

NEW YEAR'S EVE

BY W. W. COFIELD.

The poor old Year is dying to-night;
Calm and quiet he's making to rest.
And the dawn of the new year is bright.
His spirit will gently have passed.

The bright New Year will be born to-night;
And heaven will rejoice at his birth.
While the pale moon and the stars so bright
Will smile him a glad welcome to earth.

But what are the thoughts that stir the mind
Of the proud, rich in land or in store—
And what are the heartaches he may find
In the cheerless solitude of the year?

Little the play shown by the rich—
No little he cares for God's gift to-night.
That he scarce ever will stop to think
That they perish by his very door.

Warmly glow the friendly faces within,
With its welcome of heat and good cheer,
And the clock on the mantel strikes ten,
But two hours more till the glad New Year.

What is the rich man thinking now?
Of losses sustained, of gains made clear,
Never a thought of the poor, I trow,
But plans for gains for the next New Year.

Yearly he fills his stately mansion
With pomp and companions and choicest friends;
He dines in a sumptuous manner,
But scarce a penny he gives for the poor.

Sad are the hearts of the poor to-night,
As they stare at their scanty fire,
With naught in the hearth to cheer the sight,
To light the brow, or the heart to cheer.

"Lone, all alone, there are some to-night,
With none to greet with a kindly word,
And crushed is the heart with a deadly blight,
When it should be light with a glad word."

Then you, who the old year nobly greet
With plenty both in purse and in store,
Kindly give unto those who are in need,
Thus lighting the heart of the poor.

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MCCLELLAN AND LEE

The Seven Days' Campaign Before Richmond.

Gen. A. L. Long, Military Secretary of Gen. Lee, commanding the Confederate army at Richmond, has written a newspaper account of the operations of the "Seven Days' Fight" from a Southern standpoint, from which we extract the following:

When Gen. McClellan crossed the Chickahominy it was thought he would advance immediately upon Richmond. This expectation was disappointed, however, for instead of advancing he began to fortify his position. The right wing rested on the Chickahominy, a little below New Bridge, and the left extended to the White Oak swamp, embracing a front of about four miles, nearly parallel with that of the Confederates. The opposing lines were separated by an interval but little exceeding a mile, but each was obscured from the other's view by the intervening forest. The picket lines were often within close musket range of each other. At first there was a good deal of picket skirmishing, but this was soon discontinued by mutual consent. The exchange of newspapers, coffee and tobacco succeeded in this. The strength of the Confederate force was always greatly over-estimated by Gen. McClellan, and his frequent and urgent calls for reinforcements exposed his timidity and want of confidence in his own strength. Gen. Lee, knowing this, was not at all alarmed by his antagonist, and McDowell's force, which had always been a thorn in his side, being about this time withdrawn from Fredericksburg for the support of Banks and Shields in the valley. He prepared to assume the offensive. He conceived the bold plan of crossing the Chickahominy and attacking the Federal right wing to force it back and to cut Gen. McClellan's communications with his base of operations. This plan being successfully executed, the Federal General would be compelled to save his army as best he could by retreat. Crumpton, who led the execution of this plan, Gen. J. B. Stuart, was ordered to make a reconnaissance in the rear of the Federal position. This officer, with a force of about 1,000 cavalry, executed his instructions with great boldness and success. He made the entire circuit of the Federal army and gained much important information. His design being confirmed by the reconnaissance, Gen. Lee proceeded to organize a force requisite for the accomplishment of his proposed enterprise. The troops that could be conveniently spared from Northern Carolina, South Carolina, and Virginia, were ordered to Richmond. By the 20th of June, Maj. Gen. Holmes, with 6,000 men, with 6,000 from South Carolina, and Brig. Gen. Lee, with 6,000 from Georgia, had arrived in Richmond. At the same time Gen. Jackson was ordered to withdraw secretly from the valley and proceed with such expedition as would enable him to reach Hanover Junction by the afternoon of the 25th of June. In order to mask his designs from the Federals, Gen. Lee directed Whiting's division and Lawton's brigade, under the command of Staunton, apparently with the view of reinforcing Gen. Jackson, but really ordered to return immediately and join that General on the 25th at Hanover Junction. This movement, in the opinion of the vasty superior force of Gen. Lee, and completely blinded him in regard to the real intentions of that General.

