RURAL REALITIES

ey Carleton Found Them too Near New York.

s now the golden time when the thoughtman says unto himself, lo, it is hotter beeswax in town, and I will arise and s a bird to the mountains; I will lay me n, languid with a midsummer night's m, by the bank of the laughing waters, r the trees beloved by the slow stirring d; I will view the coming of the chariot y through the gates of pearl garlanded roses; I will listen to the choir of happy , the drone of the wandering bee, the of the nestlings under the eaves, the of the locust and the deep throated

n of the bullfrog in his sedgy lair; I will h the storm king build his towers and s and battlements on high, burling cloud nst cloud and thunderbolt against thunolt till his wrath is appeased, and then to hall be blown the sweetness and the cool of wet fields, and through the long and urous purple hour shall come twilight the peace of him who liveth well; and r the solemn dome of dusk, under the g eyes of the stars, under the broad n of the rising moon shall I float down iver of rest to an infinite calm.

his is the city man's dream of a country en, but I have not found it.

found the trees beloved by the slow stirwind, but I found, too, that a large y of painful ants had got there before nd was disposed to quarrel with intru- I have watched the coming of the ist of day through the gates of pearl, and iced the thermometer throw one leg over eightieth rung, and then reach up and himself up to the ninetieth before the iot had got fairly going. I have learned ove the drone of the wandering bee at ense distances, having discovered that pampered insect considers it quite a joke oniard a slumbering stranger without ocation.

have seen an abundance of fresh vegeta in rural districts and miles of orchard ing under the wealth of pippin and y, but the frugal and far seeing farmer mortgaged the entire lot, and the stranger to content himself with a snuffle for yelpeas just picked from a Baltimore can.

ese things have made me sad. It seems e the honest granger should have nobler ations than to paint his house yellow, arn blue and his well box green, insert a line advertisement in the Sunday papers steer unsuspecting citizens against his ed beef and malaria in the guise of health economy. It seems to me somewhat unable for a man to seek so far and fare adly when he could just as well enjoy es and skimmed milk, his insomnia and nity without leaving the city.

t the fact is every man bred in a city ders himself swindled unless he has two s of summer on a farm, just as the er thinks life not worth living without nual tour through the joys of the Bow- winter. It is an outbreak of inward ness, like the hives, and every man gets The whole pharmacopœia can furnish no dy, and the only relief is to go and purhe wayward fancy and come home full nburn, colic and repentance.

to the country, you toilers seeking for but let it be country indeed, with no ting of town. Seek your balm from sky field, from sea and hill, from leaf and om and bird, and you will get it for the g. Let the sun brown the cheek and of your daughters. Let your boys y through the tangle of woods, wild as chipmunk they chase. Get as far as can carry you from the city and its , from the crowd and its tiresome ; be a child of nature, a worshiper of ss and sunshine—there is the sovereign g you seek, and you will seek it in the rings of fashion in vain.—N. Y. World.

An Explanation.

hat are you doing up there?"

Nothing!. Only hanging up pears that fallen down.—Fliegende Blaetter.

following interesting paragraph found in the notebook of a recently ed operatic manager: "In all my years' experience I never knew a donna to be sick or have a cold on y she was to have a benefit."

PERSONAL AND LITERARY.

—Oscar Wilde has become editor of the *Lady's World* at London.

—Gath's salary from the Cincinnati *Enquirer* is two hundred dollars per week.

—The Vedas, the sacred books of the Braminic religion, are believed to be 3,900 years old, that is, to date back as far as 2,000 B.C.

—Miss Minnie E. Folsom, a near relative of Mrs. Grover Cleveland, has become preceptress of the Brookings Agricultural College in Dakota.

—Sarah Marshal, who died recently at Philadelphia, leaves her fortune, which is estimated at from $350,000 to $400,000, for the relief of chronic and incurable invalids who can not be cared for by the general hospitals.—*Christian Union.*

—The Baroness Burdett-Coutts is greatly interested in Irish charities. It is owing to her generosity that the now flourishing fishing village in West Cork, called Baltimore, was set on its feet.

—Mrs. Henn is so thorough a sailor and so fond of the Galatea as her home that she has been ashore but four times since April. Her diversions are fishing and training a pet raccoon which she caught in Florida.

—Mrs. Ole Bull recently conducted a party of young people through the White Mountains. They traveled entirely in buckboards, carrying their baggage with them, and had all the fun there was going.—*Detroit Free Press.*

—Dr. Mackenzie, the English surgeon who operated on the German Crown Prince's throat, places a royal estimate upon the value of his services. He charged thirteen thousand dollars for making two trips to Germany and treating his patient in London for a few days.

