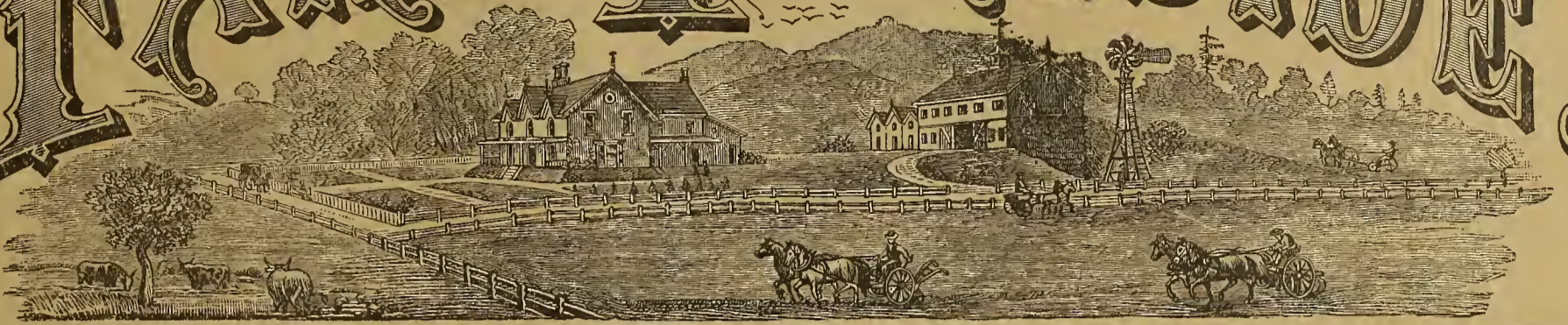


FARM & FIRESIDE



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INFORMATION FOR ADVERTISERS.

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With the Vanguard.

WE wish our readers, one and all, a Happy New-year. It is our sincere wish that the year 1895 will bring to each of you much more than any previous year of your lives. Of course, much of the record of the coming year will depend upon the part which we ourselves play in every-day affairs as they come. We are, after all, very much what we make ourselves. But there are certainly opportunities for us to improve this year over anything that we have ever done before, no matter what may be our age, our surroundings or our circumstances. So in wishing you a Happy New-year, we will express the hope that we may be able to make FARM AND FIRESIDE for 1895 better than it has ever been before.

WITH the death of Count Ferdinand de Lesseps, at the age of eighty-nine, France has been deprived of her most distinguished citizen. The great engineer, who successfully originated and carried forward the Suez canal, passed away on December 7, 1894.

He was at one time a representative of his government in Egypt, and it is said that during the years spent in that country he conceived the idea of some day putting into operation the projects for the great canal. Begun in 1859, it was completed ten years later, and de Lesseps' name became known throughout the world. Not only has he won for himself great personal honor, but he has brought great renown and distinction to his country. It is worthy of note, that although he was able to enlist in his project the sympathy of the Khedive, for a long time European engineers and capitalists stood aloof, pronouncing his scheme an impracticable dream; but he was a man of immense energy and industry. The scheme offered an irresistible fascination, and he had confidence in himself and was favored by nature.

Everyone knows something of the misfortune which followed the canal scheme for the isthmus of Panama. This enter-

prise did not originate in de Lesseps' brain, but was almost, from the first, under the control of speculators, who obtained the use of de Lesseps' name to win the confidence of the people. Thus it happened, that when capital was required for the Panama canal, the French people responded liberally with their money. Their savings were piled into the coffers of the corrupt and mismanaged company, until three millions had been squandered. It was necessary to deceive the French people, and to do this, the press of Paris was bribed at an immense cost. When finally these things came to the light, charges



FERDINAND DE LESSEPS.

were preferred against de Lesseps, and he was sentenced to five years' imprisonment. His son Charles was also sentenced. But the great father, out of respect for the services he had rendered to his country and the veneration which the people felt for his age, was never informed that sentence had been passed upon him; nor did he know that his son had suffered imprisonment. It is but just to say that the great engineer, personally, had nothing whatever to do with the corruptible cause of the company to which he stood so closely identified.

THE constitution of the United States does not secure to any one the privilege of defrauding the public." This is both sound sense and law. It is from a recent decision of the Supreme Court of the United States—a decision of the greatest importance, affirming in the broadest terms the power of a state to protect its citizens against frauds in foods and in all other things.

The law of Massachusetts prohibits the sale of oleomargarine colored in imitation of butter. A Boston dealer, as agent for a Chicago firm, sold oleo in violation of this law, was arrested, tried and convicted. His case, which was a test case, was carried to the Supreme Court of Massachusetts, and finally to the Supreme Court of the United States.

The decision of the United States Supreme Court reads in part as follows:

"The real object of coloring oleomargarine to make it look like genuine butter is that it may appear to be what it is not, and thus induce unwary purchasers who do not closely scrutinize the label upon the package in which it is contained to buy it for butter. The statute seeks to suppress

false pretenses and to promote fair dealing in the sale of an article of food. Can it be that the constitution of the United States secures to any one the privilege of manufacturing and selling an article of food in such manner as to induce the mass of people to believe they are buying something which, in fact, is wholly different from that which is offered for sale? Does the freedom of commerce among the states demand a recognition of the right to practice deception upon the public in the sale of any articles, even those that have become the subject of trade in different parts of the country?

"And yet it is supposed the owners of a compound which has been put in a condition to cheat the public into believing it is a particular article of food in daily use, and eagerly sought for by people in every condition of life, are protected by the constitution in making a sale of it against the will of the state in which it is offered for sale, because of the circumstance that it is in an original package and has become a subject of ordinary traffic. We are unwilling to accept this view. We are of the opinion that it is within the power of a state to exclude from its markets any compound manufactured in another state, which has been artificially colored or adulterated so as to cause it to look like an article of food in general use, and the sale of which may, by reason of such coloration or adulteration, cheat the general public into purchasing that which they may not intend to buy.

"The constitution of the United States does not secure to any one the privilege of defrauding the public. The deception against which the statute of Massachusetts is aimed is an offense against society; and the states are as competent to protect their people against such offenses or wrongs as they are to protect them against crimes or wrongs of a more serious character. And this protection may be given without violating any right secured by the national constitution and without infringing the authority of the general government. A state enactment forbidding the sale of deceitful imitations of articles of food in general use among the people does not abridge any privilege secured to citizens of the United States, nor in any just sense interfere with the freedom of commerce among the several states."

This decision is far-reaching in its character. It effects most favorably not only the dairy industry, but all the producers of honest products and all the consumers in the country. It is a heavy blow to adulterators of foods. It encourages our dairy and food commissioners in their good work. One of its immediate results will be the enactment and enforcement in every state in the Union of effective laws against frauds in eatables and drinkables.

THE acts of no monarch of Europe have been noted with deeper interest than those of William II., the German emperor.

For a number of years work has been progressing on a beautiful government building in Berlin. This year the houses for the first time assembled in the new Reichstag building. Naturally, when the emperor made his speech from the throne, his words were the subject of comment

and of great consideration. Among other things, he said:

"I regard it as the noblest task of the ages to protect the weaker class of society and to aid them to higher economic and moral development. This duty becomes more pressing as the struggle for existence in the several classes of the nation becomes more serious and more difficult. It is our duty to strive to ameliorate and smooth away the antagonism, both economic and social, and to preserve and increase a feeling of content and solidarity. If my aspirations to these ends, for which I hope I shall have your unreserved support, are to be realized, it will be necessary first to meet the dangers by those attempting to increase the disturbances in the country. The state must have the power to discharge its duties. Experience has taught that existing laws are not sufficient, and you will receive a bill whose main provisions will be for the extension of the criminal laws, increased protection for the state and for the better maintenance of order."

The bill has since been presented, but the Reichstag adjourned until after the holidays. In the meantime, the Social Democrats, who now form a very strong party in Germany, are very outspoken in their utterances in the Reichstag against the measure. Several opposition deputies say



WILLIAM II.

that the emperor evidently seeks to govern with a federal council, but without the Reichstag. While measures are to be taken against a dangerous element in society, it savors somewhat of the principle that the government may interfere with the will of the people, but the people may not interfere with the government.

It has been my privilege to see the emperor a number of times and under different circumstances. I have also known intimately one or two who have been more or less thrown in contact with him. He is a man who evidently has the good of his people at heart; a man who has strong convictions of right; one whose life is stimulated by a towering ambition to indelibly imprint his reign upon the pages of history by some great and worthy endeavors. No one outside of Germany can get very true ideas of the condition of the country, or the circumstances and environments which are responsible for many things which the emperor says, as well as for many protests on the part of the people.

FARM AND FIRESIDE.

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Postage-stamps will be received in payment for subscriptions in sums less than one dollar, if for every 25 cents in stamps you add one-cent stamp extra, because we must sell postage-stamps at a loss.

The date on the "yellow label" shows the time to which each subscriber has paid. Thus: Jan 95, means that the subscription is paid up to January 1, 1895; 15 Feb 95, to February 15, 1895, and so on.

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FARM AND FIRESIDE,
Springfield, Ohio.

The Advertisers in this Paper.

We believe that all the advertisements in this paper are from reliable firms or business men, and do not intentionally or knowingly insert advertisements from any but reliable parties; if subscribers find any of them to be otherwise we should be glad to know it. Always mention this paper when answering advertisements, as advertisers often have different things advertised in several papers.

Large Cultivators. Some of our largest land cultivators are seed and nursery firms. For example, the Storrs & Harrison Co., of Lake county, Ohio, have over 1,000 acres under cultivation, and claim to have more land devoted to ornamental trees and shrubs than any other nursery in the world.

Tomato Culture. For the season of 1894 one seed firm, Livingstons, sold seven and one-half tons of tomato seed. The bulk of this went direct to gardeners, growers and canners. As an ounce of seed will produce plants enough for an acre, seven and one-half tons of seed will plant 240,000 acres. Considering that this quantity of seed was sold by a single firm, one can begin to realize to what enormous proportions tomato culture has grown.

Farmers' Institutes. This is the season of institute work among farmers. These institutes offer excellent opportunities for the interchange of ideas and for the dissemination of helpful information gained by practical experiments of farmers themselves. They promote the growth of the true co-operative spirit. But we wish here only to give a word of encouragement. The influence for good would be widened greatly if the meetings were better attended. Therefore, let as many of our readers as possible contribute to the success of these institutes by their personal interest and attendance.

Preventive Inoculation Against Swine-plague. The editor of the veterinary department of

FARM AND FIRESIDE recently received the following letter from Mr. James Riley, a noted swine breeder of Indiana:

"DR. H. J. DETMERS:—A large number of prominent breeders in Indiana, Illinois and Missouri are very anxious to have their hogs inoculated by your method of preventive inoculation against swine-plague. We ran a great risk last fall at the St. Louis fair with our herd. Several breeders went home from St. Louis with the cholera, and some have lost nearly all they had. We sold a very fine Berkshire boar to Mr. N. U. Gentry for \$250, that died with the cholera, and several more of Mr. Gentry's fine herd have also died with it. Now, no matter what the Bureau of Animal Industry says about it, we know from per-

sonal experience that your method of inoculation is a grand success. If my herd were inoculated by you, I would not be afraid to bring a cholera subject on my farm and turn it in with my hogs. We would be glad to know if you would be willing to prepare the lymph and inoculate as many of the leading herds of the country as we can get interested in it, or put it into the hands of some good man to do the work. We have the champion herd of the world now, and don't want them to die. I have four yearling sows for which I was offered \$1,000, and it would hurt to have them die. The swine breeders of the United States can dump the Bureau of Animal Industry into the sea where it belongs, and inoculate their hogs and prevent swine-plague."

Dr. Detmers' method of protective inoculation against swine-plague was given to the public through the columns of the FARM AND FIRESIDE more than two years ago. The importance of the discovery did not seem to be fully appreciated by farmers at that time. But now, when swine-plague is again prevalent in severe form in many parts of the country, swine breeders are becoming fully aroused to its importance and desire to make use of the method for the protection of their herds of swine. And in order to make the method available to them, arrangements have been completed whereby Dr. White, an assistant of Dr. Detmers, will be prepared to go, after the middle of the present month, to any part of the country for the purpose of inoculating herds. By co-operating, swine breeders in any locality can secure his services and have the work performed at a very moderate expense.

What Dr. Detmers has discovered is not a cure, but a preventive. It is a method of successfully protecting swine against swine-plague, or so-called hog-cholera, by artificial inoculation with weakened virus, or attenuated bacteria, of the same kind by which the disease itself is caused. The method has been given to the world. The preparation of the material for inoculation has been fully described. It can, of course, be properly prepared only by skilled bacteriologists. The inoculation, however, can be performed by any competent person who has been properly instructed. Millions of dollars can be saved annually to the swine breeders of the country by the use of protective inoculation against swine-plague.

NOTES ON RURAL AFFAIRS.

Superiority Has Its Reward. "In France a ballet-dancer of the first class earns from \$120 to \$300 a month. A star in the ballet has at least an income of from \$5,000 to \$10,000." I quote this from the *Orange County Farmer*; but I do not know whether the statement was made to show that ballet-dancing pays better than farming, or as a proof that superiority always has its reward. If the former, I am inclined to contradict it; if the latter, I feel like giving it indorsement and emphasis.

The pay of the inferior or average run of ballet-dancers is by no means brilliant. Neither is that of the inferior or average soil-tiller. It takes a ballet-dancer "of the first class" to earn from \$1,500 per year upward, and a "star in the ballet" to earn over \$5,000 a year. The soil-tiller is by no means worse off. There are thousands of "farmers of the first class" whose income is from \$1,500 upward, and there are "stars" in farming, gardening and fruit growing who have an annual income of from \$5,000 to \$10,000, all from the soil. In this respect, therefore, ballet-dancing surely has no advantages over tilling the soil, nor over many other occupations. We may accept it as a fact that the man who does poor farming, the woman who is in poor form and does inferior dancing, the mechanic who turns out poor work, or the singer who sings badly, all will have poor pay. To earn good wages, one has to do good farming, good dancing, good mechanical work, or good singing, respectively. And surely there are as many well-paid "stars" in farming, gardening and fruit growing as there are in the ballet. Unfortunately, we cannot all be stars—we are not all built that way—but we can try to do superior work in tilling the soil, better work, at any rate, than the non-reading, non-thinking average, and thus we can secure fair pay for our efforts.

Nature Versus Art. My remarks about the "seedsmen—reliable and otherwise," published in these columns a month or two since, were intended to apply to the nurserymen as well. But a word especially for their benefit may not come amiss. I have met them in their conventions, and at various horticultural gatherings, and must say, as a rule, they are a well-informed, intelligent and honorable set of men. There are but few exceptions to this rule, yet these few among them could have given pointers to Barnum.

The catalogues of the great majority, however, are abominable. The good taste of which many leading nurserymen boast, seems to be sadly missing in the display of their illustrations. Take almost any of the voluminous illustrated nursery catalogues, and look at the pictures. Did nature ever create such monstrosities of stiffness, regularity, size, and of color in the colored plates? The creations of nature always have an indescribable charm of their own—the charm of naturalness—and therefore they delight the eye of the beholder, and fire up his enthusiasm. This charm is entirely lacking in the catalogue pictures, simply because they are the creations of some fool artist's imagination, not of nature. They are not representations of natural fruits, but of what somebody thinks perfect fruits should be. The gay colors of the chromos may catch children's eyes, but they will not delight nor hold ours. The pictures leave us cold, and being uninteresting, we lay them aside. Another kind of pictures could be used with far better effect.

To get out such pictures, however, our catalogue-makers must discharge their present "artists," with their wild fancy, and employ the true artists who simply copy nature. Let the pictures represent every natural variation of form, the real size, every twist of leaves and stems, every dot or spot, and even the blemishes, if such there be on the specimens, and then note the keen delight of the beholder. Catalogues that in their illustrations show real life instead of imaginary objects, and give reliable information in place of a share of their overdrawn and crowded pictures, are worth preserving, and will be preserved, thus affording a much better advertising medium than the catalogues gotten up in the present absurd fashion.

The Columbus Gooseberry. In the *Canadian Horticulturist* I notice an illustration of the Columbus gooseberry, furnished by Ellwanger and Barry, and undoubtedly taken from their catalogue. It is more lifelike than the average catalogue picture. The individual berries of the cluster look large, but on comparing them with a lifelike sketch made by myself after a specimen grown in my garden, I find them of about an equal size. Mine were somewhat more oval—not quite so thick. Ellwanger and Barry describe this gooseberry as "of large size, oval in form; skin greenish yellow, smooth; of finest quality; plant a strong, robust grower, with large spines, and large, glossy foliage, which has not yet shown any trace of mildew"—all of which I can indorse.

Introduction of Novelties. For several years efforts have been made to commit the Association of American Nurserymen to an indorsement of a policy of strict honesty in the introduction of novelties. It seems to be the idea of the majority of the members that no novelty should be introduced until after it has been tested by the experiment station. At the last meeting (in Niagara Falls, this year) my friend, J. H. Hale, now president of the association, became especially conspicuous for his strong and plain words in favor of this policy of straightforwardness.

There are a few leading members, however, who take a more narrow view of this, as well as some other questions, and in some way find means to prevent all favorable action. If there had been a better chance to take and count the vote on the question at the last meeting, I think the motion to discourage the premature introduction of novelties would have been carried by a large majority; but as it was, it was declared lost. Yet the question will not down. It will come up again at every

future meeting until it is settled right. The opposition to so reasonable a solution, however, looks bad for the opposing members. It can have no other object than to leave a way open to them to sell untested and often unworthy novelties at big profits to themselves. The time will come when more reasonable views must prevail, and this will come soon.

Improved Mail Facilities. My enthusiasm about the proposed "rural free-mail delivery" has never gone up much beyond the zero point. In a letter to the *Country Gentleman* somebody says, "It is surprising that any farmers can be found who oppose a project so beneficial to themselves and the whole country." I think it is surprising that there are so many farmer leaders who are carried away by what appears to me simply a craze. Rural free-mail delivery in itself would be a good thing, no doubt, if it were practicable. But it can be so only in densely populated districts, and it is entirely out of the question in sparsely-settled localities.

At best the extension of the free delivery system can only be a very gradual one, and before the isolated farm-houses will be reached by it, if ever, a long time will elapse. In short, I cannot see that this much-talked-about rural free-mail delivery would be of general benefit, or "beneficial to the whole country." Neither do I care much about a reduction of the letter postage to one cent. Such a reduction would mean a large saving to me personally, but I am not aware that any farmer is kicking about the two cents postage he pays on his occasional letter.

What we do want and do need, however, and need badly, and what would be an especial benefit to all, and to rural people still more than to city people, is a PARCEL POST. What a blessing it would be if we could send or receive by mail parcels weighing up to ten or fifteen pounds, and at a postage rate less prohibitive than long-distance express charges. There might be a uniform rate of four cents per pound; or a rate graduated according to distance, from two to eight cents per pound. At any rate, such a parcel post would do us vastly more service than all the rural free-mail delivery, which, under present circumstances, is practicable, or likely to be secured by even the most persistent agitation.

The writer in *Country Gentleman* already mentioned, indulges in the following illusions: "Free delivery would increase the revenues as surely as free schools increase knowledge, and free farms increase farm products. Country people who now take but one weekly paper, and perhaps a monthly magazine, would, under free delivery, take a daily, in addition to their present mail."

Why should rural free delivery, which is a very expensive article, increase the revenues? Even if some country people would take a daily, in addition to their other mail, there is no money in this transaction for the Post-office Department. Unfortunately, however, there would be but a small percentage of farmers who would be willing to pay for a daily. We have hard work enough to convince many farmers to read even a weekly or monthly paper. A large number seldom look into a paper all summer long; others subscribe for an agricultural weekly, semi-monthly or monthly only because the women folks insist on having it. This is a bad state of things, but it is truth, and in a measure accounts for the many complaints that "farming don't pay."

Rural free delivery would not make readers and thinkers out of that class of farmers. They get their mails once or twice a week, and that is often enough for their purposes. The intelligent class of farmers who read weeklies and monthlies, and under free delivery would read a daily, are comparatively in a small minority; but they find means, after all, to get their mails at short intervals, and to keep informed and on the road to success. It is quite sure, however, that a farmer wants and needs his weekly or semi-monthly first, and above any daily he might select. The former touch his pocket-book, and his bread and butter; the latter are mostly a convenience, however great, but little more than that.

Our Farm.

PICKED POINTERS.

THE *New England Farmer* has been studying the question and devoting much space to the shipment of apples abroad. A valuable point brought out is that the best quality of fruit, each specimen of which is carefully wrapped in paper and shipped in boxes of certain dimensions, nets the shippers at the rate of a dollar a barrel more than when shipped in barrels. This point is worthy of the attention of fruit growers.

The same paper describes a "Pinetum," at Wellesley, Mass. Now, few young farmers know what that strange word means. It is a plantation of conifer trees, such as pine, hemlock and many other varieties of the family Pinus. The owner has been engaged over forty years in establishing a collection of all varieties that will flourish in that climate; and his pinetum is visited by many professional horticulturists and others.

The following is the way a writer in *Hoard's Dairyman* puts the dairy business: "A 400-pound cow is worth \$200; a 300-pound cow, \$100; a 250-pound cow, \$50; a 225-pound cow, \$25; a 210-pound cow, \$10, while a 200-pound cow would just about pay her board, and would just be worth taking as a gift. Now, suppose a cow will produce only 150 pounds of butter, the dairyman sustains a loss of \$10 every year he keeps her; and should he buy such a cow to keep five years, he ought to get her as a present; and in addition, she should have a \$50 bank note pinned to each ear; even then the bargain would be a poor one, because this cow would occupy the room of one that would make a profit." While there is a little exaggeration here, perhaps, the line of reasoning is sound. How much does it cost to test a cow and learn whether she is making or losing money for her owner? Are not nine tenths of the cow-owners remiss and careless in this matter? If careless here, the farmer is careless in other matters; and general carelessness is what causes a majority to cry "hard times."

The *Texas Farm and Ranch* tells of a herd of Jersey cows having been shipped into that state from the North, on speculation, to be sold to farmers. Most of the herd died "acclimating." It is a fact that it is not advisable to take either horses, cows or sheep from the North to the South with the expectation of making them immediately useful. The change has a bad effect. To breed up in the South, it is best to take males from the North at the time needed for service, and cross them upon natives. Then if the males acclimate easily, well and good; but if not, others from the North should be secured when wanted. Horses will not, as a rule, do well to be removed even from Ohio to New York. I had a trial of one such. Three years ago a \$1,000 team of horses was brought from Ohio to my home. In a few weeks both were afflicted in one way or another, and as much as half a dozen ways. After being "doctored" for six months, they were sold as a common work team, and proved to be but "poor sticks" for that purpose.

The farm papers all coincide that, as a rule, farmers attempt to cultivate too much land. It is a fact, and one to be deplored, that almost everyone spreads his efforts over too much territory. The boast is, how many acres of crops one has grown and not how much per acre. A neighbor took pride in saying that he had put in seventy acres of spring crops; but another who had only twenty-five acres of land made more net money from it than the former did from his whole farm of 150 acres. Now, which was the wiser and better farmer? A long time ago some one printed a pamphlet with this title, "Ten Acres Enough." Large farmers thought the author a crank; but I can name and locate a man who supports himself, wife and six children from the products of his "farm" of two acres, and lays up money besides. He has neither greenhouse nor near-by city markets to facilitate his operations. He resides in a country place where land is cheap, and transports his goods to a village market a considerable distance away; but he seldom returns without bringing a load of manure that costs him nothing. The possibility of the production of land is little realized. Some years ago I tried a small corner in the

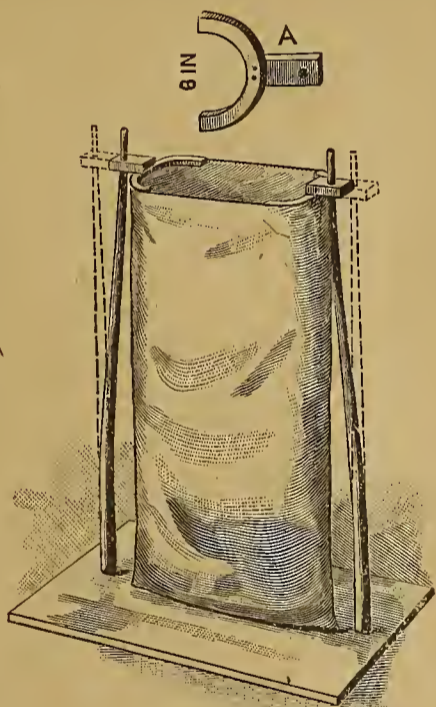
garden to see what value per acre of vegetables could be grown upon it. They were sold at retail, and came to over \$5,000 per acre. While this could not probably be done on a large scale, yet it goes far to show what might be accomplished by intensive farming. Most of us would do better to spread less and concentrate more.

A well-known contributor to the *Country Gentleman* gives an account of a recent visit to a farm in North Carolina. What he says of sheep there is so in line with what I know of that section of country, I presume a few words devoted to a consideration of the subject may not be amiss. The climate is so tempered by the altitude and by the ocean, there is scarcely a time when sheep will not graze in the middle of the day, as they will not in the North. There are fewer tormenting flies, and internal parasites are generally unknown. When asked about grub in the head, the sheep farmer addressed remarked: "Some of the native sheep in the country are claimed to have had grub in the head, but on investigation, I think it can generally be traced to want of grub in the belly." There is abundance of pure water. The best of all is, by letting pastures grow up, the animals can graze the year around. Only once in a series of years was green feed shut off by the weather, and that time for only three weeks. He says rams brought down there from the North fatten up amazingly, sometimes dying of apoplexy in consequence; but native sheep are not affected in that way. I will add what I know of sheep grazing the year around in that state. Where underbrush is not thick in the woods, various grasses spring up. I know a plantation of 2,000 acres, 1,400 of which is woods. Grass grows up to the trees. Both sheep and cattle have grazed there the year around for many years. This, with land being so cheap, and the New York market being so readily accessible, constitute it an ideal location for growing market lambs.

GALEN WILSON.

A HANDY BAG-HOLDER.

After experimenting with a number of home-made bag-holders, I have found this one gives the best satisfaction. Procure a piece of two-inch plank 30 inches long, and



A HANDY BAG-HOLDER.

as wide as you can get. Bore two 1 1/4-inch holes in the plank 24 inches apart. Then get two sticks 3 feet 9 inches long, of some tough wood—green poles will do—which should be about as large as a man's wrist. Shave these sticks to fit into the holes in the plank; and shave about 10 inches of the upper ends so they will fit tightly into a 3/4-inch hole. Now make two blocks of hard wood 4 1/2 inches long and 2 inches square. Bore a 3/4-inch hole in each block near the end. Set the compass for a 6-inch circle and mark off two half circles on an inch board; then saw them out with a compass-saw, and nail one of these circular pieces on each block, close to the end, as shown at A. These circular pieces should be 1 inch thick each way, and they should have about three small lathing-nails left sticking out 1/4 inch to keep the bag from slipping off. It is the spring of the two long sticks that holds the bag tight. The blocks can be slipped up or down, for bags of different lengths. M. E. M. Kinderhook, N. Y.

PROMISES VERSUS FULFILLMENT. COTTON GROWERS' RESOLUTIONS.

The Cotton Growers' Convention, at Montgomery, adopted a series of committee reports, including a number of resolutions of the highest importance, with others concerning which the wisdom is less apparent. The principal resolutions were:

1. Reduction of cotton acreage and increased attention to production of cereals.
2. Greater attention to stock and cattle raising.
3. Encouragement of manufacturing in the South, exempting manufactories from taxation for a period of ten years.
4. Encouragement of immigration, large plantations to be divided into small farms, and the latter to be sold to bona fide homeseekers.
5. Recommendations that cotton be withheld for sale by farmers who are not in debt to their factors, and that it be held for a raise, which may reasonably be expected if the present heavy receipts are appreciably reduced.
6. Congress petitioned to pass the anti-option bill.

These resolutions are valuable as indicating intelligent public sentiment among cotton growers, but they would be decidedly more hopeful if the planters were in the habit of confirming their public resolutions by private action. It is unfortunately true that in the past, at least, cotton planters have agreed that as a class they should enact certain much-needed reforms, but in their individual capacity have utterly failed to live up to their resolutions.

The necessity for a reduction of cotton acreage and a diversification of the agriculture of the South, is patent to even the most prejudiced worshiper of King Cotton, but it is not more plain to-day than it has been for a dozen years past. Almost every year during that time public meetings and the southern press, assuming to speak for southern agriculture, have deplored their one-sided development and promised reform, but the reform never seems to materialize. The trouble is not a failure to recognize the true situation, but failure of individuals to act in their individual capacity.

Two rocks stand in the way of the reform promised in the first resolution: The natural conservatism of the planter, especially the colored element, and the system of crop mortgages, so generally practiced.

The growing of cotton is a tradition, handed down from father to son; and it is only within the present generation that "southern dignity" would allow that a gentleman could farm any other product. Cotton was a jealous god, and entrance into the charmed circle of the "aristocracy" was denied to those who failed to worship at his shrine. This ultra exclusiveness has largely passed away, but there is yet a lingering trace of the feeling. The very fact that public gatherings still find it necessary to pass resolutions looking to the dethronement of the old ruler, is evidence that emancipation from this vicious thralldom is not yet complete.

The first rock may be gradually worn away as planters learn that cotton lands will grow corn, support hogs and cattle, make grass, and that there is money in orchard fruits, market gardening, and the many branches of rural exploitation so long frowned upon. The second will be more difficult to remove. By a vicious system of crop mortgages a considerable portion of the planters are bound hand and foot by cotton factors, and are left no voice in deciding what shall be grown. Not only is the growing crop mortgaged, but a mortgage is given upon a prospective crop not yet planted, in payment for supplies. The crop when grown barely pays off past indebtedness, if indeed it fully does that, and current expenses are met by recourse to another mortgage on the next crop. This leaves the unfortunate planter one year behind all the time. Supplies furnished are charged at high prices, and as his cotton is the only crop he can realize on in advance, he puts in a large acreage to insure himself against low prices of cotton, or possible failure in yield. He may also put in a little more with the idea of getting something to help him toward independence of his factor. These efforts to provide against contingencies, or to lift himself from the slough of dependence, react upon him and sink him deeper in the mire.

The aggregate area is steadily increased, the crop is larger year by year, the price

goes down and down, and with each fresh decline he must raise a little more to sell at the lowest figure, in order to meet his fixed charges for supplies, costs which will not fall with the fall of the staple. This unfortunate class is not confined to the freedmen or the dwellers in log cabins, but includes too many who cultivate broad acres and live in the "old-times" mansions. Such farmers have a deed to their land, or it may have come down through their family for generations, yet practically they are a tenant class. A worse form of industrial slavery could hardly be imagined. A remedy may be difficult to find, but until it is found there is little hope of any permanent reduction of the cotton acreage.

The present unsatisfactory condition is by no means new. With the unprecedented decline in price it simply becomes more acute. For four years past the cry has been continuous, yet each decline is met by a larger crop, and the present season furnishes a crop the largest ever grown, probably equaling at least 9,200,000 bales. In the face of this condition the resolutions quoted are timely, but mere paper resolutions will not correct the evil. If, as in the past, each man waits for his neighbor to reduce his acreage, while he puts in a little more in order to reap the benefit of the expected rise, then the possibility of improvement is remote indeed.

During the decade 1880 to 1890, it was constantly claimed that the South was "going" to raise more meat and bread, and it was claimed so strenuously that the best informed believed it. Correspondents of the Department of Agriculture misled that authority into estimating a considerable increase of the cereal acreage during the period. The returns of the census of 1890 showed the difference between professions and actions. In 1880 in the ten cotton States 29.8 per cent of improved land in farms was devoted to corn, 4.8 to oats, and 5.7 to wheat, a total for the three cereals of 40.3 against 24.4 devoted to cotton. In 1890 corn occupied only 24.2 per cent, oats 4.3 and wheat 3.1, a total of 31.6 against 25.6 in cotton. With an increase of 19,048,890 acres in improved land, the area devoted to the three cereals only increased 796,841 acres, while cotton increased 5,629,057 acres, or 39 per cent. There is both room and necessity for a radical change in crop distribution in the South, but the rosy promises in the past which have failed to materialize tend to discount the same promises now.

The wisdom of the fifth resolution is decidedly doubtful. It is on par with the idea that suppression of knowledge of facts of production would benefit producers. Like many other economic fallacies, when refuted in one form, it springs up in another. A few years ago, when this country had grown the largest wheat crop in its history, while Europe had a shortened production, "hold your wheat" circulars flooded the Northwest, and a class of farm papers swelled the general chorus. The advice was followed, and although prices offered were remunerative, holders refused to part with the grain. The result was natural. Our wheat-buying customers of Europe scoured the world for supplies, and getting a little here and a little there, brought into commerce wheat from districts before hardly considered, and the aggregate furnished the needed supply which we had withheld. The result went further. Wheat growing was stimulated in other countries, and when another crop came around, we had a heavy old surplus to add to increasing supplies. Prices have been forced down and down, and the most potent factor in the decline has been the pressure of the heavy surplus which we hoarded. During the past six months wheat which has been carried three years, and for which 75 cents or more was refused, has sold at less than 50 cents, or been fed to hogs. The accumulation of a surplus is dangerous, and if an excess has been made, it is wisdom to let it go, inducing an increased consumption by tempting prices, and evening up by restricting future production. B. W. SNOW.

Rheumatic Pains

Return when the colder weather comes. They are caused by lactic acid in the blood, which frequently settles in the joints. This poisonous taint must be removed.

Hood's Sarsaparilla Cures
 Hood's Sarsaparilla conquers rheumatism because it drives out of the blood every form of impurity. It makes pure, rich blood. "I suffered with rheumatism in my left foot. I took Hood's Sarsaparilla and the pain is all gone." MISS R. R. BLAKE, Mills House, Charleston, S. C.
 Hood's Pills prevent constipation.

Our Farm.

FIELD AND GARDEN NOTES.

RAISING SPINACH.—It is not a particularly difficult task to raise good spinach. The plant is perfectly hardy, and when sown in the fall, will usually stand our winters well, even without protective covering, and give an early spring crop of greens that will sell well in most markets. The soil should, of course, be rich and well manured; and if you use dressings of nitrate of soda besides, you will most likely raise a large amount of greens from a given area. Indeed, I think there is hardly another garden crop on which nitrate applications give as good, and often astonishing results as on spinach. For spring spinach, seed may be sown as late in fall or even winter as the land can be brought in good condition for sowing. Don't be sparing with the manure. Plow in a good coat of well-rotted stable manure, or apply poultry manure at the rate of four or five tons to the acre on the freshly-plowed ground, and thoroughly harrow this in. Then make the surface as fine and smooth as possible, which can be done by using the Meeker harrow, or on a smaller scale by means of the steel garden-rake. We always sow the seed with the Planet Jr. garden-drill. In the fall or early winter when the soil is damp, and rains are frequent, ten pounds of seed will be about enough for an acre, with drills one foot apart. We never (hardly ever) thin the plants, but keep the weeds down from the very start. Early in spring, when the soil gets dry enough, a Planet Jr., or other good wheel-hoe, is promptly brought into action, and after the plants have made some fresh growth, cutting and marketing may begin. The cutting is done with a sharpened push or scuffle hoe, which is pushed along on top of the ground, right in line with the row, cutting the plants off even with the ground. They are then picked up, cleaned from weeds, dead and decaying leaves, etc., washed clean, and placed in baskets or barrels, ready for market. Whenever you can calculate on getting fifty cents, or nearly that, per bushel, you will find spinach a paying crop.

Seed can also be sown in early spring in the same way as advised for fall sowing. The crop, of course, will come much later, and may not find as ready sale or as good prices as the fall-sown crop. But if you have sale for it, even at 75 cents per barrel, it can be made to pay well enough, for with the help of nitrate of soda and good culture, large yields may be secured. Sometimes this spring-sown spinach is grown as a secondary crop between the rows of early cabbages, and comes off in time to give the main (cabbage) crop the needed room.

For fall and early winter market we sow seed in August or early September. At this time of the year, however, the soil is often quite dry, and seed does not germinate as readily as in spring or late fall. In this emergency it is advisable to sow a large quantity of seed, say up to fifteen pounds per acre, and to firm the soil with especial care. In recent years, our winters have been more or less open up to Christmas, giving us a chance to cut, use and market spinach right along until and after the holidays. For long-distance shipment, spinach is usually put up in well-ventilated barrels. Often it pays to put barrels in cold storage, and keep them until there is a ready demand and improved prices during the winter.

Spinach is largely grown in cold green-houses near the large cities of the East, and it usually gives them satisfactory returns. In many cases these houses are simple structures covered with hotbed sash, under which the crop is cultivated on the surface of the natural ground, and almost in the same manner as done outdoors. Of course, closer plating is practiced, in order to make the most of the space. Seed is sown in November, in drills 8 to 9 inches apart, crossways of the house, with a path left in the center its whole length. The plants are cut in February and March, when they often bring \$2.50 and upward per barrel. Even at \$2 a barrel the crop pays well for the attention it requires, especially as time is usually a thing not valued very highly by the gardener in the dead of winter.

The gardener has not much choice of varieties. Round Leaf and Long Standing are the standard varieties, and reliable. We have also a Thick-leaved, Viroflay (a strain of the Thick-leaved) and Savoy-leaved. But those first-named are popular and good.

VALUE OF SWAMPS.—What is called "peat" in Europe, and "muck" in America, is the result of an imperfect decomposition of vegetable matter, such as marsh plants, leaves, sticks, roots, etc., that has been covered most of the time with stagnant water. Here at the North we find such mucky deposits quite commonly. Often they cover large areas, miles in extent. I have always looked upon a muck swamp as a valuable adjunct to a farm, and I feel that it is not always appreciated according to its true merits. In most cases there is a way to let off the surface water. If ditching has to be done, there are always days during fall or winter for such work, when other work is not pressing; and even if it involves considerable expense, it will pay in more than one way. I like to work mucky soils after they have been thoroughly reclaimed. It is satisfactory soil to work, and well suited to many of our most profitable garden crops, especially onions and celery, and often early potatoes. Indeed, it is fun to work such loose soil which offers so little resistance to tools or fingers. Vegetables always grow smooth, regular and clean in muck land, as their growth finds no mechanical impediment.

We should not expect great results the first year after a muck-bed is reclaimed, or satisfactory crops at any time without the proper manure applications. Muck must become "weathered," or "seasoned." When the raw, wet muck has been exposed to the drying and decomposing influence of the air for some time, and especially if then mixed with a little of wood ashes, lime, etc., it becomes seasoned and fit for satisfactory cropping.

Dr. R. C. Kedzie, of the Michigan agricultural station, speaks in a recent bulletin of two kinds of muck. One is the powdery muck often found on the surface of the muck-bed, of a deep brown color, and closely resembling the mold or organic matter of the soil. It does not stick to the fingers, and has no acid properties, so that it can be pressed upon moist blue litmus-paper without changing its color to red. This is the good, weathered, or seasoned, muck, which when intermixed with a proportion of sand and enriched with ashes, etc., will give us the very best soil for the vegetable crops already mentioned. It may also be used as a direct application to soils that are deficient in humus, and thus serve the place of manure. When used in this way, I would indorse the recommendations of Dr. Kedzie to improve its value by mixing with each ton of the dry muck two bushels of wood ashes or slaked lime. "The muck is especially valuable for making compost with fresh stable manure," he adds, "using equal parts of muck and manure. Even offensive material such as night-soil, the manure from the hog-pen, and putrid animal remains may be deprived of all offensive properties by mixing with muck."

The other kind of muck is the black, sticky, adhesive mass that "cuts like cheese, and soils the fingers when handled." It is usually quite acid, and contains from 50 to 80 per cent of water. When cut out and dried rapidly, it forms a peaty, fibrous mass that is used as a fuel in many places in Europe. This muck can be "weathered," or seasoned, by piling up in long heaps, and left to the action of frost and weather during the winter. It will then break down into a soft, crumbly mass, have lost its acidity and much of its water, and can be used in the same way as the powdery muck first mentioned. In its raw state, the cheesy muck is unfit for application to the land; but with a little manipulation it can be made far too valuable (in itself, or when composted with stable manure, and also as absorbent in stables, poultry-houses and privies) to be ignored. Make the most of your muck swamps! T. GREINER.

Russia has produced this year, according to the estimate of the minister of agriculture, 272,000,000 bushels of wheat, as compared with 336,000,000 last year. Her rye crop is 792,000,000 bushels, as against 752,000,000 a year ago. The barley yield is 176,000,000, and that of oats 672,000,000. There is no famine in the czar's empire this year.

SOUTH ATLANTIC ORCHARD AND FARM NOTES.

In order to get ahead in farming, one must have a head, and a tolerably long one at that. In fact, the farmer of to-day must be a sort of hustling subsoiler in getting at the bottom facts of the business.

The extremely low price of cotton does not keep cotton growers who raise their own meat and bread, from still taking a somewhat hopeful look of future prospects.

Carroll county, Georgia, is reported to have a larger number of hogs than for many years. It is said that a couple of well-grown March pigs will bring more money in that locality than a bale of five-cent cotton. By raising one's supplies at home, and making cotton the surplus crop, prosperity will be assured.

Mr. W. L. Elzey, a prominent trucker of Virginia, cut and cured twenty tons of scarlet clover and eight tons of red clover hay. The scarlet clover cures even more readily than the other. Mr. Elzey harvested 2,500 barrels of sweet potatoes. He practices the storing of a part of his crop for the winter markets. Sixty acres are devoted to truck raising.

A fatal disease, supposed to be "pink-eye," has broken out among the horses in St. Mary's county, Maryland. The animal becomes dull and sluggish, loses its sight, and usually dies within twenty-four hours. When a disease of this kind makes its appearance, the fact should be made known to the United States Department of Agriculture. The co-operation of local veterinarians with those of the department might be of great benefit in determining the diagnosis of the disease and checking its spread.

It is not unlikely that immigration will increase instead of decrease, now that the subject is discussed so much in this country and Europe. The fears that the doors will be closed soon is no doubt having its effect. Information comes from Dallas, Texas, that there is an unprecedented rush of settlers from the Northwest and from Europe. No immigrants who sell their votes or do not observe the American Christian Sabbath are anyway desirable.

Norfolk, the leading seaport city of Virginia, has one of the largest horse markets in the South. The supply comes mainly from Kentucky and the states in the West and Northwest. Buyers come from the principal Atlantic coast-line cities.

The farmers of Chattooga county, Ga., have a much larger acreage of wheat now growing than formerly. Evidently, there is a determination to grow all that is consumed. To follow this course will lead to prosperity in a very few years.

Mecklenburgh county, which is in the southwestern part of North Carolina, is taking the lead in the construction of good macadam roads. Wake county, in the central portion of the state, and Craven county, in the eastern portion, are also making commendable progress in good road construction. State Geologist Holmes is taking the lead in this much-needed work, by means of lectures in which he uses stereopticon views to illustrate the best roads of the Old World, and by way of contrast the ordinary dirt road of this country.

A few years ago there was much said about the "mistakes of Moses." Much might be said now about the "mistakes of cotton growers." Mistake one was that of failing to produce meat and breadstuffs for home use. The second was, and is, that of failing to manufacture nearly all the cotton produced, close to the cotton-fields. Until this is done, the southern planter will be at the mercy of European financiers and cotton-mill owners. More manufacturing establishments, more homes, and more mouths to eat the fruits and cheaply grown in the South, constitute the need of the hour. The era of development in this direction is being inaugurated.

There is a good deal of solid truth in the statement that the public men of the South are of and from the home element, and not foreigners, as is too much the case in our foreignized manufacturing towns along the north Atlantic coast. It is to be hoped that technical schools, where the mechanic arts will be taught, will be established, so that the young men, white and colored, who were born on southern soil, will be fitted to run all kinds of steam and electric machinery, and thus block the way of unscrupulous manufacturers who for profit would fill our shops and mines with undesirable foreign laborers. The Miller school, of Albemarle county, in southwestern Virginia, is one of the kind of technical schools referred to.

In all localities south of the snow line there is much danger from winter-killing. It is said that the scarlet clover, when sown alone, is frequently killed by the alternate freezing and thawing. No doubt the winter oat crop would serve as a protection to the clover. If the clover has been sown alone, then the land should have a thin layer of coarse farm-yard manure, or pipe tags, or any kind of coarse material that will partly shade the young plants. This will prevent the washing away of the surface soil, and aid the young plants very materially in resisting a drought should one occur early in the season.

No one can say too much, or too often, that the great need of the South is grass. To get it, begin by sowing early in the fall one bushel of winter oats and fifteen pounds of crimson clover. As soon as this crop attains its full growth, plow it under and sow the "Unknown" field-pea. When this crop attains its full growth, put on a heavy roller and press the crop down firmly. Then get a sharp rolling colter, weight down your plow-beam if necessary, so as to put the crop entirely under. Reseed once more with the crimson clover and oats, and when the crop is removed, plant to cotton or corn, and then seed down to grass. J. W., JR.

Creameries scattered over many parts of the East are making considerable change in the conditions of farming. The dairy is becoming more and more important, and poor farms are enriched by the presence of many cattle. The creameries buy milk by the hundred pounds, and farmers like the simplicity of this wholesale trade. Meanwhile, there is a constant interest in creamery prices, and local newspapers publish quotations from time to time as news items.

In Our Great Grandfather's Time,

big bulky pills were in general use. Like the "blunderbuss" of that decade they were big and clumsy, but ineffective. In this century of enlightenment, we have Dr. Pierce's Pleasant Pellets, which cure all liver, stomach and bowel derangements in the most effective way.

Assist Nature a little now and then, with a gentle, cleansing laxative, thereby removing offending matter from the stomach and bowels, toning up and invigorating the liver and quickening its tardy action, and you thereby remove the cause of a multitude of distressing diseases, such as headaches, indigestion, or dyspepsia, biliousness, pimples, blotches, eruptions, boils, constipation, piles, fistulas and maladies too numerous to mention.

If people would pay more attention to properly regulating the action of their bowels, they would have less frequent occasion to call for their doctor's services to subdue attacks of dangerous diseases.

That, of all known agents to accomplish this purpose, Dr. Pierce's Pleasant Pellets are unequalled, is proven by the fact that once used, they are always in favor. Their secondary effect is to keep the bowels open and regular, not to further constipate, as is the case with other pills. Hence, their great popularity, with sufferers from habitual constipation, piles and indigestion.

A free sample of the "Pellets," (4 to 7 doses) on trial, is mailed to any address, post-paid, on receipt of name and address on postal card.

Address, WORLD'S DISPENSARY MEDICAL ASSOCIATION, Buffalo, N. Y.



Orchard and Small Fruits.

CONDUCTED BY SAMUEL B. GREEN.

INQUIRIES ANSWERED

BY SAMUEL B. GREEN.

Peach on Plum Stock.—F. K., Hamilton, Ind. The peach does better when worked on the plum than when on peach, if in heavy soils. The Mariana is a very good stock, but I do not think it any better for this purpose than any of our strong-growing native plums.

Pecans, Almonds and Chestnuts.—G. P. G., Nacogdoches, Texas. You can probably get what you want from T. V. Munson, Denison, Texas. Almonds should not be grown from seed, but you should buy trees. You can also buy trees of the pecan and chestnut, and thus get the fruit several years earlier than if you planted the nuts. The pecans and chestnuts might be expected to fruit in ten years from the seed.

Salt Around Trees.—F. T., Fairbury, Ill. Common salt is not generally of much value as a fertilizer. It aids chemical action, however, and a small quantity of it is often beneficial on inland soils. If I had a lot of salt and nothing special to do with it, or could get it very cheap, I would put it around my trees or on the land for general crops. I should use about ten bushels per acre. I think it a good plan for those living inland from the ocean to experiment with this material in a small way, as in some cases it gives excellent results. It is easiest to apply it in a dry form, but it could be applied as brine. I should use about five pounds around large plum-trees and proportionally for other trees, bushes, etc.

Sawdust Around Trees.—W. E., West Fork, Ark., writes: "I can bring oak sawdust to my farm, if I choose. I estimate the value of the labor at fifty cents a load, double sideboards. Will it pay me to put the sawdust around my young apple-trees?"

REPLY:—I think I should put about one bushel of the hard-wood sawdust around each tree, so as to keep the weeds down around it, to retain moisture and make it easy to cultivate. Would not put on more than this, as I believe in using a plow in the young orchard, so as to make the roots run deep, and a mulch would bring them too near the surface to stand drought well. Hard-wood sawdust is an excellent mulch for raspberries, currants, etc., and for old apple-trees.

Fertilizer for Strawberries.—C. E. B., Franklin, Ohio. Stable manure will do more to improve the land than any fertilizer you can buy. I think the reason you have such poor success with it is that you use it without first rotting it. Put your manure into a pile four feet deep and flat on top. Turn this occasionally as it heats, and break it up. If it gets dry, use water on it. Keep it gently heating until it is thoroughly rotted. By this means you will kill all the weed-seed, and if the manure is plowed in, you will find that the land will stand the drought best where it is manured. Organic matter in the soil helps to hold water, providing it is thoroughly rotted. Clear, well-rotted cow manure is better than horse manure for such land as you describe. Break the manure up well and spread evenly over the surface.

Transplanting Evergreens and Oaks.—I. A. L., Toltec, Ark. The narrow-leaved evergreens, such as the pine, spruce, red and white cedar, retinosporas, etc., may be safely moved at any time in the spring after the land will work easily and until the new growth has started several inches. I prefer to move them just as the new growth shows the faintest signs of starting, if they are not to be moved very far. At this time the new roots will show a little white growth. If they are to be moved a long distance, I should prefer to plant them somewhat earlier, as they are rather more sensitive after starting a little. Great care should always be used to prevent the roots getting dry. I insist in my work in this line that the roots of such trees shall never have even the slightest appearance of being dry, and I have been very uniformly successful in transplanting them. Oaks should be moved early in the spring. They are rather hard to transplant successfully, but not so much so as is generally supposed. Great care should be taken to get all the roots, and this can only be done in the case of small trees.

Grafting-wax, Grafting and Budding.—E. J., Kanawa, Kan. A very good wax for general grafting is made as follows: Resin, four parts by weight; beeswax, two parts; tallow, one part. Melt together and pour into a pail of cold water. Then grease the hands and pull the same as molasses candy is pulled until it is nearly white, and make into balls. When ready to use, put into warm water, pull out and wrap around the graft. The wild plum grafts easily. The work should be done very early in the spring. I make a practice of grafting the plum before the frost is entirely out of the ground, and cut the scions within a few days of the time when they are inserted. If the seedlings are small, it is best to graft just below the surface of the ground and cover the joint with earth as well as wax. Tough blue clay well mixed in water is an excellent material for taking the place of wax, but it should be put on at least half an inch thick. Cherries and peaches cannot be grafted as easily as they can be huddled in your section. See FARM AND FIRESIDE of July 15th last for article on budding. Will have an article in this department on grafting before it is time for doing the work.

What Fruit to Grow.—R. W., Goldendale, Wash., writes: "I have considerable land that keeps moist remarkably well through the summer drought, if well cultivated and frequently stirred. I think of planting twenty acres to fruit. I am four miles from Columbia river; the nearest ferry and railroad station are fifteen miles below, on the other side. There are no cities or towns near from which to get extra help at short notice. The nearest orchards (grown, and large tracts) are fifteen to twenty miles away, and they have their varieties and kinds so badly divided up as to make combination for ear-load shipments impracticable. Prunes, A 1 evaporated, are a drug on the market at five cents wholesale; retail by the box, eight cents per pound. Local markets for fresh fruits are limited and always overloaded. I would like to plant two or three kinds of fruit only (grapes, peaches, apricots, pears, prunes, apples all do well), and not more than two varieties of a kind, and not more than three varieties all told. What shall I plant, and in what proportion?"

REPLY:—It is my opinion that late-keeping apples will prove a surer source of revenue in the fruit line than anything I know of, but they must be carefully grown and be put up in the very best manner. Winter pears, such as the Nells, Bose and Anjou, are also in much demand. The markets are well supplied with summer fruits, and your location is too inaccessible for shipping them to advantage. I think possibly the Angouleme pear could be grown by you to advantage.

EXTRACTS FROM CORRESPONDENCE.

FROM VIRGINIA.—I am a farmer of southern Virginia, and am glad indeed to see such encouraging reports from the South in your paper. The South, this section especially, has good cause to be proud of her resources. We can grow most all crops, melons, grass, garden truck, tobacco, and fruit of most varieties here. Land is cheap here and climate good, and we seldom have long droughts. By good farming, one can make money here, as well as anywhere, on a farm. J. G. B. Clarksville, Va.

FROM VIRGINIA.—The town of Claremont, Surry county, is in the tide-water section of Virginia, half way between Richmond and Norfolk—sixty miles from each. The town is incorporated, with good churches, schools, etc., and peopled mostly by northern and western people. It is located on bluffs eighty to one hundred feet above high water, with good drainage. The land throughout the county is good, and can be bought for \$5 to \$20 per acre. We have no cyclones, no extremes of cold or heat, and can raise anything that can be grown anywhere North or West. I have resided here eight years, and intend to remain here the rest of my days. D. W. R. Claremont, Va.

FROM WASHINGTON.—Clallam county, Washington, is blessed with a perfect climate. It is only necessary to quote from official observations taken daily for the past sixteen years, during which time the temperature has never risen above ninety-four degrees or fallen to lower than three degrees above zero. There has not been sufficient frost for many years to destroy potatoes left in the ground where they grew. Flowers of almost every variety bloom in the open air during the entire winter. Grasses are green and grow all the year around, making stock raising and the dairy business the most profitable of industries. Cyclones, tornadoes and blizzards are unknown. Thunder is very seldom heard, and under the most perfect climate, conditions and influences which exist, health is good, and people live long and happily. We have an abundant supply of pure water. All land is very heavily timbered, making it very hard to clear and get under cultivation. Land can be bought near and surrounding Port Angeles (the county-seat) for from \$25 to \$100 per acre. Crop failure is unknown in this county. Having several churches, public schools and a neighborhood of good, Christian families, we are a happy and contented people. P. F. K. Port Angeles, Wash.

FROM ALABAMA.—We have some disadvantages here as well as some good things. After reading Mr. Galen Wilson's article, "Agricultural Opportunities in the South," in December 1st number of the FARM AND FIRESIDE, I was prompted to indorse his letter in a plea for this country. I don't know why more people don't come South to live. We have more land than population. Land is cheap, and pretty good. It sells on a basis of \$10 an acre—some much lower, say \$3, \$5, \$7.50, and some much higher. We can raise very successfully corn, wheat, oats, millet, clover, red-top, orchard-grass, some cotton, then all the ordinary vegetables—turnips, pumpkins, etc.—and nearly every year have plenty of peaches. This country needs enterprising small farmers of the German style of farmer. We need a tile-mill and machinery for making brick, a broom-maker, a cheese and butter factory and similar things, all of which can and will succeed if properly managed by thrifty persons. We have a good climate, plenty of rainfall—rather too much in the winter sometimes—but we neither have extreme heat in summer nor extreme cold in winter. Our schools are improving. There is a good college in this county. We have fine scenery—some mountains and beautiful valleys—and are near the great Tennessee river. Immigration would be very welcome here. C. J. O'H. Hollywood, Ala.

FROM TENNESSEE.—This part of eastern Tennessee was favored with abundant crops this year; in fact, there has never been a total failure known here. With its fine climate, good water, healthfulness and beautiful scenery, this part of Tennessee is one of the most desirable places for invalids who are afflicted with throat and lung trouble. The lay of this county is in valleys and ridges, trending from northeast to southwest, with the Cumberland mountains on the east and the Cumberland on the north. These valleys differ in width from one half to one and two miles. They are very fertile when properly cultivated. Will raise corn, wheat, oats, barley and vegetables of all kinds, clover, orchard and herds grass. Timothy does well in most places. The subsoil of these valleys is generally red clay. The ridges are the natural home of fruit of all kinds. The winters are usually very mild, compared with the North; mercury never gets as low as zero, with no blizzards in winter or cyclones in summer. We have about three months of what is termed winter in this country. In summer the mercury gets higher than ninety-six degrees only for a few days. The summer nights are cool and pleasant. There are two lead mines in operation in Bradley county, only a short distance from Cleveland, each working from thirty to forty hands. There is plenty of iron ore in this county that has not yet been opened up. Taxes are low; \$1.20 on \$100 is the tax levy. Assessments are low; \$1,000 in personal property is allowed each household free of taxation. The indebtedness of Bradley county is light. Markets are good for all farm products and stock. This county is well adapted to the raising of stock. There are many living springs that afford plenty of water for stock both winter and summer. We have churches of nearly all denominations. Cleveland, the county-seat of Bradley county, is on the East Tennessee, Virginia & Georgia railroad, and has a population of 3,000. I know of no better place for home-seekers with large or small means to locate and live happily than in Bradley county. I am an Ohioan by birth; have lived here for the last twelve years and know this country and people. We have not felt the pressure of hard times as much as people in the North. W. R. S. Cleveland, Tenn.

FROM OREGON.—Through former articles in your paper I have received a large number of inquiries about this country. It seems a great many people think I am in the real estate business; but they are mistaken. I neither have any land for sale nor am I interested in the sale of any. I simply wish to tell the world what a country we have, with a view of inducing good immigration here, for good people will help the country, and what helps the country helps me. In September we had enough rain to start the grass and make the ground suitable to cultivate, and then we had the most lovely, warm weather imaginable

until after the middle of November. After that it has rained considerably. Beef is in fine condition, and the grocery-stores and butcher-shops are making a good showing of fat turkeys, chickens, ducks, etc. Roseburg is a town of 3,000 inhabitants, the county-seat of Douglas county, and is located on the Southern Pacific railroad, two hundred miles south of Portland. The South Umpqua river flows through its environs, and furnishes power to drive various manufactories. The surrounding country is composed of small valleys and hills, and the majority of the hills are susceptible of cultivation to their summits. The soil is a heavy loam, excepting along the river and creek bottoms, where it is a sandy loam, and very productive. This section of the state is admirably adapted to diversified farming, producing good crops of all the cereals. Corn does excellently here, and a great many of the farmers fatten their hogs on it. The county is better adapted to general fruit culture than any in the state, and excels as a prune country. Our prunes are beginning to become known in the eastern markets, and wherever they have been introduced there is always a demand for them over all others. The prune output this season was 1,000,000 pounds, bringing into the county some \$60,000; and next year the output will be more than double that of the present season. With the advent of the C. B. R. & E. railroad, which may be confidently expected the coming summer, we will have a short route to the sea (only seventy miles), thus giving us a market for all our surplus products. We can then ship fresh fruits to all the countries in the world. All kinds of vegetables do well here. No irrigation is necessary. We have a most equable climate, never hot or cold, and as healthful as any on the coast—no malaria. There are no trees here that grow twenty-dollar pieces, but any one having a moderate amount of money, and plenty of push and energy, can make a good living here, and lay up something for a rainy day. W. T. F. Roseburg, Oregon.

FROM CALIFORNIA.—Kern county is comparatively new, and has plenty of cheap land and as fine soil as can be found in any country. I am living in what is known as the Poso irrigation district, a body of 40,000 acres, organized under the Wright irrigation law, which authorizes districts to be formed and bonds voted, to bring in the water. All this has been done, and the work is rapidly nearing completion. These bonds run twenty years, at six per cent interest. The district owns and operates its own system of irrigation, while the land companies sell their land, and then sell the water at from \$1 to \$2.50 per acre-per year. Land at present can be bought cheap, because the ditches have had no water in as yet; but just as soon as water comes in it will jump right up to \$30 and \$40 an acre. Now it can be got at from \$3 to \$10 per acre. It is land that will raise anything in the fruit line of a semi-tropical nature, and the finest wheat that a man ever saw. The country at first sight would disgust a new-comer, unless he had staying qualities, but the longer he stayed, the longer he would want to. There will be water on one half of this district this year, and then there will be a boom; but not anything like the booms of the past. This county is nearly 150 miles long and over 60 miles wide, and has over 5,000,000 acres in it. The main line of the Southern Pacific railroad passes through from north to south, and is the outlet to the seaboard. We are 293 miles from San Francisco and about 175 miles from Los Angeles, in the south end of the San Joaquin valley. Bakersfield is the county seat, a town of about 4,000 inhabitants. This valley is 400 miles long and from 20 to 60 miles in width. We find a great many things as cheap here as in the East. We buy potatoes for \$1.10 per sack of 120 pounds; flour, 90 cents per sack of 50 pounds; fruit is very cheap; grapes, 75 cents per 100 pounds; dried peaches, pears, prunes, 5 cents a pound; raisins, 2 1/2 cents per pound. Some things in the hardware line are higher. We think we have found the best climate in the United States—the Italy of America. Poultry raising is very profitable; live turkeys are now worth 16 cents per pound, and chickens \$5 per dozen. Eggs are 25 cents a dozen; butter, 55 cents per roll of 2 pounds. We are about 30 miles west of the Sierra Nevadas, and about the same distance east of the coast range, and in sight of perpetual snow on the east. Our outlet south is over the Tehachapi Pass, about 90 miles south of us. Any one wanting a home in one of the finest climates in America can get it now by coming to California. J. B. Spottiswood, Cal.

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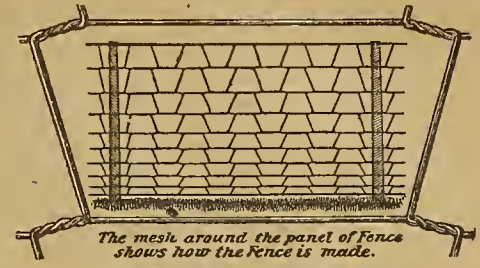
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Our Farm.

THE POULTRY YARD.

Conducted by P. H. Jacobs, Hammonton, New Jersey.

EARLY SPRING LAYERS.

DURING the winter a large number of the hens may not lay, and this is very annoying when eggs are high in price, and especially if the flock is well cared for. There are several causes for the non-laying of certain members of the flock during the cold season. First, the hens may have molted late in the fall, and entered the winter in a debilitated condition. Again, the pullets in the flock may have been hatched late, and are not fully matured. Next, the hens may have been overfed and gotten into a fat condition. As all of the hens may have been fed alike, the poultryman will inquire why some of them are very fat, while others are laying. It may be stated in reply that some hens are more inclined to fatten than others, and the hens that begin to lay first become producers of eggs, and are then less liable to fatten. As no two hens, even of the same breed, eat the same proportions of food, or prefer the same kind always, it may readily be noticed that the members of the flock will vary in condition.

There is one point in favor of the hen that does not lay in winter, and that is, she will begin early in spring, and then lay regularly until well into the summer. It will be her work when the others have ceased, and though prices may not be as high for eggs, yet they will cost less, and hens will lay more of them, proportionately, than in winter. What the poultryman should do is to put the laying hens together, and have the non-layers in one flock. By so doing he can reduce the food of the non-layers if they are fat, or allow them food which consists of but a small proportion of grain. It is more economical to feed them when separated, as the hens will receive food best adapted for their purposes. If hens are to be sold, it will pay to pick out the fattest in the flock, and they should be sold during January, so as not to carry them over to April, and because prices will rise after the holiday season has passed.

WINTER SCRATCHING RESORTS.

When deep snows occur, the hens can be allowed outside, and with advantage, if a space in front of the opening in the poultry-house, for egress, is cleared away and the snow banked up so as to form a wall around the cleared space. In winter the use of wire fencing allows the winds to have full sweep at the hens, but when a space is cleared off, the banked snow serves as a wind-break and protection. The space thus cleared may be covered with coal ashes, leaves, cut straw, or any kind of litter, thus giving the fowls an opportunity to exercise in the open air and yet have a snug, warm location. An open shed, made of cheap material, and serving to shield against the cold winds, will greatly assist in adding to egg production. Even a few boards will answer in some cases, as fowls seek shelter from winds more than from rains; and although they are helpless when the snow is on the ground, they find the snow a protection when it is cleared away for them.

WHAT TO DO WITH CHAFF.

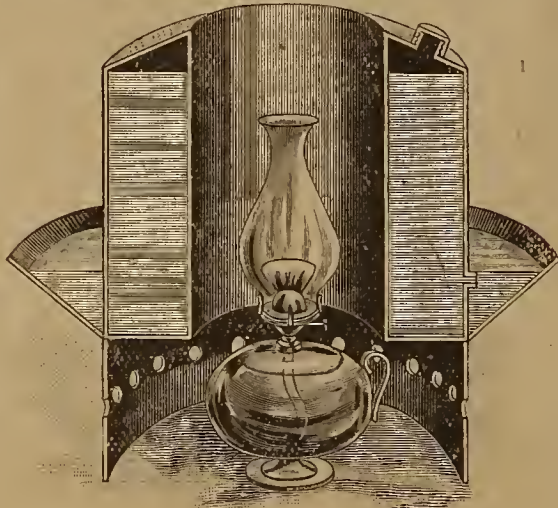
Chaff is a refuse, and on large wheat farms it is used in horse-stalls, or disposed of in any possible manner. There is nothing that will equal it on the floor of the poultry-house, as it absorbs moisture from the droppings, keeps the floor clean, and facilitates the work of sweeping out the house. It should be used liberally, however, two or three inches deep being preferable to a light supply. It is better than sawdust, as the hens do not injure themselves with it, as is often the case with sawdust when they fill their crops with it. Cut straw or leaves may also be used with the chaff, the combination of the several materials being better than any one of them alone; but the chaff is better than any other material, if it can be had, should it be necessary to use only one substance. A handful of millet seed, scattered in the chaff, will induce the hens to begin work, and they will not care to go outside if the floor is kept constantly littered.

TURKEYS FOR NEXT SEASON.

The turkeys for breeding should be selected early, so as to have the flock made up before the market gets the best ones. If you have one or two good hens that have been successful, do not discard them for younger ones, unless the hens are not thrifty. It is in securing the male that the best judgment is required. He must in no way be related to the hens, and should not be over two years old. In order to avoid inbreeding, it would be an advantage to use a White Holland gobbler one year and a Bronze gobbler the next. One gobbler is sufficient for a dozen hens, and he should be sold as soon as the young ones are well undergrowth. Do not hatch young turkeys too soon. The flock that is roosting on tree limbs will be exposed to severe cold, and their feet will at times be frozen. It is best to give them a shed with a high roof, containing a high roost, and induce them to remain therein by confining them in the shed a few days, or until they become accustomed to the new location.

WARM-WATER DRINKING-FOUNTAIN.

The drinking-fountain illustrated in this issue supplies water automatically after it is filled, and a large number of fowls can drink at the same time. The water is always warm, and the lamp also warms the poultry-house to a certain extent. The wattles of the birds do not get wet, and as the water is eight inches above the ground, it does not become filthy. It holds about nine gallons, and will consequently last a long time, though a smaller fountain may



WARM-WATER DRINKING-FOUNTAIN.

be made on the same plan, if preferred. The material above the hoop is of zinc, and will last for years, the lower portion being of galvanized iron. The estimated cost of such a large fountain is about \$2. It can also be made for a less sum if the heat is no object. The water will not overflow if the fountain is level and the screw-cap airtight. When filling it, insert a cork in the feed-hole, and screw down the screw-cap; then withdraw the cork. The feed-hole is at the water line. This fountain may be round or square. The illustration shows it cut in half. Water surrounds the lamp, and while kept warm, is not hot. No water is over the top of the lamp. The scale of the illustration is $\frac{1}{2}$ inch for 1 inch. The galvanized hoop is to let air into the lamp near the bottom. There is no patent on the lamp. It was sent us by Mr. Robert Mairet, Ohio.

BARN SWEEPINGS.

When the hay-loft is cleaned out the refuse should always be saved for poultry. The broken leaves and the thousands of seeds afford the hens quite a luxury, and they will work industriously all day in order to find every seed. They also consume the leaves, and find such food an agreeable change from grain. Even the little chicks in the brooders will enjoy the same and be benefited.

THE NEW YEAR'S RECORD.

Everyone who has poultry, whether the flock is small or large, should keep a record of the number of eggs laid during the year, pounds of meat produced, cost of food, labor, interest on capital, as well as a record of the prices for eggs every week in the year. All eggs consumed in the family should be considered as so many sold, and should be charged at market prices. In feeding the hens, the food should be weighed, and not measured. There will be months in the year when a loss will be noticed, but at other times a gain can be secured. In no other manner can a beginner learn so much about poultry as by keeping an account, as such work brings him in contact with the details that may otherwise be overlooked, and the correct amount of food to give, its cost, and the eggs laid by the flock, will be guides for future operations and improvement. Be-

gin the new season by keeping strict accounts, which may be started in January, February, or any spring month.

DUCK-HOUSES.

Ducks are very free from disease compared with chickens, but they are at times subject to leg weakness, due to overfeeding or damp floors. The floors of the duck-house should be kept well littered with cut straw. They soon make their quarters very filthy, hence the necessity of renewing the litter frequently. As no roosts are required, and ducks are hardy, the house need not be very expensive. The roof should be tight and the floor dry. If the floor is of boards, so much the better. In such quarters they should begin to lay now, and keep at it until the summer is well open.

SOFT-SHELL EGGS.

No matter how much bone, lime or oyster-shells may be given the flock, the hens will fail to produce perfect eggs if they are fed too highly until very fat. When an egg is soft-shelled (shell-less), it is a sure indication that the hens are too fat. The same is true when they lay double-yolk eggs. The remedy is to feed less food, and especially less grain, allowing only one meal a day for a week or two, keeping the hens in exercise, so as to reduce them in flesh and bring them into normal condition.

FEEDING STIMULANTS.

While condition powders are sometimes very beneficial to hens that are not thrifty, it is unwise to feed stimulants when the flock is in a healthy condition. Red pepper, spices and appetizers are at times detrimental by inducing the hens to eat more than they should really consume. The best stimulant in winter is a warm mess in the morning, and warm water to drink, as they serve to ward off cold and aid the hens in keeping their bodies comfortable.

INQUIRIES ANSWERED.

Games.—Mrs. J. V. S., Brownhelm, Ohio, writes: "Is there such a breed of fowls as a pure yellow-leg Game, and do they equal those with dark legs?"

REPLY:—The Indian Game has yellow legs, and is fully equal to any other variety.

Turkeys Blind.—Mrs. A. H., Prescott, Kan., writes: "My turkeys are apparently healthy, but are blind. What is the cause?"

REPLY:—Probably due to exposure to damp winds at night. Remove them to shelter, and anoint the eyes once a day with witch-hazel ointment.

Bones.—L. P., Warren, Pa., writes: "Will bones that have been boiled auswer in place of green bones?"

REPLY:—Green bones contain blood, meat, etc., which are not found on bones that have been boiled; but the boiled bones may be reduced fine and used, however, though green, unboiled bones should be preferred.

Probably Roup.—N. F., East Tawas, Mich., writes: "My hens are droopy for awhile and die. A hard substance appears on the tongue, and they cannot pick up their food."

REPLY:—Probably canker roup. The birds breathe through the mouth instead of the nostrils, which are clogged. They die from exhaustion due to the disease itself. There is no sure remedy, a tablespoonful of chlorate of potash in every quart of drinking-water being the best preventive.

Roup.—Mrs. R. M. C., Pike City, Cal., writes: "My hens are sick, seem to have cold, there is a foul odor, and in their throats is a yellowish substance."

REPLY:—It is undoubtedly roup, which is contagious, and almost incurable. Keep the birds warm, and add a tablespoonful of chlorate of potash to each quart of drinking-water. If no improvement is noticed, it will be best to destroy them, disinfect the premises, and procure other stock. The cause is probably due to exposure to drafts in the poultry-house.

How Much to Feed.—"Subscriber," New Brunswick, N. J., writes: "1. How much feed should be given thirty fowls one week? 2. Will hens lay more eggs if not with males?"

REPLY:—1. It is estimated that one quart of grain per day, for ten fowls, is about the proper proportion, but as hens differ, and so many varieties of food are used, the exact quantity can only be known by observation, no two flocks being alike, or consuming the same quantity every day. 2. The few experiments made have been favorable to no males in the flock.

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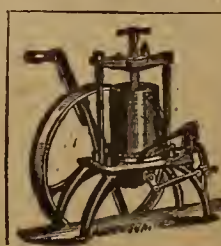
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The Price of a Diamond.

BY HENRY WILLARD FRENCH.

CHAPTER V.

FIVE HUNDRED POUNDS STERLING—CONCLUDED.

Mbarak pauses. He is standing upon the very brow of the hill. His dark form is projected against the sky as though it were drawn in India ink. Slowly he turns about and looks down upon the two for a moment, without a motion. Now he lifts one hand. There is no doubt that he recognizes them. He waves it three times above his head, utters the clear, blood-curdling wailing cry of the Zulus, turns suddenly and disappears.

The two stand in silence for a moment, looking at the spot as though he were still there. Abdel Ardavan breaks the silence with the remark: "You have seen your last of Mbarak until he has parted with the diamond of his own free will."

The manager shakes his head doubtfully, and the two separate.

As Abdel Ardavan is leaving Kimberley the next morning, with a little caravan, bound for the Kalahari desert, he receives word from the board that five hundred pounds have been added, in his name, to the fund recently started for the children's ward of the town hospital; and he pauses to read a notice which a man is posting, just outside the town, offering a hundred pounds, alive or dead, for the Zulu Mbarak.

With a peculiar smile he turns away and starts upon his mission; looking northward for a year, through the jungles, over the mountains, across the deserts, toward the great river and the land of yellow people.

CHAPTER VI.

OF HIS OWN FREE WILL.

It was night on the Nubian desert; such a night as laughs at sleep, and yet there must be sleep, for we were to start with the earliest daylight. My goat's-hair tent was pitched upon the summit of a sand-knoll. About it were scattered the living fragments of my caravan. It was dimly unattractive compared with the gorgeous night.

I was sitting on the sand outside the tent before the first camel lay down. I was still sitting there when the last spark disappeared from the smoldering camp-fire, and the whole caravan was soundly sleeping. I had watched the sun, fiery red, sink into the glistening desert behind me, and the moon, clear and white, rise out of the nearer Nile in front. I had watched two flatboats, loaded with pilgrims of some sort, or traders without their wares—I strongly suspected that it was a gang of Arab slave dealers—come to anchor just below us and make their preparations for the night on shore. I could even hear the yells and shouts with which natives usually converse at such a time; but they were so far away and down below, that the indistinguishable murmur which reached me was more like some melodious refrain from nature, than the wrangling of a pack of foul pilgrims. It was quite in harmony with the grandeur of the scene; but now that, too, was still, and the creatures, whatever they were, had forgotten their mischief, and were just as true and good as any one could be, for they were sound asleep. At least I judged so.

There was no help for it. I must follow their example; and with one last look, to photograph the grand scene indelibly upon my mind, I entered my black tent, dropped the coarse curtain, and was soon asleep upon a Bedouin mat, spread on the sand in the very center of the tent. It was a precaution which it was simply second nature for me to take, as many a robbery, and sometimes a murder, is committed upon the desert and on the bank of the Nile, by hands that are only thrust under the tent-cloth from the outside, to find a victim whom the murderer has never seen and does not care to see, so long as he profits by his worldly goods.

Surely, I had not been sleeping long. The moon was still over the Nile when I woke, with a start, wide awake in an instant, sure that something was wrong, and thoroughly on the alert to find out what it was.

There was a narrow line of moonlight coming through a crack in the tent where the curtain had failed to meet. It was far from light enough to see plainly, but a quick, searching glance made me tolerably certain that no one was in the tent. If a native had

been there I should surely have heard him breathing. Yet some one was somewhere, bent upon mischief. I was as sure of it as though my eyes rested upon him at that moment.

Hardly venturing to breathe, I lay and listened, but all was still except for the invariable noises of a night upon the Nile in the midst of a sleeping caravan. Hyenas were

That single glance was enough to assure me that I was no match for him in strength. My rifles, pistol and knife were all hanging on the tent-pole. They were just out of reach, and to have moved a hair's breadth would have brought that knife down upon me quickly enough; while if I lay still, and he thought me sleeping, he would be deliberate and painfully accurate about his work. I measured

trick fire, as inch by inch I watched the blue sheen rise. It gave a shiver, as though the grip on it were tightening. Another instant.

[To be continued.]

WALTON'S CHRISTMAS GIFT.

Herbert Walton was too kind-hearted to be a woman-hater, yet not sufficiently shallow to be dubbed "a ladies' man." He had never been remarkable for timidity, and had now reached an age at which bashfulness would have been unbecoming, not to say ridiculous, and yet he had been vainly longing, for more than a year, to speak his mind to a woman. "None but the brave deserve the fair," was a maxim to the truth of which, in its widest sense, he was fully alive. His dilemma was not that of Miles Standish, for it had never occurred to him that shot from the mouth of a cannon is less terrific than a point-blank No from the mouth of a woman; in fact, it was not cowardice of any kind that kept him silent. It was simply a keen appreciation of the wisdom of "letting well alone."

A refusal from Ruth Fairleigh would be too natural, he thought, to be overwhelming; but he would not risk its consequence, for he knew that having heard his offer, Ruth could never be the same to him again. Try as she might, she would not be able to greet him as gladly, talk to him as artlessly, and listen as sympathetically as she now did, and he felt that without her ready interest and boundless trust he would not care to live. And so he cogitated and hesitated, now hoping, now fearing. Meanwhile the young woman read his mind,

and almost at the same instant arrived at the decision that, as far as she was concerned, Herbert Walton was the only man on earth. "A light-complected young lady, sir, with her heart in her hand," a gipsy would have told him, if he had but thought to consult one in the matter, and surely the ministrations of a third person were needed between these two. Mr. Walton had known Ruth's father and brother (who were now dead) for a long time.



HIS DARK FORM IS PROJECTED AGAINST THE SKY.

barking, and once I heard the distant roar of a Nubian lion. An Arab was snoring near my tent, and occasionally a camel sighed. I tried to convince myself that it was only a dream that aroused me, and had almost succeeded in forcing myself to sleep again, when I distinctly heard a faint grating in the sand, just outside my tent.

In an instant eyes and ears were riveted upon the spot, and a moment later I saw a little streak of silver sand, showing that the tent-cloth was being carefully lifted. It was too dark to see more, but I knew very well that a native was feeling about there to discover my position. Doubtless it was his feeling under some other part of the tent before which roused me.

"Ah! my dear fellow," I thought, "you see, I know your tricks. I'm sorry to disappoint you, but you'll have to come inside and give me a show at the game before you get at me;" and I breathed heavily to assure him that I was sound asleep.

The line of light disappeared. The tent-cloth had fallen again, and I heard the faint grating of the sand as he rose to his feet.

If he was only one of the host of cowardly sneak-thieves who infest the Nile, he would doubtless go away now, after disturbing my sleep all for nothing. It was possible, however, that he belonged to the party I had watched camping on the river bank, whom I suspected of being a gang of professional robbers of a higher grade. If so, he would presently come creeping under the curtain.

He was more in earnest and less of a coward than I supposed could be found even among the highest grade of Nile professionals, and disclosed the fact almost instantly. In no more time than it required to step from the side to the entrance, the curtain was gently but quickly lifted, a stalwart figure stepped noiselessly into the tent, and the curtain fell again behind him.

I only saw him for one instant, outlined against the sky; but that was quite enough. There was no creeping or skulking about him. He stood as erect as was possible for him in the low tent; for he was unusually tall. It was only the glimpse of an instant, and the tent was darker than ever for that moment of light; but in that instant I caught the gleam of a savage South African dirk in the fellow's hand, and altogether came very quickly to the conclusion that there was no child's play before me if I proposed to see the sun rise over the Nile in the morning.

Who the fellow was I could not tell; but he evidently had no more to do with the neighborhood of the Nile than I. He had surely come to my tent for the preconceived purpose of killing me, so he must know me, or he making a mistake in my identity. At all events, there was a savage-looking fellow with a savage-looking knife inside my tent, and something must be done, and done quickly.

my chances in a dash for my arms, but I was lying on my back, and a single leap would bring him to my side. The only alternative was to lie still and trust, at the last moment, to a chance for doing something unexpected that would take him off his guard. That was my only hope, and at the moment, at least, it seemed to me a very frail one.

I almost closed my eyes, breathed deep and loud, inviting him to take his time, and narrowly watched the dim, dark shadow pausing for a moment to ascertain my position, then stealthily approaching me.

He stood erect beside me, muttering a prayer—in Suwalhi, I think, though he spoke so low that I could not positively catch a word—then he bent over me. I knew that the prayer was the last ceremony, and that the end was near, but struggle with myself as I would, even in that last extremity, I could see no ray of hope or hit upon a single idea.

He sank upon one knee, and his broad shoulders came between me and the narrow ray of light. He breathed with that hard, guttural rasp which always accompanies barbaric earnestness. I even felt his breath upon my cheek as he bent over me, piercing the shadows with eyes that glistened like a cat's. It was not a random murder, for robbery, that he was attempting. He was evidently after some one in particular and proposed to be sure that he was right.

For a moment the probability that if he could see enough to be sure he would discover a mistake roused a shadow of hope. It only rendered the return of hopelessness more horrible, when a contented sigh assured me that he was satisfied.

There was just light enough in the tent for me to see a shimmer along the polished blade he held, and I watched, it as I never watched anything before or since.

Slowly it went up, up, up in the darkness. It could not go very high, for he was evidently resting on one knee. The crack in the curtain gave me a vague outline of his position. When that blade reached its height it would turn and fall like lightning. He was planning, carefully, to complete his work without disturbing another soul in the caravan. When it turned it would be too late. That was all. I must save myself before, or never.

Many an hour of my life has flown away so swiftly that I could scarcely gather the joys of it before it was gone; but the few seconds while I lay upon my back watching that blade seemed a long lifetime.

There were faithful servants who would willingly have given their lives for me, sleeping not fifteen feet away; but a cry for help would only have made the blade fall so much the sooner. Even then I heard one of them muttering in his sleep, as though the intensity of my thought were shadowing his, and forming a troubled dream.

The blade seemed to glow with a pale, elec-

PHYSICAL STRENGTH,

cheerful spirits and the ability to fully enjoy life, come only with a healthy body and mind. The young man who suffers from nervous debility, impaired memory, low spirits, irritable temper, and the thousand and one derangements of mind



and body that result from, unnatural, pernicious habits usually contracted in youth, through ignorance, is thereby incapacitated to thoroughly enjoy life. He feels tired, spiritless, and drowsy; his sleep is disturbed and does not refresh him as it

should; the will power is weakened, morbid fears haunt him and may result in confirmed hypochondria, or melancholia and, finally, in softening of the brain, epilepsy, ("fits"), paralysis, locomotor ataxia and even in dread insanity.

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Sufferers from premature old age, or loss of power, will find much of interest in the book above mentioned.

Mrs. Fairleigh often consulted him on various matters, while her two little grandsons doted on him. It was natural, therefore, that he should feel very much at home in the Fairleigh household; and the little boys aforesaid always hailed his coming with delight, considering him the most sensible of all "grown-ups." They had from time immemorial, that is, as long as they could remember, insisted that it was right and proper for Mr. Walton, who had no little boys of his own, to hang a pair of socks with their stockings at the fireside on Christmas eve, and by this means he annually became the happy possessor of pop-corn balls and gum-drops, startling water-color views and portraits from the brush of Hal and Teddy, and other desirable articles on which to regale himself, or with which to decorate his bachelor home. It was, moreover, a time-honored custom for him every year to help Aunt Ruth dress the Christmas tree, when the two children were in bed.

Years passed in this agreeable manner, and Ruth, not being given to looking into futurity, was happy and content. Not so Mr. Walton, for he reflected upon the danger of delay; his looking-glass told him that his gray hairs were becoming more and more conspicuous, and that, to a casual observer, any one of the men whom Ruth occasionally met would seem better suited than he to aspire to her hand. Many of these individuals, indeed, were crude and callow youths in his opinion, while they looked on him as a confirmed old bachelor and something of a bore. There was one observer, however, who was not a casual one, and who, although Mr. Walton was unaware of the fact, was his champion and admirer. This was a maiden lady of unknown age, who lived in a house opposite Mrs. Fairleigh's, and who, having a great deal of time at her disposal, was wont to spend a large portion of it at the front window studying her neighbors' movements.

It chanced one snowy afternoon, on the day before Christmas, that Miss Wilkins, calling on Mrs. and Miss Fairleigh, prolonged her visit to an unusual hour, so that while she was descending on the necessity of saying "good-by," Mr. Walton was turning particularly cheerful, for the approach of Christmas always brought to him a sense of loneliness and discontent. Christmas trees and parents, and enthusiastic little nephews were very well in their way, but they could not be expected to stop the march of time. As he rang the bell of Mrs. Fairleigh's house, a shout of joy arose within, and two lithe little figures in knickerbockers bounded along the hall and threw open the front door. The newcomer was laden with parcels, his shoulders, beard and eyebrows were covered with snow, and his face glowing with cold. The boys ushered him into the fire-lit drawing-room to "show Santa Claus" to the ladies, and Ruth rose, smiling, to welcome him, thinking how nice he looked. As soon as the usual greetings were over, Hal perched on Mr. Walton's knee and broached the subject of Christmas stockings, and the gentleman put his finger to his lips, then patted his own pocket smilingly. Upon this, Miss Wilkins, who had recently been entertained with an account of the usual Christmas eve proceedings, began to put on her furs, remarking as she did so:

"I am sure these two young men are anxious to begin their preparations." Then she turned to Ruth and said in a lower, but very audible tone: "I know what would be the most acceptable gift you could put into the stockings of one of your friends."

Unsuspectingly, the girl asked: "What is that?"

"Yourself, dear!" said Miss Wilkins.

Ruth gasped, and studied the carpet, wondering if Mr. Walton heard.

The old maid added as she rose from her chair:

"And this is leap-year."

Mr. Walton was talking to Mrs. Fairleigh and the boys, and seemed to be completely absorbed in them, but yet there was a merry twinkle in his eyes, Ruth thought, as Miss Wilkins took her leave. However, he said nothing, and at ten that night the great work of the season began. The little tree was set out on a table to be dressed, but before very long it was discovered that more candles were needed. In spite of protestations, Mr. Walton insisted that he must go out and buy some.

"I shall not be gone a very long while," he said, and then glancing at Ruth, he exclaimed: "I am afraid you are tired out; you have been doing too much shopping lately. Sit down and rest while I am away."

He wheeled an arm-chair to the fire, and she sat down obediently.

"Look," he added, "you can amuse yourself by filling the stockings. Here they are, and here are the toys and sugar-plums. Don't move till I come back, dear."

He hesitated a little at the last word, and laid his hand on her soft, dark hair, his eyes met hers for an instant, and he was gone. Mrs. Fairleigh, after repeating Mr. Walton's injunction, left the room also, and then Ruth put her feet on the fender, rested an elbow on her knee, and with her soft chin in her hand, looked into the fire as searchingly as if it held a state secret. Her thoughts kept recurring to that ridiculous remark of Miss Wilkins.

"His Christmas present, and this is leap-year," she said to herself, and her brows

knitted thoughtfully. "Shall I, or shall I not?"

There was a smile, half mischievous, half defiant, on her lips as she turned over the hosiery in her lap, picked up the stockings which belonged to her little nephews, and set to work to fill them with toys and candies. When they were ready, she hung them in their appointed places at the fireside.

After a minute's pause she took up Mr. Walton's socks, surveyed them critically for a moment, and looked questioningly at the fire. It was blazing up merrily, and seemed to encourage her. She glanced half nervously around the room, then stooped and slowly drew on the socks over her slippers. Then she tucked her feet under her chair, and leaning back comfortably, began to discuss an important matter with herself. During the past few years she had seen and heard a great deal of Mr. Herbert Walton, so that now, when she asked her thoughts whether they had had time to consider and criticize him duly, the answer was emphatically affirmative. The next question put to her imaginary audience—whether she had ever seen, or heard of, or read of a man so worthy of her love and trust—met with a unanimous *No!*—which reply, truth to tell, was a foregone conclusion, as she was in the habit of organizing this sort of a mental investigation committee for the consideration of this very subject. The proceeding, however, was quite a superfluous one; for being a woman, Miss Ruth was accustomed, in all weighty matters, to decide first and reflect after.

Next, she fell to meditating on Mr. Walton's many good qualities (of which patient waiting was not the least in her estimation); and having exhausted the catalogue of manly virtues, she recalled the earnest, wistful look which she had just seen, or fancied, in his kind, gray eyes, and she told herself that it was cruel and selfish of her "to keep the best man under the sun so many years from his due." Now, fortunately, she had an opportunity to make him full amends, and what could be more simple or more delightful than her plan! A little sacrifice of pride on her part would make him happy, and surely he deserves as much happiness as she could give him. She had put herself into his Christmas socks, and he would understand that she was his Christmas present. While she was thus meditating, the room grew warmer and the hour late; and Ruth, though quite unconscious of the fact, was falling asleep. The arm-chair was comfortable, her heart was light, and for some time she slept soundly and dreamlessly. Then, very gradually, she became aware of the wind's howling wildly and rattling the window-shutters, but she did not open her eyes until the front door slammed. The fire was nearly out, and the room growing cold. Ruth sat up, shivered, yawned, and tried to collect her senses. Suddenly she heard Mr. Walton's deep voice in the hall, and for the first time in her life the sound filled her with dismay instead of joy. She glanced down at her feet.

The thought of her simple and delightful plan flashed through her mind, and it seemed that the fact of her having "slept on the matter" had materially changed its aspect. Gone was all her desire for self-abnegation, every trace of philanthropy, of gratitude, of penitence had left her, and she was conscious of but one thought—a frantic determination to get out of the room, or out of the socks immediately. She started up wildly, but it was too late; the door-knob turned, and Mr. Walton was before her. She sank into her seat, and would have snatched off the socks, but had only time to tuck her feet under the chair before he was at her side. He said something about the candles he had bought, but the room swam before her eyes, and he, astonished at her panic, asked what the matter was.

"My head aches; the room is so warm," she said at last, with more tact than veracity.

Her face was flushed, and her eyes cast down, the lashes trembling nervously. Mr. Walton was puzzled, and while he glanced around the room thoughtfully, Ruth became the victim of an agonizing doubt. Would he guess what she had done, and what would he, oh! what could he think of her? She wished that her mother would come in and talk to him, that the lamp would explode, or an earthquake begin, or anything at all to make a diversion. Then she made a frantic effort to draw her feet out of the socks, and as at the same moment Mr. Walton's gaze chanced to rest on a long mirror opposite, he saw his property reflected in the glass. The next instant he recalled the remark of the friendly spinster. A hashful man would have been overpowered by the discovery, and let slip his opportunity; a shallow and selfish one might have displayed amusement at the situation, and thereby lost his cause. But Mr. Walton, being neither, merely laid his hand on Ruth's and called her by her name. She knew by the tone of his voice that all was over with her, and being completely overwhelmed by the summary chastisement with which her little sophistry was visited, she burst into tears, and had not nerve sufficient to remonstrate when he clasped his arms about her gently and called her his own, his Christmas gift.—*Woman's World.*

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WHEN THE SUN GOES DOWN.

When the sun goes down—
Then twinkle the lights in the busy town;
And the ragged boys of the hungry eyes
Go whistling past where the sick man lies.
And the sick man listens, and frowning, turns
His face to the wall, and yearns and yearns,
While the slow dark creeps to the hopeless day:
"Oh, to be happy and hale as they!"

