

## POETRY.

### THE OLD HOMESTEAD.

BY H. H.

It may be small and poor and lowly, yet  
We love it always; memory may fill  
Her chambers full, and time and care may chill  
Our hearts, yet stands the dear old homestead  
set  
In picture that we never can forget.  
At sudden thought of it our eyes will fill;  
When we are old, we journey to it still;  
Though strangers live in it, our loving debt  
We pay the same.  
I think it is like this  
That saints in Heaven, though no joy they miss,  
look back upon the little planet earth.  
And come, upon our bright and sunny days,  
Sweet winged angels, flying down to gaze  
On this old homestead, where they had their  
birth.

## MISCELLANY.

### LETTER FROM ABROAD.

Ceylon.

POINT DE GALLE, May 23, 1875.

Editor of St. Paul Dispatch:

This is a fortified town in Ceylon, situated upon a rocky promontory at the southwestern extremity of the Island; and having been favored with fair winds and pleasant weather, our journey from Australia here was a very short one. Ceylon, which is the serendib of the Arabian Nights, the centre of Buddhism and the garden of India, passed through various Eastern rules until it became successively the property of the Portuguese, the Dutch, and was finally ceded to the English, by the treaty of Amiens, in 1812.

Under this latter rule the Island has vastly improved; the tangled jungles cleared and forests felled to make way for plantations of coffee, whose produce they say is already sufficient for the consumption of the whole of Great Britain. They also possess a large commerce in cinnamon, nutmegs and other spices. I visited the cinnamon gardens and was much pleased. Cinnamon is the second bark of a kind of bay tree, which scarcely grows anywhere except in the Island of Ceylon. The root of the cinnamon tree divides into several branches. It is covered with a bark, gray without and red within. The leaf is long and pointed, the blossoms are small and white and of a very pleasing smell, very like the Lily of the Valley. When the tree is two years old, the two barks are taken off. The outer bark is good for nothing, but the inner one is dried in the sun, when it rolls up of itself, about the size of a finger, and this is what we call cinnamon.

The nutmeg is a beautiful tree, all parts of it; even the leaves are aromatic, but only the nutmegs and the mace are exported. The fruit is of an oval form, about the size of a peach and of a deep reddish orange color. The nut is covered with three coats. The first falls off of itself when it is ripe; the second then appears, which is very thin and delicate; it is taken off with great care from the nut and exposed to the sun to dry; this is the mace. The third coat is immediately next the nutmeg.

They take the nut out of its shell, and put it into lime water for some days, and then it is ready to be sent abroad. It yields annually three crops. The first, which is plucked in April, is the best; the other crops are gathered in August and December. One of the most noticeable results of English enterprise in Ceylon is the fine roads that traverse every part of the Island, some of them reaching an altitude of more than six thousand feet above the sea.

The road from Galle to Colombo is, in its peculiar style, very beautiful. It is a perfect avenue of palms, over sixty miles long, with a rich undergrowth of smaller trees, many of them gorgeous with flowers and overrun with climbing plants. Myriads of birds of the most gaudy plumage dart amid the branches, whilst in every direction are to be seen clouds of butterflies of every shape and hue, and now and again, as a foil to the picture, you will see the hideous but harmless iguana (lizard) crossing the road and hissing as it retreats. We were accompanied in most of our drives, by a gentleman, long a resident of the country and who gave us much interesting information, pointing out the different varieties of trees and explaining them to us.

Of the numerous gifts of Providence to the natives of this country, I think the cocoa-nut palm should rank first. It grows from thirty to sixty feet in height, and is crowned at the top by a verdant capitol; it has no branches, properly speaking, but the leaves are from twelve to fourteen feet in length, with a strong middle rib; under this foliage bunches of blossoms, clusters of green fruit and others arrived at maturity, appear mingled together on the same tree; there appears to be no part of it that is not put to some use.

