

# The Oxford Democrat

TERMS, TWO DOLLARS PER YEAR.

"THE WORLD IS GOVERNED TOO MUCH."

ONE DOLLAR AND FIFTY CENTS IN ADVANCE.

NEW SERIES, VOL. 11, NO. 22.

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OLD SERIES, VOLUME 27, NO. 32.

## Farmers' Department.

"SPEED THE FLOW."

All the arts and sciences pertaining to life, are closely linked together, and are intimately connected with Agriculture.—AGRICOLA.

### Report of the Maine Commissioners.

To the Hon. the Governor and the Executive Council of the State of Maine:

The undersigned, Commissioners appointed by the Governor to proceed to Massachusetts and inquire into the character and extent of the alarming disease prevailing there among cattle, and the means to be employed for its prevention or extinction, have attended to the service assigned them, and respectfully report:

That we find the disease called Pleuro-Pneumonia, existing in some of the herds of Massachusetts—that it was introduced thither by means of cattle imported from Holland by Winthrop W. Cheney, Esq., of Belmont, and which arrived on the 29th day of May, 1859. Two of the four animals thus imported died soon after arrival; one was noticed to be ill about the 20th of June, and died in nine days after; the fourth is yet living. Sometimes in August another cow in Mr. C.'s herd became sick, and died in about a fortnight; and in the course of the two subsequent months he lost about thirty head of cattle by the disease.

Veterinary surgeons were called in from time to time and the mortality was, at first, ascribed to want of proper ventilation; which was, undoubtedly a serious cause of aggravation, but the true nature of the disease was not discovered until November, when Dr. E. F. Thayer, a skillful veterinarian, on visiting the herd, at once, and unhesitatingly pronounced it to be the disease known in Europe as Pleuro-Pneumonia; and here we may remark that this name appears to be an unfortunate one, inasmuch as it conveys to those familiar with the term, a false as well as a true idea of its character; true, in that both the lungs and pleura are diseased; and false, because this disease differs essentially from pleuro-pneumonia proper, as hitherto known both here and abroad, and in both men and in brute animals, and which is a less fatal disease, and is not contagious.

Mr. Cheney's farm is so situated that very little communication has existed between his cattle and those of others; but on the 29th of June—the very day on which the cow died which Mr. Cheney believes to have been the first victim of the disease, (the death of the two first he ascribes to injuries sustained during the voyage,) he sold three Dutch calves to Curtis Stoddard, a young farmer of North Brookfield. On their way thither in the cars, one was noticed to falter, and soon it became quite ill, and Mr. Leonard Stoddard, father of Curtis, took the calf home with him, to care for it, and placed it in a barn in which he kept forty head of cattle. It grew worse and in a few days the cow took it back, and in about ten days it died. In about a fortnight the disease appeared in the herd of Leonard Stoddard, and one after another of his animals sickened and died. In November—and for reasons independent of the disease—young Stoddard sold the larger portion of his herd, reserving nine of the most valuable animals. This sale scattered eleven in various directions, which carried the infection wherever they went; and one of them is said to have infected more than two hundred others. Without a single failure the disease followed these cattle.

A yoke of oxen from the herd of Leonard Stoddard, was employed in a team of twenty-three yokes gathered from various quarters to move a building from Oakham to North Brookfield. One pair of these oxen has since then, so changed owners that it has not been traced, and nothing is known of its fate; but in every other instance it is known that the animals took this disease.

Without dwelling upon numerous other cases in which contagion can be traced with equal distinctness, it is sufficient to say, that no case is known to have occurred where communication with diseased cattle could not be traced; and it is believed that nowhere in Europe has there been an opportunity of obtaining so convincing evidence of its contagious nature as in Massachusetts.

As with all other contagious diseases, both among men and brutes, some individuals are found to be less susceptible to the contagious influence than others, and some are not affected by it at all; and doubts have arisen in the minds of several European writers on this point, the weight of opinion being, however, very strongly in favor of its contagious nature; but we submit that the facts in Massachusetts are such as to prove it beyond a reasonable doubt. We find the disease to be not only contagious, but insidious and deceptive, malignant and fatal. Insidious, inasmuch as it often creeps upon an animal so stealthily that it is difficult and sometimes impossible to fix with any accuracy the date of the attack. Deceptive, in that, in animals which have had the disease and may be fairly presumed from appearance to have recovered, one or both lungs have been found, on slaughtering them, to be little else than a solid mass of disease.