When the sun goes down
On the fields where the grasses are green and brown,
Soft on the valley and soft on the hill
Falls the song—the song of the whippoorwill.
Then weep the lone and the loveless ones,
While the river of memory backward runs,
And they dream in the shadows—and dreams are
woe—
"Oh, for the love of the long ago!"

When the sun goes down
There is rest for the weary in field and town;
And cowbells clank through the country wide,
And love sits down by the fireside!
Then the kettle sings—just the old-time song—
And once more memory comes along,
And they cry—who are dreaming and dreaming
there:
"Oh, the empty chair—the empty chair!"

—Atlanta Constitution.

RAISINS AS FOOD.

It has been the custom until very recently to consider raisins as an article purely of luxury, and deem them only suitable to the tables of those who are able to indulge themselves in such things as serve merely to please the palate. In consequence, however, of the marvelous growth of the raisin industry in California, and the cheapness of the product to the consumer, the question has been raised whether the raisin does not possess an intrinsic food value independent of its use as a luxury, and the argument seems to favor the affirmative of the proposition.

It is asserted by those who have studied the question from a scientific and hygienic standpoint that the nutritive power of raisins as compared with meat is as four to one. This, we imagine, may be taken with some grains of allowance; but nevertheless, it is susceptible of demonstration that raisins, like other dried fruits, are genuine food, contain elements which are fully as necessary to good health as fibrin, dextrin and all the rest of the things which analytical chemists have discovered in flesh-making and strength-making foods.

Those who have studied the question of raisins as food, profess to have something like one hundred recipes for the preparation of the raisin, and each of these, it is asserted, has an economic value. Whether this estimate be excessive or not, one thing is very certain, and that is that the world would be better off, from the hygienic point of view, if we were to eat more fruit and less meat.

The raisin, which is only the grape dried in the sun, should be a natural food, if there be any such thing. Sugar, which the dried grape contains in its natural state, has long been recognized as a genuine food; so much so that manufactured sugar—that is, sugar extracted from sugar-cane, sugar-beets, sorghum, the maple-tree or what not—is no longer regarded as an article of luxury, but as a household necessity. We leave to physiologists the technical explanation of this, but the fact is as well known as that water is needed to quench thirst. This being so, it would seem that dried grapes, or raisins, should furnish the sugar which the system needs in its purest and most concrete form, for nature's laboratory surpasses all the skill of the chemists and outdoes the triumphs of analysis, quantitative and qualitative. It is sincerely to be hoped that this subject of raisins as food may be thoroughly investigated and exploited, for while raisins may not take the place of beef-steak or mutton chop, they may well stand up high in the second rank of food products.

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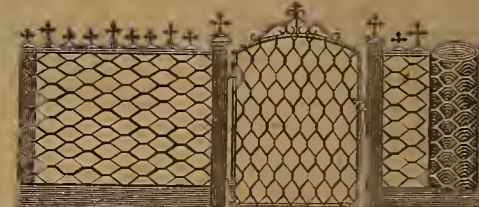
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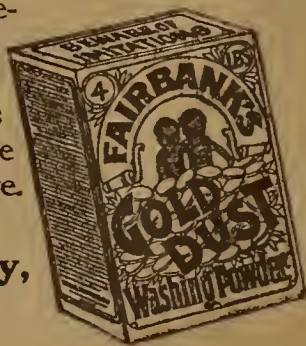


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WOMANLY CONVERSATION.

Keep a watch on your words, my sisters,
For words are wonderful things;
They are sweet, like the bees' fresh honey—
Like the bees, they have terrible stings!
They can bless like the warm, glad sunshine,
And brighten a lonely life;
They can cut, in the strife of anger,
Like an open, two-edged knife.

Let them pass through your lips unchallenged,
If their errand is true and kind—
If they come to support the weary,
To comfort and help the blind;
If a bitter, revengeful spirit
Prompt the words, let them be unsaid;
They may flash through a brain like lightning,
Or fall on a heart like lead.

AMERICAN COLLEGE COLORS AND YELLS.

Every college has its own yell and its own colors. The yells are sometimes very curious. Here they are:

The colors of Yale college are dark blue, violet shade. It possesses two yells: (1) "Rah! Rah! Rah! Rah! Rah! Rah! Rah! Rah! Rah! Yale!" (2) An adaptation of the frog chorus in Aristophanes:

Brac-a-coax, coax, coax!
Brac-a-coax, coax, coax!
Whea up! Whea up!
Hullabulloo! Yale!

The Harvard color is crimson. Its yell is the same as that of Yale's first, with the substitution of their own name at the end.

The Princeton color is orange edged with black. This is in honor of the house of Nassau. Its yells are two:

(1) Hooray! Hooray! Hooray!
Tiger-siss-boom! Ah! Princeton!
(2) Hobble gobble razzle dazzle siss boom ah!
Princeton! Princeton! Rah! Rah! Rah!

The Williams college color is purple, and its yell is, "Rah! Rah! Rah! Yums, yams, yums, Will-y-ums!"

The Brown college (Providence) colors are brown and white, and its yell is, "Rah! Rah! Brown!"

The Amherst colors are purple and white, and its yell is, "Rah! Rah! Amherst!"

The Dartmouth color is green, and its yell is, "Wah, who, wah! Wah, who, wah! D-didi! Dartmouth!"

The Cornell colors are cornelian-red and white, and its yell is, "Cornell! I yell, yell, yell! Cornell!"

The Pennsylvania colors are red and blue, and its yells are two: (1) "Hoo-rah! Hoo-rah! Hoo-rah! Penn-syl-va-ni-a!" (2) "H'ray! H'ray! H'ray! Penn-syl-va-ni-a!"

The Columbia yell is, "H'ray! H'ray! H'ray! Columbia!"

The Lehigh yell is, "Hoorah, ray! Hoorah, ray! Ray! Ray! Lehigh!"

The Ann Arbor yell is:

U. of M. Rah! Rah! Rah! Rah!
U. of M. Rah! Rah! Rah! Rah!
Hoorah! Hoorah!
Michigan! Michigan! Rah! Rah! Rah!

The Wellesley sing their cheer—we must not call it their yell:

Tra la la la! Tra la la la!
Tra la la la! Tra la la la!
W-e-l-l-e-s-l-e-y! Wellesley!

Lastly, the University of Illinois, which, it will be allowed, "takes the cake" for yells: Rah-hoo-h-rah! Zip-boom-ah! Hip-zee-rah-zoo! Jimmy, blow your bazoo! Ip-sidi-iki-U. of I. Champagne!

THE PERIDOT.

A precious stone on which the decree of fashion has, at the present moment, set a fancy value, is the peridot, or "evening emerald," as it has been called. It is certainly a lovely stone, with its exquisite shades of transparent green; the best suggestion of hue is the effect produced by looking at the light through a delicate leaf. Jewelers say that the peridot is a species of olivine, of the same class as the beryl, aqua-marine and topaz; and that it is, in fact, the ancient "topazion," otherwise known as chrysolite. It is found in Egypt, Ceylon, Pegu and Brazil, good crystals being extremely rare. Of its various shades of green—olive, leaf, pistachio or leek—the clear leaf-green is most admired, as a rule. At a recent fashionable wedding, one of the most beautiful and costly of the presents was a set of ornaments composed of peridots set in amethysts. The blending of the soft mauve and green was exquisitely artistic.

Of all the precious stones, the peridot is the most difficult to polish. The final touch is given on a copper wheel moistened with sulphuric acid, a process which requires the greatest care, for if dipped into the acid, the stone has the peculiarity of becoming soluble. Sometimes it is cut in rose form, or en cabochon like a carbuncle, but is better and more valuable when worked in small steps, as the brilliance is thereby increased.

In the Wardrobe Book of 27 Edward I., mention is made of "unus annulus auri cum periditis" among the jewels of the bishopric of Bath and Wells, which were escheated to the crown. There are some fine specimens in the Hope collection, at the British Museum, at the Museum of Practical Geology and in the Townsend collection at the South Kensington Museum. Among the latter are some engraved peridots, noticeably one bearing a finely executed hermaphrodite. The stone is specially adapted for engraving, on account of its softness; but the art is of quite modern discovery.

Owing to this quality of softness, Litre speaks of the peridot as of little value, and although the demands of taste and fashion have changed since his time, and it is now eagerly sought after and realizes almost fabulous prices, it is well for the fortunate possessor of an "evening emerald" to remember that it has this drawback, and is so susceptible to friction of any kind, easily showing scratches and losing luster, that it should be worn sparingly and carefully.

AN ALUMINIUM VIOLIN.

It is characteristic of humanity that it should hope too much and despond too much. At one time, within the last decade, aluminium was to take the place of nearly every other metal used in the arts and trades. It was to supersede iron in strength and lightness, steel in endurance, gold in watch-casing, silver in tableware, wood in lightness, crockery in non-corrosiveness under acid. It was, in fact, to be a sort of solid, metallic, universal alkahest, if the simile be allowable. That it has failed in some particulars, and that it has not fulfilled dreams as wild as they were gorgeous, seems to be the excuse for a violent and senseless condemnation of the metal in every aspect. The truth is, the isolation of metallic aluminium is one of the most valuable and wonderful processes of practical chemistry of the century.

As an example of one of its uses, an aluminium violin was recently exhibited. Authorities on such subjects declare that its tone was pure, sweet, resonant and noble. A performance was given upon an aluminium violin before an audience of virtuosi, and the general verdict was that aluminium will most certainly supersede wood in the construction of the instrument, and very possibly result in a remodeling of the orchestra.

LEARN TO WORK.

No young man can make a success in life unless he works. He cannot loaf around street-corners and saloons without deteriorating. He must learn a trade or do some honest work; or, before he knows it, he will be a chronic loafer, despised by all with whom he comes in contact.

Do something, no matter how small, and do it well, and you will eventually find yourself climbing the ladder of success. There are many obstacles to overcome, but toil, grit and endurance will overcome them all. Help yourself, and God and good men will help you.


DON'T FRET.

Fretting destroys affection. The heart goes out very slowly toward persons of unshuffled tongues and tempers. By the exercise of a high moral principle, they may be tolerated and borne with, but can hardly be loved. Their presence is both repulsive and expulsive; it begets the wish that you and they were farther apart. The fretful husband has rendered miserable the lot of many a gentle and uncomplaining wife; the fretful wife has driven many a kind and generous husband to the tavern and gambling saloon.

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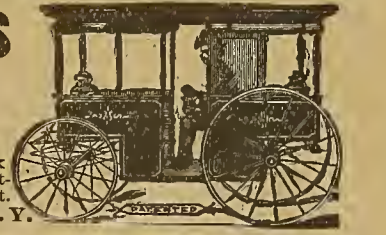
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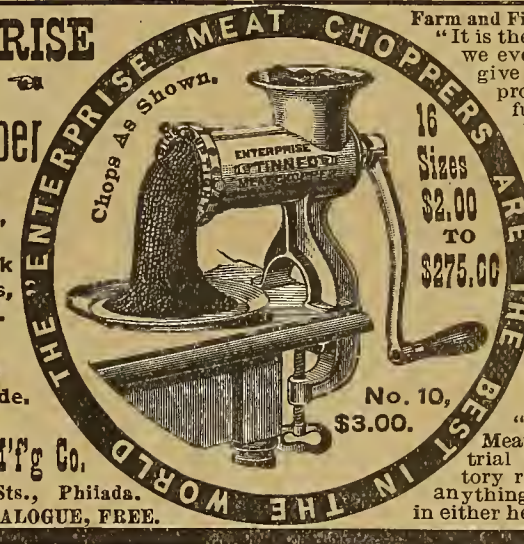
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Our Household.

THE LATEST FASHIONS.

VERY few decided changes appear in the winter styles from those shown in the autumn, unless it is in the increased bouffant effect now worn in the waists, which are made so full and with so much fluffy trimming as to hide the graceful curves of one possessed of a fine figure. The skirts, too, are assuming a more bouffant effect, which looks woefully like a return to the bustle with all of its inconveniences.

The most popular skirt is the one lined and interlined from waist to hem, hung with three organ-pipe plaits, which are confined to a narrow space in the back, and fits closely over the front and hips, with a slight flare at the bottom. However, the ultrafashionable woman is seen with the organ-pipe plaits clear around the skirt, except across the front. When this style appears, together with the new picture hat, with trimmings reaching so high as to be called "sky-scrapers," the extreme cape with its waves and frills, sleeves which seem to have taken on an extra width, and last, but not least, the muff, which resembles a much swollen porcupine, one then has an idea of how the fashionables appeared about a century ago. To be fashionably dressed means to look as much as possible like the woman of the eighteenth century, minus the patches.

Old-time brocades in satin, velvet and silks of all kinds are much used for evening wear, and very fortunate is she who can resurrect one from the chest in the attic.

Plain velvets are very much in evidence, both for indoor and outdoor wear, and a return to the old-time elegance of point lace, combined with black velvet, is this season one of the styles most favored. Some years ago this manner of dress was, strictly speaking, the one claimed exclusively by women having passed the fiftieth mile-post of time; but this season it is worn largely by the very young, as well as by the middle-aged and elderly ladies. In fact, there is less distinction between the styles for old and young this season than ever before, and both look equally well dressed when color is made a consideration, and too many hues are not allowed upon one costume.

Long cloaks, completely enveloping the entire gown, are considered better form for the opera and evening wear, leaving the short wraps so much in vogue for day wear; but this season finds many of them worn on the street in daytime. They are heavily trimmed with wide bands of fur down both sides of the front, with deep collar and cuffs to match, and are slashed up the back to the waist, finished with two large buttons that in themselves are works of art. This style cloak is worn in bright



FIG. 1.

colors as well as black, and is oftener seen in velvet than any other material. Many of them are well covered with trimmings of heavy silk passementerie, with or without jet.

Fig. 1 shows a gown of black velvet, elaborately trimmed with duchess lace. The lace in both skirt and bodice is placed directly upon the velvet. The

neck is finished with a band of black satin ribbon with two stiff loops on either side, reaching almost to the sleeve, on a direct line with the shoulder. The waist is finished with the same width ribbon, fastened with a smart bow of four stiff loops in the back. A long buckle of rhinestones finishes the collar in front and the bow in the back at the waist line. The picture hat is of black velvet trimmed with black ostrich feathers, the two highest ones being caught together with a narrow pin set in rhinestones.

In wool dress materials, while ladies' cloth is given the preference, there are many tufted and snowflake effects, and each week sees some new fancy in the popular wool crepons, which is one of the leading novelties this season. While the new wools have a heavy look, they are really unusually light, which is a mercy for which to be grateful, in view of the amount of heavy stiffening now used to obtain the desired fashionable effect.



FIG. 2.

The rage for the moment is for fancy collars, collarettes and stocks, which are made of almost any material one can name, and in the greatest variety of shapes and combination of colors and textures.

One of the newest and most effective of these novel neck arrangements is one shown in a combination of violet velvet and heavy cream lace made in points (Fig. 2), with a drop fringe effect on the edge. The yoke, back and front, is of the cream lace, while the shoulder-caps are plaited full and edged with the same lace. The full, crushed collar is finished in front with an ornament set in amethyst. This same idea is carried out in a collarette by using heavy black lace, with a profusion of jet sequins combined with velvet of a soft yellow shade.

A more simple and much more easily made collarette (Fig. 3) is the one of cream lace points over petunia-colored velvet, and edged with dark mink-tail fur. The collar is plain, with large, full rosettes back and front, in the center of which is a small tuft of fur.

The fichu shown (Fig. 4) is of yellow chiffon, which ties in a soft, full bow in front, with long ends hanging to the knees. The shoulder-caps are of black velvet, edged with cream lace, and takes the form of a sailor collar, which is cut up in the back and finished with a full rosette of yellow chiffon. A full ruffle of cream lace of light texture finishes this pretty and stylish neck affair.

Stocks of velvet, chiffon and satin are found in every conceivable shade, and are a great convenience when one wishes to change the effect of a black or dark bodice of any kind.

Plaids are worn in silks, wools and velvets, and as linings play an important part in the fashionable wool capes, as well as in the lining of the large hood now used on the capes which reach almost to the knees.

The woolen plaid skirt worn with a black bodice (Fig. 5) is a becoming and serviceable, and at the same time a stylish gown. The one shown is a plaid in the shades of heliotrope, with a line of golden yellow. The skirt is plain and full, hung with the regulation three organ-pipe plaits in the back, and is finished at the waistband with a band of jet. The bodice is made of black satin, with a full effect in front, of open jet laid on the satin, finished with revers trimmed with three bands of the same jet trimming. The crushed collar is of black satin, with a large, jet buckle in the front and a large, stiff bow of black satin in the back. The sleeves are tight to the elbow and trimmed with bands of jet, while the fullness above the elbow is draped on the shoulder with a large rosette of cut jet. One of these same ornaments finishes the waistband in the back.

Jeweled buckles and ornaments of various kinds are displayed in millinery and dress trimmings. Rhinestones, garnets, amethysts, in fact, all colored stones, are worn

to match the gown or hat upon which they are used.

The picture hats are trimmed with many ostrich feathers, which tower far above the crown and nod pleasingly at every move of the wearer, while long, narrow rhinestone or other jeweled pins are fastened directly on the feather as near the top as its weight will admit.

The small bonnet is smaller than ever, and is worn very far back upon the head, with soft trimmings and flowers well over the back of the hair.

Fur is everywhere this season—on millinery, wraps, gowns, and even on the tops of some of the winter walking-boots.

Muffs are seen in all sorts of materials—furs, laces, velvets, chiffon, feathers and flowers. The larger the muff the smaller the space for the hands, which must literally freeze in cold weather. But what odds, so long as one is in the fashion.

Boas are worn in all lengths, and are made of various materials. Accordion-plaited chiffon, arranged as a jabot, makes a rich, soft and becoming effect. Plaited ribbons to form a full ruche, with a large bow of ribbon tied in front, and ends reaching to the bottom of the skirt, is one of the new and popular neck affairs.

MARY K.

SOME THINGS TO TEACH CHILDREN.

In cultivating the heart and mind of the child, mothers should remember that the development of a pleasing deportment with agreeable manners should not be neglected, for grace of carriage and a gentle bearing are indispensable to the boys and girls who wish to grow up well-bred gentlemen and ladies.

Defects of manners in the young people of the present day usually arise from a want of proper early training, though some children are naturally awkward, and are allowed to indulge in habits that grow upon them, and cause great mortification when they go into society and compare their deportment with that of refined people of polished manners.

The wise guidance of a loving mother can correct the shyness of her children



FIG. 3.

and give all of her little brood the benefit of training in good manners; hence, there is no excuse for having ill-bred, uncultivated boys and girls in our homes. Example is the most powerful means of instructing in the art of good manners, for if parents treat each other with rudeness, how can they expect any rules of courtesy to be established in the household. The time to begin the training of our little ones is when they are yet in the cradle, for if low, pleasant tones are used in speaking to them, so they will learn to speak, and little civilities can be taught them thus, by always saying good-morning and good-night when meeting and parting from the family morning and night, as well as to ask for things politely, and express thanks for all favors. A mother should never display temper in the presence of her children, or command their obedience. It is quite as easy to make requests of the little people, or give them directions in a pleasant voice and well-chosen words, as to do otherwise. Appreciation of little acts of kindness and thoughtfulness from children should always be shown. It makes the little boy more manly and chivalrous, and the little girl more womanly and tender.

All contention and quarreling should be discouraged, and even punished, among children, and little brothers and sisters should be taught to respect each other's rights and feelings. Under such training, mothers will find their children growing up almost unconsciously into little ladies and gentlemen.

Self-consciousness in young people is a prolific source of awkwardness, and is one of the most difficult faults for mothers to correct, as the same means of improvement cannot be used with all dispositions. Rashful children are usually very sensitive, and must be very gently dealt with in order to establish a condition of serenity of mind, and thus develop confidence of manner, which is the real foundation of

grace and ease. The boy or girl who is timid and shy should not be allowed to indulge in a morbid dread of society, but should be taken from home whenever the opportunity occurs to throw them into the company of affable, agreeable young people, where they will be interested and amused.

To teach children how to walk gracefully,



FIG. 4.

if begun in time, is far easier than would be supposed; indeed, it is quite natural with very many, if any training is given which will call attention to grace of movement. To walk well, the foot should be lifted lightly, the heel touching the ground first, and the step firm. Flexibility of the muscles at the waist line is necessary to a graceful carriage and walk, and they should be early exercised in order to be able to control them. Children should be made to practice walking; if a light block or a book is placed on the head, it will teach grace of poise.

A graceful greeting always conveys a good impression, and the little boy who can raise his hat, and salute his elders with ease, possesses a charm which will win him friends through life, while the little girl who knows how to bow and offer her hand with grace, cannot fail to be attractive.

Another difficult thing to teach children is how to sit still, for it is really more of an art to be graceful in repose than in motion. A fidgety child, as a restless one is termed in common parlance, is an annoyance to a mother, and others. Then a rigid, upright position—the position of the child who knows it must not move—is very uncomfortable to all beholders. To sit with ease, the chair should be of the proper height and the seat on it firm, without leaning too far either backward or forward. The hands should fall naturally in the lap or at the side, and should be kept in repose, also the feet, as the nervous motion of either is an indication of want of good breeding.



FIG. 5.

Of course, all these little details cannot be taught children at once, and the work of forming habits of good breeding and polished manners will be very gradual; but mothers will find it worth all the self-denial and trouble it costs.

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EMBROIDERY.

Of recent date, the art of embroidery has in this country made wonderful progress, and is still on the increase. It is artistic in every sense of the word, having won the respect and admiration of the most cultivated people. It seems to be a feminine instinct in every nation, each one having its own peculiar taste.

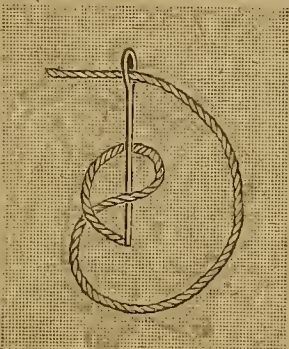
It has been said, "What does it matter if a lady uses a needle instead of a pen or brush? Embroidery is a mode of expression, and it demands respect, and rightly belongs to women. Nature and old art are the models."



A

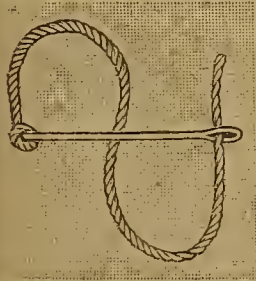
Ornamental stitching in color is not embroidery. It takes taste in the use of color and stitches suited to the design. Now that perfection has been reached in the manufacture of washable silks in colors true to nature, satisfactory results can easily be attained with a little patience and judgment. A few shades of green, that hitherto have changed in appearance when seen by artificial light, are now made to retain their hue unaltered by any change.

Various qualities are in use, such as filo floss, which consists of six fine gossamer threads twisted to form one thread, which is always separated for fine work on linen.



B

Roman floss is much heavier, consisting of two strands twisted together, each of which has a larger number of threads than the filo. It is used, without dividing, for heavy work on thick material, producing a rich effect with less labor. Its soft and even twist enables the worker to introduce a variety of stitches in surface decoration. If the work done with this thread is not absolutely smooth, it is due to the use of a needle with too small an eye; a round-eyed needle should always be used. Twisted floss is tighter than Roman, thus having a strength and durability that render it invaluable in the decoration of articles for general use, such as sofa-pillows, altar-cloths, table-covers, etc. Rope silk is like Roman in finish and quality, but differs in the quantity of silk composing the thread. It is used for portieres, panels, serceus, etc. Medieval silk is coarser and heavier than twisted. Used on heavy materials for hangings. Outline silk has held its own amid the various new productions, it being the first wash silk. Of all the twisted threads, this is the most desirable for fine work. No other is used so exclusively in outline-work, darning, lace-work, etc. It comes in single shades of color. Although the work and material are extremely dainty, neither are out of place in the hands of a beginner, being easily handled and the stitches very simple.



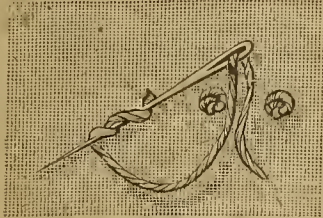
2-B

Besides these grades of floss, there are the soft, rich, velvety chenille and arrasenes, which, when applied to velvets, silk or felt, are very rich, to say the least, and beautiful for caps, slippers, table-scarfs, etc., and very easy to execute. Gold thread combines well with these articles and adds much to the richness of the work.

Of course, the market supplies the demand for materials suitable for the use of these threads, such as linen of different qualities, silk sheeting, art satin, terry-cloth, denim, canvas, felt, etc.

Now that we know what materials are to

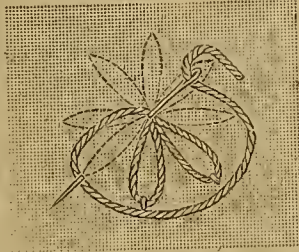
be used, the next thing to be studied are the stitches, of which there are many. I will give those most in use for ordinary articles.



B

The beginner in embroidery will naturally first take up the decoration of toilet and table linen, as they are washable, and a beginner has to learn to keep the work neat and free from soil. Simplicity is the chief thing in embroidery, until we advance and copy nature.

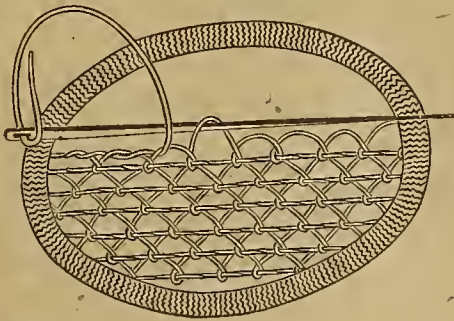
Simple outline-stitch (A), which is so much used in Kensington needlework, is really its fundamental stitch. It is used for working designs in outline, and is sometimes called sketch embroidery. It is described as a long stitch forward on the face of the material, and a short stitch back on the under side. Work done with this stitch is upon the surface of the cloth, so that a piece of work correctly and neatly done will show no loose ends upon the under side. In taking the stitch, the needle is held almost directly toward you, the thread being drawn from you. It is nearly the opposite of the ordinary back-stitch, which can be used if preferred, the object being simply to cover the lines of the pattern as stamped upon the fabric. This stitch is smoothest and prettiest when taken short and even.



C

The stem-stitch is the same as the Kensington, except that the short stitch is taken farther back, the needle being brought out a little below the center of the forward stitch. Large stems which cannot be covered with this single stitch are filled in the same manner as grass, the stitch running in the same direction as the stem itself.

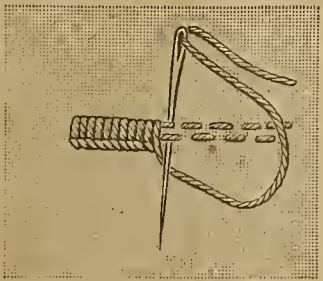
Art needlework can hardly be done without the use of the French knot (B). It is the best stitch to represent the center of



G

flowers, as daisies, roses, etc., and the pollen and anthers of others. To make the knot, bring the needle up through the material at the spot where the knot is to be made, draw the thread tight and hold it over one finger of the left hand; then twist the needle, so to speak, around the thread twice (or once for a small knot), then pass the needle down part way through the cloth, at or near the point where it was brought up, and draw the knot tightly around the needle, as seen in 2-B, holding it with the left thumb; then draw the thread through. This stitch will require some practice, but after the "knaek" is once caught, will be found easy.

Bird's-eye stitch is used in working



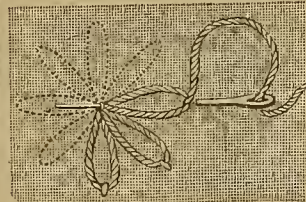
D

daisies and flowers with narrow petals, or for stars on ties, etc. It is a sort of chain-stitch worked with one point. A glance at the illustrations (CC) will enable one to understand how it is done.

Buttonhole-stitch (D) is used for all cut-out or Roman work, while chain-stitch (E) and feather-stitching (F) are very effectively

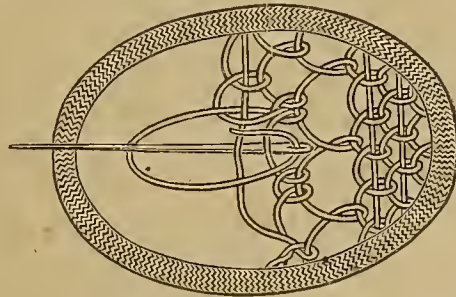
used on leaves and lines in this Roman work. Also, many of the lace stitches are found very effective in giving variety to a piece of work, especially if done in white on white. I will give but two of the most commonly used lace stitches, as space will not permit of more, and they are numerous.

For solid work and shading, the satin and Kensington filling-in stitch (G), or long-and-short stitch (H), are necessary. The satin-stitch (I), for forget-me-nots and flowers with small



C

petals, is even stitches taken from the edge to the center, care being taken to follow the outline evenly, and the stitches must be kept close and smooth to have satisfactory results. The illustration



H

plainly shows the manner of doing the Kensington filling-in stitch.

A piece of work can be done by the use of any of these stitches that will be satisfactory to the best needlewoman, bearing always in mind that an eye for color is of the same nature as an ear for music, and



I

when advanced enough for shading, these trite couplets may be found very useful: "Choose such judicious force of shade and light As suits the theme and satisfies the sight; Weigh part with part, and with prophetic eye The future power of all thy tints descry."

Know first that light displays and shade destroys
Refulgent nature's variegated dyes;
Thus, bodies very near the light distinctly shine
With rays direct, and as it fades, decline."

M. E. SMITH.

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SEASONABLE RECIPES FOR CAKE.

FARMER'S FRUIT-CAKE.—Soak three cupfuls of dried apples over night. In the morning, simmer in two cupfuls of molasses until sticky, like candy. Chop apples quite fine; add two eggs, one cupful of sugar, one cupful of sweet milk, three fourths of a cupful of butter and one and one half teaspoonfuls of soda. Add cinnamon, cloves and nutmeg, and one cupful of raisins, chopped fine. Stir in flour until as thick as pound-cake.

COCOANUT CREAM-CAKE.—Four tablespoonfuls of butter, beaten to a cream, with two cupfuls of sugar and one of milk, whites of four eggs, two teaspoonfuls of baking-powder in two cupfuls of flour. Bake in three layers.

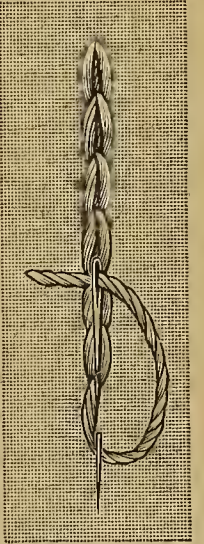
Cream for filling. Two tablespoonfuls of corn-starch, mixed with a little cold water. Stir into one cupful of boiling water; add one cupful of sugar, and boil until thick. Take from the fire, and add one large cupful of fresh cocoanut. Let cake and cream stand fifteen minutes before putting together.

FLAKE-CAKE.—Break two eggs in a teacup and fill up with sweet cream and beat well. To this add two thirds of a cupful of white sugar, one cupful of flour and two teaspoonfuls of baking-powder.

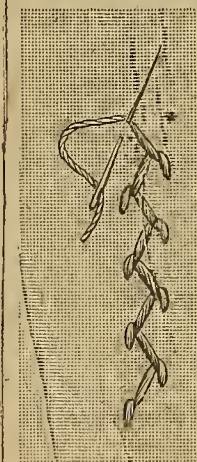
MAPLE SUGAR CAKE.—One cupful of sugar, one tablespoonful of cold butter (not heaped), three eggs (whites of two reserved for frosting), one half cupful of cold water, one and one half cupfuls of flour, one teaspoonful of baking-powder. For the frosting, use one and one half cupfuls of maple sugar, pulverized, and made like any cooked frosting.

CHOCOLATE CAKE.—One and one half cupfuls of sugar, one third of a cupful of butter, three eggs, one half of a cupful of water, two cupfuls of flour and two teaspoonfuls of baking-powder. To one cupful of grated chocolate add four tablespoonfuls of sugar and five of water. Mix it in a bowl and put over a tea-kettle and cook until thick. Let cool, and add it to the batter. Bake in layers, and put together with thick, white frosting.

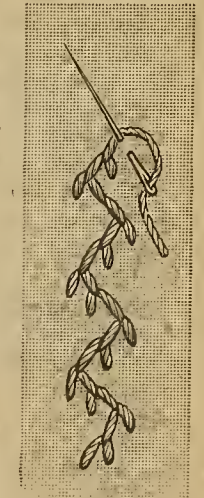
F. B. C.



E



F



F

Our Household.

HOME TOPICS.

MADE-OVER DISHES.—Many people have a dislike to the name of made-over dishes which may often come from living in a boarding-house, where one always feels a little suspicious of dishes of this kind. A lady said to me not long ago, "My family will not eat cold or warmed-over meat. When we have a roast, all that is not eaten at the meal I let the servant take home." This plan was no doubt satisfactory to the servant, but it seemed to me very wasteful for the family, who were dependent on the husband's salary (not a large one), and had nothing laid by for a rainy day.

Made-over dishes, when we know the maker, are not to be despised. Stews, meat pies, hash and croquettes are all delicious. Cold bits of steak and roast give a better flavor to a stew or pie than when a fresh cut of meat is used.

STEW.—A delicious little stew for lunch, or as a hot dish for supper these cold nights, is made by cutting cold meat and potatoes into inch pieces, adding a little cold tomato (about a cupful to a pint of meat and potatoes); then set the saucepan on the back of the stove where it will cook slowly for an hour or more. Season the stew with salt, pepper, a little parsley, and a quarter of a teaspoonful of curry-powder, if liked. About half an hour before it is to be served, move it forward on the stove where it will cook briskly. If the meat is all lean, add a tablespoonful of butter to the stew.

CROQUETTES.—Chop fine any cold meat, fowl or fish you may have; mix it with half as much bread crumbs, moistened with a beaten egg. Add a teaspoonful of butter, and season with pepper, salt, and just a dust of nutmeg. If the bread crumbs are very dry, and the mixture is not moist enough to hold together well, add a spoonful or two of sweet cream. Shape into little rolls, dip them in egg, then in very fine crumbs, and fry in boiling fat enough to cover them, until a delicate brown. Serve very hot, and garnish the dish with sprigs of parsley.

A very important thing in making any of these dishes from cold meat is to free it entirely from all skin, gristle and bits of bone. It is better, also, to use but little fat meat, and add butter. **MAIDA McL.**

POINT LACE AND FRINGE.

The shells across the top represent a place for two rows of ribbons, and if you would like more rows of ribbons, repeat the same, as second row of shells, the number of times wanted.

THE FIRST ROW OF SHELLS.

First row—Make a ch of 18 st, turn; 1 shell (3 tr, ch 1, 3 tr) in the twelfth st of ch, ch 2, miss 5 st, 1 tr in the next st, ch 5, turn.

Second row—1 sh in sh, ch 9 st, turn.

Third row—1 sh in sh, ch 2, 1 tr in third st of 5 ch, ch 5, turn.

Repeat the second and third rows for the length required (and at the end ch 8, 1 d c in 1 ch of the last sh).

FOR THE BEGINNING OF SECOND ROW OF SHELLS.

First row—Make a ch of 25 st, turn. Crochet 1 sh in the 12 st of ch, ch 4, 1 s c in fifth st of the first loop of 9 ch of the first row of shells, also catching in the seventh st of ch between the two rows of shells, if wanted, with 1 sl st, ch 4, turn.

Second row—1 sh in sh, ch 9 st, turn.

Third row—1 sh in sh, ch 4, 1 s c in the fifth st of the next loop of 9 ch of the first row of shells, * ch 4, turn. Repeat the second and third rows for the length required (and at the end repeat to * in the third row, then ch 7 st, 1 d c in 1 ch of the last shell).

FOR THE THIRD ROW OF SHELLS AND SCALLOPS.

Make a ch of 21 st, turn.

First row—1 sh in the eighth st, ch 4, 1 s c in fifth st of the first loop of 9 ch of the second row of shells, also catching in the seventh st of ch between the second and third row of shells, ch 4, turn.

Second row—1 sh in sh, ch 2, 1 tr in second st of ch, ch 2, 1 tr in same st, ch 5, turn.

Third row—5 tr under 2 ch, * ch 1, miss 1 tr st, 1 tr in next st, ch 2, 1 sh in sh, ch 4, 1 s c in fifth st of the next loop of 9 ch (the second row of shells), ch 4, turn.

Fourth row—1 sh in sh, ch 2, (1 tr, ch 2, 1 tr) all in the second ch st, ch 1, (1 tr, ch 2, 1 tr) all under 1 ch, ch 3, ** (1 tr, ch 2, 1 tr) all in loop of 5 ch, ch 5 st, turn.

Fifth row—5 tr under 2 ch, 1 tr in second st of 3 ch, 5 tr under next 2 ch, 1 tr in 1 ch, 5 tr under next 2 ch. Repeat the third row from *.

Sixth row—Repeat the fourth row to ** (1 tr between 1 tr and 5 tr, ch 2, 1 tr back between 5 tr and 1 tr, so they will be crossed, ch 3) twice, (1 tr, ch 2, 1 tr) all in loop of 5 ch, ch 5, turn.

Seventh row—5 tr under 2 ch, * 1 tr in second st of 3 ch, 5 tr under next 2 ch. Repeat from * four times; the last time 1 tr is under 1 ch only. Repeat the third row from *.

Eighth row—Repeat the fourth row to **, (1 tr between 1 tr and 5 tr, ch 2, 1 tr back between the 5 tr and 1 tr, so they will be crossed, ch 3) four times, (1 tr, ch 2, 1 tr) all in loop of 5 ch, ch 5, turn.

Ninth row—1 d c under 2 ch, * ch 5, 1 d c in next ch. Repeat from * twelve times (making thirteen loops of 5 ch), miss 1 st, 1 d c in next st, ch 2, 1 sh in sh, ch 4, 1 s c in fifth st of the next loop of 9 ch of the second row of shells, ch 4, turn.



POINT LACE AND FRINGE.

Repeat from the second row for length required, and along the lower edge of scallops.

Tie the fringe, if wanted, in each loop of 5 ch, thirteen times on each scallop.

ELLA McCOWEN.

KITCHENS.

It requires brains to run a modern kitchen, and grace in large measure, to satisfy an exacting nineteenth-century household.—Mrs. Mary A. Livermore.

The kitchen is the really important apartment in a house, for if that is not satisfactory, the household must suffer in health and temper. In looking through a descriptive list of the kitchens of many countries, the one common feature is, of course, the kitchen fire, and here America bears off the palm, for the ingenious ways in which her stoves and ranges adapt themselves to the saving of labor and the saving of fuel, and it should be added, the saving of "wear and tear" of the woman, who with a given amount of fuel and food material, is to evolve healthful and appetizing nourishment for her family—either with the aid of some "neat-handed Phyllis," or as is more often the case, without. In England, the cooking is done in an open grate, with a soft-coal fire, so that the saucepans are always black and sticky; but even the stolidly conservative English cook is beginning to appreciate American stoves and ranges. The use of the gas-stove has done much to emancipate the English cooks from their slavish adherence to the grate.

We are told that in the royal kitchen joints are still roasted before huge open fires, the meat turning on the spit. Now that the gas-stove is coming into such universal use, if a spit turned by clock-work can be invented, we, too, can have royal roasts, for the position of the heat is akin to this.

The Paris kitchen consists of a range, with a tiled top, in which are variously-shaped openings over the charcoal fire. No bread is ever baked in these kitchens, as the baker makes every style of bread or roll, and there is no oven in which to roast joints, as the Parisian cook scorns joints as not fit for his dainty menu. The remainder of this kitchen is a long table, so placed that the cook turns from the range

around to this table, with no loss of steps or time, and here, where possibly there is not a window, and all the light comes from another room, an accomplished Parisian cook, by the aid of his incomparable "know how," turns out those ravishing epicurean marvels that have placed the French chef at the head of the list of cooks.

That much space is not needed for cooking, people in New York flats, where you rent by the inch, know, as also do those who go down to the sea in ships. In a ship, the cook is within reach of all his stores, as he stands before his range. Rows of drawers and shelves line the walls from floor to ceiling, little tables for pastry or cake making are drawn out of the wall and pushed in again when not wanted. Every inch of floor and wall space is utilized, and if you should condole with the cook on his cramped quarters, he would say, "I want no larger kitchen; I should just lose time in running about in it."

Most city club kitchens are put in the top story, so that the fastidious patron is not annoyed by the smell of cooking. But to return to the dictum that the kitchen is the room of the house, we will quote a veteran and discriminating observer: "Give a man the normal outcome of a well-ordered kitchen, and he is fortified from his breakfast hour, for the work and endurances of the day."

MRS. H. M. PLUNKETT.

AN IDEA FOR MAMA.

I wonder how many mothers realize how dearly their children love to have them look pretty. If they did, would not more mothers invest in pretty, warm and attractive-looking gowns, instead of getting something "just for every day, you know?" Why not, if it is just for every day, why not get a pretty, rich, red calico? They come now in such lovely shades, or one of those soft gray-blues that make up so effectively. Why not, then, make the gown with some pretensions to style and fit, if it is just for every day? And then don't cover it all up every afternoon, when you sit down to read or write or sew, with a great big, ugly apron. Wear your apron in the kitchen or about your work, but do lay it aside when you sit down with your family.

Then why not vary your coiffure occasionally? Why not give it the pretty new twist, and crimp your bangs, and if you want to, put on a little dash of powder? It will help you amazingly. Oh, you are sick, or tired, or discouraged, or miserable, or unhappy, and you don't feel like it! Ah, I know full well that too many of us are! But if there ever was any love in the heart of the husband, it will stir to renewed life when he sees the effort on your part to rejuvenate your youthful attractions, and a long-ago light will shine in his eyes as he looks at you, the cruel years will vanish, and he will see again the bride of his youth. The children will be prouder and fonder of you. You haven't the faintest idea of how much it will please them.

Our neighbor, Mrs. B, had been dressing in gray for years. Indeed, I couldn't remember when she wore any other than gray or black and white calico. One day, about three weeks ago, she electrified me by announcing, "I've got a new red dress." And so she had—a lovely garnet with creamy dots in it. At her request, I helped her select the pattern, a pretty, full waist, full gigot sleeves, and a graceful, undraped skirt. Well, she made that dress, and didn't let the children know it until it was finished. The effect was magical. At first they could scarcely believe their senses; then they thought surely auntie had sent it; then there was company coming, wasn't there? And when they found that the whole affair was solely for their pleasure and benefit, you ought to have seen them.

Belle wanted to crimp her mother's hair, and for a wonder, after a little natural backwardness, Mrs. B consented. You never saw such a proud, triumphant set of youngsters as led that blushing (yes, she was actually blushing, and her eyes were sparkling, too) mother out to the supper-room when the father came. And the father? Well, he smiled and smiled in a tender way, and then he did something that he hadn't done for years. He just slipped his arm about that pretty red waist and kissed her as he used to do, and the children laughed and pranced around the kitchen as if possessed. The blessed little woman told me the next day, and said, with a teary smile, "I'll never buy another doleful black calico while I live!"

MARGARET M. MOORE.

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The patterns are all of the very latest New York styles, and are unequalled for style, accuracy of fit, simplicity and economy. For twenty-four years these patterns have been used the country over. Full descriptions and directions—as the number of yards of material required, the number and names of the different pieces in the pattern, how to cut and fit and put the garment together—are sent with each pattern, with a picture of the garment

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to go by. These patterns are complete in every particular, there being a separate pattern for every single piece of the dress. Your order will be filled the same day it is received.

You can order any of the patterns which have been offered in the back numbers.

For ladies, give BUST measure in inches. For SKIRT pattern, give WAIST measure in inches. For misses, boys, girls or children, give BREAST measure in inches. Order patterns by number and give size in inches.

Every pattern guaranteed to be perfect. To get BUST and BREAST measure, put the tape measure ALL of the way around the body, over the dress close under the arms.

Price of each pattern, 10 cents.

Postage one cent extra on EACH pattern, except on Tea, Princess and House Gowns, 2 cents extra.



No. 6204.—DOUBLE-BREADED BASQUE. 11 cents. Sizes, 32, 34, 36, 38 and 40 inches bust measure.

This basque is becomingly short, extending to but a trifle below the waist line, and is of round lower outline. It is adjusted with the precision of a close-fitting basque by single bust darts, under-arm and side-back gores and a curving center seam. The fronts lap in double-breasted fashion and close at the left side with buttons and buttonholes, and are reversed at the top in enormous lapels that meet the rolling collar in notches.

The patterns I have received from you are easy to put together, perfect fitting and stylish—the very best aids in dressmaking.

MRS. JAMES W. STEPHENS,
93 Warner St. Fond du Lac, Wis.



No. 6241.—CHILD'S COAT. 11 cents. Sizes, 18, 20, 22 and 24 inches breast measure.

I like your patterns very much. Have good success with them so far.

MRS. M. A. RUSSELL, Burlington, Conn.



No. 6279.—LADY DOLL'S TOILET. 11 cents. Pattern is cut in two sizes, medium and large.

Milady doll is here arrayed in the latest style, with godet skirt of crepon, changeable silk waist and cloth golf cape, monk's hood, straps, and all lined with gay plaid silk, an extremely up-to-date toilet. Here the little mother is given an opportunity to develop taste in the selection of color and fabrics that shall harmonize well, and also to display her talent in the decoration of a costume by the mode. Different colored waists and skirts will give variety to dolly's toilet, which may be of any material or combination of fabrics desired.

I was very much pleased with the pattern I got from you some time ago. It fit perfectly without any alterations.

MRS. W. A. SHINABARGER, Maryville, Mo.

I am very well pleased with your patterns, as they are just as good as the Butterick patterns for 20 to 40 cents apiece.

MRS. VICTOR SCHMIDT,
1604 East 11th St. Austin, Texas.



No. 6281.—PATTERN DOG AND BLANKET. 11 cts. Pattern is cut in two sizes, medium and large.

This makes an acceptable and inexpensive present for young children, who value their indestructible qualities highly. Colored Canton flannel or frieze in dark tan, brown or black are the proper materials for the dog, and must be made with the fleecy side outward. The blanket can be made of any smooth, bright-colored cloth to correspond, the lining and binding being of a contrasting color. After the seams are closed, the animal is stuffed with cotton batting, hair, bran or sawdust, and shoe-buttons are sewed on tightly in position for eyes. A touch of paint on nose, mouth and eyebrows will give an artistic effect.

I also wish to thank you for the other patterns I got some time ago. I never had any patterns that fit as nicely, with a little trouble, in my life. I am highly pleased with them. Inclosed find money for three more.

PINK E. BECK, Miuden, La.



No. 4075.—LADIES' TEA-GOWN. 12 cents. Sizes, 32, 34, 36, 38 and 40 inches bust measure.

This is a handsome gown, made after the Empire style, in sulphur and sapphire silk and wool challis. The trimming is blue velvet to match, and the simulated square yoke is covered with cream guipure lace. Though apparently loose, the gown defines nicely and gracefully the hip curves, the fullness being disposed over a smooth-fitted body lining. The short train can be dispensed with, if preferred, and the gown made round length. India and China silk, crepon, cashmere and Henrietta, French flannel and silk and zephyr gingham, dimity, nainsook and lawn all make up charmingly by the mode. For decoration, ribbon, lace, insertion, embroidery, braid, gimp or galloon are equally tasteful, elegant and fashionable.



No. 6246.—LADIES' BASQUE. 11 cents. Sizes, 32, 34, 36, 38 and 40 inches bust measure.

Granite crepon is the material selected for this severely plain but stylish basque, the large, fancy pearl buttons being its only decoration. The mode is shown among the latest importations of English tailor-made suits, and ranks as a favorite with ladies of symmetrical proportions. Its simple glove-fitting adjustment is effected with the usual double darts and seams very generally shown in tailor-made basques. The closing in center is hidden under the extension gore that joins to the right front and fastens invisibly on the left shoulder, diagonally down the left front to the waist line. Buttons and buttonholes may be used for closing, if preferred. The pointed outline in front and postilion in back stamp the design in latest mode. Full leg-o'-mutton sleeves droop fashionably to the elbow, the lower portions fitting the arm snugly. All styles of plain and mixed cloths, chevrot, tweed, homespun, serge, vicugna, will make up stylishly by the mode. A plain tailor finish is all that is necessary, but braid, fur, gimp, passementerie or velvet can be used to decorated, if so desired.

I have tried a number of your patterns, and find them exactly as represented.

T. J. JUDD, Coomer Sta., N. Y.



No. 6261.—MISS'S DOUBLE CAPE. 11 cents. Sizes, 10, 12, 14 and 16 years.

Beaver-colored, satin-faced cloth made this attractive-looking cape, which is a favorite for misses this season. This is one of the most dressy styles of the golf or tourist cape, and is well adapted for misses' best or general wear. Both capes are shaped in circular outline, and either can be worn separately if desired. A lining of bright taffeta, surah or plaid silk is the proper mode, an interlining being placed between for extra warmth. The edges are finished with bias straps of the material, half an inch in width, stitched on both edges, and an extra strap trims the lower cape, which is crossed at the corners, as shown. The popular rough double-faced cloths, that are plain on one side and plaid on the other, are much used for capes of this kind, but the smooth cloth with the silk lining is much more attractive. Fur, braid or gimp can take the place of the stitched straps, chinchilla, ermine or baby lamb fur being especially becoming. Velour du nord, velvet astrakhan or seal plush make handsome and seasonable capes by the mode.

I have purchased patterns from you, and found them to be a perfect fit; every bit as good as those that I have paid forty cents for.

TILLIE F. STEVEN, Ransom, Ill.



No. 6278.—GIRL DOLL'S OUTFIT. 11 cents. This pattern is cut in one size.

Every little girl who has learned to sew, ought to be provided with these patterns, some inexpensive materials and a good pair of scissors, and allowed to make the first attempt at what is a very necessary part of every girl's education. Encouragement in this direction on the part of mothers and guardians of little girls, will be little money well invested. For the undergarments, white muslin or lawn, with lace or narrow embroidery for trimming, is required. Figured challis, cambric, sateen or other simple fabric, with lace and ribbon for decoration, will develop the very pretty dress here shown.

I have ordered several of your patterns, and I find them to be just as fashionable and as good in every particular as those high-priced Butterick patterns. They give perfect satisfaction. Please find order inclosed for another pattern.

MRS. W. L. MCGINNEY,
Tyler, Texas.



No. 6277.—BABY DOLL'S OUTFIT. 11 cents. Pattern is cut in one size.

Some little girls with strong maternal instinct prefer a baby doll, so here we supply patterns of an outdoor costume, consisting of a robe, cloak and cap. The skirt of the robe can also be used for the petticoat, a straight band being all that is necessary to complete it. An opportunity is here given to the little miss for the display of fine and fancy needlework, which ought to be encouraged by wise mothers. Nainsook or lawn will be required for the gown and cap, with lace or embroidery for trimming and baby ribbon for decoration. Cashmere, crepon or merino are suitable for the cloak, which can be trimmed or not, as preferred. Quantities of material are given on the pattern.

I received the pattern you sent me of the Ladies' Tea-gown, No. 4058. I am very much pleased with it. I think your generosity of furnishing such correct patterns must be the means of securing many new subscribers for your papers. We think we cannot get along without them.

MRS. F. B. HUNT, Nunda, N. Y.

Our Sunday Afternoon.

Life seems so little when life is past,
And the memories of sorrow fleet so fast.
And the woes which were bitter to you and to me,
Shall vanish as raindrops that fall in the sea;
And all that has hurt us shall be made good,
And the puzzles which hindered be understood,
And the long, hard march through the wilderness bare,
Seems but a day's journey when once we are there.

A CALL TO PREACH.

In olden times most ministers of the gospel took up their profession because they felt that they were directly moved by the Divine Spirit so to do. They followed their life work with enthusiasm, and for sheer love of it. That they succeeded goes without saying.

Almost any pursuit that is entered upon from such motives proves profitable in some fashion. It may not always be in hard cash. For this the preacher rarely works. At least, he did not in the days when the call was the incentive to that field of labor. Nowadays, the pulpit offers fewer attractions than many other professions, and the brilliant, enthusiastic and earnest young man is quite as likely to take up the law as the gospel, and unless he happens to be specially devout by nature, he finds more satisfactory results in the former than in the latter.

There is great need, just at present, of conscientious, clear-headed, warm-hearted, eloquent preachers. The pulpit languishes, and pews are comparatively empty. A few large churches have a name and a following, but many of the smaller ones are without stationed preachers, and depend upon supplies and the often unsatisfactory filling in of theological students and the not very large class of floating clergymen who are temporarily out of a place, or prefer to be so, on account of health or for other reasons good and sufficient to themselves.

The importance of church association to young people cannot be overestimated. As a commercial enterprise, a good church, with a good preacher, good music, a well-conducted Sunday-school, and a superintendent who is away up in his business, is the best investment that any community can make. It means better morals, better manners, more valuable property, and more pleasant social and business relations. It means more intelligent children, better educated youth and more agreeable and enterprising adults in all of the relations of society.

The churches of this country cost but the merest trifle of its aggregate expenditure. Instead of this, they should rank at least second, with schools and educational institutions in the lead. Certainly there is no more honorable occupation than preaching, and none that offers more in satisfaction and the modest comforts of life.

WHY A CEMETERY IS SO CALLED.

Webster says a cemetery is "a place where the dead bodies of human beings are buried." But that is all he says, and there is not a five-year-old child in the land who could not tell as much without referring to his "Unabridged."

In tracing the derivation of the word, it is found that the root is an old Hebrew word, "cemetery," meaning dormitories, or sleeping-places. Later on, the form of the expression was changed to "requietorium." In that section of "Camdens Remains," which has the heading of "Concerning British Epitaphs," the following occurs: "The place of burial was called by St. Paul 'sementoria,' in the respect of a sure hope of a resurrection." The Greeks call it "cemetery," which means a "sleeping-place until the resurrection." The old Hebrew word for a place of burial means "the house of the living," the idea being that death is only a protracted sleep that will terminate on the day when Gabriel blows his trumpet.—*St. Louis Republic.*

DIGGING UP THE BIBLE.

"We have dug up Homer; we shall yet dig up the Bible," said Prof. Sayce. It was a bold prophecy. For Homer, one might say, was dug up in a single season, and out of a single season. But into what distant lands must the diggers go, and how many years must they dig before they can give us the Bible? It was a bold prophecy. But Prof. Sayce knew as well as any man what it involved, and yet he deliberately

uttered it. And now, as an index of the surprising swiftness with which that bold prophecy is being fulfilled, we may take the articles which Mr. St. Chad Boscawen is contributing to *The Sunday-School*. In one of these articles Mr. Boscawen traces the historical allusion in the "bruised reed" of Isaiah; in another, he explains the point of Jeremiah's reference to the "bow of Elam;" and in the third, he discusses the meaning of the common Old Testament expression, "The Nations." And we find that the "Bible" which they are digging up is not merely the historical accuracy of the Old Testament, but also its interpretation.—*Expository Times.*

WHAT THE HINDU GENTLEMEN AT CHICAGO DID NOT SAY.

That they owed the language in which they spoke, the courtesy received, their very presence in Chicago to the Christian religion.

That, as their sacred books assert, there is a mountain on the earth 1,000,000 miles high, and that trees grow on it 13,000 miles high.

That it is impossible to conceive of anything more opposed to the fatherhood of God or the brotherhood of man than the teachings of the Hindu scriptures.

That the Hindu, so careful of the life of a flea or bedbug, does not hesitate to starve his cow, beat his horse to death, beat his wife, inflict the most inhuman cruelty on his widowed relatives, or poison his neighbor.

That infanticide, thuggism, suttee, child-sacrifice, prostitution and other rites too horrible to mention, either were or are still essential parts of Hinduism.

That in India, holiness has nothing to do with character; that the holiest man is often the filthiest, vilest and most ignorant man in the district.

That moral character forms no part of Hindu orthodoxy.

That carnivals of vice are held under the auspices of Hinduism.

That Hinduism teaches that a man's future welfare depends more upon his gifts to Brahmins and temples than upon his conduct in every-day life.

That sectarianism is about as rife in India as in England or America.

That with all his faults, the average Hindu will intrust his interests many times more readily to the Englishman than to his fellow-countrymen.

These and many other similar things the Anglo-educated Orientals forgot to mention. Mr. Mozoomdar would do well to study the rise and fall of Neo Platonism in the early centuries of Christianity, and see in its fate the coming end of Brahmoism.—*The Lone Star.*

THE MAJESTY OF BIBLE PRECEPTS.

There is no weakness in them. No one of them is enucleated by the modern prefix "try." The Bible says: "Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and purify your hearts, ye double-minded." "Cease to do evil; learn to do well." "Depart from evil, and do good." And thus through the whole book, from Genesis to Revelation, a moral precept is never prefixed with the enfeebling "try," now so universally common.

Just think of the Bible saying: "Try to depart from evil." "Try to cleanse your hands, ye sinners." "Try to speak the truth to one another." And instead of "Do not kill," "Do not steal," "Do not commit adultery," suppose we had, "Do try not to kill," "Do try not to steal," "Do try not to commit adultery." It is time to stop experimenting in morals. None of it is from above. It is all from beneath, a device from the devil to break down the force and majesty of the precepts of the Bible.

That glorious book never uses the word "try" in any such connection. It knows nothing of experimental morals. "Try" is never properly used except where a failure may be justifiable. A failure in morals never was and never can be justified.—*The Examiner.*

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Queries.

READ THIS NOTICE.

Questions from regular subscribers of FARM AND FIRESIDE, and relating to matters of general interest, will be answered in these columns free of charge. Querists desiring immediate replies, or asking information upon matters of personal interest only, should enclose stamps for return postage. The full name and post-office address of the querist should accompany each query in order that we may answer by mail if necessary. Queries must be received at least two weeks before the date of the issue in which the answer is expected. Queries should not be written on paper containing matters of business, and should be written on one side of the paper only.

To Dry Beef.—V. S. G., Esther, Mich., and N. R. Y., Rockford, Mo. Cut lean beef into pieces of the usual form and size. Sprinkle a little salt upon the bottom of a clean barrel, pack the pieces, and pour over them a brine made by dissolving salt in water enough to cover them well, in the proportion of six pounds of salt to every hundred pounds of beef. Wash off the pieces before hanging them up to dry. Leave in the brine about three weeks.

Rescue-grass.—C. D. C., Grant's Pass, Oreg., writes: "Rescue-grass, Bromus unioloides, is one of the winter grasses of the South. It is an annual, and belongs to the chess family. It starts in the fall or early winter, and makes a rapid growth, if rainfall and temperature are favorable. It will not stand severe winters. It is considered valuable in the South, both for pasture and hay. Write to your experiment station, Corvallis, Oreg., for list of best grasses for your locality."

Temperature of Milk-room.—W. B., Belmont, New York, writes: "What should be the temperature of a milk-room in which milk is set in eight-quart pans? And how long should the milk stand before skimming?"

REPLY.—A temperature of 50 to 55 degrees (Fahrenheit), secured by cold spring or well water, gives fair results. But you will save labor and get better results by adopting the deep-setting system in place of the shallow pans. Then, at 45 degrees, the cream will all come up in twelve hours or less.

Gathering Beans.—A. M. D., Portsmouth, Ohio, writes: "How should beans be cared for after they have been removed from the vine, in order to prevent them from becoming spotted and damp? I have been informed that there is not much difficulty in raising beans, as they take very poor ground, and can be dealt with just the same as corn, but great care is to be exercised after they have been picked."

REPLY BY JOSEPH.—The beans are not picked off, but the whole plants are pulled and cured by piling up in little stacks, or stored in a dry loft if properly dried in the field. Good corn ground will raise a good crop of beans. Don't use very poor ground.

Transplanting Onion Sets.—W. M. P., College Corner, Ohio, writes: "Did you ever try transplanting top or bottom onion sets? When would be the best time to plant the sets for transplanting?"

REPLY BY JOSEPH.—Perhaps our friend means to start the sets into growth under glass, and then set them in the open ground. I have never tried this, and indeed, seldom use sets of any kind. Of course, sets may be placed in a warm room until growth commences, and then set out in open ground at proper time. Start them up from two or three weeks ahead of the time that you think the ground will be ready to receive them. Undoubtedly it will bring them on somewhat earlier.

Ashes for Strawberries—Plowing Muck for Onions.—J. T. E., Lincoln, N. J., writes: "Would you advise me to purchase unbleached Canada wood ashes at \$11 per ton to apply on ground that I wish to set out to strawberries in the spring? The soil is sandy and rather thin? How much ashes would you apply on an acre?—Should I plow muck and apply ashes in fall or spring, when the ground is intended for growing onions?"

REPLY BY JOSEPH.—Wood ashes are one of the very best of fertilizers for all fruit crops, especially on sandy soils, and when unbleached (containing 5 to 7 per cent potash and 1 1/2 per cent phosphoric acid) well worth \$11 per ton. You can make the application in the spring. Use two or three tons per acre, and a few hundred pounds of bone-meal or superphosphate. Strawberries require very rich ground if you want to raise a very large crop, even if the berries themselves do not remove much plant-foods from the soil.—I would prefer to plow the muck land in the fall for onions, and just harrow or cultivate in spring. But in reality, it does not make so very much difference, and spring plowing is not objectionable.

VETERINARY.

Conducted by Dr. H. J. Detmers, Professor of Veterinary Surgery in Ohio State University.

To regular subscribers of FARM AND FIRESIDE, answers will be given through these columns free of charge. Where an immediate reply by mail is desired, the applicant should enclose a fee of one dollar, otherwise no attention will be paid to such a request. Inquiries should always contain the writer's full address. Queries must be received at least two weeks before the date of the issue in which the answer is expected. Subscribers may send their veterinary queries directly to Dr. H. J. DETMERS, 1315 Neil Avenue, Columbus, Ohio.

Dirty Skin.—M. R. B., Belmont county, Ohio. If your colt has a dirty skin, is very dandruffy, groom it thoroughly once a day, and keep it in a good, dry stall with plenty of clean and dry bedding.

Lame in the Hind Knee.—J. F. S., Mt. Pleasant, Mich. If your horse has been lame for a year, been treated in vain for four months, and according to your description, had the stifle, or knee, joint injured severely enough to produce a large exostosis on the upper end of the tibia (a hard bunch on the bone just below the stifle), I do not think that anything can be done to remove lameness.

Probably Pityriasis.—J. G. C., Mead, Va., writes: "My mare, a valuable animal, every spring has small pimples to break out and ulcerate her head, neck and fore legs, so much so that she is unfit for use. In the fall these pimples or ulcers heal up, leaving white spots. Please tell me what to do for her."

ANSWER.—Keep the animal during the winter in a clean and well-ventilated stable, see to it that the same is well groomed every day, and then, if the disease breaks out next spring, rub in some soft soap on the diseased portions of the body, and next day wash it off with warm water. This treatment may have to be repeated after a few days. The disease, as a rule, does not easily yield to treatment. If you find that you are obliged to apply the soft soap a second time, it may be advisable to apply, immediately after the second application has been washed off, a good wash with a five-per-cent solution of creolin.

Indigestion.—H. G. H., Columbus, Neb. You ask what will cure indigestion. This is apparently a very simple question, but it is very hard—nay, impossible—to satisfactorily answer it, particularly if nothing further concerning the cause or causes, symptoms, condition of animal, etc., is known. Try regular feeding, with perfectly sound food, easy of digestion, and give every day a small pinch of salt.

Subject to Attacks of Colic.—M. W., Clear Water, Mich. If your twelve-year-old mare is subject to frequent attacks of colic, very likely, sooner or later, one attack will become fatal, because the internal cause, the aneurism in the anterior mesenteric artery, cannot be removed. All you can do by means of prevention is to feed very regularly, and nothing but what is easy of digestion and to what the animal is accustomed.

Blood Extravasates in the Lungs.—H. F. E. K., Portage, Wis. It is probable that the extravasates of blood in the lungs and windpipe, and also the other morbid changes in the lungs of your sow, were caused by swine-plague; and if such is the case, the meat should not be used for human food. Even if it was not swine-plague, but some other cause—severe congestion and subsequent pneumonia—the carcass should be converted into soap-grease, and not be used for anything else.

Drops Its Cud.—S. K., Delta, Col., writes: "I have a calf, thirteen months old, that eats and swallows its feed all right. But when it chews its cud, in place of swallowing it, more than half of it drops from its mouth on the ground. I am feeding it well, but it keeps poor."

ANSWER.—Have the mouth of your calf, but particularly molars, tongue, soft palate and cheeks, carefully examined, and the cause, probably, will be found.

Gastro-enteritis.—A. R. M., Davenport, N. Y., writes: "What was the trouble with my mare? Symptoms: Turning up of the upper lip; standing with legs braced out, and straining; mouth white and dry, breath strong; sweat all the time on the body under blankets; legs, ears and nose cold; short, quick breathing, and trembling at intervals, and no desire to eat."

ANSWER.—Gastro-enteritis, or inflammation of the stomach and intestines.

Wants His Colts Docked—Scabs on the Skin.—S. A. K., Franklin, Pa. If you desire to have your colts docked, call on a veterinarian to perform the operation. Allow me, however, to remark that docking, a bad job now, will surely be out of fashion in a few years, and then everyone will know the exact age of the animals, because the ends of the tail, once removed, can never be replaced. It may not be necessary to say any more.—Your other colt, it seems, needs good grooming once every day.

Warts on the Teats of Cows.—M. R. B., Flushing, Belmont county, Ohio, A. S., Fidalgo City, Wash., and J. S. C., Waterboro, Me. Usually such warts disappear in time. They can be removed by an operation, and as a rule, will not return, if the wounds are cauterized with lunar caustic. But the wounds, before they heal, may become more troublesome than the warts themselves. If pedunculated—that is, if the warts have a neck—they may also be removed by ligation. But this operation, too, is best performed when the cow is dry. For further information, please consult the numerous answers given to wart questions in these columns.

An Itching Tail.—A. K. S., Siler City, N. C., writes: "What is the cause of horses rubbing their tail? What is the cure?"

ANSWER.—The immediate cause is an itching sensation. The latter, however, may be due to various causes; for instance, to bots (larvae of *Gasterophilus haemorrhoidalis*) attached to the mucous membrane of the rectum (not probable at this season of the year), to the presence of pinworms in the rectum, to various parasites (animal and vegetable) attacking the root of the tail, and finally, also to an accumulation of filth. The remedy has to be suited to the cause, which, of course, must be ascertained before any rational treatment can be applied.

A Swelled Hock-joint.—M. O. N., Loyalton, South Dakota, writes: "I have a two-year-old mare colt that got kicked on the hock. The hock and the leg swelled very much. I hatched the place with strong brine, but the swelling don't go down."

ANSWER.—Rub in on the swelled part, once a day, a little gray mercurial ointment (as much as the size of a bean), and rub it in most thoroughly, or else paint the swelling once a day with tincture of iodine, and be patient. Some of the swelling, undoubtedly, will remain, but most of it will disappear. If you are so situated that the colt can have daily a little voluntary exercise, so much the better.

Ticks?—E. M., Shandon, Ohio, writes: "Our hogs are troubled with what are commonly called sheep-ticks. What is the best remedy, in your estimation?"

ANSWER.—What you call "sheep-ticks," I presume are nothing more nor less than hog-lice (*Haematopinus urius*). Since it is winter, and thorough washing not very advisable, the best thing you can do, probably, is to get a little gray mercurial ointment from a druggist, and rub it in where you find the most lice, especially behind the ears. Don't use too much on any one hog, because it is poisonous, and a little will suffice.

A Champignon.—E. V. F., Brooks, Iowa, writes: "I would like to know the cause and cure for the lump on my hog. Soon after castrating him a hard, gristly lump began to form, and increased in size, until it is as big as my fist, and is still growing. The skin has grown fast to the lump."

ANSWER.—What you describe is a so-called champignon, which owes its existence to a careless or defective operation, and a subsequent invasion of the exposed spermatic chord with pathogenic micro-organisms, known as *Bothriomyces*. Such a champignon is best removed by an operation, in which clamps or a ligature is applied to the spermatic chord; that is, above the degenerated part, where the tissue is yet healthy.

Foamy Cream.—W. F. E., Nelsonville, Ohio, writes: "I have a good cow that always produced plenty of butter until the last three weeks. She eats heartily, and gives her milk the same as usual, but when I churn I cannot get one bit of butter. The cream foams, and that is all. The longer I churn, the worse it gets. Can you tell me if there is anything the matter with my cow?"

ANSWER.—What you complain of, foaming, or fermentation of the cream, is either caused by a bacterium or fermentation, producing fungus (*Sacharomyces lactis*). The same, possibly, may be contained in the food given to the cow. If the food is faultless, the bacteria or the fungi, of course, must have another source. If the food is suspected, but cannot be changed, half an ounce of muriatic acid, dissolved in a bucketful of water, may be offered for drinking twice a day. If the food is not at fault, the source from which the bacteria or fungi find an entrance into the milk must be ascertained and he closed.

Capped Elbows.—H. A. J., Hohokus, N. J., writes: "I have a horse that is troubled with shoe-boils. At times they are very large and hard. I have painted them with iodine, but it does not take them off."

ANSWER.—Any treatment of capped elbows, or so-called shoe-boils, is out of the question as long as the causes which induce the horse to rest on the sternum, and with the elbows upon the heels of the shoes, are not removed. The causes usually consist in chronic lung diseases—heaves, for instance—or extreme tiredness. Only in these, comparatively rare cases, in which the causes can be permanently removed, a treatment can be of any use; and if, as in your case, the so-called shoe-boils are large and hard, the treatment will require a surgical operation.

Too Greedy.—J. B. S., Middlebury, Vt., writes: "My cow got loose last Tuesday night and ate about twelve or fourteen quarts of bran and meal (equal parts mixed), and since then she has not given over a pint of milk at a milking. She eats but very little hay, and does not chew her cud at all; drinks well, and bowels appear all right. She is not bloated, and does not appear to be in distress. Her feed has been the best of upland hay and four quarts of mixed bran and meal per day."

ANSWER.—Your cow, it seems, was too greedy—took a little too much of a good thing—and in her greediness forgot to insalivate the mixed bran and meal. The latter, therefore, when in the stomach balled together, and caused her considerable discomfort. By your time—that is, when this reaches you—your cow surely has recovered, and nothing needs to be done.

Enteritis or Dysentery.—H. S., Glenwood, Oregon, writes: "I had a colt, eighteen months old, in fine condition. In the morning he refused his feed. I turned him out in the pasture, and he would not eat, and was very slow in moving. In the afternoon he was taken with diarrhea, which passed from him in a stream like water, and did not act as though he was in pain. Next morning at four o'clock he was dead. What do you suppose was the trouble, and what could have been done for him?"

ANSWER.—Your colt, it seems, died of toxic enteritis or dysentery. As the same, according to your statement, was sick less than twenty-four hours, and as the nature of the toxic agency which caused the disease is, or was, not known, nothing could have been done. The disease, very likely, was fatal from the beginning.

Swine-plague.—J. V. S., Pella, Iowa, asks: "Are sows that have been subject to swine-plague hurt for breeding purposes?"

ANSWER.—It depends upon the condition in which the disease left them. If they have been seriously damaged or crippled, or if their constitution has been weakened, or if important organs—for instance, lungs, heart or digestive organs—are considerably damaged, and therefore unable to satisfactorily perform their functions, I would not advise the use of such sows for breeding. On the other hand, if the disease has terminated in perfect recovery (a rare occurrence), or if the morbid changes left behind are only slight and of little consequence, and the animals to all appearances healthy and thrifty, I wouldn't see any objections.

About Ringing Pigs.—T. W., Agnesville, Va., writes: "Do pigs grow as fast and make as large hogs, that have rings put in their noses to stop them from rooting? And can you tell me where the rings can be gotten?"

ANSWER.—Rings in the noses of pigs are surely of no benefit to the animals. In the first place, they prevent them from obtaining the animal food—larvae and worms, etc.—which they crave, and which they need, unless kept on a suitable variety of food that provides in a suitable proportion and combination all the constituent elements of the animal organism. Secondly, where swine-plague is prevailing in the neighborhood, the wounds caused by ringing afford an excellent means of infection. If, however, one values an unbroken sod in his hog-pasture much more than his pigs, he may ring the noses of the latter. The rings, I suppose, can be obtained in almost any hardware store.

An Ulcerous Ear.—A. B., Emporia, Neb., writes: "A cow has a sore ear. I first noticed it about four months ago; it then bled a little, and soon began to smell offensively, and it has been growing worse ever since. The lower part of the ear has rotted away, and great clots of blood and gore hang down, and continually form, and when too heavy, they loosen and fall, and the stink is most horrid. I can hardly keep her in the stable at night. The decay seems to partly come from inside her head. What can the ailment be? How shall I proceed, and what shall I use to cure her?"

ANSWER.—In the first place, the ear requires a thorough and careful examination, and the treatment, which probably will require a surgical operation, to be followed by applications of caustics, or at any rate, of antiseptics, will depend upon the result of the examination. It is possible, or even probable, that a malignant tumor—a tumor of a cancerous character—is at the bottom of the trouble; and if so, and the tumor cannot be thoroughly and radically extirpated, removed or destroyed, any treatment will be in vain. If possible, have the animal examined by a veterinarian.

Killed by Drenching with Oil.—R. E. McC., Rockbridge Baths, Va., writes: "A horse at work on my farm was choked on dry oats, the choke being well down and a considerable amount of oats piled in on top. Several hours elapsed before his condition was found out. Every effort made by running and jumping him, as well as drenching with different things, and spurring water in his ears, proved unavailing. A swab was then used, which we think forced the oats into the stomach, but the horse had the same difficulty in breathing; and after eighteen or twenty hours died. He was opened, and the throttle was clear, and some oil with which he was drenched found in the windpipe. I fear he was killed in the effort to unchoke him. What course should we have pursued?"

ANSWER.—You killed your horse by your treatment, but particularly by drenching the same with oil. The immediate cause of death was "foreign body pneumonia," and the

foreign body in this case was the oil. You ask what course should have been pursued. An esophagus tube should have been introduced into the esophagus, and then through the tube some mucilaginous fluid might have been injected into the esophagus to facilitate the pushing down of the oats into the stomach. It would have been best to call at once on a competent veterinarian.

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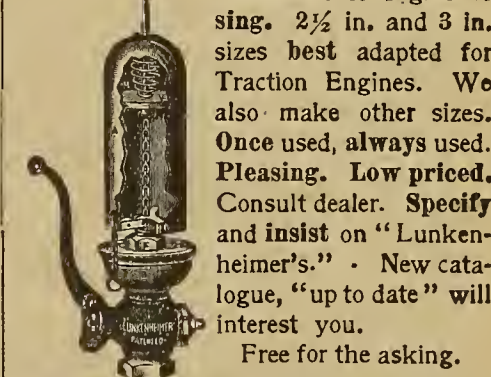
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Our Miscellany.

THEY have no old maids in Kansas, They have no old maids in Kansas; When a woman's thirty-one The sheriff gets his gun And he shoots her just for fun— In Kansas.

OREGON has a yearly gold output of \$1,000,000.

WYOMING has 30,000 square miles of coal deposits.

THE Russian imperial crown is valued at \$1,200,000.

EVERY mortal with a hopeful heart is a capitalist.

THE robes worn by Louis XIV. on state occasions cost \$19,000.

ACCORDING to Muller the total number of words, or rather, ideas, expressed by Chinese characters is 43,596.

THE "Ministry of Old Boots" supply 30,000 garments and 2,000 pairs of boots to the needy of London annually.

NOR less than 13,000,000 human beings have perished in earthquakes since the beginning of the historical era.

A HARD-HEARTED old sinner confessed at an Ohio revival meeting that he had for years sown his neighbor's lawn with the seeds of weeds for spite.

A BEGGAR who died a few weeks ago in Auxerre, France, was found to have 1,000,000 francs in bonds in a trunk, and in his cellar 400 bottles of wine of the vintage of 1790.

A KANSAS woman sent \$1 away in answer to an advertisement promising for that sum to tell how to keep the smell of boiling sauerkraut from penetrating through the house. The answer was to eat the cabbage raw.

IF a lion and a strong horse were to pull in opposite directions, the horse would win the tug of war easily; but if the lion were hitched behind the horse, and facing the same direction, he could easily back the horse down upon its hanches.

KORADINE? What is it? Why, the new book published by Alice B. Stockham & Co., Chicago. Koradine is the name of the heroine who has some novel experiences, and learns about herself and her surroundings just what every person ought to know, and in a way that brings her great enjoyment which you will share if you read it. It is a fascinating book, good for old and young.

AT a sheriff's sale in Paterson, N. J., a few days ago, a man picked up a cemetery, so to speak, for \$160, and proposes making building lots on it. Descendants of the old Patersonians who are buried in it think this is running speculation in the ground.

ANDREW CARNEGIE says it is a disgrace to die rich. If Andrew will follow this line a little further he will discover that in many instances it is a disgrace for a man to live rich, especially when his wealth is founded on blow-holes.—Lawrence Journal.

MAKE YOUR OWN RAG CARPETS on the Newcomb Fly-Shuttle RAG-CARPET LOOM. This "wonder-worker" and "money-maker," offered in another column of this page, is well worthy of your investigation. Thousands are being sold, and all without exception are giving good satisfaction. A representative of this journal has been on the ground, through the factory, etc., and is personally acquainted with the manufacturer, Mr. C. N. Newcomb, and we can guarantee good, fair treatment and entire satisfaction. Write for full particulars, with price list, catalogue, etc., FREE.

ANTIQUE.

A curious marriage ceremony is that observed by the Negritos. These people are said to be the remnants of a race of ancient pygmies, and still exist in the interior of the Philippine islands, where they live after their primitive fashion and preserve their ancient customs and traditions unmolested and unnoticed. When two Negritos are united, the whole tribe is assembled and the affianced pair climb two trees growing near to each other; the elders then bend the branches until the heads of the couple meet. When the heads have thus come into contact, the marriage is legally accomplished and great rejoicings take place, a fantastic dance completing the ceremony.

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USE AND ABUSE OF TOOTHPICKS.

The toothpick, judiciously used, is of undoubted value. Of the materials used as toothpicks the best is the quill, with the sharp point removed, but with this, as with all other forms, care must be observed. By indiscriminate application the gums may be so irritated and injured as to cause recession, and thus increase the existing trouble, or inflammation of the tooth membrane may be caused, a most annoying condition, and one in which the still more vigorous use of the toothpick gives temporary relief, only in reality to add fuel to the fire. Metal toothpicks are good because blunt-pointed, but are too thick to pass between teeth at all close together. Wood need only be mentioned to be condemned, for it is a hy no means uncommon occurrence for small fibers to become detached and jammed between the socket and tooth, leading to chronic periostitis and even loss of the tooth if the condition is not recognized.—Lancet.

THE SUGAR TRUST MONSTER.

The sugar trust has made at least \$22,000,000 in profits during the last year. This is 220 per cent on its actual investment of \$10,000,000. In 1893 the trust paid 165 per cent, and in 1892 150 per cent profits. Its working-men are obliged to labor twelve hours a day for \$1.20—80 cents for a working day of eight hours—under the hardest conditions and in a heat averaging 120°, and sometimes reaching 150°. These are the men who have been turned into the street by the trust for the purpose of deterring Congress from passing the free sugar bill.—New York World.

LARGE BIRD.

The great pelican often has a wing spread of fifteen feet. The bird itself sometimes exceeds twenty-five pounds in weight.

PARISIAN HIPPOPHAGI.

The residents of Paris last year ate 21,291 horses, 229 donkeys and forty mules.

The Universal Udder Protector, advertised in this issue, is a unique device completely covering the udder and affording absolute protection from the sting of insects or becoming cracked from any cause. It is said to be a sure preventive and cure of garget or caked udder. It also prevents self-sucking, and is an effectual calf-weaner. Its constant use will increase the flow of milk sufficient to pay for its cost in a very short time. Write Universal Mfg. Co., Duluth, Minn., for additional particulars, and mention this paper.

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Recent Publications.

THE ABC OF POULTRY CULTURE. By J. H. Davis. A thoroughly practical and original book by a practical breeder. Especially designed for beginners. Price, 25 cents. Published by The Fanciers' Review Chatham, N. Y.

WOMAN IN EPIGRAM. Being flashes of wit, wisdom and satire from the world's literature. Compiled by Frederick W. Morton. Price, \$1. A. C. McClurg & Co., Chicago, Ill.

IN BIRD LAND. By Leander S. Keyser. A delightful and instructive book about our feathered friends. Price, \$1.25. Published by A. C. McClurg & Co., Chicago, Ill.

ILLUSTRATED DESCRIPTIVE CATALOGUE OF AMERICAN GRAPE-VINES. A grape grower's manual. By Bush & Son & Meissner, Bushberg, Mo. Price, in paper, 50 cents; in cloth, \$1. This is the fourth edition of a standard work among grape growers, first published twenty-five years ago. This edition is largely a new work, and it is replete with interesting, instructive and valuable information for everyone who plants and trains a vine.

CATALOGUES RECEIVED.

Illustrated catalogue and price list of Des Moines Incubator Co., Des Moines, Iowa. Catalogue of artificial limbs and appliances. Geo. R. Fuller, Rochester, N. Y.

Buist' Garden Guide and Almanac for 1895 Robert Buist, 922-924 Market street, Philadelphia, Pa.

Catalogue of F. S. Burch & Co., 178-180 Michigan street, Chicago, Illinois, importers and dealers in wool growers' supplies.

The Northwestern Hide and Fur Co., Minneapolis, Minn., will send on application a circular of valuable information on taking off hides and furs and trapping animals.

WHAT WE ARE COMING TO.

A master of statistics has made a prediction of what the world will be at the end of another hundred years.

First, the climate will not have changed sensibly.

Secondly, in population, Europe will have 780,000,000 of inhabitants; Asia, 1,000,000,000; while America will have reached 685,000,000; Australia, 30,000,000, and Africa, 100,000,000.

The chief increase will be in America first, in Europe next. In the former, Spanish-America will have the heaviest increase. The diminution of increase in population, which is already noticed in France, will follow in Germany, Italy and England.

As for the different nations of the time, Russia will have 340,000,000 of population. Germany 115,000,000, and France only 56,000,000. China will have passed 550,000,000, and in all probability will still remain outside of modern civilization.

In America these figures have the greatest meaning. The United States will have 400,000,000, Mexico and Brazil 150,000,000, Canada 40,000,000, the Argentine Republic and Chili 30,000,000.

The two civilized nations which will have the greatest power will be the United States and Russia, having together over 700,000,000 inhabitants.

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FOR \$1



Selections.

COLD LIGHT.

One of the most fascinating problems which it will probably be the good fortune of some electrician to solve, is to do that which the tantalizing little firefly, knowing nothing about the subject, can do before our eyes, while the greatest scientists on earth are failing in almost every attempt to imitate it. The almost inestimable value of this discovery, which we feel sure will be made sooner or later, is so well recognized that there is no need to dwell upon it again. But while waiting to chronicle the event of its discovery, it gives us pleasure to note any success in this direction, even though it may be only an approach at a solution. Under a somewhat obscure title in a recent issue of a foreign journal devoted to pure science, we find that Professor Ebert has deduced the laws according to which apparatus should be constructed to produce light by means of high frequency electric currents, without converting most of the energy into heat. He has obtained a light of about one thirteenth of a candle, with an expenditure of only about one fifteen hundredth to one two thousandth part of the energy required in the amylacetate standard candle-lamp. The comparison would, of course, be somewhat less favorable with the incandescent electric light, but nevertheless the difference would still be very great.

The light efficiency of an incandescent lamp is said to be about five per cent, which means that ninety-five per cent is converted into heat and five per cent into light. From this it would appear that the greatest possible efficiency which can be expected is twenty times as great as that of the incandescent lamp, assuming that the five per cent which is now converted into light is converted as efficiently as it is in the cold phosphorescent lights. He furthermore expresses the belief that by proportioning the apparatus according to the laws which he gives, very bright lights (how bright is unfortunately not stated) can be generated with only an expenditure of some millionths of a watt. We hope, he, or some one else, will soon prove the correctness of this, in which case the lawsuits regarding incandescent lamps will cease and incandescent and arc lamps will be relegated to the museums and college laboratories as illustrations of what the past generations did not know. How much of this discovery, if it turns out to be a real discovery, is due to Tesla, would appear after a more thorough discussion of it; at present the researches of Ebert seem to be a mere development of the work started by Tesla in this country.—*Electrical World.*

WOMAN SUFFRAGE.

Eugene Field says that it has long been his opinion that the advocates of woman suffrage should abandon the rigorous tactics they have ineffectually used for so long a time and adopt the milder tactics of persuasion. The woman suffrage cause needs less virility and more femininity; less jaundice and more sugar. Bright eyes, pretty complexions, jaunty figures and stylish costumes are, always were, he thinks, and, by God's grace, always will be, more potent influences in determining the opinions and actions of men than the keenest wit and the most convincing logic.

"The mistake committed by woman suffragists has been in intrusting their cause to argumentative persons," he says. "As a class, men hate argumentative persons, particularly argumentative women. The voice of reason is well enough, so far as it goes, but it has no show in competition with the persuasion of instinct. If the woman suffragists want to capture constitutional conventions, let them besiege those conventions with an army of pretty, 'cheerful,' well-dressed women, and those conventions will surely capitulate. The average man has that vanity which will not suffer him to be outreasoned by women; but when it comes to the persuasions of coddling, flattering, cajoling and wheedling—ah, that is quite another thing! Who would not proudly surrender himself a willing victim to these delightful arts?"

GOOD NEWS—WONDERFUL CURES OF CATARRH AND CONSUMPTION.

Our readers who suffer from Lung Diseases, Catarrh, Bronchitis and Consumption, will be glad to hear of the wonderful cures made by the new treatment known in Europe as the Andral-Brocata Discovery. Write to the New Medical Advance, 67 East 6th Street, Cincinnati, Ohio, and they will send you this new treatment free for trial. State age and all particulars of your disease.

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CURED

BY THE OWEN ELECTRIC BELT.

CLYDE, MINN., May 19, 1894.

DR. A. OWEN:

Dear Sir—For three years I have been a great sufferer with what the doctors called **neuralgia of the stomach**, and all last summer I was not able to do my work. My stomach was so weak, and all of the medicines I took did me no good. My doctor said a change of climate would help me, and so I went to Chicago and stayed three months, but was no better. Before I came home I called at your offices and got me one of your belts. After I wore it one week I was a great deal better. I have worn the belt three months and am better now than I have been for three years. I would not part with my Owen Electric Belt for one thousand dollars if I knew I could not get another one. It has been a God-send to me, and I wish all sufferers would and could wear one of the Owen Electric Belts.

Yours truly, MRS. D. H. HILTZ.

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A PUBLIC ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF THE GOOD IT HAS DONE.

HILLSBORO, N. D., June 27, 1894.

DR. A. OWEN:

Dear Sir—I should have written to you long ago to inform you how much I owe to the Owen Electric Belt, but it was some time before I could bring myself to publicly acknowledge it; however, I have come to the conclusion that I owe to you and to suffering humanity to report what your treatment has done in my case. For years I had been troubled with nervous debility. I was in the last stage of that dread complaint, and despaired of ever getting relieved. In the month of July last I decided to try your Electric Belt, as a last resort, and I am very happy to state it has done more for me than I thought was possible. It has made me a healthy man; in fact, I feel stronger than ever in my life. I consider your belt the only cure for nervous debility, and I shall always recommend it.

Wishing you every success, I remain Yours truly, PETER ANDERSON.
Box 290.

THE GREATEST BOON TO SUFFERING WOMEN

That has ever been discovered,

DR. OWEN ELECTRIC BELT.

MARTIN, TENN., August 21, 1894.

THE OWEN ELECTRIC BELT AND APPLIANCE CO., Chicago, Ill.:

Gentlemen—I received my belt and directions the 14th of last January. I had it on in less than three hours after receiving it. I have worn it almost constantly since then; putting it on on getting up, and taking it off on retiring. I feel I owe my good health to the **Owen Electric Belt**. I think it is the greatest boon to suffering women that has ever been discovered. I feel that I can hardly live without it. Could I get no other, I have frequently told my friends, I wouldn't take its weight in gold. For misplacement of the uterus, weak back, general debility and nervousness, it has no superior. With a heart full of gratitude to you, I am

Very respectfully yours,

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Persons making inquiries from writers of testimonials are requested to inclose self-addressed, stamped envelope, to insure a prompt reply.

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[Trade Mark.] DR. A. OWEN.

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MAIN OFFICE AND ONLY FACTORY,

THE OWEN ELECTRIC BELT BUILDING,

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Work and worry by selling the Arnold Steam Cookers and Coffee Pots. Free outfits; most liberal terms. Wilmot Castle & Co., 51 Elm St., Rochester, N.Y. Mention this paper when you write.

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A fine 14k. gold plated watch to every reader of this paper. Written guarantee for 1 yr. sent with each watch. Cut this out and send it to us with your full name and address, and we will send you one of these elegant richly jeweled gold finished watches by express for examination and if you think it equal in appearance to a \$25 gold watch, pay our sample price \$2.98 and it is yours. We send with the watch our guarantee that you can return it at any time within one year if not satisfactory, and if you sell or cause the sale of six we will give you one FREE. Write at once as we shall send out samples for 60 days only.

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New in Principle. Beautiful in Appearance. Powerful in Operation. Contains covered Internal Gear. Unequaled in the line of Pumping Wind Mills. We solicit the closest investigation. Also Columbia Steel Derrick, Iron Turbine Wind Engines, Buckeye Force & Lift Pumps, Tank and Spray Pumps, Buckeye and Globe Lawn Mowers, Iron Evening, Creasing, Etc. Write for circular.

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To introduce our new Harry Clay 15c. CIGARS and advertise them all over the U. S., get agents in every town quickly and keep the factory going, we have decided to offer 2 Valuable Prizes FREE. Send us your name and express office and we will send you 1 box of our best cigars; 1 first quality 5 shot self-cocking nickel plated rubber banding new model Revolver 8. and W. 38 cartridge, same as used by Chicago police; 1 gents' elegant stem-wind Watch, with 14k gold plate chain and charm complete, the cases are made of a plate 14k gold on the outside and inside, over solid German silver, making a case composed of nothing but 14k gold and fine German silver, far superior to those cheap filled cases advertised. A guarantee for 30 years inside every case, fitted with best grade patent X plate, jeweled movement with ruby cap jewels, extra glass dust cap and enamelled dial, equal in appearance to any \$50.00 solid gold watch. You can examine the goods at express office. If satisfactory and you think you can sell our cigars, pay the agent our sample price \$5.00 and he will deliver to you the Cigars, Revolver and Watch, with chain and charm complete. We are the only house in the country giving away free such reliable and valuable prizes to advertise cigars. Order at once and get free these elegant prizes. Agents wanted in every town. INSURANCE CIGAR FACTORY, 125 Halsted St., Chicago.



Smiles.

WHERE THE GOOSEBERRY GROWS ON ITS GOOSE.

I would fly from the city's rule and law— From its fashions and forms cut loose— And go where the strawberry grows on its straw And the gooseberry grows on its goose; Where the catnip-tree is climbed by the cat As she clutches for her prey— The guileless and unsuspecting rat On the rattan bush at playing.

