

## WHAT IS DONE WITH THE TIME GAINED.

The progress in domestic conveniences and the employment of men in dairy work has taken that much of heavy, hard work off from the hands of farmers' wives. Has it given them so much more leisure? and, if so, what do they do with it? Do they read more? Do they study political economy preparatory to the great duty that will be theirs in time, viz, to vote? Have they more pianos and family organs, and is music more largely cultivated than formerly?

Yes, they do read and think more; but what is more apparent than all, they cultivate flowers very much more than was the case even ten years ago. Now, in driving through the country, you scarcely see a farmer's house too humble, but there are vines clambering over its windows and porches; and in the windows and on the piazzas of many you see a rare and inviting display of native and exotic plants, and this, in my opinion, shows a soul growth that is most encouraging. The narrowed lives of the farmers' wives and daughters have now found expression for the latent esthetics that was in their souls, and this will prove but the beginning of awakening possibilities which may possess and shape for the further embellishment of their homes.

To see the farmer sit so regally poised on his reaping machine, drawn by a spirited team, one might almost fancy that he was just out having a turn for his health, or for the pleasure of the exercise; but when his day's work is done, you learn from him that he is quite as tired as in the old days of swinging the cradle; but now he has leveled his six to eight acres, to show for his work, instead of from one to two, as then. And this is but one of the many labor-saving utensils that has helped to make farming less a drudgery. And what does the farmer do with his time thus saved? Does it enable him to study the science of soil, of fertilizing, of drainage, and thus make himself master of the situation in a greater degree than was his father, whose place he now occupies? It may be so in many cases. There is no doubt a spirit of intelligent emulation among farmers not even known a quarter of a century ago; but there is too much of a desire to enlarge one's boundaries rather than to make the most of what is already possessed.—*Dr. Mary Stafford, in Herald of Health.*

**THREE GLORIOUS LITTLE GIRLS.**—There was a very pretty little scene enacted at the southern police station to-day. Three little girls—Louise Niedhardt, Mamie Grefe and Amelia Oblender, conceived the idea of contributing something for the benefit of the yellow fever sufferers. Their net capital at the outset was two cents. This, of course, could do very little good, but they soon found a way to increase the amount, and by great perseverance, not, however, unmixed with pleasure, they at last succeeded in raising \$10.50. The two cents with which they began was invested in candies, and then a table was procured, covered neatly with a cloth, and the wares exposed for sale. The neighbors, seeing the persistence with which they labored, went to work and helped them with a will. All sorts of things were contributed and quickly sold.—*Baltimore Bulletin.*

**POOR LITTLE FELLOW.**—A dispatch from Chicago states that a touching incident of the ravages of yellow fever in the South was witnessed in the Palmer house Thursday morning. The early train brought to Chicago a bright-eyed, golden-haired little fellow of perhaps four years of age, around whose neck was a ribbon, and attached to which was a card with the words: "To the Masonic Fraternity: Forward the orphan to San Francisco.—Howard Association, New Orleans." The child, whose name is Walter Wilcox, was the only survivor of a family of seven. The boy was well taken care of and left for San Francisco, where a distant relative will look after him.

## A MONKEY DINNER PARTY.

The following is an extract from an account of the monkey theater, by Mrs. Mary Mapes Dodge, in *St. Nicholas*:

It was the funniest dinner party that could be imagined. Five highly respectable monkeys in full dress sat at a table with plates and wine-glasses, and the sprightliest, most attentive of monkeys waited upon them, tray in hand like a good, highly genteel waitress, as she was.

The monkey at the head of the table was dressed as a naval officer, with admiral's hat, epaulettes, and side whiskers all complete. He was very elegant in his manners, when not licking his plate, and he had an injured, reproachful way of turning on his seat and looking at the waitress when she failed to bring what he wanted, that was wonderful to see. At the foot of the feast sat a farmer monkey in funny felt hat, white smock and loose trousers. He had a tremendous appetite and soon finished his meal and began knocking hard upon the table for more. The admiral, who was very proud, never once noticed him, which the hungry farmer accepted in good part, as he did not take any very great interest in admirals.

But the side of the table was liveliest, after all. In the middle sat a fine monkey-lady, whom I afterward learned was called "Mrs. Lorne," and the monkey gallants on each side took turns in conversing with her. Sometimes, indeed, they both addressed her at once, and then the fashionable Mrs. Lorne would utter a fearful screech and give them a piece of her mind, to the great terror of the farmer, and the amazement of the admiral. She was a lovely creature in their eyes, you may be sure, for she wore a red velvet dress and a white hat with bright pink feather, and her coquettish way of tossing her head was quite irresistible. Wine was freely taken by all the guests, but I learned later that it was only raspberry juice and water. It was funny enough to see them take up their glasses in one hand, bow to each other, toss off the contents, and then pound the table for a fresh supply.

