

The Greencastle Herald

Published every evening except Sunday by the Star and Democrat Publishing Company at 17 and 18 South Jackson Street, Greencastle, Ind.

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Terms of Subscription
One Year, strictly in advance, \$3.00. By Carrier in City per week 6 cents. Advertising rates upon application.

The weekly Star-Democrat—the official county paper—sent to any address in the United States for \$1.00 a year.

Entered as second class mail matter at the Greencastle, Indiana, Post-office.

THE FARMER'S INSTITUTE.

During the meeting of the Farmer's Institute the listener is sure to hear, upon the street, some very queer remarks, both in favor of and in opposition to, the work being done. Some are enthusiastic in praise, others give the matter a cold shoulder and pass it by with a shrug, and the statement that, "I never got a pointer worth a cent". We do not propose to state here who is right, the enthusiast or the pessimist. It is a fact, however, that there is room for improvement in the general farming of the country. Some money is being made by the very men who scoff at the "new fangled ideas of the Institute", but it is often made by shrewd business deals by economy and close bargaining, (all excellent in themselves) rather than by increased yield and fattening acres.

Then, too, the very men who scoff, half unconsciously, take up, after a season or two, the things scoffed at, when they have been tried by others and proved valuable. It makes no difference how the ideas are scattered so they are scattered, and if a few try and prove good or bad, the theories presented, much in accomplished. Certain it is that knowledge is growing. In general conversation one hears words used that show scientific knowledge. One hears of "nitrogen", "humus", "bacteria", "rotation", and so on.

make plain that the ideas of the institute are gaining ground in conversation, if not in practice. At least we are sure of this, if nothing further is accomplished it is interesting and uplifting to hear how some one else does the thing we are doing daily. Perhaps he does it better, and we can imitate. Perhaps he does it not so well, and we feel proud. In either case we are helped.

RANK FOOLISHNESS.

"When attacked by a cough or a cold, or when your throat is sore, it is rank foolishness to take any other medicine than Dr. King's New Discovery," says C. O. Eldridge, of Empire, Ga. "I have used New Discovery seven years and I know it is the best remedy on earth for coughs and colds, croup, and all throat and lung troubles. My children are subject to croup, but New Discovery quickly cures every attack." Known the world over as the King of throat and lung remedies. Sold under guarantee at The Owl Drug Store, 50c and \$1.00. Trial bottle free.

When you lose anything tell the people about it in the Want Column of the Herald. You probably will get your property back.

CUNNING BIRDS.

Stratagem of the Lapwing and the Ruse of the Thrush.

"The goose is a frightful liar," said a nature fakir. "He quite puts me to shame."

"Really?"

"Really. You know how the goose, when you draw near it, hisses? Well, with that hissing sound it says: 'Scott, beware. I am a serpent.' Yes, from primeval times the goose has acted this lie. The primeval goose mother, sitting on her eggs in a place of reeds and sedge, would not fly when an intruder appeared; but, keeping her body concealed amid the leaves, she would stretch out her long, flexible neck and hiss wickedly. 'A snake in the grass,' the intruder would say to himself as he retreated, and on her eggs the goose would chuckle in a sly, contemptuous way."

"The lapwing is another liar. Approach her nest and she sets up a distressful crying and runs back and forth in front of you, trailing one wing as though it were broken. You follow. You think to snatch her up in your hands. With this lie she lures you away from her young."

"The thrush in time of drought beats with his feet on the grass like a clog dancer. Thus he lies to the earthworms. He makes them think that it is raining. Up they come in silent haste, and the deceitful thrush makes a rich meal."—New Orleans Times-Democrat.

WELL BURIED.

Two Funerals For One Man Provided For by His Will.

Curious directions for the disposal of his remains were left by John Robert Pringle of Catford, who died leaving an estate of gross value of £8,049 3s. 3d. The testator directed:

"After my decease I desire that a competent and trustworthy doctor of medicine shall, by any experiment he may deem suitable, thoroughly satisfy himself that life is absolutely extinct. My carcass is to be cremated and the residuum thereof deposited in two mortal urns, numbered respectively 1 and 2. On the ashes in No. 1 are to be placed a packet, which will be found on my desk, and my miniature portrait scarpin, and on the ashes in urn No. 2 a similar packet, which also will be found on my desk, and my miniature portrait finger ring."

