



EMIGRANTS DEPARTING FROM LIVERPOOL.

The rate-cutting inaugurated on the western passage across the Atlantic affects only the first and to a lesser extent the second-class passenger. This picture deals with the third-class passenger, who is not affected, and whose fare varies from \$27.50 to \$33.75. It shows a typical motley assortment of emigrants from all parts of Northern Europe who make the passage through the great British port. They are about to board a White Star liner at the great landing stage at Liverpool.

THE PARADOX.

There grows a weed, so gossips tell,
To wound the hand that lightly plucks;
But bind it with a proper spell,
And poison from the vein it sucks.
'Twas Cupid's self that threw the dart,
Gave me the simple for my smart.

When storms are high, so seamen tell,
And billows crumple all the main,
But dive beneath the angry swell,
And thou wilt find it calm again.
Since, Love, thou art a troubled sea,
My only refuge is in thee.

A chapman, Holy Writ doth tell,
Found treasure in the earth concealed;
But all he had he needs must sell,
Ere he might have the precious field.
Since thou has cost me all I own,
O Love, what riches have I known!
—Century.

What Sam Did

The men in the store, watched the young farmer assist his wife into the respectable-looking buggy outside, arrange the packages, spread the laprobe generously and carefully over the young woman's knees and then, himself uncovered, drive away.

"Clayton's goin' to take good care o' that there wife o' his," commented the storekeeper.

"Foolish o' t'm," declared Washington Hancock.

"He'll get tired o' washin' up that buggy o' his'n after a while 'n conclude the ole waggin's good enough to come to ole to trade in," said Sol Baker, sagely.

"Course he will," agreed Hancock. "He'll have her out to the wood pile splittin' stove wood, like as not. I've knowed that to happen, too."

Baker had the grace to look embarrassed when the storekeeper snickered. "There's wuss things than splittin' a leetle mite o' wood now an' then for a women," he said. "Anyway, Clayt's wife'll take all the care he kin give her an' then need more. If he ain't washin' the dishes for her afore long I miss my guess. She don't like no kind o' work none too well. She didn't as a gal."

"Ain't a great hand to cook, they tell me," said the storekeeper. "Most any one o' the other gals could beat her out when it come to fixin' up a meal. Seems like Clayt 'ud have took 'Lisbeth or Birdie if he was set an' bound to marry into the family. This un's mighty slack-mouthed, by all accounts. I could ha' told him suthin' on that score if he'd cum to me an' ast me."

"Why didn't you tell him, anyway?" asked Marvin Parsons.

"It's a pity she's slack-mouthed," observed Hancock. "It's them kind o' wimmen that gits to talkin' about their neighbors after a while. An' it's a funny thing that it's allus the wimmen that does that. You might set in this store when Rufe an' Sol here was shootin' off their mouths year in an' year out an' you'd never hear them say a word agin' anybody—not if you was stone deaf. But when a man sees a feller in danger o' blightin' his life by takin' up with a gal that's ornery an' no-account he ain't doin' no more than what's his dooty to give him the right kind o' warnin'. If a feller's got good sense he'll epshate a word in season o' that sort an' won't git mad about it. Anybody's apt to be a mite careless an' unthunkin' in the matter o' choosin' a gal when he's young. I bet there hain't a married man here but what'll say that's so."

The storekeeper nodded involuntarily and Hancock grinned.

"S fur's takin' a word o' good advice kindly's concerned, I reckon there's the many a man would tell you that if somebody'd come to him in time an' let him know what he had a right to expect from the gal he was thinkin' o' marryin' he'd never have married the gal he did," resumed Hancock. "There's some what does git warned in time. I rickerleck right well when a cousin o' mine, Sam Hancock, thought o' hitchin' up with a gal he'd met up with when he was a young buck. He seen the gal an' tuck her buggy ridin' once or twice an' he figgered to himself that she was jest about the finest young woman that ever set a foot on this green airth. He couldn't make out that she'd got a fault or a blemish. She'd allus acted that away whilst he was around, so how was he to know any diffrant?"

"There was one thing, though, an' that was that Sam had a mighty level hand on him for as young as he was. He'd slip up on a trade wunst in a while, but he never slipped up twice the same way an' he'd made a-many trades by the time he was 20 years old. No, Sam wasn't nobuddy's fool."

"Well, there was a feller lived neighbor to the gal's folks, name o' Ben Crittenden, an' he knowed Sam an' he knowed the gal. He figgered that Sam was a likely boy an' that it wasn't right for him to stand back an' keep his mouth shet when he'd do good by openin' it. So he goes to Sam one day



"YOU HAIN'T MAD ARE YOU?"

an' he takes him out behind the barn for a conf'enshal talk.

"Sam," he says, "I allow you know that I'm a friend o' yours an' that I hain't a troublemaker or a str-stribe. I've got suthin' to say to you an' if I say it I don't want for you to git mad an' prance around on your ear."

