CHAPTER XXV.

MY NEW HOME IN THE EAST.

"Such is the patriots' boast where'er we roam,  
His first best country, ever is at HOME."

It was a little after dark that night when Mr. Philips returned from the farm. He brought Primitive with him. John Hanson, whom he had hired to take care of us on our journey, accompanied him. I was very glad John was going with us because he had always been so kind to me.

Just before we started for the train, Mrs. Philips said, "well Queen, the best of friends must part, so I have come to say to you, that saddest of words—good-bye, as you are soon to start for a new home many miles from here, way off in Massachusetts. I hope the people at your new home will like you and will be as good to you and treat you as kindly as we have always done. It is like parting with an old friend Queen, to part with you."

I know Mrs. Philips really hated to part with me. I know that it made me feel sad to part from her, and though my eyes may not have had tears in them, my heart was sad enough for tears. When Mr. Philips was leading me to the train which was to carry me so far away, he said, "this may be our last walk and talk together, and may be, the last time I shall have the pleasure of leading you, for you are going far away now to your new home. You have always been a good, faithful servant to me and my family and we have always treated you
as kindly as a mother cow should be treated; and, from what I hear of the Sagendorphs, they will be kind to you and give you a good home as long as you live, which you richly deserve, for there are but few cows that ever produced as much for their owners as you have for me, and I hope you will be profitable to your new owner, Mr. A. H. Sagendorph.

Mr. Philips led me into the car where there was a good bed of straw in each end and plenty of feed provided; then he went
out and led Primitive in. It made me think of the time we went in a car to the fairs. John appeared to be a little shy of Primitive, as they were not the best of friends, but Mr. Philips assured him that Primitive was safely tied and showed him that he had made a large staple, like a clevis, out of half-inch iron and had put it through the double boards of the car and held it in place by nuts on the outside, because, he said, no one should ever take chances with a bull.

Soon after we started on our long journey a strange thing happened. When we were almost to Sparta and just opposite my old home and only a mile from where I first saw the light, I gave birth to a beautiful little daughter which, as soon as we reached our new home, Mr. Sagendorph named Phrosia, No. 14532. John seemed to be greatly surprised, but he fed me some oats, as Mr. Philips had taught him to do at such times, and when the train stopped at Sparta, he gave me a pail of warm water with some bran in it to drink. He then let the calf eat and milked me nearly clean and gave me the milk to drink, as I had always been used to, then tied my baby calf near me so I could see it and lick it whenever I wanted to. John was very kind to us all the way there. He fed my baby calf oftener than he did me, and before we reached our new home had taught it to drink nicely. He often let it loose and although the train was going quite fast, it would play and run back and forth in the car. John fed us well and gave us plenty of water to drink, also kept our beds good so we could lie down and rest all we wanted to.

One morning, after three days and three nights of continuous riding, John opened the door and said, "Well, Queen, here we are, at last, at Spencer, Mass., your new home."

It was a pleasant looking place, among the hills, but the hills did not scare me because I was used to a hilly pasture. John led Primitive out to the farm, for since their long ride together they seemed to be quite good friends, and another man led us cows, and my baby calf was taken in a wagon. I noticed
that the men were very kind to it and handled it carefully. When we arrived at the farm I found my daughters, grand-
daughters, great-granddaughters and great-great-granddaughters and, to my delight, they all, except the latter, knew me, and to
Mr. Sagendorph’s surprise they knew John too, for they came and licked his clothes. This pleased Mr. Sagendorph and he tried to hire John to stay and take care of us, because, he said, he knew he was good to cattle, as they were not afraid of him and remembered him so well. But John did not stay long. The men said he acted as if he was homesick, and said they guessed he had left his girl in Wisconsin, as he soon started back. Alta Crest Farm is a beautiful place; a beautiful home for both people and animals, with its large, handsome residence, surrounded by lovely, spacious grounds, and the fine, commodious barn which, though immense in size, was filled with fine, thoroughbred horses and cattle, for there were a great number of fine Guernseys in the herd beside us Yeksas. All of the floors, alleys and gutters in the barn were cement, and the whole barn was kept as clean and sweet as a parlor, and contained everything that good judgment and a kind heart could suggest for the comfort of the cattle and to make them profitable. The hired men were all very kind to us. We had fine, shady pastures to run in during the summer with plenty of good water, but neither the grass nor the water tasted any better than it did in my old Wisconsin home. I often thought of a verse I used to hear Mr. Philips say:

“How dear to my heart are the scenes of my childhood,  
When fond recollection presents them to view;  
The orchard, the meadow and the deep tangled wildwood,  
And all the loved scenes which my early days knew.”

When I got used to my new home and freshened again, my yield of milk was so good that, after I had been milked for five months, Mr. Sagendorph decided to try me on a twelve month’s test for the advanced Guernsey register, which was finished seventeen months after freshening and when I was well along in my fourteenth year. According to the official test I gave eight thousand two hundred and twenty-one pounds of milk which yielded four hundred and thirty-five pounds of fat,
equivalent to five hundred and eight pounds of butter. A cow has to produce three hundred and sixty pounds of butter fat in twelve months to be entitled to enter the advanced register at my age. As I had fulfilled the requirements and had seventy-five pounds to spare I entered the charmed circle as No. 174 which, considering my age, was said to be very good indeed.

