CHAPTER XXL "Quick, David, quick!" cried the old The sale of your coupons is nothing to man, eagerly. "Let us get to work. Oh, you waste half the morning; let us get on. At this rate," he sighed, "we shall take months before I get back the prop-

"There will be no trade this morning. uncle," David replied, standing in the decreas. It was a week after I had told him the truth. He had been furning it over in his mind in the interval. "Why not? David, if you were near

ly seventy you would be anxious to get on; you would not shilly-shally over single bit of paper. Let us get on, Da vid. Oh, you've got all the power now. and I am in your hands. I won't grumble, David. No, take your own time, my boy; take your own time."

The poor old man was strangely altered in four or five weeks, that he should thus humble himself before his nephew. But David had all the power so

long as he had any of those coupons left. "You little thought when I came here that I was going to give you so much trouble, did you, Uncle Daniel? You thought you had the whip hand over me always, didn't you? But you see, first yard of Berry, with its tumble-down the fall from your pony, then the loss of your papers, then the stroke, then my thinking always of the fields he had lost, coming home and finding those papers - and the way in which they had been all part of the judgment and now taken from him. Of course his first there's more to follow."

"What more? Oh, David, what more? the helpless old man only groaned. To-day, uncle, I have come to talk told me. You did not. You thought that as soon as our little business was finished I should go away and never come back any more. You thought you would keep the money, did you? Not so, uncle;

"I thought you would never find it somewhat surprising candor. "I soon and that you never go about and talk; what difference does it make? You are he is alone. I am quite sure that you are

no nearer the money. "We shall see. My aunt might just as well have left it to me as to you. . To be sure, I never thought she had half so much. She began with a thousand. She must have pinched and saved. She left it to Mary, on the condition of her marrying with your consent; and, if not, the money was to go to me. And if i was dead, the will said nothing. So you grave? Will that restore the past? Will thought you could stick to the money. that make you what you used to be?" Uncle, you're a foxy one! You ought to be in the States, and thirty years young-

how, uncle, I don't mean to go away laughed me in the face." until this question is settled. What are "Why should I tell you?"

"Keep it to yourself, then. I will tell future." you what you thought you were going to so.: I've worked it all out. First, if you let George and Mary get married before He began, in his slow lose Sidcote." way, to tick off his points upon his fin-"That's the first thing. After oney as long as you live. But suppose they were to marry without your consent, all the money comes to me comes to me. That sticks, doesn't it? You can let them marry now-and you will lose Sidhad a taste of me already."

He waited a little. His uncle said nothing, but watched him from under his long, white eyebrows-not contemptuously, as on the first interview after his return, but with the respect due to the strength of the situation.

"Very well, then; you would rather give that money to Mary than to me. But you would like to get Sidcote; you hate the thought of giving it to me, you Perhaps you think you would give it to Mary, after you have got Sidcote. But suppose she marries before? Then you would be obliged to give it all to me.' "Go on, David; perhaps you are going

to propose something.' "I have been thinking things over, uncle. You are getting old, you may die any day; then Mary would be free. It is true that she might marry to-morrow. in which case I should be entitled to everything. But I don't think she would be such a fool. If I were Mary, I should back. Say no more about it, Mary.' wait. You are seventy now, and you've lost the use of your legs. You can't last very long. I should wait, if I were Mary. Yes; it might be a year or two: it couldn't be longer."

His uncle heard without any emotion this argument in favor of his approaching demise-country people use plainness of speech about such matters but he felt himself very far from dying, as masterful men always do up to the very end. Well, David, supposing that what you

ear is common sense, what next? If Mary marries at once she is a fool, and then I have you to reckon with. There is a good bit outstanding on the old ac count, and I don't suppose there would be much coming to you when compound interest and all comes to be reckoned

"As for your outtsanding accounts, we shall see when the time comes. And as for compound interest, it will be for you to pay that on my aunt's six thousand pounds." "The interest went for the keep of

"I haven't heard that there's a word about that in the will. You've had her cle's consent?" services as housekeeper for five years, and ron've pocketed the interest. Way I take it that you made 5 per cent. the whole of my aunt's money?"
That's three hundred a year. There will "Yes."

be a beautiful day of reckoning, uncle.

