

FRIEND OF THE AGRICULTURIST.

Peewit of Great Aid in Keeping Down Grubs and Insects.

A bird that is of inestimable benefit to the agriculturist is, says Nature Notes, the peewit. There is absolutely nothing that can be said against him, and as a friend of the farmer it would be hard to find his equal.

A New Being.

Shepard, Ill. Jan. 8th (Special)—Mrs. Sarah E. Rowe, who is residing here, says she feels like "A New Being," although she is in her fifty-seventh year.

UNKNOWN TO MEN OF SCIENCE.

Many Mysteries of Life Yet to Be Unveiled.

In what posture, asks a recent popular science contributor in Collier's, does a bear sleep? We know not. Nay, as to the fish, the monkey and the elephant our ignorance is equally complete.

Stringent Australian Laws.

A groom recently took some horses from England to Australia for a resident of that commonwealth. As he went to Australia under an agreement as to wages it was necessary for him to obtain a special certificate of exemption to enable him to land.

Life's Railway.

Mankind—and especially woman-kind—travel on the railroad of life. They are equally human, though they pay different prices for their tickets and are thrown out at different stations.

INCIPIENT CONSUMPTION.

How Food Heeded Off the Invidious Disease.

The happy wife of a good old fashioned Michigan farmer says: "In the spring of 1902 I was taken sick—a general breaking down, as it were. I was excessively nervous, could not sleep well at night, my food seemed to do me no good, and I was so weak I could scarcely walk across the room."

"The doctor said my condition was due to overwork and close confinement and that he very much feared that consumption would set in. For several months I took one kind of medicine after another, but with no good effect—in fact, I seemed to grow worse."

"Then I determined to quit all medicines, give up coffee and see what Grape-Nuts food would do for me. I began to eat Grape-Nuts with sugar and cream and bread and butter three times a day."

"The effect was surprising! I began to gain flesh and strength forthwith, my nerves quieted down and grew normally steady and sound, sweet sleep came back to me. In six weeks' time I discharged the hired girl and commenced to do my own housework for a family of six. This was two years ago, and I am doing it still and enjoy it. Name given by Postum Co., Battle Creek, Mich."

There's a reason. Read the little book, "The Road to Wellville," in page.

STEADY GROWTH OF TRADE

Each Succeeding Month of the Past Year Has Witnessed Improved Conditions.

Phenomenal activity, reaching to every branch of trade and industry, marked the year 1905.

During the summer of 1904 the nation began to recover from a prolonged season of business stagnation. As the months of that year progressed, conditions became more and more favorable. Both in speculation and in the lines of actual industry the spirit of revival was extant, and the end of the year witnessed conditions that were gratifying to business interests in the extreme.

With the dawn of 1905 this state of affairs continued, and throughout the twelve months growth in all lines of commercial enterprise was maintained.

There was not a month in which the financial position of the nation was not strengthened. The business of the country gained momentum as the year progressed, until in the final weeks the most remarkable state of activity ever displayed in the history of the United States was witnessed.

Remarkable in many respects, the distinctive feature of 1905 in its financial and commercial aspect was its evenness. No machinery ran more easily, more smoothly than the material currents. It was a steady advance in production and consumption; a constant increasing demand for banking accommodations; an accumulation of deposits, the immediate index of expanding wealth.

The latter half of the period developed a demand for supplies which taxed the capacity of factories, mills and mines to supply. This was the stimulation of an unprecedented crop of grains upon a market expanded to normal proportions. The earlier activity was the continuation of the previous year, when business revived from a year of stagnation and inactivity, from a year of liquidation and pessimism. The movement gathered force during the winter, and with the open weather the building operations of the people became general, calling every idle hand into use.

STRENGTH IN MONEY CENTERS.

Greatest Fear of All on the Stock Exchanges.

Considered from almost any and every point of view, but gauged particularly by New York stock exchange standards, 1905 has been the greatest year of all. Whereas 1903 brought the stock market deluge for the sins of excessive trust promotion, commercial over-expansion and speculative debauches of immediately previous years, and 1904 brought the moderate afterglow of the upheaval of the exchanges in moderate commercial repression, the year now closed has been tuned to one dominant note—optimistic progress.

The signs are many, but a few stand out so strongly as proof of development that to cite them is conclusive. Briefly, these may be summarized as follows:

Never has the farm wealth of the country equaled that of 1905. Commercial failure liabilities, in spite of exceptional banking disturbances of sporadic character, have been less actually and relatively than in any period since the panic days of 1893, with the exception of 1899.

Total deposits of the national banks of the country are greatest in history, and aggregate loans of the banks likewise at the highest level indicate that money is being closely employed.

