

TURF

Continued from Page Nine

ly small. Stallions that are pure breeders and that leave strong foals are kept in condition the year round. This does not necessarily imply that they are loaded with flesh, but refers more particularly to having the muscles harden by work or exercise. Stallions should be capable of doing the work that is required of their offspring. While it may be a little unhandy working these big, life horses on harvesting machinery, they might be put in the hands for doing the fall plowing, provided they are in the hands of careful teamsters. After a season or two of failures to get colts, owners have put their horses to work both fall and spring and the results have been gratifying. Not only is the percentage of foals increased, but they are much stronger than from pampered horses. Those who are not in a position to work their entire horses should give them the run of a good sized paddock during the day, not only during the fall months but right up until the breeding season. The horse may not look as sleek as those stabled and exercised on the line, but looks should be of second consideration to virility and procreancy. Possibly owners of mares are largely to blame for stallions being kept in the hands of the dealer. A stallion a little down in flesh is often passed by for one that is rollin' fat and well groomed. There is no objection to a stallion looking well, but that firmness of muscle that can only be secured by work or regular exercise is of primary importance in the getting of colts. Stallions that get a large percentage of strong colts are kept in condition the year round.

CARE OF COLT.

Well developed and promising colts do not always grow into satisfactory adults, and the fault is usually with the owner. The mother has supplied the foal with food all summer; it has been sufficient for the requirements of the young animal and he has grown well. But when he has been weaned there is often another story to tell. Young horses and young cattle are often regarded as nuisances by many farmers and are tolerated only because they must be. But the farmer should remember that this is a world of cause and effect, of action and reaction of loss and gain. This may sound a little philosophical, but it is practical as well. The man who thinks he can get ahead of the young animal by stealing feed from him is making a mistake. For every dollar gained this way, particularly in the case of the colt, during the first winter and the second, two or three will be lost. The colt is a hardy young animal full of vigor and the possibilities for growth. And just for this reason he needs lots of feed and good feed too. He can stand neglect and cold and short ration, but he will certainly adjust his growth to these things. Grain twice a day with plenty of hay, water and exercise are required by the youngster, if he is to do his best. A fine, well developed colt is an object of pride at any time. While a sickly and unthrifty one will leave the owner with a loss, it is neither ornamental nor profitable.

DAIRY

DIRTY MILK PROBLEM.

Farmers have been so much talked at, preached at and written at concerning the production of pure milk that there is a danger of the subject advice losing its effect by becoming monotonous and of good effect often repeated. But just now there comes an echo from Halifax bearing the tidings that the farmer is not responsible for all the dirty milk sold. Milk producers ship their milk to the city in cans supposed to be cleaned and sterilized by the dealer in which this arrangement is carried out is best described in the words of A. G. Nicholls, Provincial Pathologist for Nova Scotia, to whom a sample of the liquid contained in the milk can after the sterilizing process, was submitted. He says: "The material submitted was received from the Halifax Board of Health and consisted of about 10 c.c. of a watery fluid somewhat opalescent and milky in appearance. On standing there was a considerable amount of whitish-gray flocculent deposit. The odor was quite putrid, suggesting decaying milk. The fluid in question was stated to be part of the washing from a milk container and had every appearance of being such a fluid."

Magic "Nerviline" Ends Stiff Neck, Lumbago

Any Curable Muscular or Joint Pain is Instantly Relieved by Nerviline

GET TRIAL BOTTLE TODAY You don't have to wait all day to get the kink out of a stiff neck if you rub on Nerviline. And you don't need to go around complaining about lumbago any more. You can rub such things away with ease and comfort. It's the greatest liniment, the quickest to penetrate, the speediest to ease muscular pain of any kind. One twenty-five cent trial bottle of Nerviline will cure any attack of lumbago or lame back. This has been proved a thousand times. Just as it was in the case of Mrs. E. Grayden, of Caledonia, who writes: "I wouldn't think of going to bed without knowing we had Nerviline in the house. I have used it for twenty odd years and appreciate its value, as a family remedy more and more every day. If any of the children get a stiff neck, Nerviline cures quickly. It is earache, toothache, cold on the chest, sore throat, Nerviline is always my standby. My husband once cured himself of a frightful attack of lumbago by Nerviline, and for a hundred ailments that turn up in a large family Nerviline is far the best thing to have about you."

made from the supernatant fluid after standing for an hour and showed a great number of bacteria in fact, as many as would ordinarily be found in a bouillon culture of a bacillus of twenty-four hours' growth.

