

CITY OF JERUSALEM.

SACRED TO JEW AND GENTILE
CHRISTIAN AND TURK.

The Holy City Is Pervaded by an Atmosphere of Gloom and Sorrow—Its Historic Places—Christmas in the Village of Bethlehem.

To the Christian world Jerusalem is the Holy City. The mere fact that Christ once walked its streets, that he taught and suffered there, makes it to countless thousands one of the most interesting places on the face of the earth. And within five miles is Bethlehem, the place of his birth. The Garden of Gethsemane, the Pool of Siloam, the Mount of Olives, the tomb of David and Lazarus and Rachael are near at hand.

Even those who deny the divinity of Christ feel that Jerusalem is holy ground and that it is the Holy City. The doubter has often found his doubts giving way to faith as he trod the winding way of the Via Dolorosa, and the scoffer has suddenly been forced

the city is depressing and even disgusting in some of its aspects.

The laws of sanitation seem to be unknown, and although soap is made in the city few of the inhabitants seem to use any of it, and they are equally indifferent to the use of water. In some of its aspects Jerusalem might well be called the unholy city, and were it not for the surpassing interest of its sacred associations the visitors to the place would probably be few.

Wailing Place of the Jews.

The Jews form a large part of the population of the Holy City. They dwell on the eastern slope of Zion, and if one is morbid enough to care to "go a-slumming" in Jerusalem his taste for that sort of entertainment can be gratified to the full in this section of the city. Nothing can surpass it in poverty and wretchedness, unless one expects the lepers who, poor souls, pollute the air and offend the eye by their presence.

The climax of depression in Jerusalem seems to be reached when one goes to the Walling Wall of the Jews and hears their sobs and groans and howls because of the desolation that has come to Jerusalem. They add

rare interest. Americans, Arabs, Copts, Greeks, Abyssinians, Armenians, all classes and conditions of people have assembled here. Some have come hundreds of miles. There are men with long, snowy beards looking like the patriarchs who once walked these streets, there are puling babies in the swaddling clothes borne in the arms of their mothers. Whole families come together—young fellows and their sweethearts mingle with the vast crowd in the market place.

One who was present a year or two ago at the service in the Church of the Nativity says of it:

"At midnight came the most interesting part of the service. The music ceased for a few minutes, while the bells were pealing. Then it was resumed in a grander strain than ever. The great organ rolled in glorious accompaniment to the joyful 'Gloria in Excelsis,' which thrilled the hearts of the listeners. A curtain was suddenly drawn aside, and behold, above the chancel appeared to the wondering gaze of the worshippers a cradle, in which was an image of the Babe! The cradle was lowered with great pomp and reverence, and was then borne at the head of the procession to the chapel of the manger. The procession was composed of all the bishops and archbishops, in their splendid ecclesiastical robes, the consuls from Jerusalem, in their official costumes, rows of priests in their order, two by two, and lastly all the members of the congregation who could still crowd in after them. Each one in the procession carried a long wax taper alight, and as they moved slowly along the priests chanted in deep and low tones."

The procession moves slowly to the grotto of the Nativity, a small chapel about thirty-five feet long by fifteen wide. Here is an altar richly decorated with gold and silver ornaments. The floor is of marble, and on the walls hang rare tapestries. The thirty-two lamps were each the gift of a King, and they burn perpetually. A large brass star in the marble wall marks the exact spot of the Nativity, and on it are the words: "Hic De Virgine Marie Jesus Christus Natus Est." (Here Jesus Christ was born of the Virgin Mary). The little silver manger with a waxen image of the infant is laid on the altar and rests there, carefully guarded, for a week. This is the great event of the Christmas time in the Holy Land, and nothing that takes place in the Holy City can nearly approach it in interest.

COTTON IN DUTCH COLONIES.

Government to Cooperate with Citizens in Promoting the Culture.

In the Netherlands a committee has been formed for the promotion of the culture of cotton in the Dutch colonies, according to a report from United States Consul Pitcairn. The Dutch government is reported to have promised its support and assistance. A report recently published by the committee had annexed to it as exhibits copies of letters from Surinam containing information on the result of culture, by way of experiment, of sea island and upland cotton. Samples accompanying such letters furnished proof of the possibility of successful culture.

Experiments in the culture of cotton have been made on the island of Java also, two different species having been planted, of which one is domestic and the other was imported from the United States in 1861. The latter is said to have a longer staple than the former. The exports of cotton from the Dutch East Indies in the year 1902 amounted to 5,300 tons, of which almost one-half was of Javanese growth. The administration of the residency of Samarang, the chief center of the cotton culture, is promoting and protecting the interests of the cotton planters in every respect. The government has placed at the disposal of the said administration the sum of \$2,416, to be used as loans and advancements to the native population for improvements and extension of the cotton culture.

