AMERICAN GOODS IN FRANCE.

Our Consul at Rheims Gives Valuable Advice and Points of Interest to the Trade.

The best way to sell American goods in the part of France is to establish a general agency at Paris and work the surrounding territory by means of traveling or local agents, says a report from United States Consul William A. Prickett, Rheims, France.

In this manner more goods can be exported at one time and much lower rates of transportation secured. Have the catalogues and advertising matter printed in French, and have capable men, familiar with the goods, for agents. The Paris agency of an American typewriting company has established a local agency at Rheims during the past year. It has an excellent agent, who has succeeded in selling many machines. The breakfast foods "force" and "quaker oats," have been placed on sale at one of the finest grocery stores in the city. The paper boxes containing the cereals are printed on all sides with statements describing their merits, directions for use, etc., in the French language. A little pamphlet in French is given to each customer. These goods, owing to the way they are being pushed, are having good sales. American evaporated fruits, particularly apples and apricots, are having increased sales, and inferior native apples are selling at retail in the markets at this date at five cents a pound, owing to the failure of the apple crop. There is a heavy duty on apples for the table—$2 90 per 220 pounds.

During my administration as consul I have explained many times why the merchants here do not import directly from the United States. The difference in the money, weights and measures and the absence of a port of entry make it very difficult to establish direct communication between would-be sellers in the United States and purchasers at Rheims. I have succeeded in doing this in a few instances, but even after one or two sales were made the seller lost the trade because he had no one on this side to look after it. The commercial traveler is always in evidence, and the solicitor for trade on the spot, and his something which he declares "just as good or better" than the article furnished by the absent seller, is almost sure of success. As a rule, competition is now so great that trade must be continually looked after in order to keep it.

But the most difficult thing to do in France is to introduce an article to which the people are not accustomed. It will not do to count on selling things in France because they are popular in the United States. Here is a case in point:

Almost all articles of use are well made in France, for they are made to last and to do good service, but the article is often made too heavy. For example, all vehicles last for a long time, but the owners do not see that they are using up their horses much more quickly by adding unnecessary weight to their loads. The roads are perfect, yet the business wagons and carriages are made heavy enough to carry three times the weight that is ever put upon them. But if one tries he will find it very difficult to sell lighter vehicles for business or pleasure.

I am fond of driving, and I thought I would show the people here how much superior an American buggy is to their heavy and uncomfortable carts. In 1901 I imported an American phaeton weighing 440 pounds, which would be considered heavy in the United States. It is an up-to-date carriage with leather top, rubber tires and self-oiling axles. I was sure that I could easily sell it if I concluded not to keep it. I reckoned without my host. The freight and duty from New York to Rheims was $100, which shows that carriages should not be imported singly. I was astonished, for I had not figured on over one-half of that amount. But I said: "Never mind! I will give these people an object lesson." I have given the lesson, but without effect. I wish to sell, for I have found that I cannot afford to keep a horse and carriage. It is no trouble to sell a horse, but the phaeton is still in my possession. I have offered to sell it at a bargain. I have advertised it in the newspapers. I have pointed out that if a bicycle weighing 25 pounds will carry a heavy person safely thousands of miles, it is entirely inutile to use a carriage weighing half a ton to carry two persons. I have explained that it is on account of the heavy vehicles that so many of the horses here are knee sprung. All this has no effect; the people are not accustomed to light carriages. They look at my phaeton, shrug their shoulders, and say: "Pas solide."

American Trade in Denmark.

Trade relations with the United States are very cordial. Denmark buys a great variety of articles from us yearly, and would buy more in various lines if our exporters and manufacturers were as active in catering to the market as are the Germans. Where there is one American merchant or his representative visiting Denmark, there are several Germans, and trade will go largely to those who seek it. The Germans are exceedingly active in Denmark and find a market for their wares by simply "hustling."—Raymond R. Frazier, Consul, Copenhagen, Denmark.