That it is both malignant and fatal, unhappily needs no proof. Nearly one thousand animals have already fallen victims, either to the disease, or to efforts made with a view to its extirpation; and more than an additional thousand are either known to be sick or from having been exposed are under the ban of suspicion. It is not true that the distemper is universally fatal, for not a few survive that have been its subjects; but it is not yet positively known that even one has been absolutely cured. They often come to eat well, drink well, and thrive tolerably;—thus exhibiting the ordinary characteristics of health, and yet, a post mortem examination has, within our own observation, shown how utterly fallacious were all these indications in such a case.

Regarding the term of incubation and of propagation, or the length of time which elapses between exposure and the appearance of disease; and also during what period the animal is capable of conveying the disease to others, we regret our inability to arrive at definite or satisfactory conclusions. In some cases the disease is apparent within ten days after exposure; in others, 20, 30, 60, 90 days or even more, are supposed to elapse. One case is reported where the exposure was seven months previous. The more usual period appears to be not far from twenty days. Where the capability of the animal to convey disease to others begins or ends, we have no knowledge. This is a most important point, but all we know is, that it may and does so before any symptoms of illness appear; and, as the lungs of some that have been slaughtered exhibit evidence of the latter stages of the disease in one portion, and of the earlier in another, there seems reason to fear that the term may sometimes be indefinitely prolonged.

As already remarked, this lung murrain, or whatever other name it be called, is of the most insidious nature. Any disturbance of the animal's health is rarely noticed until the disease is fully established, and effusion into the chest has made some progress. The ordinary rule, that not much ailments an animal until it refuses to eat, does not hold good with this disease. The early symptoms are so obscure and faint as to excite neither anxiety nor attention. Gradually the animal gets a dejected look; if at pasture, it may be found in the morning apart from the herd, the back arched, the fore legs rather wide apart, the hair starting, a little uneasy and don't eat, but later in the day it looks better, joins the herd and eats as usual. A slight but husky cough is now occasionally heard, followed by quicker breathing. If a cow, the milk diminishes, accompanied by heat and tenderness of the udder.

As the disease progresses, the eyes look duller, the head is lowered, the nose protruded, the cough more frequent and husky, the appetite lessens, rumination is suspended, the limbs and surface cold, the skin tight over the ribs, the spine becomes tender, and pressure upon it, or between the ribs, produces evident pain. As the disease approaches an inevitable termination, the breathing becomes fearfully laborious, and is accompanied with moans and sometimes with grunts; the eyes sink and extremities are cold, the mouth is covered with froth, the strength fails, the poor beast falls and dies; or, if the animal is to recover, the severity of the symptoms abate, it looks better, eats some—if a cow, the milk returns, the hair becomes sleek, &c.

health, and in one the estimated weight was from 50 to 60 pounds.

As, in our present relation to this disease, we deem prevention to be of incomparably greater importance than either a knowledge of the symptoms attending it, or the treatment best adapted to mitigate its results, or the morbid appearances presented after death, we will not longer dwell upon these, but rather urge the importance of arousing at once to a prompt appreciation of the magnitude of the threatened calamity. If once it becomes naturalized among us, we may never again expect immunity from its attacks. When once fairly established, either here or elsewhere, its seeds may remain, even after apparent subjugation, and whenever the necessary conditions present themselves, it may break out again with fearful violence.

Our only safety lies in keeping clear of it, and we urge the utmost vigilance upon every individual, and upon all competent authorities, to see that no animals be admitted into the State, either directly or indirectly, from any quarter where there is reason to believe the disease exists.