"You were going to make a proposal, David?"

"Buy me off, old man." "Always buy-always buy!"

"To be sure. You've got to buy your wn property back because I've come home. You've got to buy me out on the chance of the money coming to me. Please yourself. What do you say to cuying me out at a thousand?"

O thousand pounds?" "Yes, Uncle Daniel, "a thousand unds. And a very moderate figure. Consider, if they were to get married, you'll make five thousand by the bargain, not to speak of the interest. If they don't you'll have the satisfaction of giving your nephew a few thousand pounds back out of the property you've

"A thousand pounds! I'll think it

robbed him of."

CHAPTER XXII. Mary went to plead with David for her uncle. He was in the deserted farmbuildings. He leaned against the gate.

"Don't run away, David," she said; "I came to talk with you." "Well come through the gate then, about my aunt's will. Will Nethercote Mary. Will you talk in the cottage, or will you talk here?" "Let us stay outside-here in the

shade, David. When will you cease to worry your uncle?" "Did he tell you that I worry him?

Has he been complaining?" "No. He even denies that you have out, David," Mr. Leighan confessed, with any share in the new trouble that seems of remorse; all day long he wept and corner post; and at least twenty to have fallen upon him. But I know found that you knew nothing about it, that it is caused by you. After every one of your morning visits he is miserand I was pretty certain that you would able. Every day he grows more nervous never find out. Well, now you know. and more irritable. He sheds tears when

the cause of his trouble.' "Well, Mary, perhaps you are right. may be the cause of it. Perhaps I may be the cause of a good deal more trouble than I have done."

"Oh! David, think-he is an old man; he is afflicted with paralysis; you are hastening his end. What good will it do to you if you worry him into his

"Nay, that it will not do. But when I see him at my mercy, crying for pity, er. There you would find yourself at I think of the day when I came to ask home, with plenty of opportunity, Well, him to lend me a poor fifty pounds, with I am wiser now than I was. And see which to try my luck in Canada, and he

"Well, then, David, does it do you any good to remember that day? the past be dead, David, and live for the seemed to have no spirit for such a des- such care is not needed for short lines

"You don't know what you are saying. Mary. What should you know about it? You are only a girl"-he spoke roughly the law lets you take Sidcote you will and rudely, but not unkindly-"what do you know? Let the past be dead. Why. all the world is crying because the past won't die. I only wish the past would ou have got Sidcote, you will be still die." Here, it seems to me, David hit onth to let the money go, and you will upon a profound truth; for very nearly keep Mary waiting on. You think that I all the world-not quite-it would be. shall soon go. Then you will keep the unhappily, far better if the past would "If the past should die, Mary, I should forget that I was once a substantial man, who sat respected at the market ordinary, rode my own horse, and farmed my own land. I should forget dote; you can let them marry after you that I had to go away from my native have got Sidcote; and you will have to place and take ship with the lowest emipay up; if you keep on refusing your consent, you can keep the money as long as whispered, "I can trust you—I have told you like—unless they marry without, no one else—I should forget that I had Then you've got to give it to me. You've been in prison—yes, in prison—"

"David!" She shrank from him, but recovered, and laid her hand softly upon his.

"Yes; in prison. And now I am no longer fit to sit and talk with George and you. But I am fit to talk with my uncle, because, bad as I am, he is worse, But if he is, David, forgive him."

"I will worry him," said David, "as long as I can. I will never spare him. I've got another --- But never mind. intended to keep it yourself. Yet there Oh! when you are gone, Mary, he shall is no way out of it if you want Sidcote. have a life that he little dreams of now." "David! It is terrible. Can nothing

move you?" "Nothing, Mary; not even you. And mind you, don't try to put yourself between him and me, because he won't stand it. It isn't me that won't stand it. because I don't greatly care who knows; but it's him. He likes me to come; he watches for me and waits for me, though he knows that when I am gone he will turn and wriggle in his chair, and cry and curse. Yet he wants me

It was indeed useless to try further persuasions. Mary was silent. Her cousin, worked up by his wrath, stood before her with purple cheeks and flaming eyes.

