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What Made the Scratches.

The summer visitor had driven into the New Hampshire village with one of the selected men of the town and his wife. The better half was a plump, good-hearted soul, until recently quite contented in her rural prosperity; but lately stirred up by the influence of a woman's club which weekly held readings of papers ranging from "The Contribution of Charles II to Religion" to "The Married Women in Political Reform," she had become ambitious for "culture." Her last plunge had been into geology.

"John," says she, "you see that flat ledge of rock that lies bare on the road?"

"I suppose you are going to tell me that it is an extinct volcano," interrupted her husband, who had become familiar with his wife's latest interest.

"Of course I ain't," sniffing at his sarcasm. "I wanted you to see those grooves and scratches, but if knowledge ain't acceptable to you, you are welcome to remain in ignorance. I shan't interfere."

"Well, I see the scratches on the rock—what of 'em? Are they the footprints of a prehistoric rattlesnake?"

"There! I knew you wouldn't know. Those are glacial scratches. When the glaciers came down over New England they moved slowly and ground the loose rocks across the flat surfaces, making those scratches and grooves. Once right here there was a sheet of ice two hundred and fifty feet thick—"

"See here, Marthy," said her husband, "I don't care how much you think things like that, but don't you go telling 'em to the folks here. Those who happened to believe it would be misinformed, and it would be your fault. Those who had any sense would know we never had a winter such as you speak of—not in a thousand years."

His wife sat up straight in indignation. "John Stubbs," said she, "you just turn your back on learning! I believe you'd rather not know any education. I want you to understand I don't speak about a thousand years—it was a million years ago, I guess, that those scratches were made."

"No, it wa'n't," replied her husband, quietly. "Those scratches were made when we moved the Baptist meeting house in eighty-seven!"

The Code of Honor.

"What is honor? A word. What is that word, honor? Air. A trim reckoning!—who hath it? He that died o' Wednesday." So fat Jack Falstaff. Honor, indeed, is a mere scutcheon—a breath of air—nothing—but withal it is the strongest ethical force, the only observed code of morals in modern society. We may laugh with Falstaff, but our thoughts run rather with Harry Percy, whose honor was his life and who bethought:

"It were an easy leap To pluck bright honor from the pale-faced moon Or dive into the bottom of the deep, Where fathom-line could never touch the ground And pluck up drowned honor by the locks."

In theory Christendom accepts the ten commandments as the rule of moral conduct, but in practice it is the code of honor, not that of Moses, that we follow. The code of honor is an historical growth; a set of unformulated rules, whose only sanction is public opinion, and yet which are inveterate in Western civilization. Unlike the code of Moses the code of honor is practicable and not too difficult for ordinary human nature. It does not set its ideals high, but holds them within reach. It is lenient toward human

weakness, especially of the flesh. Lying it does not prohibit except in special circumstances. Honor allows a man to lie, even upon oath, to save a woman's name, but forbids him to lie in order to injure another person or to save himself from answering for his own actions. Honor prohibits theft of any sort and binds a man to a stricter punctiliousness in this regard than the Mosaic commandment, for there are ways of getting money which do not violate the commandment and yet are frowned upon by honor. Honor, above all, forbids cowardice, moral or physical, and imposes the deepest dye of turpitude on any kind of sneaking. A man's valor and a woman's virtue are the two points of greatest concern to honor, and about these two points the code of honor turns.

The code of honor is not logical. In respects it is contradictory. Any theologian can tear it pieces. It is open to the ridicule of a Falstaff and the sneers of a cynic. Perhaps, in part, it rests on hypocrisy. Perhaps it lays too much stress on some virtues and not enough on others. But there is this main thing to say about honor—it has power to keep men straight when the laws of Church and State are impotent.

Agriculture in New Brunswick.

The agricultural development of New Brunswick has in comparison with some countries been a somewhat slow process. Several reasons may be presented for this condition; among them: 1st. That there was never an immigration of agricultural people into the province. 2nd. That lumbering and fishing have been profitable and attractive pursuits. 3rd. That the industrial development of the United States and the opening up of the American and Canadian West have attracted so many of our young people that the population has not materially increased. Coupled with these conditions is the fact that railway development has brought cheap western flour, beef, pork etc., and given the farmer keen competition.

Another factor in checking agricultural development has been the attitude of the United States market. Before McKinleyism and Dingleyism erected an insuperable tariff wall against our agricultural products, potatoes, hay, eggs, etc., went to Boston and New York in considerable quantities, but the increase of tariff had the effect desired by its promoters so far as New Brunswick was concerned, in taking hundreds of our farmers across the border to become enterprising American citizens and to grow on the fertile fields of Maine the hay and potatoes for New England cities which they could not ship from their New Brunswick farms.