We are prepared to say, that absolute and perfect non-importation is the only preventive measure worthy even of consideration. We have no security whatever against the introduction of the disease, so long as animals from neighboring States are permitted to be brought in, whether directly or indirectly, by land or by water. The temptation to get rid of animals which have been exposed is very great; the absence of any indications of disease gives great facilities for doing so, and apparent cheapness may be a fatal lure to the unwary purchaser. The question of extirpation is, happily, not yet before us. Should it arise as a practical matter, we do not hesitate to recommend the instant slaughter of all animals affected with the disease, and the complete and perfect isolation from all other animals of such as may be reasonably suspected of having been exposed to the contagion. Massachusetts is wide awake. Her efforts to save herself and sister states from an unparalleled calamity, are worthy of the highest praise. The only regret is, that the efforts at extirpation were not commenced earlier. Had the legislation been more prompt, and the first appropriation (of \$10,000) been made a month sooner, it would in all probability have sufficed to extirpate the disease utterly. As it is, \$25,000 have been expended, and it is now proposed to use \$100,000 more, if needed, an appropriation to that amount having been made.

The undersigned cannot conclude their report without adverting to the whole-hearted courtesy with which they were greeted and treated by the legislative committee then in session, and by all the public functionaries of Massachusetts with whom they were brought in contact. Every facility for investigation was liberally accorded, and every avenue to knowledge freely opened.

Respectfully submitted,  
S. L. GODDARD,  
A. NICHOLS,  
E. HOLMES,August 14, 1859.

APPENDIX TO THE STATE COMMISSIONER'S REPORT ON THE LUNG MURRAIN. A few remarks regarding the history of this disease in other countries may not be without interest, and we accordingly add, that its origin is very uncertain. Epizootic disease of the respiratory organs have raged at various times in Europe for more than a hundred and fifty years past, but the earlier ones, judging from the accounts given, were not identical with the present pleuro-pneumonia. It appears, however, that one exactly analogous to this, has existed for an uncertain length of time in Switzerland, Holland, Germany, and other parts of Europe, and has been attended with great fatality. It appears, also, that this disease was introduced from the continent into Ireland, and that in the spring of 1841, it crossed the Irish Channel into the western part of England, and following the course of the Irish droves gradually appeared in various directions. Prof. Simonds says "it destroyed great numbers of cattle, and not only were the hopes of the farmer blighted, but in many cases it effected his ruin." Mr. McGilvray, V. S., in his essay on Pleuro-Pneumonia, published in 1849, says, "The immense value of live stock in Great Britain shows their importance as forming a very large proportion of the national wealth; moreover, it is stated on high authority, that the annual loss from disease among our domesticated animals, is about £10,000,000." (Sixty millions of dollars) and adds his own belief in the truth of the statement; and although he does not state the exact proportion of this amount due to pleuro-pneumonia alone, we may judge from the connection in which the paragraph appears, that he deemed it a very considerable one. It remains still, both on the continent and in Great Britain, and it is only by the most vigorous sanitary measures, embracing the killing of diseased animals and complete isolation of all which had been exposed, that it has been kept in check.

The disease was introduced into South Africa, about six years ago, by a bull from Holland, brought thither to improve the breed. It there spread with great rapidity there being no enclosures or any adoption of sanitary measures and was exceedingly fatal inasmuch that it rarely spared over five out of a hundred. Hundreds of thousands of animals perished. Inoculation, which has in Europe yielded somewhat contradictory and unsatisfactory results, was tried, and found effective in saving from a third to two thirds, if performed before exposure, and skillfully done. Judging from analogy, we cannot see how inoculation should be of any avail with this disease. It is well known that some contagious diseases

can be readily communicated from animal to animal in this method, and that the disease thus taken proves less dangerous than when taken by the "natural" method.

But in all these cases, it is to be remembered that disease in both is essentially of the same nature and affects the same parts of the system; but inoculated pleuro-pneumonia is asserted to produce no disease of the lungs, but only a local effusion upon the wall or some other part distant from the lungs. It is possible, however, that as this distemper falls in many respects, to follow the laws which govern disease in the human system, there may be some preventive efficacy in the operation; but the result of experiment upon some thousands of animals in Europe, furnishes little ground for confidence in the operation.