The next time I freshened it was a handsome son, he was such a fine little fellow that I felt very proud of him, and Mr. Sagendorph seemed proud of him too, and named him Sufficiency, and his number was 9,771. In form he reminded me more of my father, Puck, than any Guernsey I had ever seen. He grew very fast, and I noticed that he had the best of care and was given a large box stall close to my own.

Four years and over, with their mingled joys and sorrows, and the same routine of breeding cattle and dairying I had known in both my old homes, had been numbered with the past when one cold day, in February 1906, I was given another great surprise which will be a pleasant memory to me all the rest of my life. We had just been fed our dinner, when I saw Mr. Sagendorph coming towards my stall and a man was with him who wore a fur overcoat, just like the one Mr. Philips used to wear in the winter. The man came right into my stall and said, "Well, Queen, how are you? I am glad to see you once more.

As soon as I heard his voice I knew it was Mr. Philips, and when he stroked my head and neck, as he used to do, I looked up into his face and tried my best to tell him that I remembered him. He then went into the stall with my daughter Queen Deette, who was making a very creditable record in the twelve month's test for the advanced register, and she too acted as if she knew him. He spent quite a while looking at all the cattle, more especially those he once owned way back in Wisconsin. When he went away he acted as if he hated to leave the barn. The next day he came to see us again, and when he came into my stall and sat down by my side to milk me I put my foot back,
then turned my head and smelled of him, just the same as I used to do, so he would be sure to know that I remembered him. I tell you, if ever a cow was happy I was then.

Mr. Philips remained four or five days and came to see us often and I will tell of some of the pleasant visits we had together. He said that so many things had happened since I left my old home and there was so much to tell me about my old friends that he hardly knew where to begin, but thought he had better begin with the founder of the Yeksa family, Mrs. Henrietta E. Foster. He said: "Now, Queen, the very first thing I am going to tell you is about your first friend and owner, Mrs. Foster, because I know you will be glad to hear from her. I received a letter from her just before I left home, in which she said, 'Give Queen Vashti my best wishes and tell her that I still continue to 'fret the earth' and, like her, am trying to do all the good I can and to grow old gracefully and cheerfully, the same as she is doing.' You will, also, be glad, Queen, to hear that Mrs. Foster, in spite of her infirmity, which still holds her a prisoner to her wheel chair and still keeps her a 'shut-in,' keeps her hands and brain as busy as ever working for the betterment of mankind. Her last and greatest work, which she considers the best and more far-reaching in its benefits of anything she has ever done, is Oklahoma's moral and humane education law, for the enactment of which she worked persistently for four years when, through the able and untiring efforts of Leslie G. Niblack, member of the council from Guthrie, the law was enacted by the legislature last winter. And every earnest reformer would rejoice if a similar law was enacted by every state in the Union, and, to the end that some earnest soul may take up the work, we will publish the law in our book, won't we? The law is as follows:

An Act to Provide for Moral and Humane Education in the Territory of Oklahoma.

Be it Enacted by the Legislative Assembly of the Territory of Oklahoma:
Section 1. That in each and every public school, within the Territory of Oklahoma, it shall be the duty of each and every teacher to teach morality in the broadest meaning of the word, for the purpose of elevating and refining the character of school children up to the highest plane of life, that they may know how to conduct themselves as social beings in relation to each other, as respects right and wrong and rectitude of life, and thereby, lessen wrong doing and crime.

LESLIE G. NIBLACK
Framer of Law for Teaching Kindness to Animals in Oklahoma.

Section 2. That each and every public school, within the Territory of Oklahoma, in addition to the other branches of study now prescribed, not less than one-half hour each week during the whole of each term of school, shall be devoted to teaching the school children attending said schools kindness to and humane treatment and protection of dumb animals and
birds; their lives, habits and usefulness, and the important part they are intended to fulfill in the economy of nature, and such studies on the subject as the Board of Public Education may adopt.

Section 3. That no experiments upon any living creature shall be permitted in any public school within the Territory of Oklahoma.

Section 4. That it shall be the duty of the Superintendent of Public Instruction for the Territory of Oklahoma, the Superintendent of Public Instruction of each county, the Superintendent of Public Schools of each city, and the Principal of each and every public school in said Territory, to see that the provisions of Sections 1, 2 and 3 of this Act are strictly complied with in the public schools under his supervision.

Section 5. That no teacher in the public schools of the Territory of Oklahoma shall be entitled to receive any portion of the public school moneys as compensation for services, unless such teacher shall have complied with the provisions of this Act.

Section 6. All Acts or parts of Acts in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

Section 7. This Act shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage and approval.

Approved, March 4th, 1905.