"The deposit mentioned was found to consist in part of debris, a few fat globules, and enormous masses of bacteria. Cultures made on McConey's salt glucose broth gave on organism, among others, which produced acid, a small amount of gas, and a flocculence of the medium. The smell from the cultures was very penetrating and fetid, resembling that of the original fluid which was tested. The organism was clearly of a putrefactive character. Assuming the fluid to be "fishings" as it is stated, it is very clear that the milk container was insufficiently cleaned, and enough milk was allowed to remain in it to afford a suitable medium for the growth of putrefactive and other bacteria. The examination of the fluid in question was begun two hours after the sample was reported to have been taken. The enormous number of bacteria found could not have been produced in the short space of two hours, so that the inference is plain that the container was in a dangerous condition for some time before the sample was taken."

What a catalogue of horrors! Surely Edgar Allan Poe at his best - or worst, as you like - never dreamed or described anything more horrible, do not believe in capital punishment - a friend ascribes this to the instinct of self preservation - but truly a man who in this manner will endanger the lives of thousands of people and who no doubt is responsible for the deaths of many children, deserves hanging more than the one who technically is guilty of murdering one person. These cases, the farmers were assured, were cleaned and properly sterilized by steam and 100 pounds pressure for fifteen seconds and so were ready for the milk to be strained into them as received. Dr. N. E. McKay, chairman of the Halifax Board of Health says: "The report of the pathologist would satisfy any fair-minded person that the farmers are not wholly to blame for the condition of the city milk supply. Truly this admission is not ill-timed. Dealers who will send cans back to the farmer in the condition described, will just as surely put milk containers equally as filthy, for delivery to customers. And all this in the face of the fact that the dealer in question charges the consumers double that is paid to the farmer for the milk."

Royal Commissions have been appointed to investigate matters of far less importance. Eggs continue to stay steady at Toronto. Supplies are much below the demand, but the quality of receipts leaves much to be desired. It is claimed by the trade that shippers are holding eggs, in the hope of receiving better prices, and will later unload them as fresh eggs. One man declared that the Government's instructions as to how to keep eggs fresh are helping out in this way, with advantage to nobody. Gunn's quotations this week are still as follows: Special guaranteed non-fertile eggs delivered at Toronto 38c per dozen; fresh eggs (free case) 34c to 35c; and returnable cases, 33c to 34c per dozen.

Eggs at Montreal. Eggs at Montreal have continued steady for over a month, and are still unchanged, being quoted as follows: Strictly new-laid, 45c; No. 1 selected eggs, 38c; No. 1 candied stock, 34c; and No. 2 stock, 30c.

Eggs at New York. Eggs are from 3c to 4c still higher at New York this week. Prices are as follows: Fresh eggs, 55c to 58c per dozen; ordinary white, 35c to 54c per dozen.

Poultry at Toronto. The range of live poultry prices at Toronto this week is unchanged from last week for chickens, which have advanced 1c. Prices run as follows: Chickens, 15c per pound; old roosters, 10c; old fowl, 10c for light to 13c for heavy; ducks, 2c; chickens, 11c; turkeys, 10c to 15c for old, and 20c for young; and geese, 9c per pound, live weight.