—Charles Painter, who died in Arlington, Md., recently, aged seventy years, was noted as the man who introduced ice-cream into Maryland. When a young man he moved with a brother from their native Pennsylvania to Carroll County, and soon after they made a small quantity of ice-cream, the first seen in this section, and distributed it among their acquaintances. As the taste for it spread, the brothers went extensively into the business, until finally their names became household words.

—That which many writers are willing to believe is their strength is in truth their weakness. That writer of English is always weak who seeks to express in far-reached and high-sounding Latinisms thoughts that can be equally well (and therefore better) expressed in the simpler Saxon. These are the writers who go fishing with the pin hook of intellectual childhood in the pool of the practically obsolete for sonorous words, when the idea they wish to convey were much more easily understood if clothed in simple phrase.—*Detroit Free Press.*

HUMOROUS.

—An exchange says: "Does etiquette demand a vest on a hot day?" If it does, it can have ours.—*Norristown Herald.*

—A sure rule on the gum matter is this: If the mouth is kept open, or opens every other chaw it is gum. If kept closed it is caramels.

—Amy (appearing on the piazza with some lemons)—"Ada, have you got a squeezer?" Ada—"Only Gus, and I can't spare him."—*Town Topics.*

—Wife—"I found a ring on the street to-day. It is engraved 'F. to M.' I wonder what that means?" Husband (who is a speculator)—"Fair to medium, I suppose."—*Chicago Mail.*

—Sometimes the benefit to a girl's health resulting from a month's vacation in the country has been wholly counteracted by one simple experiment at milking a mild-eyed cow.

—A Cincinnati milkman who was arrested for reducing his milk one-third is highly indignant. He had been in the habit of putting in half water, but, troubled by conscience, he had reduced the quantity of water as stated.—*Detroit Free Press.*

—Physician (to anxious wife)—"We have held a consultation, madam, about your husband's case; he is a very sick man, and it might be well to send for a minister, I think." Anxious Wife—"Will one be enough, doctor, or would you advise a consultation of ministers?"—*Life.*

—Omaha Bride—"My dear, I wish you would bring home one of those boxes of French bon-bons to-night." Husband—"Wha—" "And after tea it will be real pleasant to go out and get some ice cream —" "Great Stars and Stripes! Why, we're married."—*Omaha World.*

—Electric whistles, very melodious in sound, and said to be less expensive in manufacture than electric bells, are being favorably received in France. The whistle is made by fitting a small brass tube with suitable apertures so that it opens against the spring of a suitably-formed commutor, or circuit "make-and-break."—*Arkansaw Traveler.*

GREAT PAINTERS.

Realistic Works of Art Produced by a Crowd of Arkansaw Liars.

Several men were sitting in a store at Jameson's tan-yard talking of the pictures which they had seen in the "art" gallery of a county fair.

"Yes, looked putty well," said an old fellow, "but they ain't what I call fine paintin'. Boys, you know'd Andy Summers?"

"Yes."

"Wall, Andy was a painter. One day he painted the pictur' of an overcoat, an' it was so nachul that his daddy put it on an' had wore it some time before he found out it was a pictur'."

"Yes," rejoined a fellow named Smith, "I have heard of that pictur'. Andy was a putty good cub painter, thar ain't no mistake about that, but when you want to get some right good work done you've got to go to a feller that has l'arned the trade sho nuff. Now, Miles Stokes was what I call a number one painter. You all know'd Miles—lived on the old Astord place the year after the war. One time Miles painted the pictur' of a fiddle, an' I'll be hanged if a fe ler didn't take it to a dance an' play on it all night. Never heard sich music in my life. Made it far'ly talk, the feller did. That was one paintin' sho nuff.

"That was a mighty fine pictur'," said old Gates. "Miles could have done suthin at paintin' ef he had kept on tryin', but he peered to lose his grip airter Bob Hadley come around. Hadley was a fine painter. Of course, I ain't no art critic, nor nothin' of that sort, and don't pretend to put my jedgment up any higher than you can reach, but somehow he always struck me as bein' a pow'ful nachul painter. One night thar was a possul of u over at old Simmons' house an we got atter Bob to paint us a pictur'. He said he didn't feel like paintin' an' kep' on makin' excuses till old Simmons went out and fetched in a bucket of paint an' a bresh an' told Bob that he jest must paint some sort of pictur', whuther or no. Wall, Bob he tuck up the bresh an' begun ter slash it aroun' till the fust thing we know'd he had dun painted the pictur' of a jug. It wuz jest as nachul as any jug I ever seed; an' when I tuck it up and sorter shuck it I hearn suthin' slosh. I turned it up, I did, an' hanged ef thar wan't whisky in it."

