Topics of the Times

ARTE CONTRACTOR OF THE CONTRAC

Anyhow, talk of removing the motio from our coins didn't cause the late | der, a propeller and some wings, besides

of we can be surer of one thing than another it is that the Ben Davis apple their machine, so it cannot be comis not a peach.

With elderly people, having the grip bears no resemblance whatever to anything like a good joke.

achists should be given to understand that there is no elbow room here for A California judge has just decided

that a man doesn't have to get out of the way of an automobile, but the man knows better.

A British statesman says that the Balkan troubles menace the peace of Europe. Of course they do. That is their specialty.

The more the public reads about that young man Alfonso of Spain, the more convinced is it that he is too good a man for the Job.

Some day we hope to see a Smith or a Johnson nominated for President, just to find out whether the family would vote for him solidly.

A young Brooklyn man committed suicide because he had stolen \$2.25. Possibly he had a horror of being called a piker by his acquaintances.

One of the finest things George Washington ever did was to give the ladies a chance once a year to dress in coloulal style and dance the minuet.

A St. Louis pastor tells the girls of his flock that they must not let young men hold their hands. If some good men had their way it wouldn't be any fun to be young and foolish.

The man who slips a revolver into his pocket before he starts away from home in the morning should always take the precaution to kiss the children good-by as if he were doing it for the ust time.

John F. Stevens, former chief engineer of the Panama canal, Is so despondent over the future of the canal that he feels almost like returning the salary he received while there-but not quite.

A journalist who has been investigating the matter reports that almost any girl can quickly find a good husband down at Panama. It is to be hoped that he has not made this statement merely for the purpose of booming the business of some steamship com-

The London Chronicle reports a list and forgetful consignees. On this list is one item which will wring the heart of the American newspaper man. It is six tons of wood pulp. But 3,800 cigars probably deserved their fate.

"Mostly of Chicago," is the way a His characterization seems reasonable. When he was six years old he cut off one of his toes with a scythe. When he was eight he shot off two joints of one of his fingers. He ran away from home when he was 14, and the frost of a winter night took off three more toes and the tip of his nose. At 25 he lost his entire right foot. A drunken halfbreed bit off an ear in the Klondike. a Dakota corn-sheller took his left fore arm, and since then he has lost three fingers, a joint from another finger and one eye.

Hundreds of young women are being trained all over the country for charity workers. Philanthropy is now recog nized as a profession, for which one needs a special education as truly as warm-hearted woman needs in dealing with poverty is to distinguish dirt from misery. To one accustomed to clean surroundings, the filth in which many poor people live seems intolerable. It would entall absolute wretchedness on the visitor. But, in point of fact, the families who live embedded in dirt usually do so because it does not offend them. The poor woman whose senses are fortured by bad odors and foul sights manages that her rooms shall be clean, no matter how bare they may be, or how empty her cupboard and coal bin. The friendly visitor who thinks that tidiness is a sure sign of comfort and dirty disorder an equally sure sign of extreme want will make serious mistakes in her dispensing of gifts, Sald a poor woman to sympathetic and experienced visitor: "Thank you, miss, for praising my clean room and giving me the coal order in the same breath You aren't like most of the rich folks. who think if you're too dirty to fouch with a ten-feet pole you must be pror. and there's no end to what they'll give you; but if you're clean and decentno matter what it costs you-you're lucky people, who want nothing from anybody." Intelligent philanthropy looks below the surface, and discovers that real suffering may have a clean face and real comfort a dirty one. The helpful friend is sympathetic without being sentimental, and knows how to seek out the pain which hides itself. and how to ignore the pien of those who try to appear as dirty and miserable as

Henry Farman, an English aeronaut has lately won a prize of ten thousand dollars offered to the man who should first "fly" one kilometer, or thirty-twhundred and eighty feet, in a machine heavier than air. Farman's machine had to run three hundred feet on the ground before it rose, and then it salled after years.

possible.