Climate of West Indies.

Throughout the West Indies and peninsula of Florida the prevailing winds are from due east, which makes the eastern coasts very healthy, while on the west coasts, where these trade winds are not so constant, the climate is less salubrious.

Microbes Shot from a Gun.

The latest indignities that microbes have been subjected to is firing them from a gun. This was done by government officials, and it was found that the bugs were not injured.

CANALS O CANADA.

The Various Systems Are Maintained and Extended at an Immense Annual Cost.

What is known as the St. Lawrence system of canals extends from Lachine, near Montreal, via the great Laurentian lakes and their connections, to Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario. These, with their feeders, have a total length of 733⅜ miles, with 49 locks. The Welland canal proper, connecting Lake Ontario and Lake Erie, is 26⅝ miles long, with a rise of 326¾ feet, the depth of the canal between locks being adapted to the passage of vessels drawing not more than 14 feet, reports American Consul A. G. Seyfert, from Stratford, Canada.

The Ottawa and Rideau river canal system includes a total length of navigable waters of 126¼ miles. There are 56 locks, with an aggregate length of 29¼ miles. The total distance from Montreal to Kingston by this route is 245½ miles. The lockage is 446¼ feet, 282¼ feet being rise and 164 feet fall. In the 164½ miles of the Rideau canal embraced in this system there are 49 locks, 35 of them ascending and 14 descending.

On the upper Ottawa are the Culbute locks at L'Islet. These surmount the Culbute and L'Islet rapids on the northern branch of the Ottawa river, and comprise two locks and three dams.

The amount expended on Canadian canal works and maintenance, chargable to capital account, including the amount expended from their income, to June 30, 1902, was $101,536,862. Of this amount the sum of $20,692,344 was expended before the confederation—$4,173,921 by the imperial government and $16,518,233 by the provincial governments interested. The total amount spent for construction and enlargement alone is $86,605,201, including the cost of the survey of the Baie Certe canal, which was at one time considered a feasible plan for uniting the Bay of Fundy and the Gulf of St. Lawrence.

The total cost of the construction of the Welland canal to June 30, 1902, was $24,988,805, of which amount $222,220 was contributed by the imperial government and $7,461,020 by the Ontario government prior to the confederation, leaving $17,350,565 as the expenditure since confederation.

SUPPRESSION OF MALARIA.

An Important Work That Is Now Being Carried On by Austrian Authorities.

Consul Hossfeld, at Trieste, has made a report to the state department in regard to the steps being taken in Austria for the suppression of malaria. According to his report, a Vienna manufacturer, Leopold Kupelweiser, prompted by the result of Prof. Koch's investigations relating to intermittent fever, has placed at Dr. Koch's disposal the island of Brioni (situated west of the peninsula of Ishria and about 60 miles south of Trieste) to enable him to continue there his investigations. The experiments which Dr. Koch had made in Africa convinced him that malaria could be stamped out in many places where it now prevails, and that where it was possible to isolate such a place the task would be comparatively easy. It is now well known that the microbe of malaria is conveyed from one person to another by the sting of a species of mosquito.

As these insects cannot fly very far, an accession of infected mosquitoes from the mainland seemed to be out of the question, and it was hoped that by curing the sick during the cold season and then waging energetic warfare against the conveyor of the microbe the disease could be permanently banished from the island. Dr. Koch therefore accepted the offer made to him by Mr. Kupelweiser, and intrusted Prof. Frosch and Dr. Blundau, of Berlin, with this mission. Their remarkable success led the Austrian government to make an attempt to exterminate malaria on the coast of Istria by Prof. Koch's method. It caused three malaria stations to be established, and detailed physicians, furnished with the finest microscopical instruments, to these stations. The physicians examine the blood of all persons suffering from malaria, and subject all suspicious cases to a systematic course of treatment. Quinine in tablets or capsules is furnished to patients free of cost at public expense. If the work of these stations should be attended with success, it is also proposed to establish similar stations in all those districts of Istria and Dalmatia infested with malaria, for the purpose of removing this great evil.