"Sho nuff whisky?"

"Tell you how sho' 'nuff it was. We let in to drinkin' it, an' it wa'n't long till we was all drunk."

"It's yore time now, Uncle Buck," cried a young fellow, slapping an old man on the back.

"I ain't no han' to exaggerate, boys," Uncle Buck replied. "To me thar ain't no fun in a impossible lie."

"Then what you air goin' to tell us is the truth, eh?"

"Yes, an' I'll bet my hoss agin yourn."

"Well, wait till I've heard your story."

"All right," Uncle Buck continued. "I was in Bill Rickey's store some time ago. Bill, you know, while he don't make no pretense, is considerable of an artist. Wall, jest to amuse me or himself, he painted a nigger, an' the nigger went out-doors, chopped some wood, brought it into the house an' made as good a fire as you ever saw."

"Uncle Buck, I'll take the bet."

"All right. Yander's John Higgins out yander. Call him in."

When Higgins came in Uncle Buck asked: "Higgins, wa'n't you at Rickey's store one day last week?"

"Yes."

"Seed me thar?"

"Yes."

"Anybody else thar?"

"Yes, a nigger."

"What did Rickey do to him?"

"Snatched up a bresh and painted him, jest fur fun."

"What did the nigger do shortly airterwards?"

"Chopped some wood an' made a fire."

"Gabe," said Uncle Buck, "go fetch that horse round here."

"Oh, no, you said he painted the pictur of a nigger."

"No, I didn't; did I boys?"

"No, said he painted a nigger," some one replied, and the boys agreed that those were his exact words.

"That's the only hoss I've got, Uncle Buck."

"Kain't he'p it; fetch him."

Gabe brought the horse around and Uncle Buck led him away.—*Arkansaw Traveler.*

—The Iowa State University has recently acquired a fine specimen of the extinct musk ox of North America. The bones, which are remarkably well preserved, were unearthed near the Missouri river at Council Bluffs in the formation known to geologists as the loess. This creature, like the modern musk ox, is supposed to have been clothed with a long fleece, and the discovery of the remains at Council Bluffs indicates that a low temperature must have prevailed in that region during the period when the loess was accumulating, so that Arctic animals have found the climate comfortable there.

SCHOOL AND CHURCH.

—The person who holds spite must believe in a queer God.

—The present membership of the Universalist denomination in the United States is only thirty-six thousand two hundred and ninety-seven.

—There are in China eight hundred and eighty missionaries, of whom four hundred and fifty-eight are women and four hundred and thirty-one men.

—A teacher having asked his class to write an essay on "The Results of Laziness," a certain bright youth handed in as his composition a blank sheet of paper.—*Actualities.*

—The teaching of cooking has been introduced in Public School 15, New York. After the dishes cooked shall have passed examination they will be sent to the Newsboys' Home.

—A lady has left £50 apiece to six curates of the Church of England who have four children and whose incomes do not exceed £100 a year. The executors have been given twelve months to choose the legatees.

—The Board of Education figures up that it will need for the maintenance of the schools of New York City next year $4,234,262, besides $256,000 for new sites and $895,000 for new buildings or a total sum of $5,385,262.

—Consul-General Cardwell, of Cairo, Egypt, in a report to the Department of State, calls special attention to the successful labors of American missionaries in the valley of the Nile. Nearly 6,000 native pupils are in attendance at the schools that have been established.

—There is such a thing as talking away all sense of feeling, and the talker, amid his expressions of abject sorrow for past sins, is in truth gratifying his vanity by making himself the hero of his foul story. The outstandingly wicked man, when reclaimed by God's mercy, ought to walk softly and speak mildly.—*Bishop Fallows.*

—One of our exchanges says that when Mr. Moody was in London a number of young men were commissioned to follow up the converts to see that they remained true to their professions. They did so. Two of the committee were at the Bible-school and said they got the names of forty-five thousand converts made in London.—*Indianapolis Journal.*

—At a meeting in Philadelphia of the missionary council of the Protestant Episcopal Church reports showed receipts as follows: Legacies, $29,170.42; other sources, $285,794.96; specials, $69,778.19; enrollment fund, $17,696.95; total, $402,440.52, a decrease of $17,328.45. The contributing congregations numbered 2,200, against 2,376 last year.—*Public Opinion.*

—The Roman Catholic Church has forty-five Indian schools scattered over the country from Florida to Alaska. Dakota has the lion's share, there being fourteen in that Territory. New Mexico has eleven, Minnesota seven, Wisconsin five, Alaska two and Colorado, California, Nevada, Oregon, Kansas and Florida one each. Of these schools thirty-five supply board and clothing as well as instruction. The aggregate attendance is nearly 4,000. Most of the teachers are German and French.—*Indianapolis Journal.*

Heads to the North.

