture to suggest that this is an opportune time to discuss matters concerning the failure of the old system and the substitution for it of some more efficient method, writes F. J. Collyer, in the Farmer's Advocate of Canada. For those living from fifteen to twenty miles from the railway, as some of us do, there is no other question concerning our business of such moment.

The statute labor system, copied, I believe, largely from that in force in Ontario, while it may have afforded in the old days, the only practicable method of filling a mud hole or bridging a creek, has, for reasons well-known to your readers, certainly passed its days of usefulness.

The Territorial Government, falling to profit by our experience, a few years ago instituted a statute labor system there, which, while superior to ours in several particulars, has already been found wanting, as may be seen from comments in the local papers, and provision has even been made for the substitution of a cash system when the majority of ratepayers in a district (usually a township, I believe) so desire it.

Most of our progressive municipalities have, I understand, abandoned the old system and now collect varying amounts of cash in lieu thereof, and the results of the change, in some of them at least, have been most gratifying. For instance, the Clerk of Bertie Municipality informs me that in the two years during which they have collected \$2 per quarter-section (they have done more work than they did in the previous fourteen under the old regime, and I may state that in our own Municipality (Archib) the admitted value of the improvements done under the old system only reaches six per cent. of the nominal cost.

As to the expenditure of the cash, when it is collected, there is a difference of opinion as to the merits of the "day labor" and "contract" systems. Some uphold the "contract" system, considering that it is not safe and I am sorry to say the fear is sometimes justified—to allow reeves and councilors to hire their neighbors; but I have heard of dishonest practices in awarding contracts, through only notifying favored parties. As far as my experience goes (and I must admit it is not great) the "contract" system has not proved a success. Owing to the necessity of hunting scrapers, etc., and the frequent inexperience of the tenderers, who, naturally, do not wish to lose money on the job, the prices paid are frequently very high, \$3, \$6 and even \$8 per yard for a man and team being not uncommon rates of pay. On the other hand, day labor for short terms is frequently unsatisfactory, as neither men nor teams are of much use until they become acquainted with the work, which was a frequent cause of failure under the old system even when the men were willing to work, and the tool and inspection troubles were ever present. As a solution of the problem, I would suggest the following plan, which, as far as I am aware, is untried, but would, I think, overcome the difficulty without any great outlay in initial cost: Select a well-principled, hard-working man as working foreman, with or without a team, who, naturally, do not wish to lose money on the job, the prices paid are frequently very high, \$3, \$6 and even \$8 per yard for a man and team being not uncommon rates of pay. 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