Dressed poultry ranges from 2c to 3c above these prices. Potatoes in Ontario Markets. Potatoes sold at a lower range, with the following prices on Saturday last on farmers' markets over Ontario: Belleville, \$1.50 to \$1.60 per bushel; Guelph, \$1.60; Hamilton, \$1.15 to \$1.40; Kitchener, \$1.50 to \$1.60; Kingston, \$1.50; Peterborough, \$1.60 to \$1.75; Port Hope, \$1.40; St. Thomas, \$1.25 to \$1.40; Stratford, \$1.25 to \$1.50; and Woodstock \$1.40 per bushel.

Potatoes at Montreal. The Montreal market for potatoes is 5c higher all round this week. Green Mountains sold in car lots at \$1.30 to \$1.35 per bag of 90 pounds at the rack.

Potatoes at New York. Long Island potatoes show a still weaker trend this week, selling at a decline of 25c, at \$4 per barrel at New York. New Jerseys are slightly higher than last week, and sell at \$3.25 to \$3.65 per 105 pound bag; and Maines are 10c lower, at \$3.75 to \$3.90 per 150 pound bag.

THE MARKETS

Butter at Montreal. Butter at Montreal is unchanged this week, as follows: Finest creamery, 39c to 39 1/2c; fine creamery, 38 1/2c to 38 3/4c; and wholesale, 37 1/2c to 38c; finest dairy butter, 31c to 31 1/2c; fine dairy butter, 30c to 30 1/2c.

Cheese at Toronto. There is a little easier feeling on the local cheese boards this week, but the make in working over into a winter basis, and the wholesale cheese at Toronto this week are steady at last week's level, according to Gunn's, who are quoting as follows: New-Large, 23 1/2c to 23c per pound, twins, 22 1/2c to 23 1/4c; and triplets, 23c to 23 1/2c per pound.

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Cheese at New York. Fresh colored specials sold at 21c to 21 1/2c on the New York cheese market, and white specials also at 21c to 21 1/2c, and colored fancy fat at 20 1/2c per pound on Saturday's market.

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AMONG THE HORSES

What a great year this has been for record smashing?

Bingen Boy, which trotted a fourth heat in 2:15 1/4.

Dean Swift, the good trotter from the Canadian Northwest, now sports a mark of 2:07 1/2.

The Real Lady picked up over \$8,000 in one week recently. Some pickings has a pacing record of 2:19 1/4.

Directum L, which holds a long string of world's records, is to have a crack at the Goshen track record on Oct. 28th.

Lacopia, the ten year old stallion which raced here recently was a few years ago at the head of the Empire Stock Farm, Copake, New York.

Bob Mac is making a tour of the Canadian circuit, winding up the season in Maine. The expectation is that the Island-bred ice will not be seen on the ice the coming winter.

Peter Billiken won the 2:03 trot at Lexington last week, but to do so he was obliged to take a new mark of 2:06 1/2 in the third heat. Fitzburg, which won the fourth heat, lowered his record to 2:06 3/4.

Shrub, Pat Doherty's former racer won two heats of the unfinished 2:28 class at Pittsfield, Me., last week, after dropping the first heat to Iris in 2:28 1/2. The third heat, Fitzburg, Bill, another old maritime performer, was in the 2:21 trot and pace the same day, but did not distinguish himself.

Crocket, 2:16, the first pacing mare to gain entrance to the 2:10 list, is still alive at the age of 32. She has produced 18 foals, seven having taken standard records. Vedro defeated Frank Bogash, Jr., in the free-for-all at Mineola in 2:11 1/4. 2:12 1/4, 2:13 1/4, after Murphy's former star had taken the first two heats in 2:08, 2:09 1/4.

The 2:15 trot and pace at Topsham, Me., last week was won by Peter Volo, who paced the second mile in 2:13 1/4, Chloe V., in the 2:15 trot and pace, in 2:19 1/4, and Dor Kelly, the 2:21 mixed in 2:16 1/4. At the conclusion of the races Gerow and Russell were each fined \$25 for not driving to win in the 2:20 class.

