# Current Literature.

### A VOI E FROM THE PARM.

"Ton say that my life is a round of toil?"
The stalwart farmer seid.
"That I scarce can wrest from the oft-tilled soil
My pittance of daily bread?
Well, what you tell me in part is true,
I am seldem an idle man,
But I value the blessing of rest, as you,
Who have much of it, ever can.

"And, surely, I never have worked in vain,
From the pring to the golden fall;
The harvest has ever brought waving grain,
Enough and to spare for a l.
And when in the evening, freed from care,
I see at my farmhouse door

I see at my farmhouse door My wife and little ones there, Oh, what has the millionaire more

"My children may never have hourded wealth;

Their life may at times be rough.

But if in the r homes they have love and health,
They will find these riches enough.
The only land they will ever own
Is the land t at the strong right arm
And the natient, forliess heart a one
Can till to a fertile farm.

"I have nothing beyond my simple wants
And a little for cloudy days."
But no g im sceptre my homestead haunts,
Such as liver and gold might raise.
Around me are eyes that with sparkling mirth
Or with p acid contentment shine—
And no wealth-elegged is rd upon all the earth
Has a lot more blessed than mine.

"Oh, yes, I'm laboring a'l day long,
With the mind and the muscle, too:
But I thank the Lord, who has made me strong,
And given he work to do,
For what indeed, is the idle drone
But a vampire on the land,
Resping a juit that by others was sown,

Resping a truit that by others
And not by his own right hand!"

— Edmund Lyons, in New York Clipper.

### Backbone and Grit.

"The stage has gone, sir, but there's widow lives here, and she's got a boy, and he'll drive you over. He's a nice little fellow, and Deacon Ball lets him have his team for a trifle, and we like to get him a job when We CAD.

It was a hot day in July. Away up among the hills that make the lower slope of the Monadnock Mountains, a friend lay very ill. In order to reach his temporary home, one must take an early train to the nearest station, and trust to the lumbering old coach that made a daily trip to K -.. The train was late ; the stage, after waiting some time, was gone. The landlord of the little, white hotel appeared in his shirt sleeves, and leaning his albow on his balcony rail, dropped down the hot and thirsty traveler what comfort could be extracted from the opening sentence of my sketch.

"Would we not come in and have some dinner!" "Yes." "Would be send for the deacon's team ?" "Yes." "And the boy ? "Ves.

And the dinner was caten, and the team came round—an open buggy and an old white horse, and just as we were seated the door of the little brown house across the way opened, and out rushed the widow's boy.

In his mouth was the last morsel of his dinner; he had evidently tearned how to "eat and run." His feet was clad in last winter's much worn boots, whose wrinkled legs refused to stay within the limits of his narrow and faded trousers. As his legs flew forward his arms flew backwards, in an ineffectual

the horse while he went home to get a bite.

The horse did not look as if he ne ded to be held, but the hostler got his dime, and the boy approached in time to relieve my mind as to whether he would conquer the jacket or the jacket conquer him and turn him wrong

He was sun-burnt, freckled, large mouthed and red haired-a homely, plans, wretched little Yankee boy, and yet, as we rode through shadded road, winding up the long hills in the long my invalid friend, I called on Deacon glow of the afternoon sun, I learned such a lesson from the little fellow as I shall not soon forget.

In a pretty house and was evidently very well to do. Naturally we talked of John and the stincts which are efficacious in the preserva-

He did not look much like a preacher as he sat stooping forward a little, whisking the fies from the deacon's horse, but his sermon was one I wish might have been heard by all the boys in the land. As it was, I had to spur him on now and then by questions, to get him to tell about himself.

