

ONLY A FARMER'S DAUGHTER.

By MRS. FORRESTER.

CHAPTER II.—(Continued.) "Very well, then. I went over to lunch with Hastings, as you know and after lunch we had a game of billiards, and then went into the stables to look at the horses. And such horses, too! Well, after we had left the stable and chatted a bit, he ordered the chestnuts round, and we started to come over here. How those horses did fret, and prance, and rear! But he took it as coolly as possible, and soothed and quieted them, until they went off like lambs. They continued very quiet for about a mile, when we came to a gate where a girl was standing, and then they shied and reared again, until I thought they would have upset us in the ditch. But Hastings was not a bit disconcerted; he held the reins with one hand, and with the other took off his hat to the girl as if she had been an empress. She was so graceful, and had such lovely eyes! I was anxious to know who she could be, and asked him. Guess, Flo, who it was."

"How should I know?" answered his sister, pettishly. "How provoking you are!" "Well, then, it was our cousin, Miss Eyre; and I can tell you she is nothing to be ashamed of, either. I could see how much he admired her, and was just going to tell him of our connection with her when the chestnuts bolted, and, by the time he got them in hand again, it had gone out of my mind. However, the information will keep till another time."

"Reginald," cried his sister, white to the lips with rage, "you will not dare to tell him that low-born girl is related to us—you will not dare?" "Reginald knows better than to do anything so foolish," interrupted Mrs. Champion. "But in case you should be tempted to do so," she added, turning to her son, "remember that not a tittle of those five hundred pounds I promised you for your last season's debts shall pass into your hands."

"Oh! very well, that's enough," responded Reginald, sulkily. "But I can tell you one thing, Flo—I believe he's tremendously out with that girl, and that he's gone off after her now." "And having uttered this remark with the amiable intention of annoying his sister, he proceeded to quit the room."

"I think Reginald gets more unbearable every day," exclaimed Flora, angrily. "Twenty-one is not generally a very agreeable age in a young man," remarked her mother. "And so the fates conspired to keep a secret from Errol Hastings, which, as it turned out, was very important he should know."

He called at Hurst Manor the day after Reginald's invitation with him, and accepted Mrs. Champion's invitation to stay and dine. "Mrs. Champion," he said, as they sat together in the drawing room, "I am going to beg a favor of you and Miss Champion."

"I am sure we shall be but too happy to grant it, if it is in our power," she returned, smiling. "I think of going a ball at the Court," Mr. Hastings continued, "and before I issue my invitations I want to secure the promise of your presence and co-operation."

"A ball at the Court; that will be charming!" exclaimed Miss Champion, with unusual animation. "Bachelors always give such charming parties; besides, which, it will gratify my long-felt desire to go over your house."

"Certainly you may come in," she answered, coldly; "you might have done so when you pleased before. I was not particularly engaged."

"Oh! you did see me, then? I thought you were too much occupied with your fine new friend to look at me."

Winifred was beginning to get angry; this man had never presumed to use such a tone to her before. "Do you want to see my father?" she asked abruptly.

"No, I don't," I left him not an hour ago in the turnip field—I want to see you."

"Oh, very well," remarked Winifred; "but please let me know at once what you want of me, it is time to go in and see about the tea."

"Oh, you weren't in such a hurry just now, when you had that puppy of the Hastings here," said Mr. Fenner, wrathfully.

Winifred rose like a young Juno, with such an imperial air of amazed indignation that her companion quailed.

"Mr. Fenner," she said "have you any idea of what you are talking about?" "Look here, Miss Winifred!" uttered Fenner, with great earnestness—"it's no use your pretending not to understand me, because you can't have mistaken my meaning this last month. I've loved you for this year back. And so to-day, in the turnip field, I spoke to Mr. Eyre, and he said he had no objection, provided you liked me, and I said I wasn't afraid of that, for you had always been so kind in your ways to me, which you wouldn't have been if you hadn't meant as I did."

"How dare you say I know what you meant or gave you encouragement!" she exclaimed, passionately. "Because you did!" he returned, with temper. "If you didn't mean anything by your smiles, and tricks, and ways, you must be as false as fair."