I could not see what they had to eat, but it evidently was something good, for they smacked their lips over it and grabbed bits from each other's plates so often that their master frequently was obliged to expostulate with them.

Ah, the master! I forgot to speak of him. He was their servant just then, and stood at a respectful distance behind the table, bottle in hand, ready to fill their glasses whenever called upon, or gently to remind the guests that to lick one's plate is not looked upon as good table manners. Meantime the pretty waitress skipped about bringing this thing and that as the master ordered, and often sinking into a little chair near by for rest and solemn meditation. The dear thing was easily "flustered," and the manners of the admiral sometimes so confused her that she seemed almost ready to faint. At one time, when the master put a pair of lighted candles in her hands, bidding her hold them very carefully, she sprang up and ran from the stage with them, holding them upside down, still blazing and spattering. Now and then the temptation to get a bit from the table grew so strong that she would watch her chance to take a sly grab when the guests were chattering together. Whenever she succeeded in this the hundreds of spectators would applaud heartily. We children thought it was rather improper for grown persons to encourage theft in that way, but we couldn't help feeling sympathy for the pretty waitress, notwithstanding our good morals.

**A ROSE BY ANY OTHER NAME, ETC.**—At a recent meeting of an English scientific society it was stated that "otto of roses" has been derived from coal tar.

## TWO PICTURES.

## PICTURE NO. 1.

A man spends \$50,000 in demonstrating that our foothills possess the most perfect soil and climate for the culture of the almond. He risks his fortune in planting out a large almond orchard, and in bringing his trees to perfection. He makes an exhibit of sample of the product of his orchard, the first fruits of this grand and promising industry, and he is awarded a premium of \$2!

## PICTURE NO. 2.

Another man enters a lank, long-legged, slim-necked, narrow-flanked beast, for a trotting race, his shin bones done up in rags to compress the tendons; pads on his ankles to keep them from interfering, so lank, lean and useless that he couldn't haul a sack of beans across a 10-acre lot. This beast, by knack of breeding has been worked up into a shape that admits of his sprawling over a mile track in 2:20. He is awarded \$500 or a \$1,000!

One, a lasting benefit to the county, a source of happiness to the community.

The other a momentary spasm of excitement, the community debauched with a mad thirst for gambling. Further comment is unnecessary. *San Jose Mercury.*

**INTRODUCING THE ELECTRIC LIGHT.**—We read in an exchange that one of Philadelphia's largest carpet manufactories has recently put in the electric light to illuminate its floors, and the device is a complete success. It consists of a Brush dynamo-electric machine of 12,000 candle power, arranged to give four separate currents, each running an electric lamp of 3,005 candle power. Two of the lamps were placed on the third floor and two on the fourth floor of the immense building, and when the engine was started up the machine started at the same time, and without the slightest manual interference the lamps flashed out their light in all its magnificence. The effect was most brilliant. The rooms were flooded with a pure white light like the light of the sun, and it streamed out at all the windows, illuminating houses and streets for a long distance in every direction. The light was very uniform and steady, free from the flickering, and, considering its enormous illuminating power, was unexpectedly soft and endurable to the eyes. Estimates were made as to the amount that the light furnished by this apparatus would cost if used by the carpet company, as it was used on this occasion, and it was ascertained that the total cost from the whole light from the four lamps, including the items of consumption of carbon in the lamps, interest on the investment and wear and tear, would not exceed 30 cents an hour. The light produced was photometrically equal to 500 gas burners, burning five feet of gas per hour each. This amount of gas would cost \$8 per hour.

**THE GRAND CANAL OF CHINA.**—This canal is likely to share the fate of the great wall. This water-way was constructed by Kublai-Khan and his successors of the Yuen race, and is 600 miles in length. There are 10,000 flat-bottomed boats on this canal, and these are used in the transportation of grain. The *Echo* states that this great water-way is an enormous "white elephant," as it costs an enormous amount every year for repairs, the appropriation there, as elsewhere, not being entirely devoted to the purpose for which they are meant. Junks are delayed every month while channels are cut for their passage. This year, for the first time since the construction of the canal, the grain from Nanking, with the consent of the government, has been forwarded by sea, and this fact has impelled the Peking authorities to consider the expediency of abandoning the canal as a commercial highway.

**STREAM TRAMWAYS IN INDIA.**—A company, under government sanction, has been started to connect Darjeeling with the State railway by means of steam tramways. The Maharajah of Burdwan has granted to the company a site for a terminus in Darjeeling.