

Flax.

There is nothing prettier than a field of Irish flax in full bloom. The stems are about thirty inches high. They are slender and of a pale green. On each stem is a flower in an exquisite tone of blue; something between a cornflower and a forget-me-not. The little flower is not of a robust constitution. The petals soon fall and then a seed pod forms which, when given time to do so, produces quantities of what is called linseed ("lin is the Celtic name for flax). But when the flax is grown for the manufacture of linen it is pulled up before the seed has had time to mature.

After having been exposed to the air for a few days the flax is laid in water and during the fortnight that this process lasts the odious smell with which it fills the offended air is of a remarkably powerful character.

As the local guide says: "Sure, it's just the flax fermentin'." It's a powerful smell intirely, but there's no danger in it, glory be to God."

The soaking makes it easy to separate the straw from the fibre by brushing it between rollers and then suspending it through an opening in the top of a machine in which a horizontal shaft with wooden blades revolves at the rate of 250 times a minute. Parted forever are the fibre, flax and the straw, now torn.

Next comes the spinning into yarn, done in immense mills and after that the yarn is woven into the fabric itself. Finally comes the bleaching, when the linen is laid out on the green field to be whitened by rain and sun and wind. These long strips of snowy whiteness on the green turf surprise the stranger. He thinks it some sort of top dressing, spread upon the land to fertilize it. Belfast is the centre of the linen trade.

Jersey Bull Sold for \$11,000.

The world's record price, \$11,500, was paid by A. B. Lewis, of Fredericksburg, Va., for Stockwell, the king of the herd, at the sale of Jersey cattle at the Linden Grove Farm, Allentown, Pa., by T. S. Copper. It was announced the bull would head the herd on Thomas F. Ryan's Virginia estate.

Other bidders for the bull were buyers for William Rockefeller and Alfred G. Vanderbilt.

Stockwell was born in 1903. He was bred by Philip J. Ahier, of St. Martins, Island of Jersey. He was sired by Oxford Lad, out of Flying Fox, and besides being of sold color, with perfect black tongue and switch, has a most aristocratic carriage. He commanded the highest price ever bid for a horned animal at any auction in the world.

At the same sale five young cows, sired by Stockwell, brought prices ranging from \$2,200 to \$3,000.

The bull calf Sensational Fern, seven months old, bred by Mr. Copper, brought \$10,200. Ninety-seven head, including calves, brought \$93,950. The average was the highest ever derived at any cattle sale in America.

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"I have here," said the long-haired visitor, "a little poem on spring." "All right," answered the editor, "leave it. I'll publish it. Nothing we can do to spring will be too cruel after the experience we've had this year."



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Connell Street,
Woodstock.

The Jews in Canada.

Canada received the other day at once 6,000 Jews, not unlikely to be followed by more. Semitism in fact has suddenly come upon us in force, and it is an event of no little moment in its way. To suppose that there is any feeling against the Jew on account of his religious belief or of his lineage would be absurd. Toleration, practical as well as legal, happily reigns here; while to some religious people the Jews are special objects of interest as the Chosen Race. The trouble arises from the peculiar habits of the Jew as a cosmopolitan wanderer, and his bearing towards the people of other nations among whom he comes for his commercial ends, not blending with them, not intermarrying; often, as among peasant populations, plying oppressive trades, sometimes plying trades worse than oppressive. The cosmopolitan usury of the Lombard and the Armenian each in his day, produced something of the same feeling. Where Jews have doffed their exclusive character and donned that of ordinary citizens, though retaining their religion, the prejudice against them has ceased; they have been fully received into the community, and have been freely raised to distinction and high place. They are impartially protected by the law, and have acquired a great influence over the press. But there is no use in affecting to regard the coming of Semitism among us in force as a trifling event, especially when the new-comers are Russian and Polish Jews, whose Semitism is specially strong. It must be borne in mind that there will henceforth be a large Jewish vote. In New York the Jewish vote is now immense.

Richard Croker Wins The Derby.

Richard Croker must have been the proud man last Wednesday when his colt Orby, bred from a United States Dam, won the Derby at Epsom by two lengths. This is probably the greatest racing prize in the world.

Aside from the enormous prestige of winning the blue ribbon of the turf, Mr. Croker made a fortune. In the first place the stakes, 6,500 sovereigns or \$32,500 is no inconsiderable sum; then he had the opportunity of making any number of bets at about 10 to 1 and, finally, the value of Orby has increased to such an extent that Mr. Croker may, if he so desires, sell him for an immense sum. Of course, it is impossible to form an exact estimate of the financial fruits of Mr. Croker's triumph, but, one way and the other, they were placed at about \$250,000.

A tourist arrived at a Highland village, and was surprised to learn that there was not a doctor within thirty miles. "But how do you do," he asked an old woman, "when any of you folk are ill?"

"Oh!" said she, "we just gi'e them a glass of whiskey."

"But if that does them no good?"