Using pig iron production as one of the tests of general industry, an estimated increase of about 37 1/2 per cent in both production and consumption indicates unparalleled activity.

Railway earnings of the roads of the country roughly exceed all previous records by 7 1/2 per cent.

Both imports and exports of merchandise in the foreign trade of the country once more have attained new high records.

Prices of leading securities, both railway and industrial, used to ascertain the mean level of stock market values, during the last month of the year have eclipsed all previous high marks.

Speculation of the country, as measured by the sales of stocks on the New York stock exchange, has surpassed even the enormous totals of 1901, when trust financing was at its height.

Finally, seats on the New York stock exchange have sold at the phenomenally high price of \$95,000, suggesting what the Wall street forecasters think speculation "barometer of trade" will indicate from prosperity's signals in 1906.

When the year opened, progress, delayed enough for a season in the year previous to show temporarily decreased railway traffic, steel and iron depression, dormant speculation and glutted money markets, had been resumed. The success of the crops of 1904, and the very plentifulness of money supplies the world over were the basis on which this resumption started.

Given good harvests progress always is more or less certain, but the factor of cheap money just a year ago and the knowledge that in 1905 liquidation had cleaned out most of the weakest spots in business brought up one pertinent argument before merchant, manufacturer, banker and speculator. That was that, with ever-in-

creasing money wealth to create new and abundant credit on which to build new enterprises, there was no reason why all doubts of the future should not be cast aside.

During 1904 demand loans of stock market collateral in New York—usually the best test of money surplus or scarcity in the country—went as low as one-half of 1 per cent, and even in the usually tight month of December did not get above 6 per cent. Time loans in the same market had been placed as low as 1 1/2 per cent and not above 5 per cent. And all the time the increased gold production in the Transvaal, Australia, Alaska and the United States proper added abundantly to the stores of money wealth of the world.

In November of 1904 much stress had been laid on the fact that the total deposits of the national banks of the country had reached the pinnacle of \$5,330,639,949. Each recurring report of the comptroller of the currency, however, showed this record surpassed, until that one published last month showed total national bank deposits at \$5,554,845,194.

Of the total deposits at the close of 1904 New York held \$1,224,206,600, or a little less than one-fifth, and of the total loans of the country New York had accommodations to the extent of \$1,145,989,200, or more than one-third.

RAILROADS HAVE MADE MONEY.

Earnings of Lines Go Over Two Billion Dollars.

For the first time the steam railroads of the United States have earned more than \$2,000,000,000 in one year, the high water mark being reached in 1905. Not only were the gross earnings heavier than in any previous year, but the net earnings were also larger, despite the fact that more money was spent for physical improvements, locomotives, freight and passenger cars than in any former year.

The number of freight cars built in 1905 was 165,455, an increase of 3,000 over any former year, while the number of passenger cars built was 2,551, an increase of over 400. There were 5,491 locomotives built in 1905, an increase of 2,000 over the previous year and of 450 over 1903, the next largest year.

There were 4,979 miles of new railroad built last year, 700 miles more than in 1904, the total mileage of the end of 1905 being 217,328 miles. The greatest activity in railway construction was in the Southwestern and Northwestern states, in these two sections more than half the year a mileage being built. The coming year will see a great amount of new road built in the Northwest, as the St. Paul, Burlington, and Gould lines are trying to rush extensions to the Pacific coast, and the Northwestern is also developing its system.

FARM PRICES SLIGHTLY LOWER.

Inevitable When the Enormous Crops Are Considered.

With enormous crops of grain over the West it is natural that farm prices should average lower, but declines as compared with the high average of 1904 were small as compared with years prior to 1904, with the exception of corn, oats, and barley, which are lower. Farm prices Dec. 1 for the past six years as reported by the Department of Agriculture compare as follows:

Table with 5 columns: Commodity, 1905, 1904, 1903, 1902, 1901, 1900. Rows include Wheat, Corn, Oats, Rye, Barley, Flax seed, Buckwheat, Potatoes, Hay.

ENORMOUS SUMS GIVEN AWAY.

More Than \$65,000,000 Distributed by Generous Philanthropists.

The contributions to charitable and educational institutions during the year just past have exceeded those of 1904 by a large sum. The total amount of gifts reach the immense figure of \$65,104,432, or \$137 a minute.

The records upon which these figures are based are necessarily incomplete, as the amounts published from day to day in the papers are taken to compile the estimate, and \$5,000 has been the minimum considered. It is probable that the multiplicity of small donations would raise the total by \$10,000,000 at least. Individual givers, too, are here accounted for only, which fact prevents the list from enrolling the big contributions to the Russian Jews.