"This law has created a favorable impression among the leading educators and philanthropists throughout the country, and I could fill pages with their words of commendation of this vigorous young commonwealth for its advanced educational ideas. To show that the law is well thought of in Oklahoma I will quote an extract from the School Herald, official paper of Territorial Board of Education, which says:

"It is necessary at all times to give moral instruction in our public schools, but at the present time conditions are such in the United States that school authorities are warranted in making instruction in morals a rigid requirement in every
school. In a republic like ours, where liberty is unrestrained, men must necessarily be placed on their honor, their conscience and their sense of a proper conception of right and wrong as a guide of conduct. Men of honor, fidelity and purity of motives are the first need of a Republic, and unless the moral faculties are developed in proportion to the liberties granted, that men may know the better how to govern themselves by free will and sense of duty and not by force and through fear, the society of such a government is on a dangerously unsteady foundation.

"The prevalence of vice and common breaches of trusts, in all vocations of life, furnish strong evidence that there is a serious defect in the moral education of the youths in the homes and schools of this country. Our daily press teems with narrations of thefts, forgery, embezzlement, bribery, perjury, graft, etc., committed by men highly educated intellectually, who are leaders in the councils of state, finance, commerce, education and social circles. Why this epidemic of moral terpitude? There can be only one answer. Our schools are neglecting to develop the moral consciousness of the children.

"We are proud that Oklahoma is taking the lead in this reform. The law passed by the last legislature, relative to moral and humane education, is a good one. Mrs. Henrietta E. Foster, of Tecumseh, who contributed so largely to the passage of Oklahoma's new law on teaching morals and kindness to animals, has done a grand work for the future state in laying a foundation for the purer and nobler citizenship. Her efforts for moral and humane education have attracted the attention of educators in all parts of the United States.

"This grand law is being enforced in Oklahoma, and its teaching and benefits will be a living, and enduring memorial to Mrs. Foster. She says an instance was brought to her notice which confirms her belief. It was when a young teacher was teaching her scholars how cruel and wicked it was to destroy bird's nests and kill harmless birds, and how wrong it was for women and girls to wear birds, their wings or plumage on their
hats when the lives of the birds had to be destroyed to obtain them. She had recently bought a new hat, on which were two beautiful bird wings. The following Sunday when she took the new hat from its box, to wear it for the first time, the beautiful wings touched her conscience and she said to herself, 'If my scholars see me wearing this hat with these wings on it the lesson I taught them the other day will be all in vain, as my example will be contrary to my teachings.' She did not wear the hat, but exchanged it for one that no life had to be sacrificed for its ornamentation, thus denying herself a great pleasure rather than be unfaithful to her duty to her scholars.

"Then, too, Queen, in connection with this law Mrs. Foster has written and circulated a most wonderful circular on the teaching of morals and kindness, of which George T. Angell says: 'Her work is of sufficient importance to school superintendents, educators and philanthropists that I publish a part of an important circular sent out widely by her in Oklahoma, and I wish I had space for more of it. In her circular she says in part.

"'The children are the future world, and they are an important factor to be reckoned with when we search for a solution of the momentous problem of reform and true civilization. The public school is the factory of good citizenship. We cannot mould over and rebuild the characters of grown men and women. 'It is impossible to learn old dogs new tricks.' Years have been spent in the fruitless effort to reform the world by reforming the men and women. Nothing has been done for the past; our only hope is in the future, and the full fruition of that hope is only to be obtained by keeping our faces toward the future and bringing the greatly needed reform about by the right character building and education of the children. Educating the heart refines and elevates the soul. Educating the head alone will not lessen crime, the most harmful criminals are those whose heads have been highly educated.

"'This world belongs to every new generation; the old go
down and out and the young assume control and make the world go their pace.

"The hope of the world's redemption was ushered in by the coming of a child, and the child has been in the midst ever since. Childhood is the key that is to unlock the problems ahead of us. The school children of today are the men and women of the future, and today the criminals of the future are in our public schools and we are educating them. We can mould them as we wish; their future is in our hands. As the potter moulds the clay, as the gardner trains the tree, so it is for us to forecast their future moral destiny. Strong as may be the inherited tendencies they are not so strong as the redemptive thoughts and habits, which it is the privilege and duty of the public schools to impress upon those we hold within our keeping. As they are now taught so will be their future lives. We need more morality; more kindness and goodness in the world; more good men and women who will help the helpless and needy, protect the weak, and in all things follow the precepts of the Golden Rule."

"I would like to have every word of the circular published in your autobiography as it shows Mrs. Foster's individual greatness from start to finish, and you will remember, Queen, that in my last talk with you in Wisconsin I counted her among those who possessed individual greatness. I have often wondered how she accomplishes so much. She possesses a wonderful power of rising to a mental height, from which she can look with something akin to indifference upon the painful environments of the purely physical, and in the affairs of the world. She is apparently so helpless, but in reality more helpful than most of us with strong bodies. I think she is a fine object lesson of the fact that one may become so spiritual that the body ceases to be anything but an instrument of work.

"Well, Queen, I have spent so much time telling you about your first owner and friend that I will have to wait until I come again to tell you the rest of the news."
I was so glad to hear such good news from Mrs. Foster and that she was still able to work for the betterment of mankind. I am proud of the fact that she founded the now famous Yeksa family, and it is a great satisfaction to me to know that I have helped to bring about the fulfillment of her remarkable prediction as to the great fame they would win.