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 alloys, 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 dis-Well time will alter, and truth will out 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 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 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,

And the years go by.
-Helen F. Boyden, in New York Observ-

UNDER THE DOCK.

By John Milton Stoddard.

ŏ000000000000000000000000 S the swift lake steamer swung from her dock at Detroit and, turning northward, began the long trip to Mackinaw, I sat with a young man, a new acquaintance, on the promenade deck, and leisurely surveyed the long panoramic river-front of the chief city of Michigan. The sun, already half-way to the horizon, swam in a blue, autumnal haze, its slanting beams gilding the tall buildings that broke the skyline and blazing with blinding reflection from their countless windows. The soft land-breeze brought faintly the roar of the streets to intermingle with the pulse-like beat of the machinery below us, and the whole scene was one of such autumnal placidity and peace" that I watched it in dreamy silence until my companion spoke.

"Do you see that building over there?" he said, indicating a tall structure at the water's edge. "That is the Grand Trunk Elevator, and I never pass it without a shudder, for it marks the worst position I was ever in."

He paused, but scenting a story, I begged him to continue.

"Well," said he, "it was eight years ago. I was then a telegraph operator, and had the night trick in the yard office at Detroit. I had come up a short time before from a little station were passed back across the stopin the country. It was early in the spring that I was ordered to 'Yd,' and fast. At the signal, the locomotive the ice had begun to go down the river, but the nights were still very cold. The old yard watchman groaned mightily every evening about the delayed warm weather, but he kept my stove hot, and as my duties were all inside 1 cared little for the temperature. My work was light, the city was new to me, and I was enjoying myself hugely when I got into the trouble I'm going to tell you about.

"Just at sunrise on one particularly chilly morning my telegraph-sounder became mute. It wouldn't respond to the key. An examination of the battery showed that the water in the cells had evaporated so much that it did not touch the zincs, and so it gave no cir-

"I rumaged through the cupboards and found a large empty bottle,-it was the only thing I could find to carry water in,-and went down my two pair of stairs to the tap from the city mains. And I found the tap frozen

"Here was trouble. Water I must for West Detroit and the Junction relay to work with a tired, nervous, and therefore easily angered dispatch- ter and proceed for the rest of the way | tion 3.8 cents per pound, the cost in other some, the legs being two and a er was a far from agreeable one. I in tears. Their boots are hurting both cases representing the feed only, thought of the river came to me. Go-I made my way to the dock beside that | flying off from all parts of their clothelevator yonder.

"There I lowered the bottle by the string to the water and tried to fill it, the hand-drawn sledges used by hillbut it is not easy to dip up water in a side peasants to carry them down. slender-necked bottle which insists on But when these little folks have been staying upright when it should be tip- trained to walk they are the most ping over. I was leaning far out from | charming companions, and no climb is the edge of the dock, bobbing the bot- so nice as one made in company with tle up and down, when my foot slip- some happy crowd of small Alpinists ped, my hand lost its hold, and with minature alpenstocks, ridiculousdown I went, splash, into the ice- ly small nailed boots and a general cold current of the Detroit River. And capacity for eating, climbing and I could not swim.

wildly in the current. A few seconds that at any difficult place he has only later I came up gasping and choking, to grasp several smail petticoats in in which are grown the entire list of at both sides, when the rope is untieff and as I threw my arms wildly about one large hand, and at the worst can tender vegetables. The special crops and the hog is slipped to the end near they struck something hard and solid. carry the whole party on one arm are usually confined to lettuce, rad- the roller. Care should be taken that ately and choked, but clung to my sup- age child is so serenely and perfectly forcing of any winter crop is a matter port, and soon managed to catch my happy climbing on the hills of Switz- of principle rather than practice, since hogs can be hung at one time in this get back to my instrument.

"To my surprise, I was in almost total darkness. I shouted, and the tones rang hollow and confined. Groping about, I found other supports similar to the one I was holding, and then the horrible truth came to me. I was under the dock.

The wharf was faced with plank ex- replied: "I just went into a big cuptending down under the surface, but board and sat on a shelf."-Bostov hot to the bottom, and the current had Traveler. carried me under the planking from cutside the wharf. To escape by diving would have been easy for an ex- Turkeys do not come from Turkey

that some one might come by before my numbed fingers relaxed their my numbed fingers relaxed their my number for sunlight in ripening the pollen.

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

"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 rediculed 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 to me seemed thunderous, I shouted to let mother know Somehow we missed the real metal for 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 years 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

"How to get me out? Some men ran to the roundhouse for saws 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 railroading 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 tailropes and chains were brought from some way-cars 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 block to the engine and there made 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 Com-

Children as Climbers.