The trunk furnishes very good timber, and the leaves make an excellent thatch, as well as common umbrellas, mats, brooms, and other articles. The nuts not only furnish delicious milk and a kernel sweet as an almond, but when dried and pressed afford abundance of pure sweet oil, which is extensively used in cooking and for burning in lamps, while the refuse feeds their cattle and poultry. The shell makes cups, ladles and other domestic utensils, while the husk is of the greatest importance, being manufactured into ropes, twines, cables, and cordage of every description, which is more durable than that of hemp.

In the Nicobar Island, which is covered with forests of cocoa-nuts, the natives not only build their vessels, make their sails and cordage and supply them with provisions, but provide a cargo of arrack, oil, jaggery or balm sugar, cocoa-nuts, coir, cordage and other articles, entirely from this tree.

Many of the trees are not allowed to bear fruit, but the bud from which the blossom and fruit would spring is tied tightly up to prevent its further growth, and an incision being made at the end, the sap oozes out, and being carefully collected, forms when fresh a cool pleasant drink, but becomes intoxicating if left to stand. This is called toddy or palm wine. Then there is the banana and plantain, for they are but different varieties of the same tree. This attains a height of eight or nine feet, and has broad leaves some four or five feet in length, growing direct from the main stem.

The banana is to a native of the East what the potato is to an Irishman. It is very easy of cultivation, being planted from shoots and bearing fruit the first year. No other plant will yield so much food with so little outlay of labor; a single tree will often yield three crops in the year, of seventy-five pounds each. The flavor of this fruit has been aptly compared to sweetened cream, and makes an excellent and nutritious food, both when eaten naturally and when cooked. It is a singular and interesting fact that in these tropical regions, where the excessive heat renders labor so burdensome and exhaustive, man is supplied with food almost without the need of working. Where bananas grow, people need not be afraid of starving even if they do not work.

The custard apple is a very pretty tree and so called because the pulp of the fruit, both in color and taste, resembles a boiled custard. The ebony tree, from whose timber such beautiful and durable carved furniture is made. Some of the varieties are so hard that they turn the edge of the finest steel, and have to be rasped into shape. The propolis, which somewhat resembles our elm, with its peculiar trunk that looks as if made of a number of stems stuck together, and which renders it valuable as timber. The tamarina with its graceful leaves and flexible branches. The delicious mango and many others, all aid in adding beauty to this scene of loveliness. S. T.

### THE LITTLE WEATHERMAN.

[Adapted from the German.]

Once upon a time, far away in Germany, a little boy stood mournfully gazing out a window. It was in December, and a violent storm raged. The rain beat upon the window-panes, which rattled noisily with the blast; great snow-flakes swept down alternately; while in the streets water settled in deep pools, and miniature rivers crossed each other in all directions. It was a dreary sight to Franz, and his little fingers beat impatiently on the window-pane.

"I wish the bad weather would not last forever!" he cried, finally, with an eager glance toward the weather-glass—a cunningly contrived little house such as you have probably all seen—from the door of which in stormy weather a little man, and in pleasant weather a little woman steps forth.

The prospect was nothing encouraging. Franz with clenched fist beat furiously upon the window bench.

"Pie upon you, you bad, ugly weather!" he cried. "Are you not ashamed? Snow, hail, rain, and wind! The weather must have a cudgeling."

But, all at once—and, oh, how frightened he was—there stood upon the outer window-sill a gray little man, not higher than a wine bottle, wearing a white cloak which was covered with snow. On his head was a broad cocked hat, from which the water flowed down in streams. He nodded familiarly to the *genii* of the weather-glass, but frowned grimly as he espied Franz.

"Saucy one," and he sneezed; "saucy one," and he sneezed again, while immediately the window casement flew open; he seized the terrified Franz by the collar and spoke with thundering voice:

"Complain of me, once again, saucy one, and I will wash your face with snow and hail—water you will never forget. But come with me. You will know why this weather is good, and that it seems good, too, to those it benefits." With these words the little man's cloak spread out like the wings of a bat; they grew larger and larger. Between these he seated the boy, who was in great trouble, as the elf flew off with him through the air.