"Just gi'e them anither ane."

"And if that does them no good?"

"Weel, just gi'e them anither ane."

But even if a third one does them no good?"

"Oh! weel, if three glasses o' guid whiskey disna cure them, they're guan tae dee, onywey."

No Carnegie Library For Detroit.

A fine example of civic pride was given by the city of Detroit at a recent vote on the question of erecting a new building for the public library. Two propositions were presented to the electors: (1.) Shall the offer of Mr. Carnegie of \$750,000 for a new library building be accepted? (2.) Shall the city issue its bonds for \$750,000 to erect a new library building? The former of these propositions was rejected by a majority of seventy-seven, while the latter was accepted by a majority of 1,100. Many cities have undertaken to show their independence and pride by rejecting a Carnegie gift, but few have at the same election voted to assume the whole burden themselves.

Simple Democracy.

(Winnipeg Telegram.)

The American College of Arms, with true United States business acumen and knowledge of the advantages of a practical Protective doctrine, announces that it will "send you the certificate, reproducing your crest and arms in colors, and on parchment, and giving your family a prior right to use them America."

There is a scent of international difficulties in the last statement. It may be that the Governor-General of Canada, on a visit to New York, with find that John, Peter, or Robert Grey of Skedunt, Michigan, has an exclusive right to the Grey crest and that he will be compelled to use the hotel stationery.

If anyone would improve their make of butter they should strive to improve the purity and flavor of the milk and cream from which it is made. This is done by improving the purity and sweetness of the surroundings of the cows from which the milk is obtained, and by attention to the absolute cleanliness and consequent sweetness of all utensils and apparatus used in the making of the product. There is no alchemy about making good butter.

A GREAT TRIUMPH

GAINED BY DR. WILLIAMS' PINK PILLS
FOR PALE PEOPLE.

The Doctors of Mount Clemens Institute Prove the Value of These Pills in the Case of Mr. S. Harris, Government Inspector of Elevators at Hamilton, Ont.

From the Star, Dundas, Ont.

We are much pleased to see Mr. S. Harris, the well known Government Inspector of elevators of Hamilton, in Dundas the other day, greatly improved in health and appearance since the last time we met him. As is known to many of the Star readers, Mr. Harris has recovered from a long and severe illness, and is now quite able to attend his usual duties. From his long illness many predicted Mr. Harris would never recover, and the fact that he is once more able to go around very nearly as spry as he did before he was attacked, is little less than marvellous to them.

In reply to our reporter, Mr. Harris related the early stages of the attack and subsequent sufferings which he experienced, and while he did not court publicity, decided that in the public interest he would relate the circumstances of this wonderful cure. About fourteen months ago Mr. Harris woke up one morning with a stiff neck; try as he would, and after applying all the remedies externally that he could hear or think of, he was unable to get rid of it. The stiffness moved to the spine and shoulders, then to the hips until it made almost a cripple of him, and it was with extreme difficulty that he could get out of bed at all. As for walking it was out of the question with him. The attack became so bad that he was unable to put on either his coat, vest or hat. From time to time he called in various medical men, none of whom were able to give him much relief. It was almost impossible for him to raise his feet from the floor, and all pronounced his a severe case of muscular rheumatism, giving him little encouragement as to his ultimate recovery. However, one medical gentleman finally recommended the baths, and as a last resort Mr. Harris decided to follow his advice, and went to Mount Clemens, Mich. As is customary with all patients, Mr. Harris had to undergo a thorough examination in order to determine if the system can stand this rigorous treatment. After several examinations had been made as to Mr. Harris' condition, the physicians there finally decided that he was not suffering from muscular rheumatism at all, but that his ailment was of the nerves, and told him that the baths would do him little or no good; that he required altogether different treatment. Mr. Harris placed himself in the hands of one of the physicians there, and what seemed quite strange to him, they did nothing for him but administer medicine in the shape of pills. Shortly after he commenced this treatment he began to improve perceptibly, and his appetite greatly improved. He began to walk around slowly at first, but soon was able to get around more than he could for a year previous. He was able to put on his coat and vest and began to feel like his former self. His improvement was so rapid and perceptible not only to himself but to others, that he was plied with all sorts of questions as to his wonderful recovery. The medical attendant was questioned as to the nature of the medicine which was being administered. Much to the surprise of Mr. Harris and other patients there, he was told that it was a well known Canadian remedy, Dr. Williams' Pink Pills, and was advised to continue their use for a time on his return home. Mr. Harris is loud in his praise of the wonderful curative qualities of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills, and consented to make his case public in the hope that he might benefit others similarly afflicted. Mr. Harris has long been a resident of Hamilton, being a well known builder of elevators, as well as Government inspector of the same, so that his prominence and well known integrity is evidence that he is sincere in the statements he made.

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Terms: Single service \$6.00; to insure \$12.00; \$2.00 to be paid at time of service, in default thereof \$15 will be charged.

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