under its own power twenty-five or thirty feet above the earth for the required distance at a speed of twentyfour miles an hour, near Paris. It was in the air about a minute and a half. Mr. Farman used a forty-horse-power motor, weighing two hundred and twenty-five pounds, attached to an aeroplane. There were in addition a ruda seat for the driver. The Wright brothers have sailed in the air, but they have anade no public exhibition of pared with this. The problems before the man who would operate above the earth a machine heavier than air are

how to overcome the attraction of gravitation, how to develop sufficient power to counteract the resistance of While this is a big country, the anair, and how to maintain equilibrium. An automobile manufacturer who has studied this subject was not long ago discussing Alexander Graham Bell's statement that air ships will soon sail at the rate of two hundred miles an hour, and said that the air resistance is most difficult to overcome. Using the results of his experiments with racing automobiles, he computed that an air ship with a cross section of twelve square feet cannot be propelled two hundred miles an hour without an enhorse power. Allowing ten pounds per horse power, he found that the air and a nice job you seem to have made ship, motor, gasoline tanks, and such of it.

like things, must weigh more than six tons. How to keep these six tons in the air is a difficult problem. Mr. Farman's motor alone weighs nearly six pounds for each horse power. Other aeronauts have used motors of different weights, each apparently following a rule of his own. The man who finally makes a successful air ship-if one is to be made-will first master the subject of air resistance, and then the

GREAT ENGLISH HOMES.

Estates That It Takes Huge For

that it has to do.

tunes to Maintain. It is a pathetic fact that there are several men in the United Kingdom who would consider themselves on the brink of bankruptcy if they were reduced by an evil stroke of fate to a who would find it simply impossible age to rub along anyhow on the income of simple millionaire, which would be barely sufficient in some cases to pay the expenses of the lordly pleasure houses which they have inherited from their ancestors.

The Duke of Devonshire, for examole, has no fewer than seven of these stately homes—six in England and one in Ireland-each of them fit for the reception of a king, and in not one of which, as he confessed the other day, has he lived long enough to explore thoroughly. Probably he himself does not know within £1,000 how much these but the annual cost has been said to make a big hole in £100,000.

In Westworth, Woodhouse, which is only one of his four palaces, Lord Fitzwilliam owns the largest private house in England. It has a frontage af articles left on the hands of the London and Northwestern Railway side it, and its owner could live in a Company by absent-minded passengers different room every day for six weeks remarked one day that she was fond of and still leave several rooms The Duke of Portland owns five regal houses in England and Scotland, the value of which runs into millions, and which, with the attached gardens and estate, keeps bundreds of servants employed. At Walbeck he has more than man recently described his residence. thirty acres of kitchen gardens alone; in the glass houses and garden proper he employs about seventy men and boys, and his horticultural bill for this one house is said to exceed £6,000 a

Blenhelm Palace, the Duke of Mariborough's Oxford sent, is so colossal that the late duke used to declare he spent £800 a year on putty alone for his window panes. It actually cost £300,000 to build in days when money was more valuable than it is to-day. It is 348 feet long, has fifteen staircases, and when it was repaired some time ago his grace found it necessary to sell his pictures and books to pay the cost, which amounted to more than £30,000.

The Duke of Northumberland was five stately seats, at one of which-Syon House, Bentford - a staff of for teaching. One of the first lessons a thirty or forty men is kept busy, largeby in the magnificent kitchen gaolen and fruithouses. And yet the duke spends only a small portion of the year in this princely home, the rental caine of which probably exceeds the

lord chancellor's official income. The Marquis of Butte has five seats in England, Scotland and Wales, and one of them, Mountstuart, Rothesay, covers an acre of ground, has 150 cooms and has actually cost over £2,000,000, representing even at a moderate 4 per cent a value of £80,000 a year. One can easily understand that his lordship's income of £230,000 a year is not a penny too much for the temand of it.

I Can Not Spell the New Way. I cannot spell the new way, As once I used to spell;

If indigestion seizes me, Brought on by pie or cake, I can't explain the sudden pain ls just a common ake.

For when I try to simplify

I fail to do it well.