The superstition that human beings should sleep with their heads to the North is believed by the French to have for its foundation a scientific fact. They affirm that each human system is in itself an electric battery, the head being one of the electrodes, the feet the other. Their proof was discovered from experiments which the Academy of Sciences was allowed to make on the body of a man who was guillotined. This was taken the instant it fell and placed upon a pivot free to move as it might. The head part, after a little vacillation, turned to the north and the body then remained stationary. It was turned half way round by one of the professors, and again the head end of the trunk moved slowly to the cardinal point due North, the same results being repeated until the final arrestation of organic movement.—*Science.*

—At a recent seance in Rochester, N. Y., by a medium from Brooklyn, several written communications, purporting to come from the spirit world, were handed out from the cabinet. Six of the notes in which the chirography seemed to be the most dissimilar were submitted to experts in the matter of handwriting. Both of the experts agreed that not more than two persons wrote the notes, and one of them was inclined to think that all were written by the same hand. A pencil-drawing, purporting to be a portrait of Jean Ingelow, represented her as a man.

—Mrs. Dr. Ellis, an American lady, is physician to the Queen of Corea. She has apartments in the royal palace at Seoul, and receives a yearly salary which is equal to eighteen thousand dollars. She is expected to visit the Queen daily and remains in call when her Majesty is indisposed.

PERSONAL AND LITERARY.

—Senator Blackburn, of Kentucky, is said to have the most musical voice in Congress.

—It is said that Henry M. Stanley has been offered $50,000 for a book describing his latest travels when he reaches home.—*Congregationalist.*

—William Hostetter, of Hendricks County, Ind., is a descendent of General Warren, the hero of Bunker Hill, and has in his possession the military coat worn by General Warren when he fell pierced by a British bullet. The garment is in a fair state of preservation, but has lost all its buttons save one.

—The wife of the King of Holland has a bad trick of winking her eyes. The courtiers do not know which way to look when the pretty Queen winks at them, and some very sad blunders frequently occur, owing to this physical defect. A young attache of the Belgian Minister who returned the Queen's wink found himself "returned with thanks" to his native land by the next mail, and since then none of the Hollanders has dared to sauce back.

—Ex-Comptroller John J. Knox has received from a friend an interesting relic in the shape of a protested note of Robert Morris, the financial backer of the Union in its war for independence. Pasted to the protested note is the original note for $5,000. The signature is in a bold hand. The date is 1795. It is well known that Mr. Morris, after raising $1,400,000 on his credit for the Revolutionary army, and declining the Treasury portfolio in favor of Robert Hamilton, met with reverses and died a poor man.

—John Radcliffe, the well-known English flutist, was recently visiting a country town, where he met a quaint old woman who was gazing intently at a cheap print representing the Virgin, with St. Elizabeth on the one hand and St. Joseph on the other, and the inscription "Ave Maria" underneath. "Of course, you understand that?" asked Radcliffe, seeing the old lady appeared puzzled. "O, yes," was the reply, "I know all about that. The man is axing the 'ooman in the middle will he 'ave her, and she is saying as how, bein' married 'erself, she can't, but won't he 'ave Maria."

—The London *Athenæum* says: It must be set down to the credit of Americans, when English authors inveigh against their copyright arrangements, that it has before now happened that a future great author has received encouragement from the other side of the Atlantic at a time when he was seeking it here in vain. The Americans were very early in recognizing the genius of Thackeray, and they showed their appreciation of his work by publishing collected editions of his miscellanies before anybody in this country had considered such a collection worth making. Nay, more than this, some of Thackeray's early papers were published, and it may be presumed paid for, in America before they appeared in England.

—An earnest falsehood will do more than a coward truth.—*Bishop Walker.*

—Do all the good you can in the world, and make as little noise about it as possible.

—Within the last five months Harvard College has received gifts amounting to $3,000,000.

—Live near to God, and so all things will appear to you little in comparison with eternal realities.—*R. M. M'Cheyne.*

—The first Christian Church in the Congo Free State was organized in November of last year, and there are now 1,002 converts in the Congo Mission.

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