FARM AND GARDEN

To Train Grape Vines. It may be said that there are a dozen systems of grape vine training in use, all of which have their good qualities and each, perhaps, superior to all others under certain conditions. The system of training from a single upright growth is, however, admitted to be after the most approved lines, and it certainly gives results. The illustration shows how the vine is trained in its first year. It is cut back to two strong buds at the time of planting and is set so that the buds will be just above the surface of the ground. A slight stake is pressed into the ground near the vine and the vine is fastened to it with cord of a waterproof kind. If the trellis is built during this first year this cord is run to the first wire (the top one) and fastened. The vine will make the growth about as shown in the cut during this first year. The trellis is an important feature of the plan. The posts should be set eight feet apart.



TRAINING THE GRAPE VINE.

and so that they will stand about six feet out of the ground. Two wires are used in the position, as shown in the cut, the wires being fourteen inches apart. In training the vine for the second year cut off all that portion above the top wire, and as the lateral canes grow select the strongest opposite each wire, one on either side of the main stalk, and train them along the wires; this gives us two arms, so to speak, running along each wire at the end of the second year from planting. The third season the fruiting buds must be handled, and it is a good plan to select every other bud to supply the canes necessary for the upright growth from the arms. This upright growth is shortened in from time to time during the growing season, so as to throw the strength into the fruiting canes. This system of training requires labor, but it gives most excellent results.

Cost of an Acre of Strawberries. For plowing, \$3; harrowing, \$3; marking, 50 cents; plants (8,000) \$25; average price; plants are scarce this year. Trellising and preparing plants, \$5; setting plants, \$4; cultivating with horse, \$7.50; hoeing six times, \$18; fertilizer, half a ton, \$15; four tons of straw, \$20; applying straw, \$5. This makes the cost about \$100 for the first year. Of course the increase of plants can be used to set a new bed the following year, which will make the cost one-fourth less. The straw is worth as much as it costs almost to the soil. In these figures we are actually giving what it would cost the farmer to hire the work done by men who know how to do it. If the farmer does the work himself, he does not feel the cost any more than he putting in a crop of potatoes. We advise setting the strawberry bed near the buildings so it can be attended to without going far. The usual gross sales from an acre of strawberries are about four times the cost of the acre for the first year.—Rural New Yorker.

Temporarily Blinds the Horse. It has long been known, and put to practical test time after time, that to get a horse out of a fire the best plan is to blindfold him, and many an animal has been saved in this way which it was impossible to remove from the burning stable in any other manner. It is now proposed by a Nebraska inventor to a pply practically the same principle to control fractious or vicious horses and to stop runaway which are caused by the animal taking fright at some object on the street or road. While the blinder in common use on bridges prevents the horse from seeing objects on either side, there is nothing to shut out the view of anything approaching which might tend to frighten the animal, and it can also turn its head if it hears a noise; but with this new device the driver or rider has only to pull a cord lying parallel to the reins and a bellows-like curtain is drawn over both eyes to shut out the sight completely. In this condition the animal can only start and tremble until the object causing the fright has passed, when the curtain is lifted by releasing the cord, and the horse travels on as before. The curtain is housed in a small semi-circular leather casing passing over the animal's forehead just above the eyes, and the operating cords are inserted in the bit rings before passing back to the reins.

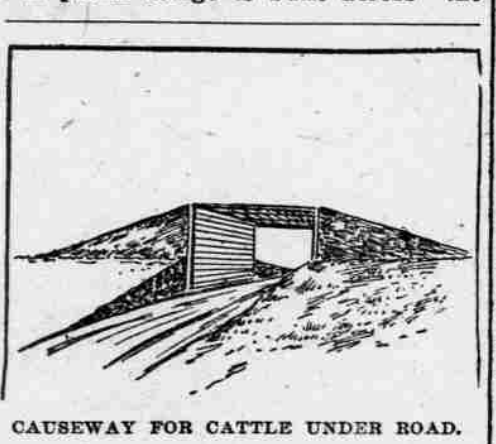
Small Farms to Be the Rule. In the future small farms will be the rule. More and better products will be raised on 60 acres than are now on 120 acres. There are farmers to-day who plant a 40-acre field in corn who could take the same amount of manure they used and put it on a 20-acre field, and

get a greater yield and of better quality. Besides this, it will take only half the time to plow and cultivate the 20-acre field, which would further add to the profits. What a lesson the market gardeners are constantly giving to us farmers. Why, some of them use more barnyard manure on 20 acres than some farmers do on 120 acres. The crops the gardeners get are enormous, and their land is constantly increasing in fertility.