Paul Jr., owned by Arthur G. Jones of Dorchester, Mass., won the \$500 free-for-all, the feature event of the Fitchburg fair, in three straight heats, negotiating the miles in 2:16, 2:14 1/2, 2:13 1/4. Fred W., a local horse forced the winner to a driving finish in each heat. Coastless Mobell won the 2:16 trot, in 2:17 1/4, and Baron Atta the 2:20 pace, in 2:16 1/4.

Ploughboy won the 2:17 trot and pace at Topsham, Me., the other day in 2:16 1/4. Martha Deforest, V. Doherty's entry, got fourth money. Lord Wilkes won the 2:22 trot after it had gone five heats, his best time being 2:21 1/4. Belle Curtis, another V. Doherty stable, started but was not acting as well as was drawn in the fourth heat.

Lolie Burns was third in the 2:14 pace at Danbury last week. The race was won by the late Volo and was won by Our Colonel in 2:13 1/4. The same day Frank Fox won second money in the 2:25 trot with Monte Volo and second in the 2:18 pace with Frank Lower. In the first-named event he took the first heat in 2:16 1/4, the fastest time made.

All the horses now at Allen Farm are to be sold at the Old Glory Sale in New York next month. There are in all 125 stallions, mares and young stock. At the head of the stud is Bingara, son of the great Bingen 2:06 1/2, and sire of Baden, 2:05 1/4, Bivolo, 2:07 1/4, and a host of other fast trotters. The sale of these horses will mark the passing of one of the notable stock farms of New England and one of the largest in the United States outside of Kentucky.

Two records went by the boards last week at the racing at Standard Springs, Conn., fair. Ben All, after coming in a bad sixth in the second heat of the 2:14 pace went the third mile in 2:09 1/4, nearly a full second under the old record for the track. Then he went in and won the next two heats and the race. Keroni, by winning the third and fourth heats, set a new 2:13 1/4, and then taking the fifth heat easily from Moho, established a track record for two heats in one race for trotters.

Thirty years ago last month, or to be exact, on the 30th September, 1886, races were held at Kentville in which P. S. Brown, Charlie Westcott, Newt Lee and other well known horsemen of that day figured. We publish the summary for the benefit of the relic hunters.

2:50 Class, purse \$100— Messenger Clay, brs. D. J. Murray 1 1 1 Maud E. blk m. Newton Lee 2 2 2 Dodge Knox, brs. J. L. Cox 3 3 3 Zulu King, brs. H. Church 4 3 4 Time 2:53 1/2, 2:52 1/2, 2:53 1/2.

2:25 Class, purse \$100— Sleepy John, bg. H. Murray 1 1 1 Tommy Dexter, big. A. L. Shipp 2 2 2 Penhoby, brs. P. S. Brown 2 2 2 Agitator, bg. C. Westcott 3 3 4 Bridgetown Charlie, bg. T. A. Foster 5 5 5 Time 2:42 1/2, 2:42 1/2, 2:43 1/2.

2-Year-Old, \$50, half-mile heats— Maud Thorne, m. Mr. Pushee 1 1 1 Confidence, Jr., brs. J. L. Neary 2 2 2 Parkmont, brs. J. L. Neary 3 3 3 Time 1:35, 1:32.

The judges were David Bell, Dr. Bowles and W. E. Rogcoe.

Lee Axworthy 2:00 is the first two minute trotter.

Peter Volo, 2:02, and Volga 2:04 1/2 are now the fastest brother and sister.

The local number of 2:10 trotters for this season is thirty-seven and they're still coming.

The pacer, Guy the Great, 2:08 1/2, by Peter the Great 2:07 1/2, died suddenly the other day at Pulaski, Pa.

The real big turf event in these provinces is on the cards for Charlottetown next week. Don't miss it whatever happens.

Flower Direct, 2:00 1/2, reported "down and out" at the beginning of the season was a free-for-all at Hopkinton Ky., not long ago.