'My father died, you see, and left my mother the little brown house opposite the tavern. You saw it, did you sir the one with the lilac bushes under the window Father was sick a long time, and when he could not work he had to raise money on the house. Descon Ball let him have it, a little at a time, and when father was gone, mother found the money owed was almost three hundred dollars. At first she thought she would have to give up the house, but the deacon said. 'Let it wait a while,' and he turned and Johnny's house, but before I went I asked patted me on the head, and said: 'When the deacon how much Johnny had already Johnny gets big enough to earn something I shall expect him to pay it.' I was only nine then, and remember mother cried, and said. Yes, descer, Johnny is my only hope now, and I wondered and wondered what work I could do. I really felt as if I ought to begin at once, but couldn't think of anything to

Well, what did you do ?" I asked quickly, for I was a raid he would stop, and I wanted

to hear the rest.

"Well, at first I did very funny things for
boy. Mother used to kint socks to sell, and
she sewed the rags to make rag cacpets, and

I helped."
"How? What could you do? "We'l, the people who would like a carpet sould not always get the time to make it. So could not always get the time to make it. So I went to the houses among the farmers and took home their rags, old coats and every-thing they had, and out in the woodshed I out and riped them up. Then mother sewed them and sometime I sewed some, too, and then I to led them into balls and took them back to the owners, all ready to be wover

'Did they pay for your work !" "Oh, yes, we got so much a pound, and I felt quite like a young merchant when I weighed them out with our old steelyards. But that was only one way; we have two or three old apple trees out in the back yard and we dried the apples and sold them Then some of the farmers who white man commonly known as "Siwa-h had a great many apples began to send Chaley," McAllister, saved, and Capt, Jaggar them in to us to dry, and we paid them saved.

so many pounds all dry and had the rest to

"But you surely could not do much in ways like these."
"No, not much, but something; and we had the knitting."
"Did you knit?"

"Not at first, but after a while mother be gan to have the rhenmatism in her hands, and the joints became swollen and the fingers twisted, and it hurt her to move them. I leaned to knot; before that I wound the yarn for her. I had to learn to sew a little, on for mother didn't like to see the holes

without patches."

And he looked half smilingly at the speci-

ens on his knees.
"But you did not mend those?" said I. Yes, sir; but I was in a hurry and nother said it was not done as it ought to be They had just been washed and I couldn't

"Who washed them?"

"I did, and ironed them, too. I can wash and iron almost as well as mother can. She does not mean to let me, but how is she going to help it? She can hardly use her hands at all, and some days she cannot leave her chair; so I had to learn to make the beds and to ecrub the floor and wash the dishes, and I can cook almost as good as a

"Is it possible? I shall have to take supper with you on my way back to the city and test your skill."

Johnny blushed and I added : "It is a pity, my boy that you haven't a

sister."
"I had one," he said, gently, "but she died; and—if she had lived I shouldn't have wished her to lift, and bring wood and water, and scrub as poor mother always did. Some times I wish I could have prung all the way from a baby to a man. It is such slow work growing up; and it was while in ther was waiting for us to grow up that she worked so

But, my boy, you cannot certainly expect to be son and daughter and mother all in one. You cannot do the work for a whole

family "
"Yes, I can; it isn't much, and I am deter mined to do it and the work that my father left undone. I'm going to pay that mortgage if I live."

"Heaven grant you may," I said fervently, under my breath, "for not many mothers

have such a son."
"Mother don't know I mean to do it, and she is very anxious I should go to school, and I mean to some time; but I know just where the boys in my class are tudying, and I get my lessons at home. Mo her reads them to me out of the book while I am washing the dishes or doing the work, and we have great fun. I try to remember and repeat it, and if we come to any place we can't make out, I take it over to the teacher n the evening; she is very kind, and she

Very kind! Who wouldn't be kind to such a boy. I felt the tears coming to my eyes at such a sudden vision of this ton's doing girl's work while his poor old mother held the book in his twisted hands and tried to help him learn.

it all this don't earn money, my boy. How do you expect to save if you spend your time indoors?