I cannot spell the old words To match the modern whim: If I should slip and bruise my him I'd hate to write it lim,

And when a man is owing me Twould fill me with regret To take my pen and ask him when He'll pay that little det.

I cannot spell the new way-Like Brander Matthews big; I do not choose-I must refuse-To drop a "g" from egg.

Perhaps I'm sadly out of data. If wo I can but sigh; cannot spell the new way. I will not simplify. -Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Singing that will put a baby to sleep is apt to make him sit up and howl in

The Firm of

Girdlestone

A CONAN DOYLE

タトロルト

This episode had occurred about a fort-night before Ezra's return from Africa. and was duly retailed to him by his fath-

"You need not be discouraged by that," "I can always keep them apart and if he is absent and you are presentespecially as she has no idea of the cause his absence she will end by feeling dighted and preferring you."

"I cannot understand how you :ame to let the matter go so far," his son gine of twelve hundred and eighty inswered sullenly. "The girl belongs to She was given to you to look after.

> "Never mind, my boy," replied the merchant. sport if you will only push the matter on your own account."

"I've said that I would do so, and I

will," Ezra returned, and events soon showed that he was as good as his word. Before his African excursion the relations between young Girdlestone and his father's ward had never been cordial. Kate's nature, however, was so sweet and forgiving that it was impossible for her harbor any animosity, and she greeted proper relation of power to the work Ezra kindly on his return from his travels. Within a few days she became con-scious that a remarkable change had come ever him-a change, as it seemed to very much for the better. In the past weeks had frequently elapsed without his ddressing her, but now he went out of his way to make himself agreeable. Sometimes he would sit for a whole evening describing to her all that he had seen in Africa, and really interesting her by his account of men and things. She, poor less, bailed this new departure with demere pittance of £1,000 pounds a week light, and did all in her power to encour-who would find it simply impossible age his better nature, and to show that the ap appreciated the alteration in his bear ing. At the same time, she was rather puzzled in her mind, for an occasional flash of coarseness or ferocity showed her that the real nature of the man was un-

As the days went on and no word came from Tom, a great fear and perplexity arose within the girl's mind. She had heard nothing of the interview at Fenchurch street nor had she any clue at all which could explain the mystery. Could it be that Tom had informed her guardian of their engagement, and had received such a rebuff that he had abandoned her in despair? That was surely palatial homes cost yearly to maintain, impossible; yet why was it that he ha ceased to walk through the square? She knew that he was not ill, because she heard her two companions talking of him la connection with business. What could be the matter then? Her little heart was

altered, and that he was putting an un

astural restraint upon himself.

tears. of 600 feet, its hall is so enormous that | In the meantime Ezra gave fresh man next morning she found a beautiful most rose upon her plate, and every morning afterwards a fresh flower appeared in the same place. This pretty little piece of courtesy, which she knew could only come from Ezra, surprised and pleased her, for delicacy was the last quality which she would have given him credit for.

On another occasion she had expresse desire to read Thackersy's works, the books in the library being for the most part somewhat ancient. On entering her room that same evening she found, to her stonishment, a handsomely bound edition of the novels in question standing on the center of her table. For a moment a wild, unreasoning hope awoke in her that per haps this was 'Tom's doing-that he had taken this means of showing that she was still dear to him. She soon saw, however, that the books could only have come from the same source as the flowers, and she marveled more than ever at this fresh proof of the good will of her companion One day her guardian took the gir Your life must be rather dull, Aside. "I have taken a box for you tonight at the opera. I do not care about such spectacles myself, but I have made

arrangements for your escort. A change will do you good." Poor Kate was too sad at heart to be inclined for amusement. She endeavored, however, to look pleased and grateful. "My good friend, Mrs. Wilkinson, ir coming for you," the merchant said, "and

Erra is going, too. He has a great liking Kute could not help smilling at this last remark, as she thought how very successthe young man had concealed hir taste during the years that she had known him.