E. H. Cooper, in Cassell's Magazine, in an illustrated article "On the Matterhorn," writes: "Among my most frequent climbing companions are children of ages varying from six to have, and that quickly, for at six sixteen. They require attention on o'clock a dozen yard conductors bound | mountain heights-a good deal of attention. The usual pursery method of would be clanging for orders, and the negotiating a mountain is to skip up idea of depending upon a weak little the first quarter, run up the second. walk rather soberly up the next quarconsidered for a moment, and the them horribly, their stocking suspenders are broken and the stockings are ing back upstairs, I secured some coming down; they have got headaches twine, and with that and the bottle, and at every fresh step buttons are

matter of biring guldes with some of laughing at anything. The guide who "Of course I sank deep and struggled comes with you is also happy, feeling

to share the holidays of their elders."

What He Did. A small boy recently visited a church for the first time, where the pews were very high. Being asked on his "I realized my position instantly. return home what he did in church, he

A Native of America. pert swimmer, but my only hope was The bird is a native of America.

THE STATE OF THE S 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 a careless or poor manager to lose \$1500 a year on the quality of the butter, \$3000 a year on the quantity, \$150 on the consumption of coal and \$40 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.

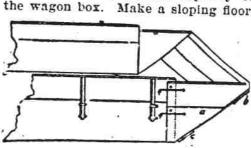
Shelter For Young Fowls.

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 hover in them, and on the ground outside, or perch them-

The exposure will, beyond doubt, give the chicks colds and from that roup will develop. Unless shelter can 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 come 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



EXTENSION FOR UNLOADING COBN.

"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.

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 weighted. 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 without reckoning the eggs or attendonce. 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 ing. The return journey is mostly a 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 erland in a blaze of sun and the most local conditions have all to do with way. perfect air of Europe that it seems a the methods of culture and the kinds pity children cannot come more often 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, rhubard, lettuce and asparagus, where

which is the most important factor in the result. Therefore a situation where the maximum of mushine can be had should be selected where such crops are to be grown. The best paying crops for winter forcing are probably cucumbers and tomatoes; the most exacting, melons. The demand BAYS that, in a creamery handling 10,000 for melons is limited, and the cost of pounds of milk per day, it is easy for producing good-flavored, well-ripened fruit is high.-Orange Judd Farmer;

Onward and Opward.

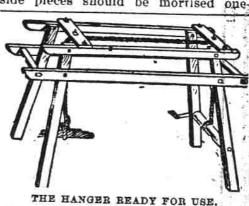
Points on Hog Cholera. Dr. D. F. Luckey, State Veterinarian of Missouri, has issued a report on hog cholera. He sums up the result! of his investigation as follows:

around your own hogs, and you can go self-murders, and even negroes have on that account most of them will sit to bed that night feeling reasonably taken the infection, for they will imisure that in a few days you hogs will tate every vice and frailty of the and it seldom does-wait till you hear chopper, asked me the other day how it of a neighbor who lives up the creek from you losing some hogs with cholbe placed over the boxes, the chicks era and throwing their carcasses in or your place, get all your hogs together when it does come. You don't give and drive them to the creek for a so that the fowls may gradually be- drink. If the weather is warm the row, or next week, or next year. You hogs will generally go to the creek

"If this fails, try keeping a no-ace count dog that runs all over the country at night. If you will let him alone long enough he is sure to find some died about a year before with the hog cholera. Your neighbor had buried in about six inches deep, and the dog, for delicacy about the propriety of deposfind a place to get some dirt to coverof course, do not bother the dog's meat. Anyway, from now on when your hogs die of cholera, burn them."

in Missouri in vaccinating hogs against cholera. The results will be published in a bulletin soon to be is-Pacility in Hanging Rogs.

The hardest work about butchering is hanging the hogs unless one lias 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 regood 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 ten feet. At the joinings the legs and side pieces should be morrised one-



inch each and firmly bolted with good strong bolts. The two cross boards at the top are each five by one and a half inches and two and a half feet long. They should be of some hard wood, as they hold the pulleys and consequently bear the weight of the hogs. Braces can be put in if the frame does not seem strong enous. half feet apart at the top, and four and a half feet at the bottom.

The roller is about two and a half feet from the ground. The one in the illustration was taken from an old binder, the iron rod in the centre being squared at one end for the crank, Any blacksmith can make a crank for it. It should be long enough to give good leverage in lifting the hogs. The pulleys are fastened to the boards at the top by means of eyebolts. The rope is fastened to the roller, passes through both pulleys, and has the gambrel tied to the other end, should be long enough that no lifting be required.