German Steel Trust.

The correspondent in Germany of a London paper states that the plan, which has been mooted for nearly a year, of forming a general trust or cartel of all the steel interests of Germany, seems now in a fair way of being realized. It appears that for the present only the larger steel works are to be taken into the combination, such as are already in the steel-rail girder and half-rolled goods syndicates. These different syndicates will lose their identity in the new combination, while it is expected that several other syndicates, like the bar-iron, plate, piping, wire and pig-iron combinations, will later attach themselves to it, but maintain their separate identity.—Oliver J. D. Hughes, Consul General, Coburg.

Liberia's Vegetables.

The most common vegetables of Libebria are the sweet potato, cassada, yam and tania. The cassada is a root varying in size from six to eighteen inches in length and from three to eight inches in circumference. When it is cooked it tastes very much like a fresh chestnut. This root is the vegetable most extensively cultivated by the natives and forms, with the rice, their chief diet. The fecula of the cassada is made into tapioca.

FOR FRAMING PICTURES.

Wall Paper Now Brought Into Use—Possibilities of the Paper Napkin.

The newest picture-framing idea is the use of wall papers for mats, says the Washington Star.

Not only dark green, gray, blue and red cartridge papers are used for mats, but the figured wall papers as well. One of the prettiest landscape pictures recently shown in an exhibit had for a mat a cream satin wall paper, marked with gauzy spider webs connected by a silken spider thread. In the upper left-hand corner of the picture was a spider weaving a web about a huge crimson rose. The effect was exquisite, combining as it did the cream and gray tones with the red of the rose.

Another wall paper idea was a water-color sketch of a child, which was framed with a mat made of violet wall paper. The frame itself was of violet passepartout, which made it a fitting object to hang on the boudoir walls of the elderly woman for whom it was intended.

A dainty little country landscape had for its setting a mat made of wild rose crepe paper. The frame was of pink ribbon pasted on the glass the same as in passepartouting. This picture, too, was for a boudoir.

Possibilities lie dormant even in an ordinary crepe paper napkin. A pansy one, for instance with its floral sentiment, is beautiful for a photograph frame which is to be presented as a gift. It is easily made by cutting an oval or square in the center, padding with cotton, scenting with sachet and using a pasteboard backing.

Tapestry is a favorite material for mats since this new craze came in. Pictures framed in this manner, whether large or small, usually have gilt frames of either passepartout or molding. Oval shapes are much favored. Remnants of tapestry which have seen their best days, but which are valued because of their association, are kept intact in this manner, thus serving a double purpose. Pink shades of tapestry with a gold thread, and green shades with touches of brown, are both popular in this new role.

Some of the prettiest pictures seen recently were Holland scenes of the windmill type in Delft blue. They were mounted on mats of the same shade of blue book linen, and were framed in Delft blue passepartout.

Green, yellow, brown, black and gray book linen are also much liked for mats, and when framed in the same shade of passepartout are durable, inexpensive and effective.

Remnants of Dresden, pompadour or other figured silks are often brought into requisition for this purpose, and are dainty for mats. A picture recently shown was of a woman in colonial attire, powdered hair.

TONIC VALUE OF COLD.

It Causes the Vital Fires of the Body to Burn Brighter and Consume the Rubbish.

The refreshing influence of a brisk walk on a cold, frosty morning, is due to the tonic effect of the cold air which comes in contact with the face and with the 2,000 square feet of mucous membrane lining the lungs and air passages. At each breath the blood is bathed in the cool, tonic air which rushes into the expanding lungs. The vital fires of the body burn brighter, says Good Health, and their increased activity consumes the tissue rubbish which may have accumulated during warm weather or during days or hours of confinement in the stifling air of offices or unventilated sleeping rooms.