She was ready, however, at the appointed hour, and Mrs. Wilkinson, a prim old gentlewoman, who had chaperoned Kate on the rare occasions when she went out, having arrived, the three drove off

The opera happened to be "Faust," and the magnificent scenery and dresses astonshed Kate, who had hardly ever before been within the walls of a theater. She sat as if entranced, with a bright tinge f color upon her cheeks, which, with her sparkling eyes, made her look surpassingly benutiful. So thought Eara Girdlestone as he sat in the recesses of the box and vatched the caried expressions which flitied across her mobile features. "She is well worth having, money or no," he mutered to himself, and redoubled his atten-

ions to her during the evening. An incident occurred between the acts but night which would have pleased the ld merchant had he witnessed it. Kateand been looking down from the box, which was upon the third tier, at the sea of heads beneath them. Suddenly she gave a start, and her face grew a frifle

"Isn't that Mr. Dimsdale down there?" she asked of her companion. "Where?" asked Erra, craning his neck.

Oh, yes, there he is in the second row of dived down into his cabin, and soon re "No you know who the young lady is that he is talking to?" Kate asked.

"I don't know," said Exra. "I have cen him about with her a good deal late-The latter was a deliberate falsegood, but Ezra saw his chance of prejudicing his rival and took prompt advantage of it. "She is very good looking." added presently, keeping his eyes upon

"On, indeed," said Kate, and turned | through the intricate lanes which lend to with some commonplace remark to Mrs. Wilkinson. Her heart was sore nevertheess, and she derived little pleasure from the remainder of the performance. As to Ezra, in spite of his great love for music, he dozed peacefully in a corner of the box during the whole of the last act. None of them were sorry when Faust was duly consigned to the nether regions and Marguerite was apotheozed upon a couple of wooden clouds. Erra narrated the incident of the recognition in the stalls to is father on his mouth, and the old con-leman rubbed his hands over it.

"Most fortunate!" he exclaimed glee-

fully. "By working on that idea we might produce great effects. Who was the girl, Some poor relation, I believe, whom he

"We will find out her name and all

about her. Capital! capital!" cried John Girdlestone, and the two worthics departed to their rooms much pleased at this new card which chance had put into their

During the weary weeks while Tom Dimsdale, in accordance with his promise, avoided Eccleston square and everything which could remind Kate of his existuce, Exra continued to leave no stone unturned in his endeavors to steal his way into her affections. Poor Tom's sole comfort was the recollection of that last pas-sionate letter which he had written in the Riackwall public house, and which had, as he imagined, enlightened her as to the easons of his absence, and had prevented her from feeling any uneasiness or sur-prise. Had he known the fate that had pefallen that epistle he would hardly have been able to continue his office duties so patiently, or to wait with so much resignation for Mr. Girdlestone's sanction to

is engagement. As the days passed and still brought no news. Kate's face grew paler and her heart more weary and desponding. That the young man was well was beyond dispute, since she had seen him with her own eyes at the opers. What explanation could there be, then, for his con-duct? Was it possible that he had told Mr. Girdlestone of their engagement, and that her guardian had found some means of dissuading him from continuing his sult-found some appeal to his interest, perhaps, which was too strong for his ove? All that she knew of Tom's nature contradicted such a supposition. Again, if Girdlestone had learned anything of their engagement, surely he would have reproached her with it. His manner of late had been kinder rather than harsher. On the other hand, could it save chanced that Tom had met this lady of the opers, and that her charms had proved too much for his constancy? When she thought of the honest grey eyes which had looked down into hers at that last neeting in the garden she found it hard to imagine the possibility of suhe things, and yet there was a fact which had to be explained. The more she thought of it he more incomprehensible it grew, but still the pale face grew paler and the

sad heart more heavy. Soon, however, her doubts and fears egan to resolve themselves into something more substantial than vague conjecture. The conversation of the Girdle stones used to turn upon their business colleague, and always in the same strain. There were stray remarks about his do ings; hints from the father and laughter from the son. "Not much work to be got out of him nes," the old man would "When a mas's in love he's not over fond of a ledges"

"A nice looking girl, too," said Ezra in answer to see such remark. "I thought something would come of it. We saw them togethe at the opera, didn't we, Kate?"

