

## HUMAN SCARECROWS.

They Are Quite Common in the Villages of England.

Human beings as scarecrows? Why not? It may seem queer and brutal to an American, but in England the human scarecrow is common.

As he stands out there in the middle of the flat Suffolk field there is little to show he is not the ordinary inanimate scarecrow. He stands motionless for five minutes at a time, and only when a bird is tempted by the fresh corn just appearing above the ground does he show any sign of life.

From the road outside the field he looks exactly like the conventional collection of old clothes propped upon a stick. Even the crows are contemptuous of the figure, and every now and then a number of them appear leisurely above the hedge and settle on the field.

But then it is that the scarecrow moves. He hits an old tin can with the rusty handle of a shovel and frightens the birds and makes them fly quickly out of sight.

So he spends his day, this old, bent man, and at the end he is paid 36 cents. He is the village scarecrow.

Whatever the weather may be, he is expected to be there. In rain he may shelter under the nearest hedge, but he must watch his fields, and if the birds take advantage of his absence he must go out into the open and scare them from the corn.

For this old man knows well that he is competing for his living against the clothes propped upon a stick or the dead crows scattered about the field, and it is necessary that he should take a certain pride in his profession.

Unless he can show the farmer that he is more effective than the conventional scarecrows he cannot make a living in the few months between the sowing of the seed and the appearance of the corn.

While the boys of the village are in school he can earn enough in these few months of the year to keep him from the workhouse. He is still capable of scaring birds.

His very clothes are a qualification. He looks exactly like a scarecrow, and he has the advantage of being able to hit an old tin can with the rusty handle of a shovel.

At 1 o'clock he has his dinner of bread and cheese by the side of the hedge, but every now and then he gets up and looks around to see that the fields are free from birds.

Sometimes when the day is colder than usual his granddaughter from the cottage a mile away brings him a hot dinner in a basin covered with a cloth, and while he eats she talks to him about her school and if a bird appears runs carefully on to the field and claps her hands and frightens it.

And then the old man—this shabby guardian of the fields—is left alone. The only suggestion of life is a collection of old clothes propped upon a stick in the field a mile away.

And when the old man looks at this silent competitor of his he is filled with new energy and strides off to the field, making a great noise with his old tin can.—Baltimore Sun.

### Book Name Blunders.

A London publishing house for a long time kept a book in which were noted the curious blunders made by those who asked for books. "Worcester's Diseases of the Colander" was asked for. "The Worcester Diocesan Calendar" was what was required. "River Frozen, Silent Gold and Unstepped Lands" was demanded. The book wanted was Rev. Frazer's "Silent Gods and Sun Steeped Lands." "Play Actress," by Crockett, Pseudonym Library, was turned into "Play Actress and Cricket in the Pandemonium Library." "The Boy Hero," by Walsham How, was wanted, but the collector asked for "The Boy Hero of Walthamstow," and the same genius turned "Frondes Agrestes" into "Bounders and Heretics."

### A New Relationship.

Tommy's mother had married again, and, though Tommy didn't in the least object to his new father, he was somewhat puzzled as to their relationship. "Mamma," he said, "is this man my step-papa?" "Yes, dear; he is your step-papa." "Well, mamma," pursued thoughtful Thomas, "you call me your little lad, don't you?"

"Yes, dearie; you are mamma's little lad!"

"Then, mamma," concluded Thomas, "I suppose I must be my step-papa's little stepladder."

### Just a Slip of the Pen.

Summer Boarder—You wrote me that mosquitoes were nowhere in this neighborhood.

Farmer—I reckon there's some mistake, pardner. I must o' writ that mosquitoes were now here in the neighborhood.—Judge.

## THE GOVERNOR AND THE NORMALS

At the convening of the legislature Tuesday afternoon, Governor Chamberlain had the following to say on the Normal school question.

"Under an act of the last legislature the Normal Schools of the state were placed under one Board of Regents and their report has been filed with the Governor. It will be found that there is a greater uniformity in the course of study, and better system in vogue in these schools, under one Board of Regents, than was possible under a board for the control of each. There is no question but that there is a necessity for training schools for teachers for the public schools of the state, and if these training schools are to be maintained they ought to be placed on the basis of the highest efficiency. A majority of the Board of Regents has recommended the continuance of the Normal schools at Monmouth, Ashland and Weston, and have called attention to their needs, if they are to be continued. The appropriations suggested are large, but they are no larger than will be necessary to thoroughly equip and maintain the schools so as to attain the best results. It is folly to undertake to educate and train teachers for the public schools by any starvation policy. In order to have a good public school system it is necessary to have well trained teachers, and they cannot be obtained except from properly equipped Normal schools.