Most chronic diseases are due to the accumulation of the poisons resulting from tissue work. The body, as Bouchard has said, is a factory of poisons. These poisons cannot be disposed of without the influence of oxygen. The larger the amount of oxygen received into the body, the more perfectly the blood is purified, the more highly the tissues are vitalized, the more efficiently the body functions are performed.

Do not run away from cold weather. Cultivate it, and utilize this great uplifting force by daily exercise in the open air. The sleeping room should have the window open at least a few inches, even during the very coldest and windiest weather. The body may be kept warm by an abundance of bed covering, the head and ears being protected by a warm hood when necessary, and the arms and shoulders by a thick woolen jacket. One may thus enjoy during the hours of sleep all the advantages of prolonged exposure to the tonic influence of dense, highly oxygenated air. Every breath is a tonic which gives the body an uplift toward the higher plane of life. Sixteen such breaths every minute, 1,000 every hour, exercise a marvelous influence for good.

Do not miss this opportunity by running away to some warm, mosquito-infested region, where you will not only lose the wholesome influence of cold air, but where you will run the risk of malarial infection with all its attendant dangers and inconveniences. Cold air is only dangerous when we too assiduously seek to dodge it. By gradual hardening of the body through systematic exercise out of doors, cold air is shorn of its terrors and becomes a mighty influence for good.

Beauty Sleep.

Unless you have plenty of rest and relaxation, both of mind and muscle, your mirror will soon begin to cast reflections on your face, and tiny little wrinkles will appear one by one, as the stars come out on a summer's night. But "when soft slumber allures thee," be careful not to sleep with the hand under the cheek, as this certainly tends to numb and wrinkle the skin. Another point to attend to is not to allow the jaw to drop at the psychological moment when you fall asleep; this is apt to foster the appearance of lines on either side of the mouth.—Chicago Tribune.

COFFINS OF STEEL.

Now Largely Used Because of Frequent Grave Robberies.

Are So Strongly Made as to Defy the Utmost Efforts of Graveyard Ghouls—Are Fine-ly Made.

In this progressive age invention keeps pace with the needs of humanity from the cradle to the grave. The latest thing out is a burglar-proof coffin, made necessary by recent raids of ghouls upon the cemeteries, and calculated to put those enterprising gentry out of business and deprive many budding doctors of subjects for dissection. It is said to be easier to break into a safety deposit vault than to rifle one of these up-to-date caskets. It requires drills and dynamite to effect an entrance, and even then the task is harder than breaking open the safe of a country bank, for there are no cracks and seams in which to pour nitro-glycerin. They are too heavy to carry away, says the Chicago Chronicle, unless there is a large party of grave robbers, and the ordinary ghouls would be likely to seek some task less difficult than one requiring a "jimmy" and high-power explosives.

The depredations of grave robbers have made these burglar-proof coffins a necessity. It is said that medical colleges all over the country use 40,000 human bodies every year for demonstration in the dissecting rooms. Not more than one-half this number are supplied by public institutions and morgues, where the corpses are unclaimed. Consequently they resort to buying bodies, and the usual price for one in good condition is $30.

The burglar-proof coffin now manufactured is more properly a vault. It is a receptacle for the casket, and in some cases is large enough to contain the wooden box in which the coffin is sometimes encased. These vaults are of all sizes and are made even for the bodies of children, some parents wishing to guard against the theft of the bodies of their little ones. They are made of No. 12 gauge charcoal hammered boiler plate steel. The ends are of heavy, tough malleable iron. They are practically seamless; the only seams are at the ends, for the top and bottom sections are all of one piece. Before being put on the market they are tested by hydraulic pressure to see if they leak. They are guaranteed to be air-tight and proof against moisture. The parts are riveted together with cold-pressed steel rivets, all rivets being perfectly headed.