Extent of Irrigation. Exclusive of the rice-producing States the Territory of Hawaii and Indian reservations, the number of irrigators in the United States in 1899 was 108,218, an increase of 54,082, or one hundred per cent over the number reported in 1880. The number of acres irrigated was 7,539,545, an increase during the ten years, of 3,908,165, or 107.6 per cent. Of the total irrigated area, 5,944,412 acres were in crops, and the total value of the products therefrom was \$86,800,491. The total cost of construction of the irrigation systems operated in 1899 was \$67,770,942. In the number of irrigators California stands far ahead of any other State, having about one-fourth of the total number in the United States. Colorado, however, exceeds in the number of acres irrigated, although not in the value of irrigated crops. Of the total irrigated area, 7,003,629 acres were watered from streams, and 109,944 acres from wells. The number of acres in crops irrigated in 1899 was 5,711,995 and the number of irrigated acres in pasture and unimproved crops was 1,551,808. The value of the irrigated crop was \$84,443,438. Of the irrigated area, 7,263,273 acres were in the arid States, 273,117 acres in the semi-arid region and 3,155 in the humid region.

Connecting Pastures by Causeway. It frequently becomes desirable to have the pasture so arranged as to let stock pasture on both sides of a highway. The pasture is sometimes located on one side of the highway and yard and watering place on the other. Much time is required to drive cattle back and forth.

The difficulty can be overcome in a very convenient way. Select a place where there is a little rise in the ground, say from 2 to 4 feet, the more the better. Construct a wide ditch, from 10 to 12 feet, so it will easily admit a team to work with scraper down at bottom of it. Make it from 2 to 4 feet deep, as the natural condition of ground will admit. It must be constructed in such a way that it will have natural drainage at lower side, otherwise it would fill with water after very heavy rains and be of no practical use. A plank bridge is built across the



CAUSEWAY FOR CATTLE UNDER ROAD.

opening and the sides planked. It should be made 5/8 to 6 feet high to admit the passage of all kinds of stock or even horses below. The earth taken out in digging is used in constructing the grade on each side of bridge. The bridge, as well as grade or dump, must be made as wide as required by law. The deeper it is practical to make the ditch, the less it will be necessary to dump upon the grade. A tight fence must be constructed from the pasture on each side of the passageway close up to the bridge. I have seen such a passageway constructed on the level prairie, but in such a case is only practical in every dry season, because in a rainy one the ditch will fill up with water.—Lewis Olsen, Kandiyohi, in Farm and Home.

Agricultural Notes. Eggplant is a gross feeder, but easily cultivated.

Interest in the apple box grows apace in the east.

Bone black is said to be good fertilizer for parsnips.

Give a good, thorough cultivation between the rows of strawberries.

Beets will stand considerable cold weather and may be planted early.

In a cold frame or sprout bed is a good place to start lima beans on sods.

In butter and cheese making every effort should be made to suppress dust which, according to a dairy authority, carries more infection than any other source.

Bees carry pollen from one flower to another while seeking honey. The real benefactors are the bee keepers, many of whom keep bees for pleasure rather than for profit. But for the bees many fruit trees that blossom out full would produce no fruit.

It has been demonstrated conclusively that when an animal is fed on a variety, instead of on corn exclusively, a greater gain in weight is secured. Corn will excel in the production of fat, but bone and lean meat sell in the live animal as well as fat, rapid growth being a gain in weight.