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ARM NOTES.

PAUSING of small branches may be done at any time when the weather is pleasant. A very little time spent on young trees will bring them into good shape and determine their future form.

The application of manure to the ground is too often neglected. The well-rotted stable manure, if it may be drawn on at any time during the winter, most easily when the ground is frozen. When spread, it should cover the whole ground, and not be heaped just about the trunks of the trees, where there are no small roots.

A cow that is milked three times a day will give more milk and yield more cream than one that is milked at intervals of twelve hours. When the udder is filled a process of absorption on and part of the milk secreted is thus lost. It will pay to take the milk from copious milkers at intervals of eight hours as nearly as possible. A cow that is milked twice a day in the morning, 10 and 12 o'clock, and at night, 6 and 8 o'clock, will yield from 10 to 20 per cent. more milk and more cream than if milked twice a day.

WOODEN vessels for containing articles of food, wine, etc., also wooden vessels for domestic purposes, are rendered fit for immediate use by the removal of the unpleasant extractive matters by treatment with a solution of washing soda. Thus, an ordinary barrel, when filled with half of water, and a solution of about two pounds of soda in a gallon of water, will dissolve it, and the liquids thoroughly mixed by shaking the barrel, which will be filled to the bung with water, and allowed to remain from twelve to fourteen hours; then, after withdrawing the discolored liquid, it should be well rinsed and filled with pure water, and should remain a few days before being used. Other wooden utensils may be similarly treated.—*Journal of Chemistry.*

In choosing feed for animals, it is not safe to be guided altogether by the chemical constituents. An analysis may be used in comparison with known food with another, and may help in making up a judgment as to portions and values. But with feeding stuffs not well known, a mere analysis may be delusive; for instance, spent sawdust, which is but 17 per cent. of fat, 9.9 per cent. of ash, and 14.7 per cent. of albuminoids. From this value would appear to surpass in value the clover hay, or even equal cottonseed meal, which is but 17 per cent. of fat, 9.9 per cent. of ash, and 14.7 per cent. of albuminoids. From this value would appear to surpass in value the clover hay, or even equal cottonseed meal, which is but 17 per cent. of fat, 9.9 per cent. of ash, and 14.7 per cent. of albuminoids.

The delay on the part of Gen. Jackson was very unusual. The cause of this delay on this occasion was that being greatly exhausted by long marches and battles for more than a week, he sought a short repose. His staff, out of regard for their General, allowed him to rest, and he had allowed himself. When he awoke he was greatly chagrined at the loss of time and the consequent loss of which he was unable to repair. Though Gen. Lee accomplished all that was at first proposed, yet had the parts assigned some of his subordinates been executed with the exactness of a naturally expected, the results of his operations would have been far greater than those shown in the sequel. The experience of Sully may be here applied to Gen. Lee. "Exposure to the elements of another, the obstinacy, the ignorance or the treachery of a subordinate officer was sufficient to mar the best results, and use every effort to secure animals whose milk is rich in the elements of cheese. The Yorkshire breed is one of the most valuable cows brought to this country. Although as a milker she was second to Jersey, as a cheese-maker she was unsurpassed, and in general excellence was undoubtedly the best cow in America."

It is a popular idea that every portion of the globe furnishes in some tree, shrub, plant or mineral a remedy for the diseases prevalent in that section. It is also very generally believed that the seedling produced in any part of the country will be found specially adapted to the soil and climate of that region—very hardy and productive. Many persons who raise promising seedling fruit trees, and who are disappointed when they fail to produce in their own localities. It would be the part of wisdom, however, to send specimens of the seedling to some of the horticulturists to test their merits. The fruit produced on a seedling apple tree originated in Kentucky may rot on the branch and be declared worthless. But a tree of this variety planted in the Michigan might mature its fruit in prime condition. The Maiden's Blush, which is a summer apple along the Ohio river, is an excellent late fall apple in this vicinity. North of Lake Superior and Rhode Island Greening, which keep well till April and May in the New England States, not infrequently rot on the trees in Kentucky and Tennessee. A gentleman near this city raises some apples which he is able to keep nine months. They are the product of trees procured in Georgia, where, singularly enough, the fruit ripens in June and decays before autumn commences.

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