The top or lid fits into and over a deep flange and leaves no seam. But in order to guard against the possibility of a crevice an elastic cement is used, and this becomes so hard that it is as difficult of entrance as steel. When the lid is put on, it is held tight by ten automatic spring locks that catch from the inside. These are so adjusted that they do not close unless the top fits perfectly. Once the lid is put on the vault it is impossible to open it. Even the relatives may not again look on the face of the dead unless resort is had to explosives.

There is nothing grewsome about these coffins. They are finished inside in white enamel, applied over two coats of rust-proof, non-corrodable paint. The exterior is finished in steel gray. There are eight heavy bar drop handles which are brass-plated and highly polished and lacquered. Owing to its construction the coffin is capable of withstanding tons of pressure and cannot be crushed by the weights of the earth. In some cases heavy monuments have been placed over them.

Another style of steel coffin has an opening only at one end, and through this the body is inserted. The end plate is then screwed on and so adjusted that only an up-to-date burglar can open it. There are two small holes in the end. In these a pump is inserted and the air pumped out. The coffin then is filled with what is known as "preservative gas" and the holes are hermetically sealed.

Although the burglar-proof coffin is comparatively a recent invention it is said 1,000 had been sold to guard against the depredations of ghouls. Last year some Cleveland grave robbers ran across one in their operations. They evidently thought it a hopeless task, for they did not even try to open it; at least there were no evidences of their work on the paint. Neither did they take the trouble to put it back into the grave from which they had partly removed it.

It is the expectation of the manufacturers of the burglar-proof coffin that before many years grave robbing will be confined to potter's fields, for with greater use the cost of the coffins will be brought within the reach of all except the very poor.

No Place for Poor Man.

The cost of a commission in the British army is well illustrated in the case of Lieut. and Riding Master Emery, of the Royal Irish lancers, who has just gone into bankruptcy, with liabilities amounting to $3,670. Twenty-five years ago he enlisted in the regiment as a private. He gained an honorary commission in 1864, with an allowance of $750 to cover his expenses. He was called on to spend for new clothes, $475; for two horses, $250; for transit of family to India, $75; for furnishing quarters, $50, and for saddlery, $100; a total of $1,495, or $475 more than the government allowed him. To help out, he had to go to a money lender for a considerable part of the balance, so that he was really insolvent from the day he got his commission.—Argonaut.

She Had Noticed It.

Portly Dame (with the aid of her maid, struggling into her last season's winter jacket)—Why, Jane, I really believe this thing has shrunk!

"Yes, m'm; it is really wonderful how clothes do shrunk at your time of life."—Stray Stories.

FIVE ACCIDENTS IN ONE.

So the Victim Figured It Out. But the Insurance Company Thought Differently.

"The soullessness of corporations is something to stun you," said the man with the heavy mustache and the bandage about his head, writes W. Bob Holland in the Philadelphia Press Sunday Magazine. "I am myself a victim, and instead of being a man of wealth and an honor to the community, I am now a relic of humanity just from the hands of a surgeon who made an earnest effort to restore me to the form in which I grew while reaching manhood's estate.

"Let me tell you about it. I carry an accident insurance policy, by the terms of which the company that insured me agreed to pay me $25 a week during such time as I was prevented from working because of an accident.