I will catch with ease the saffron cow And the cowlet in their glee, As they leap with joy from bough to bough On top of the cowslip-tree; And list while the partridge drums his drum, And the woodchuck chucks his wood, And the dog devours the dogwood plum In the primitive solitude.

—Tyler (Texas) Harpoon.

AN EXCELLENT REASON.

The sexes can never be truly equal, No matter what's written and said and done, While the stupidest man has fourteen pockets, And the cleverest woman has none.

—Life.

WHICH?

HAT the average negro is inclined to be lazy, and that he also has a keen sense of the ludicrous, is shown by the following story received directly from the lips of an old "uncle," who vouches for its truth:

"Unc' Toby," a man for whom Bartlett's Creek has more attractions than the hot and grassy cotton-field, not long ago took a "day off" in pursuit of his favorite amusement. He baited his hook, and long and patiently sat upon the bank of the stream, vainly waiting for a bite. At last, under the combined influence of the warmth of the day and the sluggish movement of the stream, Unc' Toby fell asleep. Eternal vigilance is the price of trout, and while our weary angler slept, an enormous fish took the bait and pulled him into the creek.

Of course, this awakened the old man, and he was overheard to inquire, as he floundered about in the water:

"For de Lord's sake, Toby! am dis nigger a-fishin', or am dis fish a-niggerin'?"

HE'S DEAD AT PRESENT.

Julius Caesar was considered a great man, and so he was. But he had his limitations, and some unknown writer gives a few illustrations: He never rode on a bus in his life; he never spoke into a telephone; he never sent a telegram; he never entered a railway train; he never read a newspaper; he never viewed his troops through a field-glass; he never read an advertisement; he never used patent medicine; he never cornered the wheat market; he never crossed the Atlantic; he never was in a machine-shop; he never went to a roller-skate rink; he never controlled a manufacturing company; he never dictated a letter to a typewriter girl; he never invested in railway stock; he never played a game of billiards; he never saw an electric light; he never listened to a phonograph; he never posted a letter; he never had his photograph taken.

PREPARED.

We once knew an old man who believed that "what was to be would be." He lived in Missouri, and was one day going out several miles through a region infested by very savage Indians. He always took his gun with him, but this time found that one of the family had it out. As he would not go without it, some of his friends tantalized him by saying there was no danger of the Indians; that he would not die until his time came, anyhow.

"Yes," said the old fellow, "but suppose I was to meet an Indian, and his time had come; it wouldn't do, nohow, not to have my gun."—Illustrated Good Things.

AT FIRST HANDS.

"Mama," said a small girl, "why can't we have a grand piano?"

"Because we can't afford it, dear," her mother replied. "You must wish for a hen that can lay golden eggs."

"But, ma'am," protested this literal young lady, "while you are about it, why not wish for a hen that can lay a grand piano?"

PROOF.

"Ha! ha!" shouted the enthusiastic scientist, "I have discovered one thing in which the Chinese did not anticipate us."

"What is that?"

"Foot-ball. I can prove it by the way they wear their hair."—Washington Star.

DEPENDS.

Herdso—"They say every hearty laugh adds a day to one's life."

Saidso—"That depends; I had at least a week kicked out of me for laughing at a man who fell in the mud."

BLUNT BUT HONEST.

Chicago girl—"And this little ring is for me?"

George—"Yes; does it come as a surprise?"

Chicago girl—"Well, rather. I expected a bigger stone."

NOT SO SLOW.

A lawyer was cross-questioning a negro witness in one of the justice courts the other day, and was getting along fairly well until he asked the witness what his occupation was.

"I'se a carpenter, sah." "What kind of carpenter?" "They calls me a jack-leg carpenter, sah." "What is a jack-leg carpenter?" "He is a carpenter who is not a fust-class carpenter, sah." "Well, explain fully what you understand a jack-leg carpenter to be," insisted the lawyer. "Boss, I declare I dunno how ter splain any mo' 'cept to say hit am jes' the same diffance twixt you an' er fust-class lawyer."—Macon Telegraph.

WORN OUT.

Even a judge's patience is not inexhaustible, if some of the stories told of certain lights of the legal profession are to be credited.

In a western court, not long ago, a tiresome lawyer had been trying for more than two hours to impress upon the jury the facts of the case as they appeared to him. At last he glanced at his watch, and turning to the judge, asked:

"Had we better adjourn for dinner, or shall I keep right on?"

"Oh, you keep on," answered the judge, "keep right on, and we will go to dinner."

TO BE SURE.

"I see," said one policeman to another, "that every trade in the world but ours has had a great and famous man in it."

"So has ours," said the other policeman.

"And who was that?"

"Joshua."

"Joshua a policeman?"

"Surely. Didn't he arrest the sun?"

GOOD ARITHMETIC.

Johnny Green, at school, was asked by his teacher:

"If I gave you three cakes, and your mother gave you four, and your aunt gave you five, how many cakes would you have?"

"Huh!" said Johnny. "I guess I should have enough!"

HOW IT HAPPENED.

Dorothy (confidentially)—"I was naughty yesterday, and mama spanked me. Did you ever get spanked?"

Elizabeth—"Yes; once I did."

Dorothy—"What for?"

Elizabeth—"Cos gran'ma was away."—Kate Field's Washington.

IN HARD LUCK.

Algy—"Chumly's in deuced hard luck, doncher know?"

Cholly—"How's that, deah boy?"

Algy—"Why, he spwained both arms pwacticing with the dumb-bells, so that he has to have his mau embwace his guhl for him."

THE MAN FOR THE PLACE.

Dusty Rhodes—"Whither bound, comrade?"

Fitz William—"Going over to Newark."

Dusty Rhodes—"What for?"

Fitz William—"Just read in the paper that a tramp was wanted over there for stealing chickens."—Puck.

A GOOD EXCUSE.

Wife—"George, do you know that you swore in your sleep last night?"

Husband—"Well, it was excusable. I dreamed that I was putting the studs in my dress shirt."—Yale Record.

THOSE BLOOMERS.

Ikey—"Mudder, mudder! vare is my pants?"

Mother (soothingly)—"There, there, Ikey, do be quiet! Your sister, Rebecca, has gone out for a ride on her bicycle vid dem, but she'll be back soon again."

BABIES SOON FIND THAT OUT.

"My youngest is very fond of pedestrianism," said Mr. Cawker to Mr. Cumso.

"I didn't know it was old enough to walk."

"It isn't; but it is old enough to know that I can."

THE DEAR GIRL.

Annette—"Tom told me he loved me."

Bess—"Did you offer him any encouragement?"

Annette—"Yes; I told him I couldn't help it."

WHAT IT HAS COME TO.

"How's the race problem down South?"

"Well, there's a good many for sheriff, but most all of 'em want to go to Congress."—Atlanta Constitution.

Every Man Should Read This.

If any young, old or middle-aged man, suffering from nervous debility, lack of vigor, or weakness from errors or excesses, will inclose stamp to me, I will send him the prescription of a genuine, certain cure, free of cost, no humbug, no deception. It is cheap, simple and perfectly safe and harmless. I will send you the correct prescription and you can buy the remedy of me or prepare it yourself, just as you choose. The prescription I send free, just as I agree to do. Address, Mr. THOMAS BARNES, lock box 113 Marshall, Mich.

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Mrs. R. H. WILLIAMS, Sundance, Wyo.

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IT IS IMPOSSIBLE to overestimate the value of warm feet at this season of the year. THOUSANDS of VALUABLE LIVES are sacrificed every year in consequence of DAMP, COLD FEET. Cold feet lay the foundation for PULMONARY DISEASES so fatal to the people of our land. Could we make the world know how valuable our MAGNETIC FOOT BATTERIES are for keeping up a WARM GENIAL GLOW through the FEET AND LIMBS, none would be without them. THESE WARM THE WHOLE BODY, keep the VITAL FORCES UP, magnetize the iron in the blood, cause a FEELING OF WARMTH AND COMFORT over the whole body. If no other result was produced than to INSULATE the body from the wet, cold earth, the INSOLETS WOULD BE INVALUABLE. In many cases the INSOLET will cure RHEUMATISM, NEURALGIA and SWELLING OF THE LIMBS. Try a pair of them quick, \$1.00, or 3 pair for \$2.00, any size, by mail.

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Gleanings.

MUSH AND MILK.

How dear to my heart is that kettle of pudding,
In childhood familiarly chronicled "mush,"
Which either with milk or molasses was eaten,
To waken the praises of children with gush.
For dinner, for supper, and even for breakfast,
It stood e'en the hungriest for a "square meal,"
And appetites all unalloyed it tickled
As much as in after life does the Gold Seal—
That kettle of pudding, that dear hasty pudding,
That blest hasty pudding of yellow corn-meal.

That dear hasty pudding! How often I made it
In childhood when longing for something to do!
The water I poured in a big iron kettle,
And salted it slightly—a big pinch or two—
And then, when 'twas boiling, with right hand I stirred it,
While in with the left sprinkling rich yellow meal,
The while it fast boiled and blubbered and threatened
To burn on the bottom if I relaxed my zeal—
That dear hasty pudding, that spluttering pudding,
The old blubbering pudding of yellow corn-meal.

How often at night when returned from my plowing,
Or hoeing, or haying, or harvesting e'en,
I met on the back porch the maid from the milking;
Who seemed in my eyes then a veritable queen!
Her full, foaming milk-pail! I greedily seized it,
And turned out a quart for my evening meal,
And then from the kettle I scooped out the pudding,
And ate with a relish I never now feel—
That kettle of pudding, that dear hasty pudding,
That blest pot of pudding of yellow corn-meal.

Those days—how dear memories halo around them—
Are glowing and gleaming in life's afternoon!
And viands the choicest seem tasteless while thinking
Of dear mush and milk and an old iron spoon.

For never the burning and pangs of dyspepsia
Came with their tauntings life's woes to reveal,
When good healthy hunger in healthfulness vanished
Before the best milk, and mush made of corn-meal—
That mush known as pudding, as nice hasty pudding,
That blest hasty pudding of yellow corn-meal.

—Philadelphia Press.

IS THIS TRUE?

We find the following in an English periodical, and print it as a curiosity more than anything else:

The man born in January will be a hard worker; a lover of good wine; a fine singer; a manager of great enterprises. The woman born in this month will be affable; will have domestic tastes, and will be capable of great endurance.

The man born in February will love money much, but women more. He will be stingy at home, but prodigal abroad. The woman will be an affectionate wife and a good mother.

The man born in March will be handsome, honest and prudent; yet he will die poor. The woman will be tall and stout and witty.

The man born in April will not necessarily be a fool, even if his birthday is the day next after the thirty-first of March. The woman will be a chatterbox, and will have "advanced" ideas. She will be a leading member of the "shrieking sisterhood."

The man born in May will be amiable and will make his wife happy. The woman will equal him in amiability and the other above-named desirable quality.

The man born in June will be of small stature and very fond of women and children. The woman will be flighty and a high liver, but will repent and sober down at forty.

The man born in July will be of military tastes, a trifle pompous, but a good fellow withal. The woman will have a sulky temper; she will pout and be handsome.

The man born in August will be ambitious and courageous. The woman will be what New-Englanders call "capable;" she will be equal to running a farm or editing a newspaper.

The man born in September will be

strong and wise; he will make few mistakes, and live and die rich. The woman will be loved by her friends; have many suitors, and die an old maid.

The man born in October will write poetry when young; then he will dabble in politics, and wind up as a reformer. The woman will be pretty, and late in life an apostle of total abstinence.

The man born in November will have a fine face, great address, and if not careful, he will be "a gay Lothario." The woman will be large, liberal-minded and fond of novelty and novels.

The man born in December will have a passionate temper, yet will be the first to forgive. The woman will be a "Lady Bountiful" to the "deserving poor," but a terror to tramps and the wilfully unemployed.

WHEN YOU ARE STRONGEST.

Vaughan Harley agrees with Dr. Lombard in considering that the amount of work done by the same set of muscles at different times of the day undergoes periodical variation. So we may accept as a fact that there is a diurnal rise and fall in the power of doing voluntary muscular work in the same way as there is a diurnal rise and fall in bodily temperature and pulse. It is remarkable, however, that instead of the greatest amount of work being done, as might have been expected, on rising in the morning after a good night's rest, it is found that at 9 A. M. the smallest amount of work is accomplished, the powers of doing muscular work, in Dr. Harley's case, increasing each hour up to 11 A. M.

Immediately after lunch there is a marked rise, followed an hour later by a fall, while again, an hour later, or about 3 P. M., the amount of work accomplished reaches its maximum. Then from some unexplained cause there is a notable fall at 4 P. M., which is succeeded by a rise at 5 P. M., after which a progressive fall takes place during each successive hour until dinner. Even during a prolonged fast more work was capable of being executed from 11:30 A. M. to 4:30 P. M. than at 9 A. M.—*Journal of Physiology.*

SNAP SHOTS.

No rabble is ever conservative. The ambitious young graduate now goes forth to hunt up some tides to stem. Ignorance is sometimes so dense that you cannot even stir it up. Man's good opinion of himself is a great stimulant.

A great many wise words are unspoken. To tell the truth is to teach it. Kindness is not always lenient. It takes a philosopher to find any kindness in effective criticism.

No matter how popular one may be, he cannot live on thank you work alone.

After man makes a prediction, he forgets all about it until it happens to come true.

Young man, remember that a diamond stud cannot light up the dim corridor of the county jail.

The present is made up largely of the fragments of the past.

Some husbands seem to imagine that their wives are built expressly to sniff the approaching norther from afar and run around after them with their flannels.—*Dallas-Galveston News.*

TO WALK PROPERLY.

Lippincott's Magazine says: Stride out to your full measure, but don't try to go beyond it; and try not to fall short of it as you go on. Keep the knees as straight as you can conveniently, and this will oblige you to rise on the ball of the foot behind at each step. The calf of the leg is a valuable element in walking, and yet many walkers, by throwing their weight upon the knees and the muscles of the front of the upper leg, lose the push and spring of the calf altogether. Such men habitually stand with knees bent, like a "sprung" horse, and only straighten the knees by an effort. The arms should swing freely, the head should be up and the chest expanded; breathe deeply and breathe slowly. Few people walk right; yet it is an easy thing to learn, and when it is learned you can walk farther, faster and more enjoyingly than if you do it wrong.

HOW TO CURE CATARRH.

A clergyman, after years of suffering, from that loathsome disease, Catarrh, and vainly trying every known remedy, at last found a medicine which completely cured and saved him from death. Any sufferer from this dreadful disease sending his name and address to Prof. Lawrence, 88 Warren st., New York, will receive the means of cure free and post-paid.

It Gives New Life!

A GREATER DISCOVERY THAN ELECTRICITY.

AUGUSTA, MAINE.—This city is excited over the wonderful results achieved by a Discovery made here. A Prominent M.D., late City Physician, publicly endorses the same, while the Mayor, President of Council, Postmaster, City Solicitor and other leading men have given it official endorsement. From all parts of the United States and Canada reports are coming in proving that what doctors, scientists and the people have for hundreds of years hoped for, has at last been discovered—a real Food for the Nerves. In thousands of cases of nervous prostration, and of men and women so seriously broken down that doctors pronounced them incurable, this new discovery, which is called Oxien, speedily restored the sufferers to health and vigor. It is pronounced by scientific men the only true nourishment for the nerves, brain and blood in existence, and analysis proves it to be as harmless as bread. Extensive tests have been going on here and elsewhere, and people who have been bedridden for years and sent to hospitals to die, have, after taking this wonderful article only a few days, to their utter amazement gone forth strong and happy men and women. One lady, Mrs. H. Vassar Ambler, 146 Cherry St., Poughkeepsie, N. Y., felt so gratified and happy at her recovery that she purchased \$700.00 worth of it so as to be able to introduce it to all sufferers in her section. It seems to cure diseases as if by magic, and has been very justly termed a greater Discovery than Electricity. By an original, patented process, it is put up in small compressed tablets, which may be readily sent by mail.

A company has been incorporated, with a capital of \$250,000.00. Legal protection has already been granted by the U. S. Patent Office, as well as by the English Government, and Oxien is being introduced by agents, who earn from \$15.00 to \$50.00 a day.

Mr. J. N. Williams, 5 Forbes Avenue, Pittsburgh, Pa., for instance, earned a \$200 cash prize in a single day, while A. B. Watson, of Holly, Michigan, also received \$200, besides over \$2,000.00 in commissions. And many ladies have done even better.

The Postoffice here reports that thousands of testimonials like the following are pouring in daily as to the value of this great discovery:

MACON, MO. I was crippled with rheumatism, spinal disease and catarrh trouble. Was kept in bed for weeks. In three days Oxien got me on my feet, and now I'm able to walk and work. People are simply dumfounded by its good effects. **William Lucas.**

AGENCY CITY, IOWA. I had not walked for six months except on crutches, and now I thank God I have laid them away. Oxien did it. **Miss Mattie McCoy.**

ALBERT LEA, MINN. No tongue can tell what I suffered. I tried all the best doctors in our city. Then I went to St. Paul and consulted two specialists, who proposed amputating my foot, as that only would save my life, they said. At this time I read of Oxien, a godsend for me. Before I had taken one box the terrible aching left my ankle, and Oxien made a wonderful cure. I have not felt as well for twenty years. It makes old people young. **W. O. Roasberry.**

ORRVILLE, OHIO. I was so afflicted that I was sent to a sanitarium without benefit. I came back and began using your Oxien, and am now well. **Mrs. Julia Steele.**

TRUESDALE, MO. No one thought I would ever be up again. I could not stand five minutes without fainting. In three weeks after taking Oxien I was at work again. I have done more work since than I have in twenty years. **Mrs. Matilda Pate.**

WM. T. GERRY, STANDISH, MAINE.

"My wife has used the Oxien Electric Porous Plasters with wonderful results. She had so much pain that she was unable to sleep for the past three months. Since taking Oxien and applying your plaster, she has entirely ceased to suffer, and now does all her work, and sleeps well and gets up perfectly refreshed. The neighbors all think it is a wonderful cure."

Judging from the astounding benefits which men and women are deriving from this Discovery, and the profitable employment it affords them, it is not saying too much when we claim that the acceptance of their above generous offer may prove *The Chance of a Lifetime* to thousands of our countrymen.

To those who will agree to test the power of these Wonderful Discoveries, either personally or in their own homes, or in the home of some friend, and who will cut out and mail to us the following coupon, together with 10 cents in cash, we will send, all charges paid, a sample box of Oxien with an Oxien Electric Plaster (regular selling price 25 cents). As this offer is made exclusively to those who will make a personal test as here stipulated, the party taking advantage thereof must sign his or her name and address (in pencil) on the following coupon and return same to us as above.

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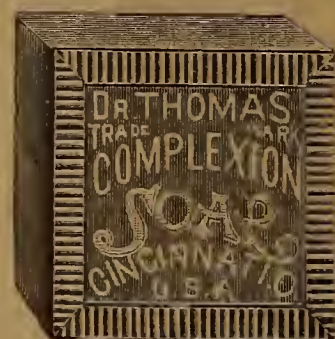
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WE WANT the Names of 100,000 Ladies to whom we may direct our Large CATALOGUE with terms for the sale of our Teas, Spices, Baking Powders, etc. To secure this list we have purchased 50,000 very choice Finger Rings with Elegant Settings, including Brilliants, Pearls, Rubies, Amethysts, Torquoise, Emeralds, etc. Your choice of either may be had FREE by your sending us the names of Two Ladies with their proper Postoffice address, as to State, County, Town, Street and Number. This is strictly a matter of honor, hence we would only expect you to give us the names of such persons among your acquaintances as would be likely to make us an order, provided the terms and inducements were sufficiently liberal. Our object, of course, is for the purpose of extending our business.

If you desire the RING sent by Registered Mail to guard against loss, you might give us six two cent stamps for postage, registration, etc., otherwise we will pay the postage. For the reason that we are placing this notice in 50 different papers at this time, it is more than likely that within 20 days the entire 100,000 Names will have been given us, hence you had best attend to this matter at once. Names coming to us other than distinctly prepared will have no attention whatever. Use Pen and Ink in your correspondence and write distinctly.



12 piece Toilet Set, as \$10.00
above, for an order of...
10 piece Toilet Set, as \$6.00
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W. W. Thomas, Mgr. The People's Tea, Spice & Baking Powder Co., Cincinnati, Ohio. 72-80 Walnut St.

Our System the Best, and Why.

- 1 Because you invest no money whatever.
- 2 Because we pay Freight, which amounts to dollars on large orders.
- 3 Because we guarantee our goods to give entire satisfaction, or they need not be received.
- 4 Because we sell our goods at wholesale prices in any quantity.
- 5 Because of our heavy stock and the great variety from which to make your selection, and further, you have the assurance that each and every article is strictly first-class and prices are the lowest.
- 6 Because when you send your order to another firm, the freight often costs you more than the premium is worth to you when you receive it, and you are often compelled to wait weeks for your goods, which you are required to pay for before you receive them, and have no recourse when mistakes and dissatisfaction occur.
- 7 Because, above all, the system of furnishing capital, paying the freight, and giving a larger commission or rates of premiums than any other company, enable thousands of persons to gain a knowledge of transacting and learning thoroughly a business that is pleasant, profitable and enduring.



A Popular Commendation.

- The sending of goods on approval.
- That no person may be deceived is an assurance.
- The growth of one's business attests of its fairness.
- To be known as the largest importers and dealers in our line of any establishment in the United States.
- The constant employment of 20,000 people to the entire satisfaction of all, leaving no room for controversy or disappointment.
- To be fair with every person with whom you have business, allowing them to be the sole judges as to whether they are satisfied or not.
- The furnishing of a vast capital, making happy thousands, giving advantages where others take them, is what the People's Tea, Spice and Baking Powder Co. live for, and by general approval of its friends stands to-day the largest concern of the kind on the Continent.
- Above all, any lady who has some time at her disposal can always find a pleasure and profit in looking up the wants of her friends, in pure Teas, high grade Baking Powders, fine Flavoring Extracts, medicated and laundry Soaps, rich Spices, Toilet Articles—in fact, the very choicest and most useful ingredients that are necessary for the advancement and perfection of culinary and toilet departments.

The People's Tea, Spice & Baking Powder Co., - Cincinnati, O.

THE RICHEST WOMAN IN THE WORLD.

The richest woman in the world is Donna Isadora Cousino, sometimes known as the "Cresus of South America." Her various homes are in and near Santiago, Chili. She traces her ancestors back to the days of the Spanish conquest.

She has been a widow for about ten years, but even during her husband's lifetime she managed her own property, worth many millions.

The Cousino estate, now representing the property of her late husband, as well as her own, with the increments due to her own executive ability, consists of money in bank, cattle, sheep, coal mines, copper and silver mines, steamships, real estate in the cities of Santiago and Valparaiso, of smelting-works, railroads and farming lands.

From her coal mines alone she is said to have an income of \$100,000,000 a month. The extent of her coal-mine property is known only to herself. Her own fleet of eight iron steamships carries her coal and ore to the market.

She owns every house in the town of Lota, which has seven thousand inhabitants; also nine tenths of the houses in the mining town of Soronel.

Her favorite residence is in Lota. There she has a magnificent mansion in the center of the finest private park in the world. It is supplied with all the luxuries that wealth can procure, brought almost to her doors from the ports of Europe, Asia and Africa in her own steamships.

She has another park and palace about an hour's drive from Santiago on the finest plantation in Chili. Her vineyard at Macul supplies the markets of all Chili.

She has another large estate about thirty miles from Santiago; also a great town house in that city, built mostly of red cedar brought from California. This house is decorated by Parisian artists.

PRESERVING FRUITS IN LIME.

A new method of preserving fruits and vegetables, in use in France, consists simply in bedding the fruit in lime. The following is given as a general statement of the results of experiments: 1. The lime does not in the least attack the skin of the fruit, even after prolonged contact. 2. The fruit does not dry any more in the lime than in the air. 3. No change takes place in the fruit, other than such as is the natural consequence of its evolution. The method was tested on oranges, artichokes, cherries, gooseberries, prunes, tomatoes, onions, potatoes, grapes, pears, apples, sugar-beets and chestnuts with their shells removed. Tomatoes kept well for two weeks, and half of them for nearly five weeks. In another trial, tomatoes picked before fully ripe, in order to save them from an early frost, and put in lime on October 22d, were good till January 15th. Pears of a variety that he had been unable to keep beyond December in any other way, kept well in lime till the middle of April. The most interesting results, and it seems to Dr. Caldwell the most striking, were obtained with grapes. Three varieties were packed in lime on September 13th; the first examination of them was made December 22d, when all were in good condition; April 15th two bunches of one variety were taken out, one of which was fairly well preserved, the other very well; all of one of the other varieties were in a bad condition and were removed. On May 2d the box was emptied, and all of those still remaining were in excellent condition. In another trial made in the preceding year, the last bunch of grapes in the box was taken out July 1st, when half of the berries were well preserved and had an exquisite flavor.

WHAT ONE WOMAN HAS DONE.

The story of a smart eastern woman who went to Colorado in search of health several years ago. She is Mrs. A. G. Conrad. Like most western tourists, she was afflicted with the mania for sending pressed flowers home to friends in the East. By and by the thought occurred to her that she might make a business of flower-pressing, and souvenir-book making. She opened a booth, gathered and pressed her flowers in the summer, and made souvenir books of them in the winter. At the end of the second year she had a contract that called for eighty thousand pressed, unmounted wild flowers, at fifty cents a hundred, for the next season. By this time Mrs. Conrad was beginning to be ambitious. She bought a ranch where wild flowers were particularly abundant. There she lives now, increasing her business all the time, and gaining strength as well. The income from her

flower business has paid for the ranch, and supports her comfortably. She employs a number of women, generally semi-invalids and tourists.—*New York Sun.*

WOMEN WORKING IN THE FIELDS.

Most Americans who travel in Europe become indignant when they see women working as farm-hands. But Rabbi Joseph Krauskopf, of Philadelphia, now in Germany, says: "Such farm work for women is neither degrading nor too taxing. They have pledged to become helpmates to their husbands, and they regard it their duty to lessen the labors of their fathers, and being physically able to do their share, they regard it wrong to permit the stronger sex to slave themselves to death while they are idling their time away at home. Judging from their happy and healthy looks, they seem to be none the worse for taking their places alongside the men folk for the purpose of honestly earning their bread. Had we a little more practical good sense and less sentimentality among our women at home, many a woman's life might be happier to-day, happier for being more useful, and many a man's life would be spared the necessity of slaving itself to death to indulge a wife's or daughter's idleness and luxuries."

A TALK WITH OUR READERS.

I wish I might impress upon the minds of all the readers of this paper the importance of supplying their homes with interesting reading matter. We do not often boast of our own publications, but when everything is taken into consideration, is it possible for you to bring into your home, at so small an outlay of money, so much reading matter, and of such a high class, too, as that which we offer to our patrons? When we compare what we give to-day with what we gave ten years ago—why, there is simply no comparison. The fact that you can get twenty-four issues of the FARM AND FIRESIDE and twenty-four issues of the Ladies Home Companion at a nominal cost should make every reader, without a moment's hesitation, take advantage of our liberal offers. Not only that, but the work of furnishing good reading at a low rate is worthy of some effort on your part among your friends. It would be an easy matter for you to speak of our special offers to your neighbors and friends, or for you to send a marked copy to some one whom you know would be interested.

The amount of money that some spend for tobacco would almost stock a respectable library in a single year. Do we not furnish from one to five books at a time, free, with a single subscription? There is, for example, "Gems from the Poets," a book which at book-stores would cost quite a sum. It contains the very cream of our greatest and most popular writers. It is an education to have such a book in the home, and its influence upon the children around the fireside is more than we can easily estimate.

To have accurate information of the world we live in, and especially of our own country, we need an atlas; and we publish an atlas which we give with subscriptions at a price lower than you could go to a store and buy the same quantity of plain white paper.

There is the book, "Pictures of All Countries," showing interesting scenes, buildings, cities in the world, etc., and a description of each.

Ladies are always interested in learning new dishes for the table. They know better than we men just how much depends upon getting to a man's heart through his stomach. Our "Cook Book" will show you how it is done.

It would take columns of space to give a full account of the interesting publications which are so essential to home life, and which we have at great labor and expense prepared purposely for our nearly half a million subscribers. There is nothing, probably, which adds to home life more than the right sort of reading matter. Certainly, nothing adds more charm to the family fireside.

It occurred to us that we had better briefly mention a few of these things, not so much that our readers do not appreciate the offers which we make, but that they do not stop to think sufficiently to grasp the effort which we make to please our patrons and to help make their homes as attractive as possible. No other institution furnishes its patrons with such excellent premiums for almost nothing.

An electrical storm in St. Louis recently deprived many aquariums, both in residences and show-windows, of their silver and gold fish. Thunder and lightning are judged by old fishermen and proprietors of animal stores to be the cause of the death of the fish which are found floating on their backs for several mornings after an electrical storm. A St. Louis electrician gives it as his opinion that the concussion of the thunder breaks the air-chambers which by compression cause the fish to sink and by expansion to rise to the surface.

5 POPULAR FREE BOOKS

Below we give a list of twenty-six good and useful books, suited for every member of the family. Many are by famous authors, known wherever the English language is spoken. There are novels by such great authors as Bertha M. Clay, Miss M. E. Braddon, Charles Dickens and others. There are sermons by the great Talmage, books by the inspired Spurgeon and Drummond, fables by Æsopus, stories of adventure and travel for boys and girls, chimes and jingles for the children, and numerous other books on various subjects. Every number is a separate and complete book. In this offer we give 5 books just as complete as if they were purchased at 5 different stores. Postage paid by us. See offer below.

5 BOOKS COUNT AS ONE PREMIUM.

No. 99. *The Idle Thoughts of an Idle Fellow.* By Jerome K. Jerome. Mr. Jerome is known as the "English Mark Twain." He is a writer of the finest sort of fun, which is sure to be highly enjoyed by all who will read this book. It is considered his best.

No. 59. *The Courting of Dina Shadd, and The Man Who Was.* By Rudyard Kipling. Mr. Kipling is considered by many to be the greatest living story-writer. His plots are thrilling and skilfully arranged, and he tells his story in a bright, sparkling style.

No. 58. *The Merry Men.* By R. L. Stevenson. When an author's works live after him, they are, as a rule, worth reading. The stories by Stevenson have stood this test, and are now widely read. "The Merry Men" is a story that you will not forget soon after reading it.

No. 61. *Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde.* By R. L. Stevenson. This wonderful story of a strange case has been dramatized with great success. The moral is a good one.

PLAIN TALKS BY REV. CHAS. H. SPURGEON.

No. 71. *John Ploughman's Pictures.* By the late Rev. Chas. H. Spurgeon, the great London preacher and evangelist. This is one of the most original and popular books of the age. The author states in the preface that its object is to smite evil, and especially the monster evil of drink, and it is safe to say that the plain talks of John Ploughman, couched in Spurgeon's quaint sayings, his wit, his logic, his power for good, have accomplished more than any similar publication. This book can be read by every member of the family over and over with increasing pleasure and profit, and every mother who has a son that must face the temptations of the terrible curse of drink, will place a good weapon in his hands when she induces him to read this work. Illustrated.



No. 70. *Good Manners.* Edited by Mrs. M. W. Baines. A manual of true politeness.

No. 91. *The Fatal Marriage.* By Miss M. E. Braddon. This is a thrilling story, in which a man marries a lovely girl for her wealth, and as it should always be, he came to grief as a reward for his deception.

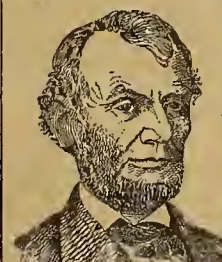
No. 78. *Indoor Games.* This book will introduce many games, amusements, simple tricks with handkerchiefs, strings, etc., to entertain visitors and friends.

No. 84. *Gulliver's Travels.* Tells of the supposed travels and surprising adventures of Lemuel Gulliver into an unexplored part of the world, where he met with a race of people no larger than your hand. A great favorite with boys and girls who like to read books of travel. Illustrated.

No. 69. *Short Stories.* A book containing a number of short stories of adventures, which will be eagerly read by boys and girls.

No. 73. *Æsop's Fables.* These fables are very popular with young and old. Illustrated.

No. 85. *Anecdotes of the Rebellion* is a grand collection of war stories and camp-fire yarns. Every anecdote is a true story of some incident connected with the late war. Everyone will be glad to own this book. By telling these stories, a speaker can keep an audience in laughter or tears at will. It gives anecdotes of Foragers, Raiders, Scouts, Stories of Prison Life, Union and Confederate Spies, of the Generals, Lincoln's jokes, etc., etc.



No. 76. *Noble and Heroic Deeds.* Compiled by A. D. Hosterman. This book consists of sketches from the lives of men and women who became famous for noble and heroic deeds, with incidents in their lives.

No. 93. *Mrs. Caudle's Lectures.* This is a collection of thirty-six of the best lectures by this humorist. If you want something that will make you laugh till your sides ache, get this book. It is full of fun.

No. 92. *Old Mother Hubbard, and 138 Other Nursery Rhymes and Jingles.* For generations these rhymes have delighted the children. The comical pictures, the fairy stories and short verses are a never-ending source of delight. This is the complete book, containing one hundred and thirty-eight stories and over seventy illustrations.

Regular Price of Any Five Books, and Farm and Fireside One Year, 50 Cents.

A SPECIAL OFFER.—We will send you Any Five Books, and Farm and Fireside one year, FREE, if you will send one NEW subscriber for Farm and Fireside one year, and Any Five Books, at the regular price, 50 cents.

GRAND BARGAIN OFFER FOR 30 DAYS.

(NOTICE.—When subscriptions are sent at the special low prices named below, no other premium or commission will be allowed, and they cannot be counted in a club toward any premium.)

Any 5 of the Above Books	- - - - -	\$1.00	} ALL 4 FOR 75 CENTS
Pictures of All Countries	- - - - -	1.00	
The Farm and Fireside One Year,	- - - - -	.50	
The Ladies Home Companion One Year,	- - - - -	1.00	
Total Value,	- - - - -	\$3.50	

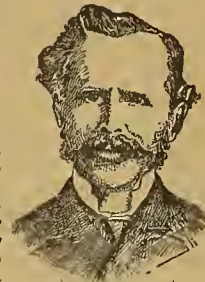
Or Any 5 Books, and Farm and Fireside One Year, 35 Cents. Or Any 5 Books, and Ladies Home Companion One Year, 50 Cents, if Ordered Inside of 30 Days. Postage paid by us in each case.

Address FARM AND FIRESIDE, Springfield, Ohio.

No. 60. *A Bird of Passage.* By Beatrice Harraden, author of "Ships That Pass in the Night." Few ladies have written more popular stories than Miss Harraden. "A Bird of Passage" is exceedingly fine.

LECTURES OF HENRY DRUMMOND.

Prof. Henry Drummond is without doubt the most popular writer of the age. It is with much pride that we are enabled to offer three of his most popular works. If you read one, you will want all; and if you read them once, you are almost certain to read them over and over.



For simplicity, truthfulness, gentle, yet mighty force in statement, and loving loyalty to God, they are unequalled by anything ever written on the subject. They will be angels of mercy to every home that gives them a welcome place on the reading-table.—*Quarterly Review.*

No. 64. *The Greatest Thing in the World.* By Henry Drummond. This book is on love as taught by Christ and the disciples; and if any one doubts that love is the greatest thing in the world, and if they want to be made stronger in their love for all things, they must get this book, by all means.

No. 63. *Changed Life.* By Henry Drummond. If you want a practical solution of the cardinal problem of Christian experience, read this book on "Changed Life." You will be drinking at the fountain of eternal life.

No. 62. *Peace Be With You.* By Henry Drummond. This book might be called a short treatise on Rest, Joy, Peace, Faith and Light. It is so simple, yet so grand and so clear, that you lay the book down feeling that a new and brighter day had dawned in your life.

WORKS OF CHARLES DICKENS.

Below we offer four popular books written by Charles Dickens, one of the greatest novelists who ever lived. These books abound in wit, humor, pathos, masterly delineation of character, vivid descriptions of places and incidents, and skilfully-wrought plots. They are intensely interesting to children as well as grown persons.



No. 96. *The Haunted Man.* By Dickens. An interesting love story, into which are gathered some of the truest and noblest of the bright thoughts of the wonderful author.

No. 98. *Three Christmas Stories.* By Chas. Dickens. Oftentimes one wants to read something short, yet interesting and elevating. These short stories by Dickens are unexcelled.

No. 95. *The Battle of Life.* A love story, by Dickens. This is one of his best.

No. 100. *The Cricket on the Hearth.* By Charles Dickens. This is a simple tale of home life, sure to interest the children.

No. 90. *On Her Wedding Morn.* By Bertha M. Clay, author of "Her Only Sin," "A Golden Heart," and other stories. This is a companion novel to "Her Only Sin," and will be read with the same intensity of feeling, with mingled joy and sadness as the characters in the book have cause for tears or laughter. It is a love story that must appeal to every reader.

No. 89. *Her Only Sin.* By Bertha M. Clay, author of "The Shattered Idol," "On Her Wedding Morn," and other noted books. "Her Only Sin" is fine.

SERMONS BY T. DE WITT TALMAGE.

No. 74. *Talmage on Palestine.* A book containing a series of sermons, by the Rev. T. De Witt Talmage, about his recent and noted travels through Palestine, telling what he saw and learned there. They make such delightful reading, and so instructive and entertaining, that the book is immensely popular. On the days he delivered these sermons in his church in Brooklyn, which seated 4,500 people, thousands were turned away from the doors for want of standing-room inside the church. Even to read the book makes one thrill through and through.



HISTORY OF THE UNITED STATES.

OVER 600 PAGES AND 160 ILLUSTRATIONS.

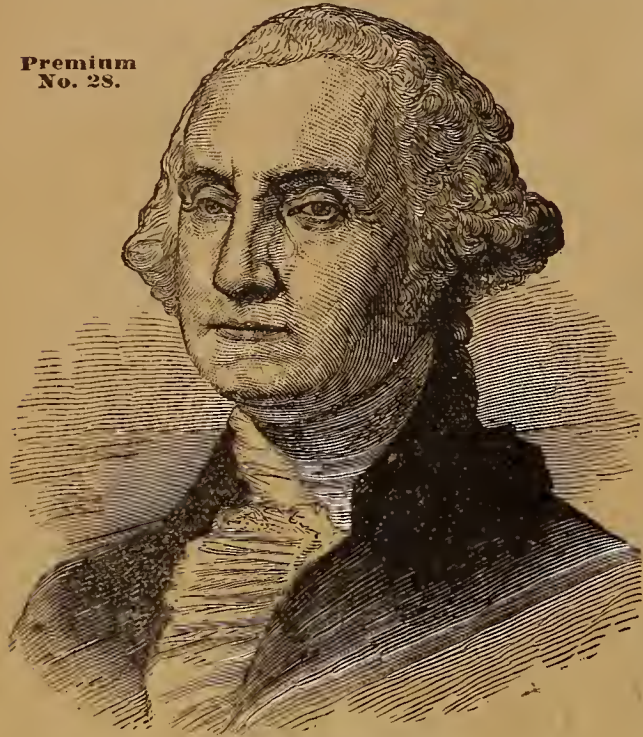
A New and Complete History of the United States and the American People, from the Discovery by Columbus up to 1895, by

ARTHUR GILMAN, M.A.,

Author of Numerous Historical Books and Professor of History at Harvard College.

It is with great pride that we offer our readers this new and complete history of the United States. The very fact that it was written by such a celebrated teacher and author is proof that it is of the highest order of excellence. While it gives all the facts and dates accurately and complete, Prof. Gilman has woven them into a true and thrilling story of the American people that is eagerly read by young and old, which makes it far superior to any school history. We only have space here to give a very faint idea of the contents of the book.

Premium No. 28.



George Washington.

The history begins away back with the discussions as to the size of the world, whether it was round or flat, and the influence these discussions exerted upon Columbus, and the discovery of America by him. Then it takes up the story of the aborigines, the mound-builders and their remains. From here the history is followed accurately through the settlements by the various nationalities, the war with the Indians, the people and their rulers, the growth of

independence, the revolutionary war and the establishment of the new government, with all the presidents, wars and great events up to 1895.

This history will be highly prized by all who receive it, as it contains many valuable facts that cannot be found elsewhere, and history told in a readable style.

Regular Price of Gilman's History of the United States, and Farm and Fireside One Year, 75 Cents.

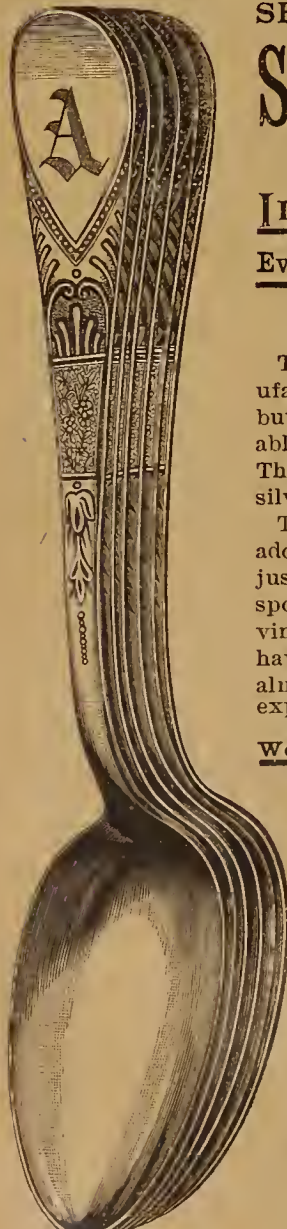
A SPECIAL OFFER.—We will send you the History, and Farm and Fireside one year, FREE, if you will send one NEW subscriber for Farm and Fireside one year, and the History, at the regular price, 75 cents.

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Gilman's History of the United States would be cheap at	\$1.00	} For 30 Days from the Date of This Paper We Will Give	} All 4 for 75 CENTS.
THE PEOPLE'S ATLAS	1.00		
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SET OF SIX— Silver-plated Teaspoons.

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Initial Letters Each spoon will be beautifully engraved with any initial letter.

Every Spoon Guaranteed to be Equal to Solid Silver in Beauty and Finish.

These are genuine silver-plated teaspoons, especially manufactured for us. We do not make any profit on these spoons, but simply offer them to get subscribers. This is why we are able to furnish such handsome initial teaspoons as premiums. They are made from a base-metal, then nickel-plated and then silver-plated.

This method of manufacturing silver-plated ware is now adopted by all silver-plate manufacturers. Our spoons have just as fine a finish and are just as handsome as any solid silver spoon can be. They are of the latest style in shape and carving, and are full size; in fact, they are perfect beauties. We have received many letters from ladies praising them, and almost every time they say they are much finer than they expected.

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A SPECIAL OFFER.—We will send you this Set of Six Teaspoons, and Farm and Fireside one year, FREE, if you will send one NEW subscriber to Farm and Fireside one year, and this Set of Six Teaspoons, at the regular price, One Dollar.

(NOTICE.—When subscriptions are sent at the special low prices named below, no other premium or commission will be allowed, and they cannot be counted in a club.)

Or this Set of Six Teaspoons, and Farm and Fireside One Year, 55 Cents, Or this Set of Six Teaspoons, and the Ladies Home Companion One Year, 60 Cents, if Ordered Inside of 30 Days. Postage paid by us in each case.

NOTE.—Only ONE initial, in Old English, will be engraved on each spoon. If you do not say what letter you want engraved on your spoons, we will send them without the initial letter.

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HERE IS A FEAST FOR LOVERS OF BRIGHT, SPARKLING LITERATURE.

Thirty complete novels by authors of great reputation, being stories of love, adventure and romance, delightfully told, with skilful plots full of stirring incidents, which hold the reader's attention to the end. We only have space here to give the titles of the novels and their authors:

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- A DARING EXPLOIT.** By Mrs. Jane G. Austin.
- THE BOTTLE IMP.** By Robert Louis Stevenson.
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- THE KNIGHTSBRIDGE MYSTERY.** By Charles Reade.
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- MY FELLOW LABORER.** By H. Rider Haggard.
- CLIFFE HOUSE.** By Etta W. Pierce.
- MY SISTER KATE.** By the author of "Dora Thorne."
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- THE MOORHOUSE TRAGEDY.** By Mrs. Jane G. Austin.
- THE GHOST OF LOVE LEE.** Anonymous.
- A DOCTOR'S STORY.** By Miss M. E. Braddon.
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- THE TRUTH OF IT.** By Hugh Conway.
- IN ONE SHORT YEAR.** By Hugh Conway.
- THE OTHER EAR-RING.** Anonymous.
- LEE, THE LETTER MAN.** Anonymous.
- THE NAME CUT ON A GATE.** By Mary Cecil Hay.
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Many of these novels have had an enormous sale and are in constant demand, selling for 25 to 50 cents each; that is, if you were to buy the entire lot of these novels singly at the book-stores, the cost would likely average \$11.25. In order to greatly reduce the cost, and enable us to give those who are fond of novels a perfect feast of reading and a genuine bargain, these novels have all been made up into one large volume, containing 192 large pages, with three columns to the page, thus making the type easy to read, yet getting an astonishing number of novels into the one large volume.

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The Farm and Fireside One Year,	.50		
The Ladies Home Companion One Year,	1.00		
Total Value,	\$3.50		

Postage paid by us in each case.

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Gentlemen:—

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(If you select 5 Popular Books from page 21 as your premium, put the numbers here. 5 Books count as ONE premium.)

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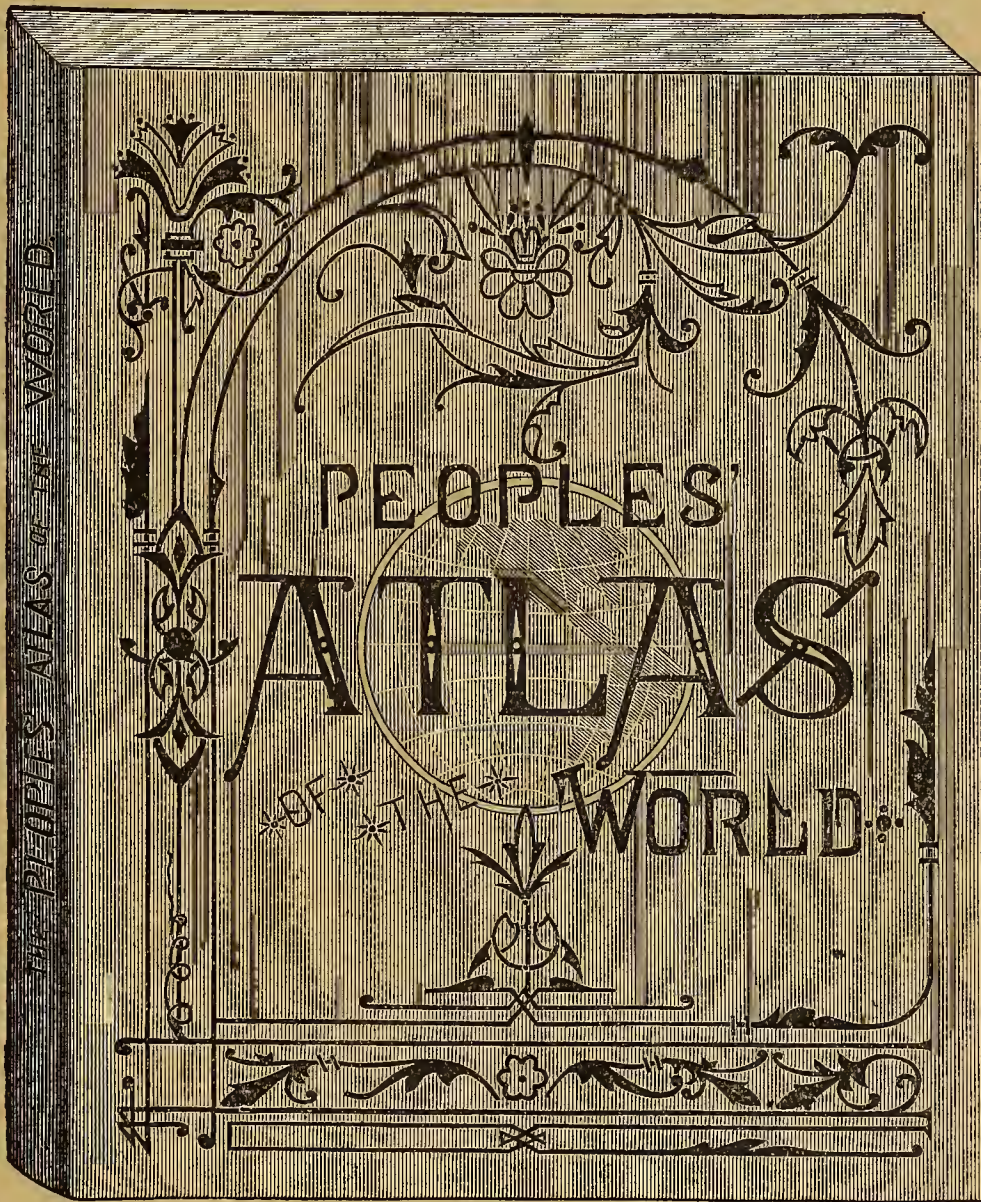
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With the Vanguard.

THE currency schemes under consideration in Congress will save the country from a disastrous financial panic by not being passed. In fact, if the business men of the country had not firmly believed in the improbability of any scheme for the inflation of the currency getting through both houses of Congress, a panic would have occurred long before this.

The national banking system may be far from perfect, but it is evident that the people of the country consider it safe. For, as a capital investment in these banks, they have placed nearly one thousand million dollars of their money, and as deposits, over seventeen hundred millions more. During the panic of 1893, national-bank notes were as good as gold. So were all other kinds of our paper currency—greenbacks, treasury notes, coin certificates—simply because all were abundantly secured. When it comes to the reorganization of the national banking system, its features of safety and security must be retained.

There may be need of currency reform. There may be need of making changes and improvements in the national banking system. But no wild-cat banking system or wild currency-inflation scheme can be palmed off on the country in place of genuine reform.

I DOUBT if people have any real conception of the power of habit, or the tendency to follow any particular line of work in the same manner that our fathers and grandfathers did. Probably no other characteristic so forcibly expresses itself in our lives; and there is some reason for this. It takes courage to do things in a different manner from that of somebody else. A man runs the risk of being laughed at, or being dubbed a crank; though every progressive step that has ever been made was the result of doing something differently from the way it was ever done before.

I never quite grasped the truth of this tendency until I had walked about 850 miles on the continent of Europe. I saw, in the German empire, only two threshing-machines; and during the following winter, I found that almost every family had their threshing-floors, as they were called, where they beat out the grains of wheat with flails. It scarcely seemed credible that in our day of advancement the people of the great German empire should continue to thresh their wheat in identically the same manner as their forefathers had done centuries before.

In Italy the wheat was in many places cut with the sickle; and on one occasion, not less than twenty Italian girls, dressed in the gaudy colors which most please the people of that sunny clime, passed by, with rakes on their shoulders, going to a new field to glean; and I thought that this was very much like the way Ruth gleaned in the field of Boaz.

I saw, too, carts being pulled by horses caught up one in front of the other; sometimes six horses were hitched together, each in front of the other, "single file, Indian style." The plows, too, were of an antiquated pattern, and did little more than scratch up the soil.

These things are mentioned simply to show that the tendency is strongly developed in every man, woman and child to go about doing things like their fathers and grandfathers have done them.

It is admitted by nearly every farmer that farming cannot be successfully carried on as it was carried on twenty-five years ago. The conditions have changed in a quarter of a century, and the grandfather's methods, although suited to his day, and which probably brought him a large measure of success, will not prove equally successful under present circumstances.

We often urge in these pages diversity of crops; it is the hope of the farmer. Profits are by competition reduced to a minimum, and it should be the aim of the farmer to produce as much of what he requires to eat and wear as possible. No farm, however large or small, is complete unless there is grown upon it almost every variety of vegetables adapted to the country and required for family consumption or for the markets. And every farm, large or small, should be well stocked. There should be sheep, cattle, horses, and there should be a more or less extensive poultry-yard, with ducks, geese, chickens and turkeys. In the fields should be grown every possible variety of grain. Then the farmer should save out for himself a sufficient supply; and something of nearly all that he raises should be reserved for the markets.

Do not be afraid to do things a little differently from the way they have been done, and do not hesitate to experiment, using, of course, judgment and common sense in whatever you do.

WITH the improvement of electric storage batteries, may be expected soon a very large increase in the use of one of the free forces of nature, the force of the wind. The idea of generating electricity

by windmills is not new. Many interesting and successful experiments have been made in this line, and the practicability of the idea fully demonstrated. For its general application, this idea has been waiting on the development of durable and efficient electric storage batteries of low cost. In view of the progress now being made in this line, it has not much longer to wait.

For utilizing a great but inconstant natural force, the perfected storage battery is the necessary complement of the windmill. It is the reservoir needed for storing up the power furnished in variable quantities at different times by the wind, and giving it forth in constant quantities whenever it is needed. With improved windmills, dynamos adapted to their very irregular speed, and reliable storage batteries, all of moderate cost, we will have an ideal combination of mechanical and electrical apparatus for controlling and utilizing the free force of the wind. Then, from the same source of supply can be drawn at will, power, light and heat. This combination will fill a large and growing demand for small, isolated plants for furnishing power, light and heat—plants of low cost and cheap maintenance. Through this combination we may soon see a large application of electricity to the farm. The field is certainly a broad and promising one for it.

IT is worth noticing that the two cities in which reform has taken deepest root are at the two extremes of our country—New York on the east and San Francisco on the west.

Adolph Sutro, who went to California in the early fifties, and made a fortune in trade, and then became interested in the Comstock Mine in Nevada, planning the great tunnel, stood against the corporation which has so long practically controlled not only the city of San Francisco, but the legislation of the state—the Southern Pacific Railway Company. The people have grown restless under the burdens of this mighty corporation. Adolph Sutro allowed his name to be used on the Populist ticket. Before his election he announced: "If placed in the mayor's chair, I shall endeavor to be just and fair to all, but the moment the aggressive corporations overstep the bounds of the law, I shall firmly oppose them; and if corrupt means are used, I shall in my official capacity endeavor to unearth and bring about an honest, businesslike and economical administration of the affairs of the city, and save enough of the fund to beautify the city, and thus give work to the unemployed."

With this as a key-note, he received 30,676 votes, five other candidates receiving a little more than 28,000. It is to be hoped that this election will prove the beginning of the rule of the people, instead of the rule of the Southern Pacific Railway Company.

THE world's production of gold for 1894 was unusually large. Reliable estimates make it over one hundred and seventy-five million dollars. This is an increase of twenty million dollars over the output in 1893. From 1883 to 1891 inclusive, the annual average production of gold in the United States was twenty-eight million dollars. For the year 1894 the output was forty-five million dollars. To improved processes and methods of treating ores and gold-bearing gravels is due some of the increased production.

THE triumph of Japan is a triumph of patriotism. In a contribution to the *Chautauquan*, Sir Edwin Arnold says: "The picture passing before our eyes of unbroken success on one side and helpless feebleness and failure on the other—which was numerically the stronger—is a lesson for the West, as well as the beginning of a new era in the East. It teaches, trumpet-tongued, how nations depend upon the inner national life, as the individual does upon his personal vitality.

"The system under which China has stagnated was secretly fatal to patriotism, loyalty, faith, manhood, public spirit and private self-respect. In Japan, on the contrary, these virtues, rooted anciently in her soil, have never ceased to blossom and produce the fruit that comes from a real, serious and sensible national unity. In the Chinese journals we read miserable accounts of corruption, defalcation, duties shirked and discipline replaced by terrible cruelty. Take up any Japanese newspaper of the present time and you will find reports of private subscriptions and donations sent in ship-loads to the army and navy; the Japanese men eager in the maintenance of their flag; the Japanese women volunteering for service in the field hospitals, or toiling at home to prepare comforts for their brave countrymen. * * *

"In fact, the whole land, from the emperor to the lowest ninsoku, or 'leg-man,' has been consolidated by one great heartbeat of national effort, and the consequence is that the vast, unwieldy, inarticulate mass of Chinese strength has gone down before the flag of Japan like rice before the harvest-knife."

ONE of our contributors, Mrs. H. M. Plunkett, calls attention to the fact that within the last half century there has been a great and general looking up, in England, of old bequests and legacies, and "doles"—gifts that were to be distributed in small amounts to different classes of needy persons. Some of them had fallen into desuetude through the changed conditions of life, in the intervening centuries; but the funds were still invested, and kept accumulating. All of which has been freshly brought to mind by the opening of the Bishopsgate Institute in England, a few weeks ago, in which it came out that the spacious library had been erected from a fund that had originally been intended to provide flannel petticoats for old women. There has had to be some process of law brought to bear before these funds could be released from the grip of what is known—and in England sometimes vividly felt—as the "dead hand." Some editorial remarks of the *Spectator* have a spicy flavor as it reviews the speech-making, etc.:

"Evidently, the legator was a person of kindly heart, but deficient circulation, and wished, good soul, that the poor women of his parish should never feel the tooth of the winter wind as long as his legacy should survive, and is now turning in his grave on discovering that he has become an incitement to desultory reading." And it continues: "In this case, the diversion of the legacy was most justifiable." But in pleading for great caution in diverting funds from their intended uses, it says: "A benevolent Dives of to-day will be inclined to pause before leaving a fund to be devoted to spreading of instruction in practical cookery, if he feels that his money is likely to be diverted, in the course of a few generations, to the provision of free flying-machines for indigent cripples!"

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Foreign Markets

With the embargo recently placed by Belgium on the importation of live cattle from the United States, practically all the markets of continental Europe have been closed against our live cattle and dressed beef. Pleuropneumonia is the ground alleged by the Belgian government for this action. Texas cattle-fever was the cause given for the closing of the German ports against our live beef. On the other hand, this action of European governments is considered a retaliatory measure against our discriminating tariff against their beet sugar.

Oleomargarine

In exposing the falsity of the claim that oleomargarine is just as digestible and wholesome as butter, *Hoard's Dairyman* says: "Butter melts in the human stomach at 89.6 to 94.49 degrees, and passes readily into pancreatic emulsion and digestion. As will be seen, that is at a point below the natural heat of the human body. There is no gastric or nervous strain necessary to expel it from the stomach, for it is a substance designed by nature for food in its own unchanged state. Oleomargarine melts at 105 to 108.32 degrees. The heat of the human body is not sufficient to emulsify it, and it remains a dead, inert substance, and causes severe nervous tension and a forced gastric action to expel it from the stomach."

The School of Veterinary Medicine

Of the Ohio State University, Columbus, is a state institution, in which seven professors and six assistants give thorough instruction in all branches of veterinary medicine and surgery. The requirements for admission are higher, the course of instruction more complete and more thorough, and the time required (three years, and each year nine months) longer, than in any other veterinary school or college in America. At the same time the expenses are much less. The term fees are only five dollars, and if one gets a free scholarship from the agricultural society of his county, even the term fees are not asked for. Free scholarships are given only to citizens of Ohio, and only one for each county. They hold good for two years. A diploma of the School of Veterinary Medicine of the Ohio State University is accepted by the state board of veterinary examiners in lieu of an examination.

Barn-yard Manure

Is the title of Farmers' Bulletin No. 21, published by the United States Department of Agriculture. "According to recent statistics, there are in the United States, in round numbers, 16,000,000 horses, 53,000,000 cattle, 45,200,000 hogs and 45,000,000 sheep. Experiments indicate that if these animals were kept in stalls and pens throughout the year and the manure carefully saved, the approximate value of the fertilizing constituents of the manure (both solid and liquid) produced by each horse annually would be \$27, by each head of cattle \$19, by each hog \$12, and by each sheep \$2." The total fertilizing value of all the manure produce, at these estimates, is \$2,071,400,000. The bulletin continues: "If we assume that one third of the value of manure is annually lost by present methods of management, and this estimate is undoubtedly a conservative one, the total annual loss from this source in the United States would be about \$690,466,000." Methods of management for preventing this enormous waste are clearly described in the bulletin, which may be obtained on application to the Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.

Smitten Florida.

The effects of the late unpleasantness in Florida are concisely and graphically described in the following letter:

January 1, 1895.

EDITOR FARM AND FIRESIDE:—Last week the newspapers of Florida were suggesting help from the South to the stricken inhabitants of Kansas and Nebraska. To-day, Florida's losses are greater than those of the states she would help. While there will be suffering, there will be no danger of starvation, or need of outside assistance. The loss by the cold of December 28th and 29th is estimated at from \$3,000,000 to \$5,000,000. Hardly an orange out of doors between Jacksonville and Key West was unfrozen or a winter vegetable garden undestroyed, or a pineapple-plant in the frost-proof regions that did not have the appearance of a visit of breath of flame. Young orange-trees, and some old ones, will have to begin life again from the ground. The grape-fruit, becoming so popular, suffered almost as badly as the lemon, the bark of the trees being split to the ground. The people are in a dazed condition, hardly realizing the extent of their loss, or yet knowing the extent of damage to their groves.

Almost two fifths of the orange crop had been gathered in this place, and probably one half in the whole state.

The danger of a glut in the northern markets is avoided for this year and the next, and probably the year after. Those who have the means and the nerve to stand by their smitten trees will probably find that their recuperative power in this ordinarily unparalled climate will in two years bring them golden returns. The truckers are telegraphing for seed, and will have vegetables in the northern markets before the departure of the ice king.

One man on Friday was offered \$4,200 for his crop, but would not sell for less than \$4,500. On Saturday he would have taken forty-five cents. Mr. White, of Citra, the proprietor of the Harris grove, had 50,000 boxes on his trees. Not one was saved.

There is a hejira of orange buyers and fertilizer sellers from the state. The loss will be felt most severely by the army of laborers thrown out of employment who were dependent for their living upon the labor of their hands.

Interlachen, Fla. GEO. W. HASTINGS.

NOTES ON RURAL AFFAIRS.

To Prevent the Washing Away of Soils.

A sudden heavy rainfall sometimes does considerable damage to some kinds of sloping lands, by cutting deep gullies, and washing a share of the top soil away into ditches and creeks, or upon the lands below. I have often been asked how such washes can be prevented, or how the gullies can be filled out again and secured against a repetition of the accident. Farmers' Bulletin No. 20, issued by the United States Department of Agriculture, gives some interesting information on this subject, and people especially interested in it should send for a copy.

The cause of these washings is plain enough. When rain and snow waters cannot sink fast enough into the subsoil, to be carried away by the underdrainage, and have to run off over a sloping surface, particles of sand and clay are carried along,

wearing away the surface soil, and wherever this water accumulates in a depression in the field, the force of the stream or torrent may be sufficient to cut out a deep gully in a short space of time. "The extent of washing," says the bulletin, "to which the soil is exposed depends upon the quantity of rainfall in a given time, the slope or contour of the surface, the texture of the soil, the vegetative covering of the surface, and the kind and condition of cultivation. A soil composed chiefly of moderately coarse grains of sand, and having good underdrainage, will absorb the heaviest rainfall without much danger of surface erosion. A clay soil, on the other hand, into which the water cannot percolate with anything like the rapidity of the precipitation, will be washed and gullied by the torrent of water which must flow over the surface.

I have never seen much damage done, even by the heaviest rains, and on considerable slope, to good, well-cultivated, loose loams resting on porous subsoils. The sloping fields which one comes across occasionally, all cut up by deep gullies and utterly ruined for cultivation, were invariably poor, poorly cultivated, and therefore closed-up clays, which afforded little opportunity for the rain-water to sink to and into the subsoil, and find a way of escape through natural or artificial drainage. Among the most practicable means of preventing washes may be named the following: 1. Application of manures and fertilizers, and accumulation of organic matter, which change the texture of the soil and make it more porous, and more absorbent of water, so that there is less to run off over the surface. 2. Cultivation and underdrainage, which prevent erosion by distributing the surface flow over the ground and increase the amount carried off by the underdrainage. 3. Planting of trees which act mechanically to prevent washing. 4. Growing grass or similar vegetation which bind the soil grains and prevent their washing away.

Reclaiming Gullied Soils.

The bulletin above mentioned speaks of the old method of recovering washed and gullied lands by placing straw in the furrows while plowing. The straw not only acts mechanically to hold the soil in place, and prevent surface erosion, but it also increases the quantity of humus, thus making the soil hold large quantities of water which otherwise would have passed off over the surface. In this simple way fields which have been badly washed and gullied, and entirely abandoned, may be recovered and made highly productive.

"The most important thing in the recovery of waste fields is the incorporation of organic matter of some kind into the soil; pea-vines, stubble, briars, or leaves from the forest may be used as a source of the organic matter. The straw from one acre of land which has been recovered, as mentioned above, will be sufficient to start the recovery of another acre, even if this be deeply furrowed with gullies. Where enough organic matter can be used as a surface dressing, this layer helps greatly to retain water, and to make the underlying soil more absorbent." After the quality of the soil has thus been improved, the next thing in order is seeding to grass or clover, if the land is at all suited to these crops. Rye, oats or field-peas may also be sown to help hold the surface. It is plainly of great importance that the soil be covered with vegetation as much as possible throughout the year, as the roots and organic matter serve to bind the grains of the soil together.

Underdrainage a Remedy.

While a field in a condition of fine tilth, and plowed to a depth of ten inches, may hold two inches of rainfall, and absorb it very readily, and therefore suffer no surface washing from any ordinary rainfall, we often have continued rains or downpours lasting several days, that give us several times two inches of water, and will fill any soil, which gives little or no chance for the surplus water to escape through the subsoil, to overflowing. Wherever the subsoil does not allow water to pass through it quite readily, underdrains are a thing of absolute necessity. Their efficacy, when properly constructed, in almost any emergency, is undeniable. The great trouble with many drains, not only in soils liable to surface washes, but everywhere, is that there are not enough of them, or that they are not properly

made. Many drains put down with considerable cost cease to work as they should after they have done good service a very few years. When constructed in a proper manner, they should last for generations. Underdraining a farm requires considerable outlay and labor. A person who is not familiar with all the details of the work, or knows nothing about the underlying principles, has no business to go at it without the help of an expert, or at least without the information that the perusal and study of a good work on drainage (say "Draining for Profit and Health," by Waring) will give him. The experience which the practical work of draining a farm, without previous knowledge of the business, will give to a farmer, is usually very expensive.

A large number of our "drained" fields are only half drained. In a wet time I can see water standing on many of the fields all around me, although the claim is made for them that they are underlaid with tile-drains (the soil being a clay loam resting on clay). The fact is that the drains are not half closely enough together to take care of the rain and snow water in a wet time. And yet many of these half-drained lands are expected to produce crops that bring in many times what ordinary farm crops do. There are pear and plum and peach and apple orchards where the trees are having wet feet for weeks at a time. Who would expect them to do their best? Such crops should be given every possible chance, for the expense of thorough drainage may be more than repaid in a single good crop. Draining such lands in the most thorough manner, in fact, is always one of the best investments which a farmer can make. He who desires to make farming pay will surely not be liable to succeed so long as he neglects to have every acre that needs it thoroughly underdrained, thus enabling him to make the most of his opportunities.

Once more I wish to refer to the bulletin. It also tells us that a soil containing a fair supply of lime is much less liable to wash than one similarly situated and exposed which is deficient in lime.

We will be content to know this to be the fact, even if we care little what the reason or the philosophy of the phenomenon may be (although this also is stated in the bulletin). The interesting facts seem to be as follows: "A stiff clay soil is practically impervious to the penetration of surface water when it is delivered in such torrents as we are liable to have in our summer storms. A well-limed soil, on the contrary, although it may contain as much clay, but in which the particles are flocculated, or drawn together, is much more pervious to water, and the amount of water which the soil will carry down through underdrainage is increased, and the excess which has to flow off over the surface is diminished. The surface washing of cultivated fields, especially those which are naturally deficient in lime, can be greatly diminished, therefore, by the free application of lime to them." Score another, and a strong point, for lime as an application to soils of a clayey character.

A Free Delivery Scheme.

I believe that the rural districts will have to rely somewhat on self-help. If they are impressed with the great benefits to be derived from free-mail delivery, and anxious to furnish means to secure them, why look to the government to furnish them at public expense? Each neighborhood can easily arrange this matter. Six neighbors, for instance, may agree among themselves to go to the post-office each one on a certain day of the week, or to furnish a messenger on that day, to get and distribute the mails.

The writer already mentioned proposes the following scheme, and it does not seem to be an impracticable one: "Let Congress enact free delivery to all the people living along the stage routes who will put up the necessary boxes with their names printed on them, and when these routes are advertised for letting, let it be stipulated that these bids for transporting the mails must include the free delivery of the local mail belonging to each individual into these roadside boxes, by the contractor or his agent." Something like this would be a great convenience to the people affected by it, but it would not help those on back roads, except they put a big box on the regular route, and send for its contents as often as may be desired. T. GREINER.

Our Farm.

THE WINTER'S FUEL.

The QUESTION of fuel for heating and cooking purposes is one of no small importance to the farmer, especially in localities where the supply is obtained from the forests. Where one stove is in use every day of the three hundred and sixty-five in each year, and where one or two extra heaters are in use seven months out of every twelve, with one or more additional stoves to be fired up on frequent occasions, the wood consumed during the year represents quite a number of trees, and required considerable of muscle to fell, cut, split, haul and rack away in the wood-house, there to be in readiness for the demands of the cook, or of the severities of winter's chilling blasts. With many farmers the full force of the adage, "Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof," is especially noticeable in the matter of fuel, for each day's supply is cut as necessity requires, and new logs are hauled in from the forest as the old ones disappear. The wood-house is a useless superfluity where this method is in vogue, and should one exist, it is in danger of coming into "innocuous desuetude." It is no unusual thing to hear the woodman's ax in musical accents at all hours of the night, when the belated farmer, weary from his toil, cuts the wood for the morning fires by the light of his lantern. As a rule, the wood in such cases is either green or water-soaked, and requires much patience in keeping up the fires, while much more is consumed, because a portion is burned in drying the remainder. It is claimed, however, that such wood makes a hotter fire, because of the additional heat derived from the steam generated. The more provident farmer, however, prefers to have his fuel prepared from six months to a year in advance of his needs, in order that it may become sufficiently dry to burn without constant coaxing. Where there is help employed by the year, much of the winter is spent in cutting and racking the wood, and a year's supply is usually in good burning condition. Some prefer to split the wood in six-foot to twelve-foot lengths, when these, with the limbs or branches, together with the saplings, are hauled together, and a buzz-saw is run by steam-power to cut up the sticks into stove lengths. A large amount of fuel may be cut in this way, but it requires five or six hands to perform the work to advantage; and unless it is split up in a short time, it requires more exertion on the part of the workman to perform the work well. The old method of heating each room by separate stoves is yet in use in many sections of the country, and calls for much unnecessary fuel and consequent labor in keeping up the fires and cleaning up the dust, bark and ash. It is better and more convenient, as well as more economical, to arrange the house with double doors and registers, so as to heat the entire house with one or two stoves. While still more convenient and cleanly to heat with a hot-air or steam furnace, it cannot be said to be more economical on the average, unless it is desired to keep the entire house warmed at all times. Were we building again, I think we would certainly place a furnace in the basement; but as now arranged, we heat the house of ten rooms with two stoves, and find such an arrangement very satisfactory, and at the same time economical. The fuel is cut one or two years in advance, from timber which would otherwise go to waste. It is racked up in the forest, where it gets well dried, and when hauled to the wood-house in the fall of the year, it is again racked up to economize space. The open fires in the old-fashioned fireplaces, so familiar in farmers' homes in our boyhood, can never be excelled for healthfulness and cheerfulness, but it is a burdensome task to provide fuel for such a fire. The growing scarcity of timber demands economy in its use. The open fires of our grandfathers are no longer seen, yet many stoves are so constructed as to consume almost as much wood, without affording the cheer and comfort of the old fireplace. The stove that permits the heat and smoke to ascend the chimney without any interruption cannot be expected to heat a room economically. Yet only a small per cent of the heating-stoves in farmers' houses have any dampers, and I have known them to be taken out where they did exist. To illustrate their value, an instance may be

related: Two years ago a poor family dependent upon the township was placed in my charge. It required three cords of wood the first week. I placed a damper in the stovepipe, after which one cord of wood gave better results. Here was a difference of four dollars per week. Those who must purchase their fuel, or those who do not admire the task of preparing it, will do well to remember this fact.

JOHN L. SHAWVER.

Shady Nook Farm.

SUGGESTIONS FOR FARMERS.

The city-bred youth, although possessing many advantages over his country cousin, misses much that is really enjoyable by being confined in the limited and smoky areas of the city.

Although for many years the writer has lived in the city, yet the memory of his boyhood days spent among the green hills and mossy glens of his father's farm, still forms a bright spot of fond associations. The tinkle of cow-bells, the smell of the clover, the chirrup of the squirrel, the drumming of the partridge, heard on some bright autumn morning, are sounds which awaken memories of loving interest.

Although many disadvantages are connected with life in the country, yet there are many advantages and pleasures which far outweigh the comforts of the average city dweller.

Fresh, pure, sunny air, contentment and a love of nature should be the heritage of every farmer. But how many do we find discontented and discouraged, and longing to leave the old homestead and make their home within the precincts of some town?

Although by circumstances removed from farm associations, nothing gives me more pleasure than a visit to some prosperous farmer at his pleasant home, and discuss with him the possibilities of this grand old occupation.

I do love to meet a prosperous farmer—one who is not burdened with debt and growing more so each succeeding year—a man who loves his occupation and also is master of the situation.

Of course, we must expect to meet failures among farmers as well as other occupations. Not every man who engages in business makes a success of the undertaking. But the man who likes his work, and strives to excel, can generally manage to secure independence in almost any walk in life.

Now, farming is a business of varied character and minute details, and requires experience, tact, education and properly directed effort in more directions than one. The farmer must be informed on the care and breeding of live stock, on the successful raising of crops, on the best method of marketing his products and the buying of his supplies. All these matters are important, and require training and executive ability in order to make farming a successful venture from a business standpoint.

I have in mind a man who was brought up in a town and knew nothing experimentally of farm life, but who a few years ago bought a rough and stony farm from which the former owner could barely eke out an existence, and to-day he is making money. When asked of his success, he said that all his knowledge was gained through books and the agricultural press. By reading these he got the best and latest ideas of other men who were engaged in farming, and had attained success in the business, and by following their advice, modified by good judgment to meet his particular case, he had become prosperous, and was looked up to with respect and admiration by his neighbors.

This man is intelligent, and uses his brains; he thinks and plans. But many men who have been born and bred on farms follow the traditions of bygone generations. They do a thing because their fathers used to do the same thing, and this of itself is sufficient reason why it is right that they should do it. To follow the advice of the agricultural writer they would not; they are prejudiced in their views, and do not look at the reason of things. They forget that the times are far different from what they were fifty years ago, and that things are continually changing, and in many cases for the better.

Farmers, as a rule, are too much given to grumbling, and are fond of drawing unfavorable comparisons with themselves and men in other professions and occupations. They seemingly forget that other men have trials quite as cumbersome as themselves.

Now, looking the matter over from an unbiased standpoint, we are inclined to

think that the farmer does not have such a hard time of it after all. He certainly has less cause of complaint than he had a generation ago. The times have greatly changed from what they were fifty, or even twenty-five or ten years ago. This is an age of great improvements and advancement; it is also an age of unparalleled prosperity. That the farmer receives his proportion of gain from the general welfare of the age no one can well deny.

Take, for instance, the gradual reduction in price of the articles in common use. It is a well-known fact that many manufactured articles have decreased in value from fifty to seventy-five per cent from what they were a generation ago.

While in some instances farm products may be lower now than ever before, yet the decrease in price has not been in as great a proportion as the reduction in the goods which the farmer is compelled to buy. He can buy a buggy to-day for less than one half what he could buy it for fifteen years ago, and other things almost equally as low. Now, is not this a great benefit to the farmer?

Merchants and manufacturers are everywhere lamenting that the margin of profit is being reduced by keen and sharp competition, so that it only means a survival of those firms which are best able to cope with the exigencies of the times by ample capital and well-trained ability or natural shrewdness. The learned professions are filled to overflowing, so that the rank and file of the doctors, lawyers, etc., barely make a decent living; but competition in the farming industry is unknown. Farm lands can be bought to-day cheaper than ever before, and the number of men anxious to engage in the business is comparatively small. Yet we are confronted by the fact of many deserted farms, and people who say that "farming don't pay."

Yes, it is true that farming does not pay in a great many instances, but the fault is not with the business; it lies in the man. Many men who fail to keep afloat and pay their way at farming, fail because they have not the ability to manage. They are not lazy, and work hard year in and year out, but every year only leaves them farther in debt than the previous year. If they would quit work for themselves, and go to work for some man who has the ability to manage, they would make fair wages and be happier; but too many men are too anxious to govern and refuse to serve. While it requires brains to govern wisely and well, it does not require the same qualities of mind to faithfully obey orders.

While we do not wish to discourage any man who may be a farmer and in debt, yet if we may be allowed to give a little advice, we would say that if he is in debt, and is not bettering his condition, but rather getting more in debt each year, we say he is a wise man if he gets out of it and goes at something by which he can make even a fair living and pay as he goes. But if the farmer, although he may be in debt, is making progress, then let him learn the methods of the best and most successful men in the business, and study to improve, and in nine cases out of ten success will crown his efforts.

G. H. BURNETT.

TIMELY ATTENTIONS TO THE FLOCKS.

Continuity is not a strong American characteristic, especially with sheep raisers. The history of the industry in this country has been so unsettled, vacillating and precarious, depending upon circumstances, political crookedness and adverse legislations, that flockmen have not engaged in the business with the steadfastness that characterizes other farm industries. There have always been a few who enlisted for life and staid true to their faith and flocks, but they are the exception, and not the rule. It is quite noticeable that flockmen are showing more faith in sheep at this time than was to have been expected under such circumstances as now surround the business. This is very encouraging, and augurs well for the future of sheep farming.

The American sheep raiser can do much for himself this winter by giving his sheep the closest attention. The ewes are now in lamb and snugly in their winter quarters. The FARM AND FIRESIDE would suggest that no pains be spared in keeping the flock in the most perfect and vigorous health. The lambs will come in with strong vitality, the ewes will have milk in abundant supply, the fleeces will be well grown, and therefore strong, even and good, desirable to sell or hold for a better price than may prevail next spring. While

this latter is not the only thing wool growers can and should do, it is too important to be omitted, and will in the end be regarded as the sound policy and good practice. It would be regarded as weak and unworthy of the general sympathy shown by the friends of protection to fail in judicious flock management. It is expected that we who keep sheep should not fail in anything that favors the perpetuity of flocks. It is a close struggle for existence, but it is a rare opportunity to show the faith felt in sheep raising. To fail now would be a shame and a reproach to the sheepmen of the United States.

The losses are not apparent that accrue from the present disturbance, so unnecessarily and cruelly thrust upon the country, but farther on it will be seen that millions of dollars are swept out of existence, years of labor are lost, millions of sheep are gone, and millions will not be raised that would have been but for the threats of free trade. When these things are past there will appear a fearful shrinkage of flock; and when matters are adjusted, as we feel certain they will be, there will be a demand for sheep not known to the younger men of this generation. Then will appear the beneficent results of giving the strictest business attention to the flock now.

R. M. BELL.

PICKED POINTERS.

"The man who will take this paper a year, and read and profit by the information it supplies, will save more money than it would take to buy a yearling steer." There is nothing truer. Ask any farmer who has read a good agricultural paper for a year if he would take a yearling steer for what he had learned from it, and the answer would be no. Papers are very cheap. The egg product of one hen would pay the subscription to one or two first-rate farm papers. Raise one more hen.

"Sheep need water every day in the year. They drink but little at a time, and often. Give them water, even if they can get snow to eat." This "pointer" points the wrong way. I have handled sheep a great many years, always keep good ones, and my experience is that if they can get clean snow, they will not travel thirty rods to running water, even if the path is a good one. I shall never take any pains to provide water for sheep when they can get clean snow. They do just as well without water.

Western papers are lamenting the ravages of hog-cholera. Let everyone breed right, feed right, and cholera will disappear.

The fore part of every winter many agricultural papers teem with advice to farmers to cook certain foods for animals. This has continued, to my knowledge, for thirty years, and yet no greater proportion of animal food is cooked now than formerly. Many have added more or less expensive cooking apparatus, only to abandon it after a trial. Cooking adds nothing to animal food; it only makes some kinds of it more digestible. The benefit derived is of so little value that, as a rule, the fast-going Yankee will not tie himself to the necessary drudgery of cooking for brutes.

GALEN WILSON.

KEEPING SEED POTATOES.

When Irish potatoes are pitted, or "hilled up," for seed, they can be kept entirely free from sprouting by covering the hill with a good mulching of stable manure, put on about a foot in depth, when the ground is frozen. This mulching keeps the ground from thawing out in spring, and the potatoes are kept in a cool condition, and will not sprout. If the mulching is put on when the ground is not frozen, the potatoes will get too warm and start to grow at once. I covered some with sawdust one winter, and the green tops were out of the hill before I had my ground broken. On the same principle I mulch my peach and plum trees when the ground is frozen. This keeps them from blooming too early, and they escape the spring frosts. The mulch should be drawn away about blooming-time, or a little earlier, to allow the ground to warm, and then if the ground is not cultivated, scatter it under the trees again, as far out as the limbs extend, to keep the weeds from growing.

Indiana.

ELI HEATON.

Scrofulous Taints

Lurk in the blood of almost every one. In many cases they are inherited. Scrofula appears in running sores, bunches, pimples and cancerous growths. Scrofula can be cured by purifying the blood with

Hood's Sarsaparilla Cures

Hood's Sarsaparilla. This great remedy has had wonderful success in curing this disease. It thoroughly eradicates the humor from the blood. Hood's Sarsaparilla cures the sores and eruptions by removing their cause—impurities in the blood.

Hood's Pills cure all liver ills. 25c.

Our Farm.

NOTES FROM GARDEN AND FIELD.

CLEAN CULTIVATION.—"Any crop which requires very clean cultivation, as, for example, cotton, is exhaustive to the land, for the reason that constant exposure of the surface to the sun and storms uses up the organic matter, makes the soil less porous, and the soil particles themselves are more easily washed away." This paragraph is quoted from Farmers' Bulletin No. 20, and it is quite suggestive indeed.

Clean cultivation can be carried to excess, and then it has its penalties. It used to be, and in some districts may be yet, a practice to leave a field without crop (summer fallow) during spring and summer, and then put it in winter wheat. With the exception of the weeds that sprung up, the ground was bare and exposed to the full force of the sun in the fore part of the season. It was thought that this practice gave the soil "a rest," and fitted it all the better for the production of a good crop of wheat. But many of the old dogmas have been proven erroneous, and among them that of the summer fallow. We don't want the bare ground at any time if we can help it. Of course, we cannot always help it. Clean cultivation is essential for many crops, and while the plants are small, the surface will necessarily be more or less exposed to sun and storms. The sooner that we can cover it with thrifty vegetation, the better for the land. During the warmer part of the season, the sun seems to burn the life right out of bare soil. Decomposition, favored by warmth, takes place all the time. Plant-foods become available, but there are no plant roots to take hold of them and hold them fast. The loss may be slow, but it is continual. The protective cover of vegetation is sadly needed. The disadvantages of clean cultivation, however, disappear as the cultivated plants grow large, and provide at least partial shade. When you examine the shaded soil under bushes or plants, you will find it moist and rich looking. You can see that there is some life in it.

The lessons to be drawn from all this are plain enough. Let us not imagine that we do a favor to our garden by "resting it." On the contrary, the best treatment that we can give it is cropping it closely; that is, planting another crop just as soon as the preceding one is taken off, and planting all the crops as closely as practicable and compatible with the full development of each crop. The details of this plan and aim must be worked out by each gardener to suit his individual circumstances, but the results to be secured thereby are so desirable that the subject well deserves considerable thought and study.

Some of our garden crops start up quickly and come to maturity in a comparatively short time. Among these we have lettuce, cresses, bunch onions, small table beets, perhaps snap-beans and peas, and especially radishes. These quick-maturing crops can often be wedged in between the rows of other later crops that require more space, but start up slowly at first, and take longer time for growth. I invariably make my first sowings of radishes and cresses between the rows of the early cabbages and cauliflower, and later on between pepper or egg-plants, late cabbages, etc. No separate space is ever devoted to the radish crop in my garden. Radishes are simply used as a filling garden.

In the cucumber, melon and squash patches, much valuable space is usually left idle, and therefore sun-exposed all during the fore part of the season, and perhaps up to nearly August, when the vines begin to cover the ground. This is an unnecessary waste and disadvantage. The space can just as well be utilized for the production of an early crop of smooth peas, which come off in June, or early potatoes, which come off in July, or perhaps early cabbage, lettuce, spinach, table beets, snap-beans, etc. The cucumber, melon or squash plants, especially if started in strawberry-baskets, or on inverted sods, can be planted in the rows devoted to them right between the early crops still standing, where they will be all the more secure from insect attacks.

Horse-radish sets may be planted between the rows of early cabbages and cauliflower, kept down by ordinary good cultivation until the cabbages are harvested, and then allowed to grow. It will take but a little while after the cabbage crop is off until the ground is again covered with thrifty growth, which remains as a covering for the soil until late fall. Even the space between the grape rows may be utilized and protected by having a row of currants, gooseberries or strawberries between each two rows of grapes.

Of course, there are many other ways in which we can "kill two birds with one stone;" namely, make the best possible use of every inch of space, and at the same time keep the ground covered with vegetation as much as is practicable and profitable. To find such ways and practice them is the task which every good gardener has to perform for himself.

MULCH VERSUS CULTIVATION.—Sometimes we can make a good mulch of strawy manure or other coarse litter take the place of clean cultivation. Such a mulch serves the soil in two, and perhaps in three ways: It keeps the soil clean, moist and open; it protects it, and saves its "life," by shading, and perhaps adds to its store of plant-foods by means of the rains and dews which leach the most soluble parts out and carry them down into the soil to feed the plants. I have frequently employed mulching materials in this way, and always with such gratifying results that I think I shall make use of them much more freely hereafter. For several seasons I have carted the fresh strawy manure, collected during the early spring months, upon the early potato-patch, spreading it evenly between the rows and around the plants. Last year I also mulched my Carman No. 1 potatoes in this way. The rains wash the soluble elements down into the soil, and the litter on top is washed clean, so that you can walk between the rows as on a clean carpet. The soil underneath remains moist even during a prolonged drought, and the few weeds which manage to break through the mulch can easily be pulled up by hand. The yield, under this treatment, is uniformly large. I believe that when straw can be had for a few dollars a ton, it would pay well to use it for mulching potatoes, especially early ones which we expect to ripen at a time when potatoes are worth about double the price of ordinary fall potatoes.

Another place where I find a mulch to be of especial service, is the early celery-patch. There, however, I prefer to use fine manure, even if rather fresh. For this purpose I try to get the sweepings of the blacksmith-shop, and horse manure almost entirely free from litter, as I can get it from some stables near by at thirty cents a one-horse load. The plants in the early celery-patch (White Plume) stand in rows ten inches apart, and half that distance apart in the rows. The fine manure is put on between the rows, three or four inches deep. I have always been pleased with the results, and urge my friends to try the virtues of such mulching materials in their own gardens. T. GREINER.

Orchard and Small Fruits.

CONDUCTED BY SAMUEL B. GREEN.

THE QUESTION-BOX.

QUESTION:—Is it a good plan to manure currant-bushes?

ANSWER:—In order to have currants do their best, they need plenty of manure and high cultivation.

QUESTION:—When do you cover grapes for winter?

ANSWER:—About the twentieth of October. They should always be pruned before being covered.

QUESTION:—Is June a good time to cut out young stalks from the currant-bushes?

ANSWER:—No; for the plants are then loaded with fruit. They should be cut out in the autumn or early in the spring.

QUESTION:—When is the best time to plant grapes, in the fall or in the spring?

ANSWER:—Grapes should always be planted in the spring. Fall-planted grapes are very apt to be winter-killed, even if well protected.

QUESTION:—Is it necessary to mulch fruit-trees?

ANSWER:—It is not absolutely necessary if the ground around them is kept thoroughly stirred all summer and never allowed to crust over. But it is an ex-

cellent plan in dry locations, and under ordinary circumstances in the West it is very desirable.

QUESTION:—When is the best time to cut out old cane?

ANSWER:—The old canes should be cut out soon after the fruit has matured.

QUESTION:—What is the matter with a plum-tree which blooms every year, but never bears fruit? The tree stands alone.

ANSWER:—It is possibly because the tree is deficient in pollen or has weak pistils. The planting of some other good variety near by it will perhaps help it to bear fruit.

QUESTION:—What is the reason grapevines die when they are well buried in winter?

ANSWER:—This trouble is not common except in very severe locations, and in dry winters. It can generally be prevented by mulching the vines heavily after covering them with the earth.

QUESTION:—Will straw or manure do to keep grass away from trees?

ANSWER:—Yes; a mulch of straw or manure is excellent for this purpose, and also to help retain the moisture in the soil. If hot manure is to be used, care should be taken to keep it away from the trunk of the tree until it is cooled off.

QUESTION:—Is it a good plan to allow the currants to hang on the bushes after they are ripe?

ANSWER:—For home use there is no objection to this practice, but if the berries are to be marketed, they will sell much better if they are picked when barely ripe, as at this time they jelly quicker than when fully ripe.

QUESTION:—Can we raise good gooseberries on about the same plan as currants?

ANSWER:—Yes; but in order to get good-sized fruit from gooseberries, about one half of the growth made each year should be cut off. This is really a thinning process, and results in the bush bearing less fruit, but in this fruit being larger than it would be if the bush was not pruned. The best varieties of gooseberries are the Houghton Seedling and Downing.

QUESTION:—How early should we uncover raspberries in the spring?

ANSWER:—Uncover them as soon as the weather is settled. Be sure to uncover them before the buds start very much. If they are left covered until the buds start, be very careful in uncovering them that the work is done on a clouded day, and in mild weather. Do not uncover them when in this state if there is a dry wind or any danger of frost, for they are very tender at this time.

QUESTION:—When is the proper time to cover strawberries for the winter?

ANSWER:—Any time in the latter part of autumn or early in winter. I make it a practice to cover my strawberry beds as soon after the time when the ground is frozen hard enough to bear up a team that I can get to it. But if there is a snow in the early part of the winter, the covering of the strawberries may be delayed toward spring; but it is very important to have this covering on during the early spring months, as the plants suffer most seriously from the freezing and thawing of that season.

QUESTION:—How should currants be pruned?

ANSWER:—Currants should be pruned slightly every year. This should consist of taking out the old and weak wood. When many suckers are produced, the weakest of them should be taken out, and only the strongest ones left to grow. Old wood seldom bears good fruit, and it much improves the plant to have this cut out. The wood that has currant-borers should also be cut out. It will generally appear of a darker color than the rest. Pruning should be done either in the autumn or in the spring, and the wood that is cut out should be burned, to kill the borers, as they remain in the canes over winter.

QUESTION:—How often should blackberries be cared for?

ANSWER:—Blackberries should be set with the rows seven feet apart. They should have at least two feet of mulch on either side, and the cultivator should be kept going in the space between the mulchings; and this should never be allowed to crust over, but should be cultivated at least after every rain. They may also be grown by heavily mulching all the land between the rows, and when grown this way they require no stirring of the land whatever. They should, however, in some sections, be laid down in autumn and covered with soil or mulch. In laying them down, care should be taken not to bend them in the cane, but in the

roots. If bent in the cane, they are very apt to be broken; but they will bend very easily in the roots.