So much for a glimpse of some of the conditions of the last three decades, conditions which have militated considerably against the earnest efforts of the Federal and Provincial Departments of Agriculture to develop dairying, wheat raising and fruit growing.

New Brunswick has, however, pre-eminent advantages for stock raising, dairying and fruit raising, and if a supply of farm labor becomes available considerable development along these lines may be reasonably expected.

The crying need today is for labor, both on the farm and in the farm home. Live stock husbandry means continual careful and skillful work the year round. During the spring months of the present season the writer visited many of the farmers in the St. John valley in the interests of live stock development and everywhere the cry of lack of help was heard. Men for work upon the farms could not be obtained at any price, and as a result, not from choice but from stern necessity, less cultivation and less live stock must be the practice.

Nearly all our farmers admit more cultivation, more live stock, farm buildings better adapted to the economical feeding and care of the stock and the preservation of manure, are necessary to profitable farming, but they feel that no general movement to this end can be expected until they can secure the labor which such a system involves.

The position of affairs is, however, improving, and it is likely that active efforts will be made to secure immigrants adapted to the farm labor demand of next spring, and with this need supplied and the active educational work of the Federal and Provincial Agricultural Department we can reasonably expect that those people will more generally follow those lines to which the province is especially adapted.

As an instance of the educational work which is being prosecuted, we may cite: 1st. The Farmers' Institute meetings. Over one hundred of these meetings will be held throughout the province autumn, and special attention will be given to the discussion of live stock, dairy and fruit topics. Next spring no doubt special orchard meetings, as in the past two seasons, will be held.

2nd. A further number of illustration orchards will likely be planted where they will be object lessons to their neighborhoods.

3rd. The Maritime Winter Fair, open to the three Maritime Provinces, gives valuable education and encouragement to the production of all kinds of live stock along the most profitable lines and is also encouraging bee keeping and fruit growing.

4th. The efforts of the Canadian Pacific Railway along its lines in New Brunswick to

promote the improvement of horses and cattle and trade in live stock and live stock products.

5th. The educational effect of the various fall exhibitions, where expert judges are employed, who explain their awards and give addresses before evening audiences during the show.

Coupled with all this, New Brunswick farmers enjoy, in common with the other parts of Canada, the work done by the experimental farms and the Dominion Live Stock Commissioner, through his efforts the improvement of exhibitions, the encouragement of inter-provincial trade in live stock and the extension of foreign markets for Canadian live stock has been most marked.

Joseph Banigan.

The following story is told of one of the wealthiest rubber manufacturers in the States, the late Joseph Banigan. The story was related by himself and has a very pointed point:—"When I was a grinder man," he says, "there was a man worked beside me who was a natural born organizer and politician. He had great ideas about the rights of the working man, and proved to me over and over again that no capitalist could exist if it were not for labor, that it therefore followed that the labourer should have more to say about what he did, that he should work fewer hours, get better pay, and in fact, be a sort of partner of the boss. One of his particular ideas was that a mill man should work only at mixing and warming; that a man who ran a calendar should not be asked to do anything else. If a man was put on the heel press, he should stay there at full pay, even if the press was idle, and not be required to sort latex, or help in the varnish room. His ideas got a strong hold on me until I talked them over with my mother. She soon put a 'bee in my bonnet.' 'Joseph,' said she, 'do any blessed thing the boss tells you. If you stay on the mixing mill, a dollar and a quarter a day is all you will earn, and all you will get till the day of your death. Learn to do everything. Stay in the factory till morning if necessary, and you will get more money, and may be boss yourself some day.' 'That was the turning point in my career,' said Mr. Banigan. 'I simply took hold of every job and mastered it, and in time became, as you know, fairly successful.' 'What about your friend, the man with the ideas?' was asked. 'Poor fellow! He didn't get on very well. He was employed by various mills, but somehow he never had a good job long. At present—I know as I should tell it, he is—well, he is getting \$2 a day in one of my mills, and I'm afraid he doesn't quite earn it. But he is authority on the ideal relations between labor and capital," said Mr. Banigan, with a twinkle in his eye.

A Note to the Doctor.

The Macy baby had sneezed four times in succession and had refused to dispose of the entire contents of what his mother called his "own bottle-dy-bye," whereupon the doctor had been sent for. He had seen at a glance that the infant's illness was far from serious and he had said when taking his departure: "I shall not call again unless the child grows worse. You might send me word in the morning, and if the baby is not better by that time I will change the medicine."