"I must go away soon," she said. "I cannot let George go out into the world without any one. And then I must leave

"Yes; but he will have me," said Da-"Well, I have said what I came to say,

David, and I have done no good. If you would only forget." "I cannot forget. Stay, Mary; one thing I must say. Remember afterward

that I said it in time. Then, perhaps, you'll think that if it hadn't been for him I might have been a different man." "What is it, David?"

"It is this." His face softened the moment he ceased to think upon his It was but the wreck of a face which had once been handsome and full of hope; but it was better and healthier to look upon than the face black with revenge. "Will tells me that you are going to marry George without your un-

"Yes." "You know that he must then give me

"Very well, Mary. I am fooling him. Never mind how, But you shall not be wronged. You shall have all your fortune. Marry George without any fear, Remember-you shall not be wronged! I am as bad as you like, but I will not rob you, Mary; I will not rob you!"

CHAPTER XXIII.

It was heard in the office of the paper which had secured my services that there was to be held a special meeting, on an evening early in October, of the Royal Geographical Society, in order to hear a caper read by a German traveler recently arrived in Europe, after a lengthened stay in the South Sea Islands.

At the hour of eight the chairman entered with his captive traveler. The finest men I have ever beheld, took his place in front of his maps, and began, after the usual introduction, to read his

After this paper was read, the usual rrepressible persons got up and began to discuss. At this point I retired to add a few things to my article and hand it in. I then repaired to the Savage Club, which at 11 o'clock begins to be a cheerf the members,

It is always interesting to meet with Farm and Ranch says: men who have been on desert Islands, or stories of all kinds.

the morning, when we had gone half short fences the difficulty is not so round the world with him, he told us a cery singular and surprising story.

He had not been the only European For six months or so he had a companion in the shape of a poor fellow-an Englishman-who had been washed ashore upon a piece of timber. The natives were going to spear this human jetsam. when he interfered and saved him, and continued to protect him until he was able to get him off the island in a vessel which came a blackbirding. "This fellow," said the baron, "was the most intolerable creature in existence. Earlier in his existence he had committed a murder, and during the whole of his stay on the Island he was suffering agonies the corner post. I put down a good groaned, and was afraid to leave me for feet from this put down another good not sleep at a distance of more than a foot or so from me for fear. And he was always visited every night by the ghost of the visited every night by the ghost of the respectable uncle whom he these wires tight. This puts most of had slain."

"Did you see the ghost?" abusing the poor man, and he in an straight, but leans to the corner. The swering it with prayers and protesia- effect of this is that the strain tends er murdered man ever took so much out to force it deeper into the ground, in-of his murderer. Well, it was tedious, At length my Englishman deal tedious, forced to the strain tends to force it deeper into the ground, in-stead of drawing it out. It will be At length my Englishman declared that found easier to put in a good corner he desired nothing so much as to get post and two strain posts than to put away from the island, and give himself in one corner post in the way often up to justice. If he could only make his directed. I show the plan in sketch way to Australia and then get a passage sent herewith. It will be best first to England, he would give himself up to stretch the wires around the strain and confess the whole truth."

Let | think him a dull, heavy fellow, who perate deed. Well, I got him away at of fencing. length, and was left happy at last and alone. Before he went, however, I wrote down, at his request, a statement of the murder, a confession, in fact, which he will be to your interest to do so. A and as I dare say he is dead by this time, be. Any unimal being grown for ment I do not see why I should not tear it up, should have feed enough to make a note book."

(To be continued.)