More than one-third of the contributions has gone to educational institutions. Eighty-two colleges and schools are named in that part of the annual report, though, even so, the gifts to this cause would not have stood in such overwhelming proportion to the benefactions of the whole twelvemonth had not the three largest donations of all fallen under this head. In April Mr. Carnegie set by \$10,000,000 as a fund for aged educators, followed a month later by Mr. Rockefeller, with another \$10,000,000 for the cause of general education, while the tragic death of Mrs. Leland Stanford threw into this same scale \$4,875,000 more.

The dozen most "lucky" universities rank then as follows:

Table with 2 columns: University Name, Amount. Rows include Chicago, Union Theological Seminary, McCormick Seminary, Milikin University, Columbia, University of Virginia, Princeton, University of California.

Following education the benefactions of 1905 rank as follows: To galleries, museums and societies of kindred aims went \$7,024,000; to "homes," hospitals and asylums, \$5,391,500, with \$4,700,175 to miscellaneous charities. Church works of various sorts followed close with \$4,424,757, and \$1,993,000 for library buildings. Add to these totals \$2,435,000 which came in gifts other than of cash, though valued "officially," and this country is found to have received in all \$84,089,432—\$2,015,000 was sent to do its work in foreign fields.

The "roll of honor," where one may rank the givers of millions, reads:

Table with 2 columns: Name, Amount. Rows include Andrew Carnegie, John D. Rockefeller, Mrs. Jane L. Stanford, Stephen Salisbury, John C. King, General Isaac J. Wistar, Mrs. E. D. Rand, Henry Phipps, Margaret A. Jones, Mrs. Emmons Blain, George W. Clayton, Benjamin Ferguson, Cyrus McCormick, James Millikin, W. F. Milton.

MOST NOTABLE BOXING EVENTS.

Two New Champions Have Fought Their Way to the Top.

Perhaps the three most notable boxing events of the past year were the retirement of James J. Jeffries, the succession of Battling Nelson to the lightweight title of the world through his victory over James Edward Britt, and the final defeat of Robert Fitzsimmons by "Philadelphia Jack" O'Brien. Each of these events added to the interest in the sport, as they brought new names and new faces before the public. In a general way the bouts of the year were remarkably free from scandal, and there was no taint attached to any of the bigger ones or even to one which commanded a large sectional interest.

DEATH LIST IS A LONG ONE.

Many Prominent Men in All Lines Called During 1905.

Among the persons of world wide reputation, leaders in their various departments of the world's activities, who died during the year 1905 are: Jan. 4, Theodore Thomas, the pioneer of orchestral music and lifelong advocate of the higher music in America; Jan. 9, Louise Michel, the French socialist agitator; Jan. 16, Robert Lorraine Gifford, one of the best of the old school American landscape painters; Jan. 18, George H. Boughton, the English landscape painter, whose works are well known in this country; Feb. 9, Adolph Wilhelm Menzel, the greatest of modern German painters; Feb. 15, Lew Wallace, the soldier and novelist; Feb. 16, Jay Cooke, the successful financier of the civil war; Feb. 17, Grand Duke Sergius of Russia; March 23, Jules Verne, the brilliant French novelist; Feb. 25, Pietro Tacchini, the Italian astronomer; April 23, Joseph Jefferson, the beloved and popular actor; May 26, Baron Alphonse de Rothschild, governor of the Bank of France; June 13, Baron Nathaniel de Rothschild, the Austrian representative of the financial house; June 15, Archduke Joseph of Austria; June 17, Maximo Gomez, the Cuban patriot; July 1, John Hay, secretary of state, whose successful diplomacy helped to make the United States a world power; July 4, Jacques Elisee Reclus, the French geographer; July 23, Jean Jacques Henner, the modern Titian among artists; Aug. 20, Adolphe William Bouguereau, the well-known French figure painter; Aug. 21, Mary Mafer Dodge, the editor of St. Nicholas; Aug. 31, Francesco Tamagno, the Italian operatic singer; Sept. 18, George MacDonald, the English novelist; Sept. 22, Mme. Galli-Marié, the French prima donna; Sept. 21, Dr. Thomas John Barnard, the London philanthropist and "father of the walf"; Oct. 12, Sir Henry Irving, the English actor; Oct. 22, Florent Willems, at the head of the Belgian landscape school; and Nov. 6, Sir George Williams, founder of the Young Men's Christian association.

In politics the leading names of the dead are those of Secretary Hay, Senators Hawley and Platt of Connecticut, George S. Boutwell of Massachusetts, John H. Reagan of Texas and Gen. Fitzhugh Lee.