Boys and Girls

Little Pud and the Bumblebee. A round little lad stuck his nose one day in a hollyhock big and red. That leaved o'er the walk in inviting way. Just over his curly brown head. He stood on his toes and poked in his nose. To take o' fits sweets a good smell. But quickly he stopped and on the walk dropped. With a lusty and agonized yell.

Forth from the flower a big bumblebee. Came booming and buzzing like mad, Resentful and angry mostly plainly was his air.

At Pud Boy, the round little lad. To have a fat boy poke in and annoy. A bee at a feast, I suppose, Arouses his ire, and so, all afire, He stings the fat boy on the nose.

And little Pud Boy, when his hurt was well. And gone was the terrible pain, Remembered, and into a flower's cell His nose never ventured again; In fear he would flee at th' sight of a bee As fast as he could from the spot; And then he would say in very wise way: "At bug's little foot is too hot!" —Brooklyn Eagle.

Boys Are Great Apple Eaters. What would the boy of to-day do without apples? Wherever you see a lot of apples there are sure to be boys around ready to devour them, and no boy considers life worth living unless his pockets are bulging full of the fruit.

The fruit-eating proclivities of the boy has little reference to the state of his appetite. Whether he be full of meat or empty of meat he wants the apple just the same. Before meal or after meal it never comes amiss. The farm boy munches apples all day long. He has nests of them in the hay mow, mellowing, to which he makes frequent visits. Sometimes old Brindle, having access through the open doors, smells them out and makes short work of them.

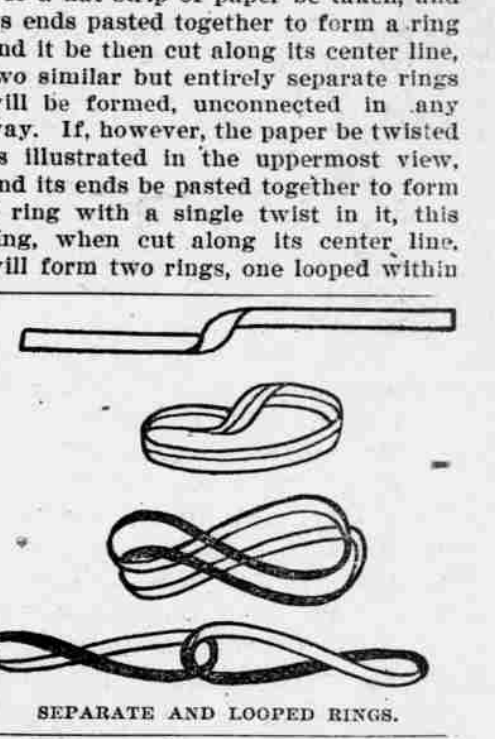
The genuine apple eater comforts himself with an apple in their season as others with a pipe or cigar. When he has nothing else to do or is bored he eats an apple, sometimes several of them. When he takes a walk he arms himself with apples. His traveling bag is full of apples. He offers an apple to his companion and takes one himself. They are his chief solace when on the road. He tosses the core from the car window and from the top of the stage coach. He would in time make the land one vast orchard. He dispenses with a knife. He prefers his teeth shall have the first taste. Then he knows the best flavor is immediately beneath the skin, and that in a pared apple this is lost. If you will stew it by all means leave the skin on. It improves the color and vastly heightens the flavor of the dish.

The apple is a masculine fruit, hence women are poor apple eaters. It belongs to the open air and requires an open-air taste and relish.

New Wrinkles in Paper. The great variety of articles, from car-wheels to candle-shades now manufactured out of paper, has suggested the name "Paper Age" for the present time. One of the amusing and interesting

Little stories and incidents that will interest and entertain young readers

If a flat strip of paper be taken, and its ends pasted together to form a ring and it be then cut along its center line, two similar but entirely separate rings will be formed, unconnected in any way. If, however, the paper be twisted as illustrated in the uppermost view, and its ends be pasted together to form a ring with a single twist in it, this ring, when cut along its center line, will form two rings, one looped within



SEPARATE AND LOOPED RINGS.

the other as shown in the third and fourth views. Perplexing as this may seem at first glance, the explanation is quite simple. We may consider the upper edge of the paper strip as one ring, and the lower edge as the other. Now following the edges of the twist as shown in the second view, it is evident that one edge has been twisted completely around the other edge; or, in other words, one edge or ring has been passed through the other ring, which when cut apart form two interlocked rings.