In 1817, this disease was brought from England into New Jersey, but its contagious and deadly nature being early discovered, it was immediately and effectually extirpated by killing the herd, involving a sacrifice, it is said, of about ten thousand dollars, which was borne by the proprietor. What a contrast does the conduct of such a man present, compared with that of one, who, for thirty pieces of silver, would consent to sell a diseased animal to go into a healthy district.

Quite recently the disease was carried from England into Australia. As soon as discovered, the most active measures were adopted. The herd was killed, the last shared by those interested, and at the last accounts the success was deemed complete.

## MISCELLANY.

### ADVENTURES WITH A ROBBER.

BY PAUL CRYSTON.

The Smiths of Smithville had, for a long time been very much annoyed by the depredations of some unknown individuals, whose confused ideas concerning the right of property, led to the frequent abstraction of divers goods and chattels from the premises of the said Smiths, in a furtive and mysterious manner. Bags of wheat and oats vanished from the granary, pork from the cellar, and corn from the crib; in one night a sheep that had just been slaughtered, coolly trotted away and on another occasion several gallons of maple syrup evaporated in a night time. Milking stools went off on their three legs, and one morning Mr. Smith's best ax, was found to have "cut stick." Log chains became rattlesnakes, and crept off, iron wedges made splits in the Smith property, boots walked away, and the jack rode off the saw-horse.

Vain were all the efforts of the elder and younger Smiths to discover the mystery of these disappearances, and to entrap the offender. Despairing of bringing them to justice, the Smiths found they could do nothing more than to take measures to insure the safety of their property. Accordingly they built a new granary, with strong walls a narrow grating window, and a heavy oaken door, to which was attached a formidable padlock. This prison like portion of the barn was built sufficiently large to allow the Smiths to lock up a great deal of portable property, such as was most likely to tempt the cupidity of thieves.

After the granary was finished, a month passed, during which time the depredations of the robbers were confined to the orchard and hen-roost; when late on Sunday evening, the elder Smith, as he was sitting tipped against the kitchen wall, smoking his pipe preparatory to retiring, bethought him that he had neglected to lock the granary before leaving the barn. This was by no means a singular circumstance, considering that the granary was usually locked by the younger Smith, who had that night "gone a courting."

It was a moonlight evening, and Mr. Smith on approaching the barn was considerably startled on seeing the door ajar. Certain of having shut the door an hour previously, Mr. Smith thought of robbers. His suspicions were confirmed, when, on a near approach, he plainly heard a movement in the barn. Too cautious to endanger his life by boldly attacking the robber, Mr. Smith, with considerable trepidation resolved to watch his movements and discover who he was.

Looking through a crack in the east side of the barn, he saw a dim ghost like figure glide across the floor towards the granary. A happy thought entered Mr. Smith's brain. Stealing into the barn he crept silently along by the wall, until near the granary, when—clap!—he shut the door, adjusted the padlock, and was off as if for life.

It is impossible to say what made Mr. Smith tremble so. It might have been the smothered cry of alarm that issued from the granary walls and rang fully on his ears, a cry well calculated to awaken superstitious fear. But Mr. Smith never owned that he was frightened, although on reaching the kitchen he was as white as a ghost, or as white as ghosts are supposed to be.

"What is the matter?" cried Mrs. Smith.

"I've caught the robber!" ejaculated Smith in a breath. He's locked up in the granary. Give me my boots!"

"Why—what—what are you going to do?"

"Get help. He's a desperate fellow, and 'twill be dangerous to meddle with him alone."

It is impossible to describe the excitement of Mr. and Mrs. Smith on that memorable occasion. The latter took it upon herself to load the musket, while her husband went for the neighbors.

Mr. Smith exchanged his slippers for his boots, and ran first to Deacon Naffles' house where he expected to find the younger

Smith, who was courting Naffles' daughter. He was surprised to see the house dark—as if the family had gone to rest and blown out the candle. He knocked furiously, however, as the occasion required. After some delay, Deacon Naffles came down in his night-clothes, stared at Smith in astonishment, and demanded his business at that time of night.

"Caught the thief—locked up—in the granary—where's Increase?"

"He's caught a thief!" cried Deacon Naffles, who having lost some property as well as his neighbor, was interested in the intelligence. "Good enough! keep him till morning."