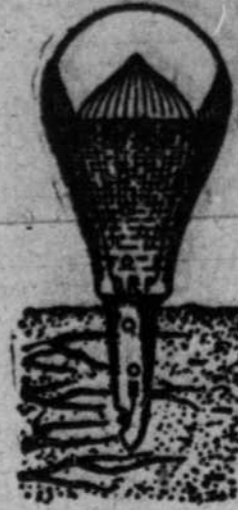
Conspicuous in the religious list are the names of Bishops Merrill and Joyce of the Methodist Episcopal church, Bishop McLaren of the Protestant Episcopal church and Archbishop Chapelle of the Roman Catholic church.

Deaths during December were as follows: John Bartlett, compiler of "Bartlett's Familiar Quotations," at Cambridge, Mass., aged 75; United States Senator John H. Mitchell of Oregon, at Portland, aged 70; Louisa Eldredge (Aunt Louisa), well-known actress, in New York city, aged 75; Edward Atkinson, social and political economist, in Boston, aged 78; Sir Richard Claverhouse Jebb, noted Greek scholar, in London, aged 84; William Sharp, Scotch poet and novelist, author of novels published under the pseudonym of Miss Fiona Macleod, in Sicily, aged 50; Judge Murray F. Tuley, Nestor of the Chicago bench, well known as jurist throughout the United States.

DEVICE FOR WATERING PLANTS

Automatically Regulates the Supply of Moisture.

Two ingenious methods of watering plants automatically are shown in the accompanying illustrations. The essential part of the first device is a long untwisted wick such as is used by lamp-lighters. These wicks are about five feet long and the threads of which they are composed are easily separated. The wick is protected by a glass tube about three feet long and about one-quarter inch bore, which is bent in a flame into a siphon or U-shape with one leg very much longer than the other. The wick is



drawn through the tube with the aid of a flexible wire, and is allowed to protrude at both ends. It takes up water slowly at first, and the tube containing the wick should be left over night in a vessel of water.

To use this device for watering potted plants, three or four pots are placed near together, and a pall of water is put near and above them, on a bench. The short leg of the tube is immersed in the water and the flow is started by sucking at the other end. The strands of the wick are distributed among the pots, being placed in contact with the earth but not with the stalks of the plants. One or more strands are assigned to each plant, according to its need of water and, of course, the entire flow may be given to one pot, in which case the end of the tube is inserted in the soil. In very hot weather it is advisable to cover the pall and wrap the tube with tadding to prevent the wick drying. The German inventor of this device says that he has always found it to work perfectly. It was designed for watering house plants during the absence of their usual caretakers, but it seems adapted to garden use as well.

The second device, patented in Germany a few years ago, is still simpler. It consists of a pear-shaped glass bulb drawn out to a point at one end. The point itself is closed but near it is a lateral opening, through which the vessel may be filled with water.

When filled it is thrust into the earth near the plant, to which is sup-

plied the proper quantity of water for several days or weeks, as the water flows from the hole with greater or less rapidity according to the dryness of soil.—Montreal Herald.

To Relieve Overworked Fathers.

Surely one of the most curious professions that physi-culture and hygiene have called into existence is that of the "foster-father." Yet, when we learn the duties expected of this patient creature, we realize that he is among the "long-felt wants" proceeding from the modern domestic problem. The foster-father takes the first steps in molding what in nursery parlance are known as "little gentlemen." His duties are to drill boys and take charge of them out of school hours, to display an active interest in their recreations and to assume responsibility for their neatness and good behavior. There must be thousands of these helpless individuals known as "harassed parents" in all classes of society, who would gladly shift the anxieties of teaching the young male idea on to the shoulders of an able deputy.—Lady's Pictorial.

Industrial Future of Mexico. The prophets foresee in Mexico a manufacturing country of the first rank. This because of abundant hydro-electric power, cheap and unorganized labor, stability of climate, and geographical situation. To these are added the recent discoveries of mineral oil or petroleum, and the development of the coal fields in the northwestern sections, which will supply the required fuel. The amount of power in use in Mexico is estimated as 66,003 indicated horse power steam, 32,147 indicated horse power electric, all of which are probably below existing figures. In developing the last Mexico is making marvelous strides, and there are power plants now in existence or in the course of construction which will rank second only to those of Niagara.

Course in Socialism.

During next term at the Washington state university a special course in socialism will be given. It will include anarchism, communism, socialism in its three branches—state, agrarian and single tax—and religious or altruistic, as taught by Washington Gladden.