"Certainly not," says Sam. "If you've got anythin' on your mind you say it."

"It's about Berthy," says Ben. "I hain't goin' to git mad," says Sam. "What about Berthy?"

"It's this away," says Ben. "I wouldn't say nothin' at all if I thought you'd had the chance to know for yourself jest what kind of a gal she was. But you hain't, an' I have. I hired out to her paw all through one harvest an' I know what I'm talkin' about. That gal's mighty shif-less, Sam—jest shif-less."

"Is that so?" says Sam.

"I wouldn't tell you if it wasn't so," says Ben. "An' I wouldn't say nothin' against her neither if you wasn't a friend o' mine. She'll shirk off an' leave her mammy to do the work if she kin, an' if she can't she'll jest about ha'f do it."

"That's too bad," says Sam, lookin' thoughtful.

"The meals she cooks 'ud sicken you," says Ben. "Harvest time a feller hain't partickler, but they sickened me. An' when she's around the house she ain't slicked up the way she is when she goes to a church soshubbe, I tell you that."

"Sho' says Sam.

"Yes, stree, an' her temper hain't none o' the best. I seen her belt her young brother one day an' knock him endways. If you take my advice, Sam, you'll dror off."

"Sam studied a moment an' then he got up an' shucked his coat. Ben looked down his nose. 'You ain't mad, are you?' he says.

"No," says Sam, a-spittin' on his hands. "I hain't mad a mite, but I'm jest goin' to waller you around a spell to teach you to mind your own affairs an' to quit fattenin' on gals. An' with that he lit in an' done it."

"Did he marry the gal afterward?" inquired Baker.

"Co'se he did," replied Hancock. "Why wouldn't he?"

"You said he had a heap o' sense," urged the storekeeper.

"Not regardin' them matters," said Hancock. "No man has. But there wasn't no more wrong about that gal than there is about any gal, an' I reckon they got erlong about as well as most, her an' Sam—mebbe better."—Chicago Daily News.

OLD COINS NEW TO HER.

Cashier Refused to Take 2-Cent Piece and Three "Eagle" Cents.

How little is known by the general public of the United States coins which are not now current was shown the other day in an uptown restaurant, says the New York Times, when a coin collector in a spirit of fun handed to the cashier in place of a nickel one old-fashioned bronze two-cent piece and three small copper-nickel "flying eagle" cents.

The cashier, a young woman of about 20, looked disdainfully at the unfamiliar coins, and then refused to accept them, saying she had never seen any such money as that before; that she didn't believe they were "good," and didn't propose to accept them.

The patron protested that the coins were genuine, and pointed to the inscription "United States of America," as a verification. But the young woman remained unconvinced, and summoned the manager. He, too, was dubious about the authenticity of the pieces, looked them over carefully, and said he had never seen anything like them before. He finally told the cashier to take them anyhow, and he would relieve her of all responsibility in case they turned out to be spurious.

The last two-cent piece was issued by the United States mint in 1873, while the flying eagle cents were struck only in 1856, 1857 and 1858. Nearly 25,000,000 eagle cents and more than 44,000,000 two-cent pieces were coined.

To collectors it is odd that in a period of fifty years this vast number of coins should have disappeared to such an extent that the present generation never heard of them.

An Electrical Plant.

A plant has been discovered in Nicaragua which appears to be charged with electricity. If one of its branches is touched with the naked hand a distinct shock similar to that produced by a battery is felt. Its influence upon a magnetic needle is noticeable at a distance of half a dozen yards, and as one gets nearer the plant this influence increases. If the instrument is placed in the center of the bush it will assume a circular movement. The intensity of the influence manifested seems to depend upon the time of day. —Kansas City Journal.

There is nothing a woman enjoys getting so much as a letter from some married woman that is stained with tears.



Grafting Methods.

Apple trees are usually propagated in the nursery either by budding or root grafting two-year-old seedlings. Larger seedlings may be taken up and the roots cut into a great number of sections five or six inches long. Upon these the scions of the desired varieties should be grafted by means of the whip and tongue method of grafting, as shown in the accompanying illustrations. This grafting does not require any wax, the parts being simply held together by binding with twine or raffa. Root grafting of this kind is usually done during the winter time, and the grafts stored in moist sand or soil until the ground is fit for planting them outside in the spring. They should then be planted in nursery rows, and in two or three years should make trees large enough to transplant to permanent positions.

Top grafting is usually done by the cleft method, as shown in the illustrations. In this method the scions are cut wedge-shaped and fitted firmly into the cleft made in the stock, which is usually cut off squarely where the branches are from one to two inches in diameter, two scions being placed in each stock. In this, as in all methods of grafting, great care must be taken to get the cambium layer, or inner bark, of the stock and scion in contact in at least one side, for it is at this point that union takes place, and any



SAMPLES OF TOP GRAFTING.

failure to connect the cambium layers of stock and scion is sure to result in failure of the scions. In top grafting, the wounded surfaces should be covered with grafting wax. A good formula for this is: Four parts of resin, two of beeswax and one of tallow, by weight, melted together. Top grafting should be done early in the spring, before growth commences.