"Oh, I don't do girl's work all day; no, in-! I have worked out our taxes on the It wasn't much, but I helped the men build up a stone wall down by the river; and Deacon Ball lets me do a great deal of work for him, and when I get a chance to take anybody from the hotel to ride, he lets me have his team for almost nothing and I pay to him whatever I make. And I work on the farm with the men in summer, and I have a cow of my own and sell the milk at the tavern; and we have some hens, too, and sell the eggs. And in the fall I cut and pile the winter's atruggle to get himself inside a jacket much too short in the sleeves.

"There he is," sa d the hostler, "that's the widow Beeby's boy. I told him I'd hold in the sheds for the people who haven't any boys," he added brushing a fly from the old here with the tip of his white.

After this we fell into silence and rode through the sweet New England roads, with Monadnock rising before us ever nearer and more majestic. It impressed me with a sense of its rugged strength—one of the hills, "rock-ribbed and ancient as the sun;" but I glanced from the mountain to the still mor-sel of humanity at my side with a sort of recognition of their kinship, somehow they seemed to belong together. I felt as if the same stardy stuff were in them both. It was little Yankee boy, and yet, as we rode through only a fancy, but it was confirmed the next the deep summer bloom and fragrance of the day, for when I came back to town after secdescon said to me, with tears in his old watery blue eyes:

"Why, bless your heart, sir, you don't think I'm going to take his money, do you?
The only son of his mother, and she a widow
all tied up in double bow knots with the
rheumatics beside. True enough, let his
father have the money, and my wife she
says, says she to me: Well, deacon, my dear, says, says she to me: Well, deacon, my dear, we've not got a child and will be just as we'l off a hundred years from now it the widow never pays a cent; but 'cordin to my calculation it's better to let the boy think he's a paying.' She says I might as well try to keep a barrel of vinegar from working as to try and keep that boy from working. It's the mother in him and it's got to work. We

think a good deal of the widow, Maudy and me. I did before ever I saw Mandy; but for all that we hold the mortgage and Johnny wants to work it out. Mandy and me, we are going to let him work.

"Well, I don't know; Mandy knows-I

pass it to her—she keeps the book. Drop in before you go to the train and I'll show it to I dropped in and the deacon showed mathe account. It was the book of a savings bank in a neighboring town, and on its pages were credits of all the little sums the boy had

credits of all the little sums the boy had earned or paid, and I saw they were standing to widow Beebe's name. I grasped the deacon's hand. He was looking away over the house tope to where Monadnock was smiling under the good-night kiss of the sun. "Good bye sir, good-bye." he said, returning the squeeze with interest. "Much obliged I'm sure, Mandy and me, too; but don't you be worried about Johnny. When we see it we know the real stuff it takes to make a real we know the real stuff it takes to make a real man and Johnny has got 't; Johnny is like the mountain over there—chuck full of grit and lots of backbone."

Down in the Sea. - The following persons were known to have been on the illfa ed Grappler: Hy, Henderson, Arni McClusky, W. Smith, J. Butler, K. K. Hall, Lambers, G. Vitalle, C. Bush, Johnson, Robinson, Bradford, John Cardana, Silas Lane, Charles Lord, Henry Hallenkamp, A. Districh, Henry McCluskey, C. Gros hong. D. Brown, C. Fredrich, William Rowe, saved. Durean McLean, Douald McPhail, George Thomas, a white man componly known as "Siwa-h

# Stock.

Animals ss Doctors.