The little man halted before a linden tree; his wings again shrank up in his cloak.

"Now, look!" he said to Franz, producing a spyglass, which he fastened to the trunk of the tree. "Place your eyes here, and tell me what you see."

"I see," replied Franz, who at first, through fright saw nothing at all, but gradually his vision cleared. "I see—I believe it is the inside of a tree."

"And what do you see therein?" asked this new acquaintance.

But Franz was so absorbed in the things he viewed that he forgot the little man who stood behind him.

"How pretty!" he exclaimed, "and what are these roads for in the tree? All empty, too, only below in the heart sits a delicate little lady asleep. What is it she holds so tight in her hand? It seems to me it is a fountain. What does it all mean, I wonder?"

"I will tell you," replied the man. "The little lady is the spirit of the tree; she sleeps now her winter sleep. When the warm spring sunshine awakes her, the fountain escapes from her hand and discharges itself on all sides through the veins and tissues that you call roads. Then begins the tree to grow and blossom, and nourish thousands of little creatures which delight themselves with life! But should the nymph be too early awakened she must die, and the tree with her."

Hence it is necessary that I kept her sleeping, and soak the roots of the trunk with quieting rain-drops, in opposition to the fair-weather elf. Do you understand? Now do you see what a duty I have to perform?"

Thus speaking, the little man who had so much friendlier become, lifted little Franz again on his back, and went briskly with him through the air. This time he descended upon a snow-covered field.

"You are not light," said he, dropping Franz from his cloak, and gasping for breath. "But now you shall look once more through my spy glass;" and spreading out his cloak, he bade Franz kneel upon it, and inspect the inside of the earth.

"Now tell me what you see," said the little man.

"I see much snow," replied Franz, "and more snow; it must be yards deep. Under it is white soft soil, and in it grain seeds."

"Go on! go on!" spoke the little man. "In every seed," continued Franz, "I see a tiny living germ, and it seems to me I hear soft fluttering under them."

"Hold your ear close to the spy glass," interrupted the other, "and you will hear them talk."

Franz obeyed, and heard, indeed, the conversation of the seedlings.

"Well, for us," said one—it appeared the oldest—"that the warm snow blanket still protects us, and that the blazing sunbeams cannot at will efface it."

"Yes, truly," added another, "they are entirely too fickle, these sunbeams. They would deluge us with sweet life, but let a pitiless frost again appear, and their attachment would become lukewarm, leaving us suddenly to freeze and die."

"Now, do you hear that?" cried the little man.

Franz only shook his head, for he listened intently. But the germs were now silent.

"Do you see now," continued the weather elf, "these complain not of wind and snow, as you do? Neither does the farmer, for he knows how it is good, and that his grain would not grow, nor man nor beast find food, if the sun always shone. You have surely heard of droughts and famine; and know, little one, that thousands must starve, and finally also must your turn come, if I neglect my duty."

Franz listened attentively and soberly, and the little man seemed pleased with his conduct.

"Surely," he continued, "you children have no cause to complain of me. When it rains you can sail your paper ships in the pools and puddles; the wind moves your kites and windmills; snow-balling is fine fun—why, then do you find fault?"

And kneeling, the little man, with a jolly laugh, fashioned great snowballs, and threw them so high—so high that Franz saw not where they came down.

The boy was delighted, and, too, stooping, he pounded the cold snow into globes, but when he again looked up the little man had disappeared.

Franz was disconsolate; he had begun to be much pleased with his new friend, and he wended his way homeward, throwing dreamily his snowballs before him.

Franz saw the little weather-man but once again in his life. It was in midsummer, on the edge of a violent thunder storm. Already fell grain drops, and only Franz dared venture out in the garden. There he saw once more the elf, walking under the trees, and he scarcely recognized him, so differently he looked. He wore no longer the white snow mantle—only a light rain coat; and as he passed through the garden all the flowers and grasses arose and bowed respectfully before him, the birds twittered, and all thirsty nature rustled a welcome.