I trust that the legislature will once for all settle the Normal school question, and probably the best way to do it is to act upon the recommendation of the regents and make provision for maintaining three schools in the state."

### Hotel Monmouth Arrivals.

R. H. Alexander, Salem.  
Leila Spencer, Antelope.  
Ivah Hixon, "  
Hazel Donahoo, Moro.  
C. P. Ireland, Portland.  
C. S. Graham, Salem.  
Jno. G. Murphy, Portland.  
H. B. Hall, "  
L. E. Bedwell, "  
Sarah A. Lucas, Rickreall.  
H. R. Nehrbas and wife, Oregon City.

### His New Coat.

They had been chums for so long that when the one gave a chafing dish party to some of his more intimate feminine acquaintances the other made a point of returning early from the theater in order to be present. Chum No. 2 had hardly made his appearance before chum No. 1, in his anxiety to chatter nonsense with the prettiest girl in the room, managed to upset a basin of beaten egg yolks down the front of his new tuxedo. Chum No. 1 was much distressed apparently, and chum No. 2 hastened to his assistance.

"Go into my room and take mine," he adjured his friend generously. "I've a brand new one; just came home today."

Chum No. 1 smiled queerly. "I know it, old boy," was what he said, grinning in a rather forced fashion. "Fact is—well, my own looked a little shabby this evening, and I've got yours on."

# GRAND FREE EXCURSION

to the

## Alaska-Yukon-Pacific Exposition at Seattle

With side trips to Tacoma and Victoria, B. C.

One week of Supreme pleasure and sightseeing

All expenses paid from your nearest railroad point in Polk county. Excursion under management of a thoroughly experienced gentleman and in charge of experienced lady chaperons.

The Herald has made arrangements to send a number of young people to the Fair as its guests. This is not a scheme where you have to work hard for two or three months and then stand no chance to go, but there is every probability that if you make the attempt you will surely go. If you would like to make this trip fill out the blank below and mail it at once to The Herald, Monmouth, Oregon.

EDITOR HERALD

Dear Sir:-

I would like to spend a week at the Alaska-Yukon-Pacific Fair as the guest of the Monmouth Herald. Please send me full particulars of how I may do so.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Postoffice \_\_\_\_\_



**A. B. WESTFALL**

Painter and Paper Hanger

Monmouth Oregon

### A Famous Poison Mystery.

England had a famous poison mystery in the last century. Two members of a great club in Manchester, both men of position and keen politicians, each received, apparently as a New Year's gift, small boxes containing a few cigars of the very highest quality apparently. Both were taken fearfully ill after smoking, and one of them subsequently died. The cigars were found to be loaded with poison, and it was said that the man who recovered only did so because he used a cigar holder. The facts were at first hushed up, because, as was said, the suspected sender, whose motive was revenge on account of a lady, was a man of wealth and power. But this subject was cleared, and the mystery was deepened by the following circumstances: A rich Manchester merchant, traveling one day in a railway car about the time of the incident related, got into conversation with a most agreeable and highly cultivated stranger, who finally offered his cigar case. The Manchester man was found at Leeds almost unconscious and the only occupant of the carriage. He grasped in one of his convulsed hands the cigar he had been smoking, and after analysis showed it to be identical with the others. He recovered, but the stranger was never discovered.

### Easy Way to Be Generous.

In a church of a New England village was an old man who had all the Christian graces save one, and that was the grace of liberality. He would do anything in the world for the cause of religion but give up his money. At the close of the financial year 1869 the church found itself \$400 in debt. A church meeting was called, and it was voted to circulate a subscription paper on the spot and endeavor to thus raise the sum needed. This was done, and the old gentleman did not put his name on the paper. The result was rather disheartening, \$200 only having been pledged. Silence reigned for a moment, when one of the most generous men in the church moved that "we double our subscriptions." Instantly the old gentleman was on his feet and with extraordinary fervor cried, "I second the motion."

He evidently felt that he was thus doing his part in hastening a most desirable result.

## Polk County Realty Company

Transacts a general Real Estate business and attends to collecting rent for out of town owners.

We have buyers

If you have any land for sale list it with us.

Monmouth

Oregon

## Prize Peach and Pride of Oregon

FLOUR

Made in Polk County

Lindsay & Co., Sole Agents

Patronize home manufactured goods and help build up your home industries

## The Monmouth Real Estate Company

Office at Monmouth Normal Bookstore

Farms; Fruit, Dairy and Grain. City property or stock farms.

List your property with us and we'll do our best to sell for you at reasonable rates

GROVE A. PETERSON, Manager

## Monmouth Livery and Feed Barn

Graham & Son, Proprietors.

General Transfer and Delivery Business.

Horses Boarded by the Day, Week or Month.