Another report has been received from Paramaribo, in which it is said that extensive experiments are also being made in that district.

The Dutch committee, the experiments having now sufficiently advanced, intends to establish a permanent business office.

Telephones on Gould System.

The Gould lines of railroad in Colorado are being equipped with telephones, which enable a conversation to be carried on over a telegraph wire without interfering with the sending of a telegraph message over the same wire at the same time. Instruments are placed in cabooses and coaches so that in case of wreck communication can be established with headquarters immediately by throwing a hook over a wire and grounding the other end of the wire to the rail or car wheel.

If a man wants the world to always retain an interest in him, he should never disclose what his initials stand for.

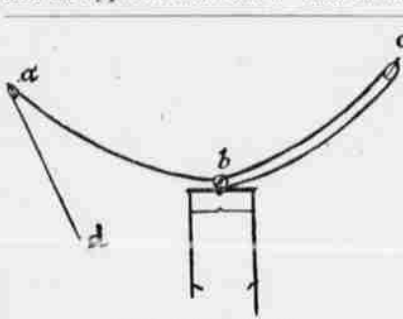
If no one has called on you all day, wait till you get to the most thrilling point of your story and there will be a knock.

FARMS AND FARMERS



Hay Unloading Rig.

Here is a plan for unloading hay with horse fork in barn or on stack which I find is very convenient and is cheaper than any set of haying tools and I believe just as good. We have used it for two years and realize its value. Fasten pulley blocks at a and c in cone of barn. Then with an opening fasten another pulley to ring in hay fork. Then tie one end of rope to open ring, after it has been closed, and then through the pulley at c, then down through pulley at b, which is on fork, then through pulley at a, then through a pulley at d, which is down on barn floor. All that is necessary to change the fork so as to drop hay in either mow is to untie rope from fork and tie opposite end there. This method

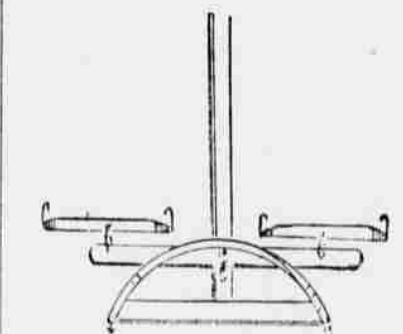


GOOD HAY RIGGING.

od saves one the cost of track and car, and will pull almost directly straight upwards until the fork full of hay gets pretty well up, then will travel over mow. Those who have hay to stack can use this plan by using two tall posts, or one if stack is near a tree which can be used to fasten one pulley to. Set post far enough away so you can drive load of hay between post and stack. This rigging will not take any more rope than a track and car, and is very convenient in small barns.—C. O. Bosworth in Ohio Farmer.

A Wagon Tongue.

It is not always possible to have a two-horse wagon sufficiently light for long distance driving where it is best to use two horses. The illustration shows a tongue which may be easily made by a local blacksmith at small expense, for use on a light one-horse wagon. The illustration needs little description, the main points being to have the pole made of tough lumber and about two inches square at the small end and three and one-half inches square at the large end. The circle should be made of two-inch wagon felloes. Bolt the shaft couplings to the circle, the double-tree resting on the tongue where the circle is bolted to the tongue. This wagon pole is quickly attached and is very light, hence not a burden on the horses, and the ex-



A WAGON TONGUE.

pense of making it is small.—Indianapolis News.

Good General Fertilizer.

One of the best general fertilizers for a soil rather sandy and loamy is composed of 900 pounds of acid phosphate, 900 pounds of fish scrap, 100 pounds of nitrate of soda and 400 pounds of muriate of potash to the acre. For use on vegetables, where the crop is the top, such as cabbages, the potash is reduced one-half and the nitrate of soda doubled, while 1,000 pounds of acid phosphate is used. This plan of fertilizing is followed after the plot has received a fair amount of stable manure the season before. It is as good as any complete fertilizer on the market and costs much less by buying the ingredients and mixing them on the barn floor. Try the formula on a limited area the coming season and see how it works.

Change Sheep Pastures.

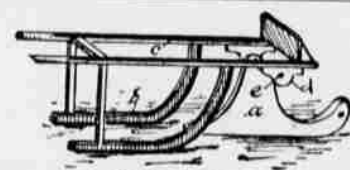
The sheep pasture must sometimes have a rest from the sheep on account of the deposit of the eggs of intestinal worms of sheep. In some old pastures these eggs are spread by the millions. This is particularly dangerous ground to be fed over by young lambs. The man who has more than one pasture will find himself in an advantageous position in case of trouble with intestinal worms. He can simply change his sheep run from one pasture to the other. Such a change is not necessary unless there are signs of the worms among the sheep.

To Get Eggs in Winter.