M. G. Delaunay, in a recent communica tion to the Biological Society, observed that medicine, as practiced by animals, is thur oughly empiracal, but that the same may be said of that practiced by inferior human races, or, in other words, by the majority of the human species. Animals instinctively choose such food as is best suited for them M Delaunay maintains that the human race also shows this instinct, and blames medical men for not paying sufficint respect to the likes and dislikes of the patients, which he believes to be a guide that may be depended on. Women are often more hungry than men and they do not like the s me kinds of food. Nevertheless, in asylums for aged poor, mer and women are put on precisely the same regimen. Infants scarcely we aned are given a diet suitable to adults-meat and wine which they dislake, and which disagree with them. M. Delaunay investigated this question in the different asylums of Paris, and as certained that children do not like meat be fore they are about five years of age. People who like salt, vinegar, etc., ought to be allowed to satisfy their tast s. Lorain always taught that with regard to food people's likings are the best guide. A large number of animals wash themselves and bathe, as elephants, stags, birds and ants. M Delaunay lays down as a general rule that there is not any species of animal which vol-untary runs the risk of inhaling emanations from their own excrement. If we turn an ising our attention to the question of reproduction, we shall see that an mammals suckle their young, keep them clean, wean them at the proper time and educate them; but these maternal instincts are frequently rudimentary in women of civilized nations. In fact, man may take a lesson in hygiene from the lower animais. Animais get rid of their parasites by using dust, mud, clay, etc., etc. Those suffermg from fever restrict their diet, keep quiet, seek darkness and airy places, drink and sometimes plunge into it. When When a dog has lost its appetite it eats that species of grass known a dog's grass, which acts as an energe and purgative. Cats also eat grass. Sheep and cows, when sick, seek out certain kinds of herbs. When dogs are constipated they cat facty suistarces, such as oil and but ter, with avidity until they are purged. same thing is observed in horses. An animal suffering from chronic rheumatism always keeps, as much as possible, in the sun. The warrior and have regularly organized ambu Latrende cut the attenue of an ant, and other ants came and and covered the and other ante came wounded part with a transparent fluid secreted from their mouths. It a chimpanzee be wounded it stops the bleeding by placing its hand on the wound, or diessing it with leaves and grass. When an animal has a wounded leg or arm hanging on, it completes the amputation by means of its teeth. A dog, on being stung in the muzzle by a viper, was observed to plunge its head repeatedly for several days into running water. The animal eventually recovered. A sporting dig was run over by a carriage. During three weeks in winter it remained lying in a brook, where its food was taken to it; the animal recovered. A terrier dog hurt its right eye: it remained lying under a counter, avoiding light and hear, although habitually it kept close to the fire. It adopted a general treatment-rest and abstinence from food. The local treatment consisted in licking the upper surface of the paw, which it applied to the wounded eye, again licking the paw when it became dry. Cais also, when hurt, treat themselves by this simple method of irrigation. M. Delaunay cices the case of a cat which remained for some time lying on the bank of a river; also, fortitude to remain for forty-eight hours under a jet of cold water. Animaes suffering from manmatic lever treat themselves by the continued application of cold water, which M. Delatina considers to be more certain than any of the other methods. In view of these interesting facts, we are, he thinks, forced to admit that hygeme and therapeuties, as practreed by animals may, in the interests of psychology, be studied with advantage. He could go even further and say to at veterinary

# Pitting Horses for Spring Work

precisely occause they are prompted by in-stincts which are efficacious in the preserva-tion or the restatation of health,—British

Horses that have done considerable work during the winter, and have stood up in good shape under this, will, under proper variations of tood, such as are required to enable the horse to do more exhausting work under the disadvantages of a higher, hence a more extausting temperature, be in good fix for entering upon the spring work. Plowing may be set down as the hardest of all work ter may have been sufficient to harden the muscles; and this term is quite correct for and this is partly discharged every day by that contraction of the fibres which comes through the skin and kidneys. The necessity of hard pulling, or m re or less continuous of continued supplies of it to the healthy travel, the muscles are really hardened, made body becomes sufficiently obvious. The bite toucher so to speak hence eminently fitted

have his best feed at night, after suitable rest from his day's work. These views are based upon the laws of phistology, which we can neither cast mide nor ignore. Skillful feeding, conjuined with labor, prude tiy imposed, may keep the power of a team up to its maxi-mum, though some of the fat, not flesh, may

d trimental food to be given, the horse then requiring, in some degree, abstinence from food, that the loss of tone may be recovered. An important point to be considered in feed-An important point to be considered in feeding horses kept at hard work, whether this be at the plow, heavy teaming or sharp driving, is to rely mainly on concentrated food, to the exclusion, except in moderation, of hay or other fodder.