This Dog Surely Reasoned. the question of whether animals think lost, for the profit all comes from the or not is now being much discussed in feed that makes the gain above the the papers."

asked.

boy I went after harvest apples once all come from the little extra feed and the farmer's dog drove me up a that makes the gain in flesh. A young tree and kept me there for five hours." animal will gain more on a given quanthoughts?"

down, and then he took me down out That is why it pays better to feed of the tree and gave me the walloping young stock.—Swine Advocate., of my life. In the first place, the dog knew that his master was gone; in the second, he knew that he wouldn't be back until sundown; thirdly, he know that if he came back and found me the fruit in the orchard, between the I'd get a hiding; lastly, if it wasn't all trees and the storage-room, or later reasoned out, why didn't he leave me between the storage and the shipping at the end of four hours to bite a tramp who was stealing turnips farther down the road? I still have one more reason."

"And that is?"

"That three months later, when I met that dog on the steps of the meeting house of a Sunday, he belted for home like a streak of greased lightning. Would be have done that if he station, some suitable wagon ought to hadn't thought I had a brickbat under my jacket?"

A Gay Deceiver.

"George," said the bride of a week, didn't you promise me that you would give up smoking the day I married

"That's what I did," replied George. "And now," she continued, "I findyou puffing a clgar, just as though I axles of a common wagon frame, and Fall or winter plowing, turning the were not in existence. What explanation have you to offer?"

"Well, I kept my promise all right," day."

Wireless Messages. They were flat dwellers.

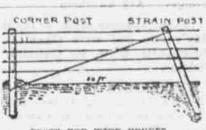
"Why," asked the alleged boss of sit by the window in the air shaft trifle less in diameter than the length tures in the form of silos, but not air when sewing? You can't half see there."

I can hear beautifully."



There is probably a greater mileage ful place. Here I found, in fact, an ani- of wire fence in Texas than any other mated circle, and among them my friend three States, and Texas people ought, of the R. G. S., the Baron Sergius von therefore, to be the best judges of how Holstein, who had been brought by one to make them permanent. About "strain posts" a Texas stockman in

Numerous plans have been given for lived among cannibals. It is enough for some people only to gaze upon such a making secure corner posts for wire man. For our part, at the Savage, we fences. I have tried many plans, and found the baron not only an interesting have found every plan to make a person, but also a singularly amusing corner post bear the strain of a long companion, and brimful of anecdotes and fence to be a failure. The strain continues without Intermission, and final We talked till late. At about three in by the corner post gives way. With great. I have built some hundreds of miles of wire fencing. My plan on a certain island all the time, he said, now is to use what I call a strain post, instead of putting the strain on



POSTS FOR WIRE PENCES the strain on the strain post, and all the strain placed on the corner post "No, nor did I hear its voice. Tet comes at its bottom. Again, the spent the best part of the night in strain post is not put into the ground post, making them secure to it, and "Yes. But to look at him you would then to complete the fence by building a short fence at the corner. Of course,

> Making the Pig Grow. Give the young pigs a good start. It

Here it is, however, written in my old good gain every day from birth to slaughter. If there is ever a time in that animal's life when no gain is being made in weight all feed con-"I see," said the St. Louis man, "that sumed during that time is practically amount required to maintain the ani-"And which side do you take?" was mal's needs. In other words, a certain amount of feed necessary to keep "I know they think, "When I was a the animal alive and the profit must "But that doesn't prove that he had tity of feed than an older animal on the same feed. I think we might safe-"Hold on. The farmer was away ly say the younger the animal the from home and didn't return until sun- greater the gain for the feed consumed

> Wagon for Fruit Barrels. Professor Waugh, of Massachusetts, says in a report: In handling



WAGON FOR HANDLING FRUIT.

be provided. A stone boat is some times used and is not the worst thing on these some boards were laid, makdamage the fruit.

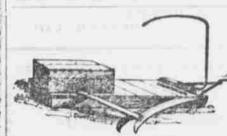
A Good Egg-Tester. Take this paper, says a writer in of an egg. Tie a string around the and equal to any that can be bought. Farmer.

Pake each egg separately, place it against one end of the "tester" and place the other end of the "tester" close to your eye, and look through toward the light, or, better still allow the rays of the sun to fall directly on the egg. Be careful not to let the fingers intercept the light. The fertile oggs which have begun to incubate disting from it. This dark spot becomes larger and darker as the develappearance of the infertile is perfectly part of the desert. clear (same as fresh eggs) until they which time they begin to decay.