QUESTION:—Is mulching of much benefit in the management of currants?

ANSWER:—It is certainly a very excellent practice to mulch currants. They should be mulched so heavily near the plants that no grass or weeds can grow there. The space between the rows may be kept cultivated besides, or all the ground may be mulched. I think it rather best to mulch near the plants and leave a suitable space to cultivate between the rows. This saves all hand labor.

QUESTION:—What is the reason that gooseberries and currants fall off before they are ripe? What can be done for them?

ANSWER:—This trouble may be due to several causes. It is found in general practice that where the soil is well cultivated and the bushes have plenty of room, there is the least danger from this trouble.

QUESTION:—How do you cover raspberries for the winter?

ANSWER:—To cover raspberries easily three men are needed. Begin at the north end of the rows, loosen the soil a little on the north side of the canes with a fork or spade, and grasping an armful of tops, pull them to the north, bending them all the time in the roots, and bend them to the ground, where they are held in place by being covered with a little mulch, upon which is put a spadeful or so of soil. The next hill is laid down with its head close to the butt of the preceding one, and so on, until all are covered. When all are down, the parts of the cane exposed may be covered heavily with a mulch or with soil. Where mulch is plentiful, covering with mulch is the easiest method.

QUESTION:—What would you consider the best time to prune apple-trees, and at what age of the tree?

ANSWER:—The pruning of an apple-tree should begin when it is very young, and if attended to each year, but very little pruning will be needed. When an apple-tree is in a condition that it needs a large amount of pruning, it is a certain sign that it has been neglected in its early years. When there is only a small amount of wood to be taken off the trees, probably June is the best month of the year in which to do it, as the wounds heal very quickly at that season. But if a large amount of wood is to be taken off, it had better be done after the growth of the season is finished—say in October—or it may be done very early in the spring, but should never be done just as the tree is starting into growth, for if pruned at this season, the wounds are very apt to cause decayed spots in the trees. All wounds over three fourths of an inch in diameter should be covered with wax or paint.

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INQUIRIES ANSWERED.

BY SAMUEL B. GREEN.

Sunrise Apple.—M. P. Adell, Wis. I do not know anything about the Sunrise apple, and should be very glad to hear from any one who has tried it, as to its quality.

Apple Pomace for Mulching Trees.—C. P. S. Eaton Rapids, Mich. Have never used old pomace for mulching, but I believe it would be perfectly safe to do so. If well rotted, it should be of some value as a fertilizer.

Grafting the Chestnut on the Oak.—F. H. K., Hillhurst, Wash. It is reported on pretty good authority that the chestnut succeeds moderately well when grafted on the white oak, but I have never seen it done. I think that probably the Oregonian's scheme for grafting all his white-oak grubs to chestnuts is based on but a very short experience. In my opinion, while they might grow thus grafted, they would be liable to break at the point of union, and would prove a very poor investment. If you want to raise chestnuts and do not want to move the grubs, plant chestnut seedlings among the grubs and mulch them with brush or hay sufficient to keep the grass down. Thus treated, the trees will soon get good tap-roots in the subsoil, which has been made loose by the deep roots of the oaks, and in a short time become large trees that will be able to shade out the grass. Such trees will be long-lived and profitable. If you want to try grafting the grubs, you had better select those of smallest size; cut them off square and insert the scions in the edges of the grubs by cutting a V-shaped groove through the bark and a little way into the wood. Cut scions to fit, using care to have the inner bark of scion and grub come together; hind tightly into place and cover the same as recommended for apple grafts. I think it quite likely that you would get better results by inserting the scions into roots a few inches below the surface. This would bring the union below ground, where it would probably do best; and roots of small or medium size could be used that would work easier than the stumps. Still another very good way is to cut the grubs in winter and graft on the sprouts one year from the following spring.

MAKING, SAVING AND APPLYING MANURE.

This is a subject of especial interest to many who, like the writer, have felt the necessity of looking after the manure crop each year as closely as any other annual product of value from the farm. The hope of the individual farmer rests to-day upon his ability to have his farm in a highly productive condition so that a given amount of labor and other expense will make greater returns to him than upon average farms. He studies all the questions connected with the increase of soil fertility with a keen relish, and stable manures are regarded as one of the important factors with which he must deal. To what extent should one go in trying to increase the store of barn-yard manure, how should it be handled, and where applied? These are questions upon which there is a wide variation of opinion, and a recent bulletin by the United States Department of Agriculture, dealing with the subject, will prove valuable to many. I wish to comment upon some of its statements in the light of my own farm experience.

"A well-kept manure heap may be safely taken as one of the surest indications of thrift and success in farming," says the bulletin. Is not this every reader's observation? The snug, tidy farm that is making a good living for its owner is almost sure to have provision for making and taking care of a good lot of manure. Some of our farmers of foreign birth are more careful in this respect than most Americans. Especially is this true of the Germans. Coming from an old country whose land has long since lost its first store of fertility and is now kept fertile by the management of man, these men often buy run-down farms at a low price, and soon have them in productive condition. They depend chiefly upon two things, green manures and stable manure. All refuse is converted into manure, and a "well-kept manure heap" is their pride. Right here is a lesson for Americans.

According to a bulletin of the Cornell station, the manure from a 1,000-pound horse, fed liberally, and given sufficient bedding to keep him clean, is worth \$27.74 a year, calculating the fertilizing constituents on the same basis employed in valuing commercial fertilizers. This will seem very high to many readers, but they must remember that the figures represent the value of all the manure made, none being wasted in the year by leaching or evaporation, and the manual value of the bedding being also included. It will pay to stop and consider three points: 1. This sum represents only the commercial value of the nitrogen, phosphoric acid and potash contained in the manure, while we know that barn-yard manure has another value of importance; namely, its mechanical effect upon soils. This is supposed to be nearly as great as the actual fertilizing value. 2. On the other hand, barn-yard manures require heavy work in handling, the distribution over the field is not so perfect as that of commercial fertilizers, and a portion of the plant-food is not in so quickly available form. 3. The valuation put by chemists upon the three leading elements of plant-food is higher than we have to pay for them in the best brands of chemicals.

A 1,000-pound horse, liberally fed and properly bedded, makes about 12½ tons of fresh manure a year. The valuation per ton is \$2.21. Now, it is a question of individual judgment as to how far the mechanical effect of barn-yard manures upon a soil will offset the cost of labor in handling it, and the excessive valuation of the various fertilizing constituents. This depends upon the soil, upon the need of fertilizer, and upon the price of crop grown with it. Where it pays to buy plant-food in commercial fertilizers, if soils are in need of humus, as nearly all soils are, I take it that the value of a ton here given should not be reduced over 30 per cent, leaving the actual value in the stall of a ton of fresh manure from a horse fully \$1.50. If an average farm-horse be kept in the stable 7-12 of his time, and if all the liquid as well as solid manure is saved, we have from each horse \$10.50 worth of manure for the fields each year. Under the conditions I name, the soil needing humus, and the conditions being such that plant-food can be profitably used in the form of commercial fertilizers, I believe that our modified estimate of \$10.50 for the manure that can be saved in the stable from a working-horse is not too great.

It is the opinion of this bulletin that one third of the value of manure is annually lost by present methods of management; and if my estimate of \$10.50 for each horse while in the stable be correct, we have a loss of \$3.50 for each horse. There are 16,000,000 horses in the United States, and therefore the loss from this source alone would be over \$50,000,000, if all these horses were well-fed work animals. This is assumed as a fact by the bulletin, but is an error, as we have several millions of animals that get a subsistence chiefly outside of stables at small cost. But the loss per head under ordinary conditions is easily \$3.50, and on many farms it is much more, being in some cases almost the whole value of the manure. There is the same relative loss in the case of other stock, excepting that when cattle are unstabled, and left in muddy lots, and when pigs are similarly treated, the loss is far greater.

A ton of cow manure contains more water than that of a horse, and is therefore worth slightly less, the valuation being placed at 90 per cent of that of a ton of horse manure. But a cow produces a greater weight of manure annually than a horse, the total product being valued \$1.50 higher than that of a horse. Hog manure is exceptionally valuable, a ton of it being worth 50 per cent more than a ton of horse manure, and the product of 1,000 pounds of hogs is worth double that of a 1,000-pound horse. But these calculations all presuppose liberal feeding of all the stock, and the value of manure always depends upon the character of food given.

These valuations, of course, include that of liquid manures. The bulletin says: "It is a fact, often lost sight of in practice, that the urine of animals is by far the most valuable part of the excreta. The solid excreta contains, principally, the fertilizing constituents of the food which has failed to be digested or absorbed into the animal system, and are, therefore, chiefly in insoluble forms. The urine, on the other hand, contains those fertilizing constituents which have been digested and are largely soluble." It is my observation that in the case of hogs and of cattle on half our farms, two thirds of the liquid manure is lost. There is an old idea that cattle do well enough during the day, at least, in a muddy barn-yard, and the loss of manure is enormous. In view of all this, the estimate of loss of manure through bad management made by this bulletin is too low. It may be about right for horses, but the average loss of fertilizing elements from the total product of manure from all kinds of farm stock may be safely placed at 40 to 50 per cent. The losses are due to evaporation, leaching, and total failure to save a big proportion of the manure.

Professor Roberts says: "The new idea that the manure should be as carefully preserved from unnecessary waste as any other product of the farm is hard to put into practice, after having stored for forty years the farm-yard manure under the eaves upon the steep hillsides which form one border of the running brook." In another article I wish to continue the subject, commenting upon the suggestions offered in regard to saving and applying this valuable product of our farms. DAVID.

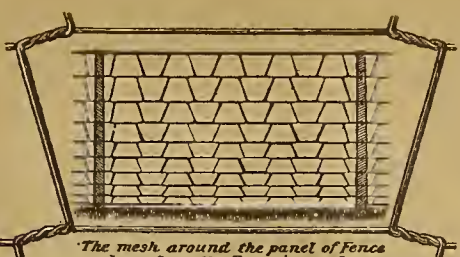
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WINTER WORK.

It is only with work that the hens can be made to lay in winter; for the most trying period in keeping poultry is when the snow covers the ground and the hens are bound up in the poultry-house. Such times are as trying to the hens as to their owners, for they are crowded together, lack exercise, suffer from confinement, and lose appetite. Nor does the difficulty cease when the snow melts, as mud and slush are encountered, and the yard is unfit for occupancy, while the poultry-house is rendered damp and uncomfortable by the water carried in on the feet and legs of the fowls. To clean the poultry-house during the time snow is on the ground is to work in filth and mud, to say nothing of compelling the fowls to go outside until the job is finished.

The feeding and watering is also a matter that is disagreeable, and, on the whole, one feels as if the keeping of poultry was anything but pleasant at such periods. The fowls should not be crowded. If the poultry-house is small, keep fewer hens. More eggs will be secured from a few hens properly kept than from a larger number that may lack room or care. Keep the floor well littered with leaves or cut straw, and have plenty of light. When the snow comes, the first thing to do is to shovel away that which is in front of the door. If a space only one yard square is cleaned off, it will give the hens a chance to come outside occasionally; but it is better to clean off quite a space and then sprinkle coal ashes on the cleared space. When the snow begins to thaw, see that the drains are open and that the water flows off as fast as the snow melts. If the hens have a cleared space they will not go in the snow, and less moisture will be carried into the house. During a snow-storm feed the fowls in the house, and place the drinking-water inside also. As soon as all the hens have eaten, remove the trough or any food that may be left. Tempt them to busy themselves in the leaves or litter, by scattering wheat or millet-seed in the litter. If the weather is cold, give them an extra allowance of corn, and see that every crack and crevice is closed.

MINERAL ELEMENTS.

The matter of providing the mineral elements for the hens is one that has called forth more discussion than any other one thing connected with the poultry business. Some claim that oyster-shells, clam-shells, old mortar, flint, etc., provides all the mineral matter required. Others insist that these substances are insoluble and are utilized by the hens exclusively for the grinding of food; that the hens prefer sharp pieces, which are voided afterward with the sharp edges rounded. The eggs contain phosphate of lime, as well as carbonate of lime, and the phosphate is not found in any of these substances, while flint is mostly silica, providing no material for the eggs whatever. Hens will swallow broken glass or old china quite as readily as any other hard substance. It is easy to provide hens with an ample supply of mineral matter in a digestible and soluble condition by feeding a variety of food. They will easily secure more than a sufficiency of mineral matter in cut clover, bran and green bones, substances that are digested and assimilated. There is quite a difference between the green fresh bone, rich in its juices as it comes from the butcher's, and the hard, dry bone which has lost its succulence. The value of all foods depends largely upon their digestibility, and the more this is provided for, the greater the saving of food, and the more economical the production of eggs.

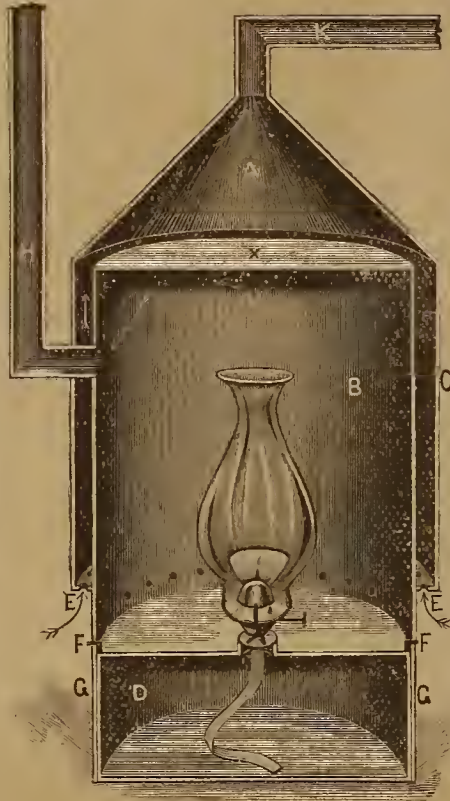
ECONOMY AND FEED.

Economy can be practiced without depriving the fowls of a sufficiency. Anything suitable that will serve to make a variety should be allowed them. Small or inferior potatoes may be cooked for the hens; it will not be necessary to mash them. Give them whole, and the hens will do the mashing. The same is true of turnips, of which the hens are very fond in winter. It will be found that the use of corn, oats, wheat, buckwheat and barley will give better results than when corn alone is used, even if nothing but grain is given. This is sufficient proof that corn is

not a perfect food. Every farmer knows that when corn has been fed for quite a while the hens will begin to refuse it, which is due to their being well supplied with the elements contained in corn. They require a change, because corn no longer provides them with what they need.

HEATER FOR POULTRY-HOUSE.

A cheap heater, by which the foul air is carried off through a smoke-pipe, and the air warmed around the heater, thus avoiding the odor from burning oil, is sent us by Mr. J. L. Weber, of Illinois. Mr. Weber gives it free to all desiring to use it. In the illustration, A is a hot-air chamber. The cold air, entering at E, becomes heated, passing out at the pipe K. B is a drum, where the lamp is placed, with a tight top at X, a few holes being punched at the base of the lamp, shown by the "dots," to admit air to the lamp. C is a cover, which is over the drum B, the cover being two inches larger in diameter than the drum, so as to allow the cold air to pass between B and C at EE. D is the



HEATER FOR POULTRY-HOUSE.

lamp-tank, for oil, with three hooks soldered to catch into the slots FF, so as to readily attach D to B. The pipe H is to permit the smoke of the lamp to escape, and it may be extended to the outside of the house.

INCUBATORS VERSUS HENS.

When an incubator hatches a portion of the chicks, while the others fail to come out, it is evident that the fault is not so much with the incubator as with the eggs. It is difficult to discover the cause of failure in such cases, if the operator makes no mistakes, as we must step into the bonds of nature to discover hidden processes that are beyond our province. The incubator will hatch every egg that a hen will hatch. Though the hen may bring off ten chicks from a dozen eggs at one hatch, she may not bring out two chicks from the same number of eggs at some other time. Hens sometimes fail, as incubators, and ten hens seldom hatch as many as fifty chicks from one hundred eggs. The incubator varies the same. It may hatch eighty per cent at one time and forty per cent at another. If mistakes are made with incubators, mistakes are also made with hens, and the chicks are as frequently destroyed by the hens, from trampling, exposure and other mishaps, as they are lost in brooders. Everything depends upon the judgment of the operator in both cases.

CORRESPONDENCE.

POINTS FOR THE AMATEUR.—The question is asked every day, "How do you handle your poultry to keep them healthy and to get eggs in winter?" In the first place, I never neglect the small matters, such as plenty of fresh water. I use all broken dishes, broken bottles and clam-shells for grit, and keep a lot always ready for the chickens. Pounded charcoal, as grit, is one of the main things in keeping away diarrhea and indigestion. Never let your poultry be without grit, as hens have no teeth. Don't keep poultry if you have no house, and don't use an old shed. It costs too much. Strip every crack, and if your house is open, line it with carpet-paper. Don't be a ventilator crank, but keep in the warm air, and don't let it out. Give them all they will eat, only let it be a variety, as eggs are composed of different things. Give a warm wash whenever you can. Scatter ashes on the

droppings for lice; and to keep the house clean, take one peck of lime, one pound of sulphur, one fourth of a pint of crude carbolic acid, and dust the house once a week. Concentrated lye, dissolved, is good. I have five different houses, and two hundred and fifty birds, and I have kept them clean and healthy for several years by the above means. J. P. H. Cynthia, Ky.

INQUIRIES ANSWERED.

Out of Condition.—V. M., Verona, Pa., writes: "My hens have good appetites and eat ravenously, but are very light and poor."

REPLY:—Probably the large lice on the heads annoy them, or they may require a greater variety of food. If they have good appetites they will probably soon be in good condition, as no remedy is necessary.

Bone-Poultry-house Walls.—L. N. N., Attica, Indiana, writes: "Which is the better for lining a poultry-house, batting or tarred paper?—What is the difference between 'cut bone' and 'ground bone?'"

REPLY:—The tarred paper is better, and it should be placed on the outside of the walls.—Cut bone is usually composed of green bone, cut (or shaved) with a bone-cutter. Green bones cannot be ground. Ground bone is dry bone which has been ground.

Fattening Hens and Small Eggs.—E. O., Paoli, Indiana, writes: "I fattened, killed and dressed a lot of hens to sell, as they did not lay. They contained a large number of small eggs, some of which seemed to have turned black."

REPLY:—Fat hens nearly always have such appearance, as a fat condition is detrimental to laying, but the number of eggs depends on the age and duration between the laying periods.

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REPLY:—Details are not sufficiently explicit, as the mode of feeding, kind of quarters, age and sex should have been given. Young males, which grow rapidly, are so affected. High roosts are causes, as well as a fat condition. If they are hens or pullets, remove them from the male and keep them on straw at night.

Roup.—L. M. D. writes: "My hens are blind, and seem to breathe with the greatest difficulty. The floor is the ground, covered with ashes."

REPLY:—The difficulty is probably roup, due to drafts from some source at night. It is difficult to cure, there being no sure remedy. Close the ventilator, remove roosts, and keep them on straw. Anoint faces, eyes, combs and wattles with sweet-oil, and add a tablespoonful of chlorate of potash to each quart of drinking-water.

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Our Fireside.

The Price of a Diamond.

BY HENRY WILLARD FRENCH.
CHAPTER VI.
OF HIS OWN FREE WILL.

Guided only by the blind instinct of self-preservation, without one second of forethought, I drew up my feet, caught the man in the abdomen, and gave one kick for life or death, at the same time throwing my head and shoulders as far away from him as possible.

With a savage yell the knife came down. I felt the cold steel touch my shoulder, and found it afterward buried to the hilt in my sleeping-mat. Suddenly a bright light flashed in my face that for an instant dazzled me, and—I may as well admit it—paralyzed me with fear. It even occurred to me that in reality the fellow had put his knife through me, and that a death glare of some sort flashed in my eyes. The next instant, however, I realized that it was only the clear white moon, with her sparkling galaxy, in the cloudless sky of a Nubian night.

In the superhuman strength of a last extremity I had thrown the fellow with such force that he had taken the tent and all with him.

I was upon my feet in an instant, though in rising I tore my shirt, which was pinned to the earth at the shoulder by the blade of the South-African dirk.

The tent lay in a pile not far away. Several of my servants were thrusting sleepy heads out of their blankets. A camel opened his drowsy eyes and looked back at me over his shoulder. The cause of the disturbance, however, was nowhere to be seen. He could not have gone far, for he had had no time. There was no place close at hand where he could have hidden. Yet surely he was not in sight.

It would hardly be safe to attempt to sleep again, while he was in the neighborhood, especially if he were a friend of the fellows upon the river bank; but while I revolved the matter in my mind, wondering who he was and what motive he could have had for killing me, I directed one of the Arabs to help me straighten out my tent, while the rest were rubbing their eyes open.

It was caught upon something. I stooped to untangle it, but started back. The unconscious form of a man was rolled up in its folds.

By this time another man brought a lighted taper to our aid, and being most of all anxious to discover who the fellow could be, I dragged away the folds of the tent that covered his face, disclosing a curiously square-cut, massive jaw, with white teeth, that shone like ivory between the black, parted lips, and a large, silver ear-ring, piercing the flesh almost against the cheek, while the ear behind it was mutilated and ragged, where a former ear-ring had been torn away.

Before investigating any further, to find out how badly he was hurt, I carefully bound him, hand and foot, and tied his hands to his knees; an excellent precaution, though apparently it is only understood in central Africa.

I was none too quick, for the fellow revived before I had quite finished; but in that spirit of dogged resignation to the inexorable, which is always so well developed in the barbarian, he offered no resistance, and the only sign of life which he evinced was in his open eyes, as they sullenly watched the operation.

My cook was an exceedingly well-regulated fellow, and had been with me long enough to know that whatever occurred and whenever, his first duty was to fly to my spirit-lamp and prepare me a cup of coffee. He brought it now, as I secured the last knot. There was no doubt that the prisoner needed it more than I, and I offered it to him, directing two of the men to lift him to a sitting posture.

He looked at me sullenly for a moment, and in excellent Arabic asked:

"Is it poisoned?"

I laughed, drank a little myself, and again put the cup to his lips, when he drank every drop. Then he looked up and sullenly muttered:

"You might as well kill me now. It is all that you will ever get from me."

There was a certain relevancy in his remark which instantly opened my eyes to the entire situation. I sat down on the ground opposite him, and looking him in the face, said:

"So you know me, Mbarak."

With quiet dignity he replied:

"Have I not good cause to know you, Abdel Ardavan?"

"If you have, it should have taught you better than to try the game you did to-night," I replied.

"It was necessary," he muttered. "There was nothing else for me to do but try."

"You came down the great river in the boat with the people camping below?" I asked.

He bowed his head.

"You saw me on the hill and knew me?" Again he bowed his head.

"You thought I was looking for you to recover that diamond?"

"Why not?" he asked, sullenly.

"And you came sneaking up, like a coward, in the dark to kill me, to keep me from catching you?"

He did not answer, and I continued:

for some time, talking without difficulty, and lifting it again at will. That was what Mbarak meant, and added:

"Wheu I was a fool and the master punished me for my folly, I drank the coffee to swallow it, lest he should find it. It is there, and Mbarak dies. But before he dies—of his own free will—he gives the diamond to Abdel Ardavan."

JUST FOR SPITE.

"Me take a baby to raise? Me!"

Rachel Simpson, spinster, almost dropped the indigo-blue calico apron she was about to pin to the clothes-line, and glared indignantly at the gray-haired little woman leaning over the back gate. But the latter only smiled at her, and answered undauntedly:

"Yes, you. And why not, Rachel? Why shouldn't you take it?"

"Why should I take it? is more to the point, it strikes me. What on earth do I want of a baby? Reckon I could 'a' married and had children of my own, if I'd been fool enough to want 'em."

"Of course you could, Rachel," replied the other, gently; "and I wish you had. I know you'd 'a' been a happier woman if you had."

"Oh, you think so, do you? I s'pose you'd like to see me in the same boat with yourself—left a widow, with six helpless children to keep and nothin' but hard work to keep 'em on. No, thanks; not any of that for me."

Miss Simpson's thin lips came together in a straight, hard line, and she went on hanging up clothes, while the woman at the gate winked a tear away and patiently renewed the charge.

"No, Rachel, I don't wish you no such trouble as I've had; but I can't help thinkin' you'd 'a' been a happier woman if you'd married and had little children to cling to you and love you. At least, you'd 'a' been a better woman, I'm certain."

"Huh! In what way, I wonder?"

"Why, you'd 'a' been warmer-hearted and broader-minded; you wouldn't 'a' looked at everything from such a narrow, selfish point o' view. Don't I remember what a warm-hearted, whole-souled girl you used to be in the old school-days? In them days Ray Simpson never turned her back on any creature that needed help."

"Never you mind about them days," said Miss Simpson grimly. "They're past and gone, like a good many other things. I'm no spring chicken now, Lucy Spencer. I've learned a thing or two about the world and human nature since then. Just s'pose you drop this subject now, for good and all. I'm not goin' to take no baby to raise, that's certain. Take it yourself, if you're so sorry for it. You've got such a raft of 'em already you'd hardly feel one more."

This was said sarcastically, but Mrs. Spencer only answered, with a sigh:

"Well, I s'pose I'll have to, if I can't get anybody else to take it. I don't

see my way clear to do it, but the poor little thing is sickly and delicate-like, and I'll never see it seut off to the orphanage, if I have to work my fingers to the bone."

"Land, but you're a fool, Lucy Spencer!"



"THE HAND OF ABDEL ARDAVAN RESTS UPON THE GREAT DIAMOND."

"Mbarak, I told you once before, in Zulu Land, that you were a fool. You are still the same. You have not changed. The truth is, I don't care a snap of my finger for you or the diamond. I am here upon my own business. It is no affair of mine, anyway, and it is my honest opinion that you took the baas fairly at his word, and that the stone belongs to you. So far as the diamond is concerned, that settles it. I would not touch it if you threw it at my feet. When you meet the officers of the baas, however, you must look out for yourself, for they think differently. Now as between you and me. Twice you have attempted to take my life. Twice you have failed. Twice have I had you in my power. For the second time now I let you go. But remember, Mbarak, if you ever try to touch my life again, I will kill you as surely as I am cutting these ropes now. There, you are free. Go where it pleases you."

When the ropes fell from his wrists and ankles, he simply breathed a deep sigh and lay down upon the sand.

"Are you too much hurt to go?" I asked, rather anxiously; for in truth I did believe that he had fairly won that diamond, even according to the manager's own account.

"I do not know," he muttered. "I only know that I am the fool that you have said. It is the fruit of my own folly that I die, and I am satisfied."

"Die?" I exclaimed, "Mbarak, you will not die. You are too strong a man to die from a kick. Perhaps a rib is broken, but it will mend again. Cheer up, old fellow. I'll stop here for a day or two and nurse you, to pay for the kick I gave you. I'll soon have you on your feet again. Come now. Let me examine you and see how badly you are hurt."

Without waiting for permission, I began feeling about his ribs to see if any of them were broken. Suddenly he stopped me, and with his powerful hand pressed mine closer.

"Master," he said, "the hand of Abdel Ardavan rests upon the great diamond. It is there."

Involuntarily I shuddered and tried to draw my hand away. A curious expression contracted his features as he continued:

"No, you do not care for it. The baas would have torn it from my living side. But he would never have known that it was there. It was in my mouth."

The mouth is the Kaffir's great hiding-place for gems. Either he is differently constructed from other human beings, or by practice he produces a cavity, almost at the roots of the tongue where he is capable of carrying anything the size of an egg, even; holding it there

Verily I did not want it. I struggled hard to save that man; but my means at hand were limited to the few items which outlasted a year's march through Africa; and, worst of all, when a native has calmly resolved to die, he usually accomplishes the feat in spite of everything.

He did accomplish it, and a few days later, upon that same knoll, beyond the Nubian desert, and looking down upon the Nile, I sat by a grave we had dug in the sand, holding the five-hundred-carat diamond in my hand.

Keep it? Mbarak gave it to me, and long before that I had been of the opinion that it was fairly his. Keep it? By the terms of my wager with the manager, was not his largest rough diamond to be mine if he heard from me that I had reached the Nile before he had sent this stone to the cutters? Whether it belonged to the baas, or to the Zulu chief, it was surely mine.

Keep it? I would sooner have thrown it into the Nile, as I sat there looking at it, and counting up the price of the diamond. With a shudder I thrust it into my girdle, and it went with me to Cairo. There it lay safely deposited, until the manager heard from me and ordered one of the De Beer agents, in Europe, to bear it to the cutters; and baby's papa bought it. A fifty-thousand-dollar diamond, without a history, without a tragedy, without a previous owner.

Oh, how you flash and sparkle!

THE END.

A WORD TO HUSBANDS.

Love and appreciation are to a woman what dew and sunshine are to a flower. They freshen and brighten her whole life. They make her strong-hearted and keen-sighted in everything affecting the welfare of her home. They make her to cherish her husband when the cares of life press heavily upon him, and to be a very providence to her children. To know that her husband loves her, and is proud of her and believes in her; that even her faults are looked upon with tenderness; that her face, to one at least, is the fairest in all the world; that the heart which to her is the greatest and noblest, holds her sacred in its innermost recesses above all other women, gives her a strength and courage, and energy and sweetness and vivacity which all the wealth of the world could not bestow. Let a woman's life be pervaded with such an influence, and her heart and mind will never grow old, but will blossom and sweeten and brighten in perpetual youth.



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quoth Miss Simpson, as she stuck the last clothes-pin on the line and picked up the empty basket.

"I don't know about that, Rachel; so much depends on how we look at things in this world," responded the gray-haired little mother, as she turned away.

"Huh! Me take a baby to raise? Think I see myself at it!" soliloquized the disturbed spinster, as she set down her clothes-basket, fell on her knees and began weeding a flower bed with characteristic energy. She was still thus employed when, half an hour later, Mrs. Spencer's voice again greeted her; this time with a cheerful ring in it that at once caught the busy woman's ear.

"Oh, I'm glad you're still out here, Rachel," she said brightly. "I just want to tell you that it's all right about poor Amy Smith's baby. It's going to have the best home in the village. I'm so glad I feel like dancin' and givin' three cheers for Providence and Mary Garland!"

"For—who?"

Miss Simpson had suddenly straightened up and was looking intently at her visitor.

"For Mary Garland. You see, Amy's baby was born just about the time that Mary's little one died, and Mrs. Sumpter, Mary's sister-in-law, says she hain't the least doubt that Mary'll jump at the chance of takin' it, and she's goin' to write to her right away about it. You see, Mary's at the coast now, but Mrs. Sumpter's certain she'll come home as fast as steam can carry her, the minute she hears about the baby. You can't think how glad I am! Mary'll be a mother to the little thing clear through, and Jim'll be proud of it, too; and such a home as it will have! Well, I must be gettin' home. Good-by, Rachel. I reckon you was right about not takin' the baby. You'd be rather a poor stick to take care of it, no doubt."

Rachel Simpson gazed after the receding form of her old friend until lost to view; then, with an inscrutable look in her gray eyes, she arose rather stiffly from her knees and went slowly and thoughtfully into her clean, old-maidish little kitchen, where she sat down and fell into a study so brown and deep that even Sir William Wallace, her big yellow cat, strove in vain to remind her that it was tea-time. But just when he had given up the task and stretched himself patiently at her feet, she made him bristle with astonishment by suddenly springing up and exclaiming with unwonted fire:

"I'll do it! Come what may, I'll do it, just for spite!"

And straightway she went to work clearing away the tubs and setting her house in order with a nervous, feverish haste greatly at variance with her usual dignified, deliberate movements. Sir William watched her with visible uneasiness, for never in all the years of his somewhat advanced life had he beheld his mistress in so strange and startling a mood. True, she did at length remember to give her pet his evening meal, but she ate nothing herself, and hurrying into her chamber, began dressing to go out.

Very squarely and firmly beneath her chin she tied the stiff lilac ribbons of her best straw bonnet, nodding her head grimly during the process at her reflection in the small mirror, and muttering ever and anon:

"She got ahead of me once, Mary Garland did, but she won't do it this time!"

Yet, with all her inward determination, she was in an odd flutter of excitement as she finally locked the cottage door behind her and set off down the familiar village street. Any one observing her closely must have noted the furtive, half-guilty glances she cast at the houses of acquaintances as she passed them, as if dreading detention and questioning. It might also have been noticed that she went somewhat out of her way to avoid passing the humble home of her late visitor, the Widow Spencer. But she kept steadily on in one general direction, quickening her pace as she went, until at length, when the village lay behind her and the harvest sun was dropping out of sight beneath the waving blue line of the distant hills, she opened a rickety gate and knocked at the door of a desolate shanty standing in the midst of a potato-field.

"Good-evening, Mrs. Murphy," she said in her quick, crisp way to the tired-looking, slatternly woman who opened the door. "I understand you've got Amy Smith's baby here?"

"I have, ma'am," was the response. "But indade it won't be here this time to-morrow. What with its constant cryin', an' the care o' me own childer, it's efanc wore out I am; an' if nobody won't take pity on the poor little crayture, I'll be after sendin' it to the orphanage to-morrow, though we all knows that same is not conducted rightly, an'—"

"Let me see the child," snapped Miss Simpson, interrupting. As she spoke, she stepped across the threshold and the door closed behind her. The remainder of the interview was known only to herself and Mrs. Murphy.

The following day was yet young when the news ran from lip to lip through the village that Rachel Simpson had taken Amy Smith's baby to raise.

"Are you certain about it?" questioned the Widow Spencer, with an odd twinkle in her eyes, when a busy gossip carried the news to her.

"Well, I should say as I ought to be certain, seeln' as I wouldn't believe it myself till I

went and asked Mrs. Murphy about it," was the reply. "Rachel Simpson actually went to Murphy's house last night and carried the baby home herself, after dark. Mrs. Murphy says it was a sight to remember to see the old maid take that poor little kid up and hold it off from her at arms' length, as if it was a toad, or somethin' that mustn't nowise touch her. And she carried it home just that way, a-bendin' over and holdin' it away from her like pizen-weed. Mrs. Murphy 'most died a-laughin' about it. But she said she felt sorry for the baby, and she'd 'most as soon seen it sent to the orphanage as to let Rachel Simpson have it."

"Oh, I don't know about that," interposed Mrs. Spencer. "Maybe we'd as well wait and give Rachel a chance before we judge her. Remember, she's never had a baby before, and we was all more or less awkward handliu' our first, I reckon."

"But who'd ever 'a' thought of Rachel Simpson goin' of her own accord and takin' a baby to raise?"

"Who, indeed?" echoed Mrs. Spencer; but the queer little twinkle deepened in her eyes, and when her visitor had gone, she sank into a chair and laughed softly all to herself, until the tears rolled down her cheeks.

"Verily, there's other ways to kill a dog besides chokin' him on bread and butter," was her sole and somewhat enigmatic comment.

Later in the day she "dropped in" on Rachel unceremoniously, by way of the back door, and lifted her hands in well-simulated amazement when she found the distracted spinster walking the floor with the crying baby in her arms, her hair disheveled and perspiration visible at every pore.

"Well, I never! I just couldn't believe it if I hadn't seen it!" she exclaimed, tragically.

"I guess your belief or your disbelief ain't a matter of vital importance," snapped Rachel.

"Now, Rachel, don't be ugly, dear," pleaded the widow. "I feel as if I'd sort of led you into this, and I'm sorry for it. There's poor Mary Garland, now, who'd 'a' been so glad to have the baby. She's come home this mornin', so I hear, and seemin' as you and her ain't the best of friends, and you might not like to take the baby over yourself, I thought I'd just drop in and get it and carry it over to her. So just give it to me, Rachel. My, I reckon Mary'll 'most jump out of her shoes when she sees me walk in with it, judgin' by what Mrs. Sumpter says."

Miss Simpson stared stonily over the small woman's head, and appeared not to see the outstretched arms. Then she pushed a chair forward and said sternly:

"Set down, Lucy Spencer, and see if you cau, for once in your life, mind your own business. You ought to know by this time that I ain't one to do a thing one day and try to sneak out of it the next. This baby's here now, and here it's goin' to stay till it or me dies."

"My!" ejaculated Mrs. Spencer. "I'm sorry I ever mentioned the baby to you. It's just as Mrs. Sumpter says—you hain't a thing in the house in the way of baby comforts; while Mary Garland's got a lovely black walnut crib to rock it in, and a 'preambulator' that never cost a cent less than twenty-five dollars, and no end of beautiful little ready-made clothes. It does seem as if she's the one to have the baby. Now don't it, Rachel?"

"No doubt Mary Garland thinks her black walnut crib, and her 'preambulator,' and her ready-made clothes is the only ones in creation!" said the spinster, with biting sarcasm. "You just go home, Lucy Spencer, and do as well by your children as I'm goin' to do by this, and you'll have enough business of your own to keep you from meddlin' with other folks' affairs."

Mrs. Spencer meekly accepted her dismissal and went home, where she again sat down and laughed, long and mysteriously.

A week later the village was electrified by the sight of Miss Simpson wheeling her new baby about the streets in a still newer "preambulator"—a finer one, indeed, than had ever before been seen in that locality. No one, probably, but the Widow Spencer noticed that her favorite promenade was along the street in which the Garlands lived; and that observant little woman only smiled and held her peace. Gradually the spectacle of the old maid and her baby came to be an established fact in the village. As soon as it was known that she had opened her tightly-knotted purse-strings and sent to the city for a perambulator, a fine crib and a great box full of baby's clothes, dolls, toys, etc., it became evident to the gossips that she was "goin' to do the square thing by Amy Smith's baby;" and so, having nothing to cavil at, their interest flagged. They had no eyes for the subtle and beautiful work the baby hands were doing, day by day and hour by hour, in the lonely, unlovely old woman's heart. Not even the spinster herself suspected that, until the time came when it was revealed to her.

The beautiful autumn months wore away, and December came in with a pure white mantle of snow, that deepened and deepened as the winter drew on, until the roads became impassable. No work could be done, and many a poor man stood face to face with destitution. It was the day before Christmas that one of these unfortunate ones came stumbling up Miss Simpson's veranda steps and asked for shelter and food, and Rachel surprised herself by flinging wide the door and bidding him enter.

He was a stranger, aged and wretched-look-

ing, and it was not difficult to believe that he was indeed ill, as he claimed. He ate but little, and sat by the fire in a sort of stupor that deepened as a stormy twilight closed in, and Rachel found, to her secret dismay, that she had not the heart to turn him adrift. She could not remember that she had ever before been so weak, but she did not waste much thought on the matter. She only stood for a moment in the cozy sitting-room, looking down at the sleeping baby in the crib, then she went into the kitchen where the stranger sat, made some herb tea for him, spread down a pallet before the fire, and bade him good-night with a clear conscience.

But in the early dawn she was awakened by the sound of his voice, and going out, found him moaning and tossing in delirium. Then she waded through a snowbank, waist-deep, to get a boy to go for a doctor; and when the latter came and had examined the patient, he appalled her with one word—smallpox!

For a moment she stood dumbfounded; then she drew her thin lips into the straight line that always told of some decision reached in Rachel Simpson's mind, and going into the sitting-room she hastily bundled the baby up in a blanket and waded with it, slowly and laboriously, to the Widow Spencer's little home.

"Lucy," she said, there's a man at my house with the smallpox. There's nobody to carry him away, and no place to carry him to, so he'll have to stay where he is, and I'll have to take care of him. And you, Lucy, must keep the baby for me. I suppose I'll take the disease, and if I die, you must keep the baby *always*. I'll make my will to-day; I'll leave all I've got to her, and I'll appoint you her guardian. And, Lucy, come here." Rachel was standing by a small table on which lay Mrs. Spencer's family Bible. "Come here, Lucy, and lay your hand on the Bible, for I want you to swear to something."

"Oh, my!" gasped Lucy. But she came, all the same, and laid her toil-hardened little hand on the sacred volume.

"Now swear, Lucy, that if I die you'll keep the baby always, and never, never let Mary Garland get hold of her. Swear, Lucy."

"I—I—swear!" faltered Lucy, thoroughly impressed for once in her life with the old maid's stern earnestness.

A week later the unknown man breathed his last between the fine sheets of Miss Simpson's spare bed, carefully tended to the end by Miss Simpson's own hands. And a few days later it was known throughout the village that Miss Simpson herself was sick of the same dreadful malady.

Because of the deep snows and inclement weather, all travel was suspended between the village and the outside world. No nurse could be brought from the city, nobody could be found in the village willing to risk exposure to the disease, and it looked for a time as if the woman who had unselfishly sacrificed herself to a stranger would be left in her hour of trial unattended. But in the twilight of the second day of her illness, as she struggled for a moment out of the grasp of the stupor that held her, she felt the soft touch of a woman's hand on her burning forehead, and opening her swollen eyes, gazed straight into the pitying ones of Mary Garland. With a sudden effort she sprang to a sitting posture and laughed aloud—a horrid, discordant laugh that chilled the blood in the listener's veins.

"Aha!" she shrieked. "You are here to watch me die, are you? But you'll never get the baby! Never! I've looked out for that!"

Then she fell back on the pillow, and had no further gleam of consciousness for several days.

A thaw had set in, and the snow was half gone when at last reason came slowly back to her. The first thing of which she became fully conscious was the presence of her enemy by her bedside. She lay perfectly still for a long time, watching furtively, through half-closed lids, the movements of her unconscious attendant; then suddenly she opened her eyes and said, in a queer, cracked voice that startled even herself:

"Well, I ain't dead, am I?"

Mary Garland gave a great start, but a look of unmistakable gladness came into her eyes. Rising quietly, she approached the table and prepared a draught of medicine, which she offered to the patient. But the latter pushed the glass away.

"I may be mighty near dead, but I ain't far enough gone yet to take a dose from your hands, Mary Garland," she said, with all her old rancor.

At that instant the doctor's step was heard, and as he entered, Mrs. Garland put the medicine-glass in his hand and went quietly out.

"Mix me another dose, doctor," said the sick woman. "It would be riskin' my life to take anything that Mary Garland fixed."

"Stuff and nonsense!" quoth the old doctor, who had known his cranky patient for a good many years. "Drink it," he added, putting the cup to her lips, "and then turn your face to the wall and thank the good God for sendin' Mary Garland to you when no other living soul would take pity on you. But for her, it would be precious little life you'd have to risk to-day, I can tell you. It has been her good nursing, day and night, that has brought you through. She has risked her own life for you, and now you send her away with an insult for her reward. Oh, you're a nice woman, Miss Simpson! I admire you!"

The doctor's sarcasm was stinging, but something whispered to Rachel Simpson that it was just, and for once her sharp tongue found no retort. All the long afternoon she lay alone and silent, her thoughts taking an unaccustomed backward flight through the barren years that stretched between the present and that far-off happy girlhood, from which dated her hatred of Mary Garland. She smiled now, in bitter self-contempt, as she recalled the primary cause of it all.

"To think," she muttered, "that I should 'a' took the trouble to hate her all these years, just because she married Jim Garland! And he hain't turned out such a big frog in the puddle that any woman need to yearn for him. The actual fact is, I ought to be glad it was her, instead of me, that married him. It looks as if I hain't much to lay up agin Mary, after all."

When night had fallen, Mary Garland came in again and said, in her gentle way:

"I'm afraid you don't want me, Rachel; but I can't bear to leave you alone all night. I'll stay in the other room, and if you want anything you can let me know."

There was no response; not even the quiver of a muscle in the old face to show that Miss Simpson had heard. But later, Mary Garland, lying on the settee in the sitting-room, was aroused by the sound of stifled sobbing in the sick-chamber. She started up, but a second thought restrained her. "She would not wish me to know," was her thought; and she lay down agaln.

In the morning there was no sign of any unusual emotion in Rachel Simpson's face, and throughout the days of convalescence there was no visible evidence of the contrition at work in the lonely woman's heart. It was not until she had fully recovered, when the whole house had been disinfected, and the baby once again in her arms, that she undertook the work of reparation. Then, one never-to-be-forgotten mornin', she took the little one from its cradle, bathed and dressed it, kissed it and sobbed over it—such heart-broken sobs as come only from the breasts of the old, the lonely and despairing.

For more than an hour she sat with the baby hugged close to her breast, while it pulled her cap-strings and laughed and cooed as only a baby can. It took Miss Simpson, oh, so long that mornin' to get her quivering lips drawn into the straight, firm line of immovable resolve; but she succeeded at last, and ten minutes later she walked into Mary Garland's sitting-room and put the baby into her arms.

"There," she said huskily, "it's yours now. I hadn't any right to it in the first place; I didn't want it; I took it just to keep you from gettin' it. I never dreamed I'd get to carin' for it; and n—now I'm gettin' paid up."

With that she turned and almost ran from the house. When she reached home she found Lucy Spencer there.

"Why, where is the baby?" she demanded.

"Just where it ought to 'a' been from the first," said Rachel, and then dropped on her knees by the empty cradle and broke into a fit of sobbing, so wild and uncontrolled that the little widow was alarmed. Never had she thought to see the great wall of Rachel Simpson's pride and reserve thus broken down.

"Why, Rachel, what is it? What have you done with the baby?" she entreated.

But just then there was a tap at the open door, and there stood Mary Garland, with the baby in her arms. Quietly she walked in and put the little one in the cradle. Then she turned to Rachel and took her hands gently.

"Rachel," she said, "did you really think I wanted your baby?"

"I know you want it," said Rachel, brokenly. "You've wanted it ever since you lost your baby."

Mary Garland's eyes filled.

"No, Rachel; there is no child living that can ever take the place of my little Bessie. I have never dreamed of wanting your baby; and I thought you were delirious when you accused me of it while you were sick. What made you think I wanted it?"

Rachel turned her head slowly and looked at Lucy Spencer. That look was enough. The little woman burst into a fit of mingled laughter and tears.

"It's all my doing," she confessed. "But I didn't exactly lie, Rachel, dear. Mrs. Sumpter did say she was goin' to write to Mary about takin' the baby, and all I did was to hurry over to tell you about it and make it sound as if it was all cut-and-dried. You see, I just thought that you was the one to take the baby, and if I couldn't get you to do it from a good motive, I was willin' to give you a bad one. And, oh, Rachel, I'm glad, and I know you're glad now that you took it, even if you did do it for spite."

"I did—yes, I did take it just for spite, God forgive me!" said Rachel, penitently. But there was a gleam of heartfelt content in her eyes as she took the crowing little one from the cradle and knew that it was all her own.

CARRIE BLAKE MORGAN.

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THE TOWN OF CONTENT.

Oh, how few of the thousands who travel by rail,
Or are borne o'er the seas by the strength of the gale,
And how few of the millions on walking intent
Ever safely arrive at the Town of Content.

Many seek it in England, and others in France,
Not a few at the fair down the Midway Plaisance;
Some travel for months toward the fair Oriout,
But how few ever reach the dear Town of Content.

Not a man who has wealth and is craving for more
Has e'er passed one short day at its beautiful door;
No one who has aught and not content with his share
Since the days of old Adam has ever stopped there.

Not a man whose poor soul with ambition is filled,
Had the town on his head its sweet odors distilled,
Not a soul who has fame and not satisfied quite,
In the Town of Content has e'er slept over night.

Many journey o'er deserts and valleys for years,
Through the various countries of both hemispheres,
But alas, when both money and strength have been spent,
They find they are far from the Town of Content.

Far beyond the tall Alps with their cold caps of snow,
And in lauds where warm zephyrs unceasingly blow,
For the roads through its gates men have looked up
and down,

And have died just in sight of the spires of the town.

So to you who are seeking the town let me say,
Though its long-looked-for streets you may not tread
to-day,

If you ever should find it near by or afar,
You will find it located just where you are.

—Boston Globe.

HOUSEHOLD SLAVES.

While it is very desirable to do everything in the way of housekeeping decently and in order, one should be very careful not to let herself become a slave to order, nor destroy the peace and freedom of her family because they do not always live and work in perfect accord with her plans. One does not live solely to keep a house in good running order, as many well-meaning and conscientious housekeepers seem to think. The house is kept for the comfort and pleasure and convenience of the family; when it does not fulfill this purpose, we may know at once that something is wrong; and it is the duty of every housewife to immediately set about to right the wrong if it is possible.

It is in making the home a comfort and a pleasure that the real skill in housekeeping may be exercised. Almost any one with ordinary common sense can lay down fixed rules, and say that such work must be done at such a time; and if it is possible to carry the plan out exactly to the hour or day, she may seem to be, and will probably think herself, an excellent housekeeper. But an attempt at such housekeeping is likely to result in one of two things: If the mistress is strong-willed, she is sure to make her family extremely uncomfortable; if she is weak-willed, she will suffer much discomfort herself, and probably become peevish and fretful. In either case, she is a slave to her house-keeping, and cannot expect to develop any "sweetness and light" in her household.

A good housekeeper is one who not only knows how to make plans for her work, which is, indeed, very important, but knows, also, how to make the order of work sufficiently flexible to meet all the exigencies of daily life, without any serious disasters. She must know how to change her plans easily, that is, without friction; or even to do away with them altogether, for a time, if any circumstances should arise which would make it more desirable to do so. No housewife can hope to have a pleasant home for her family, or have herself anything but a careworn woman, who does not always provide for the unexpected; and one of the important provisions is to always keep her temper. If the unexpected happens—and it is continually happening in all active and hospitable households—meet it without any fretfulness, and it will not be half so difficult to deal with.

One of the secrets of being able to have one's plans frustrated without serious inconvenience is in being forehanded. Never allow work to accumulate if it is possible to do it. Keep everything in such order that a little neglect will not show. Occupy spare moments of the days that are not very busy ones in doing work a little ahead of the time when it is actually needed. Then one will be the mistress, and not the slave of her house work, and the true work of the homemaker will be accomplished.

But one may even be a slave to the idea of being forehanded; and many a housekeeper frets herself nearly to death in order to keep everything done ahead of time, so that there will be no accumulation of work. It becomes almost a mania; and though each season's work is done so long ahead of time that she could give herself weeks of complete rest, she seems only to get it done in order to begin the next, and thus keeps herself as much a slave to her household work as if it were always behindhand.

The only advantage in doing work ahead of time is that one may do it easily, and at such convenient times that it will hardly seem to be work. If the habit becomes so fixed that it seems a necessity, the work has become the master, and the mistress of the house is the slave.—Demorest's.

STRAINING AND RACKING your Lungs and Throat with a rasping Cough, is but poor policy. Rather cure yourself with Dr. D. Jayne's Expectant, an excellent remedy for Asthma and Bronchitis.

THE MONETARY VALUE OF CO-OPERATION.

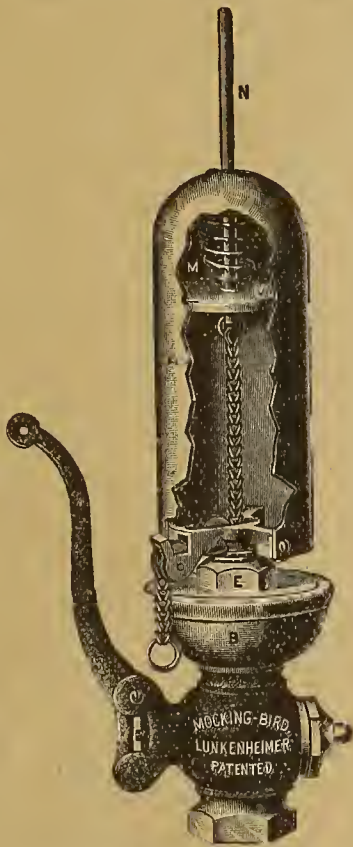
The wastefulness of strikes has been so often dwelt upon as to need no new remarks, but there is one feature we are in the habit of overlooking—the after effect of the strike upon the manufacturers themselves. Take, for instance, a great railroad that has a strike. Very soon the men who have been dependent upon the railroad for a living are to a more or less extent doing their very best to injure the road and destroy its property. The strike is either beaten by the aid of force or a compromise is effected, and the same men who have been facing each other as bitter enemies are supposed to work together again for a common object. How unutterably absurd it is to imagine that the best results can be obtained this way. Unless men have some heart in their work, or some ambition, it is idle to expect anything but the most perfunctory results. It did not need very much experience to show that slave labor was the most costly and unproductive labor in the world. On the other hand, the good effects of labor where there is some co-operation, and where the laborer has some benefit from his labor other than merely his wages, are too apparent to need exploiting. It is true that we do get most excellent service often from government officials who do not directly receive any benefits, as there are no profits to be divided; at the same time there is an incentive of some advance after long and honorable service and the certainty (in case of civil service reform) of continuous employment.

It is not without reason that men expect they should have some benefit from the fruits of their labor. The fallacy that men with brains can absorb all the benefits and simply look down upon those who carry out their designs as mere machines, has been pretty well exposed. The really successful concerns are those where something more than even the sense of duty incites a man to do his best, and where the long-headed proprietors have shared their proprietorship, even in a small way, with those in lesser positions, who thus become part and parcel of the whole. Only in this manner can that unselfish devotion to the success of a concern and the sinking of one's self in the whole be attained.—St. Louis Age of Steel.

LUNKENHEIMER'S MOCKING-BIRD WHISTLE.

The illustration shows a variable sound steam whistle, adapted to traction engines, locomotives, steamboats, factories and mills. It is manufactured by the Lunkenheimer Co., of Cincinnati, O. There are various sizes, varying from two inches to ten inches in diameter, and from one half inch to two and one half inches in size of pipe connection.

The bell is provided with a piston, which is pulled downward by a chain running between pulleys, and when not in use is always at the



top, being drawn upward by means of a spring. The dome-shaped bell is securely supported at its base by a three-arm prong, the stem of which is adjustably screwed into the whistle base and fastened by jam-nut (E).

Owing to the construction, the lower edge of the bell is always exactly in line with the slot in the base through which the steam escapes, thereby insuring a perfect, clear and loud tone. The bell is raised or lowered to suit the steam pressure by screwing it up or down, and when properly set is fastened by jam-nut (E). These whistles are made of the best materials and are fully warranted. No traction engine should be without one.

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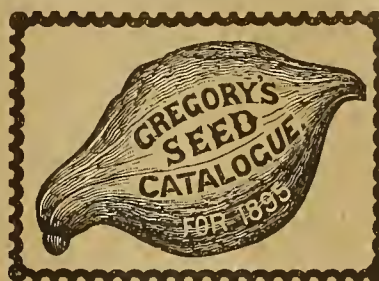
MRS. R. H. WILLIAMS, Sundance, Wyo.
See pattern offer on another page.



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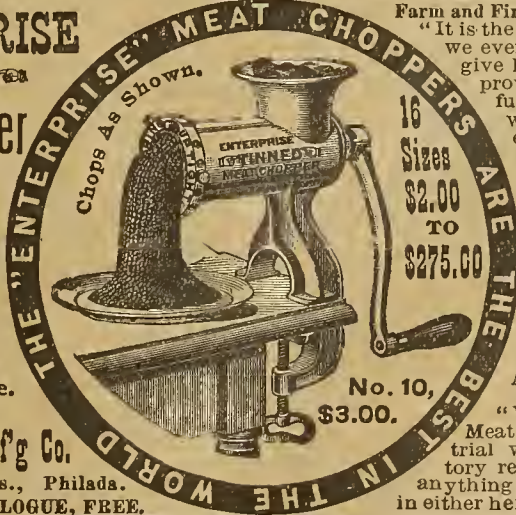
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Our Household.

THE PATCHWORK QUILT.

This is my grandma's patchwork quilt,
Made when she was little like me;
My, but aren't the pieces small,
And the stitches 'most too fine to see?
Do you know how my grandma had to do?
Why, this way: Every day at school,
Over and over, she sewed a square.
Wasn't that the funniest rule?
And then vacations at eight o'clock,
When breakfast was over and dishes done,
And the hearth brushed up and the chickens fed,
And p'r'aps a number of errands run,
Down she sat in this little chair
On a patchwork cushion pink and blue,
And sewed for an hour by the clock.
I think that was pretty long, don't you?
This spriggy piece was like a dress
That she had for Sundays, or company came;
And she had a sunbonnet like this,
And a ruffled tier just the same.
This with the rosebuds, pink and white,
Was like Aunty Charity Holcomb's gown,
And this lovely buff with orange stars
And little half-moons of blue and brown
Is a piece of great-grandma's stocking-bag,
That hung on the arm of her high-backed chair,
And grandma darned the stockings, too—
Yes, indeed, every single pair.
And she says, " 'Twas the only proper way
To bring little girls up," and she fears
That I'll much regret "my shocking lack
Of useful knowledge in after years."
So she's teaching me to sew and darn
And set my stitches even and fine;
But I'm sure I couldn't stand it to sit
Sewing and sewing from eight to nine,
Fifteen minutes is awfully long;
Then, oh, how long must an hour be!
I think they've stretched out some way since
The time when grandma was little like me.
—Minnie L. Upton, in *American Agriculturist*.

CHILDREN'S DRESSES.

The SIMPLE toilet of the little girl of the present day cannot well be improved upon. The waist being the only part of ornamentation, no pains are spared upon it.
The velvet dress of Fig. 1 is plain in the skirt, the color being a dark brown, the yoke of the neck is buttercup yellow, and the ruffles of the sleeves of a little lighter shade of brown than the dress, edged with a very tiny, soft gilt braid. If for evening wear, the yoke and sleeves could be alike, of light silk, making it a very effective dress.
Fig. 2, the dress for a small girl, is of the Empire order, with a deep yoke and deep ruffle of a contrasting silk with the skirt material. A very pretty combination is a



FIG. 1. FIG. 2. CHILDREN'S DRESSES.

sage-green cashmere skirt, with a yoke of a shade lighter or of a shell pink. The sleeves a double puff, and three rows of ribbon around the skirt.

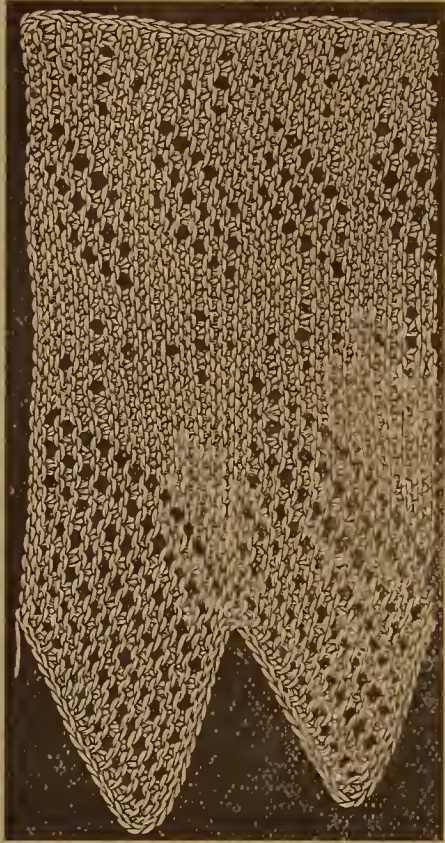
Fig. 3, for a larger girl, is a pale gray cashmere trimmed with openwork jet over a cherry-red lining, lighting up the entire costume in a way very becoming to a pale brunette.

Simple costumes for children are becoming

more and more favored, the chief thought being the material, which should be of the very best. It is a sad mistake to use poor material, as children are hard on their clothes, as a usual thing, and the best will last much the longest. L. L. C.

POINT LACE AND INSERTION.

ABBREVIATIONS.—St, stitch; k, knit; sl, slip; o, over; n, narrow.



POINT LACE AND INSERTION.

Cast on 38 stitches, and knit once across plain, turn.

First row—Slip 1, k 6, over and narrow three times, k 11, over and narrow six times, o, k 2.

Second, and every alternate row—Knit plain.

Third row—Sl 1, k 3, o, n, k 2, over and narrow three times, k 7, o, n, k 2, over and narrow six times, o, k 2.

Fifth row—Sl 1, k 8, over and narrow three times, k 11, over and narrow six times, o, k 2.

Seventh row—Sl 1, k 1, over and narrow three times, k 2, over and narrow three times, k 3, over and narrow three times, k 2, over and narrow six times, o, k 2.

Ninth row—Sl 1, k 10, over and narrow three times, k 11, over and narrow six times, o, k 2.

Eleventh row—Sl 1; k 3, o, n, k 6, over and narrow three times, k 3, o, n, k 6, over and narrow six times, o, k 2 (forty-four stitches).

Thirteenth row—Sl 1, k 29, over and narrow six times, o, k 2.

Fifteenth row—Sl 1, k 6, over and narrow three times, k 18, over and narrow six times, o, k 2.

Seventeenth row—Sl 1, k 3, o, n, k 2, over and narrow three times, k 7, o, n, k 9, over and narrow six times, o, k 2.

Nineteenth row—Sl 1, k 8, over and narrow three times, k 18, over and narrow six times, o, k 2 (forty-eight stitches.)

Twenty-first row—Sl 1, k 1, over and narrow three times, k 2, over and narrow three times, k 3, over and narrow three times, k 9, over and narrow six times, o, k 2.

Twenty-third row—Sl 1, k 10, over and narrow three times, k 18, over and narrow six times, o, k 2.

Twenty-fifth row—Sl 1, k 3, o, n, k 6, over and narrow three times, k 3, o, n, k 13, over and narrow six times, o, k 2. Then knit across twice plain.

Twenty-eighth row—Slip and bind off 13 stitches, and knit the twenty-seven stitches of all the rest off plain. Then repeat from the beginning of the first row for the length required.

ELLA McCOWEN.

SINGERS AND ARTISTS GENERALLY are users of "Brown's Bronchial Troches" for Coughs, Colds, Hoarseness and Throat Irritations. They afford instant relief. Avoid imitations.

See our pattern offer on page 13.

SIMPLE, BROAD LACE.

Cast on 26 stitches, and knit across plain. First row—Knit 4, over, narrow (knit 3, over and narrow three times), knit 3, over, knit 2.

Second, fourth, sixth and seventh rows.—Knit plain.

Third row—Knit 5, over, narrow (knit 3 over and narrow three times), knit 3, over, knit 2.

Fifth row—Knit 6, over, narrow (knit 3, over and narrow three times), knit 3, over, knit 2.

Eighth row—Bind off 3, knit the remainder plain.

Commence again with first row.

To get the full effect, knit quite a strip, when it will be found very handsome, notwithstanding the ease and rapidity with which the work is done. The wrong side is the one nearest smooth. It is showy for pillow-cases. H. E. M.

A PLEA FOR THE COUNTRY BOY.

To know just the right course to pursue at the proper time, is a problem intricate in its solution, and no doubt most of us on this mundane sphere are wrestling with it in some form or another. Especially is this true with those of us intrusted with the care of children, for—bless their souls—they must be dealt with according to the best of our ability, if all else goes amiss.

It is for the country boy that I want to say a word, in regard to his advantages for



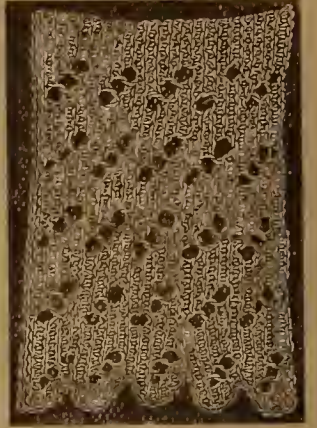
FIG. 3.—DRESS FOR OLDER GIRL.

an education. (We do not intend to ignore his sister, by any means; but of her another time.)

Many good fathers and mothers are resolved that wee Jack, just toddling about, shall, if possible, go to college.

Accordingly, every energy is bent in that direction, that the means may be at hand to equip Jack for his career at college. In nine cases out of ten, Jack is kept at home, seeing little and knowing little outside of farm life and his home school. I believe this is a serious mistake. There are so many ways to educate a child outside of the textbook.

Take Jack out occasionally—two or three times a year—for a trip to the city. See



SIMPLE, BROAD LACE.

that he goes in good hands, with some one capable of instruction. Let him stay two or three days; show him objects of which his comprehension is capable. Stay at a good hotel, and let Jack become familiar with the ways of such an institution, so that he may not be considered a "greeny" when he visits such a place later in life.

Visits to public institutions are profitable; they help him to get ideas—help him to see and learn. Talk over the visit when you get home. Let him write a little story about it, and tell over the things of interest. Remember, you are preparing your boy for college, if you consider all this too much trouble.

As he grows older, visit the powerhouse—a wonderful opportunity for a lesson on electricity. Take him to the public library for half a day; visit the dry-goods stores. If you are near your state capital and the legislature is in session, take him there for a lesson in civics. Take him to the theater to witness a good play.

Remember that a great deal depends upon Jack's companionship. If you cannot go yourself, send him with some one who is worthy the trust. Jack is laying a firm foundation for opportunities that may follow. Maybe a college education may be denied him; and maybe, after all, Jack is not suited to such a career. But that does not prove that he is to be neglected because he shows no talent for Greek or Latin.

Don't tell Jack that you want him to be something better than a farmer; that you don't want him to be stumping around over the fields, as you have done; don't be a fool and tell Jack that. Let him be a farmer if he will, but see to it that he is not an ignorant one.

By all means, I should consider a year's travel under careful tutorship an ample equivalent to an equal time spent in school. One trouble with all of us is that our book education comes too much in a lump; especially is it true with we farm people. But as to Jack, don't let him go from you away to school an untutored, raw, green youth, unprepared for the opportunities before him. Help him to be otherwise, and Jack will call you blessed. That is, he ought to.

MARY D. SIBLEY.

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HOME TOPICS.

GOOD BREAD.—The daughter of the house is learning to make bread this winter, and as it is not always convenient to get the little cake of compressed yeast, she must first learn to make yeast. This she does by boiling three medium-sized potatoes, which have been pared and cut into quarters, in a quart of water. While the potatoes are boiling, she puts a small handful of hops into a tin can, with a pint of boiling water, covers it tightly and sets the can where the water will simmer.

The can used is a tomato-can from which the top has been unsoldered, and is kept

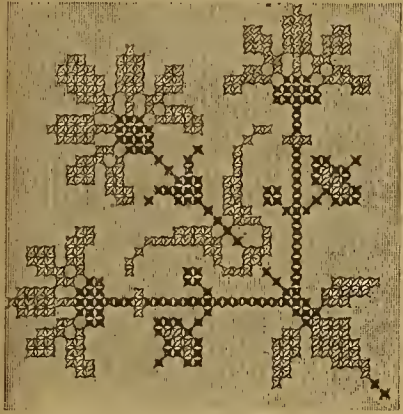


FIG. 1.—BOOT AND SHOE CASE.

for that purpose alone, as it is difficult to remove the taste of hops from a saucepan needed for other uses.

When the potatoes are done, the water is drained off into a stone crock holding three quarts, then the potatoes are rubbed through a sieve into the crock, the hop tea strained into it, and enough boiling water added to make two quarts, then a half teaspoonful each of salt and granulated sugar are added, and the mixture left to stand until cool enough to bear the hand in it. As soon as cool enough, a half pint of yeast is added, the crock covered and set where it will keep warm for twelve hours. A cake of dry yeast may be used instead of the other to start with.

After keeping the yeast warm for twelve hours, it should appear covered with fine bubbles and "sing" when stirred. Let it stand twelve hours longer in a cooler place, then put in bottles, not quite full, and tie the corks down, or in pint fruit-jars and screw on the tops.

If this yeast is put in a cool place, it will keep for a month. It is best to put a half pint in a bottle and keep corked tightly, with which to start the yeast next time.

When the bread-maker wishes to make bread, she sifts a quart of flour into the bread-bowl, adds a tablespoonful of salt, and rubs into it a tablespoonful of cotoleue (lard can be used), then scalds a part of it with a pint of boiling water, and adds cold water enough to wet the rest of the flour. As soon as her fingers can be borne in the batter, she adds a half pint of yeast, beats it thoroughly for five minutes, dusts a little dry flour over the top, covers it closely and sets it in a warm place to rise. If this sponge is made at six o'clock in the evening, it will be light enough to mix



FIG. 2.—BOOT AND SHOE CASE.

by nine o'clock, and then the young bread-maker sifts two quarts more of flour, and with a spoon stirs into the bread as much flour as she can, then mixes it with her hand until stiff enough to knead. Then she takes it out on the board and kneads it for ten or fifteen minutes, and puts it back into the bowl, smooth side up, covers it closely and sets it where it will keep a little warm until morning.

At half-past six in the morning she makes the bread into four loaves, with as little handling as possible, and if set in a warm place to rise again, by nine o'clock the bread will be baked.

In warm weather, seven o'clock is early enough to set the sponge, and no extra heat is required. Both the sponge and bread will rise if covered closely and left on the kitchen table.

The loaves should rise to twice the size they are made before they are put in the oven, and will rise still more before beginning to bake.

The oven is at the right heat for baking bread when you can hold your hand in it long enough to count twenty quickly. The heat should be steady for a half hour, and then decrease a little.

It is best to bake each loaf in a separate pan, and those five inches wide and nine inches long are a nice size. Forty minutes is about the time required to bake loaves of this size. A loaf of bread, when ready to take from the oven, will not burn the hand, and the crust should be a rich brown.

It is better to bake a little too long than not long enough, if you are in any doubt about the bread being done. As soon as the loaves are taken from the oven, stand them on their sides on the bread-board, and do not cover them until they are cool, then put them in a tight, tin box.

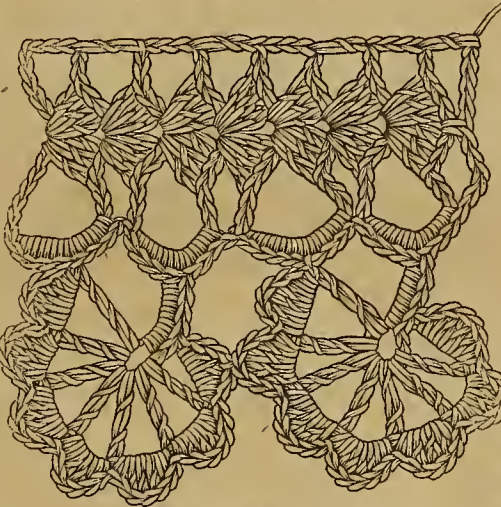
No definite rule can be given for the quantity of flour to be used, as flour varies. Be careful not to make the bread too stiff, and a little experience will teach you just the right consistency.

An excellent plan for raising bread in the winter is to have a tight box, large enough to hold the bread-bowl, and one or two hot bricks or bottles of hot water. In the summer, shut the bread in the box without the extra heat. MAIDA MCL.

CROCHETED LEAF EDGING.

ABBREVIATIONS.—Sh means shell or shells; ch, chain or chains; st, stitch or stitches; tr, treble or trebles; d c, double crochet; s c, single crochet.

After the first scallop is made, when



CROCHETED LEAF EDGING.

crocheting the second leaf and each following leaf, fasten the second small scallop to the last small scallop of previous leaf, with a slip-stitch or single crochet-stitch. Make a chain of 15 st; turn.

First row—1 sh, (3 tr, ch 1, 3 tr) in the ninth st, ch 8, 1 s c in the last st of foundation ch, ch 1; turn.

Second row—9 d c under the first 5 st of 8 ch, ch 4, 1 sh in sh, ch 2, miss 2 ch st, 1 tr in next, ch 5; turn.

Third row—1 sh in sh, ch 8, 1 s c in the last st of 4 ch, ch 1; turn.

Fourth row—5 d c under the first 3 st of 8 ch, ch 10, 1 d c in the seventh st of ch from needle, ch 4; turn. 6 long tr (thread over twice), into the ring. With 3 ch between each of them, ch 3, 1 extra long tr (thread over three times), into the ring, 1 s c in the fifth st of 9 d c (of the second row), ch 1; turn. 1 d c, 3 tr, 1 d c under each ch of 3, 1 d c, 3 tr, 1 d c under 4 ch, 4 d c around the 3 first st of 10 ch, 4 d c under the two next st of 8 ch, ch 4, 1 sh in sh, ch 2, 1 tr in third st of 5 ch, ch 5; turn.

Fifth row—1 sh in sh, ch 8, 1 s c in the last st of 4 ch, ch 1; turn.

Repeat from the second row for the length required. ELLA McCOWEN.

TO THE SISTERS WHO WILL VOTE IN THE SPRING.

Well, well! The day has come, and you can drop your little vote in the ballot-box, and thereby have your say in school affairs. The rest will come by and by.

How many of us are ready to do so intelligently? It is a good while until spring, but it is sure to come. Read the school laws, know everything you can about them. Neighborhood organizations for study of the same would be a splendid plan to adopt. This is an event in our lives. Let us all be ready for it. M. D. S.

CASE FOR PACKING BOOTS AND SHOES, WITH CROSS-STITCH EMBROIDERY.

The useful case illustrated is much easier to make than a shoe-bag. It is cut of a square piece of gray linen, thirteen and one half inches large, three corners of which are turned down alike, while the fourth, with strings sewn on, is turned over wider. The embroidery is worked in cross-stitch, for which we give a handsome pattern (Fig. 1). Red calico is used for the lining, and the illustration (Fig. 2) shows a red braid edge, while Fig. 3 shows a crocheted scallop on the edge. The pat-

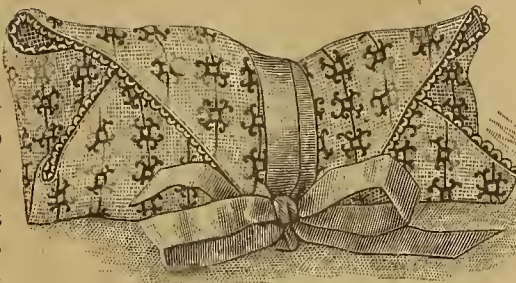


FIG. 3.—BOOT AND SHOE CASE.

tern should be worked in embroidery cotton in colors to harmonize with the lining and broad tape ties. STELLA STACEY.

THEM BARGAINS.

Me'n' Hannah, we went a-shoppin',
Come Sat'day, three weeks nigh about,
An' both on us caught onto bargains—
Bargains? Well, I should shout!

Hern was a new-fangled garment,
'They 'lowed 'twas a "tennis shirt,"
An' mine was operay glasses,
An' I got 'em as cheap as dirt.

We planned we'd s'prise each other,
It mought a' be'n foolish, mcbbe,
But I set a store on Hannah,
An' Hannah sets store on me.

Wall, Hannah, she liked them glasses,
An' she kep' as mum as a fly,
That when she tried 'em at sun-up,
There warn't nary glass in one eye!

An' my shirt—'twas mighty cur'ous,
But first time I pitched, on the mow,
That garment split up my spinal,
An' there's nigh a pa'r o' shirts now!

But I never let on to Hannah,
An' I tried to back out the door,
An' I kep' admiring the buzom
An' pretendin' nothin' was tore.

We're old folks, mc an' Hannah,
And we're foolish, it mought be.
But I set a store on Hannah,
An' Hannah sets store on me.

LADIES' KNIT SILK GLOVES.

Almost anybody who is familiar with knitting can knit mittens; but so many tell me that they cannot manage the fingers when it comes to knitting gloves, though gloves are generally preferred. We all remember the story of the "cat with mittens on." I will give my method, which is both simple and correct:

Materials required, one ounce of Victoria knitting silk, No. 300, and No. 19 needles.

Cast eighty-five stitches on three needles, knit once around plain, then knit in ribs, alternating three stitches plain and two purled for sixty rounds, which will give three inches of ribs. Now taking the three stitches of one of the ribs as a basis for the thumb, increase two stitches in the next round, one on each side of the rib, and in every fourth round thereafter until you have knit forty-six rounds of plain knitting. One stitch each side of the thumb should be purled in every round up to this point. There should now be twenty-seven stitches in the thumb, not including the two purled stitches, for they belong to the hand. String these stitches and tie securely.

Cast on three stitches to take the place of those used up for the thumb, and knit plain until the base of the little finger is reached.

For the right-hand glove, knit thirty stitches, beginning with the three cast on for the thumb; then string twenty-one for the little finger.

For the left-hand glove knit twenty-two stitches, counting from the last cast on for the thumb, and continue as with the others. Cast on six stitches to take the place of the little finger, and knit four times around.

String twenty-three for the third finger, seven back of the six cast on last and ten in front. Cast on ten, knit around once, string twenty-four, six at the back and eight in front of the ten cast on last. Cast on twelve, knit until nearly long enough for the forefinger, then narrow once on each needle in every round until all are used up. Take up the stitches of the other fingers and thumb and knit them up in a like manner. MRS. TABOR.
Crescent, Ark.

A NOBLE FIGHT.

An Eminent Southern Lawyer's Long Conflict with Disease—Twenty-five Years of Prosperity, Adversity and Suffering—The Great Victory Won by Science Over a Stubborn Disease.

(From the Atlanta, Ga., Constitution.)

Foremost among the best known lawyers and farmers of North Carolina stands Col. Isaac A. Sugg, of Greenville. Mr. Sugg has resided in Greenville 22 years. While nearly everyone in Pitt Co. knows Mr. Sugg's history, perhaps all do not know of his return to business again after an illness of 16 years. No man has gone through more than he, and lived. It was a case of the entire breaking down of the nervous system, attended by excruciating, agonizing, unendurable pain. Opiates and stimulants only quieted temporarily, and all treatments failed him. Only his love of family and friends prevented suicide. He told a reporter the following interesting story:

"I kept at my work as long as I could, but nature gave way at last and I succumbed to the inevitable. My entire nervous system had been shattered by the stimulants and opiates I had taken, my blood had actually turned to water, my weight had dropped from 173 pounds to 123, and it seemed to everybody that the end was in sight. Why, I could not bear the gentle hand of my wife to bathe my limbs with tepid water. I was simply living from hour to hour. I had made my will, settled my business and waited for the last strand of life to snap.

"It was at this time that a somewhat similar case as my own was brought to my notice. This man had suffered very much as I had, his life had been despaired of as mine had, and yet he had been cured. Think what that little word meant to me—CURED. The report stated that the work had been accomplished by a medicine known as Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People. I investigated the report thoroughly and found that it was true in detail. Then I procured some of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills and began taking them, and began to get better. I began to sleep like a healthful child, sound, calm and peaceful. My appetite came back, and my nerves were soothed and restored to their normal condition and I felt like a new man. But the greatest blessing was the mental improvement. I began to read and digest, to formulate new plans, to take interest in my law practice, which began to come back to me as soon as my clients realized that I was again myself. After a lapse of ten years I ride horseback every day without fatigue.

"That Dr. Williams' Pink Pills saved my life is beyond doubt, and I am spreading their praise far and wide."

Inquiry about the town of Greenville substantiated the above facts of Col. Sugg's case, and that many others are being benefited by Dr. Williams' Pink Pills.

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Our Household.

HIS RISE.

He bought a brand-new pair of shoes,
He thought he'd get some spats;
He then discovered that he lacked
The latest thing in hats.

He bought one. Then his trousers bagged;
He ordered two new pair,
And then, strange fact, he noticed that
His coat was quite threadbare.

He bought another. Then he saw
Some waistcoats. Just the thing!
He had to get some ties to match;
He bought a diamond ring.

He joined three clubs. He bought a horse,
Then changed it for a team;
He bought a sailing yacht at first,
And then moved up to steam.

He bought these things, and many more,
This man so great and wise;
For during his career he had
The sense to advertise.

—Tom Masson, in *Clothier and Furnisher*.

THE LATEST FASHIONS.

By many it is held as being a clever act to sneer at fashion, and to hold in ridicule the love that most women have for dress, and pronounce extravagant those who take a pleasurable and noticeable interest in the art of making themselves attractive. The designing of fashions has indeed become an art, and almost an art it is in these days, when there is so much from which to select, to hit happily upon the style most suitable and becoming. It is the duty of every woman to look her best, and she can only fulfill this duty by keeping herself posted as to the new things and giving heed to those who make a study of feminine adornments. Tasteful dressing is made easier to-day than ever before, as in all the shops artists in their own particular line are found at the head of every department where women's wearing apparel is to be had. At no other period of history has woman been given such facilities for dressing well, and with so little trouble to herself. That one can ever keep "in the fashion" at a moderate expense, can easily be proven by the women of good taste and cleverness at shopping. Just at the present time shopping seems to be the chief delight of women. They stand in groups around the windows, admiring the new things in the way of gowns, wraps and millinery that are displayed, and many are the ideas they carry home to concoct dainty fancies.

Dresses for day wear continue to have for the most part quite plain skirts. Their chief characteristics, as I have before stated, being in their cut and arrangement from



EVENING GOWN.

the waist. The first full skirt which came to be worn, and which has assumed such alarming proportions, was designed by Paquin, whose gowns are now by many preferred to those of Worth. The latest importation from Paquin measures nine yards around the bottom, and is wired at intervals the entire length of the skirt in the back and sides, and is bent to suit the figure of the wearer. When shown on the shop figure, it hangs beautifully, but when put into practical use, there is simply no hang to it, and bobs from one side to the other much after the fashion of the old-fashioned, tilting hoop skirt. It is said by modistes who go abroad for their styles that Paquin declares his intentions of

bringing out in the spring the other extreme, and that narrow, close-fitting skirts will be worn, to the exclusion of the present style. But as fashion rarely ever makes such a monstrous leap at once, it is safe to say that the woman with her full skirt will be in good style a year hence. As a piece of news, I will say that one of our leading establishments here out-Paquined Paquin himself, by creating a gown for one of our leading actresses which measured twelve yards around the bottom. It is needless to say, when the fact was noised about, it proved a good drawing-card to the followers of fashion, who wanted to know "how it hung."



MOURNING COSTUME.

Such a marked change is shown in the style of mourning garments and materials, that contrary to the usual idea that mourning was quiet, and attracted little or no attention, it now stands out in bold relief, and on account of its richness is more noticeable than heretofore. For many years back crape has been almost entirely out, and nun's veiling and many materials with crape effects have been used instead; and it was the exception to see the old-time heavy crape, which has always been cried down by medical experts, who claim the poisonous substance in the coloring matter a constant irritation to the throat and a breeder of skin diseases. This season sees not only the crape veil and trimmings, but entire gowns and wraps of the heaviest and richest crape.

The costume here shown is one of the latest models in mourning. The skirt is of heavy crape, made very full, with three pipings of the same placed on in a wavy effect. The loose blouse effect is of black chiffon over which fastens the short Bolero jacket of crape edged with a piping of the same. A broad, stiff bow of crape, which extends almost from arm to arm, fastens across the bust. The full leg-o'-mutton sleeve, which is very close-fitting until it passes the elbow, has a flaring gauntlet cuff of crape. The collar is chiffon, made full, with stiff bow of crape in the back. Veils are now draped to form ear-like trimmings, and are placed back or directly in front, as may be most suitable to the face.

Many of the dress skirts are worn over the bodice, with the band trimmed in crushed belt effect, rosettes or buckles, or both are placed at either side or directly in front. The enormous buckle which is now worn in the back at the waist line, is effective; usually two long ends of four-inch black satin ribbon without loops, and which reach to the bottom of the dress skirt, are suspended from the buckle.

The little tots are dressed so quaint and cunning this season. Those who look the prettiest are dressed in the same color throughout, including hats and leggings, white seeming to be the favorite. One whose coat with full cape trimmed with sable fur, poke bonnet trimmed also with fur, and both made of white velour, was a picture of daintiness. Leggings of white cloth made the tiny feet look almost too small to hold up the little chubby, brown-eyed lassie. The coats are made short-waisted, while the lower part is very full and quite long. An entire costume of bluet, relieved with chinchilla fur, is also a favorite with the little ones.

The dainty gown pictured is of yellow taffeta silk, with stripes formed of small, bright-colored flowers and green leaves, the skirt being full, with plain hem. The full "baby waist" is held in by a twist of green velvet, with a rosette of the same at either side, while a deep-pointed collar of

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green velvet, edged with lace points top and bottom, hangs well over the fullness, being the same back and front. The full sleeve forms a ruffle at the hand, which is faced back with green velvet. The guimpe is of yellow chiffon, which forms a ruffle at the neck. Small handkerchief-bags just large enough for the dainty piece of linen, are worn by children, and are suspended from the waist with ribbon.

The evening gown is of pink "sunset moire." The bodice is full, and held in at the waist with a crushed belt of a darker pink velvet, garnished at the sides with bows of the same. A fall of sheer lace finishes the square-cut neck back and front, and bows of velvet are placed far below the shoulders in front, with the same effect in the back. The large sleeve is a puff of cream lace over pink moire, and is strapped with bands of heavy, deep cream lace insertion over the pink velvet.

Turquoise and rhinestones are happily combined in buckles and bands for dressy bonnets and hats.

The old-time bead necklaces are again shown as the new thing.

Cut-glass handles for umbrellas are new. Those of Rookwood pottery, too, are much carried.

Oval miniatures on porcelain, or with that effect, are late French novelties, seen in New York shops, and are worn as belt and neck buckles, cuff-button and corsage ornaments.

Bangles are again to the front, and are in the form of stones set on a mere wire of gold, which looks as though they were set in the arm itself.

A novelty for a fob is a small gold dic-



DRESS FOR SMALL GIRL.

tionary containing a number of words over which is placed a glass which magnifies the infinitesimal letter. MARY K.

FOR NEW BEGINNERS IN KNITTING.

First is making the number of stitches wanted on the needle. For ten stitches, as the thread lays in the work-basket or lap, take thread in right hand, about five inches from the end, wind it around the forefinger of the left hand, which makes a cross, and leaves the end of the thread at the left, with the face of the hand toward you. Then cast your needle under the cross made on the forefinger. Take the long thread and throw it around the point of the needle, and draw it through, holding the short thread tight. Then draw it down tight to the needle, making a slip-stitch. Keeping this on

the needle, * take the short thread, hold the thread with thumb and second finger, bring needle around and hold it the same way, with the thread around the forefinger again. Cast your needle under the thread held by the thumb, take long thread, throw it over the point of the needle and draw it through, making another stitch. Repeat from * until you have the number of stitches wanted on the needle. ** Then turn the needle around end for end. Insert needle under first stitch made on the needle held in the left hand. Throw thread over and draw it through, making a stitch on right-hand needle, slipping the stitch off from left-hand needle. Repeat from ** until you get the piece of work as long as required. This is called plain knitting.

Another way: Take a long thread, hold it with thumb and second finger. Insert needle under thread held by the thumb and finger. Draw finger out, and draw the thread down tight to the needle, making a stitch with one thread. After getting the number of stitches wanted, repeat the same as before.



DON'T MISS IT

The "World's Washer" washes easy, quick, well. No half way work. A child can use it. Saves its cost every year. Sent anywhere in U. S. Prices reasonable. Circulars free. Agents wanted quick. C. E. ROSS, Lincoln, Ill.

You Dye in 30 minutes

Our turkey red dye on cotton won't freeze, boil or wash out—all others will. Tonk's French Dyes are different from others. Just the thing for hard times. Make the carpets, dresses, capes and clothing as bright and attractive as new. Anyone can do it. No misses if you have Tonk's. Try them and see. Send 4c. for 6 pkgs., or 10c. for one, any color. Big pay for agents. Write quick. Mention this paper. FRENCH DYE CO., Vassar, Mich.

NEW FLOWERS. Roses, Seeds and Bulbs packet each Sunshine Pansies, Dbl. Daisies, Fairy Poppies, Sweet Peas, Sweet Alyssum—5 pkts. and Catalog, only 10c. ALFRED F. CONARD, Box 11, West Grove, Pa.

CAULIFLOWERS.

Why pay the enormous prices of \$4 to \$6 per ounce for imported seed, when a better article can be had at home for less than half the money? Address H.A. March, Fidalgo, Wash., for STATION testimonials, and prices.



WATCH Free. Many sizes with a few 5c. packets Pure, Fresh Garden seeds. Particulars for stamp. List to GARDENERS free. Supply by weight a high grade, 50 pound Farm bell only \$3.00. U. S. SEED CO., Kalamazoo, Mich.

Lovely Flowers Given Away

To introduce my SEEDS and BULBS, I will mail 2 New Excelsior Double Dwarf Pearl Tuberoses Bulbs, sure to bloom early; 4 Gladioli Bulbs—fancy mixed, lovely spikes all colors, nothing can equal these; 1 packet Marguerite Carnation, give elegant flowers in 4 mos. from seed; 1 pkt. Pansy—The Alice, finest mxd., every color imaginable; 1 pkt. Poppy—Golden Gatt, nothing makes a grander show; 1 packet Sweet Peas—Eckford's Choice, mixed, over 30 sorts, simply grand; 1 pkt. Phlox, fancy mxd., includes many wonderful colors; 1 pkt. Chinese Pinks, all colors, and a flower everyone wants; 1 pkt. Mixed Flower Seeds for Wild Garden—over 100 kinds that will grow and bloom freely. The above are selling for \$1.00, but as I have grown 100,000 collections simply to introduce my Seeds and Bulbs, will mail the complete lot, for only 25 cents to pay postage, packing, etc. They will bloom this season and make a great display. Order at once before all are taken. Catalogue of vegetables and lovely flowers FREE with each order. Full of Bargains. If you send silver or Money Order, a Floral Work of art in ten colors and 50 cent certificate is sent free. Address F. B. MILLS, Box 123, ROSE HILL, N. Y.

RARE FLORIDA FLOWERS.

Our 72 page catalogue of Rare Florida Flowers and Fruits sent FREE to all who apply for it. It is beautifully printed in claret and dark green, is profusely illustrated, has a department of FLOWERS, CHOICE PALMS, FERNS, ORCHIDS, AQUATICS, AMARYLLIS, etc., etc., as cheap as the commonest plants North. All pot-grown and none grown by artificial heat, therefore the best adapted for window culture. Two fine sample plants, a Palm and an Australian Silk Oak (as hardy as a Geranium and as beautiful as a Fern), and Catalogue all sent post-paid to any address for only 25 cents. Pike & Ellsworth, Jessamine, Fla.

CUT PAPER PATTERNS.

Any **FOUR** Patterns, and the **Farm and Fireside** one year, **50 cents**.

When this offer is accepted, no commission or other premium will be allowed.

These patterns retail in fashion bazaars and stores for twenty-five to forty cents each, but in order to increase the demand for our paper among strangers, and to make it more valuable than ever to our old friends, we offer them to the lady readers of our paper for the remarkably low price of only **10 Cents Each**.
Postage one cent extra.

The patterns are all of the very latest New York styles, and are unequalled for style, accuracy of fit, simplicity and economy. For twenty-four years these patterns have been used the country over. Full descriptions and directions—as the number of yards of material required, the number and names of the different pieces in the pattern, how to cut and fit and put the garment together—are sent with each pattern, with a picture of the garment

to go by. These patterns are complete in every particular, there being a separate pattern for every single piece of the dress. Your order will be filled the same day it is received.

You can order any of the patterns which have been offered in the back numbers.

For ladies, give **BUST** measure in inches. For SKIRT pattern, give **WAIST** measure in inches. For misses, boys, girls or children, give **BREAST** measure in inches. Order patterns by number and give size in inches.

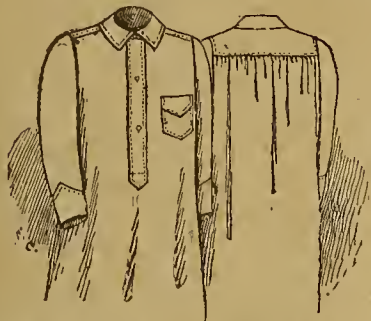
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To get **BUST** and **BREAST** measure, put the tape measure ALL of the way around the body, over the dress close under the arms.