New Glasgow, N. S., has just organized an association for the promotion of horse-racing. It has a character membership of about fifty.

Mary Putney 2:04 1/2, the great trotting filly, shares the distinction of being the champion four-year-old trotting filly with Joan, 2:04 1/4.

Mabel Woodworth took the 2:10 pace at Syracuse, beating out The Problem, Spring Maid and other good ones. The best time was 2:05.

Horsemen declare that the free-for-all at Rutland was one of the greatest races ever held in the New England States.

Sinloch, 2:17 1/4, the three-year-old colt that has been racing so well this season was bought at the Old Glory sale last winter for \$225.

A number of fall fairs in New York State have been declared off because of the prevalence of infantile paralysis.

The Old Glory Sale in New York City opens on November 20th and continues for five days. Not a few Maritime horsemen attend this sale every year.

W. J. McDonald, of Boston, has bought the roan trotter, James W., 2:09 1/4, from James F. Smith of New Bedford, Mass. The reported price is \$1,500.

Lucile Spier 2:06 1/4, is now the half-sister of the late Peter Volo and is now racing in the 2:10 class at Detroit in 2:06 1/4, the former record being 2:07, held by Sweet Marie 2:02.

Eleven two-year-old sons and daughters of Guy Axworthy, 2:03 1/2, have taken standard trotting records this year. This is believed to be a world's record of its kind.

The black trotting mare, Zephyrus, by Zombro, 2:11, owned by Andrew Albright, Jr., of Newark, N. J., took two first monies last week at Olean, N. Y., making her third victory in eight days.

Raxton 2:24 1/4, a heat, winner at Delhi, N. Y., is another new performer for General Watts, 2:06 1/4. The son of Axworthy 2:15 1/2, will be one of the leading producing sires of the year.

Monday of last week saw Tom Murphy win the two year old division of the Kentucky Futurity for the fourth time. He has landed it with Framfast in 2:12 1/4, a champion-hip race mile for the age and sex, with Native, with Peter Volo, in 2:04 1/2, world's championship mile, and with the Real Lady in 2:07 1/2, 2:07, two world's championship miles. Murphy never seems to get enough of that sort of things.

Single G., with Geers up, won the free-for-all pace at the Kentucky Trotting Horse Breeders Association meeting at Lexington, but not until four heats had been paced. Ben Earl, winning the first heat and Hal Boy the second, each in 2:01 1/2. Geers brought Single G. from behind in the third and fourth heats and won in 2:03 1/4, and 2:02 1/2, respectively. Wor-

Volga, a half brother to Peter Volo, won the two year old trot, though Harvest, Gale took the second heat. The time for the three heats, 2:11 1/2, 2:07 1/2, and 2:10 1/2 is the record for a two year old trotting race. The 2:15 pace was won by the Canadian mare, Queen Hal.

The performance of Poorman, by The Northern Man, 2:06 1/2 - Mary Lloyd, which gained a record at Lexington of 2:07 1/2, gives the two-year-old pacer a place among the list of champions. This good-looking son of one of the most phenomenal trotters ever trained, paces in 2:19 last season and wearing out his work this summer has shown such a race flight of speed that those in charge of his care have been confident that the world's record was assured if all went well with the colt. Poorman should gain a record during the Lexington meeting of 2:06, or better, thereby succeeding to the title of champion two-year-old pacer, a position held by Directly 2:03 1/2, for many years.

The Real Friend in a Large Bottle The greatest friend to sick people is the one that helps them toward health. But nearly every human friend had heretofore suggested a different means of regaining lost health due to nervousness, overwork, debility and worry. Now there are dozens of friends right here in your own town who will agree that the best friend to their health is Zoetic—the health tonic. This already famous remedy for "nerves" and their consequent ailments is a combination of glycer phosphates—the actual elements of the human body with Cod Liver Oil and delicious tonic wine. A short two weeks of rational trial will put you fair and square upon the path of bounding health. We know this so absolutely that if you cannot report real progress at the end of that time we will refund the purchase price. You will suffer and suffer and suffer should not delay beyond today. It is sold by Johnson & Johnson and E. A. Foster, Distributing Agents for P.E.I. the mile in 2:05 1/4.

SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

PAUL'S DEFENCE BEFORE AGRIPPA.

(Acts, ch. 26.)

Golden Text—"I was not disobedient unto the heavenly vision."—Acts 26:19.

The appeal to Caesar put an end to further developments, in the trial of Paul in Palestine. But the interest of Festus in his case has been thoroughly aroused, and since, pending the transference to Rome in pursuance of the appeal, King Agrippa came to Caesarea to pay his respects to the new Roman Governor, Festus considered Paul and his message of sufficient human importance to suggest that Agrippa should see and hear him. It is clear therefore that Paul's appearance before Agrippa had no direct judicial significance. It was intended rather to satisfy the curiosity of Agrippa than to bring into view some new testimony, or other aspect of the case, which should help to settle it.

Nevertheless Festus felt the need of justifying the step; and therefore, in formally placing the prisoner before the Jewish high court, he claimed that his motive in doing so was to get some definite facts for his report in Rome. Thus the event assumed the form of a special session of the court to re-examine Paul.

It is not to be questioned that Festus felt himself baffled by the circumstances. There was, according to his confession, no technical ground for not accepting the prisoner, and yet popular clamor against him had risen to such a pitch that to base a decision upon technicalities only did not seem perfectly safe. Considerable sympathy must be felt with Festus in his perplexity. Between the wooden and formal machinery of technicalities on one side, and the irresponsible passion of popular prejudice on the other, the right way to the solution of questions upon high moral grounds is not always obvious.

The occasion for the rehearing of Paul was made one of social importance by Agrippa and Bernice. The love of display was one of the characteristics of the Herods; and it reached its climax in the grandson of Herod and his sister Bernice, before whom Paul was now summoned to appear.

Verses 1:23. Agrippa took charge of the examination and invited Paul to speak. It was his prerogative as king. Festus, without surrendering any of his functions, took the position of an associate. Paul's defence opens with a dignified and courteous allusion to the king's knowledge of the Hebrew Scriptures. There is not the slightest trace of servility in this part of his speech; and yet the words in which Paul compliments the king must have been pleasing and produced the impression that he was a man of refinement and discretion.

Entering upon his defence proper the apostle rehearsed his manner of life before his conversion, showing that he had been, like his accusers, a strenuous opponent of Christ. If he had changed his attitude, it was not arbitrarily or from selfish reasons, but under compulsion from above.

Thus he was led to give a new account of the circumstances of his conversion on the way to Damascus. But the change which came over him was not a repudiation of the essentials of the Jewish religion; it was only cessation from blindly opposing those who understood its inner spirit and life better than he had understood it before his conversion.

The plea of Paul's defence brings into view a principle which progresses in all ages have found impelling them forward. It is the principle that the truth of God is a vital power ever bursting forth into new forms. To the seeing eye these forms embody nothing but the old truth. Paul believed that in preaching Christ he was only tracing the teaching of Moses.

For the big meeting at Lexington, October 2 to 14 over \$90,000 is offered in stakes, purses and specials, and forty races are on the cards.

The first Charter Oak Make was raced in 1883, and that race at Hartford the other day was the thirty-first renewal of the classic.

The races at Halifax just closed, finished some rare spirit. Island horses did well, and they usually do there, and a good deal of the prize money found its way in this direction.

Kremlin, the sire of more 2:10 trotters than any horse in the world, has been killed at the Allen Farm. Kremlin was champion trotter in 1892 and had a record of 2:07 1/2. The horse was 29 years old, and rather than sell it with the other stock he was put to death.

Cox and Murphy are having a pretty contest for top berth in the list of money-winning drivers. Both reinsmen are now around the \$5,000 mark. The injury to Geers, which gave St. Feisen and Nopoleon Direct to Murphy may prove to have been the determination factor.