A successful poultry raiser was once asked how to successfully get eggs during the winter season and his reply was, "hatch winter chickens from winter-laid eggs." While this is by no means the only thing to do, it is, beyond question, the foundation of the whole matter. It is impossible to have pullets that will lay eggs during the winter season, in profitable quantities, when these pullets are hatched from late spring or early summer-laid eggs. Notice we say "in profitable quantities," for the late-hatched pullet will lay some during the winter, but its tendency is toward laying at the same season as the egg was laid from which she was hatched. Here, then, is the start for those who seek winter eggs, and if the reader is out for this sort of business he should plan for an incubator to be set at work in early February. Then it must be remembered that the early-hatched bird, especially in the colder sections of the North, will require unusually good care, so that comfortable brooding houses must be provided, with room for exercise, and in places where there will be no danger of the chicks getting damp or wet. If the brooder room is cool it will do no harm, for the chicks will have the brooder to go to for warmth; but the room must not be damp or wet. Chicks raised in this manner and given a good range during the following summer will go into winter quarters in fine shape and produce eggs at a profit in the winter.

A Winter Wheelbarrow.

A very convenient and useful wheelbarrow sled may be constructed as follows: From a piece of 2-inch plank cut a runner, a. Then make two rear runners, b, of brace iron or wooden wagon felloes. Frame these together and attach to front runner by the bed pieces, c, which are 2½ inches wide, 1 inch thick, 3½ feet long. Put in the rocking pin, e, as long as the width of the bed. Attach it to the bed pieces,



WHEEL BARROW.

c, by a piece of hard wood, d. This should fit tightly through the upright part of the runner, a.—Farm and Home.

Poultry Pickings.

All the non-sitting breeds lay white eggs.

The roosts should be low, especially for heavy fowls.

Unusually large eggs denote that the hens are too fat.

Give one feed of good, sound grain daily. Whole wheat is good.

Poultry makes a three-fold return—eggs, flesh and feathers.

The greatest layers make poor sitters and indifferent table fowls.

Never inbreed; change cocks every year and always use pure-bred birds.

Old geese are best for hatching and young geese sell for the best price.

For young chickens it is a good plan to mix the soft food with milk, not making it sloppy.

While the guinea is a noisy creature, its noise frightens away many enemies of the poultry yard.

In putting salt in the food, the quantity should not exceed the amount used in food for the table.

The farm offers the advantage of a wide range and fowls thus favored have more beautiful plumage.

If any chickens are to be hatched late they should be of varieties that feather quickly and mature early.

To secure uniform chicks and have the majority females, the fowls themselves should possess uniformity as regards color, plumage and age, as well as size and marking.

Agricultural Atoms.

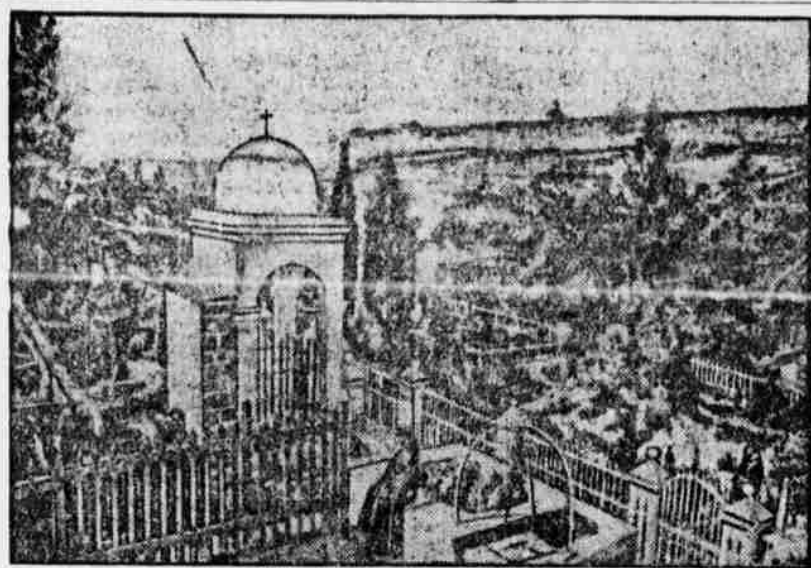
Animal manures are most economically used when applied to the soil as fast as collected.

The feed is an important factor in stock raising. The breed adapted to the object sought will give better results and at a lower cost proportionately.

If the food is diminished and animals become poor, the amount of food required to get them in good condition will be greater than the amount of food saved.

During the winter, especially, bran can be made a part of the rations of all classes of live stock, but the best results are secured when fed in connection with other grain.

Manure may fail to give good results the first year and show well the next. Much depends upon the conditions of the material. It cannot afford food to plants until it becomes soluble.



GARDEN OF GETHSEMANE, OUTSIDE JERUSALEM.