So they would gossip together, and ev-ery word a stal to the poor girl. She strove to exceal her feelings, and, iner even than her grief, for she felt that she had been ruelly used. One day she found Girdlesone alone and unbosomed

"Is it really true," she asked with quick pant and a catch of her breath, "that Mr. Dimdale is engaged to be mar

"I believe so my dear," her guardian answered. "It is commonly reported so. When a young ady and gentleman corre spond it is usually a sign of something of the sort."

"Oh, they correspond?" "Yes, they cenainly correspond. Her letters are sent to him at the office. 1 don't know that I altogether like that arrangement. It looks as if he were deceiving his parents." All this was an inmitigated lie, but Girdlestone had gone too far now to stick at trifles.

"Who is the lady?" asked Kate, with a calm set face, but a quivering lip. "A cousin of his. Miss Ossary is he name, I believe. I am not sorry, for it may be a sign that he has sown all his wild oats. Do you know at one time, Kate, I feared that he might take a fancy to you. He has a specious way with him, and I felt my responsibility in the mat-

"You need not be afraid on that score," Kate said bitterly. "I think I can gauge Mr. Dimsdale's specious manner at its proper value." With this valiant speech she marched off, head in air, to her room, and there wept as though her very heart would break.

CHAPTER XII.

Dimsdale's duties were far from light. Not only was he expected to supervise the clerk's accounts and to treat with the wholesale dealers, but he was also supposed to spend a great part of his time in the docks, overlooking the loading of the outgoing ships and checking the cargo of the incoming ones. This latter portion of his work was welcome as taking hin some hours a day from the close counting house, and allowing him to get a sniff of the sea air. There was a pleasing life and bustle, too, in the broad, brown river, with its never-ending panorama of vessels of every size and shape which ebb and flow in the great artery of national life.

All day Tom stood at the hatchway of

far from salubrious this voyage.

the Black Eagle, checking the cargo as it was hoisted out of her, while McPherson and his motley amistants, dock laborers, seamen and Black Kroomen from the oust, worked and toiled in the depths below. The engine rarried and snorted, and arrived here. the great chain clanked as it was lowered into the hold. At one o'clock there was a break of an hour for dinner, and then the work went on until six, when all hands struck and went off to their homes or to the public bouse, according to inclination. Tom and the mate, both fairly tired by their duy's work, prepared to accept the captain's invitation, and to bent him up in his quarters. The mate zona Republican. appeared with his face shining and his ong hair combed into some sort of order. "I've been performing my ablutions, he said, rolling out the last word with great emphasis and pomposity, for, like many Scotchmen, he had the greatest pos-

sible reverence for a sonorous polysyllable. "The captain," he continued, "has been remove your mask." He's Ground chestnuts take the place aye complainin' o' his bodily infirmities." The two had threaded their way flour in some parts of France

from the water side to the outskirts o Stepney. It was quite dark by the tim that they reached a long thoroughfare lined by numerous shops, with great gat flares outside them. Many of these be longed to dealers in marine stores, and the numerous suits of oilskin, hung up for exhibition, swung to and fro in the uncertain light, like rows of attenuated pirates At every corner was a great public hous-with glittering windows, and a crowd of slatternly women and jersey-clad men elbowing each other at the door. At the largest and most imposing of these the

mate and Dimsdale now pulled up.
"Captain Miggs in?" asked McPherso of a rubicund, white-aproned personage. "Yes, sir. He's in his room, sir, and expectin' you. There's a gent with him, sir, but he told me to send you up. This way, sir," and they were soon ushered

into the captain's room.

That worthy was leaning back in recking chair with his feet perched upon the mantelpiece. Opposite him, in a sim-ilar chair, was no less an individual than our old acquaintance, Von Baumser. As a mercantile clerk in the London office of Hamburg firm the German was thrown into contact with the shippers of the Af rican fleet, and had contracted a specia

alliance with Miggs.