"Twon't do!" replied Mr. Smith in an excited manner. "He's a despit fellow—break out—I must rouse the neighbors—where's my son, Increase?"

"Oh, Sally is sick to-night; so Increase's courted her only about an hour, and went home."

"Wait home?"

"Yes," said the deacon; "half an hour ago."

The elder Smith clapped his hand to his head, as if struck by an idea or some other weighty substance.

"Gracious!" he exclaimed.

"What?" asked the deacon.

"I believe," stammered the elder Smith, "I—I have locked up—"

"Who?"

"Increase."

"I bet you have!" cried the deacon. I heard him say he had got to carry the buggy cushions into the granary, before he went to bed."

"Look here," whispered the elder Smith "I beg of you never to mention this—I—I—if it should get out."

"Oh, I'll keep the secret," interrupted the deacon, trying to preserve a becoming gravity. "The joke is safe, and I'd advise you to hurry home and let out Increase."

The elder Smith turned on his heel and vanished, feeling very weak, probably the effect of the excitement he had undergone.

Let us now look in upon the younger Smith who was actually shut up in the granary. It is impossible to describe his rage on finding himself thus entrapped. After shouting until he was hoarse, and nearly dead, he closed his teeth angrily and sat down on a bag of meal and to await the result.

Increase had not been long in this dark dungeon before he heard a noise in the barn. Supposing it was the old man who having discovered his error, was coming to liberate him, his anger evaporated, and he could not help laughing at the ludicrous mistake.

But there was a mystery about the sound he heard, which caused the younger Smith to doubt whether it was made by his father after all. He listened. The key turned cautiously in the lock. Slowly stealthily the door opened, while Increase scarcely breathed. Some one entered, noiselessly, touched young Smith's shoulder as he passed, and began to explore the further part of the dungeon. Increase dropped on his hands and knees, and taking advantage of the noise made by the robber, crept out. Then, to shut the door and lock it was the work of a moment. Somebody was locked up.

Listening a moment and hearing no sound Increase became fully convinced that he had committed no error, but caught his real thief, and went immediately for assistance.

Shortly after, and very much ashamed of his mistake, the elder Smith sneaked in to the barn, and approached the granary. It is necessary in this place to observe that the elder Smith locked up his son with the key which belonged to the granary, and which he carried with him, and that Increase locked up the thief with a false key which the latter had brought with him, and carelessly left in the lock, on entering the granary, and which the younger Smith had carried away. And now the elder Smith made haste to open the door.

"Increase!" he called, putting his head into the granary.

No sound answered.

"Are you asleep? Come don't go to playing any tricks upon me for I really took you to be a rob—"

Mr. Smith's voice was stopped by a violent blow on the mouth. Mr. Smith in an instant was tumbled down amidst a wilderness of barrels, bags, rakes and shovels. Mr. Smith was considerably stunned by the blow and the fall, and when Mr. Smith got upon his legs again the door was closed and locked. Mr. Smith was a prisoner. I leave the reader to imagine his feelings.

Meanwhile, Increase was raising forces to assist in taking the thief out of the granary in safety. Having first told his story to Mrs. Smith, who was exceedingly astonished, he hastened to alarm Joe Ferris a stout fellow, who lived in the woods near by and who had complained of losing quite as much property as his neighbors.

Mr. Smith put her head out of the window and wished to know what Increase wanted. The young man asked for Joe. After some hesitation the woman replied that her husband had a very bad headache, and could not get up.

"It's very important," said Increase. I've caught the thief and locked him up in the granary."

"Oh have you?" said Mrs. Ferris, in a feeble voice. "How fortunate! But as my husband has the headache, I think you had better keep the man till morning."

"Oh—we'll have him to-night!" cried Increase.

Now, if the younger Smith thought he was regaling Mrs. Ferris with glad tidings, he was considerably in error. The truth is in closing the window she was as pale as death. The reader may guess the cause of

her agitation, when I inform him that there was no Joe Ferris sick with the headache.

But Mrs. F. was a woman of energy and decision. She caught up a hammer, and throwing a shawl over her head left the house. She was soon in Smith's barn, with her hand on the granary door.