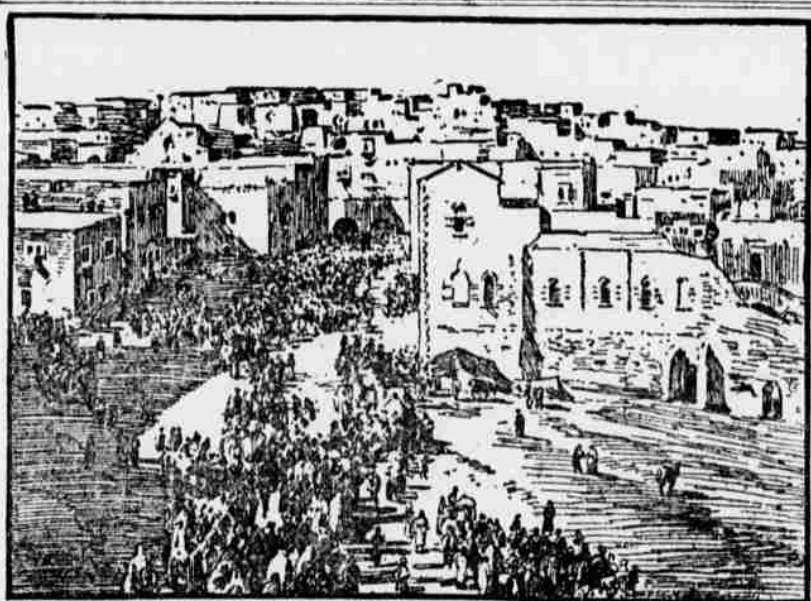
to the conviction that it is all true—the whole wonderful story of the Babe in the manger in Bethlehem and the sorrowful story of the Christ on the cross. It is a curious fact that Jews and Gentiles, Christians and Mohammedans, men of all faiths and of no faith, unite in calling Jerusalem the Holy City. They differ as to when certain things occurred, and the exact spots on which occurred many of the events in the life of Christ as well as the exact day of his birth must ever be a matter of conjecture, but all agree that on the hills of Zion and Moriah occurred events transcending in importance any other events in the history of the world.

An Atmosphere of Sorrow.

There is no conjecture, however, in regard to some of the conditions existing within and without the walls of the Holy City. One has abundant and indisputable evidence of the fact that it is horribly dirty, and that no other city in the world can surpass it in the

much to the present desolation by their own manner of life, and the walls with which they rend the air when they go to the Walling Wall, which is in a small unroofed enclosure about seventy-five feet in length, and in which is some masonry believed by the Jews to be a part of the old temple itself. It is not only the poverty-stricken Jews who come here to weep and to wall, but wealthy Jews fare thither to mingle their tears, their groans, their wails with those of the poorest of their brethren. Not content with weeping and wailing, they tear their hair and rend their garments and beat upon their breasts in an agony of grief that at least has the merit of being genuine. They make real the lamentations of Jeremiah, and are no doubt sincere in their conviction that all this weeping and wailing will in time help them to again come into possession of their own.

The followers of Mohammed gather at the Mosque of Omar, which stands



CHRISTMAS IN BETHLEHEM.

primitiveness of some of its conditions when one takes into account its age and the time it has had in which to make improvements.

The Holy City of to-day is in appearance almost exactly like the Holy City of centuries ago. Some of the very same customs and conditions obtain. It is a city in which the sound of wheels is almost never heard, the strident yell of the newsboy never rends the air, for there are no papers published in the city for him to sell; there are no street cars; no billboards announce entertainments anywhere throughout the city, for there are no theaters, no lecture rooms, no dance halls, no saloons. No organ grinders torment or tickle the ear; no street bands make music.

The city has no mayor and no aldermen, there are no letter boxes or letter carriers. Indeed, there are thousands of residents of Jerusalem who never wrote or received a letter in their lives. Saddest of all, there is no merriment within or without the walls of Jerusalem. No one laughs—not even the children, and no one sees them play. The entire atmosphere of

on the supposed site of Solomon's Temple, but the site of the ancient places in Jerusalem is and must forever be largely a matter of conjecture. No man could take oath that the Via Dolorosa of to-day is the one trod by the feet of Christ with the cross on his back when he went to his crucifixion, and no man knows the exact spot of the crucifixion, and yet one finds one's self standing with bared head before some of the places pointed out as the spots on which occurred events recorded in holy writ.

Christmas at Jerusalem.

The devout of Palestine flock to Bethlehem rather than to Jerusalem on Christmas eve. From out of the Jaffa gate of the Holy City come all the devout to hurry to Bethlehem and to the Church of the Nativity to witness the ceremonies in that sacred edifice. The services begin at 11 at night, and if it happens to be a moonlight night the spectacle of the thousands of pilgrims faring from all directions to Bethlehem is a strange and weird one.

The scene in Bethlehem is one of