"Come in, my hearties, come in!" he cried, huskily. "Take a seat, Mr. Dimsdale. And you, Sandy, can't you bring yourself to your berth without being ask ed? You should know your moorings by this time. This is my friend, Mr. Von laumser from Eckermann's office. "And this, I think, is Mr. Dimsdale,

aid the German, shaking hands with Tom. "I have heard my very goot vriend, Major Clutterbuck, speak of your name,

"Ah, the old major," Tom answ "Of course, I remember him well."
"He is not so very old, either," said Von Baumser, in a somewhat surly voice.
"He has been took by a very charming and entirely pleasant woman, and they are about to be married before three months, the one to the other. Let me tell ng, that I have met no man for whom have greater respect than for the ma

"A couple of days ago we hardly hope ever to be yarning here," said Miggs. "A masty sea on, Mr. Dimedale, sir, and the old ship so full o' wather that she could not rise to it. They were makin' a clean breach over us, and we lost nigh every-

"I suppose you'll have her thoroughly repaired now?" Tom remarked. Both the skipper and the mate laughed eartily at the observation. wouldn't do, Sandy, would it?" said Miggs, shaking his head. "We couldn't afford to have our salary cut down like

(To be continued.)

POISONOUS STINGS AND BITES.

Danger Not So Great as Persons Think. The dangers to human life from oites and stings of poisonous reptiles found in the Southwest are very much overestimated. It is a belief among many people that the centipede, the tarantula, the Gila monster, the scoroion and a score of other reptiles and insects of various long scientific names are sure death to those who encounter them. The facts are that about the are almost unknown, and shepherds and only really dangerous things that Ari- cowherds are still living amid picturzona has are the rattlesnake and the hydrophobia skunk. The former is common to almost the entire United States, outside of the cities, and the skunk is found in many countries besides Arizona.

The Gila monster is authentically credited with quite a number of victims, but it is not a very dangerous animal, for the reason that it seldom bites anybody unless it is captured and teased until it is made to bite in selfdefense, and then in many cases the victim suffers but slightly if the wound said to be sure death, but who ever heard of a tarantula biting anybody? There may be occasional instances, but there is none on record in these parts,

The sting of the scorpion is so com mon as to excite no comment unless the victim be an infant and the insect gets under the clothes and stings him repeatedly. In that case death has been known to ensue in various instances that might be referred to. But there have probably been hundreds of people stung by scorpions in this country this year, and in few cases has the wound been as serious as a bee sting, and in no case has it been fatal. So far as can be ascertained, no mature person in these parts ever died from the sting of a scorpion, though in a few cases where the wound penetrated a large blood vessel the patient has suffered in-

tensely. The sting of the centipede is rare and probably not a dozen have occurred in these parts in as many years, and it is not of record here that anybody ever died from a centipede's sting. The usual result is the making of a bad wound, followed sometimes by a sloughing of the adjacent flesh, and probably if neglected, blood poison might ensue, But the wound could scarcely prove fatal if given attention, judging by the observation of the incidents of the past. A case of centipede stinging is recorded by the Florence Blade as follows:

"James Davis of Kelvin came down week ago Friday for medical treatment, having been bitten by a centipede the evening before. He had gone to hed and some time in the early part of the evening the centipede had taken a notion to become James' bedfellow for the night, but James got too rough and the centipede tackled him for revenge. He was in a sort of stupor for a time following the bite, having no power to use his limbs, but it lasted only a short time and he got up and applied ammonta. This was all he did until he

"The doctor bled the wound and ap plied medicine and Mr. Davis was allowed to return the same day. This shatters the theory that a centipede intects deadly poison into the person it sticks. Mr. Davis would not take whisky-which is supposed to be good in such cases. The centipede was a large one, being about 8 inches long."-Art

A Real Blessing. "Blessings," remarked Mrs. Peck, usually come to us in disguise." "That being the case, my dear," re piled her husband, "it's up to you



Electric Parming.

Although agricultural machinery riginated in the United States and the American farmer used patent mowers, reapers and threshing machines long before their European contemporaries in the same field of labor had put aside scythe, rake and flail, the possibility of introducing electric power in farm work was first recognized in the Old World

This has probably been due to the act that the farmers of America, thrifty and far-seeing, recognizing the conomy and reliability of the small oil engine, failed to perceive how any saving could be effected by generating electric current and distributing to its notors in outlying positions.