Increasing the Corn Crop.

benefits of selected corn for seed to the fertile valleys of New York itself. he had a special train from which to 100,000 acres, New Mexico 150,000 talk about corn to the farmers of crop by his advocacy of the doctrine of using only the best seed.

Home-Made Corn Cutter. This idea of a corn cutter comes from Australia where the machine is sorghum, as well as corn. The implement has been tried by a number of farmers in this country and pronounced a success. It is made by Open Field the Safest Place Eims and bolting the blade of a strong heavy and I witnessed. I warned him that I young plg that has once been stunted soythe to a sledge or sted, as shown



HOME-MADE CORN CUTTER.

bent to former follower, as shown. saving in labor is considerable.

Wire Chicken-Catcher.

A chicken-catcher is needed on many farms which can be made from No. 8 wire. Five feet of wire will be long enough. Bend a loop at one end for a handle, with a shepherd's crook at the other end, bending the crook small enough, of course, to hook around the leg of a chicken while it is eating. If the book is made the least bit flaring, but closed up about a half inch, it will hold the chicken securely by the foot. This is the best way to entch a chicken when wanted on short notice. Many farmers train a dog to eatch chickens, but this causes a commotion among the fowls and is one way to make them wild. Uneasy, frightened fowls are not thrifty, like quiet, contented birds.

Pulverizing the Soil. that could be found, especially for clods that turn up in the most heavy that trees standing near water seemed short hauls and small loads. It is land after plowing, prevention is the to be the most likely to be hit, and better, however, to have one of the best method. If the field is well gave this table of comparative danger: low-down wagons made especially for drained and not plowed when wet, Oaks, 100; elms, 77; pines, 33; firs, 10; handling fruit. In the lilustration one there may be no clods. It will, how- fir trees in general, 27; beeches, by far is shown as it was actually made up ever, take two or three seasons to thor- the safest of all forest trees, 2.—New at home. Some sills were hung by oughly fine the soil that has been in- York Sun. strap Irons from the front and rear jured by previous mismanagement. land in ridges and leaving it as rough ing a floor for carrying the barrels, as possible, so as to expose the moist Handling barrels of apples in and out surface to the frost, will do the work, answered the husband. "I didn't of the common high wagon is hard but unless there are underdrains to smoke a single clear on our wedding and expensive labor, and it is apt to carry off the water the plowing may do as much harm as good,

The Dairy Barn. The dairy barn, as built in the near American Poultry Journal, and roll it future, may not have so much loft the domestic ranch, "do you always up so as to leave the open space a room, but instead a number of structight or so solid. Into these several

## Conquest of the Great American Desert

Were all of arid America fit for the living, it could be occupied by a third of the entire population of the United States. Go into the footbills of Colorado and Nevada. There the sagebrush springs from the sand as it does on the sunbaked mesas of Arizona and New Mexico away to the south, The statistician estimates that even in Kansas, Nebraska and the Dakotas fully seventy five midlon acres will will show a dark spot, with veins ra. produce only a scanty herbage just enough to keep range cattle alive a few weeks during the grazing season, opment of the chick progresses. The yet these States are not considered a

Already a modern miracle has been have been set about two weeks, after wrought. The one who has not visited the easis created by Irrigation may scout this assertion, but should he chance into the valley through P. G. Holden, Professor of Agricult which the Rio Pecos flows, or in Colos ure at the Illinois Agricultural Col- rado along the Poudre River, the landlege at Champlain, is a man whose scape of field, orchard and garden name and memory should be much re- which nature has created in a literal spected, not only by farmers, but by wilderness will convince blur beyond all who are consumers of American the shadow of a doubt. In the Southgrown corn. When a college student west fruits and grains both of the he was teaching school in Michigan, tropic and temperate zones are to be He asked his students to each bring seep growing in luxurance where yeshim an ear of corn from the crib at terday only greasewood, sagebrush and home. They did so, and he showed cactus existed. Yet the soil is unthem the different grades, from very changed, save for the application of good to very poor. Then he asked water. It is that of the desert witheach one to plant three seeds from the out moisture, almost incapable of supbest ear in a box, and water it. The porting life. When moistened, howresult was an excellent crop of large, ever, these particles of sand, even alwell-filled ears. The parents became kall rock, contain properties so fertile interested, and soon began to plant that from them springs vegetation only the best corn for seed, much to more abundant and luxuriant than the the advantage of their crop. After he crops that are gathered from the rach went to Illinois, he began to talk the black loam of Indiana and Illinois and