"A week ago I went around on Sunday morning to a new house that is being built for me. I climbed the stairs, or rather the ladder that is where the stairs will be when the house is finished, and on the top floor I found a pile of bricks which were not needed there. Feeling industrious, I decided to remove the bricks. In the elevator shaft was a rope and a pulley, and on one end of the rope was a barrel. I pulled the barrel up to the top, after walking down the ladder, and then fastened the rope firmly at the bottom. Then I climbed the ladder again and filled the barrel with brick. Down the ladder I climbed again, five stories, mind you, and untied the rope to let the barrel down. The barrel was heavier than I was, and before I had time to study over the proposition, I was going up the elevator shaft with my speed increasing every minute. I thought about letting go of the rope, but before I had decided to do so, I was so high that it seemed more dangerous to let go than to hold on; so I held on. Half way up the elevator shaft I met the barrel of bricks coming down. The encounter was brief, but spirited. I got the worst of it, and continued on my way toward the roof. That is, most of me went on; but much of my epidermis clung to the barrel and returned to earth. Then I struck the roof at the same time that the barrel struck the cellar. The shock knocked the breath out of me and the bottom out of the barrel. Then I was heavier than the empty barrel, and I started down, while the barrel started up. We met in the middle of our journeys, and again the barrel uppercut me, pounded my solar plexus, barked my shins, bruised my body and skinned my face. When we became untangled, I resumed my downward journey, and the barrel went higher. I was soon at the bottom. I stopped so suddenly that I lost my presence of mind and let go the rope. This released the barrel, which was at the top of the elevator shaft, and it fell five stories and landed squarely on top of me. And it landed hard, too. Now here is where the heartlessness of the insurance company comes in. I sustained five accidents within two minutes. Once on my journey up the shaft when I met the barrel of bricks, the second when I struck the roof, the third when I was descending and met the empty barrel, the fourth when I struck the bottom and the fifth when the barrel struck me. One accident would entitle me to $25 a week. Five accidents should entitle me to $125 a week, and I figured that by staying in bed for weeks I could clean up a comfortable sum. But the insurance man said it was for one accident, and he would pay but $25 a week.

"Arguments was of no avail, and so I remained in bed four days and am now expecting a check for $125. Now, isn't that a shame?

"No? Yes?"

NEW DRESS MATERIALS.

Fine Fabrics That Will Enter Largely Into the Composition of the Season's Costumes.

In the first stuffs of the new year there is noticed a new kind of panne silk which is so exceedingly lustrous that it looks like panne velvet. This silk has a sheen such as was never seen before upon the panne materials, and it is so velvety in its appearance that many women are buying it to use as trimmings upon evening gowns, instead of the panne velvet, which costs a great deal more, says the Brooklyn Eagle.

Louisine is found this year in the new colors, and it, too, has taken to itself a new and wonderful surface and the new louisines are, as one delighted modiste declares, a combination of peau de soie and satin, a texture of the former with the gloss of the latter.

And there is another new material, which is only a new form of an old material, and this is the dyed lace of the present year. Dyed laces will play a very important part in the fashionable wardrobe, and it will well repay any woman to investigate them and to procure as many kinds as she can afford.

There are not so very many taffeta linings these days for the material does not wear so very well, unless one gets a very good grade or is very fortunate in one's selection. But a good taffeta has great wearing qualities and, now, it is claimed that louisine for a lining is the best of all things next to a very glossy light weight satin.

Many persons are lining lace shirt waists and other thin material with a very nice quality of cambric, or lawn, or cotton stuff and very smart some of these gowns are with their crisp, crinkly cotton linings, in good shades.

Keeping It Quiet.

Husband—It's ruinous! The idea of paying all that money for a little bit of lace.

Wife—Mrs. Astorbilt has two or three pieces like that.

"But, good lands, the Astorbilts have millions where I have thousands. Don't you know that?"

"Of course, I do; but I don't want the Astorbilts to know it."—N. Y. Weekly.

NOVELTIES IN GRAIN.

Startling Results Obtained in Wheat and Corn Production.

New Varieties Brought by Patient Work to the "Farm Test" in the United States—Some Interesting Facts.

Not very long ago Sir William Crookes, president of the British association, asserted gloomily that by 1931 the world would not produce enough wheat to go round. His argument was that there is just so much wheat land upon the globe, and that the wheat-eating races are increasing beyond the limit of future supply.