Price of each pattern, **10 cents**.

Postage one cent extra on EACH pattern, except on Wrappers, Tea and Princess Gowns, 2 cents extra.

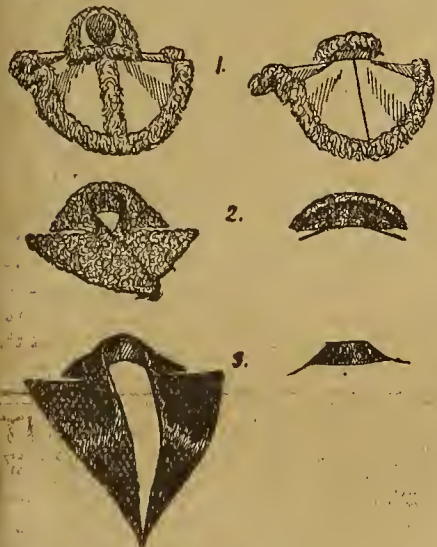
Address **FARM AND FIRESIDE**, Springfield, Ohio.



No. 6256.—GENTS' NIGHT-SHIRT.

Sizes, 34, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44 and 46 inches breast. Regular price, 25 cents; price to you, 11 cents.

The yoke is made double, and includes the fronts at the shoulder and the gathers at the upper edge of back, which gives extra width to the garment. The sleeves are comfortably full, double facings at the wrists simulating cuffs. The garment combines comfort and strength with utility.



No. 6264.—LADIES' COLLARS. All for 11 cents. These patterns are cut in one size. Regular price, 30 cents; price to you, 11 cents.

No. 1 is a cape collar that can either be worn separately or used to modernize capes and jackets. The comfort attained by the addition of one of these collars has insured their popularity for many seasons to come. Astrakhan or cloth trimmed with fur as here shown, are the preferred materials. A warm interlining, with lining of silk, giving a comfortable and dainty finish.

No. 2 is designed for coats, basques or capes, and can be made of fur, cloth, velvet, plush or astrakhan. It can be worn raised, as shown, or rolled over flatly, as preferred.

No. 3 is used either for basques, waists or as a separate, fancy collar, the material and decoration employed making the distinction. These collars will be found invaluable to the home dressmaker.



No. 6270.—BLANKET WRAPPER.

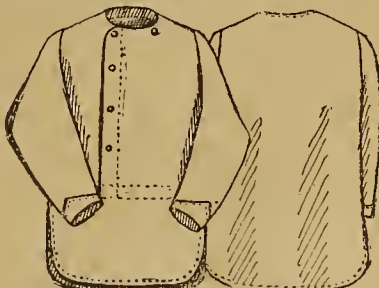
For ladies, 32, 34, 36, 38, 40 and 42 inches bust. For misses, 26, 28, 30, 32 inches breast measure. Regular price, 35 cents; price to you, 12 cents.

The general utility of such a garment will be seen at a glance, the difference of material used in its development a one determining its prescribed function. The adjustment is loose-fitting. The front can be left open below the waist and lapped as shown, or can be provided to close all the way to the lower edge. A girdle of rose silk cord with tassels confines the fullness at the waist.



No. 6259.—GIRL'S DRESS, WITH JACKET FRONT. Sizes, 22, 24, 26 and 28 inches breast measure. Regular price, 25 cents; price to you, 11 cents.

This stylish arrangement is made over a fitted body lining, the front of plaid silk drooping in blouse fashion. Eton jacket fronts of the serge have broad, pointed lapels trimmed with open fancy braid over yellow ribbon, and are included in the shoulder and under-arm seams. The backs are gathered at the neck and waist line and close invisibly in the center. A standing collar of plaid silk finishes the neck, and the full gigot sleeves are trimmed at the wrists with braid over ribbon. The top of the skirt is gathered and sewed to the lower edge of waist.



No. 6267.—MEN'S UNDERSHIRT.

Sizes, 34, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44 and 46 inches breast. Regular price, 25 cents; price to you, 11 cents.

Perfect protection to the chest is afforded by a garment of this kind to men that have to face the elements in all kinds of weather. It can be made in white, gray, blue or scarlet flannel, as preferred, the latter color in its medicated form being a special preventive against rheumatism. Being simply constructed, it is easily made by the aid of this pattern, the advantages of home manufacture being a better garment for less money.



No. 6263.—HOODS. All for 11 cents. These patterns are cut in one size. Regular price, 25 cents; price to you, 11 cents.



No. 6262.—LADIES' SLEEVES. All for 11 cents. Sizes, 32, 36 and 40 inches bust measure. Regular price, 30 cents; price to you, 11 cents.

The patterns are greatly appreciated. Please send two more by return mail.
MRS. CHAS. INGALLS, Danville, Vt.



No. 6246.—LADIES' BASQUE.

Sizes, 32, 34, 36, 38 and 40 inches bust measure. Regular price, 25 cents; price to you, 11 cents.

The mode is shown among the latest importations of English tailor-made suits, and ranks as a favorite with ladies of symmetrical proportions. Its simple glove-fitting adjustment is effected with the usual double darts and seams very generally shown in tailor-made basques. Buttons and buttonholes may be used for closing, if preferred. Full leg-o'-mutton sleeves droop fashionably to the elbow, the lower portions fitting the arm snugly. All styles of plain and mixed cloths, chevot, tweed, homespun, serge, vicugna, will make up stylishly by the mode. A plain tailor finish is all that is necessary, but braid or velvet can be used to decorate, if so desired.



No. 6242.—GIRL'S APRON.

Sizes, 20, 22, 24, 26 and 28 inches breast measure. Regular price, 25 cents; price to you, 11 cents.

It is simply cut and made in loose sack style, closing in center back with buttons and buttonholes, the fronts being slightly drawn back by two sash ends of the material, which are tied in a bow below the waist line. Fanciful bretelles cross the shoulders and meet at the points in front and back, giving a very dressy effect. The gigot sleeves are full enough for fashion, yet shaped with the view to prevent trouble in laundering.



No. 6269.—GIRL'S DRESS.

Sizes, 24, 26 and 28 inches breast measure. Regular price, 25 cents; price to you, 11 cents.

In this pattern a simulated yoke of velvet covers the upper portions of the fitted body back and front. The full front and back is shirred and placed on in pointed outline. Stylish bretelles are graduated to points, and fall gracefully from the shoulders to the waist line, front and back. A standing collar of velvet finishes the neck, and the closing is in center back. Double puffs are stylishly arranged over fitted sleeves faced to the elbow with velvet. The full, round skirt is gathered at the top and sewed to the lower edge of the waist. The mode is desirable for dresses either of silk or woolen fabric, and can be suitably developed in various combinations of color or material.



No. 6275.—LADIES' CAPE.

Sizes, 32, 34, 36, 38, 40 and 42 inches bust measure. Regular price, 30 cents; price to you, 11 cents.

This is one of the most stylish capes worn this season, and is becoming to everyone. The full godet folds are interlined with cotton padding, a handsome lining of changeable taffeta luxuriously finishing the inside. The mode will be found desirable for remodeling capes and long coats. Fur trimming is a fashionable and seasonable decoration for capes by the mode.



No. 6204.—LADIES' DOUBLE-BREADED BASQUE.

Sizes, 32, 34, 36, 38 and 40 inches bust measure. Regular price, 25 cents; price to you, 11 cents.

This basque is becomingly short, extending to but a trifle below the waist line, and is of round lower outline. It is adjusted with the precision of a close-fitting basque by single bust darts, under-arm and side-back gores and a curving center seam. The fronts lap in double-breasted fashion and close at the left side with buttons and buttonholes, and are reversed at the top in enormous lapels that meet the rolling collar in notches.



No. 6159.—LADIES' PRINCESS WRAPPER.

Sizes, 32, 34, 36, 38, 40 and 42 inches bust measure. Regular price, 35 cents; price to you, 12 cents.

This pattern is so large and heavy that it requires 2 cents extra to cover the additional postage. Send 12 cents for this pattern.

This design is particularly becoming to ladies of generous proportions, especially when made of striped material, with front, sleeves and bertha of the darkest color. The long, unbroken lines take away from the breadth by apparently adding to the height. The mode is suitable for almost any kind of material, and can be made to do duty as a walking-dress, tea-gown or wrapper, as well as on ceremonious occasions. All depends on the material used and the style of trimming, the design being just as available for silk of the finest grade as for cotton fabrics.

I find your patterns a perfect fit. Hope you will still continue to keep them.

MRS. ELLA KERLIN, Wolcott, Ind.

My friend and I are delighted with the patterns we ordered from you; they fit to perfection. Please find amount for three more.

CELESTIE A. SPERROW, London, Ohio.

I am much pleased with the pattern purchased of you, and inclose thirty cents for three more.

MRS. ESTELLA SMITH, Ames, Iowa.

I am much pleased with my first order of cut-paper patterns, and will order from you whenever I need a pattern.

MRS. CHAS. CARROLL, Liberty, Miss.

Our Sunday Afternoon.

THE SUNDAY BURDEN.

To everyone on earth God gives a burden to be carried down The road that lies between the cross and crown;

Some carry it aloft, Open and visible to all eyes, And all may see its form and weight and size;

Thy burden is God's gift, And it will make thee brave and calm and strong;

Yet, lest it press too heavily and long, He says, "Cast it on me, And it shall easy be."

And those who heed his voice, And seek to give it back in trustful prayer, Have quiet hearts that never can despair,

Take thou thy burden thus Into thy hands and lay it at his feet, And whether it be sorrow or defeat,

It is the lonely road That crushes out the light and life of heaven, But, borne with him, the soul restored, forgiven,

"THE MOUNTAINS SHALL BRING PEACE."

JESUS CHRIST is no security against storms, but he is perfect security in them. I have seen a village nestling in the bosom of some great mountain.

"Oh, yes," was the answer. "If there is a storm anywhere in the neighborhood, it seems to find us out."

"How do you account for it?" "Those who seem to know say it is due to the mountain which towers above our village. If he happens to see a cloud anywhere on the horizon, he beckons it till it settles on his brow.

"Not one. We have seen the lightning strike the mountain a hundred times, and a grand sight it is; but nobody has been killed."

"What have you, then?" "We have the thunder, which shakes our windows and frightens our women and children, but it has not killed anybody;

When Jesus Christ became incarnate, he rose like a very mountain of God, and all the storms of the ages gathered around his head. There came sweeping up, too, hurricanes from the dreary wilds of eternal night,

This is a Frenchman's version of the fall of Adam and Eve: "Monsieur Adam, he vake up—he sees une belle demoiseille aslip in ze garden. Voila de la chance!

FRENCH VERSION OF THE FALL.

There is one receipt given in the Bible for filling churches and for destroying worldliness, which we would commend to those ministers who have so often to preach to empty pews and worldly Christians.

THE NECESSITIES OF THE SPIRIT.

As you grow better, there are some things which are always growing looser in their grasp upon you; there are other things which are always taking tighter hold upon your life.

DAILY DUTIES AS A MEANS OF GRACE.

Life is God's gymnasium. He takes the measures; we do not know what they are. He puts us in our places, and gives us what discipline we need.

Let a man go into life believing this, taking life as his school, preparing for the life beyond, and what a glorious thing it is to live! Even failures do not discourage such a man, because he says, "I have failed once, and now I know what my weak point is, I will correct it next time."

LOOK FOR THE GOOD.

There is a great deal of good in the world. But there would be even more if that which is there were recognized, appreciated and used more.

It is in this sense, too, that we are to "overcome evil with good"—by discovering the grain of good that is in a man, cultivating, airing, developing it, until it gradually crowds out the evil by the vigor of its own growth.

HOW TO FILL A CHURCH.

There is one receipt given in the Bible for filling churches and for destroying worldliness, which we would commend to those ministers who have so often to preach to empty pews and worldly Christians.

\$6.00 TO CALIFORNIA

Is the price of one double berth in Tourist Sleeping Car from Chicago. This in on the famous "Phillips-Rock Island Tourist Excursions," and cars run through from Chicago, without change, on fast train, leaving Chicago every Tuesday and Thursday.

The Fact that



it is impossible to ascertain the quality of a plaster by a casual examination should be a sufficient reason for buying a plaster with a reputation.

There is no plaster that has been before the public so long; none that stands or ever stood so high; none so well guaranteed, none whose guarantee is so substantial and so liberally interpreted; none so safe to buy as an

Allcock's Porous Plaster

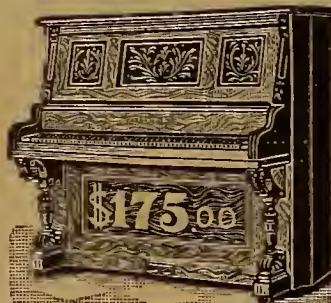
It is a marvelous cure for all kinds of lameness, rheumatism, sprains, stiffness of the joints or limbs, and congestion in the throat or chest.

Avoid Imitations claimed to be "Just as good as Allcock's." Get the genuine.

ALLCOCK'S CORN SHIELDS, ALLCOCK'S BUNION SHIELDS, Have no equal as a relief and cure for corns and bunions.

Brandreth's Pills. Taken at night on an empty stomach, for a week or two, will tone up the system.

FREE!



BEETHOVEN PIANO & ORGAN CO., P. O. Box 628 WASHINGTON, N. J.

Our 24-page catalogue of Organs, also our new and elegant catalogue of Pianos, containing 16 pp. We have the largest manufactory in the world from which we sell direct to the consumer at wholesale prices, thus saving the profits of the dealer and the commissions of the agents.



WEAK WOMEN

and all mothers who are nursing babies derive great benefit from Scott's Emulsion. This preparation serves two purposes. It gives vital strength to mothers and also enriches their milk and thus makes their babies thrive.

Scott's Emulsion

is a constructive food that promotes the making of healthy tissue and bone. It is a wonderful remedy for Emaciation, General Debility, Throat and Lung Complaints, Coughs, Colds, Anaemia, Scrofula and Wasting Diseases of Children.

Send for Pamphlet on Scott's Emulsion. Free. Scott & Bowne, N.Y. All Druggists. 50c. and \$1.

Dollars for Pennies.

"THE LIGHT THAT WON'T GO OUT."

Every family in America is ready to buy "The Light that sells on sight"—the wonderful new invention called CARBON WICK.

It burns a whole year without trimming. It kills a candle, discounts kerosene, beats gas, and almost equals electricity of sunlight.

It saves 20 per cent. of oil. It's clear, white, and brilliant. It's the light that won't go out. It's the light in the window for thee.

The Carbon Wick is something new. All need it, all buy it, all love it. To show it means to sell it, and it yields from 100 per cent. to 300 per cent. profit to agents.

The same kind of carbon that gives the electric light its brilliancy is woven into the Carbon Wick by a patented process. We hold affidavit showing that a Carbon Wick burned 1640 hours, giving the last hour the same perfect, brilliant light it gave the first.

A single lamp manufacturer in New England, who bought over 35,000, writes: "The Carbon beats all others. It sells our lamps and turns night into day." Every home, store, hotel, saloon, hall, church, or car company will buy the Carbon Wick on sight.

We have made arrangements with the manufacturers to introduce this wonderful discovery, and we offer for 60 days the following wholesale terms to agents.

Medium, or a Wick, 5-8 inch wide—the size for house lamps—by mail, sample, 5 cents; per dozen, 25 cents; per gross, \$2.50. Small, or E wicks, for hand lamps, lanterns, etc., 3-8 inch wide, sample, 5 cents; per dozen, 25 cents; per gross, \$2.50. Large, or B wicks, for table, hall, store, or bracket lamps, 1 inch wide, sample, 5 cents; per dozen, 25 cents; per gross, \$2.50. D wick, 1 1/2 inch wide, for incuators, hall, bracket, or store lamps, sample, 8 cents; 33 cents dozen; \$3.50 gross. Argand wicks for parlor lamps, sample wick, 8 cents; per dozen, 33 cents; per gross, \$3.50. On all orders amounting to \$10.00, accompanied by the cash, 15 per cent. off. Send for a sample dozen, giving width desired, and see how they go. We can supply you with any style CARBON WICK in any quantities, from a single wick to a thousand dozen. Write us about them. Address, MORSE & CO., Box 972, Augusta, Maine.

High Arm MY HUSBAND Sewing Machine \$60 Kenwood Machine for \$23.00 \$50 Arlington Machine for \$19.50 Standard Singers - \$9.00, \$11.00 \$15.00, and 27 other styles. All attachments FREE. We pay freight ship anywhere on 80 days free trial, in any home without asking one cent in advance. Buy from factory. Save agents large profits. Over 100,000 in use. Catalogue and testimonials Free. Write at once. Address (in full), CASH BUYERS' UNION, 158-164 West Van Buren St., B 7, Chicago, Ill. Mention this paper when you write.

FREE

A fine 14k gold plated watch to every reader of this paper. Cut this out and send it to us with your full name and address, and we will send you one of these elegant richly jeweled gold finished watches by express for examination, and if you think it is equal in appearance to any \$25.00 gold watch, pay our sample price, \$2.50 and it is yours. We send with the watch our guarantee that you can return it at any time within one year if not satisfactory, and if you sell or cause the sale of six we will give you One Free. Write at once as we shall send out samples for sixty days only. THE NATIONAL M'F'G & IMPORTING CO., 334 Dearborn Street, CHICAGO, ILL. Mention this paper when you write.

If afflicted with sore eyes use Dr. Thompson's Eye-Water



A HEALTHY MAN

In the accompanying illustration is seen the picture of a healthy man.—Every facial feature indicates a sound physical condition. Dissipation holds no place here. With sparkling eyes, ruddy complexion and rotund cheeks, this man betrays no evidence of ever being wheedled and charmed by unholy pleasures. Many a "wild oat" has he sown, however, but his present healthy condition was restored through the aid of a remarkable and most effective prescription which I send absolutely free of charge.

all letters sent in plain sealed envelope. Enclose stamp if convenient. Address E. H. HUNGERFORD, Box A329, Albion, Mich.

Queries.

READ THIS NOTICE.

Questions from regular subscribers of FARM AND FIRESIDE, and relating to matters of general interest, will be answered in these columns free of charge. Querists desiring immediate replies, or asking information upon matters of personal interest only, should inclose stamps for return postage. The full name and post-office address of the inquirer should accompany each query in order that we may answer by mail if necessary. Queries must be received at least two weeks before the date of the issue in which the answer is expected. Queries should not be written on paper containing matters of business, and should be written on one side of the paper only.

Drainage Needed.—P. B., Riparus, N. Y., writes: "I have a piece of old grass land that bears but little grass. It is cold, wet, heavy, springy soil. What should I do to redeem it?"
REPLY:—It should be tile-drained, if you can get an outlet.

Tanning Hides.—R. N., Eatonville, Kan., asks how to tan a cowhide for making harness leather.
REPLY:—The best way is to let a regular tanner do the work. Home tanning is not very satisfactory, if one wants good leather.

Leather Scraps for Manure.—C. E. S., Canton, Ohio, asks about the manurial value of leather scraps and the best methods of applying them.

REPLY BY JOSEPH:—Leather scraps, although rich in nitrogen—which, however, is not available for plant-food—do not rank high as a manure. If you can get them close by, it may pay to compost them with fresh horse manure, and then use the compost for any crop that needs manuring.

Peat Muck.—D. W. T., Buffalo Lake, Minn., writes: "Would it pay to haul dry peat muck half a mile for manure on sandy prairie soil?"

REPLY BY JOSEPH:—That depends. If the soil is destitute of humus, and therefore "dead," as not very likely the case with your sandy prairie soil, I think it would pay well to haul good, well-seasoned muck one half a mile, or even more. It will pay, anyway, to haul it that distance and use it as absorbent in stables and poultry-houses, water-closets, etc., and then as manure on any place where manure is needed.

Bitter Milk.—S. B., Guernsey, Ind., writes: "Why is it that when we feed the cows dry feed, such as fodder, the milk and butter taste bitter? The butter is still yellow, but has a very bitter taste. The milk is bitter before it gets sour."

REPLY:—If the food your cows eat is sound, and the water they drink is pure, the bitter milk is caused by bacteria, which get into it while the cream is rising. Carefully scald and sun all your dairy utensils and then keep the milk in a different place, until you can locate the cause. When this is done, thorough disinfection is the remedy.

Butter Not Coming.—J. W. A., Oglesby Ill.; E. H., Slaterville Springs, N. Y., and G. N. D., South Enid, Oklahoma T. Questions about butter not coming, frothy cream, etc., come to us every winter. There are several causes of the trouble—improper food, improper care of the milk and cream, wrong temperature in churning, etc. Frequently the trouble is due to the fact that the cows are nearing the end of the period of lactation, and will be fresh again in a couple of months. The cream does not separate as readily from the milk of such cows as from that of fresh cows, nor does it churn as easily. In the first place, good food and pure water for the cows are absolutely necessary. If you have bright corn fodder or sweet clover hay, add to it some grain rations, bran and cornmeal, or oats and corn ground together, two bushels of the former to one of the latter. Give salt regularly and frequently. Let the cream rise from the milk at a temperature of from 40 to 50 degrees Fahrenheit. Keep the cream at that temperature, but do not keep it too long. Churn at least three times a week. Every day is better, if you have enough cream for a churning. Mix the cream thoroughly and ripe it at a temperature of 63 degrees until it turns slightly acid. Do not add fresh cream to it before churning. To warm cream quickly, put the cream-can in a vessel of warm water and stir the cream. In winter, churn at a temperature of 65 degrees, or a little higher if you find by experiment that it does better. When the butter comes in granules the size of a grain of wheat, draw off the buttermilk and wash the butter with brine not above 60 degrees temperature. For salting, use fine dairy salt, one half to one ounce of salt to a pound of butter. If the cows came in fresh several months ago, treat the milk as follows: As soon as the milk is drawn from the cows, pour into every five quarts of milk one quart of hot water; the cream will rise quicker and separate more perfectly from the milk.

VETERINARY.

Conducted by Dr. H. J. Detmers, Professor of Veterinary Surgery in Ohio State University.

To regular subscribers of FARM AND FIRESIDE, answers will be given through these columns free of charge. Where an immediate reply by mail is desired, the applicant should inclose a fee of one dollar, otherwise no attention will be paid to such a request. Inquiries should always contain the writer's full address. Queries must be received at least two weeks before the date of the issue in which the answer is expected. Subscribers may send their veterinary queries directly to Dr. H. J. DETMERS, 1315 Neil Avenue, Columbus, Ohio.

Note.—Parties who desire an answer to their inquiries in this column, must give their name and address, not necessarily for publication, but for other good reasons. Anonymous inquiries are not answered under any circumstances.

Swine-plague.—S. H. M., La Junta, Col. Your pigs died of swine-plague, or so-called hog-cholera.

Paresis.—J. R. B., Potomac, Ill. Your mare, partially paralyzed in the hind quarters, is incurable.

Warts on Cow's Teats.—W. E. H., Clarke-ton, Mich. Please consult the two last numbers of the FARM AND FIRESIDE.

Garget.—H. W., Lander, Pa. Medication cannot remove the trouble. The clotted milk must be removed, therefore frequent and thorough milking—milking once every two hours—constitutes the remedy.

Water-farcy (?)—D. A. F., Pepin, Wis. I do not know what you mean by water-farcy. I know but one kind of farcy, and that is external glanders. Describe what you complain of, and I may be able to answer your question.

A Running Sore.—C. D. D., Weston, W. Va. The character of the "running sore" does not appear from your communication. Besides that, it undoubtedly requires a surgical operation. Therefore, the best advice I can give you is to consult a veterinarian, and to trust him with the treatment. By doing so you will save money and time.

Too Loose in the Joints.—J. W. L., Ripple, Pa., writes: "I have a colt, seven months old, that is in good growing condition and doing well, with the exception of the fetlock-joints on her hind legs. The joints are somewhat swollen at times, and when she stands still the joints spring forward."

ANSWER:—Give the colt some voluntary exercise. If, in the winter, you cannot do otherwise, keep the same in a loose box, and feed it all the good oats it wants to eat.

Phimosi.—G. E. P., Hayes City, Kansas. Every male hog has at the end of the sheath a kind of pouch, which in some may be developed more than in others. If this pouch becomes repeatedly filled with urine, the condition you speak of will be produced. Catch your hogs, examine those parts, split up the pouch and clean it with a five-per-cent solution of carbolic acid. If you find it hereditary, see that you get another family of hogs in which this peculiarity is less developed.

Ringworm.—C. R. M., Alma, Mich. What you describe is a case of ringworm. Two things are necessary: First, to destroy the fungi which cause the eruption. This may be done by painting the affected parts of the skin with tincture of iodine—daily applications for a few days in succession. The other thing is to prevent a new infection. This requires a thorough cleaning of the stall and removal of the bedding, etc.; and if brush, curry-comb, or other grooming utensils are used, a thorough disinfection of these.

Hematuria.—J. McC., Cheam, B. C. Hematuria, or passing bloody urine, is often only a symptom of some other infectious disease. Besides that, it makes quite a difference whether the urine is red-colored on account of containing the coloring matter of the destroyed or dissolved blood-corpuscles, or is red-colored on account of an admixture of blood intact in all its constituents. In the latter case it is due to hemorrhage either in the kidneys or in the bladder, while in the former it is a symptom of some blood disease. All you say is, "Some of my cows pass bloody water, and I don't know what is the cause." How can you expect me to tell you, if you don't give me any further information?

A Sick Pig.—C. G. S., Attica, Iowa, writes: "I have a shoat that took sick about six weeks ago. For about two weeks it laid around and drauk and ate very little. After that time it drank and ate heartily. Its skin cracked about half way down on both sides, and the whole top part came off. The skin on its jaws also came off, and left the flesh raw. It has not been scalded."

ANSWER:—I cannot comply with your request, unless you tell me what was done with your pig, under what conditions it was kept, what it was fed and watered with, and what other symptoms it presented. Is your pig a white one, did you feed buckwheat, and expose the same to sunlight?

Paralyzed Hind Quarters.—A. H., Cushing, Okla., writes: "What ails my sow? She raised a litter of pigs. When the pigs were six weeks old, the sow got weak in her hind quarters, so that she could not walk on her hind legs at all. She drags her hind legs both on one side."

ANSWER:—Your sow suffers from paralysis in the hind quarters. I cannot tell you what caused it in this particular case, because I do not know what has happened, except that it came on with farrowing, which might indicate injury to the vertebral column, perhaps in the region of the last lumbar, or first sacral vertebra. If she does not improve any, it will be best to convert her into pork as soon as the pigs can be weaned.

Weak Digestion.—Tb. N., Wheaton, Minn., writes: "What ails my seven-year-old horse? Every time after he is driven, especially if he is forced to run, he gets sick. His bowels move quite often and are very loose. When not worked he is all right."

ANSWER:—First, never hitch your horse up immediately after a substantial meal, but give him at least an hour or more time after he has finished his meal. Secondly, never feed immediately, at least not a feed of grain, after severe exercise, but give the animal sufficient time to cool off. Thirdly, don't force your horse to run, under any circumstances. Fourthly, feed nothing but sound food, in suitable quantities. If you comply with the above, your horse will gradually recover.

Probably a Fistule.—D. M., Parkville, Mich., writes: "I have a mare that has a pipe-sore under the lower jaw, near the roots of the tongue. When first noticed it seemed like a small boil. It does not run, but scabs over with a thick, gray matter, and is soft on the inside. She pulls on the bit, also carries her tongue over the bit. Have burnt it out with caustic; possibly did not get it all."

ANSWER:—What you call a "pipe-sore" is probably a fistule leading to the root of a molar. Have the sore, and also the teeth of your mare, examined by a competent veterinarian, and then if he finds the root of a molar decayed, let him extract the tooth. If there is no decay, the fistule can be brought to a healing without extracting the tooth; but under all conditions it must first be ascertained where the fistulous canal leads to before any treatment can be attempted. A fistule can never be permanently closed unless the healing begins at the bottom.

Sour Slop for Pigs.—J. P. D., Sioux City, Iowa, writes: "Do you think that feeding hogs sour slop, like mixing middlings and flour in water and allowing it to sour before feeding, has any injurious effect? I have had very bad luck with hogs, and can think of nothing I have done to cause sickness if it was not this system of feeding. Is there any cure for or prevention of hog sickness?"

ANSWER:—Sour food or sour slop may have an injurious effect, especially upon young pigs, in so far as it may cause rachitis, and in consequence may cripple the pigs, and cause lameness or even paralytic symptoms. It may also interfere with the process of digestion, and cause diarrhea and anemia. What you mean by "hog sickness" I do not know, and can only guess. If you mean swine-plague, or so-called hog-cholera, consult what has been said about that disease in nearly every issue of this paper.

Ropy (?) Milk.—G. K., East Springfield, Ohio, writes: "What is wrong with my cow? Last summer she went nearly dry, and the milk was ropy, but it never got all right. She will be fresh in about four weeks. She has been fed hay and fodder and bran slop. What can be done for her if she is not all right when she is fresh?"

ANSWER:—I do not exactly know what you mean by "ropy" milk. It seems to me that your description applies rather to a case of garget than to one of "ropy" milk, which is an entirely different thing. If it is an old case of garget, see, when your cow is fresh, if the calf is able to attend to the milking in a thorough manner, and if you find that the same is not, milk out the udder at least three times a day after the calf has been suckling; and then after the calf has been weaned, see to it that the cow is milked out clean at each milking. Whether milking her twice a day is often enough, I have to leave to your own judgment.

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Worms in Horses.—M. R., Ocanto Falls, Wis. The worms you complain of are probably the mature forms of Sclerostomum equinum, or Strouglus armatus. The mature worms themselves do not cause much damage, and pass off when their time comes, hence require no special treatment. It is the larvæ, or immature worms, which are injurious, because it is the larvæ which produce the aneurisms in the anterior mesenteric artery and other branches of the posterior aorta; but as the same are inside of the named arteries, they cannot be reached by any treatment. Therefore, the only thing that can be done is to prevent the entrance of the worm brood into the animal organism. Consequently, since it is known that the worm brood enters with the water for drinking, from stagnant pools or ditches, etc., the prevention consists in watering the horses only with water that is free from worm brood; consequently, with water from a good, deep well, or from a spring.

Several Questions.—C. D. D., Olivet, S. D.
 1. Give your horse with the swelling legs every morning a good grooming, and particularly a good rubbing with the band, a wisp of straw or a woolen rag, to the swelling legs. This done, exercise the horse during the day. Apply another good rubbing at the close of the exercise, and then put on a bandage of woolen flannel, put it on moderately tight; commence bandaging at the hoof, and keep the bandage on until next morning. Repeat this treatment every day until the swelling permanently disappears.
 2. The proper time to wean a colt—horse colt as well as jack colt—is usually determined by economic conditions and considerations. Your jack colt, which was injured in his hind leg, and has become somewhat stiff and has lost the perfect use of his hind legs, may have become too precocious, or too playful, and thus may have injured himself.
 3. As to your other jack that refuses to cover a mare, I can give you no other advice but to fool him first with a female ass, and then, before he is aware of it, to substitute the mare you want to be covered.

Bitter Cream.—W. D., Arkona, Ont., Can., writes: "I have a cow, part Jersey, six years old. The cream from her milk is bitter, tastes somewhat like the bitterness of wormwood, but the milk is not at all bitter after it is skimmed. Her feed, for the first six weeks since I have had her, has been corn fodder, well saved, and since that time good hay, timothy and clover, mixed; she has had nearly all the time, pumpkins twice a day, sometimes some oats in the sheaf, at other times some wheat bran or corn chop; in fair weather occasionally she has been in the pasture. Water for drinking has always been good."

ANSWER:—Bitter milk is often due to defective or spoiled food, or food that contains bitter constituents, while bitter cream is usually produced by changes caused by bacteria, which fall upon the surface exposed while the cream is separating. What constitutes the cause in your case you can soon ascertain if you clean and disinfect your milk-vessels in a most thorough manner, and then put the milk in another place, one that cannot possibly be contaminated. If by doing this the cream remains sweet, the usual place, cellar, perhaps, where the milk is kept, may need a thorough disinfection and ventilation. Milk and cream easily accept a foreign smell and taste from other substances kept in the same place. With these hints you will probably be able to detect the cause. The removal of the same constitutes the remedy. The cow herself is not at fault.

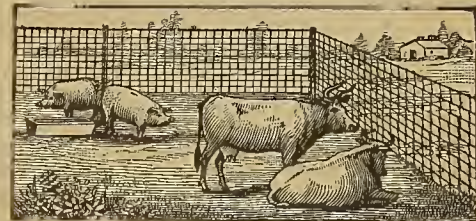
Worms.—F. E. C., Borin, Kan. Your description of the worms you found in your pigs leaves me in doubt whether they are ascarides (Ascaris lumbricoides) or echinorhynchii (Echinorhynchus gigas). The latter frequently cause serious trouble to young pigs, especially during the spring and summer months. The larvæ or embryos of the same occur in the larvæ of the May-bug (Meligetha majalis), and pigs that have an opportunity to feed on these larvæ get these worms. The former pass their embryo stage in the stagnant waters of pools and ditches. Consequently, the prevention consists in keeping the pigs away from the source of the worm brood. As a remedy, you may try arsenious acid mixed with boiled potatoes; for young pigs two or three grains, for shoats five to six grains, and for old hogs about ten grains per dose. Of course, each animal must get its dose separately. Mixed with a boiled potato, the acid will be taken voluntarily. It seems to me you killed your pigs with the coal-oil by drenching the same. Whenever you drench a pig with any kind of oil, or with powders suspended in a fluid, and the pig resists and squeals, you will have a dead pig. As a home remedy, you may try a diet of raw potatoes, which, of course, must be continued for some time. In conclusion, allow me to remark that I cannot afford to give answers by return mail to all of the 250,000 or more subscribers of FARM AND FIRESIDE for return postage. Before you or others make such a request, please read the heading of this department, and act accordingly; otherwise, such a request will not be complied with.

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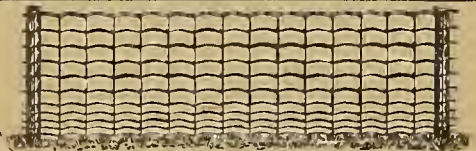


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Our Miscellany.

THE normal death-rate of Canton, China, is 1,000 per month.

FLOWERS in bloom late in autumn indicate a bad winter.—Old Proverb.

MEASURE the length of your quilt before endeavoring to stretch your legs.

THE manufactured products of Great Britain amount to about \$4,100,000,000 a year.

THE cubic contents of the oceans is fifteen times that of the land above sea-level.

THE knife of the assassin in Italy closes the career of thirty persons out of every 10,000.

PALESTINE supplies yearly to European nations more than 5,000,000 bushels of wheat.

LABRADOR has 900 species of flowering plants, 59 ferns, and over 250 species of mosses and lichens.

A STEEL ship has been constructed in Cardiff with the standing rigging, as well as the hull, all of steel.

IF the United States had as great a relative population as Japan, it would have a population of 960,000,000.

A PHILOLOGIST of high repute is authority for the statement that there are seventy-two languages spoken in Russia.

THE temperature at the bottom of the Foreman mine, in Virginia City, a depth of 2,100 feet, is said to be 110 1/2 degrees.

RAILWAY accidents are so rare in Holland that an average of only one death a year results from them throughout the entire country.

THE Railway Age says from January 1st to October 1st thirty-two roads, 6,254 miles in length, funded debt \$185,078,500, capital stock, \$361,000,000, went into receivers' hands.

A WOMAN claiming to be one hundred and thirty-three years old is living, in good health, near Cleveland. She says her mother died in Scotland at the age of one hundred and forty-six.

A WORTHY FIRM.

Ingenuity, coupled with enterprise, has made the firm of Jas. Milne & Son, patentees and manufacturers of grub and stump machines, now at Monmouth, Ill., the largest establishment of the kind in the world. They have made it possible for farmers to clear their land rapidly and with trivial expense. Messrs. Milne & Son have just removed from Scotch Grove, Iowa, into an enlarged plant at Monmouth, Ill., where they are able to promptly fill the rapidly increasing number of orders. Milne Bros. have also removed their immense Shetland Pony business, which includes a large number of the finest of these little animals, to the latter city. We recommend that our readers write Messrs. Milne & Son for their interesting catalogue, which fully describes their grub and stump machines.

BUT HIS CAresses CAME TOO LATE.

Old Ripley Henryer is a well-to-do Illinois farmer with skinflint tendencies, whose life has been passed without an emotion except what may have been engendered in getting money together and holding fast to it.

When his father died, a quarter of a century ago, his mother concluded she could not get along without him, so she quickly followed the same way, and Ripley, coming into possession of the homestead, felt the necessity for a good cook and washerwoman. Then he prevailed upon Hetty Mercer, an affectionate and pretty girl of the neighborhood, to assume those duties, first making her his wife.

It is possible he said nothing to her of the obligatory attendant upon the wifely relations; but that made no difference as to results. Ripley was as strong as an ox, and a hard worker himself, he had no use for lazy people and no excuses for those who were weaker than himself.

As time passed, little Henryers, one, two, three, five in all, came into the family fold, each one adding to the wife's cares; and meantime, Ripley added to his acres.

The number of hired men increased, but in all the years it never occurred to him that the mother of his children might need help in her department. Hired girls were "scarce and come awful high," as he put it when one of the neighbors reminded him of his remissness.

Hetty bore her yoke in silence, and might have been contented even, but for the man's utter lack of sentiment or affection. She had never felt the gentle pressure of his hand in soft caress, and he had never kissed her in his life. She grew old fast, faded and drooped, and finally even the stolid, sordid husband saw the necessity of calling in a doctor.

When the latter was leaving the house he called Ripley aside and said:

"Suppose you show your wife a little kindness. I think a bit of affection will do her more good than medicine. She's in a bad way and may die."

The selfish fellow was frightened at the prospect of losing his cook and faithful housekeeper, and after some deliberation he entered her bedchamber and awkwardly approached her side, then stooped over and kissed her pale, cold brow.

The poor woman, who for twenty-five years had been dying for sympathy and love, was so startled at this exhibition of feeling on the part of her husband that tears of thankful-

ness gathered in her eyes and then rolled down her cheeks.

The lubberly fellow started back at sight of this evidence of weakness and blurted out:

"Gosh! Hetty, you needn't mind it. I didn't mean nothin' by it. Doc, he said it mebbed'd make you feel better."

Then the tears dried quickly enough and the woman turned her pallid face toward the wall.

When Ripley came back an hour later all the kisses in the world could not have brought moisture to her eyes. The office of cook and laundress was vacant in his house.

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Gleanings.

The editor said he thought some cuts
Would go well with my story;
I left it with him, feeling I
Had covered myself with glory;
When I for the pictures looked next day,
I nearly fell off the fence, ill;
That cruel man had made the cuts
With a horrid big blue, pencil!

—New York Herald.

SCIENTIFIC AND INTERESTING.

The AVERAGE speed of the transmission of earthquake shocks is nearly sixteen thousand feet per second.

It is said that some one having asked Mr. Gladstone the secret of his remarkable activity, he replied with a story. There was once a road leading out of London, on which more horses died than any other, and inquiry revealed the fact that it was perfectly level. Consequently, the animals in traveling over it used only one set of muscles.

It costs seven hundred dollars to transport a car of fruit from California to London, and the time limit is fourteen days. This freight charge amounts to sixty cents a basket for pears, peaches and grapes. The experiment is a great success, both as regards the condition of the fruit as it arrives in London, and from the financial standpoint. Cold storage is a wonderful aid to the fruit growers of California. It has been their salvation.

Advices report the reindeer at Port Clarence, Alaska, last season, as doing exceedingly well. In the spring 150 fawns were born. The herd numbered about five hundred at the beginning of summer. By July 9th, the "Bear" had made one trip to Siberia, bringing over forty-eight deer. During the summer new herds are to be established at three or four different points, and thus the work of distribution will actually have begun. This is carrying out Dr. Sheldon Jackson's project.

The London papers announce with some pride that Mme. Bricks, the woman intrusted with the duty of looking after the baby English prince at White Lodge while his mother is in Switzerland, has been instructed to send a letter every day to appease the anxiety of his parent. This is not wonderful at all. Few young mothers would do less, leaving their first born at the tender age of two months. The remarkable part of the affair is the fact of their separation; but this is probably too royal to need comment.

Some remarkable cases of natural grafting have been observed lately in America. One is that of a sugar maple, which has coalesced with a white pine in a woodland of Wisconsin. The trunks keep apart for three and a half feet above the ground, where they unite into a single stem. It is supposed that friction in the wood, or the nibbling of a deer, had frayed the green bark when the trees were saplings, and caused them to adhere. Other cases of white pines growing together have been reported, in one of them as many as four trunks uniting at a sufficient height above the ground to allow persons to walk under. A veritable "bow-knot," formed by the branches of a tree, has also been described; and in the heart of two trunks—one of burr oak, the other of white wood, sawn up for lumber—the antlers of deer were found imbedded. It is supposed that the animals had caught the tips of their horns in the green wood, and broken them off. In the heart of another trunk of hickory wood, a horseshoe was found; but how it got there is quite a mystery.—*Cassell's Magazine.*

COFFEE TO DISPLACE TEA.

Coffee is to be more fashionable than tea this season, and as a result nervousness and neuralgia will increase among the women whose nerves and stomachs are not strong enough to stand the very strong stimulant which good coffee undoubtedly is.—*New York World.*

CONSUMPTION CURED.

An old physician, retired from practice, had placed in his hands by an East India missionary the formula of a simple vegetable remedy for the speedy and permanent cure of Consumption, Bronchitis, Catarrh, Asthma and all Throat and Lung Affections, also a positive and radical cure for Nervous Debility and all Nervous Complaints. Having tested its wonderful curative powers in thousands of cases, and desiring to relieve human suffering, I will send free of charge to all who wish it, this recipe, in German, French or English, with full directions for preparing and using. Sent by mail, by addressing with stamp, naming this paper. W. A. NOYES, 320 Powers' Block, Rochester, N. Y.

BRIEF NOTES OF ODDITIES.

There are 100 women sugar planters in Louisiana.

The smallest humming-bird weighs twenty grains.

The celebrated Egyptian sphinx is 173 feet long and 52 feet high.

A suit of chain armor such as knights wore in Charlemagne's time cost about \$1,000.

At Reading, Pa., seventeen school janitresses are to have authority to arrest disturbers.

Since the beginning of history there have been records of more than seven thousand earthquakes.

Somebody says that there has been spent for physical culture in the United States since the war \$25,500,000.

Most of the land in the republic of Mexico is held in almost feudal tenure by about seven thousand families.

Queen Victoria, it is said, will now use electricity for cooking the more delicate dishes to be served at the royal table.

The average depth of the ocean is about three miles. If the water were to evaporate, a layer of salt 200 feet thick would be left.

Glass-furnaces in Hungary are built in the forests, which are used for fuel. When the nearby timber is gone, a new furnace is built.

Shoes are often made by families in the Argentine Republic and sold to dealers, much as people in this country once made wearing apparel.

Mrs. Morley, an eccentric Montreal widow, has 100 cats in her house at Longue Pointe. She recently had eighteen boys arrested for stoning them.

ABOUT THE USES OF WOOD.

Pine is the wood most used, on account of its abundance. The timber of the oak, which combines in itself the essential elements of strength and durability, hardness and elasticity in a degree which no other tree can boast, has been used as material for ship-building since the time of King Alfred. It is also employed in architecture, cabinet-making, carving, mill-work, coopering and a thousand and one other ways, while the bark is of great value as furnishing tan, and yielding a bitter extract in continual demand for medicinal purposes. The timber of the pine is also used in house and ship carpentry. Common turpentine is extracted from it, and much tar, pitch, resin and lamp-black. Splinters of the resinous roots serve the highlanders instead of candles. Fishermen make ropes of the inner bark, which the Kamschatdales and Laplanders steep in water and utilize for making a coarse kind of bread. The oil obtained from the shoots of the dwarf pine is a kind of universal medicine among the peasants of Hungary, while the soft-grained silver fir is in much requisition for the sounding-boards of musical instruments, and the Germans employ it almost exclusively in their vast toy factories. In the manufacture of lucifer matches, and above all, paper pulp, thousands and tens of thousands of acres of pine forest are cut down every year, and the timber, constituting the chief material of English and American builders, is more used than all other kinds of wood put together.

GIANT BEES IN INDIA.

Before long an attempt will be made to introduce into the United States the giant bees of India, which build combs in the forest as big as house doors. Their honey is gathered by professional bee-hunters. The drones are no bigger than ordinary bees, and for that reason it is more likely that they would breed with the races now domesticated here. These bees of India have longer tongues than other bees, and thus they would be able to get from many kinds of flowers much honey that now goes to waste. Alarming stories are told of the extraordinary ferocity of this species, swarms being said to have attacked native villages with fatal results; but expert bee-keepers would have no difficulty in handling them.—*Boston Transcript.*

YOU DON'T HAVE TO SWEAR OFF.

The St. Louis Journal of Agriculture says: "We know personally of several that No-To-Bac cured. One, a prominent St. Louis Architect, who smoked and chewed for years. Two boxes cured him so that even the smell of tobacco makes him sick." No-To-Bac's guaranteed to cure tobacco habit or money refunded by druggists everywhere. Book free. Sterling Remedy Co., 10 Spruce St., N. Y., or 45 Randolph St., Chicago.

The pattern I ordered is just as good as the one I paid 25 cents for. I send money for another. MRS. H. H. BOMBERGER, Lititz, Pa. See patterns on another page.

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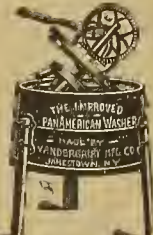
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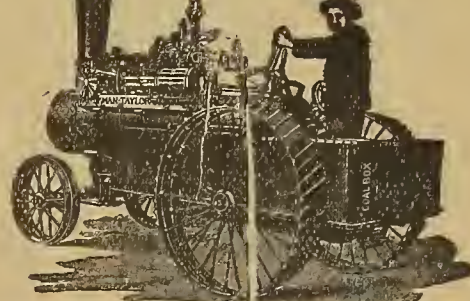
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Smiles.

THE BLOOMER GIRL.

The bicycle habit is fastened Upon the modern maid; But whether by suspenders Or pins cannot be said.

-Puck.

Now watch her on her flying wheel Along the roadways scoot; The costume that she wears to-day Was once her bathing-suit.

-Detroit Free Press.

If the bloomer fad continues to boom, Ere long the fellows rude Can't tell if the vision gliding by Is a Daisy or a nude.

-Indianapolis Journal.

"I admire the bloomers," so she cries, "Tho' the critics do not spare them. I think the fad will popularize The girls who do not wear them."

-New York World.

WHY NACHT?

He procured him a center-board yacht, And into royal society gacht; When the papers made fun Of this son of a gun, He scornfully muttered: "— racht."

WOMAN'S INHUMANITY TO MAN.

An Atchison wife had a cruel truth told her by a heartless doctor. He said her husband would not live long unless he got some rest. Last night, as she sat in an easy-chair and watched him take off his coat on coming from the office, put on a gingham apron and go to work cheerfully washing potatoes for supper and pounding steak, occasionally stopping to care for the baby, her heart smote her.

She noticed that he looked thin and careworn, and that he brought the bucket only half full of water from the well. She spoke to him kindly, and her heart smote her a second time, when he looked up, surprised. Was it true that in the rush and worry of stirring the country up to political truths she had forgotten to be kind to him? She kissed him kindly when he handed her a cupful of tea at the table, and his eyes filled with tears; it was so long since he had heard a tender word. She praised his biscuits; then he broke down and cried.

The result of this tender little scene was that this morning the woman canceled all lecture engagements, and resigned from all committees. She realizes that since it would not do to hire a strong girl to assist him with the heavy house work, it would be better for her to stay at home and aid him by tender sympathy and loving words. Oh, wives, take warning from this little tale! Speak gently to your husband ere the cold sod closes over them. Praise their coffee and biscuit. A kind word costs so little and never gets through traveling.—Atchison Globe.

HIGH TEA.

Mrs. X had not had the advantages which Miss X has enjoyed, and consequently that young woman rather directs the household. Not long since she decided to give a "high tea," and being still peculiarly dependent upon her mother, she mentioned the fact. A few days later Mrs. X came in from a round of calls which her daughter had obliged her to make, and remarked with great satisfaction: "I told everyone about your expensive tea." "My what?" shrieked Miss X. "Your expensive tea," repeated her mother. "You called it high, and high means dear, and dear means expensive, and I thought the long word sounded best. Don't you?" But Miss X had fainted.—New York World.

NOT DOING WELL.

"How is your son doing in college this year?" Mother—"He don't seem to have the least ambition. Just like his father." "Don't stand well in his classes, eh?" "Mercy, yes! right at the head; but he can't kick a foot-ball more th an twenty feet."—Inter-Ocean.

A SATISFACTORY SUBSTITUTE.

Irate woman—"Git out of here, you dirty Injun! Is it dinner you have the face to beg for? I'll sic one of the dogs on you!" Chief Much-fraid-of-water (placidly)—"S'pose sic fat dog on big Injun; him heap glad."—Judge.

TRUTHFUL.

"Waiter, is this cheese imported?" "Yes, sir; part of it." "What do you mean?" "Well, sir, the holes came from Switzerland, but just the substance was made here."—Judge.

AN IRISH BULL.

The following appears in a small provincial paper: "The bridegroom's present to the bride was a handsome diamond brooch, besides many other beautiful things in cutglass."

THE LIMIT REACHED.

Conductor of horse-car—"Move forward, please. Plenty of room up in front." Man up in front (gasping)—"So there is, but I don't know how to ride horseback."

HE HAD.

The woman emancipationist had tackled the serene old bachelor. He squirmed occasionally, but he retained his serenity.

"Have you ever done anything for the emancipation of women, I'd like to know?" she said, coming down the home-stretch.

"Indeed I have, madam," he smiled; "I have remained a bachelor."—Detroit Free Press.

QUITE A DIFFERENT MATTER.

Miss Blank (contemptuously)—"That's a nice-looking watch; did you have to buy a suit of clothes to get that?"

John Ware (reflectively)—"No; on the contrary, I had to sell one!"—Harvard Lampoon.

A MISUNDERSTANDING.

Chumleigh—"Mr. Featherly, I would like your daughter for my wife."

Mr. Featherly—"You would, eh? What does your wife want my daughter for?"—Fashions.

LITTLE SMILES.

The heathen in their blindness Bow down to wood and stone. If they were wise as Christians They'd bow to gold alone.

"To-day," she said, "I'm twenty-five; Just twenty-five to-day—no more. And in a year, if I'm alive, I'll be—let's see—just twenty-four."—New York Press.

Brake O'Day—"Didn't you never work, Bill?" Weary William—"Yes, once; I swallowed a yeast-cake when I wuz a kid."—Judge.

"Well, how are you getting along with your housekeeping?" remarked Mrs. Foracloque. "Oh, famously! But I was going to ask you, is a sugar-loaf the same thing as a sweet-bread?" said Mrs. Nuwed.

Elder Berry—"Dr. Thirdly's sermon to the young ladies was a great success."

Mrs. Berry—"What was the text?" Elder Berry—"Something about making them 'fishers of men.'"—New York Herald.

Teacher—"Now, Johnnie, remember that it was Atlas that supported the world, but I want to try your power of imagination. Who do you suppose supported Atlas?"

Johnnie—"His wife, I guess."—Philadelphia Record.

"Do you know, Miss Clara, that the Coreans consider every unmarried man a boy, no matter how old he is?"

"How odd! But you, Mr. de Smythe, could be manly enough—if—if you cared."—New York Recorder.

Peggy—"Now, I've told you all about it, and I want to know what you'd do if you were in my shoes."

Mary (with a glance at Peggy's feet)—"I wouldn't stir out till I had got a pair four sizes smaller."

First youngster—"I've got a uew baby brother, what came from heaven last night."

Second youngster—"That's nothin'. My little baby brother went to heaven yesterday."

First youngster (reflectively)—"Pete, I bet it's the same kid."—Springfield Farm and Home.

"What was it that caused such terrible distress in your town?"

"Well, you see, times are pretty hard, so the women started one of these economy clubs. The idea took like mad, and nobody would buy a thing—business simply stopped, and everybody was ruined."—New York Herald.

A young woman was making her first essay at housekeeping. A friend had sent her by mail a recipe for some new kind of bread, giving her directions to take a portion of the dough at a time and make it into the requisite form for baking. This seemed explicit enough, but what was the surprise of the friend to receive a telegram from the young housekeeper to this effect: "What shall I do with the rest of the dough? Please answer."

A Texas military company was out on the range recently practicing at rifle-shooting. The lieutenant in command suddenly became exasperated at the poor shooting, and seizing a gun from one of the privates, cried angrily: "I'll show you fellows how to shoot!"

Taking a long aim, and a strong aim, and an aim altogether, he fired and missed. Coolly turning to the private who owned the gun, he said: "That's the way you shoot."

He again loaded the weapon and missed. Turning to the second man in the ranks, he remarked: "That's the way you shoot."

In this way he contrived to miss about fifty or sixty times, illustrating to each soldier his personal incapacity, and finally he accidentally hit the target.

"And that," he ejaculated, handing the gun back to the private, "is the way I shoot."—The Waverley.

Every Man Should Read This.

If any young, old or middle-aged man, suffering from nervous debility, lack of vigor, or weakness from errors or excesses, will inclose stamp to me, I will send him the prescription of a genuine, certain cure, free of cost, no humbug, no deception. It is cheap, simple and perfectly safe and harmless. I will send you the correct prescription and you can buy the remedy of me or prepare it yourself, just as you choose. The prescription I send free, just as I agree to do. Address, Mr. THOMAS BARNES, lock box 113 Marshall, Mich.

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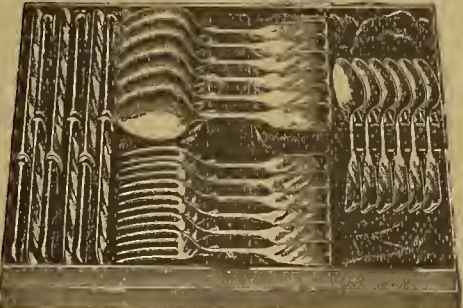
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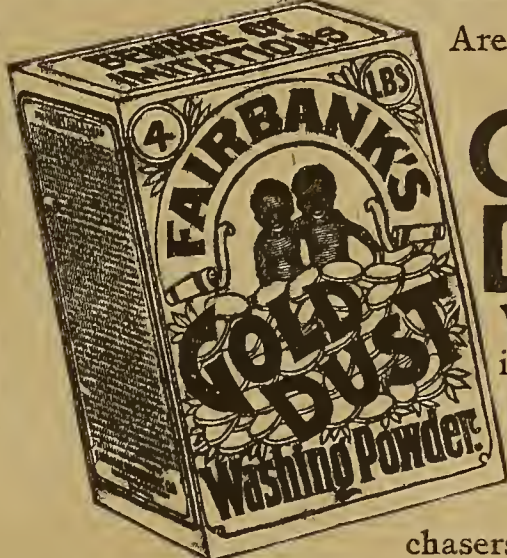
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Gentlemen:—I have found the AGRICULTURAL EPITOMIST a very practical and useful paper for the farm and home. It treats on topics of interest in every part of the country and to every member of the household. Neither advocating every new thing because it is new, nor holding to all old ways because they are old, it follows the far wiser course of recommending what is meritorious in both the recent and the older methods, and thus aids its readers in directing their business safely and profitably. For the multitude of farmers who have time to read but few papers, it is a most excellent periodical, while those who have more leisure will certainly find it of great interest and value.

Very truly yours,
JOHN E. READ,
FREEMAN, IND.

Epitomist Pub. Co., Indianapolis, Ind.

To the Editor:—The May EPITOMIST just to hand, and we are constrained to say that we are at present taking five agricultural papers, viz: The National Stockman and Farmer, Farm and Fireside, Farmers Call, Farm Journal and the EPITOMIST, but we are bound to confess that the EPITOMIST is the best of

all, price and quality of reading matter considered. Cut-worms are more numerous in this section this spring than was ever known before. Over 700 have been taken from around two or three young onions in their bed; small ditches contain half a bushel or more sometimes. Perhaps Rice, Cotton, Pettit and other writers will never know the number that read and appreciate their articles in the EPITOMIST. I wish there were more of such men in the world. Wishing the EPITOMIST success, I am truly yours,

J. J. LIVINGSTON, M. D.
SHIRLAND, WIS.

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You will find inclosed 50c. to pay for your dear little paper another year, with seed premium No. 1. Your paper improves with every number. We could not have had such success in a great many things if it was not for your help in the EPITOMIST. We have grown a great many of your seeds, and find them at the top of the class every time.

Very truly yours,
F. A. LANCASTER,
ONEIDA, KAN., August 10, 1894.

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Gentlemen:—Replying to yours of the 4th inst., my candid opinion is that as a farm paper for farmers who farm, and their families, the AGRICULTURAL EPITOMIST is, in quality,

quantly, appearance and general make-up, in the front rank, always helpful, progressive and up with the times.

Being made for busy toilers by men and women of the same class, it treats of the real rather than the ideal, and obtains favor with the masses instead of soaring above the heads of common people.

GEO. T. PETTIT.

WINVIEW, OKLA., August 8, 1894.

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We say this recognizing the merits of scores of first-class journals for various classes of farmers, or for special departments of farm work, or for special sections of the country or special location.

As a writer for many papers, we are asked innumerable questions from every state in the Union, and this sentence has occurred more frequently than any other: "I saw your article in the EPITOMIST."

Those who wish to reach the common farmer will, like Captain Cuttle, "make a note of it."
J. M. RICE.

\$1,000, divided into 28 prizes, will be paid to those securing the largest number of subscribers.

Sample copy containing full particulars of \$1,000 prize contest mailed free upon receipt of your name and address on postal-card, mentioning Farm and Fireside.

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CHARACTER SKETCHES.

Chas. F. Crisp was born January 29, 1845, in Sheffield, England, where his parents had gone on a visit. He received a common school education in Savannah and Macon, Ga., entered the Confederate army in May, 1861.



He afterward read law in Americus, and being admitted to the bar there in 1866, began the practice of law in Ellaville. In 1872 he was appointed solicitor-general of the southwest judicial circuit, and was reappointed in 1873 for a term of four years. In 1877 he was appointed judge of the superior court of the same circuit, and the next year was elected by the general assembly to the same office. In 1880 he was re-elected judge for a term of four years, but resigned that office in September, 1882, to accept the Democratic nomination for Congress. He was permanent president of the Democratic convention which assembled in Atlanta, in 1883, to nominate the candidate for governor.

In 1891 he was elected speaker of the House, receiving 119 votes against 105 received by Roger Q. Mills, of Texas, who was his opponent in this fierce struggle.



Bill Nye (Edgar Wilson) was born in Shirley, Maine, August 25, 1850. He was educated in an academy at River Falls, Wisconsin; removed to Wyoming, studied law, and was admitted to the bar in 1876.

He began early to contribute humorous sketches to the newspapers, using the pen name of Bill Nye, was connected with various Western journals, and afterward settled in New York City. He has published a number of his productions, of which are always read with interest, "Bill Nye and the Boomerang," "Forty Liars," "Baled Hay," "Bill Nye's Blossom Rock," and "Remarks."

Thos. Brackett Reed was born October 18, 1839; graduated from Bowdoin in 1860; studied law, and was admitted to the bar, and began to practice in Portland; was a member of the lower branch of the Maine legislature, and in 1870 sat in the state senate. From 1870 to 1872 he was attorney-general, and from 1874 to 1877 he was solicitor of Portland. He was first elected to Congress in 1876, and in 1889 he was elected speaker of the House, where he gained the title of "Czar Reed," on account of his rulings. He is the acknowledged parliamentarian of the House, and is likely to be elected speaker when the next Congress meets. He is also a formidable Republican candidate for the presidency.



James Whitcomb Riley was born in Greenfield, Ind., about 1852. He acquired



a knowledge of men and a taste for wandering by traveling with his father, an attorney, and early left school and adopted the calling of a vagabond sign-writer. For some time he performed in a theatrical

troupe. About 1875 he began to contribute to the local papers, verses in the western dialect, which he found more popular than serious poetry. He exhibited his imitative powers also by writing a short piece called "Leonaiute," which many literary critics were deluded into accepting as a poem of Edgar A. Poe. He finally obtained regular employment in the office of the Indianapolis Journal, and in that paper, and latterly in the magazines, he has published numerous dialect and serious poems. He has also issued several volumes of his poetry. Oliver Wendell Holmes said of him:

"James Whitcomb Riley is nothing short of a born poet and a veritable genius. * * * I own a good deal of enthusiasm for this later product of Indiana soil. This delineator of lowly humanity, who sings with so much fervor, pathos, humor and grace, and who has done things, perhaps, which will outlast the more laborious work of some of the older and more pretentious poets."

On page 23 will be found one of Riley's short poems, entitled "Old Aunt Mary's." For other poems, see "Gems from the Poets."

A FAVORITE LADIES' PAPER.

The Ladies Home Companion is a large and handsome magazine, printed every two weeks, with from 20 to 28 pages. Mothers and children everywhere are always delighted to receive this grand paper. Already it is the favorite in nearly 150,000 homes. It contains splendid short and serial stories, departments of Fashions, Fancy Work, Flowers, Housekeeping, Children's department, etc., with many illustrations.

The Ladies Home Companion for 1895 will contain contributions from many noted writers, including Miss Jessie Ackermann, the greatest woman traveler living; Clifton M. Nichols, the veteran journalist, who has a remarkable acquaintance with distinguished men; Edgar Fawcett, the favorite magazine writer; Eugene Field, the funny man of the Chicago Record, and a favorite poet, and others. Every effort will be made to make the Ladies Home Companion the best ladies' magazine published. It comes twenty-four times a year, or twice a month, which is twice as often as most ladies' papers.

Surely, it is the duty and pleasure of every father to see that his family is supplied with such pure and wholesome reading. The regular price of the Ladies Home Companion is one dollar a year, and it is well worth the price; but in order to introduce it into many new homes, it is offered with the FARM AND FIRESIDE for a very low price for the next 30 days. See pages 23 and 24.

HOME DYEING.

With establishments for dyeing and cleaning in every town, where old things are made to look like new, it may seem unnecessary to give directions as to how it may be done at home. But time just now is the only stock in trade of many to whom the small economies have hitherto been unknown, and there must be more making over of old garments than ever before, while the desire to be well dressed remains as strong as ever. Rip the garment to be dyed carefully in pieces, pick out all the thread and wash in soap-suds, rinse well, and see, above all else, that the grease spots have been removed; then press the goods and weigh them; any reliable dye package has on it the amount of goods it will dye, and do not try to make it do more or less, for herein lies the success of the dyeing.

Let the dye dissolve over night, and in the morning strain twice through a piece of cheese-cloth. Then pour on the required amount of water, hot or boiling, according to directions given with the dye. Use for dyeing, a new tin or a common stone crock. Boil the garments in this until the desired color is obtained, stirring with sticks, then lift them into rinse-water and rinse three times. Hang up the goods to drip dry—do not wring them—then press when nearly dry until every particle of dampness has disappeared.

Prepare the amount of dye necessary to do over the garment all at once, even if it is necessary to use two utensils; and if two are used, be sure that the goods boil the same time in each tin exactly.

Experiment at first with an old garment, then if the success attained justifies further proceedings, attack something better; but be sure and go slowly and safely; that is, according to directions given above.—Domestic.

5 POPULAR BOOKS FREE

Below we give a list of twenty-six good and useful books, suited for every member of the family. Many are by famous authors, known wherever the English language is spoken. There are novels by such great authors as Bertha M. Clay, Miss M. E. Braddon, Charles Dickens and others. There are sermons by the great Talmage, books by the inspired Spurgeon and Drummond, fables by Æsopus, stories of adventure and travel for boys and girls, chimes and jingles for the children, and numerous other books on various subjects. Every number is a separate and complete book. In this offer we give 5 books just as complete as if they were purchased at 5 different stores. Postage paid by us. See offer below.

5 BOOKS COUNT AS ONE PREMIUM.

No. 99. The Idle Thoughts of an Idle Fellow. By Jerome K. Jerome. Mr. Jerome is known as the "English Mark Twain." He is a writer of the finest sort of fun, which is sure to be highly enjoyed by all who will read this book. It is considered his best.

No. 59. The Courting of Dina Shadd, and The Man Who Was. By Rudyard Kipling. Mr. Kipling is considered by many to be the greatest living story-writer. His plots are thrilling and skillfully arranged, and he tells his story in a bright, sparkling style.

No. 58. The Merry Men. By R. L. Stevenson. When an author's works live after him, they are, as a rule, worth reading. The stories by Stevenson have stood this test, and are now widely read. "The Merry Men" is a story that you will not forget soon after reading it.

No. 61. Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde. By R. L. Stevenson. This wonderful story of a strange case has been dramatized with great success. The moral is a good one.

PLAIN TALKS BY REV. CHAS. H. SPURGEON.

No. 71. John Ploughman's Pictures. By the late Rev. Chas. H. Spurgeon, the great London preacher and evangelist. This is one of the most original and popular books of the age. The author states in the preface that its object is to smite evil, and especially the monster evil of drink, and it is safe to say that the plain talks of John Ploughman, couched in Spurgeon's quaint sayings, his wit, his logic, his power for good, have accomplished more than any similar publication.



This book can be read by every member of the family over and over with increasing pleasure and profit, and every mother who has a son that must face the temptations of the terrible curse of drink, will place a good weapon in his hands when she induces him to read this work. Illustrated.

No. 70. Good Manners. Edited by Mrs. M. W. Baines.—A manual of true politeness.

No. 91. The Fatal Marriage. By Miss M. E. Braddon. This is a thrilling story, in which a man marries a lovely girl for her wealth, and as it should always be, he came to grief as a reward for his deception.

No. 78. Indoor Games. This book will introduce many games, amusements, simple tricks with handkerchiefs, strings, etc., to entertain visitors and friends.

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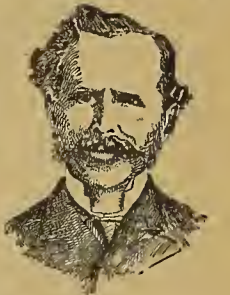
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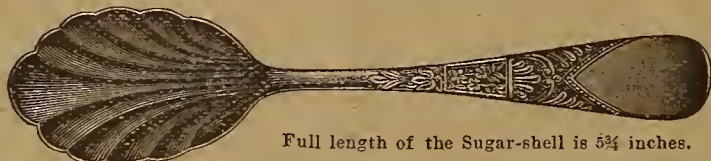
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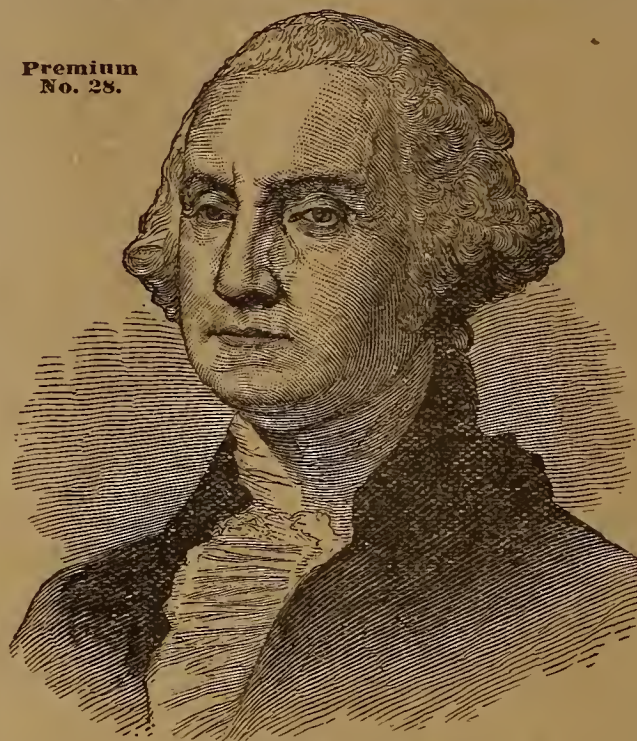
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OLD AUNT MARY'S.

WASN'T it pleasant, O brother mine,
In those old days of the lost sunshine
Of youth—when the Saturday's chores were
through,
And the "Sunday's wood" in the kitchen, too,
And we went visiting, "me and you,"
Out to Old Aunt Mary's?

It all comes back so clear to-day!
Though I am as bald as you are gray—
Out by the barn-lot and down the lane,
We patter along in the dust again,
As light as the tips of the drops of the rain,
Out to Old Aunt Mary's!

We cross the pasture, and through the wood
Where the old gray snag of the poplar stood,
Where the hammering "red-heads" hopped awry,
And the buzzard "raised" in the "clearing" sky
And lolled and circled as we went by
Out to Old Aunt Mary's.

And then in the dust of the road again;
And the teams we met, and the countrymen;
And the long highway, with sunshine spread
As thick as butter on country bread,
Our cares behind, and our hearts ahead
Out to Old Aunt Mary's.

Why, I see her now in the open door,
Where the little gourds grew up the sides and o'er
The clapboard roof! And her face—ah, me!
Wasn't it good for a boy to see—
And wasn't it good for a boy to be
Out to Old Aunt Mary's?

And, O my brother, so far away,
This is to tell you she waits to-day
To welcome us—Aunt Mary fell
Asleep this morning, whispering, "Tell
The boys to come!" And all is well
Out to Old Aunt Mary's.

JAMES WHITCOMB RILEY.

The above is an illustration and poem from "Gems from the Poets." Many of the poems are long ones, occupying one, two and three pages, while a great number of the pictures cover a whole page. In the book they are printed on much finer paper, and are a great deal more beautiful than the above picture shows. Each page is 7 3/4 inches wide and 10 inches long.

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THE LADIES HOME COMPANION One Year,		1.00
Total Value,		\$3.50

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24 NUMBERS.

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A WORD to subscribers: You are respectfully requested to use particular care when sending in subscriptions for the paper or orders for premium books, etc. Be sure that your name and post-office address are plainly written, and that your letter is correctly addressed to us. The mistakes and omissions due to the lack of a little care in these important particulars cause no end of trouble and delay in filling orders, and bring in letters of complaint. Some of these letters of complaint are very welcome, for the reason that they supply a missing name or address in the original order and make it possible for us to fill it.

In one week we received one hundred and eighty money-orders drawn on Springfield, Illinois. This is a sample of the errors made, but it is not as bad as an illegible name or defective address. The order can be filled, but the mistake causes trouble and delay. For a number of weeks we have been receiving over three thousand letters each day, and the number of "no name" or "no address" letters accumulates from day to day. A little more care on the part of the writers of these letters would have enabled us to fill their orders promptly and saved them from disappointment.

HON. L. E. LEWELLING, ex-governor of Kansas, is recognized as the friend of the laboring people. In the *North American Review* for January, he contributes an article on "Problems Before the Western Farmer." The following paragraph is timely:

"The western farmer is a philosopher from necessity. Rapidly tending toward poverty, he demands to know why, and is intelligent enough to answer his own question in the light of reason. He believes the prime cause of all his woes is the manipulation of the money system of the country by unscrupulous and mercenary interests. He believes the decline of prices follows shrinkage of the volume of money in circulation, and that shrinkage in volume results from legislation.

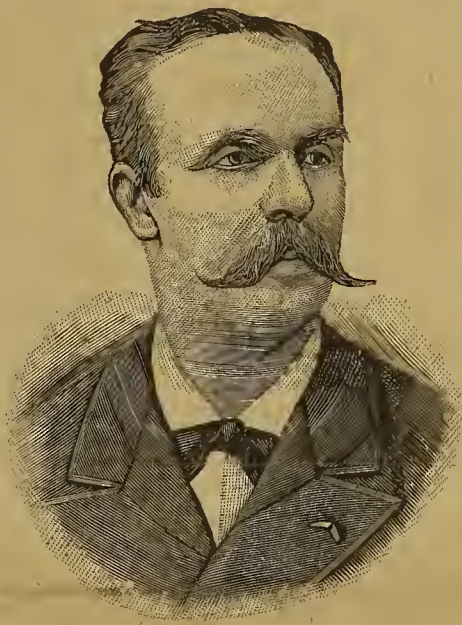
He does not believe that the government should increase the interest burden by borrowing gold, while our native hills are filled with silver, and labor stands idly awaiting an opportunity to take it from its hiding-place. He believes that government is, or should be, for the good of all the people; that legislation should be for the multitude rather than for the few; and he is beginning to believe, if government can guarantee him nothing but hopeless poverty, that government has failed its mission. He believes that government should afford protection to the weak—the strong are able to care for themselves; and he believes, finally, that if government, which assumes to guarantee life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness, in reality guarantees nothing but wretchedness and want, he is living in an age of exquisitely refined barbarism rather than in the noonday light and love of Christian charity and progressive civilization."

SECRETARY MORTON has sent to both Houses of Congress the draft of a bill to regulate the distribution of seed by the Department of Agriculture. The main provision of the bill reads: "That all seeds, bulbs, trees, shrubs, vines, cuttings and plants purchased and propagated by the secretary of agriculture as required by law, shall be distributed to the agricultural experiment stations in the several states and territories, to be by them redistributed to such persons as shall engage to make full tests of the same under the direction of the stations, and to furnish the stations with written reports of these tests on blanks to be provided by the secretary of agriculture, and the secretary of agriculture shall allot to such agricultural experiment stations as make application to him, such amounts from any funds appropriated under the provisions of this act as may seem to him advisable to enable the stations to purchase seeds, bulbs, trees, shrubs, vines, cuttings and plants for distribution in the manner aforesaid, and to pay the expenses of such distribution, with due regard to the varying conditions and needs of the respective states and territories."

The new system proposed to be substituted for the present extravagant and wasteful method of seed distribution is sound and sensible. It cannot fail to give far better results than the present method, and at far less cost. New and rare varieties of seeds and plants will be tested carefully by trained experts at the experiment stations to determine which are available and best for their respective localities. The testing will be done systematically and scientifically, and the results will be published far and wide through the station bulletins and agricultural press. The day of the old system passed long ago, and its abuses now exceed its uses.

THE republic of France is passing through another political crisis. Casimir-Perier, elected president a few months ago to succeed the martyred Carnot, has resigned. Unable to form a cabinet acceptable to a majority of the members of the Chamber of Deputies, he resigned office. In his letter of resignation he said: "The president of the republic deprived of the means of acting can find confidence only in reliance on the nation. Without this his situation is powerless. I do not doubt

the good sense and justice of France, but public opinion has been misled. * * * During the past six months a campaign has been conducted of defamation and insults against the army, the magistracy and an irresponsible chief of state. This liberty of fomenting social hatred continues



M. CASIMIR-PERIER.

to be called liberty of thought. The respect and ambition I have for the country will not permit me to allow that certain men may every day insult the best servants of the fatherland and him who represents France in the eyes of foreign nations. I cannot resign myself to compare the weight of moral responsibility resting upon me with the impotence to which I am condemned."

Of five presidents of France since the inauguration of the present and third form of Republican government in 1871, four have resigned and one was assassinated. In the same time thirty-four ministries have resigned. French statesmen are now calling for a revision of the constitution, to change the relation of the executive to the legislature. In the French system the president is chosen by the national assembly, and governs through a ministry responsible to the popular branch of the legislature. The Chamber of Deputies, by refusing any cabinet chosen by the president, can deprive him of the means of government altogether. This is what has been done in the present case. The resignation of Casimir-Perier has been forced by a strong faction of Radicals and revolutionary Socialists. They would neither support a Moderate-Republican ministry, nor allow their own leader to form a cabinet.

Within forty-eight hours after the resignation of Casimir-Perier the National Assembly had met and elected Felix Faure to the presidency. Like his predecessor the new president is a Moderate Republican. He is said to be a man of great ability, of considerable political experience and of great personal popularity, and that he may be relied upon to make a firm and safe executive. In their endeavors to bring about a social revolution and overthrow the republic, the Socialists may be expected to continue their struggles against the political party in power. Thanking his supporters, President-elect Faure said: "From this moment the parti-

san in me is merged in the patriot whose duty it will be to bring together all shades of republicanism. Our strength can come only by uniting all the forces of the republic." The republic still lives! Long may it live!

THE days are already getting longer. It will be but a few weeks until spring work will open up in earnest on the farm. During these few weeks we ought to meet in a social way as often as possible, for when the regular season's work begins there will be little time for visiting or for any social enjoyments.

I do not like the idea of having a room in the house which is kept shut up except when we have company. The best room is none too good for our own children. Some parents do not understand why the boys wish to go off to the village or to town to spend their evenings. They might find the reason in their own homes. I do not think the tendency to furnish a room and "save it for company" is as prevalent as it was a few years ago. The idea is being more and more recognized that nothing is too good for one's own children. Nor can any too great effort be made to make home attractive. In Germany the farmers live together in villages, going out mornings to the fields in the surrounding country, and returning in the evenings. In this way they keep up a social intercourse which makes life very pleasant. We have not reached the village stage for farmers in this country as yet, but the people of any neighborhood may take turns entertaining, especially during the winter months, so that young and old may be brought together in such a way as to make their lives brighter and happier.

Another thing which is often overlooked is the value of reading matter in the home. Newspapers and magazines should be considered as necessary for the home as food and clothing. Books are wonderfully cheap nowadays, and there is absolutely no excuse for any country boy or girl not having plenty of reading matter, and of that which is good. We should in every possible way seek to get the greatest possible good out of our lives, and we should seek continually to make life pleasant to those about us, and in doing this we will secure contentment for ourselves.

IN his inaugural address, Governor Morrill, of Kansas, gives his fellow-citizens some sound advice: "Private credit, which has been the chief sufferer from this credit-destroying crusade, is being rapidly lifted up and straightened by the payment and cancellation of obligations, and by the changed sentiment of the people in regard to their ability and duty to pay their honest debts. The time I believe to be close at hand when Kansas securities, public or private, will take their place beside those of the most favored section of our country. If we are faithful to ourselves and live up to our opportunities, the average life of existing farm mortgages will find abundant money seeking investment renewal at no more than five per cent. But to accomplish this we must cease talking about repudiation, and we must show an honest purpose to pay our obligations by striking from our statute-books every law that has been enacted to delay and hinder the collection of just debts."

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Silver, when sent through the mail, should be carefully wrapped in cloth or strong paper, so as not to wear a hole through the envelop and get lost.

Postage-stamps will be received in payment for subscriptions in sums less than one dollar, if for every 25 cents in stamps you add one-cent stamp extra, because we must sell postage-stamps at a loss.

The date on the "yellow label" shows the time to which each subscriber has paid. Thus: Jan 95, means that the subscription is paid up to January 1, 1895; 15Feb 95, to February 15, 1895, and so on.

When money is received the date will be changed, which will answer for a receipt.

When renewing your subscription, do not fail to say it is a renewal. If all our subscribers will do this, a great deal of trouble will be avoided. Also give your name and initials just as now on the yellow address label; don't change it to some other member of the family; if the paper is now coming in your wife's name, sign her name, just as it is on label, to your letter of renewal. Always name your post-office.

FARM AND FIRESIDE,
Springfield, Ohio.

The Advertisers in this Paper.

We believe that all the advertisements in this paper are from reliable firms or business men, and do not intentionally or knowingly insert advertisements from any but reliable parties; if subscribers find any of them to be otherwise we should be glad to know it. Always mention this paper when answering advertisements, as advertisers often have different things advertised in several papers.

Artichokes. In reply to a number of queries about growing artichokes, we will say briefly, plant and cultivate them the same as potatoes. Select rich, deep, mellow soil; cut the tubers the same as seed potatoes, and plant them from early spring to the middle of June, about fifteen inches apart. Four to six bushels of seed tubers are required per acre. Nearly all the seedsmen have them for sale.

Sacaline Is the name of a promising new forage plant recently introduced from Russia. It is a tall-growing member of the buckwheat family. The plant is a hardy perennial, adapted to a variety of soils and yielding an enormous amount of nutritious forage relished by all kinds of stock. It is well worth a trial, judging from the high testimonials given by German and French agriculturists. Some of our experiment stations will test it carefully to determine its value for this country.

The Harvey Water-motor. Bulletin No. 13 of the Wyoming experiment station, Laramie, Wyo., describes an ingenious motor for irrigation purposes. It is a combination of undershot and breast water-wheel for utilizing the force of a river current to raise water from the river to the irrigation ditches. Being hung on a swinging frame, the wheel rises and falls with the river. It is not patented. Mr. Harvey, the inventor, has given it to the public. The Wyoming experiment station recommends this new water-motor as a cheap, reliable and effective method of taking water out of large streams for irrigation purposes.

An Appeal for Aid. Owing to the complete failure of crops in portions of Nebraska, thousands of people there are in actual need of the necessities of life. Food, clothing and fuel are urgently needed to prevent suffering, starvation and death. The case need but be stated, their condition need but be known to call forth liberal assistance. In fact, much aid has already been given, but more is needed. Send what you can of fuel, clothing, food or money. The relief organizations will distribute it judiciously to the needy and deserving. Consign shipments to State Relief Committee, Lincoln, Nebraska.

Longest and Fastest Ride. "Foremost among English feats of horsemanship," says *Chambers Journal*, "we have one which for generations has been represented in the circus. Dick Turpin's famous ride from London to York has taken its place among nursery legends; nevertheless it was actually performed, and stands as a record of its kind. The highwayman, riding with the very best reason in the world—the safety of his neck—covered the distance of over 200 miles in a little under twelve hours. This performance stands alone as the longest and fastest journey ever made on the same horse. Most of the long rides of which records exist have been made for wagers. Such records are, therefore, reliable."

Crop Report for 1894. The final estimates of the crops of 1894, made by the Department of Agriculture, are as follows:

	Area.	Bushels.	Value.
Wheat	34,882,436	460,267,416	\$225,902,025
Corn	65,582,269	1,212,770,052	554,719,162
Oats	27,023,553	662,086,923	214,516,920
Rye	1,944,780	26,727,615	13,394,476
Barley	3,170,602	61,400,465	27,134,127
Potatoes	2,737,973	170,787,338	91,526,787
Hay	48,321,272	54,874,408	468,578,321
Tobacco	523,103	406,678,385	27,760,739

The average farm prices compared with those of last year are as follows: Corn, per bushel, 1894, 45.7 cents, against 36.5; wheat, 49.1, against 53.3; rye, 50.1, against 51.3; oats, 32.4, against 29.4; barley, 44.2, against 41.1; potatoes, 53.6, against 59; hay, per ton, \$8.54, against \$8.63; cotton, per pound, 4.6, against 6.99; leaf tobacco, per pound, 6.8, against 8.1.

Syrups. "The syrups we buy for table use, what are they?" writes a subscriber. "How and from what are they manufactured? Is there anything in them detrimental to health? I presume they are principally glucose, which, though not as sweet as cane sugar, I supposed to be innocuous and fit for table use."

For full information about the adulterants of table syrups, send to the United States Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C., for bulletin No. 13 of the division of chemistry.

Ordinarily these syrups are the by-products of sugar refining. As the processes of sugar refining have been improved, the quality of the residual syrups has lowered. When they were higher in price than at present, they were largely mixed with glucose, but now good glucose costs as much as they do. Some of the syrups on the market are perfectly wholesome. Glucose syrup itself, properly made and free from acids or metallic salts, is a wholesome article of food. Physiologists claim that the starches in our food are, during the process of digestion, converted into glucose. Some of the syrups sold contain articles detrimental to health, such as acids, metallic salts, or the agents used in bleaching. Tests are necessary to distinguish the good syrups from the bad. In the bulletin named you will find the methods of detecting the adulterants and injurious articles fully described.

Cost of Butter Production. From its dairy herd record for 1893, and from experiments made to determine the cost of butter production in winter, the Minnesota experiment station draws the following conclusions:

First, the average annual cost of keeping a dairy cow is thirty-eight dollars.

Second, a herd of cows bred on dairy lines, well fed and carefully handled, will produce on an average six thousand four hundred pounds of milk per year, at a cost of sixty-two cents per hundred pounds, and twelve and a half cents a pound for butter fat.

Third, a herd of good dairy cows, well fed and carefully handled, will produce on an average three hundred pounds of butter fat each per year, which is equivalent to three hundred and sixty-five pounds of butter per year.

Fourth, the average cost of a pound of butter will be ten and a half cents.

Fifth, taking the entire herd the average cost of a pound of butter fat during the winter months is thirteen and nine tenths cents.

Sixth, the productive capacity of a cow depends more upon type and conformation than upon size or breed. Those of the beef type produced butter fat at a cost

of seventeen and a half cents a pound; those carrying a medium amount of flesh produced butter fat at a cost of fifteen and one tenth cents a pound; the spare cows lacking in depth of body produced butter fat at a cost of fourteen and six tenths cents a pound, and the spare cows having deep bodies produced butter fat at a cost of twelve and one tenth cents a pound.

NOTES ON RURAL AFFAIRS.

Going to Law. Appealing to the civil law for the redress of real or imaginary wrongs is often an expensive proceeding. A certain celebrated "calf case," involving the proprietorship of four miserable calves, has occupied the attention of courts for twenty years, and is not yet finally settled. It has settled both plaintiff and defendant, however, besides a number of other people who got tangled up in the matter, and has made beggars of what used to be well-to-do and prosperous farmers. So far as small debts and petty damages are concerned, it is usually much better, safer and surely cheaper to suffer wrong than to try to remedy it by legal proceedings. The latter course is about as foolish as it would be to throw "the sausage after the ham" (as an old German saying is). Your chances of knocking down and obtaining the ham are slim, and the probabilities are, you will have to throw away more sausages, before you bring down the ham, than the latter is worth. To begin a lawsuit is as easy as throwing a stone. When the stone has once left your hand, however, it "belongs to the devil" (to use another German word picture). You have lost control over it; and so you have over the lawsuit once started. Tackling a lawsuit is like tackling a bear; you don't know whether you can "let go" again, and when you do manage to get loose, there may be more of your own skin remaining with the bear, than bearskin in your possession.

Legal Technicalities. Our laws are full of hooks and crooks, and often needlessly complicated. You may have a "plain" case. Justice and common sense may be all on your side, and the other party may openly confess to be entirely wrong. Yet the outcome can never be predicted with any degree of certainty. For instance, suit is brought before a local justice for the recovery of a small sum of money, or the possession of some piece of property of little value. The justice, however, knows little or nothing about the law and its hooks and crooks. The opposing lawyer knows all about these law points. The justice may make a false ruling, or omit some necessary formality. Then the defendant appeals, and the next thing is, judgment is reversed, and you have to pay a nice little amount for costs, and the other party goes free. All this to punish you for what the justice does not know. If that does not suit you, you may begin another action, go through the whole business once more, and run the same risks. Don't imagine that you can depend on the righteousness of your cause, and safely neglect technical points. The latter frequently, and unfortunately, prevail over the former.

Two Cases. I happened to be present when two appeal cases came up to a hearing before the county court. In one case a gardener had suffered considerable damage, through the fault of some children, who, together with their goat, had made a playground of his garden, and this repeatedly in spite of his protests and of notice given to the parents. The man was clearly entitled to some damages, and the justice's court had fixed them at \$15. Judgment was reversed on some technical flaws in the decision or manner of conducting the trial. The other case was that of a party in Niagara Falls who had a claim for board, etc., against another party. The justice before whom the trial was held is an illiterate Irishman, and entirely incompetent to fill a justice's chair. The plaintiff also is an illiterate fellow, and could not show, from books or accounts, a specified bill of the amounts due him. The defendant did not defend his suit, and the justice properly found for the plaintiff. In the county court this judgment, much to the regret of the judge himself, had to be reversed. The papers made out by the justice's court were so unique in spelling and in the whole make-up that the county judge requested to have them left with him as a curiosity. Plaintiff's coun-

sel, in speaking of the ignorance of the trial justice, stated that people were unfortunate to have to go to a person as utterly incompetent as this justice, with their law cases.

Who is to Blame? What business has an illiterate man to be a justice of the peace? This man is not the only one of the kind, and the justice-ship is not the only position disgraced by unfit holders. Look the country over, and you will find ignorant or dishonest people filling a large share of the public offices and positions of trust. They are the result of the blind partizanship with which even "intelligent" citizens support at the polls whatever nominations the politicians of their own party have seen fit to make. It is natural that practical politicians, if they are allowed to have their own way, will nominate none but the old party hacks, and reward party services with an office, whether the nominees are competent or not. The wonder is that well-meaning, well-educated people can go to the polls and vote for an ignoramus or a scoundrel for a judicial or any other position of honor or trust. Fortunately, this blind partizanship is on the wane. I hope we will soon have seen the last of it. But a closer scrutiny of candidates is needed not only in national or state elections, but in town meetings as well. In your own local matters you ought to be all the more careful. He who despises good government in his own little town, does not deserve good government in his state capital or at Washington. Who cares whether a supervisor, an assessor or a justice is a Republican, a Democrat or a Populist, so long as he is competent and disposed to be a credit to his office and to his electors.

Lawyers' Hire. There are lawyers and lawyers, just as there are farmers and farmers. Some of them are lights in their profession, and command big pay. But the average lawyer is a poor counselor, as the average farmer is a poor soil-tiller. He may ask you pretty good pay for his services, but he does not deserve it. I used to think that an "attorney and counselor at law" knew everything about law that is worth knowing. I found out that this is a mistaken notion; and the deeper I look into the matter, the more I lose my respect for the "profound learning" of the average lawyer. Often he is tripped up on the simplest law points. These lawyers will make blunders such as their acquaintance with the law should protect them from making, and blunders, too, which cost their clients a heap of money. An "average" lawyer, therefore, is not worth having even in petty cases, and a good lawyer is too expensive, usually, to employ in suits that involve only small amounts. This condition in the "lawyer market" is another and a strong reason for keeping out of petty civil suits. Undoubtedly, too, there are lawyers who will "humor" a case in the same way that physicians are sometimes accused of humoring theirs. Possibly the lawyers on both sides may play into each others' hands. They have found a client with plenty of ready cash and a disposition to let go of it easy—like a goose that is ready to be plucked—and they keep on plucking as long as there is anything to pluck.

Lawing as a Luxury. There are instances where a person is perfectly justified to bring a civil action against another person, or to resist somebody's demands to the point of becoming the defendant in such an action. Whether it is wise to do either, is another question. If you have no money to spare for lawyers, and perhaps to pay a big bill of costs; if you have hard work to make both ends meet, better keep out of such entanglements. Rather lose a few dollars or a bad debt of small amount than risk losing many times that amount by means of carrying on a lawsuit. This seldom pays. But if you want your rights, and can afford to pay for getting them—in other words, if you just as soon as not spend \$50 or \$100, knowing that this expenditure will not cripple you, nor withhold any of the comforts of life from your family, there can be no objection to your attempt to secure what is justly due you by "going to law." Beware, as much as you can, of ignorant justices and ignorant lawyers, and bear in mind that "lawing" is a luxury in which only those should indulge who can afford to lose some money. At another time, possibly, I may tell you of some interesting little bit of personal experience which I have had in this line recently.

T. GREINER.

Our Farm.

MAKING, SAVING AND APPLYING MANURE.

II.

THE care of manure before it is applied to the soil is a matter of far greater importance than many seem to think. In fact, much of the manure made in this country gets no care at all, and the loss is very heavy. It is yet a common practice in many sections to throw the manure from the stables into piles under the eaves of the barn, and not unfrequently the barn stands on a hillside, and the leachings of the manure run down to a brook at the foot of the hill.