It is not the fullness of the abdomen, but the vigor of the murals that makes the table.

the vigor of the muscle that makes the horse strong and gives him bottom. When the stomach is filled with hay, it interferes with the hor-e's wind, and a horse so encumbered breathes with difficulty, and is, in common parlance, short winded. When bulky food is given, the daphragm, upon which th rest at their base, is pressed forward upon the lungs, seriously impeding their action, hence the shortness of breath—this arising from the diminished space in which the lungs have to act. Contrary to the common belief, the horse requires to be similarly fitted for a hard pull to that fitting given him for hard driving. The action of the heart and the vigor of the respiration, as any one can see if hard pulling horse if he has a full abdomen,

pures to be fed within certain limits, and even then more or less disturbance comes to the digestive functions.—National Live Stock

A Shepherd's Dog. A San Antonio (Texas) correspondent cataogues the accomplishments of a colly pup as shepherd, round up and put between sixteen crowd any of them. The little chap would near future. There is plenty of game in the mass this large flock of scattered sheep and mountains, of various kinds, and ish in the mass this large flock of scattered sheep and direct them toward the pen in half the time sportsmen. that several men could do it. When penning the sheep he had to work them down a long than Pine, is more invorably situated hill that sloped to a flat that the pen was built upon. When close in upon any portion and consequently contains more fruit. he would keep the sheep in the pen, which consisted of trush, or, it they would break nerded these sheep myself, and slept in a small tent a few yards from the pen. In case of the moon rising full sheep appeared to take it for sunrise and would break out. The first time it occurred during Dick's administration he put his paws upon my breast and licked my face and awoke me. I said, "Go for 'em, Dick," and he did it, and put the sheep back in the pen, and then came back and tried to tell me that all was right. After that night he needed no further hints, but took the mess into his own hands, or paws. He had but sittle tustion, but he guarded to at sheep pen as though he were tive years of age in-stead of five months. If he had been guilty of any misbehavior for which he knew he de served punishment, he would rush off and round off his flock of sheep, as though he wished to show some atonement for his mis conduct. He had a nose like a bloodbound, and could follow a person's tootsteps as well. I have left him aslesp on the prairie more than once, stolen away and hidden myself and watched him following my footsteps. He would trace every step until he found me, and then would quiver for joy .- Forest and

# Prevention of Blackleg.

In an issue of the Lakeview Ecaminer, lent me by a subscriber, says W. H. Averill, of this place, I saw it stated that the blackleg is still affecting cattle east of the mountains. The same disease was prevalent as far back as my old grandfather's memory. Sixty years was discovered which proved effective for the next ten years the time of my departure from there, and I think will every where it is tried. That was to bleed in the neck in the spring all young stock as might be likely to take it the next fall or winter. Not one of those so treated have I known to take it. Sucking caives, or rather weanings, when in good condition, were most frequently affected. These, I think, should be sted early in the rail—before cold weather sets in to inflame he sore. The disease was supposed to be contagious there, but I have reason to believe otherwise, for I have seen the living surround

# Why do Animals Need Salt 7

Professor James E. Johnston, of Scotland, upon horseflesh. The work through the win- says: "Upward of half the saline matter of blood (57 per cent.) consists of common salt, of hard pulling, or m re or less continuous travel, the muscles are really hardened, made tougher, so to speak, hence eminently fitted for hard steady pulling at the plow.