Dear children, learn from the fable of Franz and the weather-man never to mourn over rainy days. And if still the dull skies fret and annoy you, think of the sleeping tree-nymph and the trustful little germs, and know it all for good.

### YOUNG FEMALE CLERKS.

A London paper says: "The experiment of employing young ladies as clerks in an insurance office, has been tried and found eminently successful in the case of the 'Prudential,' on Ludgate hill. For more than a year and a half the little band, beginning with ten now reaching to 36 in number, and intended to be still further reinforced, has been working steadily, and giving entire satisfaction to the managers. The rooms allotted to them are light and airy, separated altogether from those occupied by the male clerks in the establishment, and furnished with convenient chairs and desks. The lady clerks are of various ages, from 18 to 30, seem to enjoy excellent health and spirits, and are unanimous in agreeing that regular employment, if moderate, is peculiarly salutary. They are exclusively ladies, strictly so called, the daughters of professional men. They arrive from their various homes at Ludgate hill at 10 A. M., stop work for an hour at 1 o'clock, and leave the office at 5 P. M. Several holidays in a year are allowed. The work is chiefly a simple kind of copying, requiring only careful attention, good handwriting, and intelligence to decipher names of persons and places—the Welsh one especially affording a limitless field for conjecture. The salary of these ladies is small, beginning (inclusive of certain fees) at £32 per annum, and being raised £10 each year up to £60. It would appear, however, that there is an abundance of candidates to be found for each chair, and, of course, as the work is as well done as by male clerks, the advantage of the company must be very great indeed. It should be added that all directions for the work pass through the hands of a lady superintendent."

Sooy, the defaulting State Treasurer of New Jersey, has been held for trial in \$75,000, in default of which he was committed to jail. The exact amount for which he was in default is \$44,116. His bondsmen represent millions, so the State will lose nothing.

## VALUABLE INFORMATION.

### INDELIBLE INK.

A so-called ineradicable ink is prepared of 1 part by weight of lampblack, 12 of potash water-glass, of the consistency of syrup, 1 of ammonia water, and 38 of distilled water.

### ELECTRIC ACTION ON PLANTS.

Having observed that the discharge from a powerful electrical machine produced remarkable changes in the color of plants, M. Becquerel ascribes this result to the rupturing of the cells containing the coloring matter. This opinion is sustained by the fact that when the cellular envelope is washed the leaf becomes white.

### A PRE-HISTORIC RELIC.

A small image of a human head carved in stone, which was dug up on a farm in Webster township, Mich., some years ago, was exhibited at the Detroit meeting of the American association. It appears to be made of Potsdam red sandstone, which does not exist in nature in that part of the country. The features of the face are of an Egyptian cast.

### THE VELOCITY OF TRANSMISSION OF MAGNETISM.

In order to remove all doubt as to the accuracy of the results of preceding investigators, Dr. Herwig has sought to determine the velocity of transmission of magnetic influences by separating the various portions of his apparatus to very considerable distances; and he concludes that if the action of the terrestrial magnetism really possesses a definite velocity, it must amount to at least a half million miles per second; or, in other words, that the terrestrial magnetic influence makes itself felt at any point of the earth's surface in less than one three-hundredth of a second.

### SOLAR SPOTS.

Gauthier states that as the result of three and a half years of observation on the solar phenomena, by means of the equatorial as the observatory at Geneva, kindly put at his disposition by Prof. Planamour, he finds himself entirely justified in coinciding perfectly with the theory of Zollner as to solar spots being scorice floating upon the liquid, and possibly even within the denser, gaseous portion of the solar surface. They are apparently the result of cooling, depending on the radiation from the surface of the sun; and this explanation of Zollner is the only one that seems to him not to contradict both ordinary laws of physics and well-known facts.