"Joseph," she whispered.

No reply.

"Joseph—its me—are you here?" she added, knocking at the door.

"Let me out!" said a voice within.

Without further delay, Mrs. Ferris having thrown the barn door wide open so that she could see to perform her operations, commenced hammering the padlock in a most destructive manner.

Now, Mr. Smith, who was within, was certainly astonished at what he heard. He certainly wished to be let out, but he had no desire to have the padlock smashed, without first trying other means. Something like the truth however flashed upon his mind, when he recollected that the person who was breaking the lock had called him Joseph, and that the voice was marvellously like a woman's. With great anxiety of mind he waited for the door to open.

At length the lock was torn away, and Mrs. Ferris whispered—

"Come quick, Joseph! There's no time to lose! They'll be here in a minute!"

She sought somebody by the arm, and that somebody followed her out into the moonlight. Then he caught her by the arm and both stopped, and looked each other full in the face.

Mrs. Ferris screamed, and turned paler than the moonlight, dropping the hammer. Mr. Smith was scarcely less astonished; but recovering himself, he said rather coolly, considering the occasion—

"You are out late to-night, Mrs. Ferris. Allow me to escort you home."

She could not refuse his arm, and when she saw that he was conducting her to his home instead of her own, she had not the power to say a word, or make the least resistance.

The good lady's feelings on being brought before Mrs. Smith, can be more easily imagined than described. In her fear and confusion she confessed some very startling truths, and with tears, and on her knees, begged her kind, dear friends, to be merciful and not expose her. Mrs. Smith recovered from her amazement, and exclaimed, "I never! I never! never!" and Mr. Smith who was not the least excited of the three indulged in some equally sensible remarks.

Meanwhile Joe Ferris who was the man who had taken the younger Smith's place in the granary, and given it up in turn to the elder Smith, went home by a circuitous route, wondering by what strange circumstance he happened to get caught, and congratulating himself on his escape. He had reached his door, when hearing his name called by somebody in the road he returned and saw three men going by.

"Joe Ferris, is that you?" cried the voice of the younger Smith. "Come on, if you are ready! I've got Bill Hodges and Mr. Blake, and I think we'll be enough for one thief; but the more the merrier—so come on. I know you would go in for the fun, in spite of your headache."

Joe was quite as much in the dark now as when he was locked up in the granary; but concluding it would be best to put a bold face on the matter and accompany Increase he declared himself ready and jumped over the fence. At first he was afraid of committing himself, but the conversation by the way, showing as he thought, exactly how the ground lay, he laughed heartily at the queer manner in which the thief was caught, and volunteered to be the first to enter the granary where he was confined, at the same time chuckling joyously at the anticipation of the younger Smith's dismay on finding, instead of a thief, his own father unker lock and key.

With great glee, the men proceeded at once to the granary, where Increase proposed leaving his companions to go into the house for a lantern, and see if his father had returned; upon which Joe laughed all to himself, and advised the younger Smith to be sure and bring the old man, if he was anywhere to be found.

"Hallo!" cried Bill Hodges; "the granary door is open! the thief has broke out!"

Increase came back, filled with consternation. Joe Ferris was no less surprised. The strange events of the night were involved in a deeper mystery than ever, when the elder Smith having heard the approach of Increase and his companions, made his appearance with a light.

"Hallo, neighbor," cried Joe Ferris, "what is all this hubbub about? Increase has been telling us about thieves."

"I declare, father," said the younger Smith, "after you shut me up I shut up a thief and left him in my place."

"I know it; your mother has told me," replied the elder Smith; and when I came to let you out—"

"Oh, I see it all!" groaned Increase.

"He got away!"

"Yes, and shut me up!"

"And how did you get out?"

"Why, the thief's wife had the kindness to come and break the lock."

So saying, the elder Smith held the lantern up to the face of Ferris, who turned ghastly white and trembled as if he had been in an ague fit. The whole affair was now explained, to the astonishment of everybody in general, and of Joe in particular, who was too much astonished to make any resistance, while Increase and his companions were tying his hands behind him.