Volga is the fourth trotter to win both divisions of the Kentucky Futurity, the others being Festus, 2:05 1/2, Grace Bond, 2:09 1/4, and Peter Volo, 2:02, and she is the fifth of the get of her sire to win the three year old division of the stake. Incidentally, her 2:04 1/2 mile gave her sire the fastest three year old filly. He already had the fastest colt in the world, that age in Peter Volo and Peter Thomson, 2:07 1/2, both futurity winners.

Lee Axworthy, champion trotting stallion of the world, driven to a station by one of his owners, Harry K. Ferguson, of Cleveland, for testing purposes, recorded a 2:05 1/2, lowered the former record of 2:07 1/2, and finished the Kentucky Trotting Horse Breeders Association meeting at Lexington, Va., champion three year old mare, started to beat her mark of 2:04 1/2, but suffered should not delay beyond today. It is sold by Johnson & Johnson and E. A. Foster, Distributing Agents for P.E.I. the mile in 2:05 1/4.

Frightful Death Suffocated in Asthma Attack

Every sufferer from asthma knows the terror, the abject fear that overcomes them when struggling for breath. The old-fashioned remedies may relieve, but never cure. Best results come from Catarrhose, which cures asthma after hope is abandoned. It's because Catarrhose kills the asthma germ that it cures. Choking spells and labored breathing are relieved, suffocating sensations and loss of breath are cured. Every trace of asthma is driven away from the system, and even old chronics experience immediate relief and lasting cure. Equally good for bronchitis, throat troubles and coughing. The large one Dollar outfit includes the large and lasts two months, sold by all dealers or from the Catarrhose Co., Kingston, Canada.

es and the prophets in the historical events of his day. But in exactly the same way the Christ of the Gospels appears to the progressive of today in a brighter and more powerful aspect when seen in the light of contemporary science and scholarship.

Verses 24:25. Festus was mystified by Paul's line of thought. He could see no coherent sense in it. He came to the conclusion that Paul was one of the not uncommon victims of too constant intellectual application. The type is familiar. It was embodied in the old fable (perhaps familiar to Festus) of the astronomer who was so much absorbed in the study of the stars that as he walked into a well, a man might be a great philosopher and at the same time totally devoid of common sense. So Festus was discarding on his favorite theme of the resurrection. "Paul, thou art beside thyself; much learning doth make thee mad." It was the judgment of the choice does not lie between the impractical folly of too much learning and the mechanical barrenness of mere practical usefulness. Paul was laying the foundations for the most practical useful life in his supreme philosophy of faith.

Verses 26:32. Paul the practical now brought his teaching into the acutest focus by directing the personal questions to Agrippa, "Believe thou the prophets?" The king found himself in a dilemma. He dared not deny that he believed the prophets, for that would arouse the enmity of the Jews against him. In fact it would put him in the light of a traitor to his ancestral religion. On the other hand he was ashamed to confess before the scornful Roman that he was a believer in the resurrection. His only recourse was evasion, and he ironically answered: "You are trying to make a Christian of me in short order."

The court was dismissed. As the company parted Paul must have heard Agrippa tell Festus that he could have been set free if he had not appealed to Caesar. Did he regret that he had made the appeal? If we know his character and mind, we are not permitted to think so. Since his cherished plan of reaching Rome was now assured he was satisfied even though it might entail some hardship to go to Rome as a prisoner.

The office boy sat in the corner, busily engaged in reading a book. Strange to say, it was not a book of hair-raising adventure. He was reading Shakespeare.

An expression of peace and joy was on his face that caused those who knew him to wonder if he had at last experienced a change of heart. His eyes sparkled and his whole expression was one of happiness. Finally he turned to a worker at another desk.

"Say, Jim," he said, "I've got a question for you. Did I ever read Shakespeare?"

"Yes," was the reply.

"And d'yer know what he talks about?"

"Then maybe you can help me."