Information in regard to the condition of the child reached him next morning in the shape of the following note from baby's mamma:

"Dear Doctor: You will no doubt remember that you asked me to send you word about baby this morning, and I am hereby complying with your request. I gave him the medicine you left and he seems better, but he is not quite himself yet, and it might be best to change the medicine, although, of course you will know better than I in regard to that. He slept very well last night and he takes his bottle as usual this morning, but he does not seem quite so bright as he ordinarily does. He nearly always wakes up crowing and laughing and wants his breakfast right away. He has such a funny little way of saying bol-lol-lol-lol, which means 'bottle.' He did not say it this morning, so I do not think that he can be quite himself, although he did not refuse the bottle when we gave it to him. Then he usually says 'pay ee bub-bub' after having his bottle, which is his dear little way of saying 'play with baby.' He said it this morning, but not quite in his usual bright way. He talks more and plainer than any child of his age I ever saw when he is quite himself. He said 'da-da' distinctly when he was but eight months old, and the day he was a year old he said 'mam-mam' just as plainly as he says it now, and that is one reason why I am always so anxious about him when he is ill. Those children with abnormal brain development are so much more susceptible to certain diseases than ordinary children. Don't you think so? My sister has a little boy three months and two days older than our baby, and he has unusual brain development and is ill a good deal. The doctor says that is because the brain is stronger than the body. I wanted to ask you yesterday if that was not the reason why our baby is so very nervous. He starts and jumps in his sleep and he never sleeps long at a time. One of my neighbors has a baby

ten days older than mine and he sleeps eight and ten hours at a time, while my baby hardly ever sleeps more than four or five hours at a time. But the Jones baby—that is the name—does not talk at all, which shows that its brain is not more than normal in development, and I suppose that is why it is less nervous than my baby. Do you think it wise to give a baby the age of mine candy? Of course we give him very little, but it is so hard to resist when he holds out his dear little hands and says 'kow dow,' which means 'candy.' Of course we give him only the purest candy and just the least little bit at a time. I have read that a little sweet was good for babies, and I have a friend who gives her baby a month older than mine five or six chocolate drops at a time. She even gives him fudge, but I never do that. I am greatly in favor of a fruit diet for children, and my baby is fond of fruit. If he sees an apple, he holds out his hands and says 'lop-lop' for 'apple,' and I scrape it for him. He likes bananas, but I don't think they are good for him. Don't you think they are apt to lie heavy on the stomach? Do just as you think best about changing the medicine or calling again. As I say—The baby has just come out of his nap and is saying 'tee-ow,' which means 'come here,' so I must close. I will write again if he is not decidedly better by to-morrow.

"P. S.—He has taken half a cup of weak mutton broth and is calling for his 'dow wow'—'doll'—so I really think he is better. I shall keep him quiet all day and will not allow him to weary his brain by talking too much."

New Antarctic Facts.

Mr. Bruce, leader of the Scottish Antarctic Expedition, indicates some additional discoveries in the south polar region. Mr. Bruce's party reached the southeastern extremity of Weddell Sea, and discovered there a great barrier of ice, part of the antarctic continent. Many soundings were made which, Mr. Bruce says, "revolutionize the map of the South Atlantic Ocean by finding relatively shallow water where specially deep water was expected." The expedition went 180 miles farther south than Ross penetrated in that part of the antarctic regions.



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- " " Pomade, " " Silver Putz Silver Polish, Diamond Hamen Dressing, half pints and pints, Standard Ha Dressing, U. N. O. Dressing, Frank Miller's Harness Soap in pans and cakes, Eagle Brand Colgate's Harness Soap in cakes, Climax Water Proof Oil Harness Blacking, Crystalline Axle Grease, Mica Axle Grease, Asbestoline Axle Grease, Imperial Axle Oil, McLan's Axle Oil, Beaver Brand Axle Oil, Bickmore Gall Cure, Lotasine Gall Cure, Imperial Hoof Ointment, Dr. Daniel's Hoof Ointment, 3rd Seat for Carriages, Brushes, Curry Combs, Cards, Mane Combs, Waggon Washers, Shoe Thread, Wax, Harness Awls and Needles, Blacksmiths' Leather Aprons.

FRANK L. ATHERTON

(At the Sign of the White Horse)
King Street, Woodstock.

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Most respectfully yours,
OLDHAM BROS., Southampton, N. B.
August 31, 1900.