But Sir William forgot the inventiveness of the Yankee, and the American editor who responded that if a steady price of a dollar a bushel was guaranteed America would take the contract to supply what was needed was not far wrong. The wheat lands may be limited, but the future possibilities of wheat itself are also to be reckoned with, writes Priscilla Leonard, in Youth's Companion.

Man has been raising wheat for uncounted ages, and corn for centuries; yet the grains themselves have changed very little under cultivation since our first record of them. But to-day chemistry and biology have taken a turn toward agriculture, and wheat in Minnesota and corn in Illinois have been the subjects of marvelous and successful experiment.

Ten years ago, for instance, the Minnesota state experiment station took up the idea of producing new wheats. It is, in the beginning, a French idea, Mons. Henri Vilmorin having done some fine experimenting.

The American workers have already produced some startling results. They began by artificially cross-breeding various wheats. To do this, we are told, the experimenters went into the blossoming wheat at four o'clock in the morning, transferred the pollen of one sort to the flowers of another, tied the heads so tightly in tiny bags of tissue, to keep out insects or birds, and marked them with record tags. When these heads of wheat matured the seed grains were harvested, registered and planted by themselves.

Some of the infinitesimal crops turned out poorly, some encouragingly. Out of the hundreds of wheats thus bred some eight or ten showed marked advance. These were sowed and reaped until there was enough seed to give out to farmers to use in open "field trials."

It takes about ten years of patient work to bring each new variety to this "farm test." But the results justify the labor. In most cases these new wheats yielded at least two bushels more to the acre than the standard wheat, and were vigorous and healthy. In one case, where the average yield was 15 bushels, the new "Minnesota No. 163" yielded 42 bushels—a result which ought to cheer Sir William Crookes' heart.

Meanwhile, in Illinois, the agricultural college at Urbana has been working away on corn, by selection and careful breeding. The Illinois experimenters, as one report puts it, have been "outwitting and reforming nature." They have aimed, not only at increasing the yield, but at controlling the elements of the kernel itself. They have succeeded in growing corn with less or more oil, or less or more protein, at will.

Corn oil is so important an element that the manufacturer has offered five cents a bushel more for every extra one per cent. of oil in the corn. Over one per cent. has already been added, and a further advance is looked for; while five per cent. of protein has been added to another variety.

A "corn register" is now established in Illinois, where the pedigrees of the different new varieties are registered precisely as pedigreed animals are recorded. An increase of ten bushels an acre is prophesied—which would mean $50,000,000 more for Illinois on her yearly corn crop, just as Minnesota and the Dakotas, with the new wheat, can hope for $22,000,000 more annually.

It all sounds like a fairy tale. But it has been done step by step, with almost incredible painstaking; and it is no more marvelous, after all, than the development of an "American Beauty" from the original wild rose. Who knows what wonderful wheats the twenty-first century may see? If the farmer's boy of to-day finds the farm outlook stupid, the dullness must be more in himself than in the possibilities of agriculture.

Remarkable Operation.

Dr. Logan (M. D.), missionary in China, 800 miles distant in the interior from any other physician, was attacked by symptoms of appendicitis which in his judgment demanded an immediate operation, and he was in no condition to be moved. His wife, under his instruction, undertook the operation, and with his last directions of technic before lapsing into insensibility under the anesthetic which she had administered proceeded to perform the operation. Such was their joint success that in a short time she was able to convey her patient, together with a young baby, by ox-cart and rail, the 800 miles to a medical station for professional after-treatment. The story seems fabulous, but it comes in a letter from the parties to friends in Illinois, and thence in a special to the New York Times.

A Freak.

"Uncle Timrod Totten is a queer old feller," said Hi Spry, ruminatingly, at the same time absent-mindedly inserting his claw into the prune barrel.

"Hadn't noticed perticler, but—" returned the corner grocer, meaningly.

"Aw, yes! Why, as often an' as much as he discussed politics, I hain't never heard him say what he'd do about straightenin' things out if he was only just president for about five minutes."—Woman's Home Companion.