When, however, the mains from som arge electric power company pass withreach of a farm or estate the conditions are much more favorable, and this state of things must already exist in a measure which will be largely extended in the future. Current German newspapers contain an interesting ac count of the application of electricity to a group of farms in Saxony. The electric current is brought from an adjacent town by overhead wires carried on wooden poles. Two receiving stations are arranged, from which the electricity is distributed to the farm buildngs and to convenient positions 'n the ields for the purpose of driving threshing and other machinery.

Sixteen fixed electric motors are installed for chaff and root cutting, oat crushing, pumping and for operating machinery used in the manufacture of potato spirit. In addition to this power equipment, six portable motors are provided, which may be used for driving pumps, circular saws, threshing machinery, and so forth, at any point where their services are required. The houses and buildings on the farms are all lit by electricity, 9 ar: lamps and about 1,000 glow lamps being used for the purpose.

It must be pointed out, however, that this example could only be followed in the United States on a very large estate or a group of adjacent farms, and it is doubtful whether such a scheme could be made a commercial success for the operation of farming machinery pure and simple. It would appear that wood sawing, pumping and other operations requiring power must be in inded if the results are to compare favorably with those at present obtained by the use of oil or steam engines. But the Saxon experiment is full of interest. and displays a curiously progressive spirit in a country where 'arm fences

Comparative Food Values. An English journal, The Lancet, in discussing the comparative food value saves the expense of purchasing two of roast beef and turkey, says that it saws, may be said that, weight for weight, the flesh of the turkey is more nourist ing than that of beef; but the latter is generally speaking, cheaper than the former. The moisture in beef, however, exceeds the amount present in the flesh of the turkey, and the latter contains a better percentage of proteid is properly cared for. The tarantula is or flesh-forming substance. In either

dom less than 70 per cent. In lean beef the amount of fat much the same as in a not too well-fed turkey, but it must be pointed out that the flesh of poultry differs from that of beef and mutton in not having its muscular fibers permented by fut, and, moreover, the fibers in the flesh of the fowl are short and rarely yield to the disintegrating action of the digestive processes. A large amount of fat in either case is apt to interfere with the digestibility of the meat. The fat of beef is more digestible than the fat of the turkey. The fat of birds, in fact, is harder, and owing to its tendency to become rancid, is unsultable for the dyspeptic patient.

The Lancet believes that the mo important difference from a dietetic point of view between beef and turkey is that, whereas beef contains a high percentage of extractive matters, turkey contains hardly any at all. The extractive matters in beef account largely for its peculiar and marked flavor, and owing to their absence in poultry generally, and in the pheasant and partridge, the flavor of these meats is delicate. But there is no doubt that the extractives of beef, as well as mutton, are valuable, for not only are they flavoring agents, but they also act as perhaps the most powerful stimulant to gastric digestion.

Learned by Hard Knocks. So long as the house market is not fully supplied there is no gain in shipning away.

As a rule the offspring of immature and pampered animals are predisposed A proper rotation and wise tiliage

will do much to keep the soil supplied with available fertility. Better methods, better stock and bet ter tools have doupled the productions

of more than one farm. Oats contain largely the mineral properties requisite to form and grow one and the protein that makes muscle and other tissues.

More hay and loss grain makes the farm easier to hand's and in the end gives it quite as much profit.

There is often more profit in growing little things and in fine products, in

proportion, than in the great staples, Without stock there can be no complete utilization of the farm products. With stock there can be no waste pro-

Clover and grasses retain moistur in the soil, render it porous and favor nitrofication while illing with vegeta-

ducts.