It is well that we have experiment stations to determine the per cent of loss from leaching and evaporation, and call public attention to it. The Cornell station says: "Horse manure thrown in a loose pile, and subjected to the action of the elements, will lose nearly one half of its valuable fertilizing constituents in the course of six months." The Kansas station estimates that the waste in six months amounts to fully one half of the gross manure, and nearly forty per cent of the nitrogen that it contained.

A great deal has been written in favor of and in opposition to covered manure-yards. I have no desire to try to settle the controversy, but it is my experience that the shed for stable manure and the open yard for long manure may both be satisfactory, if managed right. The main points are to prevent leaching and evaporation, although decomposition is also often important. In the covered yard for stable manure, fermentation is arrested by moisture and tramping. It does not do to pile manure loosely under cover. The air enters, and fermentation begins at a rapid rate. The practicable way is to spread the manure evenly over the floor of the shed, a few inches at a time, and use the shed for young stock or else as a watering-place. The constant tramping compacts the manure without cost. The bulletin quoted in my first article says: "Where the manure is compacted, the carbonic-acid gas formed by fermentation soon permeates the mass so completely as to entirely exclude the air, thus arresting fermentation."

If long manure is kept in an open yard, the earth should be scooped out sufficiently to prevent water from running off, and the surface should be puddled sufficiently to render it as impervious to water as possible.

If the manure is wanted in early spring, it may be necessary to throw it up in beds or ricks a short time before it is wanted, or else to feed some corn on it to hogs; but a cheaper way is to leave the long manure in the basin until needed as a top-dressing for the meadows, pastures or wheat lands. There is then less water in it, and the work of drawing is more pleasant. The stable manure may be used for the spring crops, if manure of any kind is wanted. On average farms, however, the limited supply of manure cannot be devoted to spring crops with such profit as to land that is growing a crop to be turned under. There is usually some thin land that will not make good growths of clover or an aftermath on old meadows intended for corn or other spring crop, and here the manure does the most good, one dollar's worth producing two or three dollars' worth of fertilizer in the clover or timothy.

In the handling of manure, however, there is no better way of caring for it, when practicable, than by spreading it where wanted as fast as it is made. Manure always loses some strength when kept in shed or open yard. It is strongest when first made. It is my impression that there is an undue amount of fear that manure will be leached off a field. If the ground is very rolling and hard frozen when the manure is scattered, a hard rain will cause loss; but if the surface is not frozen, the leachings of manure go into the ground rather than down the hill. This matter may be easily tested for oneself. If manure be put on the upper half of a steep hillside, and none be put on the lower half, the succeeding crop will show the dividing line almost to an inch. In truth, it is a matter of surprise that the soil one foot below the lower edge of the manured strip will show so little effect from the manure, the line being as well marked as that of the upper edge.

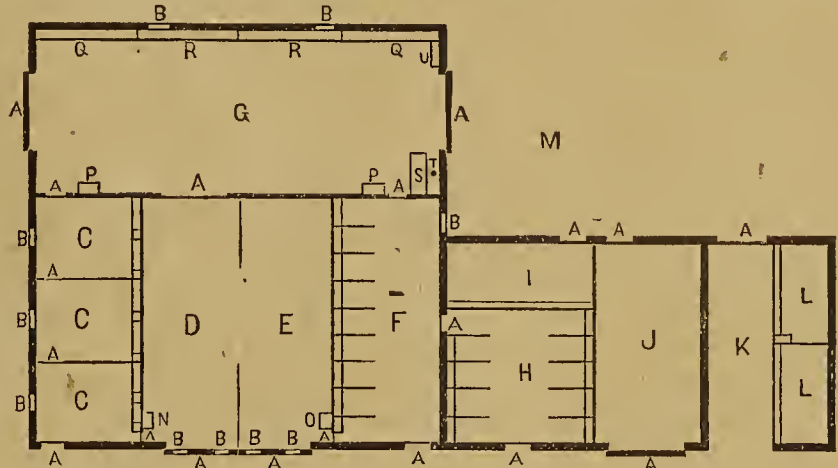
But on rolling land we do not want to scatter the manure when the ground is hard frozen. I have found it satisfactory to leave the manure in the horse-stable for two or three weeks at a time. This sounds sloven, but is not so in practice, if done in the right way. Every evening the manure should be evenly spread in the stall, and bedding used. The stall is thus kept clean and comfortable, and there is little loss of the liquid manure, even on board floors. With clay or cement floors, a heavy coat of absorbents on the floor is always a necessity, anyway, and by scattering the manure before putting in the daily supply of bedding, it does no harm until a large quantity causes heating in the stall. By this method we can often wait for a suit-

letin: "The rate will depend upon the character of the soil, the quality of the manure, the nature of the crop, and the frequency of the application. Cold, moist soils should be manured lightly and often. In New England, the rate varies from six to twelve tons. Twenty tons is a frequent application in New Jersey, as well as in other regions where truck farming is practiced. As a general rule, it is more scientific to apply small amounts of manure frequently than to apply larger amounts at long intervals." The last point should be emphasized. In ordinary farming, it does not pay to dump all the manure on a small field in order to get a big yield off it, when there is some other field needing a light application to insure a good stand of grass.

DAVID.

A MODERN BARN.

Believing that it is true economy to shelter all kinds of farm animals during severe weather, we have always made an



- A—Doors.
- B—Windows, 28x40 inches.
- C—Box-stalls 2 horses each, 12x16 ft.
- D—Threshing-floor, 14x36.
- E—Driveway on which grain is placed, 14x36.
- F—Cow-stable, 16x36.
- G—Storm-stable, or covered barn-yard, 24x60.
- H—Heifer-stable, 20x22.
- I—Calf-stable, 10x22.
- J—Farm tools, 16x30.
- K—Wagons, 10x30.
- L—Hog-pens, 8x15.
- M—Open yard, 60x70.
- N—Oat-box.
- O—Meal-box.
- P—Straw-chutes.
- Q—Straw-racks.
- R—Hay-racks.
- S—Water-tank.
- T—Pump.
- U—Salt-box.

effort to provide comfortable quarters for our stock; but owing to the fact that when we came upon the farm ten years ago, the buildings were all poor and ill adapted to our purposes, it was first necessary to make many repairs, and next to provide temporary stables, which might be depended upon for service for a few years until the mortgage could be lifted and means secured for something more suited to our needs. Debt has ever been a thing to be dreaded, and we could not think of erecting buildings on borrowed capital. Better far to labor under many disadvantages and do with fewer accommodations than to borrow money during a period of general depression, when prices of farm productions are continually on the downward tendency.

Each year has witnessed some permanent improvements upon the farm, and the old barn, which is thirty by fifty-four feet (not including a temporary cow-stable thirteen by thirty-six feet), was made to answer our needs so far as possible. But since the completion of a new barn, with its modern features, we hope to make the farm animals as thoroughly comfortable as possible; in fact, give them an opportunity to enjoy life, if such a thing is possible for a brute. For surely, everyone has noticed what a vast difference in appearance there is between animals—those which must endure the most severe storms unprotected, and those which are comfortably stabled.

This barn was not built for show or appearance, but rather for comfort and convenience, and appearances were even sacrificed rather than to abridge either of the prime objects. It was joined directly to the old barn, in order to facilitate the care and feed of all the stock. It is sided with tongue and grooved siding, which makes a much closer wall than to use boards and battens, or ship-lapped lumber.

It is covered with steel, underlaid with building-felt. Twelve windows, each thirty by forty-two inches, admit light and sunshine. It has a double driveway in the main barn, with another the full length of the covered barn-yard. The horse-stable is divided into three large box-stalls, each capable of accommodating two horses. Both stables communicate with the covered barn-yard, in which water and salt are found. In extremely cold weather the animals may secure sufficient exercise here, but on mild days they may be permitted to exercise in the open yard at M.

In threshing, the straw is thrown into the mow above the covered barn-yard,

where it remains dry and bright. It is thus better as an absorbent for bedding in the stables, and more of it is eaten by the stock, which have access to it in the racks at Q and R. The chutes at P and P are for getting straw into the stables. Most farmer boys know what a disagreeable job it is to get straw for bedding, when, after wading several rods through mud and manure to secure the straw from a half-rotted straw-stack, where occasionally a detached icicle drops upon his neck and traverses the spinal column to his especial disgust. Have you been there, dear reader? And do you wonder why boys leave the farm? Then, too, few boys appreciate the sport (?) of standing out in a driving sleet or snow-storm pumping water for twenty-five or thirty head of stock. See the snug corner in the covered barn-yard, where he may pump away at his leisure, watching the cattle feeding, or gazing at the pictures on the wall. Did you ever forget to salt the cows at regular intervals and notice

the decreased flow of milk? Here salt is in the box at U all the time. No overdose of salt; no overloading the system with water in consequence. Did you ever see a farmer feed his horses in one building, colts in a second, cows in one yard, calves in another, and hogs and sheep all around, and notice how long it required to do the feeding properly? Here the stock, though separated, are near together, and all may be fed and watered without the attendants going out in the rain or snow.

The barn frame is constructed entirely of joists, and required two men just four days to get it ready to raise, and required only twenty men and a capstan to raise it in six hours. JOHN L. SHAWVER. *Shady Nook Farm.*

A CO-OPERATIVE EFFORT FOR BETTER ROADS.

In accordance with instructions from the Secretary of Agriculture, Gen. Roy Stone, special agent and engineer for the United States Department of Agriculture, has solicited early information from the governors of the various states as to their views in regard to the best method of initiating legislation more efficient and authoritative than the plans heretofore adopted.

Gen. Stone recommends the establishment of a joint commission at the opening of the legislative session for the careful consideration of any road bills that may be presented. This legislative commission can be wisely augmented by the representatives of other associations favoring immediate road improvement. In conjunction with such co-operative effort, that of the United States Department of Agriculture is also assured. By such a general and determined effort, no doubt such harmonious action on the part of the various states as this plan would bring about would meet with such favorable consideration, that local effort would be seconded by that of the state and national legislative bodies. *Near Washington, D. C.* W. M. K.

After Diphtheria

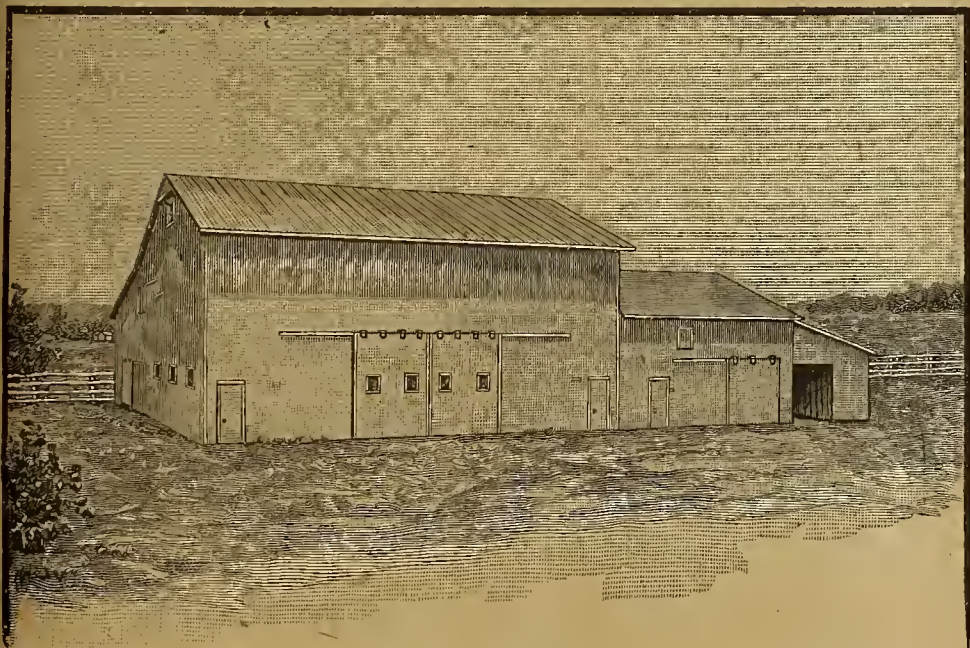
Typhoid Fever, Scarlet Fever, Pneumonia, the Grip, and other wasting diseases, the weakened frame must be built up, the nerves strengthened, the blood enriched. Hood's Sarsaparilla is needed. It

Hood's Sarsaparilla

will stimulate and strengthen the organs of digestion, create an appetite, and assist the patient wonderfully on the road to health.

"Our little girl, six years old, had diphtheria. After the doctor pronounced her well she could not hear or see very well, and we got a bottle of Hood's Sarsaparilla. After she had taken it she was as bright as ever." LORENZO ROUTT, Hallsville, Ohio. Be sure to get Hood's.

Hood's Pills cure all liver ills. 25c.



A MODERN BARN.

sible. The yard should be so small that the manure during the winter season will accumulate at least two feet deep in it. A good way, when one has surplus straw, is to stack some of it on the side of this basin, and then use it with corn stalks and other refuse matter from the barn that goes into the basin. Stock can be turned out to the straw in good weather, and is kept out of the mud while getting exercise, and the tramping makes a compact mass of the long stuff. The rains keep it wet, and the mass is soon converted into manure. Farmers sometimes say that their stalks and straw will not rot in this way, but I think that the failure must be due to wrong management. If only a little is added daily, it is broken up somewhat by the stock, and soon begins to rot after it disappears from sight under more additions of the refuse.

able time for drawing to the field. Such a time usually is before the frost is out of the ground, so that no injury is done the ground, but when a few days of thawing and fair weather are indicated.

When manure is plowed under, this bulletin says: "The general rule should be observed that it should not be so deep as to prevent the access of sufficient moisture and air to insure fermentation and nitrification, and to permit of rapid washing down of nitrates to the drain. In very compact soils the depth should not exceed four inches. In light soils this depth may be considerably increased, although in such soils there is more danger of loss by drainage than with heavy clay soils."

As to the proper rate of application, I can do no better than to quote from this bul-

Our Farm.

FROM GARDEN AND FIELD.

The HORSE-BEAN.—A reader asks me where he can obtain seeds of the English horse-bean for trial. I find them catalogued by many of our leading seedsmen, among others by J. Thorburn & Co., of New York City, who offer the following varieties: Early Mazagau, the earliest of this class; Broad Windsor, the largest and best for main crop; Sword Long-pod, a little smaller than Windsor; Green Windsor, a green long-pod; Small horse-bean, half the size of Mazagan. From what information I have been able to gather, I greatly doubt whether the public will ever take kindly to these beans for table use. They are coarse, and lack the fine quality of our Limas, so that even people of foreign birth, who have been used to these beans from childhood up, soon "stick up their noses" at the coarse dish when they can have the much more palatable Lima bean.

My friend Wm. Falconer (editor of *Gardening*) writes me that he grows a few Windsor beans annually, not because they are profitable, but for the sake of variety and "old associations." The beans should be used green, and about the same stage of growth as we used green peas. But even then they must be skinned, which is a job the housewife is most likely to object to. On the other hand, the plant is interesting, and I still think there are many places in Uncle Sam's domain where they can be grown to advantage as food for cattle, swine or poultry. The fact that the horse-bean is grown in large tracts in some places on the Pacific coast, proves that they may be grown profitably.

All these beans are as hardy as peas, and must be planted early in the spring in order to make the crop before the season of heat and drought. Seed for trial is cheap enough, being quoted at twenty-five or thirty cents per quart.

CHINESE VEGETABLES.—Among the novelties of the season, Thorburn & Co. offer quite a list of Chinese vegetables, among them the Chinese cabbage, which bears a loose, lettuce-like head of crisp leaves; the Chinese mustard, which is good for greens; the Chinese tuberous-rooted mustard, the small, turnip-like roots of which are used as a salad; the Chinese yam; the Wax gourd, used for preserves or sweet pickles, also known as Chinese preserving melon; the Japanese gobo, the young leaf stalks of which resemble rhubarb in form, and asparagus in flavor; etc. People who like to test novelties, and wish to see new or strange forms of vegetation in their gardens, will find a veritable bonanza in these Chinese vegetables.

Some time last November I received from Thomas Mason, of Wisconsin, a plant of "curled mustard," which I believe is identical with what has recently been introduced as "California pepper-grass." It is the same thing I used to have years ago, until I accidentally lost the seed. This vegetable has all the appearance of a "Chinese" vegetable, but its origin seems to be in doubt. It makes a large, beautifully "curled" plant, and is desirable for greens and salads, especially when grown in winter under glass. The plant received is now doing well in my greenhouse.

FROM THE CATALOGUES.—Thus far few catalogues have come to hand. Thorburn & Co.'s was the first received, and I think it is about as sensible a one as is published. It is plain, readable and comprehensible, with some pictures, and none too many. In a catalogue arranged like this, you will have no difficulty in finding exactly what you are looking for, provided it is there; and the list of varieties is surely complete enough. The most important of the novelties offered, I think, are Carman No. 1 and No. 3 potatoes, the former introduced last year, the latter being a novelty of this season. The prices on No. 1 have not been materially reduced this year. It is offered at \$16 per barrel, \$7 per bushel, and \$2.25 per peck. I paid \$3 for one peck last year (all I could get, although I ordered a bushel early in the winter), and grew from it about ten bushels, now worth at least \$50. Carman No. 3 is offered at last year's rates for No. 1; namely, \$25 a barrel, \$10 a bushel, \$3 a peck, etc. These are pretty high rates, but many of those who buy these

promising novelties, and propagate them judiciously for seed, will be liable to make some money in the transaction. I for my part shall buy only a peck of No. 3, and work one half of this "for all it is worth," by the sprouting method.

"Buist's Garden Guide and Almanac" (Robert Buist, Philadelphia) was the next catalogue that came to my table. The novelties seem to be mixed in with the general list. I feel more interest in Buist's Perfection White forcing lettuce than any other thing, although it is not a novelty, strictly speaking, being introduced as early as 1887, as the best forcing lettuce out. For some reason I did not have my attention called to it before, and consequently have not tested it. This will now be done, however, although I believe I have as good a greenhouse lettuce as there is in existence. Even the slightest promise of something better, however, is too strong a temptation to resist. Big Boston is described as "an improvement of the celebrated Boston Market in the size of its heads, but identical with it in every other respect." I had the Big Boston from Henderson & Co. It makes a very large plant, but it is coarse in appearance, the leaves being large, smooth and stiff, and lacking the appetizing attractiveness of the Boston Market. For this reason I have discarded this "improved" form again. Mr. Buist also catalogues the Mammoth Southern curled mustard as a variety producing beautifully curled leaves. This, however, does not seem to be the curled mustard already mentioned as "California pepper-grass," although it is quite serviceable for greens and a salad, especially when grown under glass. I had it in the greenhouse last winter, but find it somewhat coarse.

A gaudy, and one of the largest and most expensive—if not the very largest and most expensive—of all seedsmen's catalogues is that issued by Wm. Henry Maule, of Philadelphia, which came as No. 3 to my desk. It is overabundantly embellished with pictures and colored plates, the production of which must have cost a moderate fortune. While I am not in favor of this lavish use of the engraver's art in the make-up of seed catalogues, I think we can well overlook this feature (which appears to me as a deficiency, while many others may value it as a merit), when we consider that a number of most excellent things have been introduced by former issues of this same catalogue. The Prize-taker onion, introduced in it in 1889, has probably been of greater service and benefit to the general grower of vegetables than any other novelty introduced during the last ten years, and perhaps more than a number of the best of all recently introduced novelties put together.

A NEW TOMATO.—Mr. Maule sends out a new tomato, the "New Imperial." This variety was sent me for trial last year, by the originator, Mr. A. A. Halladay, of Vermont. He claimed great things for it, especially earliness, smoothness, productiveness, etc. It was to give ripe fruit even in advance of the Early Ruby. I had quite a number of plants on my grounds last season, and they proved this tomato to be a beauty indeed, large, solid, smooth and quite productive, holding out well to the end of the season. Unfortunately, I am unable to decide the point of earliness. The season was peculiar; all my plants suffered from excess of water for some weeks after being planted (the soil not having drainage enough to dispose of all the water that the May floods furnished), so that all varieties received a serious set-back, and commenced to give ripe specimens all at one time. Even the Ruby was not earlier than the others, while usually this variety has given us ripe tomatoes for weeks before we found a ripe specimen on other kinds. I think some of the experiment stations have tested the "New Imperial," and if so, they should report. If it is anywhere as early as the Early Ruby, we will have in it a real "acquisition." T. GREINER.

Colorado and New Mexico orchardists are exempt from all disaster from drought such as has diminished the crops and profits of eastern fruit growers this year. In the far western arid country, where growers must depend wholly on irrigation for moisture for their orchards, the expense of ditching is compensated by the good result that they can absolutely regulate the water supply the trees shall receive. The soil of the Rocky mountain slopes is peculiarly adapted for fruits, grapes and berries, and the people of those regions more and more are entering upon this branch of farming.—*New York Sun.*

Orchard and Small Fruits.

CONDUCTED BY SAMUEL B. GREEN.

THE QUESTION-BOX.

QUESTION:—When is the cottonwood seed ready, and how does it look? When is it to be taken off? When is the seed to be planted, in the spring or fall?

ANSWER:—Cottonwood seed ripens in June. You cannot mistake it, because the cotton which comes from the trees has the seed attached to it. It is a very small seed, and the cotton which is attached to it is provided by nature for the purpose of distributing the seeds about by means of the wind. The common way of gathering it is to break off the branches having the seed on them before the cotton begins to blow about with the wind. Lay these small branches in drills and allow them to remain there until the cotton begins to separate; then cover very lightly with earth. The seed can sometimes be swept up where it falls on the hard ground. Sometimes it will be found blown into some corner, and can be gathered, under these circumstances, quite easily. But it is generally best to pick the catkins on which the seed grows from the trees. The seed will not keep long, and must be planted at once.

QUESTION:—Does the growing of timothy in a grove of cottonwood and box-elder trees, planted about twelve feet apart, injure the trees and cause the cottonwood-trees to die out?

ANSWER:—It certainly does. The grass takes up the moisture which the trees should have, and the moisture in the subsoil is more easily evaporated when the surface soil is grown to grass than if it was kept stirred with the cultivator. It would be far better to keep the space between the cottonwood-trees cultivated than to permit it to grow to grass. But cottonwood-trees are short-lived trees, anyway, and whoever plants a cottonwood grove should at the same time plant in it some long-lived trees, such as bur oak, butternut, wild cherry, black walnut, ash or elm, to take the place of the cottonwood.

QUESTION:—How and at what time of the year should box-elder tree seeds be planted in order to give best results?

ANSWER:—Box-elder seeds should be gathered in the autumn, kept over winter in a cool, dry place, and be sown in rich, loose soil early in the spring in drills three feet apart, and covered about two inches deep.

QUESTION:—What is necessary to do to strawberries the second year?

ANSWER:—After they have borne fruit, the bed is generally grown to weeds. The weeds and strawberry-plants should be mowed off close to the ground as soon as possible after the crop is gathered. As soon as the stuff is dry it should be raked into the spaces between the rows and be burned. The rows should then be cultivated and weak plants cut out of the rows. In a short time another growth will start, which will be healthier and better in every way before autumn than it would have been had the old growth been allowed to stand. Beds treated in this way are much less liable to injury from insects or diseases than those that are not burned over. It is important that this burning should be done as soon as may be after the gathering of the crop, so that there will be a long season in which the plants may recover and mature their buds for the following season.

QUESTION:—What is the reason that apple-trees get rotten in the trunk?

ANSWER:—It is due to borers working in the wood, or perhaps to what is called sun-scald. This sun-scald is a very common source of injury to apple-trees in the extreme North, and more trees are lost there on account of this disease than from any other. It will be first noticed when the bark on the southwest side of the tree dries up, peels off and exposes the wood, which soon becomes rotten. This so weakens the trunk that when loaded with apples it is liable to be blown down. This trouble may be entirely prevented by shading the trunks of the trees. For this purpose anything that will cast a shade will answer, be it corn stalks or a piece of board on the southwest, or a bush, or the trunk covered with paper, or any other substance.

QUESTION:—Is it necessary to thin strawberries after they cover the ground?

ANSWER:—After the ground is well covered with plants, so they remain about six inches apart each way, all further runners should be cut off.

INQUIRIES ANSWERED

BY SAMUEL B. GREEN.

Worden Grape.—A. W., Durham, Illinois. The Worden grape was raised by S. Worden, Minnetonka, New York, from Concord seed. It is one of the best, if not the best, of the purple grapes grown in this country.

Raspberry-plants from Old Patch.—J. H., Middletown, Ohio. If your old raspberry-patch, or any part of it, is still healthy, the healthy plants could be safely used to set a new patch; but if badly diseased, it would be better for you to buy new, healthy plants from some reliable berry grower or nursery.

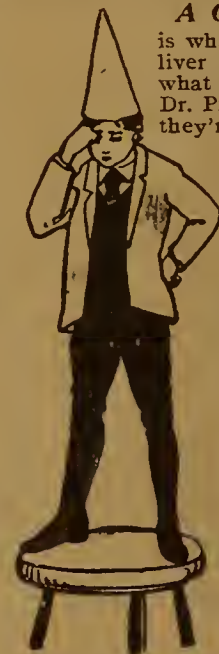
Chestnut Grafts on Other Trees.—A. J. P., Springfield, Missouri. Chestnut-trees can be bought very cheap. They are also quite easily grafted. You had better buy some seedling chestnut-trees and graft on them. While it is possible to graft chestnuts on some other trees, yet it is not a desirable thing to do.

Grafting the Pear on the Haw—River Mud as Fertilizer.—A. A., Wilmington, N. C. You will find the pear to graft very easily on the black haw.—River mud varies so much in composition that I cannot say as to the value of this particular mud for your particular place, especially as I do not know the kind of land you have. I should think, however, that united with lime and ashes, it would make a good general fertilizer, especially if it has a good many mussels or other shell-fish in it.

Early Cherries on Mahaleb Stock.—W. S. W., Clarksville, Indiana. In Europe it is always preferred to have cherry-trees on their own roots, and budded and grafted trees are not regarded so desirable as here. The mahaleb is the best stock we can get for severe situations, but it has a tendency to dwarf the trees, and it is not a congenial stock for all kinds of cherries. Trees that are worked on mahaleb are undoubtedly the longest-lived when planted rather deeply, so that roots are emitted from the scions. If your Montmorency trees are doing well, I think you should not disturb them, for the experience of your neighbor is not a uniform one. If you are afraid of trouble from the mahaleb root, you had better follow the method you suggest for encouraging rooting from the scion; or if they are small trees, they might easily be dug up and be reset a little deeper than they now are. Sometimes cherry stocks become sort of "hidebound," and seem to cut off the sap to the scion. In such cases the slitting of the bark in a few places will be found a perfect remedy.

Apple Seedlings.—G. H., Bishop Creek, Cal. If apple-seeds are sown as soon as they are ripe, and in good soil, covering about one inch deep, they will generally grow the following season. The way I do here in the North is to save the seed as I get it, mixing it with moist sand in a box. This box and contents I bury outdoors on the approach of winter, covering it about one foot deep, or else I keep it in a cool cellar over winter. In either case, in the spring, after the land is warm and ready to receive the seed, I bring

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is what you need when your liver becomes inactive. It's what you get when you take Dr. Pierce's Pleasant Pellets; they're free from the violence and the griping that come with the ordinary pill. The best medical authorities agree that in regulating the bowels mild methods are preferable. For every derangement of the liver, stomach and bowels, these tiny, sugar coated pills are most effective. They go about their work in an easy and natural way, and their good lasts. Once used, they are always in favor. Being composed of the choicest, concentrated vegetable extracts, they cost much more than other pills found in the market, yet from forty to forty-four are put up in each sealed glass vial, as sold through druggists, at the price of the cheaper made pills.

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As a "dinner pill," to promote digestion, take one each day after dinner. To relieve the distress arising from over-eating, nothing equals one of these little "Pellets." They are tiny, sugar-coated, anti-bilious granules. Any child readily takes them.

Accept no substitute that may be recommended to be "just as good." It may be better for the dealer, because of paying him a better profit, but he is not the one who needs help.

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the seed into a warm room or greenhouse, where it soon commences to grow. As soon as the roots appear the least bit, I sow the seed in the land previously prepared, in drills three feet apart. It generally comes up promptly and nearly all grows. It is a good plan to allow the seed to freeze in the sand, but this is not absolutely necessary for success. Treated as I have recommended, very little of the seed fails to grow, and it is not so liable to injury from cutworms; while if sown before starting, it is not nearly so certain, and as it comes slowly, the cutworms have a most excellent chance.

Pruning Pear-trees—Hugh's Virginia Crab.—J. C. Lockington, Ohio, writes: "Is it advisable to cut back the growth of pear-trees that are growing rapidly, such as the Kieffer? I have three hundred such trees five years old.—What is said of the Hugh's Virginia crab-apple?"

REPLY:—I think it quite necessary to shorten in the branches of the Kieffer or any other pear-tree that grows strongly; for if not done, they are very apt to shoot up too strongly and get out of shape. About one third or one fourth of the most vigorous shoots should be cut off. These are generally in the center of the trees. The outer growth seldom needs pruning. This pruning process is especially necessary when the trees are young, and before they commence to bear heavily. It should be done yearly to avoid cutting on the old wood.—Hugh's Virginia crab is recommended as being very hardy in the milder sections of the country, but is not hardy enough for very severe localities in the West. It is an upright, close grower, and is very valuable for cider, for which it is sometimes grown. It is very productive.

Grafting Grapes—Basswood Cuttings—Stock for Plum Grafts.—A. S. Clifton, Ill. Grafting grapes is an operation that requires considerable experience in order to obtain good results. If you want a few grape-vines, you had better buy two-year-old, thrifty vines rather than depend on getting any results from grafting. Yet, as an experiment, you would probably enjoy the grafting if you have the time to attend to it.—It is possible to grow the basswood from cuttings, but the operation is rather uncertain, and plants from seed are far better than those from cuttings, as they grow faster and live longer. The seedlings can be bought for about five dollars per thousand, and in buying them, one should insist on having the American basswood, as it is very much superior to the European basswood for growing in this country. Basswood may be quite easily propagated by drawing up a considerable pile of earth over the sprouts that come out at the base of stumps. These sprouts soon emit roots in the ground covering them. When they are well rooted, they may be carefully removed and planted out.—Plums do best grafted on seedlings of the wild plum. If the pits are sown in the fall without allowing them to get dry, they will generally start the following spring. If they get dry, they will seldom start until the second spring. The roots one year old are excellent to graft on, and this should be done early in the spring, before the sap starts, to get the best results. Good, vigorous plums from the woods make excellent stocks for grafting. They may be grafted where they stand and be removed the following spring, or be grafted one year after they are removed to the nursery or orchard.

List of Nurserymen—Nursery Books—American Ivy—Wild Plum Stocks—Crab-apple Seedlings.—J. E. Cokato, Minn., writes: "Where can I get a list of nurseries in the United States?—Where can cheap nursery plate books be bought?—By what characteristics can American ivy, poison-ivy and Virginia creeper be distinguished?—Is there any sale for wild plum stocks or plum pits?—How will crab-apple seedlings do for stocks?"

REPLY:—Address Charles Green, Rochester, New York, for a list of nurserymen in the United States.—I think the Rochester Lithographing Company, of Rochester, New York, will furnish cheap nursery books.—American ivy is the same as Virginia creeper (*Ampelopsis quinquefolia*). It has five leaflets to each leaf stock, and the fruit is a berry much like a small grape. The poison-ivy has but three leaflets to each leaf stock, and the fruit has one seed in it. There are other striking points of difference between the two that will be readily recognized when the plants are compared.—Wild native plum stocks are much better than Myrobalan plum stocks for all our improved American plums, and there is generally a good call for them by nurserymen. I think you would have no trouble in disposing of a large quantity each year. You had better write to some of the large nurserymen in your section about the demand for plum stocks.—Seedlings from the large, free-growing kinds of crab-apples, such as the Transcendent, or the variety known as the Virginia in Iowa and Minnesota, make very good stocks for most kinds of apples. Seedlings from the dwarf-growing crabs naturally incline to dwarf the trees growing on them. Where a long scion is used with a view to having it produce roots of its own, as is recommended for the extreme North, I think crab-apple roots of any of our cultivated kinds will give very good results.

FREE TO INVALID LADIES.

A lady who suffered for years with uterine troubles, displacements, leucorrhoea and other irregularities, finally found a safe and simple home treatment that completely cured her without the aid of medical attendance. She will send it free with full instructions how to use it to any suffering woman who will send her name and address to Mrs. L. Hudson, South Bend, Ind.

EXTRACTS FROM CORRESPONDENCE.

FROM ARKANSAS.—I have traveled a great deal in the South, and I have selected the Grand prairie in Arkansas county, Arkansas. This is the only prairie in the state. It is covered with blue-joint grass that will cut from two to two and one half tons of hay that sells for \$1 to \$3 per ton. The climate is fine; the average annual temperature is 63°, and the annual rainfall fifty-three inches. Two crops of potatoes are raised. Corn yields twenty to eighty bushels per acre, oats thirty to sixty, and everything else in proportion. All kinds of fruit do well. The Grand prairie is high and gently rolling; there is not a stone in the whole county. Land is still cheap, ranging from \$8 to \$15 per acre, but rapidly advancing. I expect to go to Arkansas in the near future, where they have no droughts, no hot winds, no blizzards and no cyclones. Ninety per cent of the people on Grand prairie are northern people.

Pukwana, S. D. J. A. S.

FROM KANSAS.—Kansas has the most healthful climate and richest soil, producing more with the least labor, of all places I have been. We can raise everything here that is raised in the older states of the same latitude. We have occasional and sometimes severe droughts, but no drow-outs. Twenty-four hours after a heavy rainfall we can go to work in the fields. Rice county has never failed to produce enough for home use, and some to spare. There is an abundant supply of good, clear water for all purposes in all parts of the county. I came here nineteen years ago, and have raised frequently over 1,000 bushels of wheat on forty acres, and over 3,000 bushels of corn on seventy acres, with one man's labor, and he would put up winter feed for sixty head of cattle; besides, I know many others who have done much better. I have seen many large fields of wheat that averaged forty bushels to the acre, and fields of corn that averaged sixty bushels per acre in the best seasons. Unfortunately, some farms are mortgaged, and can be bought now for ten to twenty dollars per acre, according to location. This is about one half the real value. These cheap farms are being picked up by the more prosperous here for speculation.

G. W. F.

Lions, Kan.

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Conducted by P. H. Jacobs, Hammonton, New Jersey.

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If the most prolific hens were retained, and the worthless ones marketed, a great improvement would soon result. It is the keeping of the drones that makes expenses large and receipts small.

It is a great risk to keep a flock of hens on the probability that they are "about" to lay. The most deceiving hens in that respect are those that apparently are in a very healthy and thrifty condition, but are too fat.

There is a wide difference in hens. Some will begin laying late in the fall, lay on

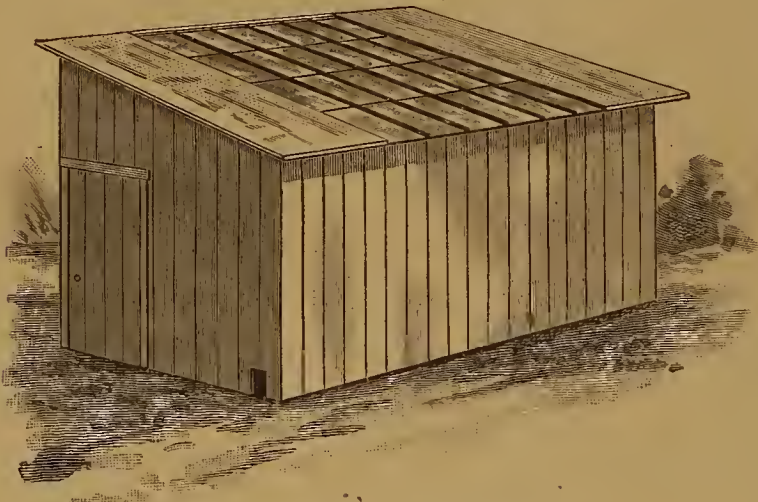
nothing. The larger the number, the greater the cost; but it is not the rule that the larger the number, the more eggs produced. As stated above, too much time is lost waiting for hens to begin to lay, even after winter sets in.

POULTRY-HOUSE WITH GLASS ROOF.

The design presented needs no description. The object is to show how a poultry-house may be well lighted, and also made warm in the winter.

DIVISION OF FLOCKS.

The profit derived from a flock of poultry that has the liberty of an orchard is quite an item, but in proportion to the land occupied the profit is not equal to that secured on small plots, upon which poultry is confined in yards.



POULTRY-HOUSE WITH GLASS ROOF.

through the winter and during the summer, losing no time until August or September, when they begin to molt. But molting is fatal to such hens, as they receive no credit for their good works.

The most uncertain of all are the early pullets. A pullet that does not begin to lay before she is ten months old should be sent to the market-stall.

An experiment is always convincing: Take a plot of ground of a space about twenty by one hundred feet (not over one twentieth of an acre), and confine upon it twenty-five hens, feeding them upon the plot for three months, allowing the droppings to remain.

under the range system, four hundred or more can be kept in small yards, the fowls divided into flocks, and each flock given a change of yards. More labor is necessary, but there is an extra profit to be derived from the ground itself, independent of eggs and meat.

Most farmers are well informed in regard to intensive systems of cultivating land, soiling cattle and hurdling sheep. That this "crowding" of the land gives greater profits than the "parochial" method of stock-keeping on almost limitless acres of ground, has been demonstrated as a fact by European farmers who are compelled to pay high rents and utilize every square inch of soil.

Then remove the hens to some other location, plant or seed the two plots with the same kind of vegetable, and the yield of the one formerly occupied by the hens will be at least twice as much as the other.

Then remove the hens to some other location, plant or seed the two plots with the same kind of vegetable, and the yield of the one formerly occupied by the hens will be at least twice as much as the other.

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Sworn to before me and subscribed in my presence, this 6th day of December, A. D. 1886.

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Our Fireside.

SOME DAY.

"Some day, somehow!" the hour is dead
When I looked into loving eyes,
And kissed the whispering lips that said
These words to me. And if the ties
Then made are broken; if the breast
Then warm with life is pulseless now,
I still will think that God knows best,
And that we will meet some day, somehow!

Until that time I still will know
That wheresoe'er in heavenly care
That pure and radiant soul may go,
My thoughts will follow. Everywhere
I'll hear that voice so low and sweet,
Just as I seem to hear it now;
I'll hear the fall of fairy feet,
I'll hear the words, "Some day, somehow!"

Upon the mantelpiece I see
The picture of a fair, sweet face,
And, though the lips are sealed, to me
They speak with more than tender grace.
I question not the mystic spell;
But hark! how clear the accents now!
'Tis not the language of farewell;
'Tis trusting love's "some day, somehow!"

And so I fondly hope 'twill be,
Not now, but some time; after life
Is finished and eternity
Dawns on the soul. The toil and strife
Of time once ended, then comes rest
Such as we do not dream of now;
And then will come to me the best
Of all, my love, some day, somehow!

—Minneapolis Journal.

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HORSES AND RIDERS.

BY LOU V. CHAPIN.

ILLUSTRATED BY WILL E. CHAPIN.

IN these days of steam and electricity we are apt to forget the important part which the horse has played in the world's history, and that this brute accessory has been man's constant companion from savagery to civilization, the means of his migration and conquest, his servant and friend. I doubt whether he will ever be displaced, except by a mutation of nature. Certainly he deserves the name of the most intelligent and faithful of all quadrupeds, and though his distribution is more limited than that of the canine, he probably has a longer acquaintance with the human race.

It is now generally conceded that the home of the horse was in central Asia, where the cradle of humanity was rocked, but scientists assert that the horse was once a denizen of quarters of the earth where there is now no trace of his presence, other than can be found deep down in the fossil remains of forgotten centuries, when man himself, perhaps, had not yet issued from the vast unknown to become the tamer of the beasts of the field and the subduer of the lightning, the wind and the sunlight, bending the very elements to his will, and drawing from the vast deep and the yet vaster heights of the earth wisdom and utility. In America the wide plains of the Southwest, where a few years ago herds of wild horses roamed undisturbed, the descendants of the steeds of the conquering Spaniards, were not considered as pastures for native horses. Even there, however, their remains have been found, though none of the aboriginal tribes of America had the vaguest legend regarding him. The horse was known to the early inhabitants of Europe, and it is claimed that the Shetland ponies are degenerate descendants of this primitive stock. The Gauls owned horses when they were first known to the Romans, and long before Caesar

sea-rovers of Scandinavian history, Hengist and Horsa, bore the name applied to the horse by the Norsemen.

The Arabians claim that it was to them that the secret of the utility of the horse was made known, directly by Jehovah, and that from their pastures horses were spread over the whole earth. The discovery of the use of the horse, however, was probably the result of one of those marvelous experiments by primitive man, to which we so largely owe civilization in all its forms. It may have been a child of Shem who conducted those experiments, for the Aryan is comparatively a late comer upon the stage of history, and the Semite was in the old age of his experience while the Aryan was yet an infant in his. It was this, perhaps, that made the conquest of those old empires of the East so easy to the lusty young blood of new races, for there comes a point in the age of nations, as in the age of men, when experience is no longer educative, but exhausts failing strength.

The Arab, from immemorial time, has celebrated the beauty and fleetness of the horse. The pedigree of their brood-mares and celebrated stallions reach back hundreds of years, and are cherished above all earthly wealth by the tribes. It is said that the Arabs never speak a harsh word to their horses from the day of their birth. They rear them in their tents with their children, caress them, and train them so that they will obey the slightest command. When the horse has reached maturity comes the terrible trial

and, indeed, the first mention made of the horse in the Hebrew scriptures is in connection with the story of that clever Jew, who became the prime minister of Pharaoh, and who caused the Egyptians to bring to him horses in exchange for their own corn, which he had forebly stored against time of famine, and which he sold back to them and to the Canaanites at exorbitant profit. The Hebrew poets are fond of describing the war-horse, the thunders of his feet and the lightning of his eyes, but nowhere in Hebrew literature is found the loving tribute to the gentler virtues of the equine race which is borne by the Arabian singers. To both Hebrew and Egyptian the horse was the dread accessory of war, a fierce, untamable brute, scarcely less terrible than the lions which are chained at the side of the chariot of the king and trained to rend the enemy.

The Greeks, in the days of Homer, used horses and chariots, though they knew nothing of cavalry, and only learned it in their later days by contact with the Macedonians. They also had no affection for the horse, regarding him merely as an implement of war. Legends of the horse are quite frequent in



which decides whether it is to be retained or turned out to roam at will. The male animal is never ridden by the Arabs, and it is, of course, only the female that is tested and tried to judge whether or not she is fit to be the dam of their great line of blooded animals. The mare is well cared for and perfectly fed all her life, until her muscles are firm, when she is subjected to the trial. She is ridden fifty or sixty miles at full speed, is then driven directly into deep water and compelled to swim, hot and fainting as she is. If she does not immediately feed when turned loose after this ordeal, she is adjudged unworthy. Arab poetry is full of mention of the horse, and it is because the Arab has so deeply studied the nature of this noble quadruped that he loves it with such passion.

The Arab riders, as might be expected, are the riders of the world. They delight in wild fantasies of speed and motion, and as they ride in full career standing in the stirrup or upon the backs of their horses, they toss up their long lances, twirl their muskets in the air, and even toss up simatars, and causing them to flash in circles, catch them by the handle in descending. Their spear-play in

mimic combat is something wonderful. Such thrusts and parries are given and returned, as they circle hither and thither upon their mettled steeds, as make the head reel but to watch them, and the horses seem to enter into the spirit of their masters, and obey the slightest touch and tone.

It was doubtless from Arabia that the horse was brought to Egypt, and was introduced into the armies of the Pharaohs. Of course, it was not used for riding, and though admired, as it doubtless was, for its strength and beauty, it never became the factor in domestic life that it was among the Arahs, and later among European nations. The Hebrews had horses in the days of Joseph,

Greek mythology, and one of these proves conclusively that the Greeks had no idea of the horse as a hurden-bearer or aid in agriculture. The legend relates to the founding of the city of Athens; for, of course, there was no city in those days but had a legend of its beginning, more or less tinetured with actual history.

It is said that when the gods determined to found Athens, there was rivalry between Athene and Poseidon regarding the name by which the new city should be called. To settle the matter, Zeus, who is usually represented in Greek legend as that sort of a politician who left weighty matters to the adjustment of other people, and then took all



the idea of his creation therefrom; but at all events, he stooped to earth, smote the hill whereupon the gods sat, and at once it opened. Issuing from the cleft, which immediately closed after it, the most beautiful horse that ever trod the earth careered back and forth



before the gods, exhibiting its graceful proportions, its speed and strength to their admiring astonishment. The assembly was loud in its praises, and declared that it would take more than the well-known wisdom of Athene to produce anything which should be of more use to man than this marvelous creature.

Athene said nothing at first, but presently she touched the ground at her feet, and lo there sprang forth a tiny green shoot. Higher and higher it grew while the gods watched it, and finally became a beautiful tree with shining leaves and oval fruit. "Behold!" said Athene (or words to that effect), "the beautiful horse that Poseidon has created brings only evil and misery to mankind. His hoofs shall be shod with iron and stained with blood. His neigh shall be the signal of battle, and from his eyes shall flash the lightning of death. Wherever his nostrils breathe the air, there shall be the ruins of cities and temples, the wail of orphans, the groans of widows. I give man the olive-tree, the tree of peace and blessing. Beneath its shade shall children sport, the birds shall sing in its branches. Man shall pluck the fruit, eat of the oil, make from it light for the hearthstone and the altar. Behold, I give man the olive!"

The gods with one voice declared for Athene, and the city was named Athens in her honor. If any one doubts the story, there is still pointed out upon the Acropolis the spot where grew the identical olive-tree created by Athene, and in ancient days the presence of the tree itself silenced the caviling of all skeptics, though I believe that the Greeks always brought themselves to have faith in any story that increased their own importance in the universal scheme, and showed their undoubted relation to celestial beings.

GOLDEN MEDICAL DISCOVERY

Many years ago Dr. R. V. Pierce, chief consulting physician to the Invalids' Hotel and Surgical Institute, Buffalo, N. Y., compounded this medicine of vegetable ingredients which had an especial effect upon the stomach and liver, rousing the organs to healthful activity as well as purifying and enriching the blood. By such means the stomach and the nerves are supplied with pure blood; they will not do duty without it any more than a locomotive can run without coal. You can not get a lasting cure of Dyspepsia, or Indigestion, by taking artificially digested foods or pepsin—the stomach must do its own work in its own way. Do not put your nerves to sleep with so-called celery mixtures, it is better to go to the seat of the difficulty and feed the nerve cells on the food they require. Dyspepsia, Indigestion, Bilioousness and Nervous Affections, such as sleeplessness and weak, nervous feelings are completely cured by the "Discovery." It puts on healthy flesh, brings refreshing sleep and invigorates the whole system.

Mrs. K. HENKE, of No. 896 North Halsted St., Chicago, Ill., writes: "I regard my improvement as simply wonderful. Since taking Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery in connection with his 'Pleasant Pellets' I have gained in every respect, particularly in flesh and strength. My liver was dreadfully enlarged and I suffered greatly from dyspepsia. No physician could give relief.

Now, after two months I am entirely relieved of my disease. My appetite is excellent; food well digested; bowels regular and sleep much improved."



MRS. HENKE.



Cowboy

was born and dreamed of, those conquests which sent his name in a roll of glory down the centuries, the savage dwellers in the forest fastness of the North worshiped the horse with solemn rites and named their heroes for him. Even within the historic period in northern Enrope the worship of the horse was common. The vikings carved images of horses' heads upon the prows of their vessels, and two of the most celebrated

the credit himself, called the gods together in solemn conclave. It was decided that it should be determined by the voice of the assembled deities which of the disputants should have the honor of naming the new city, when it was seen which was able to create the thing of most use to man, each being allowed only a single trial. Poseidon, being the god of the sea, and accustomed to "riding upon the waves," may have received

Of course, we know that horses and olive-trees were both in existence before the first stone was laid in the first of the world's cities, and that the puniest plant or animal has a history which puts to blush the grandest ruin of antiquity.

training of Bucephalus, the famous war-horse of Alexander the Great. This animal was of the Thessalian breed, and it was from Thessaly that the Greeks, who never became horse breeders themselves, imported most of their war-horses, and many of those used in

he carried the king out of the thick of combat, and fell dying to the ground. It was in the battle with Porus, the Indian king, that this happened, and the turning-point in the fortunes of the conqueror may be said to date from the death of his horse.

were seduced to the Roman cause; and it was well they were, for had not they and other of his allies forsaken Hannibal, Rome might have been utterly destroyed in her very infancy, and the most wonderful chapter in civilization been prematurely closed.



Broncho Busting



RUSSIAN COSSACK.

the races in the circus and in the sacred games. Many of these Thessalian horses had what is now called a "china" eye, and this was then considered a mark of good blood. Bucephalus was such an animal, a magnificent black stallion, with a white star in his forehead. Philip of Macedon had a taste for fine horses, and hearing of the beauty and spirit of Bucephalus, he bought him of his master, a noted breeder, for a large sum of money. When the new purchase was brought before the king, he ordered the groom to mount him. This was easier said than done. The horse plunged, reared, kicked and resisted with all his might, and it was in vain that one groom after another attempted to flog him into submission. All the time these efforts were in progress, Alexander, the thirteen-year-old son of the king, stood by, watching with growing indignation and impatience the clumsy efforts of the grooms, and muttering to himself. Finally he cried out that it was a shame that the horse should be spoiled by such unskillful handling. His father turned to him and asked him banteringly if he supposed he knew more about horses than those whose years and experience doubled his own. Alexander replied that he could tame the

Alexander, who had gazed with dry eyes upon the ruins of fair towns, had heard without a shudder the groans of dying thousands of his fellow-creatures, wept bitterly above the body of his horse, and named a city in honor of his faithful friend and companion.

The wild tribes of eastern Europe, even in the days of the Greeks, were famous horsemen. Riding upon fleet steeds, they swept down from time to time upon western Asia and terrorized the old and strong communities, who so dreaded the Scythians, as they were called from their scythed chariots, that they compromised with the savages upon almost any terms proposed. Doubtless the early Greeks, like the Asiatic nations near them, at first thought it impossible that the horses should be ridden, and when they saw by chance some of these northern mounted savages, believed the horse and man one creature. This accounts for the legends of centaurs, horse-bodied men who lived in the forests, and maybe for the Amazons, too, for the Scythian queens, perhaps, rode to battle accompanied by a troop of their own sex, and were not inferior in heroism to the

Another famous steed of history was the horse which Caligula, the crazy emperor of Rome, housed in a stable paved with precious marbles, and fed upon gilded oats. I do not believe that this horse relished these delicate attentions as much as Caligula imagined. At any rate, the emperor decreed that divine honors should be paid the brute, and had not fate interposed to prevent, he would no doubt have made the beast a consul, for he said that his horse had more wisdom than any of his subjects; which may have been true, or they would never have permitted a man without reason or conscience to pursue his mad career as long as Caligula did. To be sure, he reigned but a few years, a veritable king of beasts, but the wonder is that he was not shut up in some mad-house, and his folly limited by a straight-jacket.

warriors themselves, if we may trust the testimony of the old historians. We know that the Spaniards were mistaken by the Indians of Mexico and Peru for monsters half human, half quadruped, when they appeared upon their horses, and it was to the terror inspired by these strange apparitions, more than to the bravery of the Spanish adventurers, that the conquest of those unhappy countries was due. Certainly the Scythians themselves were not more cruel than these Christians who, with the sword in one hand and the cross in the other, gave the In-

The use of cavalry in war was unknown to the early Romans, but they learned it by a series of desperate lessons. Hannibal Barca, that young Carthaginian general of



AMAZON.

undying memory, brought the first cavalry upon Roman soil. It was composed of Numidian auxiliaries, sons of the desert, who could ride as do their kinsmen to-day; and wherever they went they struck terror even to the disciplined and brave legions of Rome. Treacherous, fickle, and fond of plunder, these African cavalrymen in course of time

dians the choice of salvation and slavery, or death. The Russian of early European history was, I believe, a lineal descendant of the Scythians, for the Russians of to-day are a mixed race in which there is as much Mongolian as Serf, more nearly allied to the Turk than the Teuton. They have not the love for the

It is to the Greeks that we owe the oldest existing treatise upon the horse, and reading it, we can hardly realize that it was not written by some horseman of our own times, instead of by that famous old historian and soldier, Xenophon, who died some three hundred and fifty years before Christ was born. Xenophon knew the good points of a horse thoroughly, and knew, too, how he ought to be protected in the warfare of the times. He gives elaborate descriptions of the armor that should be worn by cavalry, and armor that answers exactly to these requirements has recently been found in the ruins of the dead, buried and forgotten city of Pergamus. Warriors equipped very much as Xenophon advises are depicted on some of the ancient Greek vases. The horses shown in these sculptures, and in others of more modern times, are not at all beautiful according to our notions. Neither were the horses which the Assyrians carved on their capitals up to our ideal standard, though the Nisean breed, which was their model, was lauded by the ancients as the finest horses in the world. They are too heavy about the head, altogether too clumsy in build to suit modern notions, but styles in horse-flesh, as in everything else, no doubt, change with the changing centuries.

Curiously enough, while the Arabs rode only the mares, the Greeks and most of the other nations used only stallions in battle, and the fear with which they regarded these fierce beasts was not wholly unfounded. It is said that when a soldier-of-the-horse found that he and his steed were about to be captured by the enemy, it was no uncommon thing for



horse, and if he failed was willing to pay as a wager the cost of the animal.

Incredulous and doubting, his father permitted him to make the attempt.

You must know that long before this the mother of Alexander had separated from her kingly husband and taken her little son with her, because Philip had seen to take unto himself a younger and fairer wife. This wife had borne the king a son, and he loved him dearly, and did not especially love Alexander, who sometimes visited him at court. Perhaps he secretly hoped that Bucephalus would rid him of the young prince, and leave the coast clear for the child of his favorite wife; but at all events Alexander was given permission to do as he would with the brute.

The lad approached the panting, terrified animal, patted and caressed him, soothed him by touch and voice until he could swing himself lightly upon his back. Once there, he remained and defied all the attempts of Bucephalus to unseat him, all the time talking soothingly to the brute. Finally the horse recognized that he had found a master, and allowed the boy to ride him where he would, but would permit no one else to mount him.

When Philip saw that the prince had made his boast good that he could tame the horse, he is said to have declared that Macedon was altogether too small for such a spirit, and that Alexander must conquer a kingdom for himself. The horse became the property of the young prince, and a mutual love grew up between them.

When Philip was murdered, perhaps by the orders of Alexander, it was upon the back of Bucephalus that the conqueror of Greece, and afterward of Asia, rode through the various cities receiving the submission of the states. The white star on the forehead of the famous war-horse shone in the dust and blood of many a battle before a fatal thrust was given him, and reeling with loss of blood, groaning like a human creature with pain,



him to feed the animal raw flesh, from which time it became exceedingly fierce and dangerous. The Gauls, too, resorted to this practice in revenge for defeat, and it is claimed that even now, with the heredity of thousands of years of domestication behind them, horses fed on raw flesh would become as dangerous as lions or any of the other savage carnivora. I suppose you have heard the story of the

horse that is a characteristic of the western nations, but they know his uses, are magnificent horsemen, and have vast herds of the animals reclaimed from a wild state. Of all the Russians, the Cossacks are the most renowned as riders, and with the most justice. If you should ask me who the Cossacks originally were, I should be unable to tell you. They have lived for centuries in a



fertile strip of territory on each side of the river Dnieper, which now bears the name of Little Russia, though it was long called the Ukraine.

There the Cossacks had a sort of republic, not composed of the choicest elements, for it was made up of fugitives from Poland and other states of eastern Europe. No pursuit of a fugitive was allowed in Cossack territory, and everyone was received and no questions asked. They lived a rough, wild, free life, and though they had many of the small virtues of humanity, they possessed some of the nobler virtues, for there was so strong a native population that the acquisitions became speedily Cossackized.

It was to the Cossacks that Mazeppa fled, after he had been stripped naked and tied to the back of a wild horse which was set free to carry him whither it would. He deserved the punishment, I am afraid, and was the means of bringing disaster upon his free-hearted hosts; for the Cossacks received him with open arms! Little by little he acquired great influence over them, and was finally made their head man. Fearing the jealousy of Poland, Mazeppa placed the Ukraine under the protection of Peter the Great, of Russia. He was of a fickle nature, and when Charles of Sweden invaded Russia in that brilliant and disastrous campaign which ended at Pultowa, Mazeppa turned traitor to Peter. He expiated his mistake by the loss of the power which was so dear to him, and died a broken-hearted wanderer soon after.

The horse herder of the steppes leads a life of unparalleled hardship, beset with perils and alarms. He guards a herd of thousands of animals, and lives, eats and sleeps in the saddle. Dressed in a high-peaked cap of astrakhan and garments of wolfskuis muffling him to his eyes, he faces the wintry storm, keeping his herd moving and maintaining a sharp lookout that none stray, for he is responsible for any lost in this way and must pay for them. He carries a whip with a short handle and a braided lash eighteen or twenty feet long. Slung to his wrist is a stout wolf-club with an iron head, and at his saddle-bow is a cask of water, a sack of bread and a jug of brandy. Night and day he sits on his horse, and ten years of the life breaks the strongest constitution.

The Spaniards were notable horsemen in their day, and learned from the Arabs, no doubt, many of the points in which they excelled. The Normans, descendants of the old Norsemen, did not, however, prize the



delleate, slender-limbed, Spanish-Arab stock, but liked better the strong, heavy war-horses bred in the north of Europe, and fitted to carry a mailed warrior. It was no light load for a horse to bear his own armor and that of his master, and for a long time cavalry in the north of Europe was an unwieldy thing to manage. When by its very weight it could break the line of a foe, it was well, but often that weight involved it in disaster.

Such was the case at the famous battle of Agincourt, where a body of English defeated a French force six times greater than their

own. The French army consisted largely of cavalry, while the Englishmen for the main part were foot-soldiers. The French were in full armor, while the English bowmen wore leather coats, and even stripped those off that they might have more freedom of motion. Each archer carried a sharp-pointed iron stake, and wherever they made a stand the whole body of archers thrust these stakes into the ground. The soil would bear foot-soldiers admirably, but the heavily burdened war-horses, especially the rear lines, sunk deep into the miry road. The van rushed forward on the English, but was abruptly stopped by the row of iron pickets, and in turning to retreat, threw those behind them into inextricable confusion. Encumbered by their armor and that of their riders, the horses mired, floundered and fell upon every hand, and the English, rushing in among the struggling mass, cut down the French without mercy. It was such mishaps as these that made the warriors of northern Europe gradually discard armor for their horses, although, as I have elsewhere told you, the invention of gun-powder meant death to the craft of the armorer.

In those gallant tourneys, which are described so graphically by Sir Walter Scott, the medieval horseman in armor was shown at his best. Withal, it was but a contest of brute force, though it brought together the beauty and nobility of Europe. It developed, however, fearlessness and skill in the handling of the war-horse, and dexterity in the use of the lance and battle-ax. Richard I., the "lion-hearted" king of England, was the most famous horseman of his time, though the English have been breeders of fine horses for



centuries, and even at that time were no indifferent judges of the "points" of an animal.

Among our native riders, the cow-boy is the most celebrated, and his exploits have been the theme of many a writer. The methods of our cow-boys are, however, but relics of the Spanish vaquero, the original herder of the Southwest. To be sure, the American cow-boy has characteristics peculiar to himself, but his "broncho-busting," racing, ropethrowing and other arts and amusements have been so often described that a repetition is unnecessary. His South-American brother is even more picturesque, though less talked about. He calls himself a gauchero, in the pampas, and a huasco in Chili; but both are of the genus cow-boy, and we might say the species centauro. Their saddles are short, deep, and high-peaked fore and aft, to give support to the body. As they make their bed when night comes wherever they happen to be, they carry their mattress, in the shape of a few squares of sheepskin, under their saddle.

They must crash in and out among the lough-horned, vicious members of the herd, and therefore take care that their feet shall be well protected. This is accomplished by the stout, broad stirrup-strap, and the stirrup itself, which is a block of wood with a place hewn for the foot—a clumsy-looking affair, but serviceable. Their feet are incased in high, many-buckled gaiters, and not infrequently their nether garments are wholly of leather. What his boots are to the cow-boy of Texas, his poncho, or blanket, is to the gauchero. The cow-boy of our own country has a passion for boots. No matter how inferior is the quality of the rest of his wardrobe, his boots must be of perfect fit, fine material, and have dainty, high heels. The gauchero displays his vanity in his poncho, though it divides his love with his saddle and

bridle. A gauchero will lend his horse, though he and the animal are so nearly one that he rarely needs to use the huge rowels which he wears on his heels, no matter how high the precipice to be scaled, or deep the descent to be made. He guides the animal by the pressure of his knees, and the fine-blooded, faithful quadruped will run until it drops dead, but will never fail to obey its master's urging as long as it has strength and life left.

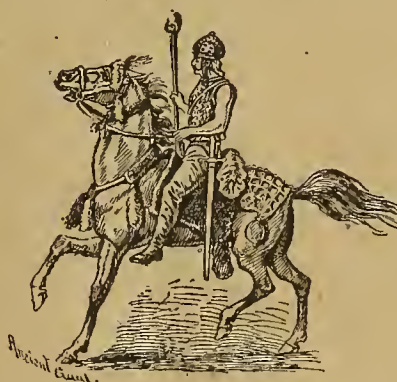


The gauchero, sooth to say, has a spice of the cruelty of his Spanish ancestors, united with a spice of the cruelty of those primitive savages with whose blood that of the conquerors was fused. He prizes his horse alone for what it can perform, and has no touch of humanity in his dealings with it. He usually acquires the animal by the use of the "bola," a sort of lasso, and takes him from a wild herd. Instead of throwing the lasso around the neck of the horse, as practiced by our "horse Indians," and allowing the animal to subdue itself by means of the tightening lasso shutting off its breath, in which case the hunter is able to approach it, seize its muzzle and blow into its nostrils, the gauchero and many of our own cow-boys proceed in nearly the same manner. The lasso is entangled in the legs of the animal and he is thrown heavily to the ground. One man then seats himself upon the head of the animal while others gird the saddle upon it and force the bit between its teeth. The head of the steed is then released, and as it struggles to its feet, the rider strides it, and all the efforts of the terrified creature to rid itself are vain.

The favorite sport of the gauchero and his Chilian brother is indicative of character. Indeed, it will almost always be found that more character is indicated by the amusements of an individual or nation than by their serious pursuits. Before the houses of public entertainment in South America there is usually to be found a hitching-rack forty feet long or more, and made by joining poles on a level to upright posts set at regular intervals. When a number of gaucharos are assembled at one of these places of public resort, it is not uncommon for one to challenge another to a trial of endurance. Challenger and challenged then select from the company the same number of aids, and all mount their horses.

The challenged party then takes its place, each person forcing his horse so near the pole

of the rack that his animal's breast touches it. The leader is placed near the center of the rack. The challengers then take places on opposite sides of the center of the rack, their leader's horse touching that of the leader on the other side. The game is to force the others to give way and crowd them all sidewise from the rack. The horses are trained to



of the rack that his animal's breast touches it. The leader is placed near the center of the rack. The challengers then take places on opposite sides of the center of the rack, their leader's horse touching that of the leader on the other side. The game is to force the others to give way and crowd them all sidewise from the rack. The horses are trained to

the sport, and as the stakes are heavy, both sides strive for the mastery with great courage. As the challengers, inch by inch, crowd the horses of the challenged nearer, or vice versa, the tumult is begun, and increased as the legs of the riders are crushed against the sides of the horses, the bones broken often, and augmented by cries and curses until the one side or the other is pushed to the end of the pole.

Horses and men are not infrequently killed or maimed for life in this senseless and cruel sport, but the gauchero will stake everything he owns in the combat. His Indian blood makes him a passionate gambler, for it is well known that even our own Indians will gamble away their whole worldly possessions, especially the horse Indians of our plains, who will stake even the clothing of their wives and paposes upon a horse-race.

The Americans are almost as great lovers of horses as are the Arabs, although, of course, they are not such sticklers for blood and pedigree, and do not take the pains to understand horse nature that is taken by the Arab. Living farther from nature in every form than does the son of the desert, their affection is of a theoretical nature, in a large measure, but upon our great stock-farms are to be found some of the wisest horsemen in the world. They understand to perfection how to develop the inherited qualities of blooded horses to the highest point of excellence, and the speed attained by our great trotters is in the main owing to their intelligent education of horse nature. Horse culture, as we may call it, for it is certainly a refinement upon primitive stock, has become a highly prized art in our country, and the finest trotting and riding horses in the world are bred in now world-famous paddocks in Kentucky, New York, California and half a dozen other states in the Union. Exhibitions are held annually in various large cities to show what is being accomplished in every branch of horse raising, and more interest is taken every year by the general public in these showings. So great is our love and admiration for the horse that we have even caused laws to be framed for the protection of his rights; so high an appreciation do we have for his sagacity that to say that a person "has horse sense" is considered a great compliment. We have developed a style of riding peculiarly our own, and our cavalry will bear comparison with the famous cavalry of Europe.

GET RID OF ONE COLD before you contract another on top of it, or you may securely establish the seeds of a serious Lung Complaint before you are conscious of danger. Better prudently resort to Dr. D. Jayne's Expectorant, an effective cure for Coughs and Colds, and helpful also for its healing influence on the Lungs and Bronchial tubes.

C.H.S. School Pin, any initials, with class color, Sterling Silver 25c. \$2.00 doz. Silver Plate . . . 10c. .75 doz. Catalogue for '95 free. McRae & Keeler, Attleboro, Mass.

Beeman's Pepsin Gum. CAUTION.—See that the name Beeman is on each wrapper. The Perfection of Chewing Gum and a Delicious Remedy for Indigestion. Each tablet contains one grain Beeman's pure pepsin. Send 5 cents for sample package. THE BEEMAN CHEMICAL CO. 39 Lake St., Cleveland, O. Originators of Pepsin Chewing Gum.

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Our Household.

BALLADS OF THE NEW WOMAN.

Of the New Woman now to sing,
You bid me, Prince, whose jangled lyre,
Whose wrinkled muse of weary wing,
Has lost her early might and fire.
More readily your fond desire
Would I concede, and chant for you
If the fair being you admire,
If the New Woman were but New!

She is, alas! no novel thing,
For history herself might tire,
Might faint and fall in following
Where the Old Woman did aspire!
What stellar space, what mortal mire,
Has not the fair sex ventured through?
Indeed, we men-folk might admire,
If the New Woman were but New!

She vexes now with questioning,
Must taste, experience, inquire,
For curiosity's the spring
That sends her soaring high and higher,
That bade her with the snake conspire,
And to the snake alone be true,
Who brought on us that heavenly ire,
If the New Woman were but New!

ENVOY.

Prince, old as Adam is, our sire,
As old as Eve, whom Adam knew;
We might not labor and perspire,
If the New Woman were but New.
—Andrew Lang, in the *Impress*.

HOUSEKEEPERS' NOTES.

WHAT delightful days these are for cozy chats, reading of interesting books, finishing up some cherished piece of work, and the many little things dear to the housekeeper's heart, that the winter gives us leisure to enjoy and complete.

Without, all may be cold and drear, or perchance the earth is wrapped in her mantle of snow; but with a bright fire, a comfortable chair, and our children near, what cares the mother?

With fingers busy, and mind still more active with the happy past, or planning for the future, or work and care laid aside and thought centered in some interesting book, these are, or should be, the housekeepers' best days of all the year. Speaking of reading, so few families are able to subscribe for all the periodicals they would like to read, that we suggest

A MAGAZINE CLUB as a means of securing the necessary amount of reading matter at a minimum cost. Half a dozen families, more or less, might club together, and put a certain amount into a common treasury, to be expended for papers and magazines, as they should decide, which would be exchanged among the different members, in regular order, and at stated times. Or after consultation, each family might subscribe for one or more periodicals, with the understanding that they were to be systematically exchanged, and then finally to be returned to the original owners.

A number of good books may be obtained and read in this way, also. Few families are so poor that they cannot buy at least one new book a year; and if the members of the magazine club exchange books, as well as periodicals, they may, by working together, obtain a fund of instruction and entertainment that would be impossible if each family depended on its own resources entirely. The children should not be forgotten when selecting periodicals, and at least one juvenile paper should be added to the list, as well as some others containing a young folks' page.

BED-MAKING.—Every housekeeper thinks she knows how to make a bed; yet, judging from the complaining heard in many a home, about the covers pulling up from the foot, and the sheet coming down from the head of the bed, it is evidence that they were not properly made. "To begin at the beginning," the covers should be both long and wide. Sheets should be two yards and a half long, with a broad hem at top and narrow one below, so that there is no danger of their being reversed, and the foot being used for the head one night, and vice versa the next. In placing the under sheet, it should be spread so that the narrow hem just drops down over the foot of the mattress. The head of the mattress should then be raised, and all the extra length of the sheet carefully and smoothly tucked in under it, and it dropped back into place. The extra width should then be tucked under at each side, and the sheet is snug and secure. When the upper sheet and covers are spread on, their tops should come even with the head of the mattress only, and all the extra length should be carefully and securely tucked in under the mattress at the foot by raising it a little, folding them under, then dropping it back again into place. The reason of this care is obvious, for all the strain on the lower sheet is from above, and it never becomes disarranged only as it is first drawn from the top. So, too, the strain on the covers is from the foot, and if they be carefully tucked under the mattress, there will be no more trouble about cold feet, or kindred inconveniences.

SWEEPING.—There is a right and a wrong way to sweep a floor, just as well as there is in bed-making. In sweeping, if the broom be held as nearly perpendicular as possible, and short, swift strokes taken, but little dust is raised, and the nearer the perpendicular, and the shorter the strokes, the less the dust to rise and settle over articles of furniture. If there be much dust, the broom should be dipped into a pail of clean water, then shaken

until no more drops fall before beginning to sweep. If the room is large, the operation may be repeated once or twice before the sweeping is completed. In this way the dust is caught and confined before it rises into the air, and the carpet looks much brighter than when swept with a dry broom, as more dust is removed.



TABLE CENTERPIECE.

SOME OF THE LITTLE THINGS.—Do we remember to put aside our own aches and pains, our own troubles and crosses, as much as possible, and forgetting self, try to do something for others? Do we remember to have the kind word and bright smile for "our own," as well as for our friends and the stranger?

That individual does not live who does not desire happiness, but too many of us, in our efforts to secure it, fail to remember that selfishness does not always or often bring it.

Instead, we should learn that by forgetfulness of self, and remembering the desires and pleasures of others, happiness will always come to us. It would be well for us to always remember that

"Happiness flees when she's hunted too rudely,
So give up the chase.
Do good without ceasing,
Give over self-pleasing,
And she'll beam in your face."

CLARA SENSIBAUGH EVERTS.

TABLE CENTERPIECE.

The one we illustrate is made of very heavy Battenburg braid, followed over a pattern drawn upon tracing-linen. The joinings are all made of fancy stitches known to all laceworkers. The round wheels at the several corners of the center part, also in the leaves at the outer corners, are formed of the linen thread wound several times around a large pencil, and covered with the linen thread, buttonhole-stitched around it. These are made first and basted on with the braid, and then caught with the various stitches. This should be placed over a lining of yellow silk, finished with fringed edges. They are also used as a centerpiece for a large dresser top; smaller ones being made to go with it as mats for bottles.

L. L. C.

A DRESSY MATINEE.

There is nothing rests one so much as to get off the dress waist and wear something looser about the house. The old-time loose wrapper is entirely discarded by ladies who have one bit of respect for their personal appearance, and it ought never hold a place in any one's wardrobe. But a matinee, made after the illustration we give, while perfectly comfortable, need never make a woman appear untidy to her family. It can be made of crimson eider-down or plain flannel, trimmed with knife-

plaited neck ruffles of pale gray or white cashmere, which will launder whenever it is soiled, if it is basted on a strip which can be easily removed, the cuffs being made removable, also. It is closed under the left side of the loose part, and can be made to fit the figure loosely, so as to be comfortable at all times.

To the expectant mother, such a garment would be far more comfortable and becoming. If the material is quite heavy, it need not be lined, though it would keep its shape better by being lined. Very pretty eider-down flannels sold during the holidays for twenty-five cents per yard, which were very suitable for these jackets.

CLOTH COSTUME.

We illustrate a very stylish combination of plaid and plain material, the only trimming being a jet braid and large buttons, with simulated buttonholes. This could be made in the waning of the season, of two dresses, to wear as soon as wraps are discarded.

TRAMPS.

Although those primitive days when our grandmothers feared the Indians and the wild animals which were often visitors at their cabins, have passed into history, yet women, "who are bound to be afraid of something," be it a mouse or be it a man, still have reason to keep a close eye about them.

The tramp is abroad in the land; some way he is bound to exist. To be sure, there are those who belong to the fraternity who are as harmless as doves. Then there is the vicious class, who need to be dealt with pretty severely. In the cities and towns, the authorities look, or are supposed to, after this unfortunate class, but in the country we are a bit helpless.

We country women are necessarily left much alone, sometimes entirely so, and oftener with helpless children, and I don't for a minute think it is a whit cowardly to assert that we ought to become expert



CLOTH COSTUME.



A DRESSY MATINEE.

marksmen (or women, if you so please), and that we ought to have our firearms at hand ready for use, if the case demands. Really, the question is a serious one, and while I don't suppose all the FARM AND FIRESIDE women will at once call for organization, then rush to arms immediately, yet we must remember that we have not all the spirit of the good old Bishop of Les Miserables, nor can we afford to dwell too serenely on Quaker principles if a rogue is in the case.

M. D. S.

MOTHERS! When the children take colds and suffer from coughs, give them

ALLEN'S LUNG BALSAM

It contains no opium in any form and can be given to the children with perfect safety. A lady writes:

"No one ever complains to me of having a bad Cold or Cough, but what I recommend Allen's Lung Balsam to them. So much has it done for me. It is a true friend to all sufferers of the Throat and Lungs."—Mrs. E. Cottrell, Jackson, Mich.

Beware of the fatal consequences of neglecting a cough. Many a young life might be saved if every mother would use

ALLEN'S LUNG BALSAM

Sold by Druggists at 25c., 50c. and \$1 a Bottle.

THE LATEST FASHIONS.

Dame Fashion surely has never been more generous and lenient than this season, when she allows almost any liberty to be taken with feminine dress that may suggest itself. She only draws the line on the bell skirt and tight coat-sleeve. Still, should one of her followers suddenly appear clad in this departure, it is believed she would give them a smile of approval, on the principle that variety is the spice of life. At present there is no fear of the full sleeve and ample dress skirt being cast aside for something less comfortable and

coming and stylish one, is the skirt of fine cloth, finished around the hem with bands of fur and made with a silk blouse, either matching or prettily contrasting in color with the cloth of the skirt; sleeveless jackets, either Eton, Bolero or Turkish in shape, made of fur, are worn to match the trimming used on the skirt. This costume is much affected by skaters, as well as for the afternoon promenade.

There was a time when the plain, black velvet cape was considered the height of fashionable elegance; but times have changed. Velvet capes are still the vogue, but simplicity has disappeared, and in its place we have a reign of lace, jewels and fur in the greatest profusion, yet so skillfully arranged that the effect is elegant and artistic. One of the handsomest seen is of black velvet, made very full, falling a few inches below the waist line, having around the bottom a full ruffle of ermine, so made that the exquisite satin brocade lining is visible here and there. Above the ermine are Vandyke points of cream Russian lace, studded with colored jewels and jets; the high collar is of ermine, lined to match the cape. The old-time fur Victroline is again with us in all sorts of furs, tibet being one of the favorites. These wraps of our grandmothers' time are certainly a very great convenience, and make the wrap for mild weather answer the purpose of the one for more severe weather.

Smaller and smaller grow the bonnets for the evening, until nothing seems to remain but a sort of a vague shadow of what bonnets have been. They are gradually getting farther and farther back on the head, until they appear nothing but a small glitter and a pair of strings. And the price! There is no denying the fact that these mites of finery are pretty and be-



FANCY WAIST.

coming. The women who can look well in the old-time tight sleeves, and bodice equally as severe, are in the minority; while all can appear to good advantage in the present style, if one will but make a study of her own particular figure, and not wear certain styles because some one else looks well in them. The present style hides the too-too solid flesh that refuses to melt, thaw, or resolve itself into a dew, and at the same time it covers a multitude of sins in the figure that is painfully thin. Many men look with disdain and disapproval upon the present style in women's dress, but those best qualified to give an opinion on the various merits of women's dress approve of it, and prefer the prevailing style, providing it is not too much exaggerated. This criticism could be gracefully and truthfully made of the fashions of almost any period, for the exaggeration of anything leads to deformity. So criticize the overdone, but encourage the original intention of that oft-times whimsical dame, Madame La Mode.

In the short, cold days of our midwinter, furs are very much the fashion, and are used wherever they can be placed. A novelty of this season is a coat and skirt made



FANCY WAIST.

coming; and when the huge tortoise-shell comb is worn at the back of the head, and the little side combs are artistically adjusted, the effect is picturesque and quaint in the extreme. Many of these diminutive creations for the head are nothing more than a bow of accordion-plaited chiffon with aigrettes and a jet ornament placed in the center.

The many new gowns and fancy waists seen in black and white striped effects tell us that the "maggie" style of a season or two ago is still in our midst, and when artistically arranged, no other combination is prettier or more universally becoming. The gown of white and black striped satin duchess has the full skirt, with a band of open jet placed over magenta satin around the bottom of the hem; the low-cut bodice of white lace is full, both back and front, with a fullness of black net, coming from the under-arm seam and meeting high on the bust. The fall of net around the neck is full, made of black net, with three rows of magenta baby satin ribbon run in and out, under which is placed a ruffle of magenta satin. The full sleeve of black net over black satin is finished with a ruffle of black net to match that at the neck, while the bottom of the waist has a soft effect of satin, with dog's-ear of the same on either side; bows of the same garnish the sleeves and center of bust. A guimpe of jetted net converts this pretty evening dress into a less dressy home and dinner gown.

This season's styles are made easy for the women who go a great deal, inasmuch as the same gown can be worn for a variety of occasions by taking from or adding to a becoming and soft collarette, or a soft frill of chiffon or lace studded with jewels.

Another gown shows a pretty idea for

a visiting-costume. The full skirt of green cloth has three cords of darker green velvet placed directly on the bottom. The bodice is full in front, with a vest of cream cloth buttoned very closely together with emerald buttons. The deep collar of Russian lace points falls well over the full sleeves of green velvet, while a soft velvet belt fastens in the back with a buckle of emeralds. The cream cloth collar fastens with small buttons in front, to match those on the waist, and has a stiff bow of cream lace in the back. The bonnet is made of green mercury wings and emerald ornaments, with two rosettes of cream lace in the back.

Most of the handsome cloth gowns have ornaments of buckles and buttons made from stones, to match the costume in tone.

As fancy waists for all occasions are more on the increase than the wane, I cannot resist the description of two late ones. The high-necked one is made of accordion-plaited Brussels net over heliotrope taffeta; the front and back both are full, and are trimmed with alternating rows of spangled jet and heavy cream lace, which shows the net between. The large sleeves are accordion-plaited net over heliotrope, with rows of jet and cream lace from wrist to elbow. Collar of open jet over green velvet, with bow of same in the back; while a twist of green velvet with rosettes on either side finishes the bottom of the bodice.

Another particularly pretty and stylish waist is yellow chiffon over yellow satin duchess. The full waist is drawn into a belt of open jet over yellow satin, with large jet buckle coming directly in front, with soft loops of chiffon on either side. The open band of jet, with pointed fringe of small, cut-jet beads, with a standing edge of narrow jet, finishes the neck. Large puffs of chiffon over yellow satin caught here and there with small jet rosettes, with a band of jet and fringe at elbow, form a becoming sleeve, while black pompons, with aigrettes on the left shoulder, finish this stylish waist, which is easily transformed into one for day wear with the addition of a jet or chiffon guimpe.

One of the new evening fans is made from uncurled ostrich feathers, and is mounted on fish-pearl inlaid with gold; black satin fans with sprays of real lace to decorate them are pretty, while black lace fans seem more in request than ever.

The side combs grow more elaborate and popular, while the large back comb of times assumes the most alarming proportions. For evening, the combs studded with colored stones and rhinestones being mostly worn.

Young women with Madonna-like faces, and young women who labor under the delusion that they have Madonna-like faces, still part their hair in the middle, wave it slightly, draw it over the ears and knot it at the nape of the neck. Lace and embroidered chiffon are prodigally used for decorating the evening bodice of every description.

Pink is the favorite tint in evening



EVENING GOWN.

shades, coral and watermelon pink taking the lead.

The very newest hat-pin, which is also used as a hair ornament, is a large amethyst heart held between mercury wings of dead gold.

The newest thing in handkerchiefs is a sheer white center with a border of black French lace. This is not only for mourning, but is affected with light-colored or black and white gowns.

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To introduce my SEEDS and BULBS, I will mail 2 New Excelsior Double Dwarf Pearl Tuberosa Bulbs, sure to bloom early; 4 Gladioli Bulbs—fancy mixed, lovely spikes all colors, nothing can equal these; 1 packet Marguerite Carnation—give elegant flowers in 4 mos. from seed; 1 pkt. Pansy—The Alice, finest mixd., every color imaginable; 1 pkt. Poppy—Golden Gate, nothing makes a grander show; 1 packet Sweet Peas—Eckford's Choice, mixed, over 30 sorts, simply grand; 1 pkt. Phlox, fancy mixd., includes many wonderful colors; 1 pkt. Chinese Pinks, all colors, and a flower everyone wants; 1 pkt. Mixed Flower Seeds for Wild Garden—over 100 kinds that will grow and bloom freely. The above are selling for \$1.00, but as I have grown 100,000 collections simply to introduce my Seeds and Bulbs, will mail the complete lot, for only 25 cents to pay postage, packing, etc. They will bloom this season and make a great display. Order at once before all are taken. Catalogue of Vegetables and lovely Flowers FREE with each order. Full of Bargains. If you send silver or Money Order, a Floral Work of art in ten colors and 50 cent certificate is sent free. Address E. B. MILLS, Box 123, ROSE HILL, N. Y.

Four Steps

are all that stand between you and successful rose growing. First you write for the New Guide to Rose Culture which is sent free. It fully describes, accurately pictures and plainly directs you how to grow the famous D. & C. Roses and a thousand other beautiful flowers. Shows you how to take the next step—to get them by mail on their own roots ready to grow and bloom in pot or garden. Take the first step to-day. A sample of our floral magazine—*"Success with Flowers."* also sent if requested.

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OUR FAMOUS CREAM LETTUCE
It beats them all. Very crisp and tender. Stands a long time before running to seed.

We will send postpaid, a packet each of Extra Early Tree Tomato, Matchless Cucumber, Cream Lettuce, May's 30c. Certificate, and our illustrated Bargain Catalogue (worth dollars to every buyer) of Seeds, Fruits and Plants, containing Colored Plates, printed from nature, and thousands of illustrations, all for only ten cents.

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To every person sending 10c. for above Tomato Collection and giving us the names and addresses of three or more of their friends who purchase Seeds, Plants or Fruits, we will add, free, one packet of Mammoth Tomato, a magnificent variety of enormous size, often weighing 3 lbs. each. This is the most liberal offer ever made by a reliable Seedman, and no one should fail to take advantage of it.

MAY & CO. Seedmen & St. Paul, Minn.
Mer & Co. are perfectly reliable.—150.



VISITING-COSTUME.

entirely of the finest sealskin. The skirt is cut with full flutes at the back, and hangs perfectly, being close-fitting in the front and over the hips, and edged with a band of soft, glossy mink-tail around the hem. The coat has the full-skirted back, plain in front, and trimmed on the hips with bands of mink-tail, from the bottom of the fronts, right over the shoulder and down the back in the same style, which arrangement is most becoming to the figure. Of course, the sleeves are full leg-o'-mutton, finished at the wrist with mink-tail fur.

One of the newest ideas, as well as a be-

Our Household.

A THEORY.

Why do the violins shudder so,
When across them is drawn the bow,
Sob for anguish and wild despair?
Human souls are imprisoned there.

Souls are shut in the violins,
They are the souls of the Philistines;
But the Philistines, row on row,
Soulless sit and they do not know.

But they brandish their eye-glasses,
Stare at each other's evening dress,
Scrutinize form or brilliant hue,
Say: "Is it rouge or is it true?"

"Some one was flat a semitone,
And how stout the soprano's gown!
Isn't the bass a dear? and oh,
Do look at Mrs. So-and-So!"

Still the musicians play serene,
As though Philistines had not been,
But their souls in the violins
Mourn on bitterly for their sins.

Call them wildly and call in pain,
Call them with longing, deep and vain,
And with infinite tenderness,
Since they can give them no redress.

Since not one of them is aware,
Here is he and his soul is there,
In the music's divinest chord
Making melody to the Lord.

So, how often in life and art,
Soul and body must dwell apart—
Great is the master's soul, no doubt—
Twenty Philistines go without.

Are we body, or are we soul?
Little matter upon the whole.
Human soul is the violin,
Save me at last, a Philistine!

—May Kendall.

HOME TOPICS.

KITCHEN HINTS.—In many farm-houses the kitchen is the largest room in the house. This is a mistake. It is much more work to keep a large kitchen clean than it is a small one, and if the kitchen is large, things are not apt to be kept as compactly, and many more steps are needed to do the work than where one is obliged to economize space. If the washing is done at home, as it nearly always is, have a room especially for that purpose, and use the kitchen for nothing but cooking and the work necessary in preparing meals.

It is much better to have two small rooms for kitchen and wash-room, than one large kitchen, which must be used for both purposes, and often at the same time.

The cooking-table should be near the range, and all cooking-utensils within easy reach. A good-sized table, with a cupboard over it, and inclosed space beneath with drawers and hooks, will accommodate nearly all the utensils necessary in cooking a meal.

The kitchen floor should never be carpeted, as a carpet collects both the odors of cooking and dust. If the floor is good, have it painted; otherwise, cover it with oil-cloth. It is a good plan to have a thick, soft rug before the table. It will make long standing easier. Three or four thicknesses of carpet, tacked together, will answer the purpose. An oil-cloth cover for the table will save scrubbing it, and in lieu of that newspapers may be used, and then consigned to the fire when soiled. If you are cooking food that sizzles and spatters, it will save dirt from the floor to spread two or three newspapers down around the stove.

RESTLESS CHILDREN.—I heard a mother say, recently, that she believed she had the worst children in the world, just because her little ones were wanting to be busy all the time, and consequently were often getting into mischief. The mother herself was an active woman, and the children had inherited her temperament. All they needed was to have their activity directed into proper channels, and turned to some account. Direction, instead of repression, is what the restless child needs.

As soon as babies are old enough to ask for and get their toys from the place where they are kept, they are old enough to put them away again when through playing with them. Do not injure a child's self-respect by making him think that he is only a care and trouble, but make him feel that he can help mother in many ways, and not the least of these by not having his things around for mother to put away. It will no doubt require much patience on your part to make the little ones understand that they are just as well able to pick up as to scatter, and then they will often forget. Patience and perseverance are

cardinal virtues in the management of children.

Children can be taught to take pride in keeping their little possessions in order. Many mothers are careless about letting the younger children meddle with and disarrange the possessions of the older ones.

While care should be taken that a child does not become selfish, yet the right to his own property ought to be respected, and the little ones taught not to meddle with what belongs to "brother" or "sister" without their permission.

Do not discourage children when they try to help, by saying, as I heard a mother not long ago, "Oh, go away! You bother more than you help." Remember, we sometimes make mistakes ourselves, after years of experience, and do not expect too much of the children. MAIDA McL.

EVERY-DAY AFFAIRS.

The good old Bible says that "the kingdom of heaven is at hand," and I suppose we must infer that we can have a bit of heaven with us constantly if we want it. It is so easy to drift into a rut and stay there—easier to stay than to drift, sometimes—until by and by we see nothing ahead but the mere accomplishment of our daily round of work, the three meals and the never-failing dishes, the butter and the eggs, the sweeping and the dusting, the patching, and the whole round—what housewife does not know it?

I think it is nothing short of a little sin to hate our work—the work which keeps the household together, and which makes a home for all the dear ones. Ah, me! it becomes beautiful then; but the trouble of it is, we don't stop to weave enough fun and gaiety, enough kindness and consideration into it; we don't get our bit of heaven, because we don't take it. Life is made up of every-days.

I know, with all the work crowding, the many who are depending for their creature comforts upon you, that there really seems no time whatever to spare to yourself; but don't you know, won't you admit, that you would rather sit down and tear carpet rags, or patch something, or hunt up some really unnecessary bit of work that will keep you at home, than to improve any social opportunity which will cost you a bit of an effort? That is where the danger comes in, and I insist upon it that your case is really a dangerous one if you become stagnant, if you begin to tire of yourself and your work.

One can enjoy work for awhile. For days one can have such an interest in household affairs that the outside world will be forgotten, but a reaction is bound to come. When this reaction does come, it will bring the blues and melancholy in its wake. It will always be a source of wonder to me to know why a little diversion—a visit to a neighbor, a trip to the field, a call from some one—will act like leaven to the troubled, and thereby lighten the gloom and send new blood dancing through the veins.

The other day our neighbors, the Methodists, dedicated a beautiful temple, and one of their good bishops came from a distant state to talk to them. He said something like this: "You may put a man out on a ranch with a thousand sheep, a hut and a library, and in less than a year that man will commit suicide." Men must have companionship.

After all, we don't want to be mummies in this grand old world of ours; we want to be a part of it, not next year or the year after, but now—every day—we want our bit of heaven. MARY D. SIBLEY.

LITTLE ECONOMIES IN THE KITCHEN.

Unfortunately, the term economy is sometimes used synonymously with the word stinginess, and more than one person fails to practice economy for fear of being considered niggardly. While the latter is reprehensible, always, the former is most commendable.

Webster defines economy, in part, as being "Thrifty and frugal housekeeping." He further adds: "Economy avoids all waste and extravagance, and applies money to the best advantage. * * Economy is a virtue." To these might also be added another; namely, "Economy is saving in one way or place, that we may be able to enjoy more in another."

With these definitions, then, in mind, we get a far different view of the subject, and can heartily take up the matter of economizing, resting assured that we are wasting our energies in a praiseworthy manner; providing, of course, we do not go to extremes and overdo the matter, turning economy into parsimony or pos-



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sibly avariciousness, for these latter are as blameworthy as the former is commendable.

In many homes there is a great and constant waste of bread, that if stopped would be a considerable economy. All scraps should be saved, for if well dried, they will keep indefinitely and always be on hand, ready for use in making croquettes, dressings and all such things, and if perfectly dry are always preferable to partly stale bread. Many cooks use a dressing of bread crumbs for such dishes as tomatoes, asparagus, etc., as well as for many meat dishes. If these scraps from the table that are usually wasted are carefully saved and used, instead of cutting slices from a loaf on purpose, it will amount to a great deal in the course of a year. If the family use much soup, these pieces are nice toasted in the oven and served with soup instead of crackers, and impart a flavor not otherwise obtainable. Some soups and almost all meat stews are better thickened a little before serving. A cupful of rolled bread crumbs is far better than a heaping tablespoonful of flour for this purpose, and if otherwise wasted, would far better be saved for such things. If perfectly dry and well rolled, bread crumbs are as nice as cracker crumbs for fried or scalloped oysters.