He directed that the urns were then to be soldered down and No. 1 buried in his mother's grave at Newport Pagnell and the other in "my dear Lizzie's grave" in the Streatham cemetery at Tooting. He also enjoined his son to see that the graves of his mother and of the testator's mother were properly looked after.—London Mail.

At Liberty to Scream.

It was on a ferryboat plying between Sydney and Manly, one of that city's beautiful suburbs. Every seat was occupied. Each occupant felt the influence and prepared for an enjoyable trip when a lank girl of fifteen appeared, dragging by the hand a screaming child. There she stood, glowering. A mild lady suggested the child might be in pain. An old bachelor muttered that people who had charge of children should keep them at home. Low voiced but distinct imprecations were now rife. She took not the slightest heed of the muttering or the bawling, which was now at the highest pitch, till the suggestion was offered that medicine would do it good. Then she arose in her wrath, as it were, and, giving the child a vigorous shake, said:

"Ethel, cry as loud as you like. I've paid your fare."—London Tit-Bits.

Handsome Dogs Are Good Dogs.

In the most characteristic of English dogs, with the English bulldog as an unfortunate exception of a glaring sort, common sense principles in the canon of judging are distinctly marked. In the case of hounds any good eye can pick out the best animals. This was curiously illustrated not long since in private when an artist taken over one of the bigger kennels of foxhounds picked out the prize and pedigree dogs one after the other. He went purely by his own sense of what was strong and comely, of "strength and beauty met together," as Shelley says in a very different connection.—London Outlook.

The British Breed.

British bred animals, whether they be horses, cattle, sheep or even pigs, are superior to all others in quality and stamina. There is some strange and admirable power in our soil which puts a stronger fiber and a more enduring stamp of excellence into the live stock bred in our islands than are found in the same breed or species in any other part of the world.—London Times.

A City of Happy Homes.

Dublin took a walk in the cemetery, where he noticed on the tombstones, "Good Husband," "Good Wife," "Good Son."

"It is evidently here that the happiest homes are found," he reflected.—Nos Loisirs.

An Admission.

Alice—I rather like that young Thompson. He has such a good, firm mouth and chin. Hazel—Goodness! Has he been kissing you too?—Kansas City Independent.

Always Strong.

Church—They say the human voice is stronger in the morning than it is at night. Gotham—I can't see any difference in baby's.—Yonkers Statesman.

A slip of the tongue is worse than that of the foot.—Spanish Proverb.

SLUG AND SNAIL LORE

Queer Old Traditions That Cluster About the Gastropods.

A CURE FOR WARTS AND AGUE

Drastic Remedies That Must Have Proved Speedily Mortal to the Unfortunate Snails—A Telepathic Theory That Was a Dismal Failure.

It is probable, though bearing in mind the extent and profundity of the learning considered necessary for "every schoolboy," provided he is educated at other people's expense—one does not like to dogmatize, that slugs and snails were among the very earliest natural history subjects we were taught. The teaching, we may remember, was conveyed in the classical form of question and answer. "What?" we were asked, "are little boys made of?"

And the querist, almost always of the nurse or governess persuasion, supplied the answer with unmistakable relish. "Slugs and snails and puppy dogs' tails" were, we were informed, the ingredients which went to the composition of the soaring human boy.

It was raining. Up they come in silent haste, and the deceitful thrush makes a rich meal."—New Orleans Times-Democrat.

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"Ethel, cry as loud as you like. I've paid your fare."—London Tit-Bits.

For Poetical Reasons.

"Perchance," called the amiable widow, "come here!"

The little lapdog trotted weekly up.

"Surely that is a strange name for a dog," exclaimed the gentleman visitor. "What made you name him Perchance?"

"I am so fond of poetry!" explained the lady huddly.

"Madam, forgive me, but I fail to see the applicability."