When the hog is ready to be hung lift it until the gambrel times about large proportions. Entire ranges of the ten foot side piece; tuen the hos modern houses are now devoted to it, until the gambrel rests on these pieces the gambrels are long and strong

Another arrangement good for rain days is made by securing the roller at the side of a shed, and chaining the pulley to the rafters. A long rope is required and the hogs are raised up and then lowered into a hogshead of hot water. After they are scalded and cleaned, the carcasses are raised and hung on two heavy scantlings which are fastened in the shed and used the vegetative part only of the plant just as in case of the other device. is wanted, bright sunlight is not abso- This permits all work to be done unlutely necessary, but with such crops der shelter, and does away with the as tomatoes, cucumbers, melons and heavy lifting on butchering day.-C. beans, where the fruit is the aim, no A. Shull, in American Agriculturist.

Rare Event Among the

THEY HAVE NO REMORSE

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

The rapid increase of suicides in the south is alarming and provokes the "At present all the advice that can serious study of our thinking people. be given is to burn the bodies of the Fifty years ago a suicide was a rare cholera hogs. Use a little common vent among the white race, and never sense about bringing the cholera on heard of among the negroes. When it your place. If you really think you lid occur, it was considered an evineed the cholera among your logs, lence of insanity. I do not recall but take a little time some day to go over was a woman who jumped into a deep to your neighbors who have it, walk well when no help was within reach. around among the sick hogs for But nowadays almost every daily paawhile; go back home and tramp per contains an account of one or more have the cholera. If this should fail- whites. Old Lewis, who is my wood was that the white folks kill "derselves so much, and de niggers dident." "Because," said I, "white folks are more near the creek. Then, as soon as the or distress, than negroes. You negroes easily overcome with grief, or remorse, germs have time to wash down by don't borrow trouble, nor take it hard yourselves much anxiety about to-mordon't grieve long over a death in the without being driven, thereby saving family; your emotional nature is of a their owners a great deal of worry loose; in fact, it is on the decline since freedom came. The marriage records show that your legal marriage are 60 per cent. less, according to population, than in the white race, and the decrease gets less and less where a piece of hog that had 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 a mere lack of any other pastime any. Besides all this, Uncle Lewis, literature. I see that "Barbara Frietwelfare of their children, if they have spite of northern insults and northern your race has a trait of stealing little | chie" is to be played in Atlanta. also add several busbels capacity of iting his bone upon the front porch, he measure for their indifference to the tronized by any self-respecting southgenerally goes out to the hog pen to laying up of something for the future; something for the winter, or the rainy it up about one inch deep. The hogs, 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 womer, haven't got but a In conclusion, Dr. Luckey says that for a watermelon, or an excursion, and some very encouraging results have take the chances. Now, Uncle Lewis been obtained by recent experiments you remember when there wasn't a chaingang in the south, nor a heinous 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 your 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, "and boss I knows it, and boss what I wants to know is dis: What must we poor niggers do about it?" quire about seventy feet of scantling There is the rub. I couldn't tell him, three and a half by two inches, two: but I did say, "Uncle Lewis, your race

has got some mighty good traits, and I like to have you about us; you are kind-hearted, good-natured, easy to please, and don't carry malice or revenge in your hearts; you steal, but 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 em bezzle and defraud and even the cashers 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 it. 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 patronize them just 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 idlleness a crimme, for, as Ben Franklin says, "It is the

parent of vice." I started to write about suicides, but got to 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-mmurder was a heinous crime under the old English law. The estate of the felo de se was confiscated, and taken away from his family. His body was buried on the stake thrust through it to mark the accursed 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." Or perhaps that other notable case th scriptures record, that of Judas, whose remorse was so dreadful he preferred hell or anything that would be s change. But generally it is "better to endure the ills 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 dissipation, or about love or money. They must believe there is no hereafter, or all punish ment ends with this life. Surely no Christian man or woman would think of self-murder. Wait, wait, young man, young woman; wait, I say-suf-

themselves. The soul is locked up in this casket and God only has the key. Wait and trust Him. Remorse for a great crime may atone somewhat for self-murder. Miss Morrison might have likely herself effer she killed her sive! killed herself after she killed her rival, and it would have seemed heroic. When Othello discovered his great mistake in killing Desdemona, his peroration was grand as he said, "I took the circumcised dog by the throat and smote him thus," and then stabbed himself and died, for, as Shakespeare says, "He was great of heart." warriors sometimes killed themselves

ancient Greece and Rome their notable rather than suffer the stings of defeat in battle. In Japan military office:s commit what is called harakarf (ripping open the adbomen) to avoid personal disgrace. But in our land the pistol or poison has superseded all other means of suicide. It would save thousands of lives if the pistol was abolished by law. Not one should be allowed in any household; they are entirely too convenient for murder or suicide or robbery or revenge. And the sale of poison should be so regulated that no one could buy it except upon the most careful inquiry as to its intended use. Human life is too sacred to be endangered by pistols and poison for as St. Paul says, "We are made in