If much dry bread accumulates, it may be made into a very appetizing dish for breakfast or tea, by breaking into small pieces and frying in hot butter or meat drippings, allowing about a tablespoonful to each pint of crumbs, salt and pepper a little. Stir almost constantly to prevent scorching, until of a delicate brown; then add enough milk or water—the former preferable—to moisten well, a very little bit of sugar (just enough for a flavor, not enough to taste sweet), cover and let steam a few minutes and serve hot. If one likes onions, it is quite an improvement to mince one half as much onion as bread crumbs, and fry brown before the crumbs are added. A pinch of curry-powder, too, is an improvement, but it is excellent without either.

Stale bread is so useful in baking tomatoes or in onions, or in scalloped potatoes or scalloped corn, or in frying fish or cutlets; and as the drier it is the better for all these things, every scrap and crust should be carefully saved and go into some suitable receptacle for it, either tin box, jar or even paper bag, and kept in a dry place.

Many cooks add stale bread crumbs to pancakes, corn or buckwheat cakes, and consider it not only an economy if much dry bread accumulates, but an improvement in the cakes as well. To add the bread, it should be broken in small pieces and soaked in the milk over night, using a quantity of milk, as it absorbs a great deal. In the morning, beat and stir until the bread is perfectly fine, and add the necessary ingredients for the cakes.

If an entire loaf of bread becomes stale, it is nice to slice thinly, butter on both sides and fry brown on either side, and serve hot for breakfast or tea. If too dry to serve in that way, to a pint of milk add one well-beaten egg, a pinch of salt and a teaspoonful of sugar. Dip the slices of bread in this and fry a delicate brown. Serve hot.

Steaming is a nice way to freshen stale bread when there is much of it. Cut in thin slices and place on a clean cloth in a steamer over a kettle of boiling water. Cover with another cloth, cover the steamer closely and steam from ten to twenty minutes. The cloths absorb all

unnecessary moisture, and the bread is rendered almost as fresh and nice as though newly baked. It must, of course, be served warm.

A dinner, luncheon or tea dish that is very nice may be made from scraps of bread, by crumbling moderately fine, adding a little chopped onion, sweet herbs or curry-powder—or both onion and curry-powder—pepper and salt, and enough gravy or soup stock to moisten well, place it in a pudding-dish, cover and bake half an hour. Remove the cover, and brown. Pin a napkin around the dish and send to the table hot. If neither gravy nor soup stock is at hand, substitute small lumps of butter, well distributed, and enough milk to thoroughly moisten; also a tiny bit of sugar—just enough for a flavor.

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Our Farm.

[Translated from the *Berliner Thierärztliche Wochenschrift* for FARM AND FIRESIDE.]

THE TEXAS FEVER IN HAMBURG AND ITS CONSEQUENCES.

In his paper, "Mittheilungen fuer Thier-aerzte," State Veterinarian Vollers, in Hamburg, publishes the following report about the importation of Texas fever in Hamburg:

The ship "Persia," which left New York on September 15th, arrived on the twenty-sixth of the same month in Hamburg with 281 steers and 111 bulls. Four head had died during the journey. According to the rules of the [German] authorities, American cattle must be kept in an isolated pen in the stock-yards, and be butchered within ten days. The revising officer, District Veterinarian Vollers, of Altona, found among the cargo of cattle one sick steer apparently diseased with gastro-enteritis. In the night of September 27-28th, one animal died; on the twenty-eighth the steer which first showed sickness and another one, and on the twenty-ninth four more animals were killed. All six belonged to a bunch of thirty-four head which had come from one and the same farm, did not show the short-horn type, and were in a poorer condition than all the other cattle. On September 30th, a bull took sick, and among the eighteen animals, which by that time had been butchered, eleven other diseased animals had been found. Among the other cattle of the ship-load, of which more than 100 were butchered on October 6th, no disease existed.

The diseased animals presented the following symptoms: During life, sudden loss of appetite, a dull appearance, much increased temperature of forty to forty-one and one half degrees Centigrade (104 to 106 and one sixteenth degrees Fahrenheit), some bloating, difficulty of breathing, some coughing, bloody urine, at first yet solid, afterward diarrhetic feces. Soon great debility became conspicuous, some animals broke down after having been sick one hour. The disease became fatal in less than one day.

At the post-mortem examination the following was found: Lake-colored blood in the subcutaneous veins, mucous membrane of fourth stomach and intestines reddened and swelled, intestinal lymphatic glands swelled, dark gray-red and moist. Liver considerably swelled, red-brown and of a firm consistency, acini not recognizable; gall-bladder expanded; its mucous membrane red injected; gall thick and grumous. Spleen enlarged two to four times its natural size; the plup (of the spleen) dark brown to black-red, rather hard and not flowing out. Kidneys but little swelled, brown-red; on the cut surface striated redness and considerable injection of the cortical layer. In the urine bladder red urine, striated redness and swelling of the bladder. Lungs in expiration condition, containing air, in lower portions, however, in distinctly limited places, presenting a dark gray-red color and gelatinous infiltration; the (interlobular) connective tissue in these places yellowish gray and gelatinous. The heart showed turbid swelling and contained lake-colored blood. The muscles of the body turbid [presented a cooked-like appearance]. Lymphatic glands, especially the superficial cervical ones, appeared swelled, dark gray and moist. Serous membranes glistening. Mucous membranes of the head normal, and only those of the larynx reddened.

Symptoms and morbid changes found at the post-mortem examinations are in a high degree typical, so that the observation of some cases completely established the diagnosis. Constant especially is the lake-colored blood, the enormous swelling of the spleen, the swelling of the liver and of the lymphatic glands, and the gastro-enteritis. [According to my experience, which I may say is quite extensive, the constant morbid changes of Texas fever are found in the urine, the spleen, the liver and the gall. Other important morbid changes, though not constant, in all cases consist in an intensely yellow color of the adipose tissue and in impaction of the third stomach, changes not maintained at all in the report of State Veterinarian Vollers.—Translator.] With the exception of one case, there was also in all cases an affection of the lungs, while the morbid changes in the gall-bladder and in the urinary passages were absent in the animals that were killed early. The disease might be mistaken for anthrax, pleuropneumonia, and a severe gastro-enteritis, but the differences from all these

are otherwise sharp enough [notwithstanding that formerly isolated cases may have passed as one of the diseases named, but especially as gastro-enteritis]. Besides this, "wildseuche" and "rindersuche" [game and cattle plague] may come into consideration. [See below.]

After observing some cases, the Prussian district veterinarian, Vollers, of Altona, and the Hamburger district veterinarian, Koellisch, were the first who made the diagnosis of Texas fever. In Altona, as well as in Hamburg, bacteriological, etc., experiments were begun. On October 9th, District Veterinarian Vollers, in Altona, made the communication that he had succeeded, in the bacteriological institute of Dr. Langfurth, in finding the cause of Texas fever.

Meanwhile, gelatin cultures from the lymphatic glands were made in Hamburg under the direction of the Hamburger state veterinarian, Vollers. These cultures, which commenced to grow in two or three days, proved to be pure cultures of roundish or slightly oval bacteria. Of four mice inoculated with the culture, only one died [enteritis and swelling of the spleen]; of two inoculated rabbits, one died the next, and the other the fourth day [enteritis, swelling of liver, spleen and lymphatic glands, hemorrhagic trachitis and the same bacteria in the blood and in the tissues]. Inoculations of three other rabbits with the blood of the vena cava of these animals caused death in one to three days [the same changes, the blood lake-colored—does not stain a finger dipped into it]. Inoculation with the heart-blood of the rabbits in the same way killed white mice. Gelatin and agar-agar cultures started with the blood of the white mice were used to inoculate a Jutlandish steer. The steer was sick the next and following day, then lively and with appetite again. When the same was killed one month later, nothing morbid was found. Feeding of virulent material to rabbits, killed them in the same way as an inoculation.

The micro-organism found and cultivated in these experiments is round or somewhat oval, and is in diameter from one sixth to one fourth of that of a red blood-corpucle. Tuchs in and gentiana violet color the poles more than the middle. It grows better in agar-agar than in gelatin with a gray deposit (colony) in the surface. Repeated culture and inoculation experiments always gave the same results, especially also in regard to the constant virulence of the blood, as well as to the diseased organs of the inoculated animals. The experiments were carried out by the assistant veterinarian, Grips.

Meanwhile, the Prussian government sent Professor Schuetz (of Berlin) to Altona on October 12th. He discarded the finding of the cause of Texas fever; he also examined the experiments made in Hamburg, and acknowledged the cultures to be pure cultures.

On October 19th, the ship "Prussia" arrived in Hamburg with a new cargo of 368 head of cattle. Of these, one steer was found to be diseased. The same was killed at once, and the carcass presented the same morbid changes found in the others of the first cargo. Professor Schuetz returned, and with him the superintendent (Vorstand) of the bacteriological division of the imperial board of health, staff surgeon and physician, Dr. Weisser.

Soon after State Veterinarian Vollers, of Hamburg, received the communication from Professor Schuetz that Dr. Maassen, of the imperial board of health, had found in the sent-in organs of the sick steer that arrived with the "Prussia," the same micro-organisms of Texas fever described by Smith and Kilborne. These micro-organisms are, as is known, of an animal nature (Pyrosoma bigeminum, Protozoa), which are not communicated directly from animal to animal, but are temporarily parasitic on the cattle-ticks (Ixodes bovis), and are by the latter transmitted to the cattle. The micro-organisms pass through several stages of metamorphosis in the blood of cattle, get into the red blood-corpules and destroy the same.

State Veterinarian Vollers, of Hamburg [who apparently does not believe in the Washington tick theory—neither do I], adheres to the results of the Hamburger experiments, and is of the opinion that the disease in question is one caused by bacteria and either wildseuche (game and cattle plague), or something very closely related to it. The bacteria themselves, their growth in the culture media, the results of the inoculation and feeding experiments, present a striking similarity with what has been established by Professor Kitt (Munich).

State-veterinarian Vollers apprehends no danger of a spreading of Texas fever in Germany, because it is not directly communicated from one animal to another by excretions or otherwise.

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Our Sunday Afternoon.

THE BETTER PART.

There's a gray old church on a wind-swept hill,

Where three bent yew-trees cower; The gypsy roses grow there still, And the thyme, and St. John's gold flower;

It's a thousand leagues and a thousand years From the brick-built, gas-lit town To the church where the wild thyme bears

WEEDING AND SEEDING.

COLERIDGE, the philosopher, was once visited by Thelwall, a skeptic. Thelwall maintained that children should not be taught religion; it was interfering with their freedom, and filling their minds with prejudices; they should be allowed to grow up naturally, and then choose for themselves.

"I wonder," said he, "Mr. Coleridge, that your garden is in such a state. Why don't you weed it and plant flowers?"

"Oh," replied Coleridge with a smile, "I want my garden to grow naturally. I won't fill it with prejudices."

Your soul resembles your garden in this, that evil seeds lurk within, and good seeds must be planted in their place. To let it alone is to give it over to utter waste. Near some farm-houses there used to be a corner called "the devil's neuk."

LEAVING SELF OUT.

Self ought to be left out of our service for Jesus Christ. Indeed, it must be. We cannot serve Christ and have self uppermost in plan and effort. If self is served, then Christ cannot be.

It is said that a young man who had attended a summer meeting of Christian workers went away, saying, "I will leave a great deal of myself at this camp."

A rich spiritual blessing will lift many a Christian to this higher view of the Christian life. Happy would it be for all Christians if they would learn to leave out self in the camp-meetings and revivals, when they take higher spiritual grounds, and return to their work filled with the Holy Spirit.

PRACTICE THIS.

Modesty in prayer-meeting is shown by quietly taking one of the front seats, instead of crowding into one of the chief seats in the back of the room. By this modest act on the part of those who are willing to render service, the leader is encouraged, added warmth is given to the exercises, and a good example is set by the willing hearer.

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The invention of the post-office is ascribed to Cyrus, king of Persia, who lived about 600 B. C. Cyrus required all of his governors of provinces to write to him exact accounts of everything that occurred in their several districts and armies. The Persian empire was of vast extent, and some means had to be provided to render that correspondence sure and expeditious.

COMPREHENSIVE LOYALTY.

To be thoroughly loyal to God, as well as thoroughly loving to men, is a combination as difficult as serpent-like prudence and dove-like harmlessness. In our concessions to men for the sake of being on good terms with them, we are very apt to be a little untrue to perfect righteousness.

WHY WILL YOU?

Why will you keep caring for what the world says? Try, oh, try to be no longer a slave to it! You can have little idea of the comfort of freedom from it—it is bliss! All this caring for what people will say is from pride.

I received the premium, "Gems from the Poets," on the 21st instant. Thank you sincerely for this very fine present, and likewise for the other one, "The People's Atlas," received in the month of June.

I subscribe myself your well-wisher, DAVID McFARLANE, Almonte, Ontario, Canada.

[If Mr. McFarlane could spend one day in our Premium-room and witness the clerks getting the wagon-loads of premium books ready to be hauled to the post-office, he would conclude that our readers know a good thing when it is offered to them.]

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Queries.

READ THIS NOTICE.

Questions from regular subscribers of FARM AND FIRESIDE, and relating to matters of general interest, will be answered in these columns free of charge. Querists desiring immediate replies, or asking information upon matters of personal interest only, should enclose stamps for return postage. The full name and post-office address of the inquirer should accompany each query in order that we may answer by mail if necessary. Queries must be received at least two weeks before the date of the issue in which the answer is expected. Queries should not be written on paper containing matters of business, and should be written on one side of the paper only.

To Eradicate Horse-radish.—D. W., Grantor, Wis., asks: "What shall I do to kill horse-radish?"

REPLY:—Thorough cultivation of the land in cultivated field or garden crops will eradicate horse-radish. It is largely grown as a second crop in the market gardens near large cities, and gives no trouble as a weed. Possibly you have a patch of it in marshy land, which you wish to destroy. If so, drainage is the first thing needed.

Crimson Clover.—I. W., Agnesville, Va., writes: "Will crimson clover make a crop next summer if it is sown on ground with oats next spring, or sown on rye during March or April, or is it better to sow it in August? What amount of seed is required to the acre on light ground? Does it make fair hay if properly cared for?"

REPLY:—Crimson clover is usually sown alone, after midsummer or early in the fall. It can, however, be sown in the spring. Twelve to fifteen pounds of seed are required to sow an acre. Properly cured, it makes fair hay.

Johnson-grass, to Eradicate.—T. J. N., Austin, Texas, writes: "I deem Johnson-grass a great pest. Please inform me what will kill it, or keep it from spreading."

REPLY:—The stout root stalks of this coarse grass penetrate the ground in every direction, and each joint, like quack-grass, may send up a stalk, making it difficult to eradicate. But if the tops are not allowed to grow, the roots will perish. Frequent and thorough cultivation will kill it. After plowing, let the hogs have the run of the field; they are fond of the root stalks. Or if possible, overflow the patch and allow the water to stand on it for awhile. Standing water will kill it.

Toadstools in Hotbed.—P. Bros., Kingston, N. J., write: "Can you tell us how to prevent toadstools from growing in hotbeds? We were first troubled with them three years ago. Last year they almost ruined my young plants; they came up as thick as hair on a dog. We have tried to kill the toadstools in the manure by letting the latter come to a heat; have also used the manure fresh as soon as it is made, from my own stables and from Princeton, and it all acts the same way. We use the same soil every year with fresh dirt and manure that comes out of the beds."

REPLY BY JOSEPH:—The trouble is undoubtedly with your soil. It has become so thoroughly infected with the mycelium of the toadstool, that you have only one remedy; namely, clearing out every bit of old soil, and using new soil that is not yet contaminated. Hotbed and greenhouse soil should be renewed every year.

VETERINARY.

Conducted by Dr. H. J. Detmers, Professor of Veterinary Surgery in Ohio State University.

To regular subscribers of FARM AND FIRESIDE, answers will be given through these columns free of charge. Where an immediate reply by mail is desired, the applicant should inclose a fee of one dollar, otherwise no attention will be paid to such a request. Inquiries should always contain the writer's full address. Queries must be received at least two weeks before the date of the issue in which the answer is expected. Subscribers may send their veterinary queries directly to Dr. H. J. DETMERS, 1315 Neil Avenue, Columbus, Ohio. NOTE.—Parties who desire an answer to their inquiries in this column, must give their name and address, not necessarily for publication, but for other good reasons. Anonymous inquiries are not answered under any circumstances.

Actinomycosis.—R. O'N. Lyndon, Mass., L. O. H., Britton, S. Dak., and others who have now or expect to have cattle with so-called lump-jaw.

THE ACTINOMYCES.

The fungus which causes so-called lump-jaw or lumped-jaw in cattle. Actinomycetes bovis, was first discovered by Rivolta in 1863, in sarcomatous swellings, and soon after by Peronetto; it is probable, though, that Langenbeck saw the same fungus as early as 1845, but as the latter failed to give a description, the honor of first discovery belongs to Rivolta. Prof. Hahn, the present director of the Central Veterinary School at Munich, found the same fungus in the actinomycotic tongue of a cow, but it was left to Prof. Bollinger, in Munich, to establish the fact that the fungus, Actinomycetes bovis, which name was given to it by Harz, constitutes the cause of all those morbid changes and new formations so frequently found in the jaw-bones, and in the subcutaneous connective tissue on or near the head of cattle, and present themselves as swellings on or near the jaw, which are known in the Chicago stock-yards as "lump-jaw" or "lumped-jaw."

The fungi known as actinomycetes present themselves arranged in nests, which appear to the naked eye as tiny yellowish specks, but under the microscope show a plain radiation from center to circumference, and a more or less regular, roundish or oval form. These nests invariably contain quite a number of small, round bodies, which look like micrococci, and by some investigators are taken to be micrococci, while others regard them as spores. These nests and their rosette-shaped form can be distinguished under a comparatively low power, but the details require, to be seen, a power of about 500 diameters. The actinomycetes, when yet young, are, according to Israel, easily destroyed by chemicals, but the same possess great resistibility when older; that is, in old and fully developed tumors. This fact, as will be seen further on, has considerable bearing upon the treatment.

The Actinomycetes bovis find an entrance into animal tissues only in one way, through wounds, sores or abrasions. Even in those comparatively rare cases in which they have been found in the lungs and in other organs, it seems they have entered through existing sores or abrasions. If, however, they have once formed colonies or nests, they may, to a limited extent, spread to adjoining parts, possibly through the lymphatics, and thus form new colonies, and give rise to new morbid formations in adjacent tissues.

THE MORBID CHANGES.

Actinomycosis occurs in cattle in three different forms, in which, however, the differences are due only to the anatomical differences of the invaded parts. It occurs, first, as

spina ventosa, osteoporosis, or big-head in the jaw-bones; second, as a fibro-sarcomatous tumor or swelling—Igelkropf or Ihlkropf of the Germans—in the subcutaneous tissues on or near the head; third, as sarcomatous or fibro-sarcomatous tumors in the tongue—Holz zunge (wood tongue) of the Germans. In either case the invasion of the fungi has taken place through a sore or lesion. In the first form, which is the most frequent in young animals, from two to four years old, the fungi evidently enter through the alveole of a tooth when the animal is shedding its molars. If it occurs in older animals, a loose or defective tooth can invariably be found; at least this is my experience. The second form is the most frequent one where the cattle are secured in their stalls by means of stanchions, or where they are fastened or tied in such a way or by such means by which abrasions or lesions of the skin are easily and frequently produced. Occasionally this form also occurs where cattle are tied or fastened in a different way, or not at all, because any sore or abrasion, no matter what its cause may be, or how it may have been produced, affords the actinomycetes, if present, a chance to enter; but where cattle are not tied at all, or tied in a way in which no lesion of the skin is produced, this form is exceedingly rare. The third form is the least frequent, and according to my observations, occurs only if cattle eat food that is apt to wound the tongue, or if the tongue is otherwise accidentally wounded, and at the same time the actinomycetes are present in the food.

There can be no doubt that actinomycosis is a local disease; that is, a disease the morbid process of which is confined to the place or part where the actinomycetes have found an entrance, and can at best spread only to adjoining tissues. It most assuredly is not communicated through the digestive canal.

The final emaciation and decline of the animals affected with actinomycosis is simply due to the fact that morbid changes, the sometimes very large swelling, the degeneration of the jaw, the dropping out of the teeth, and the affection of the tongue interfere with and finally prevent the processes of eating and mastication. The emaciation and decline, therefore, are the result of starvation.

TREATMENT.

Actinomycosis, unless situated in a part in which the morbid new formation, for obvious reasons, cannot be destroyed or extirpated—for instance, in a bone or in the tongue—invariably yields to treatment. At any rate, all those cases in which the morbid process develops in the subcutaneous tissue on the head or near the head, that is, outside of the bone, can be cured. I have successfully treated over three hundred cases in both hemispheres, and therefore feel justified in giving in the following a brief but plain description of my treatment, which has proved to be effective, even in such cases in which the fibro-sarcomatous tumor beneath the skin had repeatedly opened and already presented a raw, cauliflower-like appearance.

One method of treatment consists in removing the tumor and in destroying the actinomycetes by means of caustics. It is this method which I have applied in a vast majority of the cases treated, and which has always been attended with good results. I first prepare the caustic before I proceed to operate. It is an arsenious acid compound. I take, say, half an ounce of pure, unadulterated arsenious acid; to this I add, to make it more soluble, two drams of caustic potash (in sticks), and to make it sticky, and to dissolve as much of it as I can, I then add half an ounce of genuine powdered gum arabic (gum acacie) and one ounce of distilled water. Properly mixed, this compound will make a semi-fluid, sticky mass of the consistency of a thick syrup. To facilitate its application, as will be shown further on, I put it in a salt-mouthed vial, which must always be properly labeled "Poison!"

I then prepare a stick of hard wood, about eight or nine inches long, one inch wide, and one fourth to one third of an inch thick, smooth the edges, and thin one end so that it tapers to a point from both sides and presents the shape of the blade of a dagger. This tapering end should be perfectly smoothed with sandpaper. What is further needed is a good, sharp and pointed knife (an abscess bistouri), a bunch of absorbent cotton, another tapering stick, or what will do just as well, a common dull-pointed seton-needle, a hocketful of water, and a few good, strong ropes. The latter are used to tie the head of the animal securely to some good, solid post, because the tumor is painful, and if operated, even the most docile animal may be expected to offer forcible resistance. The hocketful of water should be kept within easy reach of the operator, so that he may be able to immediately clean his hands if they should come in contact with the arsenic compound. After the animal has been securely fastened, a strong man should take hold of both horns, so as to keep the head steady. I then make an incision about one inch, an inch and a quarter, or even, according to circumstances, an inch and a half in length into the center of the tumor, so as to empty at once the contents of its internal cavity. These contents consist of a thick, somewhat ropy, whitish yellow and purulent substance, usually full of nests of actinomycetes. This incision made, I take the tapering stick, wrap around the point of the same a small bunch of absorbent cotton, dip it into the arsenic compound in the salt-mouthed vial (this is the reason why the vial should have a mouth at least an inch or more in width), and push the tuft of cotton, with the arsenic compound adhering, through the incision into the cavity in the center of the tumor. If the tumor has been repeatedly opened, is destitute of a cavity, and has a raw, bleeding and cauliflower-like surface, the cotton must be lodged as near the center as possible. If the tapering stick is very smooth, it can be withdrawn without pulling out the cotton. It is safer, though, to keep the latter back in the cavity by means of the second tapering stick, or with the dull-pointed seton-needle, but it is not advisable to do it with the finger, and to get the arsenic compound on the hand. Unless the tumor and its cavity are rather small, or the first prop of cotton introduced is large and well saturated with the arsenic compound, I introduce (push in) in the same way a second, a third, and may be a fourth prop; or if the tumor and its cavity are very large, or my props rather small, I may even push in as many as five or six props, but usually two or three are sufficient. This done, the operation is finished, and the animal can be released. Within about three days the operated tumor will be swelled to double or more its former size, but after the fourth day the swelling will gradually decrease. In about two weeks the tumor will be somewhat smaller than it was before the operation; besides that, it will be hard and painless, and a line of demarcation will be forming between the tumor and the surrounding healthy tissues. This line presents itself as a whitish-gray circle around the tumor. After this the tumor will continue to shrink and to grow harder, but the demarcation line will become more distinct and somewhat

deeper. Gradually the tumor will be pushed out further and further by the healthy granulation that is taking place beneath and behind it, until its connection with the surrounding tissue is completely severed, when it will drop out. This usually requires from six to ten weeks. The time, it seems, depends upon the size of the tumor and the toughness of the skin. After the tumor has dropped out, the wound will heal in a few days, and a comparatively small but somewhat puckered scar will be left behind. As the skin covering the tumor is destroyed, and consequently lost with the latter, the healthy skin left will be drawn together from all sides, hence the puckered appearance and the small size of the scar. I have operated on animals with tumors as large as a good-sized turnip, and still the scar could afterward only be found on close examination. Animals thus operated have invariably been just as thrifty as any other animal that never had been affected, a sure indication that the disease is nothing but a local affection.

If, however, the morbid process is in the tongue or in the jaw-bone, any treatment beyond leaving the tumor alone is out of the question, except the disease is just starting in the jaw-bone, and its presence is discovered before it has spread beyond the alveole of a tooth. In that case a prompt extraction of the tooth, and plugging the alveole with absorbent cotton saturated with carbolic acid or with creosote, constitutes the remedy. While the actinomycetes are yet young, creosote and carbolic acid are sufficient to destroy them, but the same remedies have apparently but little effect, at any rate do not effect a cure, if applied to an old case of actinomycosis. Israel's observation, it seems, sufficiently explains why such is the case.

In all other cases in which the seat of the morbid process is in the tongue or in the jaw-bone, the animals should be fattened before the disease seriously interferes with the processes of mastication and deglutition, and be sent to the butcher as soon as possible. This is invariably done in Europe, where many thousands of such cattle are butchered for human food each year, and still there is not yet a solitary case on record in which the meat of such an animal has in any way whatever affected a human being. To condemn such animals to the rendering-tanks, as they do in Chicago, or to quarantine them, is indefensible, and shows that the men in authority either do not know what they are doing, or if they do, their object in condemning good, fat steers to the rendering-tank can only be a sinister one, or to make people believe that they are good and efficient officers. If they were, they would condemn tuberculous cattle, trichinous hogs, and hogs affected with swine-plague.

PREVENTION.

The actinomycetes, there can be no doubt, are contained in, or adhere to the food the animals are eating; but to find them there and to destroy them without destroying or rendering worthless the food itself, would be a hopeless task. We therefore can hardly expect to be able to prevent the disease in that way. But we know that the actinomycetes, in order to invade the animal tissues, require a wound, a sore, or at least a place denuded of epidermis or epithelium; hence, if we fasten or tie our cattle in such a way that the means used will not and cannot be productive of sores, wounds or abrasions; if we frequently examine the mouths of our cattle, when they shed or change their molars, and if sores or lesions are found, apply the necessary precautions—that is, disinfest them and bring them to healing—and finally, if we do not feed our cattle anything that is apt to wound the tongue or the gums, a great many cases of actinomycosis—in fact, most of them—may be prevented.

Heaves, Gastric Catarrh, Worms, Etc.—S. B. H., Athens, Ohio. According to your description, one of your mares has heaves, and both suffer from a gastric and intestinal catarrh. You probably kept them on spoiled food, musty and dusty hay, etc. Change their food, give nothing but what is perfectly sound and sufficiently nutritious, and at the same time easy of digestion. In such cases nothing can be accomplished by medicines, unless the causes are removed; and if the latter is done, medication, as a rule, can be dispensed with—at any rate, unless superintended by a competent veterinarian, will, in most cases, do more harm than good. Therefore, if you desire to use medicines, intrust the treatment to a veterinarian.

Epileptic Fits.—A. M., Norfolk, Va. Epilepsy, unless the causes are known and can be removed—worms in dogs, for instance—must be considered as an incurable disease, because, in most cases at least, morbid changes in the brain are at the bottom of it. Epileptic animals should not be used for breeding, because the predisposing causes are apt to be transmitted upon the offspring. Hence, it will not be advisable to raise calves from your heifer.

Contraction of the Flexor Tendons.—J. McK., Derby, Conn. A contraction of the flexor tendons of the hind legs, especially of both at the same time, is very rare. Still it is possible. There is no remedy, except by a surgical operation, to be performed on one leg at a time, and only by a competent veterinarian. If it is resorted to, it takes at least four months until the horse is fit to do light work. Maybe, though, you are mistaken in your diagnosis.

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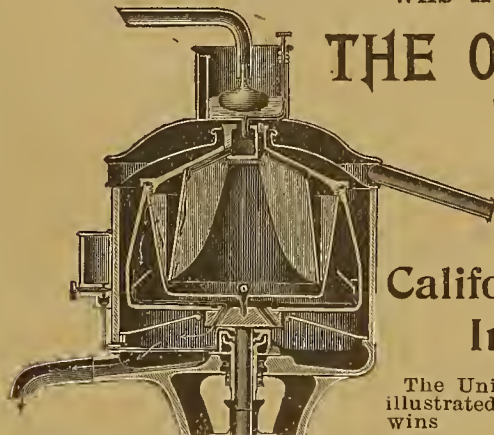
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Our Miscellany.

THE REASON WHY.

Why does the busy bee always Improve each shining hour, And gather honey every day To save for wintry hour? The cyuic gave his eye a leer, And gave his mouth a pucker, And said: "That isn't very queer; For he's a little sucker."

—Philadelphia Record.

THE Vatican is garrisoned by a company of eighty gendarmes, including officers, and by a company of seventy-five Swiss guards.

WILLIAM F. GILLESPIE, of Middletown, Ohio, has papered his room with canceled postage-stamps, the job requiring 82,000 of them.

A MILK-WHITE baboon recently from the South is attracting attention in London. Presently the chappies will be out with baboon baugs.

A HORSE-THIEF in Bay county, Missouri, stole a horse one night, and instead of riding straight away, got lost and rode all night in a circle, and in the morning was captured near where he started.

JOHN HUSSMAN, of La Crosse, Wis., had a busy day recently. In the morning his horses ran away and smashed a costly carriage. In the afternoon another runaway bruised him, and in the evening he was shot accidentally.

It is estimated that the cotton crop of this year will bring to the growers \$283,118,000, and that the cotton states have raised corn to the value of \$148,000,000. More hay and small grains have been grown than ever before. The South will be in a prosperous condition when its crops are gathered and sold.

THE DIMENSIONS OF HEAVEN.

Some one has worked out the following rather curious calculation on the basis of the sixteenth verse of the twenty-first chapter of Revelations: "And he measured the city (that is, the new Jerusalem) with the reed, 12,000 furlongs. The length and the breadth and the height of it are equal.

"Let us see: Twelve thousand furlongs, 7,920,000 feet, which, being cubed, is 948,088,000,000,000,000,000,000,000 cubic feet. Half of this we will reserve for the throne of God and the court of heaven; half the remainder for streets, leaving a balance of 124,198,272,000,000,000,000 cubic feet. Divide this last by 4,096, the cubic feet in a room sixteen feet square, and you will find that there is still enough left for 30,321,843,750,000,000 rooms!

"We will now suppose that the world always did and always will contain 990,000,000 of inhabitants, and that a generation lasts 33 1/2 years, making in all 2,570,000,000 for each century; that the world will stand 1,000 centuries, making in all 2,970,000,000,000 inhabitants. Then suppose there are 100 worlds equal to this in point of inhabitants and duration of years, making 297,000,000,000,000, then heaven, according to the measurement above, is large enough to allot 100 rooms, each sixteen feet square, to each human soul."

BEAUTIES AND WONDERS OF LAND AND SEA.

A marvelous new book, illustrated by over one thousand pictures. We take pleasure in announcing our latest book, "Beauties and Wonders of Land and Sea," which has been in course of preparation for several months. Owing to the extraordinary number of illustrations, which had to be engraved, and the immense amount of literary work necessary to complete such a voluminous volume, the actual cash outlay to produce the book has been enormous. In the publication of this marvelous book we have surpassed all of our former efforts. In pictures, in reading matter and in size, no book has ever been offered by us, or by any one else, as a premium that would begin to equal it. The book is such an astonishing product of printing, engraving and paper manufacturing that itself will likely be considered as one of the beauties and wonders which it describes.

"Beauties and Wonders of Land and Sea" is one mighty aggregation of interesting facts in natural history. Explorers have ransacked the whole known world, and scholars followed up every possible clue in order to discover and explain them. It is full of personal encounters and daring exploits made in the cause of education. The book is not the work of one day or one man, but of many men for many years. It covers a field reaching from the Arctic to the Antarctic, as wide as the surface of the earth, as deep as the sea, and as high as the sky. It might be called a history or biography of Old Earth's beauties and wonders told in pleasing language and profusely illustrated. The value of such a book in the home and school-room cannot be overestimated. See advertisement on another page.

CONSUMPTION CURED.

An old physician, retired from practice, had placed in his hands by an East India missionary the formula of a simple vegetable remedy, for the speedy and permanent cure of Consumption, Bronchitis, Catarrh, Asthma and all Throat and Lung Affections, also a positive and radical cure for Nervous Debility and all Nervous Complaints. Having tested its wonderful curative powers in thousands of cases, and desiring to relieve human suffering, I will send free of charge to all who wish it, this recipe, in German, French or English, with full directions for preparing and using. Sent by mail, by addressing, with stamp, naming this paper, W. A. NOYES, 820 Powers' Block, Rochester, N. Y.

A WITTY PRIEST.

The death of Father Healy, of Bray, removes from Irish life the wittiest Irishman of his time. Even in London he was all but lionized in society, and the shoal of invitations which always followed his visits had generally the effect of shortening his sojourn. He was well known to every public man of both parties, and Lord Salisbury vied with Mr. Gladstone and Mr. Morley with Mr. Balfour in appreciation of his wonderful fund of humor. His most famous bon mot was probably his answer to a question once put to him by Mr. Balfour.

"Tell me frankly, Father Healy," said the then chief secretary, "do the Irish people really hate me as much as their leaders say?"

"Well, I'll tell you this," was the response, "if they only hated the devil half as much as they hate you, there would be no necessity for us priests in the country."

Even on his death-bed his humor did not desert him. A few hours before his death one of his medical attendants had occasion to ask him a question in reference to his breathing.

"Are you 'distressed,' father?" was the question.

"Not at all, doctor," said the dying wit; "but on the contrary, lots of fellows owe me money."—London Star.

THE READY-REMINDER CALENDAR.

Who has not felt the need of a suitable gift for his enemy—something that shall represent the proper outlay on the part of the giver, be beautiful to the eye and acceptable to the taste, yet powerless to confer any pleasure upon the recipient? Now I have thought of something which meets all the requirements. It might be called the "Ready-reminder Calendar," and its special mission should be to bring before the owner, from time to time, all those disagreeable duties of civilized life which most of us persistently strive to forget. I would make it of the "tear-off" pattern, and each leaf should call to remembrance some universal bete noir. To make this reminder effective, I would put it in the form of an impertinent question. For instance: "Have you paid your yearly visit to the dentist?" "Do you owe any duty calls?" "Is your will just as you would like to have it?" "When are you going to invite the Tedious Borelys to dinner?" "Have you done your duty by your poor relations?" "Is your pew rent paid up?" and so on through all the round of things which it would be well for us to do quickly, but which we put off from day to day as long as we can.—Kate Field's Washington.

IT OUGHT TO WORK.

"I've got a scheme," said the idle man, "by which the county offices of the country can be run without a cent of expense to the citizens. In fact, lots of fellows would pay big money into the treasury for the chance of holding the offices."

"All right, go ahead and tell it," said the man whose time was being taken up. "I might just as well have it over with."

"It is just this. Instead of calling a man a simple county clerk, for instance, I would let him wear the title of the Grand and Most High Puissant Secretary. The recorder might be called the Most Exalted Guardian of Deeds and Custodian of Parchments. Why, it is great, I tell you. There are any number of citizens who would be delighted to hold the office of dog-catcher if it were only dignified with the title of Grand and Noble Civic Huntsman, and don't you forget it."

The busy man said he would bear it in mind, so it is possible that another great reform may be sprung on an astonished world.—Cincinnati Tribune.

Every Man Should Read This.

If any young, old, or middle-aged man, suffering from nervous debility, lack of vigor or weakness from errors or excesses, will in close stamp to me, I will send him the prescription of a genuine, certain cure, free of cost, no humbug, no deception. It is simple, simple and perfectly safe and harmless. I will send you the correct prescription and you can buy the remedy of me or prepare it yourself, just as you choose. The prescription I send free, just as I agree to do. Address, E. H. HUNGERFORD, Box A. 232, Albion, Mich.

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Selections.

MEAT EATING AND MUSCLE.

In an article contributed to the Health Culture, by Dr. Felix L. Oswald, it is maintained that what are called "canine teeth" are a misnomer, are not canine in any sense of the term. These fangs, the doctor goes on to explain, corresponding to the eye-teeth of man, are enormously developed in several species of baboons that would unhesitatingly prefer a bunch of fox-grapes to the best beefsteak that could be found in a Delmonico. Dr. Oswald is not a believer in humanity's being altogether carnivorous. "The meat delusion" is what he terms the idea that man cannot thrive on a strict vegetable diet. The fact that normal children have an aversion to flesh food in its undisguised state cannot be overlooked as an argument in behalf of the vegetarian. Meat promotes muscle and conduces to longevity. The doctor says:

"Under anything like favorable climatic conditions, those frugal Orientals outlive their carnivorous neighbors, and the anti-vegetarian argument founded on their lack of muscular development has been triumphantly refuted by the statistics of Dr. Herman Beyer, who proves that the stoutest peasants of continental Europe value meat only as an occasional luxury, rather than an important or indispensable article of daily food. The iron-fisted Russian boors live chiefly on rye bread, milk and cabbage; the Danes on milk and potatoes; the peasants of Holstein (where the Prussian navy recruits its browniest seamen) on milk, porridge, butter and beans. The Turkish longshoremen, the stoutest bipeds of the present world, are strictly frugal from necessity, if not on religious principle. They cook their rice with ghee, or clarified butter, and after a light breakfast of barley bread and dried figs, think nothing of shouldering a weight of three hundred pounds, and in gangs of four will lug off burdens which a New York expressman would hesitate to load on a one-horse wagon."

The conclusion drawn from Dr. Oswald's investigation is that a total abstinence from flesh food would promote the cause of moral as well as physical health, and contribute more than all the conventions of millennium prophets to guarantee the blessing of international peace.—Cincinnati Times-Star.

HOW TO GO TO SLEEP.

"If you have never done so, watch yourself go to sleep," said a Delsarte teacher, "and you will be amazed to see how tense your position is. Your knees are drawn and bended, your back is curved, the arms are held more or less tightly to the body, and the fingers are folded. The eyelids are held shut, not allowed to droop over the eyes, the neck is strained, and the head seems to touch the pillow only at the temples. The points of contact with the bed are really at the temples, shoulders, hips, knees and ankles. Now look at a child sleeping. Every muscle is relaxed, every joint is inert and prone on the couch; his little frame finds rest at every point. The features are undone, so to speak, the nose widens, the mouth droops, the eyelids close easily, and with every line of expression obliterated, he finds utter and complete repose. The abandon makes him fall out of bed sometimes, such an inert body has he become. You may imitate him even to that degree, if necessary. Begin at your toes to relax, loosen all your joints and muscles, unbend your fingers, shake your wrists loose, take the curve and strain out of your neck, go all in pieces, in fact, and see how the day's fatigue seems to slip off from you, and the gentle mantle of rest and oblivion to enfold you like a garment."

ONE BIRTHDAY IN SEVEN YEARS.

Seven years without a birthday was the predicament of a well-known Edinburgh clergyman, who died in 1866. At the present time there can be very few, if any, persons who can make this statement about themselves. For it to be true, they must have been born on the 29th of February at least ninety-seven years ago. But a similar line of missing dates will now soon recur. Indeed, there are doubtless some readers of Answers who will have but a single birthday for eleven years to come. The solution of this puzzle is to be found in the fact that the year 1800 was not a leap-year, nor will the year 1900 be.—Answers.

AN OPEN LETTER.

LA CROSSE, Wis., Dec. 27, 1894.—MAST, CROWELL & KIRKPATRICK, Editors FARM AND FIRESIDE, Springfield, Ohio.—DEAR SIR: In answer to your favor of the 22d instant, we would say that we guarantee Baco-Curo to do that which no other tobacco treatment will do. You can use tobacco while you are taking Baco-Curo, and we positively guarantee that it will make you stop, and stop for good; and in case it does not do this, we guarantee not only to refund you your money, but agree to pay you 10 per cent. interest upon it.

You will find enclosed copies of three letters, which speak for themselves. The first is a letter of testimonial from Mr. C. W. Hornick, Superintendent of the St. Paul Pioneer Press Company; the second, V. E. Head, of Louisville, Kentucky, to Mr. Hornick, in regard to his letter of testimonial; and the third is Mr. Hornick's answer to his letter of inquiry.

If you should care to make any further inquiries in regard to Baco-Curo, we will refer you to any bank in La Crosse, or, upon receipt of postal, will mail you one of our booklets on our scientific cure for the tobacco habit, or will send you a sample box on receipt of six two-cent stamps. Trusting this is satisfactory to you, we remain, Yours respectfully, EUREKA CHEMICAL & MFG. CO.

(1)

OFFICE OF PIONEER PRESS COMPANY, C. W. HORNICK, SUPERINTENDENT, St. Paul, Minn., Sept. 7, 1894.—Dictated by C. W. H.—EUREKA CHEMICAL & MANUFACTURING COMPANY, LA CROSSE.—DEAR SIR: I have been a tobacco fiend for many years, and during the past two years have smoked fifteen to twenty cigars regularly every day. My whole nervous system became affected, until my physician told me I must give up the use of tobacco, for the time being, at least. I tried the so-called "Keeley Cure," "No-To-Bac," and various other remedies, but without success, until I accidentally learned of your "Baco-Curo." Three weeks ago to-day I commenced using your preparation, and to-day I consider myself completely cured; I am in perfect health, and the horrible craving for tobacco, which every inveterate smoker fully appreciates, has completely left me. I consider your "Baco-Curo" simply wonderful, and can fully recommend it. Yours very truly, C. W. HORNICK.

(2)

Louisville, Ky., Dec. 5, 1894.—MR. C. W. HORNICK, ST. PAUL.—DEAR SIR: Will you please write me in confidence your opinion of Baco-Curo, if it really does what is claimed for it, and also in regard to the Eureka Chemical & Manufacturing Company? Are they reliable? Any information that you give me will be appreciated. Yours very truly, V. E. HEAD, 1321 W. Chestnut St., Louisville, Ky.

(3)

OFFICE OF PIONEER PRESS COMPANY, C. W. HORNICK, SUPERINTENDENT.—Dictated by C. W. H.—St. Paul, Minn., Dec. 8, 1894.—MR. V. E. HEAD, 1321 Chestnut St., Louisville, Ky.—DEAR SIR: I have your favor 5th instant. I used "Baco-Curo" personally with result given in testimonial, which I sent them. I can only speak for the preparation as it affected myself, and judging from what it did for me, I can safely recommend it to anyone. As far as the company is concerned, I believe they are perfectly responsible. Their list of officers and directors includes many well known and wealthy men of La Crosse, Wisconsin. Before taking the preparation, I submitted it to my physician, and he told me I could take it without harm to myself. Yours truly, C. W. HORNICK.

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There was a young woman of Guinea Who played, for she was no nuinea, A game she called golf, But she was clear of, For the pastime was nothing but shuinea.

LITERARY QUERIES.

- Is Thomas Hardy nowadays? Is Rider Haggard pale? Is Minot Savage? Oscar Wilde? And Edward Everett Hale? Was Laurence Sterne? was Hermann Grimm? Was Edward Young? John Gay? Jonathan Swift? and old John Bright? And why was Thomas Gray? Was John Brown? and was J. R. Green? Chief Justice Taney quite? Is William Black? R. D. Blackmore? Mark Lemon? H. K. White? Was Francis Bacon lean in streaks? John Suckling vealy? Pray, Was Hogg much given to the pen? Are Lamb's Tales sold to-day? Did Mary Mapes Dodge just in time? Did C. D. Warner? How? At what did Andrew Marvell so? Does Edward Whymper now? What goodies did Rose Terry Cooke? Or Richard Boyle beside? What gave the wicked Thomas Paine, And made Mark Akenside? Was Thomas Tickell-ish at all? Did Richard Steele, I ask? Tell me, has George A. Sala suit? Did William Ware a mask? Does Henry Cabot Lodge at home? John Horne Tooke what and when? Is Gordon Cumming? Has G. W. Cabled his friends again?

HE WANTED A GRAPHIC ACCOUNT.

Quite recently the assistant at a railway book-stall was surprised by a gentleman who rushed on the platform and breathlessly asked for the paper with the most graphic account of the China and Japan war. The assistant, noticing the excited and nervous condition of his customer, immediately complied with his request to the best of his abilities. The stranger, sharply turning over the leaves of his purchase, gasped: "Ah, got it at last!" The man of "specials," apparently wishing to know the cause of his trouble, asked: "Have you any friends or relations engaged in the war?" "Oh, no!" replied the stranger, "I'm a grocer; I'm in search of a name for our new blend of tea at one-and-six!"—Scottish Night.

HELPLESS THING!

Just as the papers say, there are a great many things a woman can't do—keep a secret, climb a tree, etc. Here are a few things a man can't do: Take a pin by the head and put it into a cushion without pricking himself. Light a fire in a cold kitchen-range without burning himself before he is through. Tie anybody's necktie but his own. Hold a baby. Open a hot boiled egg. Carry more than one item of memoranda in his mind at a time. Find anything that he looks for.

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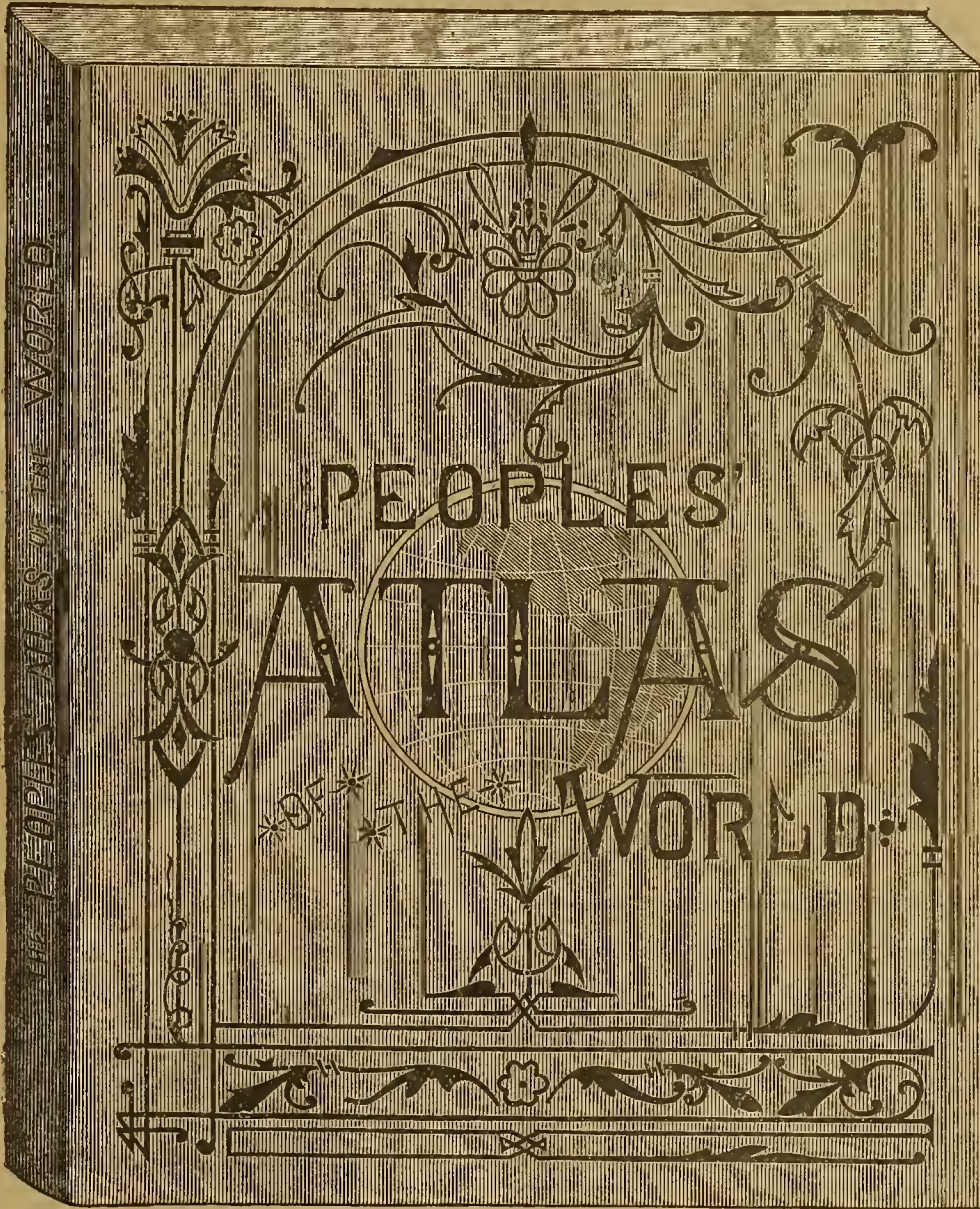
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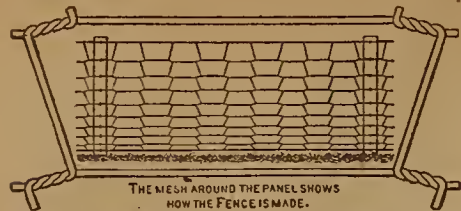
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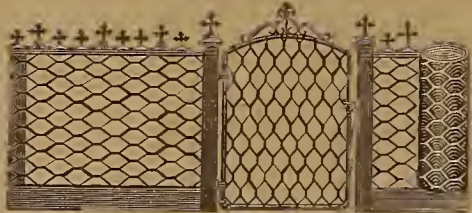
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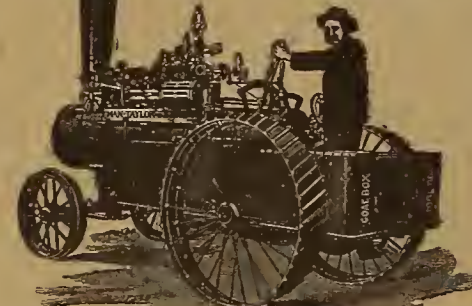
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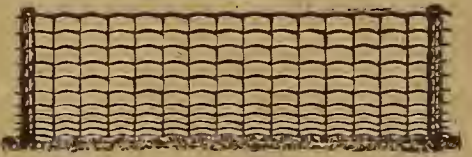


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William Frederick Cody was born in Scott county, Iowa, February 26, 1845. When the pony express was established across the plains in the spring of 1860, William became one of the most fearless and daring among its riders.

In 1867 he entered into a contract with the Kansas Pacific railway in western Kansas, at a monthly compensation of five hundred dollars, to supply all the buffalo meat that would be required for food for the army of laborers employed, and in eighteen months he killed 4,280 buffaloes, earning the title "Buffalo Bill," by which he has been since known. In 1868 he again entered the service of the government, and in 1872 he was elected a member of the Nebraska legislature; but after serving a short time, went on the stage. After the Sioux war of 1876 he again returned to the stage, and in 1883 organized an exhibit called "Wild West," the object of which was to give realistic pictures of life on the frontier. His actors included actual Indians, Mexicans and "cowboys."

Lewis Wallace was born in Brookville, Franklin county, Indiana. At the beginning of the Mexican war, he was a law student in Indiana, and at the call for volunteers, he entered the army as a first lieutenant. He resumed his profession in 1848. At the beginning of the civil war he was appointed adjutant-general of Indiana. He was second member of the court that tried the assassins of President Lincoln, and president of that which tried and convicted Captain Henry Wirz, commandant of Andersonville prison. He was mustered out of volunteer service in 1865, and returned to the practice of law. He was governor of Utah in 1878-81, and in 1881 became United States minister to Turkey, serving until 1885, when he again resumed his practice in Crawfordsville.

He has lectured extensively in this country, and is the author of two successful novels—"The Fair God," a story of the conquest of Mexico, and "Ben-Hur," a tale of the Christ, of which more than 300,000 copies have been sold.

AS OTHERS SEE US.

By the new process of photography known as multiphotography, a number of different views of the same subject can be produced at one exposure. The person to be photographed sits with the back to the instrument, while in front of the face are two mirrors, set at the desired angle to each other, the inner edges touching. Four images are thus produced. The exposure is made, and on the developed negative appear not only the back view of the subject, but also the four reflected images in profile and different three-quarter positions. This system not only enables us to see ourselves as others see us, but affords opportunity for much range in the art of posing.

GERMAN WOMEN AS FARM-HANDS.

The utilization of women in Germany as farm-hands, which so many moralists have considered their duty to censure, apparently meets with approval from Dr. Joseph Krauskopf, the rabbi, for in a letter from Germany to his congregation he says: "Such farm work for women is neither degrading nor too taxing. They have pledged to become helpmates to their husbands and regard it their duty to lessen the labors of their fathers, and being physically able to do their share, they regard it wrong to permit the stronger sex to slave themselves to death while they are idling their time away at home. Judging from their happy and healthy looks, they seem to be none the worse for taking their places alongside the men-folk for the purpose of honestly earning their bread. Had we a little more practical good sense and less sentimentality among our women at home, many a woman's life might be happier to-day—happier for being more useful—and many a man's life would be spared the necessity of slaving itself to death to indulge a wife's or a daughter's idleness and luxuries."—Philadelphia Record.

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The Ladies Home Companion is a large and handsome magazine, printed every two weeks, with from 20 to 28 pages. Mothers and children everywhere are always delighted to receive this grand paper. Already it is the favorite in nearly 150,000 homes. It contains splendid short and serial stories, departments of Fashions, Fancy Work, Flowers, Housekeeping, Children's department, etc., with many illustrations.

The Ladies Home Companion for 1895 will contain contributions from many noted writers, including Miss Jessie Ackermann, the greatest woman traveler living; Clifton M. Nichols, the veteran journalist, who has a remarkable acquaintance with distinguished men; Edgar Fawcett, the favorite magazine writer; Eugene Field, the funny man of the Chicago Record, and a favorite poet, and others. Every effort will be made to make the Ladies Home Companion the best ladies' magazine published. It comes twenty-four times a year, or twice a month, which is twice as often as most ladies' papers.

Surely, it is the duty and pleasure of every father to see that his family is supplied with such pure and wholesome reading. The regular price of the Ladies Home Companion is one dollar a year, and it is well worth the price; but in order to introduce it into many new homes, it is offered with the FARM AND FIRESIDE for a very low price for the next 30 days. See pages 23 and 24.

BUILD OF THE MONGOLIAN.

One of the surprises encountered by the traveler when he is first cast among Mongolians is their physical development, says a writer in the Forum. Americans are wont to judge their bodily structure by the specimens in the laundry-shops of Sam Lee or Wi Ping; and the loose, clothing of the Chinaman conceals his brawny arms and legs when he has them. Seeing Tibetans in the Himalayas—stocky chunks of men with an abnormal muscular development—had not brushed away my idea that the Chinaman was rather a slim, un-muscular oriental, something like the willowy Hindu; but when I landed in Singapore and first saw numbers of coolies stripped to their work, I was thunderstruck at their massive proportions. The Chinese are commonly said to be a diseased race, a people permeated with blood-poisons; but one does not see it in the average specimen, and one does see at every street corner men with limbs and torsos like Sandow; men who would be marked down for foot-ball players in any American college. Not but what disease is always an accompaniment of so crowded a population; not that its manifestations fail to impress you; but the Chinaman, far from being a taper-fingered mortal, is a tough, sturdy, fine fellow, with thews and sinews like an athlete, and plenty of ambition and courage—within his racial lines. Nor have I found any exception to the rule. The Mongol from the borders of India, where, going East, you first strike his homely coarseness, to the confines of Japan, where you say good-by to his lovely cherry blossoms and his smiling bows, is everywhere, in physique, the same strong, enduring man. The Chinaman is filthy in mind, body and estate; the Japanese is equally clean, but in mere physical quality they are very much alike. That the Mongol's nervous structure is less fine than the Aryan's is evidenced by the fact that the average Chinaman will endure unbleached the pain of a surgical operation which would seriously compromise the reactionary power of most white men; and this, if anything, adds to his value as a mere human animal.

MOSQUITOES' SURGICAL INSTRUMENTS.

The mosquito's bill, minutely delicate as that organ is, is simply a tool-box in which are kept six separate surgical instruments—miniature blood-letting apparatus of the most perfect pattern. Two of these instruments are said to be exact counterparts of a surgeon's lancet; one is a spear with a double-barbed head; the third a needle of exquisite fineness. A saw and a pump go to make up this wonderful complement of tools. The spear is the largest of the six, and is used in making the initial puncture; next the lances are brought into play, their work causing the blood to flow more freely. In case this last operation fails of having the desired effect, the saw and the needle are carefully inserted in a lateral direction in the victim's flesh. The pump, the most delicate instrument of the entire set, is used in transferring the blood to the insects.—St. Louis Republic.

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No. 57. How the Widow Bedott Popped the Question to Elder Sniffles.—This book is funny—even funnier than the title implies. The Elder was an old-time Baptist preacher, and a widower. Now, the Widow had often ridiculed the Baptists, but the way she changed her tune after she had "sot" her heart on the Elder was a caution, as well as comical. The Elder thought the Widow was rich, and so accepted her proposal. The reader will have many a hearty laugh at their expense, and likely repeat, "Old fools are the biggest fools of all."

No. 99. The Idle Thoughts of an Idle Fellow. By Jerome K. Jerome. Mr. Jerome is known as the "English Mark Twain." He is a writer of the finest sort of fun, which is sure to be highly enjoyed by all who will read this book. It is considered his best.

No. 59. The Courting of Dina Shadd, and The Man Who Was. By Rudyard Kipling. Mr. Kipling is considered by many to be the greatest living story-writer. His plots are thrilling and skilfully arranged, and he tells his story in a bright, sparkling style.

No. 58. The Merry Men. By R. L. Stevenson. When an author's works live after him, they are, as a rule, worth reading. The stories by Stevenson have stood this test, and are now widely read. "The Merry Men" is a story that you will not forget soon after reading it.

No. 61. Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde. By R. L. Stevenson. This wonderful story of a strange case has been dramatized with great success. The moral is a good one.

No. 85. Anecdotes of the Rebellion is a grand collection of war stories and camp-fire yarns. Every anecdote is a true story of some incident connected with the late war. Everyone will be glad to own this book. By telling these stories, a speaker can keep an audience in laughter or tears at will. It gives anecdotes of Foragers, Raiders, Scouts, Stories of Prison Life, Union and Confederate Spies, of the Generals, Lincoln's jokes, etc., etc.

No. 60. A Bird of Passage. By Beatrice Harraden, author of "Ships That Pass in the Night." Few ladies have written more popular stories than Miss Harraden. "A Bird of Passage" is exceedingly fine.

No. 70. Good Manners. Edited by Mrs. M. W. Baines. A manual of true politeness.

No. 91. The Fatal Marriage. By Miss M. E. Braddon. This is a thrilling story, in which a man marries a lovely girl for her wealth, and as it should always be, he came to grief as a reward for his deception.

No. 78. Indoor Games. This book will introduce many games, amusements, simple tricks with handkerchiefs, strings, etc., to entertain visitors and friends.

No. 84. Gulliver's Travels. Tells of the supposed travels and surprising adventures of Lemuel Gulliver into an unexplored part of the world, where he met with a race of people no larger than your hand. A great favorite with boys and girls who like to read books of travel. Illustrated.

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No. 92. Old Mother Hubbard, and 138 Other Nursery Rhymes and Jingles. For generations these rhymes have delighted the children. The comical pictures, the fairy stories and short verses are a never-ending source of delight. This is the complete book, containing one hundred and thirty-eight stories and over seventy illustrations.

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Below we offer two popular books written by Charles Dickens, one of the greatest novelists who ever lived. These books abound in wit, humor, pathos, masterly delineation of character, vivid descriptions of places and incidents. They are intensely interesting to children as well as grown persons.

No. 96. The Haunted Man. By Dickens. An interesting love story, into which are gathered some of the truest and noblest of the bright thoughts of the wonderful author.

No. 95. The Battle of Life. A love story, by Dickens. This is one of his best.

No. 90. On Her Wedding Morn. By Bertha M. Clay, author of "Her Only Sin," "A Golden Heart," and other stories. This is a companion novel to "Her Only Sin," and will be read with the same intensity of feeling, with mingled joy and sadness as the characters in the book have cause for tears or laughter. It is a love story that must appeal to every reader.

No. 89. Her Only Sin. By Bertha M. Clay, author of "The Shattered Idol," "On Her Wedding Morn," and other noted books. "Her Only Sin" is fine.

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No. 63. Changed Life. By Henry Drummond. If you want a practical solution of the cardinal problem of Christian experience, read this book on "Changed Life." You will be drinking at the fountain of eternal life.

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The Carnivorous,
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In the Islands and in the Mountains,
In the Air and Beneath the Earth;

From the Smallest Fish that Swims
To the Monsters That Infest the Seas,
From the Oyster to the Shark,

From the Insect to the Reptile,
From the Humming-bird to the Ostrich,
From the Harmless to the Ferocious.

AND MANY OTHER MARVELS



Said Horace Mann, the great advocate of the public school system. Let any one be curious to know more and they will learn more. This is true of everyone, young and old. The child is just as curious to see a squirrel or a river for the first time as parents are to see a lion or the sea for the first time. In order to simply satisfy curiosity (which is one way of saying "in order to learn more"), travelers journey far and wide, suffering exposure and risking life to see something new, to witness some phenomenon, some strange creature, some stupendous work or freak of nature. This same curiosity has prompted scientists to investigate the unknown and wonderful things of the land, sea and air. From time to time they have made records of their travels and observations, which, by the aid of printing and pictures, are now used for the enlightenment of their fellow-men, who neither have the time nor money to go and satisfy their curiosity.

"**Beauties and Wonders of Land and Sea**" is one mighty aggregation of interesting facts in natural history. Explorers have ransacked the whole known world, and scholars followed up every possible clue in order to discover and explain them. It is full of personal encounters and daring exploits made in the cause of education. The book is not the work of one day or one man, but of many men for many years. It covers a field reaching from the Arctic to the Antarctic, as wide as the surface of the earth, as deep as the sea, and as high as the sky. It might be called a history or biography of Old Earth's beauties and wonders told in pleasing language and profusely illustrated. The value of such a book in the home and school-room cannot be overestimated.

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Is a never-failing source of profit, and its opportunities are boundless. But a teacher—an able, interesting and enthusiastic teacher—is needed. A teacher who will not load us down with cold facts and big words, but one who will satisfy our curiosity by telling us what we want to know in a way we like to hear it, and by showing us the pictures we want to see.

"**Beauties and Wonders of Land and Sea**" is just such a teacher. It opens new fields of knowledge. It trains the faculty of observation. The social life, habits and means of existence of living creatures are made known to us. We learn the secrets of the animals, birds, reptiles and insects which dwell in the fields, woods and streams round about us, as well as natives of the far corners of the earth and of the briny deep.

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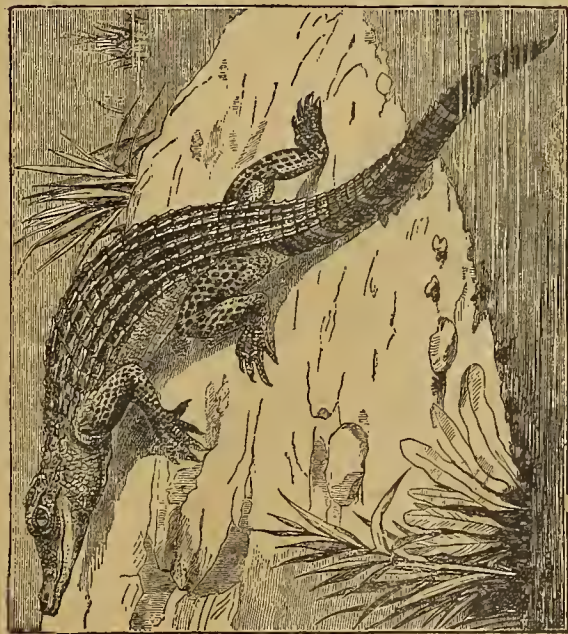
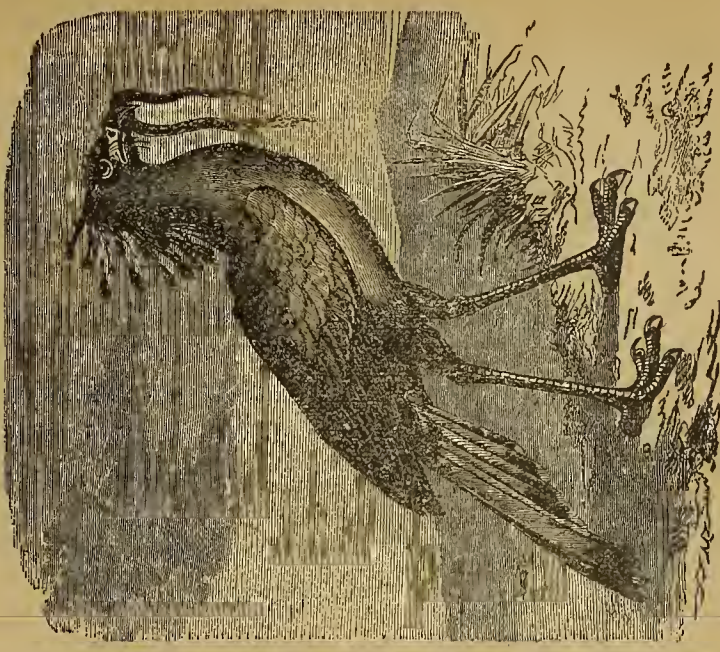
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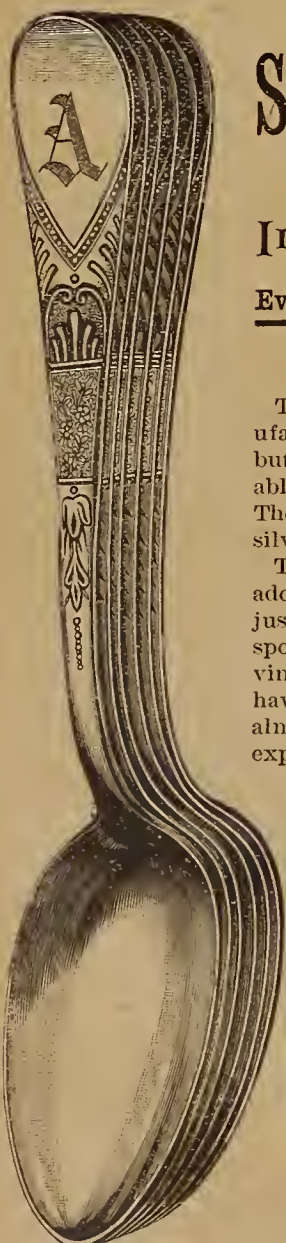
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These are genuine silver-plated teaspoons, especially manufactured for us. We do not make any profit on these spoons, but simply offer them to get subscribers. This is why we are able to furnish such handsome initial teaspoons as premiums. They are made from a base-metal, then nickel-plated and then silver-plated.

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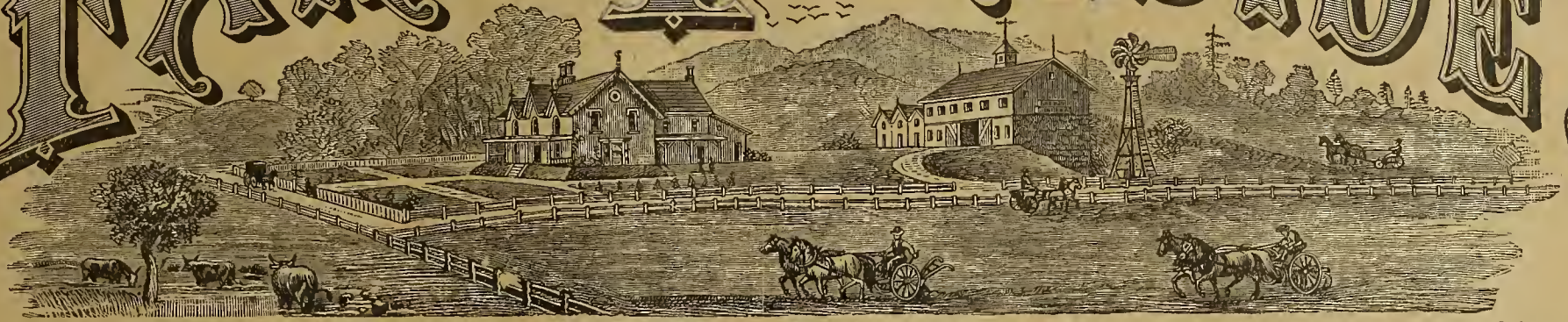
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VOL. XVIII. NO. 10.

FEBRUARY 15, 1895.

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THE Nicaragua canal bill is the first measure of great importance passed by the Senate the present session. Under its provisions there may be issued \$70,000,000 of Nicaragua canal bonds, each bearing the following guarantee: "The United States of America guarantees to the lawful holder of this bond the payment by the Maritime Canal Co. of the principal of said bond, and the interest accruing thereon as it accrues." In return for loaning its credit for the completion of this great enterprise, the United States is to receive \$70,000,000 of the stock of the company, and to hold a mortgage lien on all its property, and the work is to be done under the general supervision of the secretary of the treasury, in charge of a board of fifteen directors, ten of whom are to be appointed by the president. In addition to the guaranteed bonds, \$30,000,000 more may be issued, the \$100,000,000 to be used in the construction of the canal. Under the security and supervision required, the canal project will be practically controlled by the federal government. There is a probability that the bill will get through the House and become a law before this Congress ends.

COL. W. C. P. BRECKINRIDGE, of undeniable notoriety, after attempting to deliver a series of lectures through the country, and failing to draw enough hearers to pay expenses, has returned to Washington, and again come into prominence by creating a scene in the House of Representatives.

The difficulty was with Mr. Heard, of Missouri. This gentleman, who was in charge of the District of Columbia business, cut off Mr. Breckinridge, who was attempting to address the House on the Hawaiian resolution, by demanding the previous question on the adoption of the resolution. Mr. Breckinridge immediately went around to the desk of Mr. Heard and protested. As the voices of the gentlemen arose, excitement spread through the house. "Impertinent puppy!" shouted Mr. Breckinridge. "Liar!" hissed back

Mr. Heard. Then the white-haired representative from Kentucky struck at Mr. Heard with his fist. The gentlemen were brought before the bar of the house, and later apologized in due form; and the whole thing was stricken from the records. What a pity we cannot choose men to go up to Congress who will not disgrace the nation.

PUBLIC opinion is not always reliable. It is difficult to say just how much blame should rest upon the strikers in the late trouble in Brooklyn. It seems pitiable in the extreme that any body of laboring men should be compelled to work at starvation wages, when companies are paying large dividends on watered stock. It is extremely unfortunate that demagogues should lead strikers to do things which necessitate the calling out of the state troops for the protection of property which belongs to wealthy corporations. It is more often probable that the most serious difficulties are occasioned by those who are not among the strikers. In large cities there are always a lot of out-of-work people who are out because they do not wish work. These are always ready for any manner of excitement, and it matters little to them whether a few lives are sacrificed or not.

Such difficulties should be settled by arbitration. No corporation, by law, should be allowed to water its stock, and pay dividends at the sacrifice of proper wages to the laboring people. The true principle of conducting any large business is well illustrated by the way in which Mr. J. T. Polk, the largest tomato-cauner in the world, runs his establishment. During the busy season he employs in the neighborhood of a thousand people, and he has helped a large number of his workmen to buy homes. They have their own building and loan association. All the profits are expended by Mr. Polk in so conducting



NICARAGUA CANAL ROUTE.

his business that his laboring people will get the returns. He says that but for these people he would not be able to carry on his business. They help him make the money, and they are therefore entitled to it. He holds in trust the administration of the money which they help him to earn.

IN order not only to attract gold temporarily, but to retain it permanently," says a contributor to the *Forum*, "there must be an actual, matured debt, which cannot be settled in any other way than by payment in gold, the only universal measure of value." This unsettled debt which keeps clamoring for gold is ox-

plained as follows: "The United States owes to Europe (apart from the ordinary merchandise balances as evidenced by the custom-house returns) annually:

For money spent by American travelers abroad, about	\$100,000,000
For freights carried in foreign ships, about	100,000,000
For dividends and interest upon American securities still held abroad, minimum	75,000,000
For profits of foreign corporations doing business here, and of non-residents, derived from real estate investments, partnership profits, etc., about	75,000,000
Total,	\$350,000,000

The writer says these figures represent a conservative estimate, that the actual total is more likely to be larger than smaller, and that to pay this vast annual indebtedness to Europe the balance of trade in merchandise would have to reach at least this sum; but it has never done so. The merchandise balance (including exports of silver) in our favor in 1894 was \$264,000,000, and large as it was, it still left a very large amount to be paid for. This balance could be paid only in securities or in gold. So long as European creditors were willing to take our securities, or reinvest their balances in American enterprises, there was no inordinate call for gold; but as they no longer seem to wish to take our securities to any extent, nor to make permanent investments here, there is nothing else but to ask for and insist upon payment in gold.

Too many persons are getting the idea that with the introduction of the "New Woman" there will be a likelihood of the American race being curtailed by the idea of "Motherhood Limited." It may result in woman marrying later, but it will be only a more perfected womanhood, and the law of selection will take

a higher plane. If the attention of the far-seeing philosopher could be directed toward the better development of the coming man, both physically and mentally, we think the "New Woman" will be ready for him, and able to make home happy, and love and rear a better class of progeny in the next generation.

IN the last FARM AND FIRESIDE we spoke of the new president of France, M. Felix Faure. He has been a successful business man, and is what we call in this country a self-made man. The president of France is little more than a figure-head. It is his duty to form cabinets when the govern-

ment is not supported by the Parliament of the country. Unless a revolution should overthrow both him and the Chambers, he is likely to remain in power as long as he can find men willing to form cabinets. He was elected by only 430 votes, most of them given by the senators.



M. FELIX FAURE.

M. Faure is a representative of the Opportunist party, which represents the bourgeois, and whose ancestors made the revolution one hundred years ago.

The new president has a great advantage over M. Casimir-Perier. He is not suspected of nursing any ambition to impose his own idea of government upon the nation, or of being the champion of capitalists. He is therefore popular with the people at large.

He is a thorough English scholar, well versed, also, in the study of economic questions. A number of reports on the commercial interests of France and her colonies have been published by him.

MRS. DOMINIS, who once reigned as Queen Liliuokalani, has been arrested for complicity with the insurgents in the recent rebellion in Hawaii. Stores of arms and dynamite bombs for the use of the insurgents were found in her house. Some months ago, when intriguing for restoration, the ex-queen demanded that the present rulers be beheaded. She is now in their hands on a grave charge. If she is convicted, they can heap hot coals of fire on her head by a sentence of banishment to Buzzard's Bay.

PRESIDENT CLEVELAND, in a special message, urged Congress to authorize the issue of \$500,000,000 of three-per-cent bonds, running fifty years, for the retirement of all government legal tenders in circulation. To replace these legal tenders he recommended that national banks be allowed to issue bank-notes up to the par value of the bonds held by them. As a sop to silver, it is proposed that no bank-note of less than ten dollars shall hereafter be issued, but silver certificates of small denominations shall be used in their stead.

It soon became apparent that a bill embodying the president's proposals for changing the currency system could not get through Congress. Public opinion does not favor the retirement of non-interest-bearing legal tender notes, and an enormous increase of the interest-bearing public debt. To maintain the gold reserve and provide for the deficiencies in the revenue, the administration has again resorted to an issue of bonds, under the Resumption act of 1875.

FARM AND FIRESIDE.

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FARM AND FIRESIDE,

Springfield, Ohio.

The Advertisers in this Paper.

We believe that all the advertisements in this paper are from reliable firms or business men, and do not intentionally or knowingly insert advertisements from any but reliable parties; if subscribers find any of them to be otherwise we should be glad to know it. Always mention this paper when answering advertisements, as advertisers often have different things advertised in several papers.

Catalogues. The nurserymen, seedsmen and florists who advertise in this paper wish to place their catalogues in the hands of all who raise garden and field crops, fruits and flowers.

Crimson Clover. This winter is severe enough to test thoroughly the hardness of crimson clover for northern latitudes. If it goes through safely, there is a large field of usefulness before it.

Pure, Clean Seeds. American seed-cleaning machinery has reached a high state of perfection. There is no longer any excuse for sowing foul clover or grass seeds. If the seeds offered on the market are not free from dirt, trash and weed seeds, the seller is not living up to his opportunities; neither is the seed-sower, if he does not refuse to buy them. It is a losing business to buy and sow weed seeds. The choicest, cleanest seed is the cheapest. Within the past few years the quality of the highest grades of clover and grass seeds offered for sale has been greatly improved. Low grades are still on the market. "Qualities will be furnished to suit the intelligence and conscience of the buyers." These low grades of grass and clover seeds are not fit to be sown. Seed-sowers cannot afford to accept them as a gift.

Crushed Stone for Roadways. A contributor to the Chicago Tribune says: "Our gravel-beds,

which a few years ago supplied us with excellent gravel for road purposes, have gradually degenerated to cobblestone. Something had to be done, and our commission purchased a crusher and put it going on this stone. They hired a traction-engine at five dollars a day to furnish power.

"We crushed a yard of stone every five minutes. Six shovelers fed the crusher. The material was elevated into the wagons, therefore but one handling was required. The advantages over the old way of road-making in this locality were almost too numerous to mention. We can keep our pit in the best possible shape and leave it in that condition for the next time. With a little headwork by the commissioner in immediate control, teams need not wait

thirty seconds for a chance to load. Under the old way there was too often two to five teams at three dollars a day standing still waiting for others to be loaded. There is no time wasted in throwing stones back at the pit or raking them out of the road after being hauled on. Generally they are not raked out at all.

"A crushed-stone road is far superior to the ordinary gravel road and easier kept in repair. As a matter of fact, we now build a crushed-stone road cheaper than we did a gravel road."

Koebeler's Resin Wash. The Oregon experiment station reports successful tests with Koebeler's resin wash, and indorses it as better in many respects than kerosene emulsion. It is made according to the following recipe: Resin, four pounds; carbonate of soda (common washing-soda), three pounds; water, one gallon; boil together until all the resin is dissolved, and then add gradually four gallons of warm water, stirring all the time, and continue the boiling until the mixture is the color of molasses. For woolly-aphis use one part of wash to six parts of water; for all other kinds of plant-lice use one part wash to ten or twelve parts of water. The latter solution is strong enough to kill the plant-lice, and yet not injure the beneficial insects which feed upon the plant-lice. This wash is used in the same way as kerosene emulsion.

Transplanting to Country Homes. There is some demand in the country for the surplus labor of the city. Some of the unemployed in the city are able and willing to do farm work. To assist them in finding situations is the object of the Chicago Bureau of Labor and Transportation. The *Inter-Ocean* says:

"The work of transplanting unemployed or poorly employed individuals and families from congested centers of population into agricultural districts, which was begun and successfully prosecuted last spring under the auspices of the Civic Federation of Chicago, is now resumed under the same superintendent by the Bureau of Labor and Transportation. A large percentage of the unemployed, both male and female, are willing to go, and there can come to them no boon so great as to be thus transplanted. In such work many become farm help, many tenants, many purchasers on the installment plan, and some go to colonize or on homesteads. The work is a help to self-help. It converts consumers into producers. The bureau is a bit of inexpensive machinery which stands as an intermediary between the men who seek and the men who offer employment, between individuals also and railroad corporations, and so arranges matters on a mutual benefit basis that neither the one nor the other is conscious of either receiving or giving 'charity,' and yet it is philanthropic in a very true and broad sense."

Any one having an opening for work of any kind should address the secretary, John Visser, 719-167 Dearborn St., Chicago.

Instruction in Dairying at the Ohio State University. The dairy laboratory which has been recently equipped for instruction in butter-making and cheese-making, was opened January 2d, and instruction is now being given to forty students.

In addition to the practical work in dairying, there is given instruction in milk chemistry, in dairy bacteriology, in veterinary medicine, and on the breeds, selection, food, care and management of dairy cattle, and upon butter-making and cheese-making.

There are a great many creameries in Ohio idle or barely struggling to maintain themselves. There are different reasons for this condition of affairs in many localities, but in many cases not the least of the causes is the lack of a thorough knowledge of the business by the operator of the creamery or factory. This difficulty the dairy school is trying to rectify by training young men thoroughly for their work. A number of young men in the course have already had considerable experience in butter-making, and with the training they get at the dairy school will be competent to take full charge of creameries.

In the school of agriculture there are eighty-five students, many of whom are receiving training fitting them in other lines than dairying, such as stock farming,

gardening and fruit raising. Not all of these men are seeking positions, as many already have satisfactory arrangements in view, but some are. The university would therefore be glad to have correspondence with those who wish to employ men trained in butter-making, dairy farming, stock farming, gardening or fruit raising. Letters may be addressed to Prof. Thomas F. Hunt, Columbus, Ohio.

NOTES ON RURAL AFFAIRS.

With a Grain of Salt. I am fully aware of the great importance of potash in agriculture. My voice has often been heard in advocacy of the freer use of potash for fruit and garden crops, especially also of kainite in the stables, and of additions of kainite or muriate of potash to stable manure. I have always felt that I could not be too emphatic in recommending these ingredients for these uses. In fruit growing, indeed, I would under no consideration try to reach highest success without liberal applications of potash in some form. It seems to me that the parties who push the sale of potash salts in this country should have been satisfied with the legitimate help they got from me in this incidental way, without taking liberties with my name.

Unwarranted Statements. Just at present these parties are sending a circular communication (signed V. J. Lance, and I suppose bona fide) to every agricultural and horticultural paper in the land, with the request to publish it. This communication booms potash. It starts in very innocently, thus: "There is money in raising onions, if you know how to grow 2,000 bushels on one acre." Who would doubt this? There is money in potatoes, if you know how to raise 500 bushels to the acre; money in wheat, if you know how to raise 50 bushels to the acre; money in other crops, if you know how to obtain correspondingly high yields. The next sentence in the article is the one I object to most, on personal grounds; it runs thus: "Mr. Greiner, of La Salle, Niagara county, N. Y., one of the most successful onion growers in the United States, has grown 2,000 bushels of onions to the acre, and as it is no secret, he tells how it is done." As the communication is printed in many papers, it gives me a great deal of free advertising, and surely will increase the sales of my "New Onion Culture." Perhaps I ought to be thankful to the boomers of potash, but I am not. As a result of the circular communication, I am in receipt of more letters of inquiry than ever, and I am extremely busy just now. But it hurts me most to think the reader will be very liable to infer that my "2,000 bushel crop" was the result of potash applications, and that I indorse all those statements and conclusions of V. J. Lance.

Big Crops. Any one who can grow 2,000 bushels of onions, or 500 bushels of potatoes, or 50 bushels of wheat per acre, deserves to be called "one of the most successful growers" of onions, potatoes or wheat, as the case may be. Yet I do not make any claims as to the title. While I have grown onions on a small scale at the rate of 2,000 bushels per acre, I am not a professional onion grower, and seldom plant more than one fourth of an acre. While I have grown potatoes at the rate of nearly 500 bushels per acre, I have never done so on a patch much larger than one eighth of an acre. I have to grow a good many different things, and cannot devote so much space to any one vegetable. Let no one suppose, however, that it is very easy to grow 2,000 bushels of onions, or 500 bushels of potatoes, or other crops in proportion, per acre. The conditions have to be just right. The soil must be good and rich. A drought is liable to cut down the crop considerably, and blight, if it happens to come early, may cut your big crop in two. The first year his neighbor's crop did not come up to expectations, so V. J. Lance tells us. "Instead of gathering 2,000 bushels to the acre, he reaped only about 650 or 700 bushels." For a first venture, however, I think this is not bad. It is just about equal to what I had left last year, after drought and mildew got through with their work. In short, 600 bushels of onions is about the minimum crop that I usually secure under the most unfavorable conditions; but this yield is due to the new onion culture, and by no means to potash.

Humus

the Secret. The kernel in the coconut may be found in the following account: "He selected a patch of good loam, with much humus, but otherwise favorable to the growth of onions. The previous crops had been potatoes, peas, tomatoes and corn, but principally potatoes. He had read about the system of green manuring, so he had them (?) plowed under, in order to obtain a large amount of nitrogen." What did he have plowed under? Surely not the potatoes, tomatoes, etc. Possibly the peas; but I think more likely that it was a crop of clover. Here, then, are the primary conditions: 1. A good loam with much humus (and why should this not be favorable to the growth of onions, or almost any other crop?) 2. A crop of clover, or other green manure, plowed under. We may well suppose that this soil is now abundantly provided with nitrogen, and in best mechanical condition beside.

'Now that "neighbor" makes an application for the second year; namely, 135 pounds of muriate of potash, 200 pounds of acid phosphate, and lime (quantity not stated). This is just about what I would apply in such cases, especially when I do not have plenty of old compost on hand. Possibly I might increase the potash application to 200 or 250 pounds, especially on light soil. Possibly I might use wood ashes (when I have them). But on the whole, this method of manuring is right in principle, and involves only a small outlay. It furnishes the necessary mineral plant-foods, leaving it to the humus already in the soil, and to the clover and to the stimulating (chemical) effect of the lime on this carbonaceous and nitrogenous matter to furnish the needed nitrogen.

A Correct Principle. I say this method of manuring is based on correct principles, whether the crop to be grown is onions, potatoes, corn, wheat, or any other. Why should we apply the costly nitrogen, when the soil, by previous manuring and plowing under of green crops, already contains an abundance of it, and when by lime applications we can assist the natural nitrification in the soil to such an extent as to furnish all the available nitrogen that even the most nitrogen-hungry crops can use? The use of cheap mineral plant-foods easily solves the problem of profitable manuring. I am not so very particular about the form in which they are given, so long as the plant-foods are in a fairly soluble state. Wood ashes, where they can be obtained cheap enough, easily stand at the head. They furnish potash in the best possible form, also a small percentage of phosphoric acid, and the bulk in lime. Where ashes are not to be had, muriate of potash will supply potash, and acid phosphate (dissolved South Carolina rock), or other superphosphates, will provide phosphoric acid both, in an economical way. That neighbor's onion-patch, with this kind of manuring, gave a crop of 1,200 bushels this year to the acre.

A Warning. In the concluding paragraph of V. J. Lance's article, however, the hoof of the potash boom becomes very visible. He says: "The onion crop does not need heavy nitrogenous manures, except on very poor soils; but it should have a liberal amount of potash fertilization." I hope my friends will not fall into this trap. The exception should be made very much broader; for instance, heavy applications of nitrogen are not needed on soils already abundantly provided with it, such as muck or clover fed lands. Such manures as ashes, phosphates or superphosphates, and kainite, muriate of potash, etc., are just the thing for reclaimed swamp lands; not only to grow onions, but almost any other crop. They also go well together with clover. In fact, it is now quite generally understood that in clover and mineral manures we have the surest and usually cheapest means of improving the fertility as well as the mechanical condition of our soils. But don't imagine that potash is the only thing needed to bring a big yield of onions or any other crop. I have soil that is in a pretty good state of fertility, but I can usually make it yield by far the best garden crops when applying a top-dressing of hen manure. By this I sometimes get double the yield which I can secure from potash alone. My advice, therefore, is, take these statements of potash boomers with a grain of salt; although I confess that there is a place for potash, and that it is good in its place. T. GREINER.

Our Farm.

SMALL FRUITS FOR PROFIT.

THE money lies in the small things instead of the large ones; especially so in berries and other choice, well-ripened fruits which cannot be shipped to a distant market. The demand for home-grown, ripe, fresh fruit is increasing yearly. It is difficult for many persons to realize that from a single acre of small fruits there may be grown from four to five hundred dollars' worth when retailed near home.

The most profitable varieties of the small fruits are the strawberry, raspberry and blackberry. The yield of strawberries ranges from an average crop of seventy-five to three hundred bushels to the acre. Two hundred may be safely counted on if one has good varieties and good soil. As seven cents per quart is considered an average price, not less than \$500 per acre ought to be realized by the successful strawberry grower.

The raspberry, considering its hardness and productiveness, comes next in point of profit to the strawberry. The yield on land that will produce from forty to fifty bushels of corn to the acre, should not be less than 1,600 quarts to the acre the second year after planting, to 3,200 quarts on and after the third year from planting. This yield, at seven cents per quart, would be a very profitable one. The yield per acre of the Wilson Early and Kittatiny blackberries equals that of the raspberries, and is equally profitable. The estimated duration of a strawberry-patch is three years, while that of the raspberry and blackberry is from twelve to fifteen years. There is really but little danger of oversupplying the home market, for if the prices should fall below six or seven cents a quart, the bush berries can be dried (evaporated), and a good profit realized in that way.

Near Washington, D. C. W. M. K.

TEXAS FEVER IN HAMBURG.

Editorial remarks of the *Berliner Thierärztliche Wochenschrift*:

Newspapers now report that the director of the Hamburger slaughter-house, Mr. Boysen, and State Veterinarian Vollers have been in England, and that in England, according to the information received, no attention whatever is paid to Texas fever, and that on account of that disease the importation of cattle is not interfered with.

From this the newspapers draw the hope that the embargo will soon be removed.

This may be in the interest of Hamburg, but it is not in the interest of German cattle raising. Therefore, one is justified in hoping for the reverse (that the embargo will not be raised).

The embargo is divided in two parts. The first applies to an importation of live cattle, and the second to the importation of meat. Whether the importation of live cattle will and must be permanently prohibited on account of the Texas fever, is a question by itself.

Of far more importance is the importation of meat. And since with the prohibition once a beginning has been made, it is perhaps the proper time to draw attention to it that this prohibition should be made general and permanent; not for reasons of veterinary police, but for a consequent maintenance of the principles of sanitary police, which are so strictly observed toward the home meat production.

Against political interests technical knowledge must be silent. Whether the former are now prevailing is, however, not known.

It does not appear possible to us that any one who advocates, and is acquainted with the home meat inspection, can recommend an importation of foreign meat.

It is an undeniable contradiction that the home meat producers are burdened with considerable losses caused by an expensive meat control, if at the same time foreign meats, concerning which a control is out of the question, are admitted free.

The home meat inspection not only has the object to remove (condemn) what is beyond a doubt injurious to health, and what is spoiled or decayed, but it also relegates large quantities of other meat to the "freibank" (auction-block where it is sold as inferior meat), and even to the (public) cooking apparatus, which thereby only retain a fraction of the value (of good meat).

It may perhaps be very desirable that

thereby certain classes of the population of a large city are provided with cheap meat. But it must be kept in mind that this is done at the expense of another part of the population.