### BLACK STAIN IN IMITATION OF EBONY.

An excellent black varnish, which gives the effect of ebony to walnut, apple or pear wood, especially when free from veins, is prepared by first boiling 400 grammes of nut gall, 100 grammes of rasped Campeachy wood, 500 grammes of vitriol, and 50 grammes of verdigris, with a suitable quantity of water. This is to be filtered while still hot, and several applications are to be made to the wood. Afterward two or three layers of the following preparation are to be applied: 100 grammes iron filings dissolved in 75 centiliters of acetic acid. Each application is to be allowed to dry before another is made.

### TIDAL INFLUENCES ON THE EARTH'S ROTATION.

Mr. Tylor, in some remarks on a new theory of tides and waves, advocates the view that the level of the ocean is nearly represented by high-water mark on coasts and boys where there is free access of the tide, or in a channel without a constant flow. He states that he entirely disbelieves in tidal action having the smallest effect on the rotation of the earth, and that the assumption of a great heap of water traveling in one direction is a gross error. He also suggests that some geological difficulties, such as the evidence that tides during the quaternary periods were three or four times as large as at present, may be explained by periodic changes of position of part of the interior of the earth, rather than by supposing great changes in the distance of the moon from the earth.

### DETERMINATION OF OZONE IN THE AIR.

The determination of the quantity of ozone in the air has not yet been achieved by any convenient method, since the tint of the ordinary ozone test papers is determined by the velocity of the wind. It was supposed by Von Pettenkofer that the absence of the ozone reaction in the atmosphere of closed dwelling-rooms was due to the slight circulation in the air. The subject has, however, been fully investigated by Wolffhugel, who finds that while a given quantity of fresh air yields a very visible ozone reaction, yet 10 or 12 times that quantity taken from the interior of dwellings produces no effect even when the rooms are unused, having previously been well aired. Wolffhugel has also shown that there is a great absence of ozone in the air near the ground.

### ELECTRIC LIGHTS IN SOLID BODIES.

Cadogan Morgan, in 1785, was the first experimenter who produced the electrical light in the interior of solid bodies. He inserted two wires in wood and caused the spark to pass between them. The wood was illuminated with blood red or with yellow light, according as the depths at which the spark was produced was greater or less. Many of our readers have doubtless seen an egg or a series of eggs lighted up by being placed in the line of discharge of a Leyden jar. An ivory ball, an orange, or an apple may be illuminated in a similar way. According to Tyndall, a lemon is especially suited to this experiment, "flashing forth at every spark as a spheroid of brilliant golden light." The wires used for the discharge should be brought within about half an inch of each other inside the lemon.

### MANUFACTURE OF MERINO GOODS.

An English journal says that goods made entirely of cotton are called merino, and have the look of merino, owing to the woolly surface imparted to them. Such goods are sold both in the United States

and in the Spanish South American markets in large quantities, especially in the form of men's undershirts and drawers. To cause the cotton to resemble wool it is scratched, and the surface raised by a particular process. A thread or two may be drawn out and burned in the flames of a taper; if the material be cotton it will consume to a light, impalpable white ash, cotton being a vegetable fibre; but if, on the contrary, it is wool, and therefore an animal fibre, it will twist and curl in the flame, and show a black ash, accompanied with a smell which will speak as to its origin. Cotton is now so cleverly treated that it is frequently taken for silk, also an animal fibre, and this simple test is always resorted to when there is any doubt upon this point.