Immediate Results. One day my little brother insisted on staying out in the rain. On being asked why he did not come in he said: "I have to get watered so I'll grow." Next day he said: "Yesterday I was only up to my nose and I've grown to the top of my head in the night, because I stayed out in the rain."

As He Was Called. Our neighbor, little Arthur, aged three, was a notorious little runaway. On being asked his name, he always insisted that it was Baby. "But," said I one day, "what does mamma call you?" He replied with great earnestness, "Arfur tumber!"

Failed to Take the Hint. One evening my aunt had company, and when her little boy's bedtime came she said: "Well, good-night, sweetheart." The child looked at her a moment and then answered: "Why, mamma, are you going to bed already?"

A Populous Line. Teacher in History, to Harry, who was not paying attention: "How was the 'Mason and Dixon' line settled?" Harry, sleepily: "Very thickly settled."

FINANCIAL CONCERNS ARE GROWING IN NUMBERS AND AMOUNT OF BUSINESS.

SOME recently published statistics attest the surprising growth of national banks and savings banks in the United States. In 1864 there were fewer than 600 national banking associations and their aggregate capital was considerably less than \$100,000,000. At the end of 1895 the aggregate resources of the national banks, which then numbered 1,513, amounted to less than \$1,300,000,000.

Now let us look at the returns made to the Comptroller of the Currency on Oct. 1, 1902. At that date the national banks numbered 4,601; their total capital stock was over \$714,000,000 and their aggregate circulation \$380,000,000. Their aggregate resources amounted to \$6,114,000,000. The face value of United States bonds now held by national banks is about \$457,000,000 and the individual deposits exceed \$3,200,000,000. The amount of money paid into the federal treasury since 1863 by the national banks as taxes on circulation, capital, deposits, surplus, etc., reaches \$170,000,000. We add that the number of shareholders in the national banks is 330,124, to which total the New England States and Middle States, including under the last-named term New York, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland and the District of Columbia, contributed more than 226,000 individuals.

Obviously the national banks are organized and supported by the relatively rich. Turning to the savings banks, which are intended for the relatively poor, we observe that the aggregate deposits in these institutions increased in the five years preceding Oct. 1, 1902, from \$1,940,000,000 to \$2,640,000,000. In the same period the number of depositors rose from 5,200,000 to 6,400,000. This is an astonishing exhibit when we consider that in many States the savings of the poor are invested in the stock of building associations. It should also be noted that the federal government, through the money orders issued by its postal department in 1902, did a banking business of upward of \$313,550,000.—Harper's Weekly.

"Hans Breitmann" and Bret Hart. The late Charles K. Leland, in his chatty and interesting memoirs, tells us that all the principal "Hans Breitmann" poems, except the "Barty" and "Breitmann" as a Politician, were merely written to fill up letters to a friend, and that he kept no copies of them; in fact, utterly forgot them. By his friend they were published in a sporting paper. "The public," he says, "found them out long before I did and it is not often that it gets ahead of a poet in appreciation of his own work." Bret Harte appears to have gone through the same experience, for Leland relates that one evening after dinner, at the house of Mr. Truebner, when "Bret Harte was asked to repeat the 'Heathen Chinee,' he could not do so, as he had never learned it, which is not such an unusual

thing by the way, as many suppose." The confusion into which many otherwise well-informed persons fell with regard to the personality of these two writers was often very ridiculous, for instance, an elderly gentleman went rushing about asking to see or be introduced to Hans Breitmann, whose works he declared he knew by heart.—London Chronicle.

Slighted Opportunities. "Some folks," said Meandering Mike, "hasn't an ambition at all." "What's de trouble?" inquired Plodding Pete. "A lot o' dese New York detectives has been walkin' into millionaire's houses to see whether dey could be burglarized. An' after seein' how easy it is dey're goin' to go right along bein' detectives."—Washington Star.