the image of God." Well, we see that Mr. Crumpicker, or Stumpsucker, or some such name, from Indiana, has opened the ball at Washington with his usual screech owl howl against the south. He was in such a malignant hurry that he got in the first bill, and it is to reduce the representation of the south in congress. He reminds me of Haman, whose stomach would not digest his food as long as he saw Mordecai sitting at the king's gate. He has begun to build a gallows for us. Let him beware, for it was Haman who was hanged. Some of these rabid republicans remind me of old Sato, the Roman censor, who hated the Carthegenians so bad that he never voted on any question in the Roman senate without adding, "And I also vote that Carthage be destroyed." But nobody cares; we will yet have a schoolbook commission in every southern state. The south is moving right along in ern man or woman? Many years ago a yankee troup came to Rome with "Uncle Tom's Cabin," and we egged them out of town. That's what we done. They may abuse us from afar off, but they shan't come down here and rub it in.—Bill Arp in Atlanta Constitution.

JACKSON'S PERIL.

Almost Forgotten Attempt on the Press 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 on the arm of Mr. Woodbury, secretary of the treasury, but pursued the assassin with raised cane. Lieut. Gedney of the navy knocked Lawrence down, and the filends 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 Guiteau 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

HIS MOTHER WAS "ON TO" HIM

and igniting the powder readily in the

pistol and sending the balls through

he knew where the attempt originated.

Washington Post,

An old woman, plainly dressed, went into the men's hat department of a big store the other day and said to a salesman: "Here is \$2. My son will come here tomorrow, and you will please fit him out with a \$2 hat. His name is so-and-so." The salesman asked why the purchase of the hat was to be made in this strange way, and the old woman answered: "If I should give my son the money he would highway without a coffin and a sharp | spend it for rum and get no hat." Then she departed, and the next day the son appeared. He was a tough man of 38 or 40. He gave his name, and then he said: "Say,' how much did de old lady give ye fer de sky-piece?" "Two dollars," the salesman answered. "Chee. is dat all? . Say, she's gittin' mean in her old age, ain't she? Well, trot out a dollar sky-piece, an' gimme de change, see." The salesman would not do that, however, and the promising son had to take a \$2 hat. The first one that was shown to him suited. He did not appear to be particular. He clapped the new hat down over his ears, and swaggered out with the remark; "You kin keep de old one, cully."-Philadelphia Record.

The Automobile Show proved a revelation to the people of New York city. It is a sociological lesson, and marks a fer and be strong; only cowards kill definite point in the road of progress

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美名中公司中央公司中央公司中央公司中央公司中央公司 A Canadian's Views.

N 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 rallway, 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 is 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 wellknown to your readers, certainly passed its days of usefulness.

The Territorial Government, failing 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 de-

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 Birtle 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 (Archie) mitted 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 dishe at 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, \$5, \$6, and even \$8 per day 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 as the number of men to work under his direction would be small or great. He should, preferably, have a prior knowledge of the work, which should be previously laid out by a surveyor if the municipal authorities are incapable of doing it, and he should be paid a good salary, placed under bonds, and hired for as long a season as is considered advisable. Then all residents desiring to work on the roads should be required to give notice, by a given date, of the length of time they wish to work on the roads and the date and locality in which they would prefer to put in the time; those selected would work under the several inches of plank. It was stated direction of the foreman, who in turn that Gen. Jackson said at the time that would be under the general supervision of the reeve and councilor of the ward. This plan would necessitate but little loss of time through moving, as the townships could be taken in rotation and the outfit would only need to be moved when the money allotted had been expended. It would probably effect a saving in

wages, as cost of living would be less if a caboose was provided, which, besides affording accommodation for the men, would also contain small tools, horse feed, etc. As regards stonework for culverts, etc., it would perhaps be advisable to have that done by a qualified stone mason, as the dry stone walls and poplar stringers so frequently built last but a short time, and frequently fall shortly after erection, through unskilled workmanship. As cement is now procurable at \$3 per barrel, and even less in quantities, it would, I think, be advisable to have all walls over two feet in height laid in cement mortar, with flanking walls, at least on the upper side, to prevent the earth being washed cut behind the stonework.

A Considerate Wife. "The most considerate wife I ever heard of," said the Cornfed Philosoph. er, "was a woman who used to date all her letters a week or so ahead, to allow her husband time to mail them." -Indianapolis Press.

The Girl to Freeze On To. ' Whenever you see a girl at a party that none of the nen are talking to, you can generally bet she knows how to bake good bread.-New York Press.