### AMERICAN MINING METHODS.

One of the Comstock mining engineers lately returned from a tour of inspection through the mining districts of Germany, communicates to a California daily his conviction that there is no engineering in Germany to compare with that on the Comstock lode, and no mines in which the mechanical appliances are so ingenious and effective. He supports this assertion by a graphic description of the crude and primitive methods in vogue abroad. He remarks that the deep mines of Bohemia, the hoisting apparatus consisted merely of open tubs, and the operating machinery was so poorly constructed that he dared not venture to descend. In most of the German mines he found that the men were compelled to walk up or down to the scene of their labors, either by going down an incline or by using long parallel stilts, which move up and down alternately about six feet at a time. The mode of ascending and descending on these is to step from one to the other, as each ascends or descends, where a misstep would be attended with fatal consequences. His remark that in the Comstock the men went down to the lowest levels and came up in two minutes without the slightest exertion, was received politely but incredulously. The character of the mining tools is criticised in the same uncompromising strain, and the assertion is made that an average day's work upon the Comstock would seem incredible to the miners of continental Europe.

### CATCHING A SON-IN-LAW.

[From the Detroit Free Press.]

It was the second time he had accompanied the young lady home from one of those little social parties which are gotten up to bring fond hearts a step nearer to each other.

When they reached the gate she asked him if he wouldn't come in. He said he would, and he followed her into the house. "It was a calm, still night," and the hour was so late that he had no fear of seeing the old folks. Sarah took his hat, told him to sit down and she left the room to lay off her things. She was hardly gone before her mother came in, smiled sweetly, and dropping down beside the young man she said:

"I always did say that if a poor but respectable young man fell in love with Sarah he should have my consent. Some mothers would sacrifice their daughter's happiness for riches, but I am not of that class."

The young man gave a start of alarm. He didn't know whether he liked Sarah or not, and he hadn't dreamed of such a thing as marriage.

"She has acknowledged to me that she loves you," continued the mother, "and what is for her happiness is for mine."

The young man gave two starts of alarm this time, and he felt his cheeks grow pale.

"I—I haven't—"

"Oh, never mind. I know you haven't much money, but of course you'll live with me. We'll take in boarders, and I'll risk that we'll get along all right."

It was a bad situation. He hadn't even looked love to Sarah, and he felt that he ought to undeceive the mother.

"I haven't no idea of—"

"I know you hadn't, but it's all right. With your wages and what the boarders bring in we shall get along as snug as bugs in a rug."

"But, madam, but—but—"

"All I ask is that you be good to her," interrupted the mother. "Sarah has a tender heart and a loving nature, and if you should be cross and ugly it would break her down within a week."

The young man's eyes stood out like coconuts in a show window, and he rose up and tried to say something. He said:

"Great heavens! madam, I can't permit—"

"Never mind about the thanks," she interrupted. "I don't believe in long courtships myself, and let me suggest an early day for the marriage. The 11th of September is my birthday, and it would be nice for you to be married on that day."

"But—but—but!" he gasped.

"There, there, I don't expect any speech in reply," she laughed. "You and Sarah fix it up to-night, and I'll advertise for twelve boarders right away. I'll try to be a model mother-in-law. I believe I am good-tempered and kind-hearted, though I did once follow a young man two hundred miles and shoot the top of his head off for agreeing to marry Sarah and then jumping the county!"

She patted him on the head and sailed out, and now that young man wants advice. He wants to know whether he had better get in the way of a locomotive or slide off the wharf.

The mammoth propeller Commodore reached Buffalo the 24th, on her first down trip from Milwaukee, with 2,156 tons of freight, including 79,679 bushels of grain and 700 barrels of flour.

## AN ASTONISHING FEAT.

[New York Sun, Aug 27.]