"Why, silly man," exclaimed the merry widow, "I named it after Byron's dog! Don't you remember where he says, 'Perchance my dog will howl?'"

What He Knew.

Master—if your friend were to borrow 12 shillings from you, agreeing to pay 1 shilling a month, how much would he owe at the end of the year?

Pupil—Twelve shillings.

"You don't know the elements of arithmetic."

"But I know my friend."—London Scraps.

The Bonds.

"I want to get rid of some bonds."

"Out of my line," replied the lawyer.

"But these are matrimonial bonds," rejoined the caller, putting a different face on the matter.—Philadelphia Ledger.

Too Much Checking.

Mother (sternly)—Can't you check your wife's constant demand for money? Husband (despairingly)—That's just it! She's always after checks.—Baltimore American.

Always Strong.

Church—They say the human voice is stronger in the morning than it is at night. Gotham—I can't see any difference in baby's.—Yonkers Statesman.

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CATGUT STRINGS.

The Way They Are Made From the Intestines of Sheep.

Catgut strings, it is well known, are made of the intestines of sheep. The intestines of the full grown animal are from forty to fifty feet long.

The raw material from the stockyards is first thoroughly cleansed of fat and deshoy fiber by dull knives arranged on a drum turned by a crank. The white tough membrane that is left is then handed over to the splitter, who dexterously splits the material into even strands by bringing it against the blade of a safety razor set upright in the table before him. The strands are then spun together and placed on the drying frames.

An American E string requires six strands, the European four. The strands, at one end fastened to an upright post, are twisted together while still damp and pliable by means of a spinning wheel. Taken from the drying frames, the strings are cut in lengths, coiled and boxed in oiled paper for shipment. To polish the strings very fine emery paper laid on a grooved aluminum block is used. While the strings are still on the drying frame the covered block is passed over the strings, polishing as many at one time as there are grooves in the block. It can be seen that from the manner in which the strands are twisted the effect of polishing is to weaken the string.

In the essential features the process of making the fine gut strings for surgical uses or the heavy strings three-eighths of an inch thick sometimes employed for machinery belting does not differ from the method employed in the case of the musical strings except that the latter are handled with more care.—Chicago Record-Herald.

DARING PHOTOGRAPHY.

Perilous Feats of the Men Who Manipulate the Cameras.

A man who can stand or sit on the flange of a steel beam not so wide as the sole of your shoe and 600 feet above a roaring granite paved city street, there coolly to take successful pictures of the top of the city far below him, must be possessed of three qualifications and each of the first water. He must have judgment, patience and courage, these three, and, one may add without slighting the other two, the greatest of these is courage. So writes H. G. Hunting in the Technical World Magazine.

The eager eye of the camera goes everywhere nowadays, and the man who makes picture getting his business adopts no peaceful, unexciting pursuit. If he is under contract to a great newspaper or magazine he may be called upon to secure a picture of anything, from a flashlight in the black depths of metropolitan sewer to a portrait of the fairest white slave in a Turkish harem. He may be asked to "get" a female grizzly nursing her whelps in her mountain lair to illustrate some naturalist's work at one end of the year, and before the other end has come he may snap a shutter on the lip of some smoking volcano's crater.

When you see a striking or a startling picture of man or beast in some extraordinary place or pose, do you ever stop to think where the photographer was who made the negative or how he got there?

Pepper in Olden Times.

During the middle ages in Europe pepper was the most esteemed and important of all the spices. Genoa, Venice and other commercial cities of central Europe were indebted to their traffic in pepper for a large part of their wealth. Its importance as a means of promoting commercial activity and civilization during the middle ages can hardly be overrated. Tribute was levied in pepper, and donations were made in this spice, which was frequently also used as a medium of exchange in place of money. When the middle ages in Europe pepper was the most esteemed and important of all the spices. Genoa, Venice and other commercial cities of central Europe were indebted to their traffic in pepper for a large part of their wealth. Its importance as a means of promoting commercial activity and civilization during the middle ages can hardly be overrated. Tribute was levied in pepper, and donations were made in this spice, which was frequently also used as a medium of exchange in place of money. 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