But the master should be about, as the average farm hand has but a slight sense of his responsibility, and a slighter knowledge of the laws which enable the horse, through the medium of his digestion, to keep his muscles in trim for hard work. Contrary to the belief of the farm hand, digestion is at its weakest during the time that the labor is most severe. Hence the work horse should have his best feed at night, after suitable rest

WHEN a horse fails lame at uncertain and irregular intervals, and suddenly recovers and as suddenly gets lame arain, it indicates that the cause is rheumatism, which is a form of inflammation arising from a disordered and mum, though some of the fat, not flesh, may disappear under the strain. If there be some strinkage under the strain of work, then this will be through the absorption of fatry matter, not through absorption of the body. It is frequently constitutional and hereditary, and stiffs from place to place without warning and very suddenly, and it may as rapidly disappear with warmth, the heat of the aunor a change of the weather, ing horse parts with adipose matter, he will, if properly fed and cared for, be in better condition for severe labor than when encumbered by fat. The extraordinary exertion imposed by hard labor creases a demind in the system for an increase of food, and nature will respond by insuring such a condition of the digestion as will make it possible for waste to be replaced. Yet it requires experience and tact in using the means. Over mashes of bran or outs and linseed should form the bulk of the food. usually soid state of the blood, and stracks

#### Valleys of Baker County.

The Baker City Reveille, under a late date, invited a general description of the valleys. The following will be read with interest by all who are intending to visit Oregon or Washington to take up homes: We had occasion to visit Pine valley a short time since, and thought a few lines descriptive of this beautiful valley might be of interest to some of your many readers. This valley lies near Snake river, in Union county, and is one of those rare gems of the mountains that are found in Eastern Oregon. It has an altitude of some 1,500 feet, is surrounded by quite high mountains, and is traversed by some three beautiful streams of water, namely, Clear creek and Big and Little creeks, affording abundance of good water for all purposes. This valley is well supplied with all the varieties of timber that grow along our wigor of the respiration, as any one can see if he will take the trouble to examine a horse under severe exhaustion at a pull, are greatly accelerated, and short wind will come to the tir and cedar for dry lumber. There is one raw mill in the valley doing a good business. nearly as soon as to the road horse sharply driven.

If farmers would study their own interest, they would always reserve oa's for spring and summer feeding. Outs may be fed to the full limit of a horse's appetite with safety, thus ensuring against too much hav being the special strength of the valley to nearly 150. The valley contains one sensor house. There are some thus ensuring against too much hav being the population of the valley on sensor than a special days or ranches on which good. thus ensuring against too much hay being splendid farms, or ranches, on which good consumed, while, as we all know, corn recrops of grain are grown, besides many o tender vegetables and trust of many varie-ties. Here is a valuey designed in the near future to be one of the garden spots of Ore gon. With scenery not surpassed anywhere on the face of the earth, with a salubrious climate, fertile soil and natural advantages surpassed by none. The hills are covered with an abundance of the finest of grass, the mountains with timber, streams to farnish follows: I have seen him, at a word from the water power, and him containing rich depos its of mineral ore awaiting development, this valley can support a population of from 200 to and seventeen hundred sheep in a pen, many 1.000 innabitants, and within its imits one or of them wild Mexicans, and not chase nor more thriving villages may be expected in the There is plenty of game in the

streams to entice the hunter and the Eagle valley, though having an area less growing a greater variety of the tender varie-ues of vegetables, has been settled longer, and consequently contains more fruit. The of the flock he could not see over them, and inhabitants claim the mildest climate on the would scamper back up the hill and locate the rossition of the pen and then flank his sheep according to his bearings, and when the last mail reaches them once a week. All their sheep and frisky lamb was inside, he would surplus produce finds a market at Sparta, sit down at the gate and flap the dust with Union or Baker City. Crops of all kinds were his tail until the shepherd commenced putting good this year. There is plenty of good land up the poles that formed the gate; and I have that will produce anything that can be grown seen him attempt to assist in that work by in this climate, lying idle awaiting the plow. trying to drag the poles to the gate. At night The soil is very fer ine and the valley is well flouring and saw mill is greatly needed in the valley. This valley affords good facilities for

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