

LABOR IS HONOR.

Labor is honor! God's spirit hath spoken:
This is the song that his universe sings:
Through the vast hills of creation unbroken,
Loudly and clearly the glad echo rings;
Up from the hills and the green valleys stealing,
Seeking the light of the bright star above,
Rises the song to the blue heavens pealing,
"Labor is honor, and labor is love."

All the great deeds that are grandest in story,
Living through centuries treasured and bright;
All the great lives that are dearest to glory,
Filling the world with flashes of light;
Words from whose utterances ages are dated,
Thoughts that have held the whole world in control,
Names on whose echoes the proudest have waited,
Are but the offspring of labor and toil.

Not to the eye that glanceth there lightly
Doth the bright look of the heavens unfold;
But to the spirit that turneth there rightly
Are all its wonders and mysteries told;
And at each step to the soul upward springing
Cometh new radiance, new light from above,
While in the heart is an angel-voice singing,
"Labor is honor, labor is love."

Not on her brow doth the earth bear all brightness:
Deep in her breasts do the rich diamonds shine;
Down in the wave is the pearl's softest whiteness,
Hiding the gold in the dust of the mine.
Beauty and power, and riches and pleasure,
Safe in her bosom lie hidden to-day:
Till the key that will open her treasures,
And at each touch she will give them away.

Light to the mind that in darkness was clouded,
Strength to the spirit that weakness had touched,
Joy to the soul that in sorrow was shrouded,
Life to the heart when its life-spring was hushed,
Truth as their foothold who seek it sincerely,
Skill to the hand when it toils to live,
Eyes that can look up to heaven's light clearly—
These are the honors that labor can give!

DAMAGE BY TRESPASSERS.—In some sections, through the inefficiency of the law or its administration, a farmer's liberties and rights are trampled upon by wanton trespassers in the shape of boys (some of them overgrown) carrying guns, killing off, indiscriminately, useful birds or barnyard fowls, if opportunity offers.—One writer speaks of the great damage and annoyance to which farmers, fruit culturists, and horticulturists are subjected who live in the vicinity of towns, villages, and cities, from dog and gun and other trespassers. True, there are certain "parts of acts" of legislature, bearing on this subject, but there are so many ways of evading these parts of acts that many of them are a dead letter. If farmers will but speak through their clubs, tell their grievances, communicate their wants and wishes, they may accomplish much for the common good.

SUGAR.—The sugar cane crop of Louisiana the present year is in a most promising condition. The area planted is much larger than last season, and in fact has only been limited by the difficulty of obtaining labor. The difficulty is becoming a serious and alarming one. Encouraged by the high price of their staples, especially of sugar, planters would be emboldened to attempt a culture equal to that of the *ante bellum* times, if they could command the requisite labor. The natural resources of Louisiana are equal to the product of a sugar crop sufficient to supply the whole demand of the United States.

CURE FOR POISON OAK.—A correspondent of the *S. F. Alta* gives this as a cure for poison oak:
Simply bathe the parts poisoned with hot water, as hot as can be borne; keep increasing the temperature till it can no longer be used without burning. Press a soft towel against the parts, so as to absorb the water, and avoid rubbing; then apply a "rather strong" solution of strong navy, or plug chewing tobacco on the poisoned places and let it dry. The solution is best when the water is hot. I have tried this and have been cured, or very nearly so, in two days—four days at the most.

Wool.—A San Francisco paper says the annual wool crop of the world is estimated at 1,500,000,000 pounds, of which Europe has more than half; Australia, Africa, and South America, together, 200,000,000 pounds, and North America 120,000,000 pounds. A large part of this wool, however, is coarse, and brings less than 10 cents per pound, but much of the European, American, and Australian wool is fine, and commands from 20 to 75 cents per pound. The increase of woolen manufacture has been most remarkable in Great Britain, where the annual importation was less than 2,000,000 pounds a hundred years ago, and now it is 130,000,000.

The burrowing squirrel of Idaho, a rodent mammal, in size a little smaller than the gray squirrel of the East, makes its annual disappearance about the middle of August, and remains in the ground about six months. It disappears in the heat of Summer, when its food is most abundant, and is dormant until Spring, when it comes forth fat, after its long hibernation. After its annual career is ended, that of the house-fly begins. In Boise Basin, and other mountain regions of Idaho, this pest does not make its appearance till about the first of September.

ALIMONY IN ILLINOIS.—The Illinois Legislature has passed a bill which provides that any woman marrying, without a knowledge of the facts, any man having a wife already living, shall have upon him the same claims for alimony and maintenance that she would have if her marriage were legal and the former wife had been duly divorced from him.

WONDERFUL INVENTION.—R. L. Tabor, formerly of San Francisco, but at present the organist at Williams College, Mass., has perfected an invention, which, attached to a piano, is designed to print music as fast as it is played. He contemplates modifying the mechanism so that it can be applied to the organ.

BUTCHERING FEAT.—In Chicago, lately, there was a contest between butchers, to see which could cut up and dress a bullock of average size in the shortest time. The victor achieved the feat in four minutes and forty seconds, and was awarded a silver belt, with golden buckle, and the title of "Champion of America."

AGED TREES.—On the banks of the Senegal river, in Africa, there were in 1748 trees growing sixty or eighty feet high and some thirty feet in diameter, which were estimated by Mr Adanson, the French naturalist, to be over five thousand years old. They are known as the Baobab, or Adanson.

DREADFUL FATE.—At a late fire in Georgetown, El Dorado county, Cal., Mrs. Stahlman and three children, and a Miss Stanton, perished in the flames. Mr. Stahlman and one child barely escaped with their lives.

CATTLE.—It is estimated there are 22,000,000 horned cattle and 35,000,000 sheep in the countries bordering on the river Plate, South America.

For five years after an orchard is planted the ground should be plowed, harrowed, and manured each year.

In 1838 Chicago shipped a wagon load of wheat; in 1860, 40,000,000 bushels.

One firm of Australian wool-growers expects to clip 170,000 fleeces this year.

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