WOMEN WHO SUFFER

Dr. Williams' Pink Pills the One Remedy Particularly Suited For Females Use.

To women who suffer Dr. Williams' Pink Pills are worth their weight in gold. At special periods a woman needs medicine to regulate her blood supply or her life will be a round of pain and suffering. Dr. Williams' Pink Pills are absolutely the finest medicine that ever a woman took. They actually make new blood. They are good for men too—but they are good in a special way for women.

"It was three years ago last spring that my health failed me," says Mrs. Arthur Conklin, of No. 6 Coldwater street, Battle Creek, Mich. "I suffered from leucorrhoea and other troubles that, I presume, were caused by the weakness it produced. I had sinking spells, nervous headaches, was weak and exhausted all the time and looked like a walking skeleton."

"My back and limbs would ache almost continually and there were days when I was absolutely helpless from sick headache. I tried one doctor after another but cannot say that they helped me at all. My liver was sluggish and I was troubled some with constipation."

"One day a physician who has now retired from practice met my husband on the street and inquired about my health. He advised my husband to get some of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for me, said they were a good medicine, better for my trouble than he could put up. I tried them, improved steadily and soon was entirely cured. As soon as the leucorrhoea was cured the headaches and other pains stopped. I am entirely well now but intend to continue to use Dr. Williams' Pink Pills as a spring tonic."

The genuine Dr. Williams' Pink Pills are sold by all druggists and by the Dr. Williams Medicine Company, Schenectady, N. Y.

Drunkards in London. About 6,000 drunkards are admitted to Pentonville prison, London, every year, says the medical officer.

Mother Gray's Sweet Powders for Children.

Successfully used by Mother Gray, nurse in the Children's Home in New York, cure Constipation, Feverishness, Bad Stomach, Teething Disorders, move and regulate the Bowels and Destroy Worms. Over 30,000 testimonials. At all Druggists, 25c. Sample FREE. Address A. S. Olmsted, LeRoy, N. Y.

"Eye-Bright" of Medicinal Value.

Our great-grandmothers distilled a plant known as "eye-bright" and used the liquid as an eye wash. Another way of treating the plant was by boiling it in water and straining. Preparations of this wayside growth are still quite popular in many parts of the country for treating "cold in the head," bronchitis, measles and hay fever. The most convenient preparation for internal use is the tincture of which from ten to fifteen drops may be given in water three or four times daily.

Important to Mothers.

Examine carefully every bottle of CASTORIA, a safe and sure remedy for infants and children, and see that it

Bears the Signature of J. C. Pritchard In Use For Over 30 Years. The Kind You Have Always Bought.

All Meat for Parisians. A street sign that amazes American visitors in Paris reads: "Butchery of Horse, Ass and Mule a Specialty."

Ever Hear of "Scotty" and His Record Breaking Ride?

The story, briefly told, is this: Walter Scott, the Death Valley gold miner, made the trip from Los Angeles to Chicago last summer on a special train over the "Santa Fe" in less than 45 hours. That whirlwind train cost him more than \$6,000. It was the fastest long distance run over mountains and plains ever made on any American railway. It demonstrated beyond dispute that the Santa Fe track, equipment and employees are of the dependable kind. Probably you wouldn't care to ride so fast. You prefer the luxury of our three trains from Utah and Colorado to Everywhere East and Southwest. Ask me for ticket rates and literature.

C. F. WARREN.

G. A. A. T. & S. F. Ry. 611 Dooly Block, Salt Lake City, Utah.

Have You Noticed That—

Gratitude is the thing you feel when you hope that some more of the same agreeable kind is coming?

FRANK J. CHENEY, Notary Public. Sworn to before me and subscribed in my presence, this 5th day of December, A. D. 1905.

FRANK J. CHENEY, Notary Public. Sworn to before me and subscribed in my presence, this 5th day of December, A. D. 1905.

Three Wives Meet. An Arkansas City man who had twice been divorced took his third wife to the theater recently. His two earlier wives have become good friends, and when the couple took their seats the man looked around, and, to his consternation, saw he had three wives in a row beside him.

SO CURE A COLD IN ONE DAY. Take LAXATIVE BROMO Quinine Tablets. Druggists refund money if it fails to cure. A. W. GROVER'S signature is on each box. 25c.

A Perpetual Nightmare. Quite the capital of Ecuador, is built immediately beneath the terrible volcano of Pinchincha, and within five miles of the actual crater, while all around tower similar smoking giants. Some day a cycle of seismic activity will recur in this region of the globe, and the tragedy of St. Pierre and Mont Pelée will be repeated, but on a far vaster scale.