Ferris and his wife were accommodated with lodgings in Mr. Smith's house, that night; and on the following day a search having been instituted, and all sorts of goods

found on Joe's premises, they were both committed to jail, to await their trial.

What their sentence was when convicted of the crime charged against them, I have quite forgotten; but it is certain that the good people of Smithville were troubled no more with mysterious disappearance of their goods and chattels, and that the Smiths remember, with peculiar satisfaction, the manifold mistakes committed on the night of their adventures with the robbers.

REMEDY FOR A FELON. We find the following in the Auburn Daily News:

"A lady who had been troubled for some time with a felon on her finger, gives a simple remedy from which she experienced great relief and which enabled her to obtain sleep for the first time in many nights. It was to cut a lemon and wear it on her finger like a thimble, the felon being encased in the fruit."

—Running accounts will run away with a person's credit quicker than anything else.

—Put off repentance till tomorrow, and you have a day more to repent of, and a day less to repent in.

—Despise nothing because it seems weak. The flies and locusts have done more hurt than ever the bears and lions did.

—The sun is every man's servant, working every day in the year for him and exacting no wages.

—The wasp attacks the ripest fruit first; so will slander attempt to wound the honestest fame.

—Transient pleasures last the longest. We are not fitted to bear long the burden of great joys.

—It matters little that you have the worst possible temper by nature, if you have the strongest possible control over it by philosophy.

—Milk cans, if covered with cotton cloth soaked in salt water, will, it is said, keep milk sweet in the middle of summer, while juggling over a railroad to market.

—On a certain railway the following intelligible notice appears: "Hereafter, when trains moving in an opposite direction are approaching each other, on separate lines, conductors and engineers will be required to bring their respective trains to a dead halt before the point of meeting, and be very careful not to proceed till each train has passed the other."

—An exquisite young gentleman, after buying a suit to dangle about his delicate person, said to the jeweller, that "He would-like to have-some thing engraved on it-ab, to denote what he was."

"Certainly certainly, I will put a cipher on it," said the tradesman.

—A farmer told his man, who was thoroughly Irish, to run into the pasture and catch an ox.

"I mean the 'off one'; I will manage the other myself," he said. "Pat ran to do as he was bidden, but suddenly paused with the exclamation:

"He's a reasonable man, anyhow. Bedad and how am I to know which is the orphan?"

—A correspondent of a Paris paper, dating from Calcutta, says that a native, attempting to swim across the Ganges, holding a child in his arms, was pursued by an alligator; in order to escape he threw the child away to the monster, by whom it was at once seized and devoured. A party of English and also American sailors, who witnessed this act of the man caught the Hindoo as he landed, threw him back into the stream, and pelted him with sticks and stones, until he himself was seized by a crocodile, and dragged out of sight.

—High breeding gracefully insists on its own rights; good breeding gracefully remembers the rights of others. We have all seen that dignified courtesy, which belongs to high birth, which never offends as long as it is not personally harmed. But we know that that will not last; provocation makes it as bitter and vulgar as the breeding of the most uncultured mechanic. Far—far above this, is the polish which the highest Christianity gives to the heart. It is not "gentility," but gentleness.

RESTORING DAMAGED VELVET. The Monitor de la Salud publishes the following method of restoring velvet to its original condition. It is well known that when velvet has been wet, not only its appearance is spoiled, but it becomes hard and knotty. To restore its original softness, it must be thoroughly damped on the wrong side, and then held over a very hot iron, care being taken not to touch the latter. In a short time the velvet becomes, as it were, new again. The theory of this is very simple. The heat of the iron evaporates the water through the tissue, and forces the vapor out at the upper side; this vapor passing between the different fibres, separates those which adhere together in hard bunches. If the velvet were ironed after dampening, an exactly opposite result would be obtained; it is, therefore, necessary that the substance should not come in contact with the heated iron.

VALUABLE. If your flat-irons are rough, rub them with fish salt.

If you are buying a carpet for durability choose small figures.

A hot shower held over varnished furniture will take out white spots.

A small piece of glue dissolved in skim milk and water will restore old crapes.

Ribbons should be washed in cold suds and not rinsed.

Scotch snuff put in holes where crickets come out will destroy them.