Quality of Grass Seed. The Maine law regulating the sale of agricultural seeds requires that grass seed shall be sold under a guarantee as to purity. Bulletin 138 of the Maine agricultural experiment station, which, doubtless, many of your readers have received, gives analysis of the seeds which were collected by the inspector and those sent to the experiment station by correspondence in 1906. The dealers are very generally conforming to the law and the purity of most seeds is now guaranteed. The question naturally arises in the mind of a farmer. should a seed be strictly pure, and, if

not how nearly pure should it be? The purity of seeds varies greatly with their kind. It is possible to grow timothy seed so clean that it shall carry practically no foreign weed seeds. it is not as easy to grow any of the other grasses or clovers so clean. There is no need for the sower to ever buy timothy seed that is much less than 99.5 per cent pure. Samples have been examined by the station the present year which contained not a single foreign harmful seed.

The best red clover seed will frequently carry as much as 1 per cent of foreign matter, although these impurities are usually comparatively harmless. It is, however, poor policy for the sower to buy a red-clover seed that is less than 98 per cent pure. The best grades of alsike clover will run about 98.5 per cent pure on the average. It is doubtful if the purchaser should buy an alsike whose purity is less than 97.5 per cent.

Redtop is the most difficult seed of all. It will, of course, contain more or less chaff. It is difficult to grow redtop free from timothy, and the seed cleaners find it difficult to separate timothy seed from redtop after it has once been introduced. Samples of redtop carrying as high as 12 or even 15 per cent of timothy are not unusual. If one could be sure that the impurities were harmless like chaff and timothy it might be safe to buy a redtop even as low as 85 per cent pure. Unless one is assured of the character of the impurities, it is unwise to buy a redtop less than 95 per cent pure.

Double-Edged Saw. To make one saw take the place of two, and at the same time preserve its



HAS TWO EDGES. the one saw, as shown in the illustration. The smooth top edge always seen on saws is changed to a cutting edge, similar to the regular cutting edge, the saw thus having teeth on the two longitudinal opposite edges. The handle is hinged to the blade instead of being rigid and can be reversed as it becomes necessary to use either blade. This saw is also an economical saw, as it

Grass Better than Drugs.

A famous veterinary surgeon de clares that grass beats all drugs in creation as a cure for sick horses and mules. Horses should have a few quarts of cut grass daily, from spring until fall. The prevalent notion that it is harmful is without foundation. Grass is to horses what fresh vegetables and fruit are to the human family.

News and Farm Notes. The profitable line of production is to maintain good health with early ma-

More than half a million emigrants from Russia have passed into Siberia the past year to engage in wheat rais-

A farmer near McEwan, Tenn., is displaying an ear of corn twelve inches long, weighing three pounds and con-

taining 1,386 grains. A grain farm at Murray, lows, shipped twenty-seven carloads of timothy seed last fall, for which the farmers received from \$1.50 to \$1.75 a bushel.

A Kansas man claims to have invent-

ed a fence-weaving machine, run by a

two-horse power gasoline engine, which

will weave and set a mile of fence a day. . The United States produced 14,000,-000 bushels of rice last year on a half million acres. The culture of rice is gradually creeping north and some very

good grain is reported in Arkansas. Holland has set engineers to work to pump the water out of the famous Zuyder Zee and turn it into dry land. When this work is accomplished there will rise where 4,000 fishermen now sink their nets farms and homes for

50,000 Hollanders. A Washington dispatch says a genius has invented a dope which when used as paint for farm machinery will prevent rust and decay. This might be good news for those farmers who use the fence corners as storehouses for their farm machinery, but the probability is they are too lazy to apply the

R. W. Crouse, a graduate of lowa agricultural college, has been appointed State lecturer on animal husbandry for Virginia. Another Iowa boy has gone to the Massachusetts agricultural college as assistant in animal husbandry. The demand for college graduates in the high class agricultural lines at salaries ranging from \$1,000 to \$2,000 . year is larger than the supply.

Charles W Trock of Ridgeway, Ohio, 7-year-old lad, while wandering in the fields sat down on a little hummock. which contained a bumblebee's nest. Within a moment he was so badly stung that his body swelled to twice its size and death soon followed.

Enterprising men will make an experiment of raising thornless cactus on a commercial scale in Riverside county, California. This cactus is the kind that has had its thorns bred off by Luther Burbank and is said to be extremely valuable as stock food.