In all this propagation work great care should be taken to select scions from trees bearing the very best type of the varieties intended for propagation. Nurserymen, as a rule, are not careful enough in this respect and take scions from any trees so long as it is of the desired variety.—H. L. H.

About Cow Testing.

Prof. Fraser of the Illinois Experiment Station says that a complete knowledge and mastery of the dairy business cannot be secured without testing each cow. Many farmers and dairymen think this testing of the cows is too much trouble, and do not want to "fuss" around with it, but if they considered the profits to be realized from a herd of really good cows as compared with one of poor cows, or even a mixed herd, they would soon see that it really pays to "fuss" around with the scales and Babcock test. Where one cow will give good returns for her feed and care there may be another in the stall next to her that is not paying her board, but is eating up the profits from the paying cow. But how is the owner to know this if he does not test them? A pair of scales and a tester do not cost much, but they pay big profits on the investment.

Seed Inspection Is Needed.

The need of rigid inspection of agricultural seeds such as clover and alfalfa has been again brought sharply to the attention of the authorities of the Texas Agricultural and Mechanical College. Dr. O. M. Ball of the department of botany has repeatedly warned farmers and planters against the dangers of introducing highly pernicious weeds into alfalfa and other fields through impure agricultural seeds. It has been pointed out that Russian thistle, dodder, Johnson grass and several

varieties of burr clover and melilotus have been found growing in alfalfa fields in various parts of the State, and they have been introduced solely through impure alfalfa seed. Another extremely noxious weed has made its appearance in alfalfa fields in widely separated parts of the State. This is charlock or wild mustard.

Cultivation of Potatoes.

Cultivation should commence just as soon as the young plants begin to appear above the ground. The field may be gone over with a light harrow, or, better still, with a weeder. This is a cheap method of cultivation, since a wide space is covered. It is also effective in breaking any crust that may have formed, in destroying small weeds and leveling ridges left in planting.

As soon as the rows can be seen the cultivator should be used. If the ground has become packed the first cultivation may be deep and close to the plants. Subsequent cultivation should be frequent. The conservation of moisture by frequent tillage cannot be too strongly enforced. The old notion that tillage must cease as soon as the blossom appears is wrong. It should be continued as late in the season as the vines will permit. As the tops begin to spread out and cover the space between the rows they partially shade the soil and thus lessen the loss of moisture by evaporation.

The cultivator should be set as narrow as the space between and keep it covered with a loose mulch. Experience and experiments favor nearly level cultivation. Excessive hilling intensifies the injurious effects of dry weather. The best cultivator is one having a number of small teeth, so that it will leave the soil fine and comparatively level.

Pitch Fork Attachments.

In gathering up freshly cut grass or hay, etc., with a pitchfork a small quantity adheres to the prongs of the fork each time a pile is lifted. In a short while the fork becomes clogged and useless, it being necessary to remove each particle by hand. In order that this cleaning may be done almost automatically, a Wisconsin man has designed the attachment for pitchforks shown here. A transverse clearer bar is arranged below the tines of the fork, guides on each end of the bar partly encircling the end prongs, permitting the bar to slide freely on the prongs. Pivoted on the handle of the fork is a bar which connects with other bars extending to the clearing bar and to a sleeve which slides on the handle. By moving the sleeve on the handle the clearing bar slides over the prongs of the fork, removing anything adhering to them.

CLEANS OFF HAY.

Poultry Tips.

Eggs need to be turned in the incubator. Don't neglect it. Don't expect prize stock from cheap eggs.

Make the nests handy not only to clean out but to gather the eggs from. The wet grass is no place for the young chicks, to run unless they are expected to die of cramps.

A bushel of grain a year for each laying hen is said to be the proper amount to count on in estimating the cost of keeping poultry. Fowls like green food as well as any other class of stock. They need it in their business, so it is good policy to keep them supplied.

In the Sheep Fold.

There is that sheep with hair in place of wool. Get her out of the flock. Wool is what we are after, not hair.

As soon as the ewes have all been served get the ram out. He will only be a nuisance from that time on.

It is a good plan to have a little yard with a trough made on purpose for the lambs just outside the lot where the sheep are kept.

It isn't much trouble to count the sheep every day. Better do it and be sure that all of them are all right.

The hog has the credit of being the farm mortgage raiser. But sheep will do it just as surely if they are given a chance.

Recognize Orchard Pests.

If you have an orchard or vineyard you cannot learn too soon to recognize the San Jose scale, codling worm, curculio, mildew and black rot. Do not procrastinate this knowledge until the orchard and vineyard are injured, or it will be too late.