the farmers, and soon not only were Although less than 10 per cent of most of them converted to his ideas, the available area for irrigation has but the farmers of lows and Missouri thus far been reached, in Colorado itwere looking for better seed. Later self no less than 75 per cent of the on he became director of a farm near hands available for cultivation depends Bloomington, where they usually upon the artificial water supply. These planted twenty thousand acres of farms aggregate 750,000 acres. The orn, with an average yield up to South Platte Vailey, the most extenthat time of forty to fifty bushels per sively firigated region in the United acre. The first year he increased the States, including portions of Colorado, yield by ten thousand bushels above Wyoming and Nebraska, has 2000,000 the best previous season. On some acres which are artificially watered. acres he brought the products up to Farms in Utah thus supplied aggreseventy bushels per acre. This year gate 300,000 acres, Arizona contains acres, Nebraska 100,000, while some Iown, and if we have this year the of the most productive valleys of Calllargest crop of corn ever grown in fornia which send their fruit and vegethe United States, Professor Holden tables by the car load to all parts of entitled to the credit of having add- the United States as well as the prined millions of those bushels to the cipal cities of Europe, are nuctured entirely by wells and canals. Yet the average size of an irrigated farm is not over forty acres, which gives an idea of the millions of people, who today depend upon these great waterworks for their livelihood .- Outing

TREES AND LIGHTNING.

Oaks Most Often Hit. About the most dargerous place to should make any use of it that I thought will never wholly outgrow it, no many in the illustration. A rod of wrought seek shelter in a thunder storm is fit. As yet I have done nothing with it; fer how good the subsequent care may from about one inch in diameter is ander an oak or elm tree, as was proved again by the experience of a dozen persons in Prospect Park, Brooklyn, only a short time ago. This fact has long been known to scientists, but many persons are killed every year by lightning because of the lack or disregard of this knowledge.

The total annual loss of life by lightning is not known, for complete statistics on the subject have never been kept. A few years ago the United States weather bureau attempted something of the kind in a tentative One of these machines is expected to way. Its experts figured out the avcut about 21/2 acres per day. After erage number of persons killed by cutting, the crop is less easily handled lightning yearly in the United States than when cut by hand, but the total as 312. But this was not complete, From several States in the Union the weather bureau received no reports.

The reports received did show that of all that lightning killed only a few were struck in the open field. Most of the killed and injured, it was found, had sought shelter from thunderstorms under trees, in doorways of barns of

near chimneys. While no record of the kinds of trees most often struck by lightning has ever been kept in the United States, the lightning-rod conference held in England in 1881 reported that in the United Kingdom the trees most often struck were the elm, oak, ash and poplar. It is also said that the beech, birch and maple were seldom touched by lightning. It was an elm that was

struck in Prospect Park July 8. For a period of eleven years in the principality of Lippe-Detmold exhaustive records were kept of all trees Considering the pulverizing of the struck by lightning. These showed

> Heard It for Years. Her-"Why did you laugh when I told you that joke was original with

me? Rim-"Because I caught you in a

misstatement." Her-"Oh! you doubt my word?" Him-"No, but you told me inst night you were only 23. If you composed that joke you are at least 60. That's all."-Cleveland Leader.

Give a girl a dollar and it will go either for a complexion beautifier, center, so the paper cannot unroll, months' or the entire winter's supply chocolate caramels, or to a fortune "True," replied his better half, "but and your egg tester is ready for use, of roughage may be cut.-Inland teller in exchange for a peep into the