Fifteen persons, several of them reporters, met in Mrs. Young's parlors in Twenty-seventh street last evening, and found the medium in good spirits. Across the end of the room stood a large, deep seven-and-a-half-octave piano, which appeared upon trial to weigh about 1,000 pounds. The reporter could not lift one end of it. The gas was burning at full head the whole evening, and the windows and door were open. Among the visitors were Col. Olcott and Madame Blavatsky, who had come to report what they saw to the St. Petersburg University; Mr. Paul Julgent, Mr. David Morrison of Washington, and other well-known persons. The performances began with the lifting of the piano by the invisible powers, three times for "yes" and once "no," in answer to questions put by Mrs. Youngs, she resting her hands lightly on the top of the music rack. She then sat down and played various airs, and the instrument rose and fell and beat the time. She then went to one end of the piano and called Col. Olcott and as many as chose to make the experiment, and, causing each to place his left hand underneath the case, laid one of her hands lightly under it; whereupon, at her demand, the end of the heavy instrument was lifted off the floor without the slightest effort on her part. The Colonel here asked to be permitted to make a single test which should not injure the medium at all. Mrs. Youngs consenting, he produced a hen's egg from a box, and requested her to hold it in her hand against the under side of the piano, and then ask the spirits to raise it. The medium said that in the course of her mediumship such a test had never been suggested, and she could not say that it would be successful, but she would try. She took the egg and held it as desired, and then rapping upon the case with her other hand, asked the spirits to see what they could do. Instantly the piano rose as before and was held for a moment suspended in the air. The novel and striking experiment was a complete success.

Mrs. Youngs then desired as many of the heaviest persons in the room as could sit upon the instrument to mount it, and the invitation being accepted by seven gentlemen and ladies, she played a march, and the instrument, persons and all, were lifted easily. Col. Olcott now brought out two English walnuts, and asked the spirits to crack their shells under the piano legs without crushing the kernels, the idea being to show that some other power than that of one woman herself, and a power governed by intelligence, was exerting itself. The spirits were willing, but as the piano legs rested upon rolling castors, the test was abandoned. He then asked to be permitted to hold an egg in his own hand against the under side of the piano, and have Mrs. Youngs lay her hand beneath and against his, so that he might have a perfect demonstration of the fact that no muscular force whatever was exerted by her. This test was also agreed to and immediately tried. The piano rose the same as before. The manifestations of the evening were then brought to a close with the lifting of the instrument without the medium's hands touching it at all.

### GOING TO HEAVEN BAREFOOTED.

During the pioneer days of Iowa, the town had an editor who was patient and long suffering. Some of the members of the church got him to give twenty dollars toward securing a minister; then they wanted five dollars for the heathen; then they wanted their religious notices inserted free; then he was asked for twenty-five dollars toward helping to build a parsonage, and he finally found he was giving the church more than he gave his family. He nevertheless "hung on" for a time longer, or until one evening he went to prayer meeting and was asked to leave his office for a week, and go and help, and clear the grounds for a camp meeting. That was the last straw, and he rose up and said:

"Gentlemen, I'd like to go to heaven. I know you all. You are clever and obliging, and kind and tender, and it would be nice for all of us, as a congregation, to go together, but I've concluded to leave you, and dodge in along with somebody from Detroit, Grand Rapids or Lapeer. It's money, money, money, all the time, and if my wife should die she'd have to go to heaven barefooted."

The congregation seemed to realize that a free horse was being rode to death. They let up on the editor and pacified him. He even had a special tent assigned him at the camp meeting, and all was well.

### CHOKED CATTLE.

During the past winter we have fed our cows and young cattle many bushels of apples, and during the time have had several cases of choking in the herd. One cow, in particular, required close watching as she quite frequently got an apple lodged in her throat while eating. Instead of attempting to punch the apple down, at such times our first move was to turn her loose and make her move about the yard a few minutes. This alone was generally sufficient to cause the apple to move either up or down, but, if not, a tablespoonful of soft soap was dissolved in a quart of warm water, and with some person to hold her head, a little of the suds was poured down her throat, followed by gentle hand rubbing on the outside of the neck near the seat of the trouble. Sometimes two or three doses would be required, but generally one was sufficient. We recommend soap-suds as fully equal to sweet oil or other more expensive preparations, while it is always easy to procure at short notice. If one is feeding roots, apples or potatoes to stock, he should keep a little watch of the animals while eating and attend to any case of choking immediately; for if let alone but for a short time, the parts become inflamed and the removal of the obstruction becomes much more difficult.