What remains of the value of a head of cattle (steer or cow) that has been condemned to the cooking apparatus?

In a large city one sixth, and in a small city or village much less, because there meat relegated to the "freibank," or to the cooking apparatus—especially if it is the latter—is often unsalable.

Is it not, perhaps, a contradiction without parallel that a first-class home-bred steer, if only a cystworm is found in its mesenter, is condemned to the cooking apparatus, and thus loses five sixths of its original value, while American meat, imported without those parts, head and heart, the only ones on which the presence of cystworm (*Tenia mediocanellata*) can be determined, is admitted without any control whatever? That beyond (in America) head and heart of every butchered animal are examined for cystworm, nobody knows, and nobody would (if it is claimed) take any stock in it.

Now then, if the meat injurious to health is not surely excluded, how much less can it be supposed that meat which at home would be relegated to the "freibank" (official auction-block) is excluded from exportation. If they in America are not very scrupulous in regard to the meat sold for home consumption, it must be supposed that they are far less so in regard to what is exported. [They are much more careful in regard to the meat exported than in regard to what is sold for home consumption. In fact, the worst is thrown upon the home market.—*The Translator*.]

FEEDING WHEAT.

Wheat and corn are so near the same price in the principal markets of our country, I feel disposed to state briefly some of my experience with wheat as a feed for horses and hogs.

Ten years ago I began feeding wheat to my work-horses, and did so from the fact that I had some idea of the food elements contained in both corn and wheat, and believed, at the then existing price in our local market, that wheat was the cheaper. My expectations were so well realized that I have since then fed hundreds of bushels of wheat.

For horses I find the most satisfactory results in feeding it coarsely ground and mixed with short-cut corn fodder or hay dampened. Thus fed I can get as much muscle and flesh from one bushel as from two bushels of corn fed in the ear. While for young pigs, one bushel of coarsely ground wheat, made into a slop and fed while sweet, will give me as much bone and flesh as will two bushels of corn fed in the ear.

For making pork out of shoats from eight to ten months old, I consider one bushel of coarsely ground wheat equal to one and a third bushels of ear corn, and with hogs of three years' growth, equal corn, bushel for bushel.

In feeding it pays to coarse-grind. I use a corn-crusher. I have fed it unground, dry and soaked, and finely ground, but find best results from a given quantity when ground about like a coarse article of corn-meal.

D. T. STEPHENSON.

Indiana.

LARGE EXPORTS OF SHEEP FROM CANADA.

A remarkable increase took place last year in the quantity of sheep and horses imported from Canada. A trans-atlantic authority claims that the number of sheep sent from the port of Montreal, up to the 30th of September, was 90,754, as compared with 4,000 last year. There has since been a full month of open navigation, so that in all probability the imports of Canadian sheep will, during 1894, be a little short of the highest on record, which was 93,850 in 1886. In view of this fact it is at first sight not very easy to understand the enhanced value of sheep in this country; but an examination of the recently issued agricultural returns makes the problem less difficult. There are this year fewer sheep in Great Britain than there were in 1893 by 1,418,834 head, and fewer in Ireland by 316,343 head. The Canadian imports, therefore, do not come within measurable distance of supplying the shortage in Irish sheep, and 91,000 imported are but a small proportion of the gross shortage over the whole United Kingdom, which is 1,737,006. There is in this, therefore, an encouragement to breeders of sheep to persevere. If they rear good mutton, they will find a market, for the public taste at present would

learn to prefer mutton to beef.—*Farming World, Edinburgh, Scotland, November 2, 1894.*

Apropos of the above, a well-informed gentleman asks: "What does this mean? Great Britain losing one and three fourths million of sheep in one year and prices advancing the while? How does Canada afford to sell sheep to England (presumably at some profit), while the United States farmers insist they can't keep sheep at all?"

"If beef can be made at a profit, why need money be lost on mutton, which brings the same price? This leaving wool out of the account altogether.

"A stock-yard's man told me a short time ago that railroads had declined to bring sheep from Montana and some other far-off localities, unless freight was paid in advance. This was due to the fact that many loads had been refused at Chicago by commission men, because freight charges could not be realized from sales. Meanwhile, good mutton sheeps are bringing fair prices.

"Now, as you know everything about sheep, and much about sheepmen, lend me your light, for I feel that I am not able to account for the status as here outlined."

The situation is quite confusing, and with the unsettled state of affairs prevailing not alone in this country, but elsewhere, there can be no accounting for the strangeness of the sheep business. There will soon come an adjustment to new and somewhat odd conditions, and harmony will again prevail. In the meantime we must wait.

R. M. BELL.

CORN AND SQUASHES.

These two crops grow well together if given heavy fertilization, and under good conditions prove fairly remunerative. The writer has found excellent demand for his sweet-corn in a neighboring city market. It is endeavored to peddle the ears to the consumers, taking care to pick them while sweet and tender and to deliver them while still fresh. This makes a great difference. Sweet-corn allowed to stand in a store a day or two rapidly depreciates, and people are not satisfied with these tough, tasteless kernels. An acre of sweet-corn, selling at ten to twelve cents per dozen ears, should give receipts of seventy-five to one hundred dollars, and a large quantity of stalks besides. The stocks are a big item of themselves. For horses, cattle and sheep they are as good as an equal weight of timothy hay, if some care is used to cure them quickly and store after the manner followed with the hay crop.

The squashes bring a good price, especially if facilities exist so they may be kept until well into the winter or until early spring. We have found a good, snug cellar where there is a furnace fire to afford a good "squash-house." The squash will bear a higher temperature than vegetables; it is very susceptible to the cold. Corn and squashes both are great feeders and delight particularly in liberal quantities of barn and stable manures. In planting, either make every third row all squash or sow a squash hill at intervals of eight feet in every third row of corn.

M. SUMNER PERKINS.

PICKED POINTS.

To encourage sheep husbandry in Alabama, I hear from a representative that the legislature is to attempt, at the present session, to pass a stringent dog law. As that is one of the best states in the union for sheep growing, and as the planters see the desirability of encouraging the industry, and as nine tenths of the worthless curs are owned by irresponsible negroes, it is believed there will be little trouble in enacting a dog-tax law, the tax to be set apart to reimburse those who might lose sheep by truant dogs.

But to make such a law effective it should be mandatory upon the constables, and permissible by anybody, to slaughter any dog found off its owner's premises, unaccompanied by him, and upon which the tax has not been paid. Unless it is the duty of some officer to kill such dogs, the law would be ineffectual. For such service he should be allowed a fee of one dollar. A tax of one dollar for males and three dollars for females would be about right. Few negroes could pay this, and their dogs would have to go. Half-starved dogs of poor people are the ones that commit most depredations. In the event of a dog law being enacted, a distinguishing collar should be prescribed for the dog to wear, and it be made a misdemeanor to mitate it.

A novelty in the Chicago live-stock

market the other day was two bunches of steers, averaging just about twelve months of age, and in weight, plumply 1,200 pounds. They brought about six dollars a hundred, or fully seventy dollars each. This is positive testimony of the increasing tendency in the country to push meat animals from start to finish, with all the force there is in feed and care to do it, and to make the finish at as early a date as possible. 1,200 pounds is not far from the usual weight of steers at three years of age. There cannot help being great gain in shortening the time two thirds from birth to the butcher. The same rule is now applied largely to pigs, and in a greatly lessened measure to lambs. The problem of producing meat in the quickest time possible is worthy the attention of all.

Your Alabama correspondent, C. J. O'H., (January 1st) speaks of cheap lands and numerous good business openings in his locality, and wonders why more people do not go South to live. The reason is the residents take no pains to let the outside world know what good things they have to offer. In his recent message to the legislature, Governor Oates recommended encouragement of immigration, and a bill to that effect will certainly pass this winter. Northern immigrants (and not European) are what they desire. As to "opportunities," they are as plentiful as blackberries, and in every part of the state. Farms that can be made very fertile with cow-peas, crimson clover and good cultivation, can be purchased for four to six dollars an acre, and most of them have buildings ready for occupancy. Several I know can be purchased and be paid for with half the crops grown. A butter-factory is wanted at a county-seat of several thousand inhabitants. A vacant distillery building can be used for the purpose. The county officers are all white Republicans.

Everyone living in a cold section of country, in hilly and mountainous localities, knows that after a thaw and subsequent freezing, where the road track is sidling, it is very dangerous to drive over it with a team, whether the vehicle be sleigh or common wagon. It is liable to slide off into the ditch, or perhaps down the hill or mountain side, and drag the team with it. At such seasons few venture to do business upon such roads. This trouble is worst in springtime, when the snow is going off daytimes and the ground freezing nights. A few years ago I was pleased to observe, among the Catskill mountains, how some log-drawers obviated the danger. Their vehicle was a sort of wagon-frame built upon four old mowing-machine wheels. The elevations on the tires prevented the curious wagon from slipping in any direction. I was being conveyed by a liveryman in a cutter. We had to wait until the load of logs passed a very dangerous spot. The surface of the road-bed was a glare of ice, and it stood at an angle of about thirty degrees. To slide off that road meant to drop down a precipice of about one hundred feet, and land in the raging waters of the east branch of the Delaware river. I asked the driver how we were to cross. He replied: "I will show you; you take the reins." He pulled an old overcoat from under the seat, put it on, went behind the sleigh, laid down, and then said, "Drive on." Looking over the back of the cutter I saw that he laid on his back, with a hand grasped to each rear brace of the vehicle. Then, as the horses were sharp-shod, I had no hesitancy in making the passage, which was easily and safely done. The "drag" saved us.

GALEN WILSON.

Increasing Sales

Prove beyond any question the peculiar virtues of Hood's Sarsaparilla. People take medicine because they are sick and want to get well. Therefore, they get Hood's Sarsaparilla, which purifies the blood, and in this way removes disease and fortifies the system against its attacks.

Hood's Sarsaparilla

"I was all run down, weak and nervous, could not sleep. Every morning I rose with terrible headache. I suffered with neuralgia. Seeing Hood's Sarsaparilla advertised, I thought I would try it. I took three bottles, and I can enjoy my food and I sleep well." Mrs. JAMES GLOVER, Greenwich, Conn.

Hoods Pills cure all liver ills, constipation, biliousness, sick headache, indigestion.

Our Farm.

FROM FIELD AND GARDEN.

MORE SEED CATALOGUES.—Every mail now brings in additions to our crop of seed and plant catalogues. Of more than usual interest to potato growers is that sent out by the E. F. Dibble Seed Co., of Honeoye Falls, N. Y., who catalogue and offer for sale no less than two hundred and seven varieties of seed potatoes. A prominent feature of the catalogue is its photo-engravings of fields of some of the leading sorts; but unfortunately these pictures are not as clear as they might be, and in some instances meaningless. One of the early sorts spoken of in this catalogue is the Polaris, as "next to the Freeman, the very best early white potato." I have grown



POTATO SPROUTS.

the Polaris for a number of years, and think highly of it. But when you have this, there is no use trying the Early Puritan, which this firm says is "very similar to the Polaris in every respect;" or when you have the Early Puritan, there is no use trying the Polaris. I found the two so nearly alike that I was unable to see any difference in plant, tuber, time of ripening, or any other way. It is a good early potato under whichever name you grow it, and thoroughly reliable. The Freeman is called "without question the finest eating potato on the list. Especially adapted to rich, moist land or soil that is heavily manured or fertilized." All of which is true.

HIGHLY PRAISED POTATOES.—Carman No. 1 I have already mentioned in last issue. The Honeoye firm quotes it at twenty dollars per barrel, showing that this new potato is also highly priced, as it is surely highly prized by all who have tasted it. Another potato that is lauded to the skies just now is Irish Daisy. The Dibble Seed Co. is the one who sold the stock of this to Wm. H. Maulé. The originators say, "This is truly a great potato. It has a skin that is pure white, the tubers are round to oblong in shape, perhaps not as good form as some other varieties, but still they will sell upon the market as Burbank or White Star. They ripen with the Rural New-Yorker No. 2 and potatoes of that class, but are enormous yielders." In my own tests I found them of exceptionally strong growth, resisting drought and disease to a remarkable degree, and if their shape were more perfect, I think they would be a very satisfactory potato all around. Mr. A. I. Root (Medina, O.) booms the Craig potato, an Ohio production, as something way above the ordinary average, and his enthusiastic statements in regard to it have tempted me to give the new thing a trial, although I do not propose to test every novelty in potatoes that is offered. There are by far too many of them to make it profitable. So I only select what I consider the cream.

PROPAGATING HIGH-PRICED POTATOES.—At present prices of some of these novelties, the ordinary grower cannot be expected to purchase them by the quantity. Many who like to test new potatoes will have to be satisfied with a pound or so of Carman No. 1, Carman No. 3, Irish Daisy, Craig and others. In that case, however, the grower will wish to make the most of his seed. I have already told (in a previous article) that by starting a part of my peck of Carman No. 1 under glass last year, and then

setting the plants (sprouts) in open ground in May, I managed to raise nearly ten bushels of that variety, and this under the most unfavorable conditions imaginable. That yield might easily have been doubled. Mr. Root, in *Gleanings*, talks about this forced style of propagation so interestingly that I must quote a sentence or two. He says: "At the present value of the Craig potato—\$5 a bushel—it can be grown under glass at a profit. I have raised potatoes under sashes, more or less, for several years back. They are one of the easiest plants to manage I ever had anything to do with, with a single exception—you must not let them freeze. Under glass, however, the ground seldom freezes, and the principal damage is done to the tops. I have had very good success in growing potatoes under glass. Now if you get a peck of potatoes under a sash—and I think it can be easily done—this new Craig seedling is worth, at present writing, \$1.75 per peck, and this would pay very well. Furthermore, if you plant them now, you could get potatoes ready to plant again in May or June."

I am not quite so sanguine about being able to raise a peck under a sash. If I could, I think I would want to plant a good many sashes, and try to raise true, second-crop seed potatoes. But what Mr. Root says about potatoes being easy plants to manage is certainly true. If you take your pound of one or more of these costly novelties, and along in February plant them, halved and placed cut-side down, in a box standing in a sunny window, or in a hotbed or greenhouse bench, using very rich soil, the tubers will soon sprout and you can pull the sprouts as fast as they appear and pot them off, or set them in old strawberry-boxes or flats as I do. Each sprout will make a hill, and you can thus make quite a number of hills from one single pound of potatoes. The accompanying sketch shows one of the sprouts just right for pulling and potting off. This sprout has already an abundance of feeding roots, and when set in fine, rich soil, will be well able to take care of itself without suffering the least inconvenience or set back. It is very essential, however, that we use the very best of potting soil, since we must try to save the strength of the mother tuber as much as is possible, and make the young sprouts draw as large a share of sustenance from the soil as we can possibly induce them to do. We want the plants strong and stalky and able to grow right along when set in open ground, and produce a heavy crop. For the same reasons we will select the very best ground we have at command, and spare no pains to give it the very best preparation and manuring.

SECOND-CROP SEED POTATOES.—In the various trials I made last season for the purpose of raising my own second-crop seed potatoes I have been at least partially successful. I have a small quantity of well-developed tubers that were grown from Early Rose seed obtained from the South in August. It was along in August when I received the seed, and ventured to plant a few tubers. The plants did not make their appearance above ground until along in September, but as killing frosts held off until November, they had a chance to set and develop a fair yield of tubers. These are genuine second-crop, and will be tried against the first-crop seed. In a similar way I have grown second-crop from my own home-grown first crop of Early Ohio potatoes, so that I shall be able to test the superiority of second-crop seed to my own satisfaction. In the meantime I propose to try growing an early first crop under glass, to have them ready for planting in good season for growing a second crop.

A NEW ONION.—A neat, tasty and quite complete catalogue is that sent out by W. Atlee Burpee & Co., of Philadelphia. The most noteworthy novelty I notice in it is the Gibraltar onion, a new gigantic variety from Spain. In the trials made at Fordhook, no other variety approached it in size or weight. It is said to be similar in appearance to the American-grown Prizetaker onion, but lighter in color and larger in size. Of course, we will have to try this new wonder from Spain.

T. GREINER.

The Ohio State Horticultural Society will meet at Toledo, February 20 and 21, 1895. Programs can be obtained by application to the secretary, W. W. Farnsworth, Waterville, Ohio.

Orchard and Small Fruits.

CONDUCTED BY SAMUEL B. GREEN.

QUESTION:—Which is the most suitable land for strawberries, sand or loam?

ANSWER:—I prefer a rather heavy open loam, because our strawberry crop suffers most from drought at the season of maturity, and it suffers less on a strong land under good cultivation than it does upon sand. But sandy land will produce most excellent strawberries, providing it can be kept moist. Heavy land needs constant cultivation to keep it in best condition.

QUESTION:—What makes the best wind-break for prairie planting, aside from evergreen? Is there a good one that does not scatter twigs?

ANSWER:—I think for a general-purpose wind-break on the prairies there is perhaps nothing better than the white willow. I do not know of any tree but what will drop some twigs when they are growing close together, after they have become a few years old.

QUESTION:—What is the name of the worm that generally attacks the currant-bushes? We have some currant-bushes, and they are attacked by a worm that eats both the leaves and the berries. We want to know how to get rid of them.

ANSWER:—These worms are the larvae of the currant saw-fly. The eggs from which they grow are laid upon the under side of the leaves near the midribs (1—Fig. 2), and when they hatch, the young worms eat their



FIG. 1.—CURRANT SAW-FLY.

way through the leaves, making holes in them (2 and 3—Fig. 2). Later on, they move to other leaves, and as they grow, eat large quantities of food. Hot water is a very simple remedy where there are few bushes. A little experience will show one how hot the water should be, so as to have it kill the worms and yet not hurt the bushes. The large currant growers use Paris green and water in about the same proportions as for the potato-beetle. White hellebore is also used at the rate of one ounce to the gallon of water. Either one of these remedies is effective. They are both poisonous substances, and should be used with some care; but if the currants are green when the worms are noticed, either of these poisons may be used with impunity. They should not, however, be used after the fruit begins to turn red. In such a



FIG. 2.

case as the latter it will be better to wait a few days until the fruit is ripe. Gather the fruit and apply the poison at once. There are two broods of these insects, and the second brood, which generally comes after the fruit has been gathered, is frequently neglected, and the neglect of this afterbrood is often responsible for the damage done the following year. It is very important to keep the bushes healthy after they have matured their fruit, so that they can mature their wood and fruit-buds for the next year; and they cannot be kept in this condition unless these insects are kept off the bushes.

INQUIRIES ANSWERED

BY SAMUEL B. GREEN.

Grafting Grapes—Best Plums—Hardy Pears.—O. S. R., New Cassel, Wis. Grafting the grape may be done by cleft-grafting the same, as in the apple, but it should be done very early in the spring, even before the frost is out of the ground. The union should be made below the surface of the ground, and all but one bud of the scion covered with earth. It is not nearly so certain as grafting the apple.—The best plums for you to plant are DeSoto, Forest Garden, Weaver and Wolf.—You might grow the Flemish Beauty pear in a small way in some favorable location. Several of the Russian pears are hardy enough, but are liable to blight.

Gall-mites.—J. R. E., Industry, Pa., writes: "Inclosed find twigs from Damson plums. My

entire young orchard of four hundred trees, and all trees in this section, are affected with this minute gall, or mite, which evidently saps the vitality of the fruit-buds. What can I spray with before the buds swell in the spring, that will destroy them?"

REPLY:—For the information of readers, it is here stated that the twigs received are very much dwarfed, and the new growth is covered with small, gall-like swellings. The galls are made by a very minute mite, which winters over in the egg stage in the down of the buds. They hatch about the time that growth commences, and commence work on the new wood, where their presence starts an outgrowth of the bark, which finally covers them over, and thus is formed gall-like swellings. Each of these swellings has a hole at the apex. In these swellings the young are produced and mature. Dr. Otto Suggar, the well-known entomologist, says that the buds should be sprayed in the spring, just as they start into growth, with kerosene emulsion, to be repeated shortly afterward, when it is seen that new swellings are being formed on the new growth.

Trimming Apple-trees—Wood Ashes.—M. F., St. Joe, Mo. In good apple sections apple-trees may safely be pruned during mild days in the latter part of the winter, before growth starts, but in most of the western states, and in severe localities generally, it is best to prune about the first of June.—Wood ashes should be put around trees in spring. As much as thirty bushels per acre is not too much, but good results may be obtained from a much smaller quantity. It is a good plan to cultivate the ashes into the ground as the orchard is worked, and all orchards should be cultivated at least every few years. They should not become sod-bound.—Do not think it necessary to do much pruning to apple-trees. If, as you suggest, the dead limbs and water-sprouts are cut out, it is about all that is desirable in the line of pruning. Besides this, it may be a good plan to cut out a few straggling or interlocking limbs.

Black-heart Borers.—F. O., Watervale, Mich., writes: "Please explain the cause of nursery stock being black-hearted. I have some planted. Would it pay to throw them away and reset with good ones?—We have been planting apple-trees quite extensively in this part of the country, from a number of different nurseries, and are meeting with heavy losses from the borers. Would like information as to whether they are in the trees before leaving the nursery or not. How long does it take the grub to mature, etc.?"

REPLY:—Black-heart in nursery trees is probably caused by some severe climatic trouble which injures the tree. It is not always, and perhaps is not generally seriously injurious. I have seen many trees that were black-hearted when young, but had outgrown the injury. I never should set black-hearted trees if I could do better, but neither would I dig up trees because they were in this condition, if they were growing fairly well. If they were not growing well and were stunted, I would dig them up and plant anew.—The borers undoubtedly enter the trees after you get them from the nursery. I cannot be sure about the borer that injures your trees, as there are two well-known kinds. But it is probably the flat-headed borer, and remains in the trees one season. The eggs are laid by a striped beetle during the summer months, and are fastened under the loose scales of the bark, where they soon hatch, and the young larvae eat their way into the tree. Healthy trees are less liable to injury than those that are sickly. All trees should be examined early in the fall, and the borers cut out. Their burrows may be detected by the discolored bark over them. The borers may be kept out by using soft or hard soap on the tree trunks and crotches during the months of June, July and August. It is very repellent to the beetle. A piece of hard soap tied in the crotch of each tree will probably be washed down the trunks sufficiently to keep them out. It must, however, be looked after in very dry weather.

ON THE ROAD



to recovery, the young woman who is taking Doctor Pierce's Favorite Prescription. In maidenhood, womanhood, wifehood and motherhood the "Prescription" is a supporting tonic and nerve that's peculiarly adapted to her

needs, regulating, strengthening and curing the derangements of the sex. Why is it

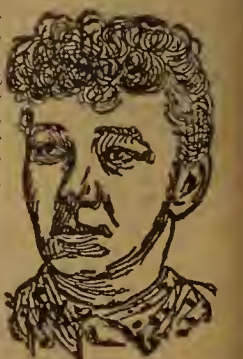
so many women owe their beauty to Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription? Because beauty of form and face radiate from the common center—health. The best bodily condition results from good food, fresh air and exercise coupled with the judicious use of the "Prescription."

If there be headache, pain in the back, bearing-down sensations, or general debility, or if there be nervous disturbance, nervous prostration, and sleeplessness, the "Prescription" reaches the origin of the trouble and corrects it. It dispels aches and pains, corrects displacements and cures catarrhal inflammation of the lining membranes, falling of the womb, ulceration, irregularities and kindred maladies.

"FALLING OF WOMB."

MRS. FRANK CAMFIELD, of East Dickinson, Franklin Co., N. Y., writes: "I deem it my duty to express my deep, heart-felt gratitude to you for having been the means, under Providence, of restoring me to health, for I have been by spells unable to walk. My troubles were of the womb—inflammatory and bearing-down sensations and the doctors all said, they could not cure me.

Twelve bottles of Dr. Pierce's Wonderful Favorite Prescription has cured me."



MRS. CAMFIELD.

SOUTH ATLANTIC ORCHARD AND FARM NOTES.

The North Carolina experimental station, at Raleigh, will issue soon a valuable educational bulletin on "Fruit Culture."

The market gardeners in the vicinity of Charleston, South Carolina, are rapidly increasing the acreage of late seed potatoes for northern planting.

No doubt the open winter weather in the cotton-growing states constitutes an inducement for the working farmer of the South to keep so constantly at work with his hands, that he reads too little, especially one or more good agricultural papers.

The unification of the work of the experiment stations in testing new fruits in the fruit-growing states, so that each year's experience can be summarized and the information disseminated, is likely to prove of inestimable value to the horticultural interests of the nation.

Stock raising in South Carolina, especially in the Piedmont or the northwestern section, ought to be profitable, owing to the luxuriant growth of clover and many grasses common to much colder climates.

No bulletin recently issued by the Department of Agriculture is likely to prove of so much real value to southern farmers as No. 20, entitled "Washed Soils," giving the methods of preventing and reclaiming them.

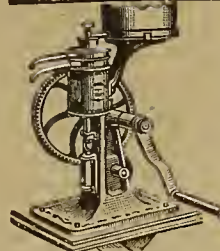
Probably the best practical remedy for eradicating one of the worst pests of southern agriculture, the nutgrass, is the following one: On every twenty or twenty-five acres keep not less than fifty sheep and seventy-five head of hogs, or a proportionate number on a smaller or larger tract.

The interest in poultry keeping all along the Atlantic sea-coast line is unabated. Fragmentary facts concerning the business, showing its profitableness, are being constantly collected by the press and widely disseminated.

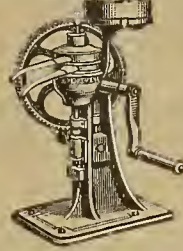
The Lightning Seed Sower, manufactured by Franzen & Buss, Golden, Ill., is something new, and from personal examination by our representative, we are informed it is a good device for the farmer to have.

The Lightning Seed Sower, manufactured by Franzen & Buss, Golden, Ill., is something new, and from personal examination by our representative, we are informed it is a good device for the farmer to have.

HAVE YOU FIVE OR MORE COWS?



If so a "Baby" Cream Separator will earn its cost for you every year. Why continue an inferior system another year at so great a loss?



THE DE LAVAL SEPARATOR CO., Branch Offices: ELGIN, ILL. General Offices: 74 CORTLANDT ST., NEW YORK.

EXTRACTS FROM CORRESPONDENCE.

FROM TENNESSEE.—Do you know any place where one would be justified in advising many to locate? I don't. But for those who have a little regular income, like rentals, pensions and the like, I know of no better place for health than on the Cumberland plateau.

FROM MONTANA.—We are in a prairie country, with mountains near us on the north and east. We get more snow in winter and more rain in summer near the mountains than those a few miles off.

FROM WASHINGTON.—Port Angeles has one of the finest harbors in the world. It is like that of Naples. It is the only one on the American side after entering the Straits of Fuca, sixty miles from the ocean.

FROM WASHINGTON.—The Pacific slope is just now attracting the attention of a great number of people both in the northern and eastern states.

FROM WASHINGTON.—The Pacific slope is just now attracting the attention of a great number of people both in the northern and eastern states. The Yakima valley, in eastern Washington, of which Kennewick, situated on the beautiful Columbia river, is the metropolis, is at the present time enjoying a season of prosperity.

HEADQUARTERS For true Second Crop Seed Irish Potatoes with New Blood.

Why pay the enormous prices of \$4 to \$6 per ounce for imported seed, when a better article can be had at home for less than half the money?

STRAWBERRIES AND FINE FRUIT

Do you intend planting any Strawberries, Raspberries, Blackberries or other small fruit plants, roses or novelties?

JAMES RIVER FARM

Containing 372 Acres, near Richmond. 185 acres productive bottom land. Frame house, 8 rooms, halls, porches and cellar.

THE POOR MAN'S CHANCE

HOMES 100,000 ACRES Choice Hardwood Farming Lands situated along the line of a new railroad now being constructed in central Wisconsin.

GRAPE VINES.

World. Small Fruits. Largest Stock in the new Red Jacket Gooseberry & Fay Currant.

NEW FLOWERS, Roses, Seeds and Bulbs packet each Sunshine Pansies, Dahl, Diadem Pinks, Fairy Poppies, Sweet Peas, Sweet Alyssum—5 pkts. and Catalog, only 10c.

850,000 GRAPE VINES

100 Varieties. Also Small Fruits, Trees, &c. Bestrooted stock. Genuine, cheap. 2 sample vines mailed for 10c.

DOLLARS FUN AND COMFORT

Hale's Book tells the story. Describes and prices Best Berries, Currants, Grapes, Asparagus, Rhubarb, Hardy Peaches, Japan Plums and other mortgage lifters.

GRAPE VINES

All old and new varieties. Extra quality. Warranted true. Lowest rates. Descriptive Catalogue Free.

STRAWBERRY

Double the Crop—A Quarter of the Work, Results Considered—No Hand Weeding—No Drought—No Little Berries—All Big Berries—New Ideas—New Methods—Continuous Large Crops.

SEEDS FREE

VEGETABLE GARDEN. 8 Grand Sorts. Perfected Turnip Beet, best and earliest. Surehead Cabbage, large sure bearer. Ever-bearing Cucumber, bears continuously.

SEEDS OF SUCCESS

Better Seeds, better Prices, better times are what we want. Tweed's Seed Almanac (the only one of the kind) helps solve the problem.

SCOTT'S CATALOGUE OF ROSES AND OTHER FLOWERS

Brighter and handsomer than ever with special features of Premiums, Discounts, Club Offers and Low Prices with full description of the latest varieties and profusely illustrated.

TREES AND SMALL FRUITS

The new Monarch plum, finest late variety. Bourgeat Quince, fine quality, tender and rich, the strongest grower and longest keeper of the quince.

YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS

W. F. ALLEN, Jr., Salisbury, Md., will bring you FREE of charge his 32-page illustrated STRAWBERRY Catalogue (largest published), also a sample copy of The Strawberry Culturist.

RARE FLOWERS GIVEN AWAY

for trial for 30 days only, four beautiful novelties, exactly the same as we have sold for \$1.00, viz.: 1 pkt. New Giant Phlox, flowers of gigantic size, often as large as a half dollar; numberless beautiful shades and colors of dazzling brilliancy.

NEW APPLES, PEARS, NUT TREES & NOVELTIES

Starr, the largest early apple, 12 in. around, marketable 1st week in July; Paragon, Parlin and others. Koonce Pear, early, handsome and delicious.

YOURS FOR A GOOD HARVEST

If you plant Gregory's Seeds. These Seeds, famous through many years, have turned the tide of success toward a great many sowers.

REID'S Fruit Trees

SMALL FRUITS, VINES, ROSES, Ornamentals, Crates and Baskets. The largest variety, the most valuable specialties, the latest novelties. All illustrated and described in our NEW CATALOGUE.

Our Farm.

THE POULTRY YARD.

Conducted by P. H. Jacobs, Hammonton, New Jersey.

FEEDING SOFT FOOD.

To keep a hen in good condition for laying, she should never have a full crop during the day. It is not wrong to give a light meal of mixed food, warm in the morning, in the trough, but such meal should be only one fourth the quantity the hens require. They should go away from the trough unsatisfied, and should then seek their food, deriving it grain by grain, engaging in healthy exercise in order to obtain it, and in such circumstances the food will be passed into the gizzard slowly, and be better digested. Gradually the hen will accumulate sufficient food to provide for the night, going on the roost with a full crop, where she can leisurely forward it from the crop to the gizzard. Feeding soft food leads to many errors on the part of the beginner, causing him to overfeed and pamper his hens, and by it they will reach a condition that is entirely antagonistic to laying. It is much better to feed hard grains only than to feed from a trough, unless the soft food is carefully measured. A quart of mixed, ground grain, moistened and in a crumbly condition, should be sufficient for forty hens as a "starter" for the morning, but two quarts of whole grain should then be scattered in litter for them to seek and secure for themselves.

SKIM-MILK AND MEAT.

Milk is one of the best foods that can be given to the laying hens, but it should not be sour, nor should it remain exposed to become distasteful. We are often asked if milk cannot be used as a substitute for meat. The fact is, milk is superior to meat, as it is a complete food; but when we realize that meat is concentrated, compared with milk, the difficulty of substituting milk for meat is plainly seen, for the hens cannot drink enough of the milk, there being about eighty-six per cent of water in it. That is, to derive fourteen pounds of solid matter from milk the hens must drink eighty-six pounds of water in the milk, which requires quite a length of time. Milk should be given even when meat is fed, as it contains mineral matter, and also because it is more convenient to be obtained than meat.

SITTING HENS.

Do not give the hen too many eggs. The fixed number of thirteen eggs for all kinds and all sizes of hens will not answer for winter. Attempting to get a large brood of chicks by giving the hen a nestful of eggs, may defeat the very object sought, for every egg in the nest will in time be exposed to the edge of the nest, and chilled, if the nest is too full. Ten eggs under a Plymouth Rock hen, and twelve eggs under a Brahma, are ample. Better use ten eggs and get eight chicks, than to use thirteen eggs and get one chick, for the larger the brood the smaller the cost of the whole, as it takes no more care and time on the part of the hen to cover and scratch for eight than for one. It is also cheaper and more economical to attend to several hens, proportionately, than to be compelled to look after one only.

CROSS-BRED MALES.

Last season we tried an experiment worthy of mention. Having mated a pure-bred Plymouth Rock male with common hens (white, black, large, small, and all different), we found that the chicks were almost as true to color and form as the Plymouth Rock. The pure-bred male had impressed his qualities on every chick. Last season we mated one of the cross-bred males with some of the cross-bred females (all apparently Plymouth Rocks). We used the eggs for hatching purposes, and when the chicks came out, not one of them looked like a Plymouth Rock, but were black, white, and of all shapes and colors, like their grandmothers. Had a pure-bred male been used, the chicks would have been uniform in every respect.

GOOD NEWS FOR SUFFERERS—CATARRH AND CONSUMPTION CURED.

Our readers who are victims of Lung Diseases, Catarrh, Bronchitis and Consumption, will be glad to know of the wonderful cures made by the new treatment known in Europe as the Andral-Broca Discovery. The New Medical Advance, 67 East 6th street, Cincinnati, Ohio, will send you this new treatment free for trial. Write to them. Give age and all particulars of your disease.

HEAVY CARCASSES IN MARKET.

The birds weighing about four or five pounds sell more readily than those that are extra large. As a rule, when one wants a large carcass he selects a capon; but it is often the case that those with small families do not desire a fowl weighing more than four or five pounds, for which they are willing to pay two or three cents more per pound. It is the fat, plump bird that sells the sooner and which brings the higher price. The profit is not in the largest bird, for it is sometimes just as easy to raise two five-pound birds as it is to raise one weighing ten pounds, and the price per pound will be more. The kind of bird to raise for market should be of a breed that matures early and combines a compact form with aptitude to fatten.

THE BREEDING-PEN.

It is not at all necessary to keep a lot of useless males to feed. If you wish to hatch chicks, select a dozen of your best hens and put them in a yard with a vigorous male. They will give you, perhaps, 500 eggs before the hatching season is over, thus enabling you to hatch out all the chicks you may wish. If there are no males with the hens in the other flocks, they will lay fully as well as if the males were present, with the advantage that the eggs will keep three times as long. It is the fertile egg that spoils the soonest, and by leaving out the males, the eggs will not only keep better, but valuable food will be saved that supports useless males.

CHANGING BREEDS.

We do not advise the changing of breeds if it can be avoided. Of course, we do not refer to common fowls; they should be changed for some pure breed. But when you have selected a breed, stick to it, and endeavor to improve it by careful selection. If you should make a mistake in the selection of your breed, it may be well to try again, with some other; but when you have concluded that your selection is as good as can be made, do not become discouraged and resort to a new one, as the fault may not be with the birds, but with your management. The most successful are those who keep only one or two breeds, as there is a better opportunity to observe a few than many.

A FLOCK FOR THE FAMILY.

Leaving out the matter of profit and of selling eggs, there is much pleasure in keeping a small flock of fowls for family use. A few hens can be kept at less cost, proportionately, than can a large number, owing to the fact that the scraps from the table are valuable. No labor of consequence is necessary, and when an account for the year is kept, the small flocks will be found to have given quite a profit in the conversion of the waste material into eggs. There is no way to procure eggs as fresh and nice as those produced by your own hens. If they are of a choice breed, the pleasure will be the greater, as well from pride in endeavoring to excel as from the management.

INQUIRIES ANSWERED.

Scabby Legs.—T. W. L., Ellis, Kan., writes: "There are six or eight of my hens with scabby legs. What is the cause and the remedy?"

REPLY:—It is due to a minute parasite. Anoint legs twice a week with a mixture of lard and sulphur, for three or four weeks.

Alfalfa.—C. H., College Place, Wash., writes: "I have frequently noticed statements regarding the nutritious qualities of red clover. How does alfalfa compare with clover?"

REPLY:—The nutritious qualities of red clover and alfalfa are very similar, the difference being too slight to give either the preference. Alfalfa can be used in place of clover.

Cleaning Eggs.—E. H., Slaterville Springs, N. Y., writes: "How can I clean eggs for market? What is the value of hen manure?"

REPLY:—Wash the eggs with soap and water, rinse, then wash in strong vinegar and rinse again. The value of hen manure varies. It is estimated to average about twenty-five cents for each hen in a year.

Feeding to Make Hens Lay.—J. D., Plattston, Ohio, writes: "What is your idea of feeding hens to make them lay in winter, about fifty in number?"

REPLY:—Omit one half of the grain, allow a pound of cut bone and meat to sixteen hens, and give a mess of finely cut clover once a day, all they will eat. Keep them warm and dry.

Hens Not Laying.—R. W., Dunkirk, Ind., writes: "My hens are not laying, have pale combs, good appetites, but seem to stand around all humped up. I fried meat scraps, and they have a scratching-place."

REPLY:—Probably poultry-house is not warm, or the food is not varied. The cold weather sometimes causes the hens to so act. Do not feed too heavily. Give a warm mess of ground grain in the morning, and add two ounces of luscious-meal for ten hens.

Green Bone.—S. J. C., Charleston, Mass., writes: "Is green bone, or brisket bone, or bone from roast beef, serviceable?"

REPLY:—All kinds of bone may be used, without regard to which portion of the carcass they may be taken.

Canker in Turkeys.—Mrs. A. W. S., East Liberty, Ohio, writes: "We have a turkey with cankered sore throat; a foul odor is emitted, tongue swollen, and breathing very difficult."

REPLY:—It is roup, due to exposure. Keep the bird in a warm place, and sprinkle a pinch of chlorate of potash in the throat. It is difficult to cure in such a stage.

CORRESPONDENCE.

A BROODER-HOUSE FOR LITTLE CHICKS.—For a number of years I have had a fancy for fine chickens, and to see them die with gapes, or drown by the dozen, was unpleasant, to say nothing about my wife having to run after them on every appearance of storm and heavy dews in the morning, so I have built a house 16 feet long, 10 feet wide, 5 feet in the rear, and 7 feet in the front, with two 10x12-inch windows in front and one 8x10 inches in the east end, with cracks well stripped; dirt floor covered 4 inches deep with leaves and cut straw. In this house I run a box or brooder, 12 feet long, 10 inches deep and 3 feet wide, with partitions 2 feet apart in the box. In the front of this box, and over each pen, I place a small 8x10-inch sash, which admits light. In the back part of the box I stretch pieces of horse-blanket, 16 inches wide by 2 feet long, say from 3 to 6 inches from the floor, according to size and age of the chicks. Directly over this blanket runs a galvanized iron two-inch pipe, running clear across and back the full length of the box, and terminating in a small boiler, 6 inches in diameter, 18 inches long, of the same material. Under this I set a large-sized coal-oil lamp, which keeps the water in the pipe hot, and warms all alike. The chicks run in broods of thirty-two, in each division of the box, with a small run in front of each box or brooder, all in the dry. This beats a hen to raise early chicks for the fall fairs. J. P. H. *Cynthiana, Ky.*

DOUBLE YOLKS.—I desire to inform the readers of a Light Brahma hen I have. She commenced to lay on November 5th, laid thirty-six eggs the first litter, and eight of them were double yolks. Now she has commenced to lay again, and has laid ten, four being double yolks. W. D. H. *Nottingham, Ohio.*

[The double yolks indicate that the hen is overfat.—ED.]

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Our Fireside.

The Old Manor-house in Louisiana

BY SARA H. HENTON.

CHAPTER I.

Oh, Enid, just to think, you and I have never been out of New York City, and we are grown girls! Doctor Ray said this morning that something must be done for mama; she needs a change, and wouldn't it be grand if we could persuade her to go down to the old plantation in Louisiana? You know you can do more with mama than anybody, Enid, and she will never get over papa's death if she stays here, where everything reminds her of him. Please coax her to go?"

"Yes, we must do something for poor mama, and I think like you, Bessie," said Enid, a queenly looking brunette, with lovely, dark brown eyes and a beautiful face, "but I fear the old associations would make her melancholy. She would be thinking of the happy past, how she first met papa there, when he came home with Uncle Don from the university. It might harm instead of benefit her; but still I will broach it to her and see what we can do."

"Oh, just to think," said Bessie, "of seeing Mammy Rhody, and the old hutler, Joe! He must be a hundred years old. The house is three hundred, four generations of Hamptons having lived there. I don't blame mama for not parting with it, Enid. I believe I could tell it among a thousand homes down there, mama has described it to us so often. I think I would know every room, the old garret where the cedar chest and old trunks use to stay, the winding stairway with its wide halls, the saloon parlor, and the library full of portraits. They say the soldiers cut some of them in two with their swords because mama had married a northern man, but old Black Mammy saved most of the Hampton's grandeur. Oh, sister Enid, darling, let's go right now and beg mama to go? We could get real camellias and oranges off the trees."

"Bessie, you are such a child, so impulsive; I do believe you inherited every drop of 'de Hampton blood,' as Mammy would say," said Enid, laughing.

Bessie Howe was just sixteen, and the opposite to her dark-eyed sister, she was called the tropical flower at home, and was warm-hearted. She seemed to be born with an intense love for everything southern. She was like a child, full of glee and delight at the idea of making a visit to her ideal old Manor-house. Bessie was a blonde type of beauty, with sunny brown hair and violet eyes, full of soul, and exquisite mouth and teeth.

Enid was the elder sister, and the one the family looked up to since her father's death. She was very much like her father in disposition and appearance. The little brother, Jack, was only eight years old, and the mother was an invalid. Enid found she had her hands full to manage the outside and inside affairs.

Mr. Julian Howe had been quite a successful lawyer. He was born and bred in New York City; was educated at the University of Virginia, and it was there he met and formed the warm friendship for his wife's brother, Don Hampton, a southern boy, and native Louisianian. They were as different in appearance and temperament as could be, but they were a veritable "Damon and Pythias." Mr. Howe brought young Hampton to New York to spend Thanksgiving holiday with him; and it was when Mr. Howe was on a visit to Brompton, Don Hampton's southern home, that he met his lovely sister, Pauline Hampton. It proved to be a case of love at first sight. Julian was quite young to marry; but he would not listen to reason, he must be married, and gained the consent of Pauline's mother, her father being dead.

It was the year before the war. Their marriage was celebrated on a grand scale, having all the aristocratic planters' families present. Mr. Howe took his young bride to New York to live, and the war coming so soon afterward, her mother's sudden death, and the sad changes had prevented her ever returning to her dear southland. The ravages of war (her brother was killed at the battle of Stone river) left Mrs. Howe almost without any near relatives. She fell heir to the old southern home and sugar plantation. Mr. Howe secured a reliable agent, and allowed the old, faithful slaves who wished, to remain on the place. The children's education, his business in New York, together with his wife's delicate health, kept them from making the long-talked-of visit together to the old

home. They anticipated it, and the children were never so happy as when the father and mother would describe the old colonial house, its furniture, and style of living to them.

The trip was postponed from time to time, until one day it dawned upon them all that the bread-winner, the dearly loved father and husband, was stricken with a fatal malady, which carried him off suddenly. It

one more walk through the old garden at Brompton would cure me, and then again I feel that it would break my heart to see the changes and go back without your father. Oh, it is cruel to mention it!" and she sobbed aloud.

"Never mind, mama; don't cry, darling, you shall not go anywhere unless you wish it," and Enid knelt down by her and rubbed

stopped to say, "Mother, do you think the moths have left any of the old carpets?"

"Yes, I hope so; but say to the agent not to tell Mammy that I ordered these things done, but suggest them himself, if she hasn't done it, for she is as proud as I am, and use to do those things beautifully. You-all don't know anything about slaves, or colored help, and must be very careful not to wound their feelings. I wouldn't have Jack run any risk missing his comforts there for anything. Oh, I wonder how everything will look? I must be brave, for Jack's sake, and, Enid, you and Bessie must prepare yourselves for the terrible ravages made by the war. Such days as your papa and I discussed were in the old South, remember, and this will be the new South. Oh, I wonder if Col. Gibson lives on their old plantation? He must have sons grown now. He married soon after we did. And there is the Winfields, Chiltons and Howards."

Enid was delighted to see her mother take such interest in the preparations. She had been entirely indifferent to old friends; in fact, she had been in a state of apathy. All the preaching in the world would not have kept these two young and beautiful girls from building air-castles, and anticipating pleasure in this long-talked-of visit. They were as happy as two children over the trip. They were really school-girls yet; at least Bessie was, studying under a tutor at home with Jack, and Enid was studying German and French. They had been educated at home and kept very exclusive. Their mother's delicate health had prevented their going away from her, and they had expected to go South and then abroad, but their father's death changed all this.

CHAPTER II.

Shall we unbar the long-closed door—
You, dear, or I?
Could love be what it was before,
If we should call them back once more
And they reply?

Mrs. Howe closed her New York house, and started with her family to journey southward the first of February. It was cold, snowy and very disagreeable weather to travel, but the young people were in a state of ecstasy, so much so that their mother tried to impress upon their minds that there would

be a reaction; it would not be what they had pictured in their hearts. Mrs. Howe's agent, Mr. Charles, met them at the old Gibson Landing, as it used to be called; now it is Gibson Station. He had a two-horse



THE OLD HOME IN THE DISTANCE.
THE FIRST THING MAMMY KNEW, SOMEBODY HAD THEIR ARMS ABOUT HER.

was a terrible shock to Mrs. Howe, who had never recovered from it.

It had now been two years since his death. They found he had made his will, leaving very little trouble for them; he having suspected his illness was organic heart disease, had arranged his papers and accounts with his partners, whom he trusted implicitly. The city home was left to his wife. It was a comfortable, elegant home—not a grand mansion, but a modest home. He had always surrounded his family with all the refinements and comforts, although he was not a rich man as New York counts. His wife's home he had never interfered with, letting her carry out her romantic desire to leave it untouched, furnished with the old-style things, and the keys turned over to the faithful old cook and housekeeper, Mammy Rhody, who guarded it with her life's blood.

It was one of the old colonial brick mansions so common in the South before the war, and the children had heard their father and mother describe it so often that every room, with its tester beds and brass andirons, was familiar to them. Many a happy twilight talk had they all had together in the New York library, about the grandeur of the old days, and the girls pictured a happy winter there all together; but it was not destined to be. The next question was, would it do to take their mother back as the doctor wished? Could she stand the going there without the husband whom she had loved so dearly?

Enid was the power behind the throne. She had seemed to quietly take her father's place in the home. She was calm, practical, and yet under that calm exterior there beat a noble heart. She had seen for some days that her mother's health was failing and that she grew weaker. Something must be done. She had been thinking of it before Bessie spoke of it, and had been building air-castles, too.

It was a lovely room where the invalid, Mrs. Howe, spent most of her time. She had become selfish in her grief, everyone had to think of her sorrow and her comforts. Enid came up to her and kissed her pale cheek, saying:

"How are you, mama, dear?"
"Oh, bad enough. Those drops don't help me; I cough worse, I think."

"Well, mama, I've got a proposition to make. The doctor says the piny woods of Louisiana are what you need, and it would do you more good than all the tonics. Why not let us all go there this winter? It will be the very thing for you, mother."

"Oh, my child, how could I stand this trip! I do feel like the balmy air of the South and

her forehead and petted her fondly. The mother looked very fair and pretty, but was pale and very thin, and coughed a hollow cough, which alarmed the girls.

Bessie and Jack came bounding into the room, bringing all the life and sunshine of outdoors with them. Not noticing their mother's tears, they cried out in one voice, "Oh, mama, we are just going to pick you up and sit you in the carriage and take you a drive! It is just lovely out and won't hurt you; it is so dark in here."

Enid shook her head warningly at Bessie and Jack. Jack was a handsome, manly little fellow of eight years, full of life, and he and Bessie had been discussing the prospect of Enid's persuasive powers, and whether or not she could induce their mother to go South.

Enid kept delicately mentioning the subject, and wrote to her mother's agent there to know what condition the house was in, and to tell Mammy Rhody that the doctor thought of sending her mother there soon.

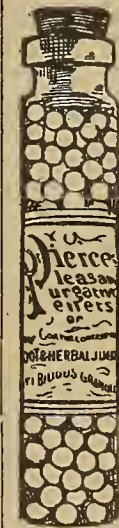
She received a reply at once, the agent saying that he thought some of them ought to come as a matter of duty, and that Mammy was very much hurt that "de last ob de race" did not care to come back and see "de old plantation."

About this time Jack was taken ill with pneumonia, and it roused his mother more than all the doctor's medicine had been able to do. She forgot herself for the time, and devoted what strength she had to little Jack. When he was pronounced out of immediate danger, the doctor told her he feared Jack's cough might settle on his lungs, and to get him South as soon as she could; he also told her it would be better for herself. It was enough that Jack was in danger. No other argument was necessary now to persuade her. She decided to go at once.

After it was arranged that they should all go, Mrs. Howe showed considerable interest, and allowed the girls to send out her old dressmaker, and had some dresses and wrappers made for herself—delicate lavenders and violet-colored ones—her first out of colored material, having worn black ever since the death of her husband. She wrote to her agent at Brompton, telling just what she wanted done. It was in January, and she wanted Mammy to have fires in all the rooms every day until they came, to prevent any dampness; to air the whole house thoroughly, sun the mattresses, have the old furniture rubbed, the old brass andirons and fenders shined up.

Enid was writing the letter for her, and

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dray, and Mammy had sent her grandson, Pete, along with a light wagon for the baggage. She said, "It will make it look kinder natural to young mistress to see cullud folks comin' to meet her. Kase when she an' Mas' Don useter cum home from school, dey would hev a regiment ter meet 'em."

It was a glorious day, a drowsy, dreamy, gentle, semi-tropical one, and as they drove along over the old familiar roads, Mrs. Howe could see on either side the forests of the neglected South. But how beautiful it looked to the younger ones, with their hearts alive to everything lovely in nature, and the glimpses of the whitewashed cabins among roses, magnolias and jasmine, and fences white with Cherokee roses. It looked like a village, and Jack asked what they called the town. Pete was opening a gate for the party when Jack addressed him with the question, and he forgot all his granny's good advice to show manners, and snickered aloud, "La, mas', dat ain't no town, dat's cullud folks' cabins."

Mammy had warned Pete that these ladies were northern folks (all but Miss Pauline), and "not useter niggers; an' she didn't know whether them young ones had a drop ob Hampton blood in 'em, nohow; an' like as not dey would be stuck up, an' want white help."

Mrs. Howe was in such a deep study she had not spoken since they started. It was a land of pathos and tragedy to her. The wounds made by the war had never healed. There had been deaths and so many changes. Pretty soon the old home loomed up in the distance, a typical old manor-house, and yet what a change had befallen it. Instead of the bustling household of before the war, the troop of servants about, there stood, in solitary splendor one remnant of the old South, Mammy Rhody. She was dressed in honor of the occasion, with a flaming red striped bandana and a clean purple calico dress and white apron. Her ivory teeth were visible, her black ebony countenance looked disturbed and serious. These Howes were all strangers to her except Miss Pauline; she had nursed her. In fact, she had nursed three generations of Hamptons, and she "didn't want dem city folks ter put on any airs around her, sho'."

The agent alighted, and told Pete to step around and help Jack down carefully. Jack was better already, exhilarated by his drive. Mammy never moved from her erect position on the piazza; she didn't know how they were going to treat her, and she must keep on her dignity. Was that fragile, pale-looking lady her bright, beautiful young mistress who hugged and kissed her good-by on her bridal-day?

The first thing Mammy knew, somebody had their arms about her and lay sobbing their heart out on her old shoulder.

"Is dis my sweet, purty baby what I useter nuss? Nebber min', honey, yo' jis cum right along ter yer ole room. I se got a good pine-knot fire for yo', an' yer little rockin'-chair yo' useter lub so much."

"Oh, Mammy Rhody," cried Bessie, "let me hug you, too, please."

"Is yo' a Hampton? 'Clar, yer voice jis like Mas' Don's."

[To be continued.]

THE NORTHMOST MINE.

The northmost mine in the world, known as the "Omalik" mine, is situated on Fish river, in the extreme northwestern part of Alaska, near Golovin Bay. This point is one thousand miles northwest of Sitka, the latitude being 65 degrees north, longitude 164 degrees west. The ore, which is found in rich veins, is galena, consisting of seventy-five per cent of lead and carrying 143 ounces of silver to the ton. On account of its extreme northern position, it is, of course, impossible to work the mine during the winter season. The work is carried on by a picked body of men, who make the trip in an especially chartered ship every spring, and return early in the autumn. The provision and mining equipment must, of course, be carried by the mining party, since the mine is far from the borders of civilization. The party report that the Esquimaux are a peaceable people, and are very quick to learn the ways of the Americans. In many cases they are employed about the mine with very satisfactory results. It has been the experience of this party that the climate in Alaska is not so severe as is generally supposed. The summers are warm and pleasant. All of the party are enthusiastic over the immense resources of Alaska, and prophesy a bright future for the country.

WILL TAKE SILVER FOR DUTIES.

The new government of Salvador has abolished the decree requiring the payment in gold of ten per cent on the importation duties. It was ordered that, beginning November 1, 1894, these duties could be paid in silver at the legal rate of exchange.

HOW I MADE \$1,200

By not sowing Salzer's seeds! That is what a jolly farmer said as he entered our sanctum. How is that? Why, says he, Salzer's seeds not only grow but they produce enormously. Had I planted a few acres more of his oats, wheat, corn, potatoes, grass and clover seeds, I would have had to double the capacity of my barns; that would have cost me \$1,200. It is a fact that if you want big, rousing farm, grass and vegetable crops, you must sow Salzer's seeds.

If You Will Cut This Out and Send It with 7c. postage to the John A. Salzer Seed Company, La Crosse, Wis., you will get free a sample of Grass and Clover Mixture and their plant and seed catalogue.

THE PICTURE IN MY HEART.

In each man's soul there lives a dream
Lit by a woman's eyes,
Whose glance is like the tender gleam
That thrills the evening skies.
It is a dream that never fades,
Though weal or woe befalls,
But haunts the heart, and softly paints
A picture on its walls.

It is my dream at midnight,
And in the crowded mart,
That darling face
With gentle grace—
The picture in my heart.

In each man's heart there floats a voice
That speaks to him alone,
The voice of her, his spirit's choice,
He longs to call his own.
The days may hasten like the wind,
Or lag with sullen feet,
Some day his wandering heart shall find
The face he longs to meet.

It is my dream at midnight,
Its dear eyes ne'er depart.
Oh, where is she,
My bride to be—
The picture in my heart?

Oh, some hearts range the wide world through
And through to find their mate,
And some amid the darkness rue
That they have met too late.
A wistful glance betrays to each
What neither dares to sigh;
A wedded bond forbids the speech
That's uttered by the eye.

It is my dream at midnight,
It makes my pulses start.
Oh, Fate, be kind,
And let me find
The picture in my heart.

—Samuel Minturn Peck, in *New Orleans Times-Democrat*.

THE STORY OF A JACKET.

There was a pile of cloth, and it lay on a shelf at the back of the cutting-room, close to the cutter's elbow.

The cutter put several layers of cloth upon the table, and with one sharp instrument he sliced them through, as one slices the pile of buckwheat cakes upon one's breakfast-plate. A girl who stood at the cutter's left sorted the sections of cloth upon which he had operated, and brought together the pieces destined to be united—fronts, side forms, backs, sleeves, collar, cuffs and pocket-flaps—the component parts of a feminine jacket.

She rolled them together, and bound them with a string into a compact bundle. This she tossed on top of a pile of similar bundles, and began her operations again, "da capo."

The blue bundles gathered till they formed a goodly pile. Had they been like bundles in a fairy tale, able to "sense" the situation, they would have felt that their career was auspiciously begun.

The shelf on which they lay was in an upper story of a well-known and wealthy mercantile establishment in a great and wealthy city. On the floors below were collected costly and rare works of nature and of art. The globe had been circumnavigated to bring them together.

There were laces from Belgium, sables from Russia, shawls from Kashmere, silks from Japan, and coral from the far fair islands of the South Pacific. Women exquisitely dressed were buying all manner of dainty necessities.

Outside stood carriages drawn by spirited horses with glittering harness, and driven by Jeemses clad in exact accord with the very latest edict of Mrs. Grundy. Yes, the blue bundles had begun their career amid surroundings quite unexceptionable.

But their history was only begun. Late in the afternoon they were taken down in the goods elevator, and tossed unceremoniously into a wagon.

It was a Black Maria in miniature—long, windowless, and as jetty and sbining as the midnight marauders in an ill-swept kitchen. In this vehicle the blue bundles were carried far from the haunts of fashionable society, into a squalid and dingy quarter of the city.

Black Maria bumped in and out of many ruts, for the roads were full of hummocks and holes.

Little wooden houses stood with gable ends toward the now darkening streets. Their walls were black with weather and soot. Between house fronts and road were board sidewalks, rotted here and there into dangerous holes. On almost every corner was a saloon, throwing a flare of light into the street. In this poor quarter Black Maria came to a standstill.

A boy who sat beside the driver scrambled down, took an armful of blue bundles from the wagon, and darted with them along a narrow passageway, which ran between two ramshackle tenements, into the yard behind. He crossed this yard toward a rear tenement, even more tumble-down and smoke-begrimed than its neighbors on the street, and then traversed a narrow alley, with the rear tenement on his left hand and a tall, worm-eaten fence on his right.

His foot touched a dead rat, and he caught a vanishing glimpse of a living one, as it whisked into its hole under the fence. The whole place smelt like a sewer. The boy went down three clammy, stone steps, and opened a door at the foot with the assurance of an accustomed visitor.

Here, in a gas-lighted room forty feet long, twenty feet wide and ten feet high, forty-five

girls and twenty men were hard at work. Thirty foot-power sewing-machines were in the room, and the operators ran them as if for life. The girls' cheeks and lips were bloodless; their eyes were sad and heavy, their faces wan. To them the coming of spring meant only a thinner material under their work-worn fingers, and they worked always in the same flare of artificial light, whether noon or twilight brooded over the world.

It was mild spring weather, and the men wore only grimy flannel shirts, trousers and ragged stockings. Their worn shoes had been slipped off, that they might run the machines with greater speed. In a distant corner of the room was a stove, where irons were heated to press open seams. Coal-gas and the smell of pressed cloth mingled with the other heavy odors of the place. It was redolent of perspiration, of gas, of dirt. It was vitiated with the breath of sixty-five pairs of lungs. And beside all these befoulments, the heavy air bore an indescribable taint of mustiness and decay; something was wrong with the basement.

Two years ago a family of Polish Jews had lived there, because the place was so cheap. They dropped off, one by one, from typhoid fever, and rumors of their fate made the place cheaper still. The next year, because it was so very cheap, it was hired by a "sweater."

He also hired the thirty machines, and lastly he hired the forty-five girls and the twenty men, whose health, whose happiness and whose lives were of no account. If slavery were not altogether a thing of the past (as everybody knows), we might say that the forty-five girls and the twenty men were bought. They were being used up, and most of us have to pay for what we consume and destroy. But a sale is the exchange of a commodity for its value, or for something like its value. These girls could all be got for little more than the price of one "likely negro sweat" under the old regime; so they were not bought—they were too cheap. How lucky it is for the manufacturer that the children of Gibeon are so prolific!

In the turmoil of the basement the jacket lay for three days. Early in the morning, at noon and at evening the whirr of machines went on.

At last the jacket was snatched from its repose and carried to the baster, after which it was given to a man whose business was to bind the seams.

For this task he was paid three cents, and a smart binder can make as much as six cents an hour. But binding is the heaviest work in the trade, and breaks an average man down in a few years. It was breaking Jacob Lazinski utterly. At thirty-four years old his frame was bowed, as if it bore the weight of threescore years and ten. He was hollow-eyed, and his face was sallow and waxy. He had toiled in sweaters' dens since his fifteenth year.

For fourteen hours a day, in the busy season, he drove the unwilling needle through cloth almost as stiff as a board. The work had brought on chronic stomach trouble. In all the weary winters the shops had rarely been comfortably warm. The poor worker had rheumatism in consequence, and the dampness of this shop had increased it fourfold.

Jacob's lamed feet could scarcely work the treadles at all to-day, while his aching hands seemed well nigh powerless to drag the cloth through the machine. It had taken him nearly two hours to bind three jackets, and to make nine cents, and he was wondering what would become of him and his loved wife and little ones, should he become so slow that the boss would turn him off. The boss, a choleric Swede, had already remarked his slowness more than once.

"There's plenty smarter men," said the Swede, "to fill your place," whereupon Jacob hastened his heavy feet, for he knew that this was true.

After Jacob had dealt with the jacket, it was passed on to another operator, who was to sew the seams.

The seamer was sick, too, with long hours and hard work. He also had rheumatism and stomach trouble, but as he was not yet broken down, he whirred through his stint with desperate haste, and then, without stopping to look up, he tossed the jacket aside and grasped another.

By utmost hurry he hoped to accomplish an almost impossible amount of work. For the boss had fallen foul of this luckless seamer, and had imposed on him a Hurculean weekly task. If this was not fulfilled when the place shut up Friday night, the boss would call the dereliction breach of contract, and would dock his victim's pitiful wage one half, for there was a sort of contract in the case. As the boss remarked, the seamer was always free to leave if the work did not suit him.

The seamer was not so foolhardy as to imperil his livelihood by quarreling with the boss, but he murmured to his mates, in the jargon of the Russian Jew, that he would not have taken this job if he had known he was going to feel so sick, but he must try to keep on now, times were so bad.

When the jacket was tossed aside by the seamer, it fell into a pile of snips, fluff, dust and threads upon the floor; there is no time for daintiness in a sweat-shop. The jacket lay in this limbo till it was grasped by the dirty hands of a Bohemian girl twelve years old.

In employing this child, the Swede was breaking the law of the state, and he knew it. But in that cellar, full of weariness and heartache, the Swede was czar. There were twelve inspectors, doing their utmost to detect and check all the abuses in all the sixty-six thousand factories of the state. Some day they would visit this cellar, and deliver this child.

Meantime, she was handy and cheap—so cheap because of the penury of her home, that her daily services could be secured for forty cents a week. For the sake of this pittance her parents would have lied to you, had you questioned them concerning the age of their daughter.

The child herself was unable to lie upon the subject; not for Washington's reason, but because she did not know the truth. She did not know when her birthday came. She would not have understood you had you asked her. She did not know that there were such festivals as birthdays lovingly remembered. She could not read or write in any language. She had never heard the name of Christ, except in blasphemy. Her business in the shop was to pull out basting-threads, to fetch and carry, and once in a great while to sweep the floor. Her business with the jacket was to carry it over to the inside finisher, Hulda Jeroslosky.

Hulda was a round-shouldered girl, with a hacking cough, and with the flaccid and colorless look of a cellar-grown plant. She was eighteen years old, but the sparkle of youth and the bloom of womanhood were alike absent from her faded face. She spoke only Polish. She had never attended school. Like the little errand-girl, she could not read or write in any language.

She was barely competent, physically and mentally, for her monotonous work here. Her task was to baste the sleeves into jackets, and to baste the silk facings into the cuffs and down the fronts. Her weekly earnings were from two dollars and a half to four, the higher wages being paid her during the busy season, from July to the end of October, and from February to the beginning of May. At these times Hulda made her four dollars a week by toiling fifteen hours a day, and by enduring the almost unmitigated rigors of a climate that can be as torrid as that of Burma, and as frigid as that of St. Petersburg.

In August she gasped in the stifling air, where the temperature was sometimes raised to one hundred degrees by the crowding together of heated human bodies, and by the stove where irons were heating.

In the bitter days of latter winter this same stove had the monopoly of furnishing heat to the cellar. It was less than three feet high and unequal to its task. It was generally surrounded by a ring of shivering girls, who made for the narrow north temperate zone round about it whenever they had a few moments of leisure. The rest of the cellar, on wintry days, was arctic.

Hulda's hands would grow so numb that she was delayed in her work (paid by the piece), and she also had to stop, from time to time, to cough. Were it not for these hindrances she would have had a little more money on Friday night to take to a home so wretched that we will not describe it in detail, for some people must be spared the recital of what other people have to endure. Let us return to the jacket—basted, folded, laid on a pile of its fellows and awaiting its trip to the "outside finishers."

An Italian woman lifted the pile to the top of her shining, black head, and carried it thus, in picturesque fashion, through the streets. It is both righteous and philosophical to believe the best, but we will not positively vouch for this head's sterility. Mounted thereon, the jackets traveled a devious way around several corners to a tall, brick tenement, which overtopped the wooden shanties round about it, and put them utterly out of countenance. In its lower floor was a saloon, whence a smell, heavy and sour, floated into the street.

The Italian woman entered a doorway beside the shop and climbed a long flight of worn and dirty stairs, to the tenements above.

The second floor back, where the coats entered in, was filled with an odor compared to which all other scents of that olfactory neighborhood are as whiffs from Araby the Blest—the prostrating smell of that rank garlic which is cooked, and presumably eaten by the Russian Jews. The daughter of Italy, having deposited her burden, withdrew, and the jackets lay on a wooden chair amid the garlic fumes for two hours. No one untied the string which bound the garments together. The cook of the garlic, an unwashed Jewess in a cheap jute wig, made a little money out of the jackets, but she did not sew. She squeezed those who did. She contracted with the sweater for the work done upon the coats, and "farmed" this work out again to the "outside finishers" on such terms as to leave a margin of profit for herself.

Another Italian woman called for the jackets early in the afternoon. Mounted on her head, they went down-stairs and were borne to a tumble-down wooden building in the heart of a tumble-down wooden block. In its palmy days, which were long ago, the place had been a cow-shed. As an afterthought it had been turned into a one-room tenement for Lazarus and his household. Two small windows had been cut in the wall and filled with the cheapest glass in the market. Through what was left of it one caught

strangely distorted glimpses of the shanties round about. Some panes were broken, and whatever came to hand had been thrust in to keep out the wind. A bunch of paper filled one breach, an old hat was crammed into another, and a wisp of hay stuffed a third.

The ceiling sloped so low on one side of the dwelling that there was barely room for a table to stand against the upright wall. Besides this table, the room contained a rusty stove, an indescribable bed, two chairs—one of them a cripple—and a heap of rags where two children slept at night. Once upon a time the walls had been papered, but the pattern of the paper had long since faded out and been forgotten. The surface was relieved by long, yellow streaks, caused by dampness, and here and there the paper stood off the wall in blisters or wavered away from it in ragged bareness.

On the floor lay old clothes, old boots, dirty dishes, a heap of refuse wood and a broken splint basket, half full of coal. The boards—what one could see of them—were grimy. Two black-eyed children, as dirty as little sweeps, played about the floor, and a third lay on the indescribable bed, with a flushed face and half-closed eyes.

A young woman, evidently the mother, was bending over the child, trying to force food between its lips, but she abandoned this futile effort when her friend and the bundle of coats arrived.

Men and women will do each other neighborly kindnesses, even when their minds are unawakened and their bodies housed like those of brutes.

The "outside finisher," being confined with the care of her sick child, had easily persuaded a neighbor to fetch the work on which her livelihood depended. The neighbor did not come into the cow-shed, as she had children of her own, and Niccolo had scarlet fever, but as she stood outside the half-open door, a few amenities were exchanged in the patois of southern Italy, with its high-pitched tones and recurrent cadences. Then the "outside finisher" closed the door upon her departing friend and began work. She got three cents for each jacket, and she was never able to finish more than eight in a day.

But what else could she do? She was densely ignorant. She could not "spikka Inglis." Even had she been fitted for better-paid work, she could not go out to seek it, on account of the children. And her husband, a sewer-digger, had been out of work for five months. The rent of the shed—a dollar and seventy-five cents a month—must be paid. The five mouths must be fed, and now little Niccolo needed a doctor and medicine. So in the intervals of waiting, in loving but fatally ignorant fashion, on little Niccolo, the "outside finisher" sat and sewed.

When Niccolo had a shivering fit, some of the jackets were drawn over his rickety little frame and hopped around his shoulders. They would carry infection, no doubt—perhaps into comfortable and enlightened homes, where the childreun had everything to live for. Dives does occasionally get punished for his indifference to Lazarus even in this life.

On the third night little Niccolo died, and around the rude bier on which he lay, rigid and cold, the sewing still went on. After the child was buried the last jacket was hurriedly and tearfully finished. The kind neighbor hoisted the bundle to her head once more and carried it back to the bewigged and garlicky Russian Jewess. The Jewess gave the neighbor "some money," and if she missed her chance to cheat a woman who spoke no English and knew no arithmetic, she exercised a magnanimity rarely found in middle men or women.

From her pungent apartments the jackets migrated, on the head of another daughter of Italy, to the cellar whence they came. The Russian Jewess received five cents for every jacket finished and returned, and thus made a commission of forty per cent, even when she did not cheat.

But the jacket in question was not "finished," save in the tailor's business term. Directly it got back to the sweat-shop it was taken in hand by an Italian girl, whose task was to make the buttonholes. This child was fourteen years old, but so stunted and thin that she looked younger. She was a specialist, devoting herself entirely to buttonholes, which she worked with a machine, and in the busy season she was able to earn four dollars a week. She had never attended school. She lived with her father and mother, two sisters, two brothers and a lodger in two rooms in a wretched rookery called Poverty Flat. The father, himself a victim of the sweat-shops, was broken down and superannuated at forty years of age. None of the family could read or write, either in Italian or English.

The jacket, having passed through the hands of this lighted and heightened child, was ready for the last finishing touches. Another child, who was illegally employed under age, sewed on the buttons. Then the little Bohemian girl earned a fraction of her forty cents a week by pulling out the hasting-threads. This done, she carried it to the presser, who sponged it with water and then ironed it, laying a piece of damp muslin between the hot iron and the cloth. From the presser the Bohemian child carried the garment to the choleric Swede, who inspected it, whisked it off and tossed it into a closet. There it lay for a couple of days, awaiting its journey back

to the eminently respectable surroundings whence it came.

And now the jacket has returned to good society. It hangs in a polished walnut wardrobe with sliding doors of French plate-glass. The feet of the wardrobe are half buried in the heavy pile of a costly carpet, and the wall behind it is tastefully frescoed. Luxurious lounges are at hand. At evening a soft radiance is shed over the apartment by electric lights, which seem to glow in the hearts of flowers.

Thither comes Flora McFlimsey to try on the jackets, which are advertised as imported goods at greatly reduced prices. When we think how many profits and how many wages each garment represents, they certainly are cheap. When we think of all the strength, the health and the happiness sacrificed to these garments, and others like them, we realize that at the price demanded they are very cheap indeed. But however cheap that firm may mark them, one thing is cheaper yet, and that is human life.

E. M. HARDINGE.

VAST ARMAMENTS OF EUROPE.

Thirteen million bayonets prop up the Czar's throne. That is the full strength of the Russian army on a war footing. Germany comes next, but after a long interval, with 3,700,000 soldiers; Italy has 3,155,000 and France 3,840,000, excluding 350,000 auxiliaries; Austria's fine army, which in quality is reckoned scarcely second to Kaiser Wilhelm's, contains a maximum of 1,794,175 men. England at home and in her colonies can mobilize a force of 662,000. The little martial republic of Switzerland can summon 486,000 soldiers to her banners in an emergency, and even poverty-cursed Spain boasts of 400,000. Austria, of all the powers, has the most burdensome military establishment. Her annual expenditures on her army are \$255,000,000, while Russia's, with an army seven times as large, are only \$186,000,000, and Germany's, \$113,000,000. In proportion to size, England's army is, perhaps, the most costly. Her 662,000 men require \$89,000,000 annually for their support, or only \$38,000,000 less than the amount which provides France with an enormous host of more than four times England's numbers.—Boston Journal.

HOW SHE DOES IT.

A woman's most cherished method of getting her own way is to let a man suppose he is having his own. If she gets her heart on a thing she seldom suggests it. Oh, dear, no! she argues against it gently, mildly, till the man takes up the cudgel in its behalf. She says what a horrid cold night it would be to turn out to the theater, when she is dying to go; and that suggests to him that the theater would be enjoyable. Or if she wants a quiet evening at home to do mending, she fusses about and suggests a dozen different places of amusements in a breath, until he doggedly says he won't go anywhere, since she can't make up her mind. When he makes a suggestion on his own part that falls in with her wishes she doesn't jump at it. She knows the perverseness of man and that he would at once back out of the whole thing if she did that. She hints at difficulties, she demurs, and exhibits a lack of enthusiasm that serves its purpose and goads him at once into having what he takes to be his own way. Meanwhile she only smiles compassionately at his blindness and scores a point to her side.

WHO DID MOST?

Referring to the criticisms against Christianity at the world's fair parliament of religions of the Hindu monk Vivekananda, the Madras Mail says: "Who has done most for the emancipation of Indian women from the disabilities under which they have labored for centuries—these western religionists whom it pleases Vivekananda and his friends to taunt, or Brahmins and ascetics of different schools? Who has ended sutteeism and infanticide? Through whose influence are widow re-marriages made possible in India? Where did the agitation against monstrous alliances between old men of sixty and little Hindu girls of six originate? Who is it that lovingly give of their substance in order to send the sweet ameliorations of woman's woe into Indian homes?"

A FRENCH SHOE-DRESSING.

A fine French shoe-dressing may be made as follows: Mix two pints of good vinegar and one pint of soft water. Stir into it one quarter of a pound of powdered glue, half a pound of ground logwood, a quarter of an ounce of the best soft soap and a quarter of an ounce of isinglass. Mix all well and let boil, with constant stirring, for ten or fifteen minutes. Take from the fire, strain through muslin, and bottle for use. This polish should always be applied with a sponge.

MEN AND ANIMALS.

If man had been limited to the use of his natural weapons of defense, he would long since have been beaten out of the contest by the animal kingdom.

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Our Household.

MRS. HAMLET'S SOLOQUY.

To bloom or not to bloom, that is the question.
 Whether 'tis nobler in the mind to suffer
 The slings and foldings of outrageous skirts,
 Or take up arms, and legs, against our troubles,
 And by opposing end them. To scorch, to race
 No more; and, by a race, to say we end
 The heartache and the thousand natural shocks
 That modesty is heir to; 'tis a consummation
 Devoutly to be wished. To scorch, to race;
 To race! perchance to fall; aye, there's the rub;
 For in that blooming fall what rents may come
 To mar my outer garments; there's the respect
 That makes calamity of so long life.
 For who would bear the whips and scorns of style
 The oppressor's wrong, the loud girl's contumely,
 The tangle of despised skirts, the lingerie display.
 The indifference of dudes, and then the spurns
 That patient merit of the unworthy takes,
 When she herself might a compromise make
 With a pair of leggings? Who would petticoats wear,
 To grunt and sweat under a weary life,
 But that the dread of some untold mishap,
 The unfilled seam, the unsubstantial cloth
 Which tailors use, puzzles the will
 And makes us rather wear those clothes we have
 Than fly to others that we know not of?
 Thus modesty makes cowards of us all,
 And thus the native hue of resolution
 Is sicklied o'er with the pale cast of thought;
 And enterprises of great pith and moment,
 With this regard, their currents turn awry
 And lose the name of action.

—Courier Journal.

NEW YORK FASHIONS.

NOTWITHSTANDING the fact that winter is still with us, and the cold and disagreeable weather of early spring is yet to come, the shop windows and counters are filled with dainty summer fabrics. A feeling of decided chilliness possesses one when looking at these sheer gauzes, madras, lawns swisses and other midsummer dress materials, and the heart sinks at the mere thought of preparing clothing for warm weather when winter wraps and gowns will have to be worn for some time yet.

Already the great market for India silk has opened, and this is the time when most wonderful bargains in this sure-to-be fashionable material are offered at every turning. And surely, no one gown can be utilized on as many different occasions, and in such good taste, as an India silk built stylishly and becomingly.



FIG. 1.—WALKING-COSTUME.

Figured, dotted swiss in every conceivable shade is again brought out, and to have the desired effect must be made over silk linings, and trimmed profusely in sheer laces and innumerable flots of ribbon.

As yet decided changes in styles for the spring are not out, and one can hardly say with safety whether sleeves will be larger or smaller, skirts wider or narrower, although no radical changes are anticipated.

Women seem content with the present styles where not too exaggerated, and surely, in most cases they are both becoming and pretty, so why change?

Yet with all this forecasting of possibilities, weather for muslins, organdies and gauzes is yet a long distance off. So we will await a more seasonable opportunity for minute details.

It is, of course, too late in the season to expect anything very new in the way of winter dress materials, and yet each week sees something novel, either in the shops or on the street. Especially is this true of the handsome black crepons that have been so much worn this season, which is considered to be more distinguished in proportion to the roughness of its surface. The lusterless black of the crepon is particularly becoming to the blonde beauties, which puts that material in high favor with them, and are made with quite plain skirts, allowing the bodice and sleeves to be trimmed ad libitum. The skirts are lined with bright-colored taffeta silk, magenta and petunia being given the preference. Many ladies, however, are using bright-colored alpaca lining in preference, on account of their economy, durability, and being much easier kept in order.

There was a time when black was conceded to be the correct and becoming thing for women to wear after they had passed a certain age. But people are wiser in this generation, and realize that when youth takes its departure, and with it the brightness of the eyes and delicacy of the skin, black dresses only accentuate the ravages of time, unless used with some



FIG. 2.—CALLING-GOWN.

bright and becoming color. The more youthful and fresh the face, the more becoming the all-black gown, and vice versa. There have been fewer all-black gowns worn this season than ever, and the touches of black which are seen in so many fashionable gowns of the hour, need a very skillful hand for their introduction.

A brown gown, with touches of black, for the evening, sounds odd, but it is really effective and pretty with a blending of cherry velvet to keep the two somber shades from becoming too intimate.

A new idea in skirts is to trim the three organ-pipe plaits which constitute the back in embroidered effects, allowing the same design in a narrow band to run across the front and sides on the bottom. This style, coming from one of our first artists in this line, makes it safe to say that one of the leading styles to come will be trimmed skirts in the back from the waist to hem. While this style is beyond doubt both graceful and pretty, it is not practical for other than a walking-costume, as sitting only a few times in such a gown means creases and wrinkles galore; then the beauty and freshness are gone.

Ladies' cloth is quite as much used as earlier in the season, and takes on more trimming for the skirt than formerly. The one pictured in Fig. 1 is new and particularly stylish, being of a very light shade of tan-colored cloth, with black Hercules braid put on in full ruffles, each one being headed with a machine chain-stitching in the form of a small military curl. The full-skirted coat, with pointed collar in the back, is double-breasted, and one never crosses over the other. Large, brown buttons with out-jet effect ornament the front. Sleeves in many of the gowns extend straight out on a level with the shoulders,

forming almost a horizontal line; but fortunately, they are made very pliable, otherwise much inconvenience would be experienced, and people would be seriously incommoded by the fashion, especially in our crowded cars.



FIG. 3.—RECEPTION GOWN.

Some of the recently made gowns show a double effect in skirts without taking away the straight, plain effect, and in many instances the old-time redingote and polonaise are seen, and a return to the straight, severe coats looks quite possible, though the mannish appearance is to a great extent lost by using vests and shirt-fronts of lace and other soft materials.

Fig. 2 shows a black moire silk under-skirt, with front and side panels of cherry-red cloth, which are heavily trimmed with rich, black silk passementerie, and are sewed tightly to the silk skirt, which gives the effect of a slashed skirt. The same red cloth forms the full, straight back, which is hung in three organ-plaits that stand well from the figure at the waist line, while a band of passementerie finishes the bottom. The waist of red has a full vest effect of black moire, with a corselet of black passementerie, which runs clear to the back, with the same open effect as shown in front. A square collar in the back, of red cloth trimmed with passementerie, falls over the full sleeve of cloth, which is trimmed to the elbow to match the costume; full collar and pointed belt of black moire completes one of the few gowns which come out as well in the making as they appear in the design.

In the new swallow-tail coat is shown one of black mirror velvet (Fig. 3), which has a plain vest of heavy Russian cream lace, edged on either side with sable tails, which cross over in front just below the waist line. The long coat-tails in the back reach almost to the bottom of the dress skirt, and have two large rhinestone buckles at the bottom of the waist. The plain, full skirt is black satin brocaded in rose-colored, ragged chrysanthemums. The picture hat is black velvet, with ostrich tips in black and rose color, with rhinestone ornaments. This same costume made up of less expensive materials loses none of its style, and for the spring makes a chic street dress, and one that will lead in style. In many instances the coat and skirt are of the same material, and again are seen in two tones of one color. Vests in oriental effects, also in the Napoleon blue and gold braid, are much in evidence with the black gowns.

Chiffon is more prodigally used than ever, and is as much seen on woolen garments as on silk.

MARY K.

A COMPLETE WRECK.

A Story of Peculiar Interest to Women—How the Life of a York State Woman was Wrecked—Life Lost its Joys—But the Clouds Passed and Happiness Came Again.

(From the Binghamton, N. Y., Republican.)

We have heard so much talk throughout the county of late concerning Mrs. Martha Gates, of Maine, Broome county, N. Y., that yesterday a reporter of the Binghamton Republican interviewed her for publication, and her story, which will interest all women, is as follows:

"I was born in Hartford, Cortland county, New York, forty-two years ago. I have been married twenty-one years, and am the mother of eight children. About two years ago I was afflicted with troubles incidental to my sex and suffered agonizing pain. The trouble continued to grow worse, until last winter I was compelled to take to my bed. I called in a regular physician, but his treatment did not seem to do me much good, and only relieved me for a little time, after which my condition became worse than before. I was confined to my bed for three months and was absolutely unable to attend to my household duties. I could hardly feed myself so weak had I become. I had to be waited upon day and night and was a physical wreck. There was very grave doubts about my ultimate recovery. The best hope the doctor could hold out to me was that I might be able to get around again and attend to my household duties after remaining in bed a few months longer. But instead of getting better I grew steadily worse. One day I happened to read in the paper about Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People, and decided to give them a trial. Immediately after taking them and before I had used a half a box I saw a marked change for the better in my condition. All this time, however, I was confined to my bed. I continued taking the medicine until I had used four boxes, and by that time I was able to be about and around again. The improvement has been steady ever since. I am still a little weak, but am growing stronger, as fast as nature, aided by Dr. Williams' Pink Pills, will let me. I have great faith in these pills and shall use them hereafter. My husband, who felt real miserable all the spring, took them and they made a new man of him. I have also used them for my daughter, aged nineteen years, who has found them very beneficial for troubles incidental to her sex. So far as I am myself concerned I consider it a wonderful cure."

Mrs. Gates has lived in North Maine for many years, and is highly respected. Any statement she makes is cheerfully acquiesced in by her friends and acquaintances.

Dr. Williams' Pink Pills contain all the elements necessary to give new life and richness to the blood and restore shattered nerves. They are for sale by all druggists, or may be had by mail from Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., Schenectady, N. Y., for fifty cents per box, or six boxes for \$2.50.

AN EXCELLENT SHORTENING.

Obtain from your butcher six or eight pounds of flank fat. Cut this into pieces about three inches square. Place in an iron kettle with a little water and set over a brisk fire. Prevent its scorching by frequent stirring. In three quarters of an hour, when the pieces are brown and crisp, strain through a colander, pressing the scraps well.

A good way is to place a cheese-cloth in the pan before the fat is poured in. Also if the scraps be skimmed off and put in first, there will be no danger of the fat flying in the face.

This shortening will keep sweet a long time, and is soft and golden like butter. A better shortening can scarcely be found.

A storekeeper in Brocton, Mass., displays this odd sign: "Home-made Corned Beef."

MOTHERS! When the children take colds and suffer from coughs, give them

ALLEN'S LUNG BALSAM

It contains no opium in any form and can be given to the children with perfect safety. A lady writes:

"No one ever complains to me of having a bad Cold or Cough, but what I recommend Allen's Lung Balsam to them. So much has it done for me. It is a true friend to all sufferers of the Throat and Lungs."—Mrs. E. Cottrell, Jackson, Mich.

Beware of the fatal consequences of neglecting a cough. Many a young life might be saved if every mother would use

ALLEN'S LUNG BALSAM Sold by Druggists at 25c., 50c. and \$1 a Bottle.

HOME TOPICS.

FISH PIE.—Fry two tablespoonfuls of minced onion in two tablespoonfuls of hot butter until yellow, add two tablespoonfuls of flour, and stir in gradually one pint of hot milk. Season with one teaspoonful of salt, one quarter of a teaspoonful of pepper and one tablespoonful of chopped parsley. Boil three eggs fifteen minutes; free about two pounds of fresh fish—haddock or halibut are best—from skin and bones and cut into small pieces. Put the fish into a deep baking-dish, then the slices of egg, and pour milk over the whole. Cover the pie with a crust, cut a gash in the center, and bake slowly for about an hour.

This recipe came to me from a notable New England housekeeper, and it is simply delicious. Away from the sea-shore, perhaps on a western prairie farm, fresh halibut is a scarce article, and often fresh fish of any kind suitable for this pie cannot be had. Now I will tell you that canned salmon makes a very nice pie by the above recipe, and need be baked only long enough to brown the crust.

FISH SOUP.—I never heard of fish soup in the West, and no doubt it will be new to many another housekeeper and be a welcome addition to her Lenten bill of fare. Boil slowly two pounds of any large, fresh fish for fifteen minutes; take up the fish, remove the skin and bones, and pick the fish into small pieces. Put a quart of milk on to boil, with a teaspoonful of chopped parsley, a small onion and a blade of mace. Put in the fish. Mix a tablespoonful of flour with a teacupful of cream and pour into the boiling soup, and season it with salt and pepper. Put two well-beaten eggs in the soup-tureen and pour the soup in, stirring it all the time.

CLAM CHOWDER.—Put a piece of butter the size of an egg in the soup-kettle and slice three small onions into it. Let it simmer until the onions are yellow. Peel and slice three potatoes, and chop a quart of clams. Put in a layer of clams, then one of potatoes until all are in. Pour in a quart of hot water and let it cook until the potatoes are done. Season well with salt and pepper, and just before serving, pour in a quart of hot milk.

Not long ago I wanted a clam chowder, but no clams were available. I opened a can of salmon, picked out all the bones and pieces of skin and chopped the fish, then proceeded the same as for clam chowder. The family pronounced it an excellent chowder.

SPRING SEWING.—If the busy homemaker would save herself much care and hurry, and gain time for a little needed midsummer rest, let her begin her spring sewing in February. First, it is a good plan to "take stock" by going through all the closets and chests and laying out everything which can be repaired or made over. Repair and put in order all the summer



PAPER FLOWERS.

clothing on hand, even to the stockings. Often papa's last summer's trousers will do good service when ripped apart, sponged and pressed, and made into short pants for the little boys. Sometimes little jackets can be made from the same material which will be nice for the little girls' school wear. Then there are nearly always dresses which can be made over for the little folks. When this is done, look over the sheets and pillowslips and turn those that need it. Next examine the table-linen. Sometimes a table-cloth which has passed the time of use as such will still furnish material for several good napkins, just the kind to be used in berry-time, and save the new ones from being stained.

When the repairing and remodeling are finished, you will know just what must be

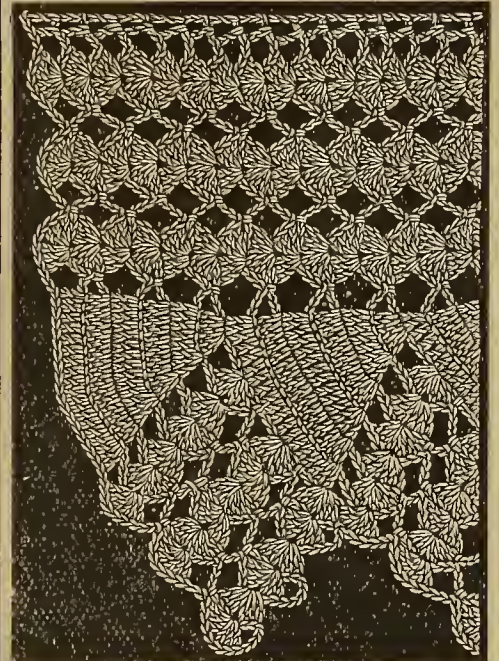
bought new, and will be ready to begin making, first house-linen and underclothing, then the summer dresses. By the time the weather is warm enough for house cleaning, all the spring sewing for the family will be finished, and the mother's heart will rejoice that for once she is ahead of the season.

MAIDA McL.

A FANCY SHELL EDGE.

ABBREVIATIONS.—Sh means shell or shells; ch, chain or chains; st, stitch or stitches; tr, treble or trebles; d c, double crochet.

Make a chain of 51 stitches.
First row—1 tr in the seventh st of foundation ch; ch 1. * Miss 3 st, 1 sh in the next st, (3 tr, ch 1, 3 tr). Miss 2 st, 1 d c in next st, ch 3, repeat from * 3 times. Miss 3 st, 2 tr in the next st, and 3 tr in the next st, ch 2. * Miss 3 st, 1 sh in the next st, miss 2 st, 1 d c in the next st, ch 3. Repeat from the last * twice. Miss 3 st, 1 sh in the next st, ch 5 st; turn.



FANCY SHELL EDGE.

Second row—* 1 sh in sh, 1 d c under 3 ch, ch 3 st; repeat from * twice. 1 sh in the next sh, ch 2 st, miss the 2 ch, 3 tr in the first tr, 1 tr in each st of trebles, till come to the last st, and crochet 2 tr in the last tr st, ch 3, * 1 sh in sh, 1 d c under 3 ch, ch 3 st; repeat from last * twice; 1 sh in sh, ch 1, miss 1 ch and 1 tr st, 1 tr under the next ch st, ch 2, 1 tr in the third st of 5 ch (at end), ch 5; turn.

Third row—1 tr under the first ch of 2 st, ch 1, * 1 sh in sh, 1 d c under 3 ch, ch 3 st; repeat from * 3 times. 2 tr in the first tr st; after ch, 1 tr in each st of trebles, till come to the last st, and crochet 3 tr in the last tr st, ch 2, * 1 sh in sh, 1 d c under 3 ch, ch 3 st; repeat from the last * twice. 1 sh in sh, ch 5 st; turn.

Fourth and sixth rows—Repeat the same as second row.

Fifth row—Repeat the same as the third row.

Seventh row—1 tr under the first ch of 2 st, ch 1, * 1 sh in sh, 1 d c under 3 ch, ch 3 st; repeat from * 3 times. 2 tr in the first tr st; after ch, 3 tr in next st, ch 2; * miss 3 st, 1 sh in the next st, miss 2, 1 d c in the next st, ch 3; repeat from the last * twice; miss 3 st, 1 sh in the next st, ch 5; turn.

Repeat from the second row for the length required. ELLA McCOWEN.

PAPER FLOWERS.

Chrysanthemums of paper are very beautiful for decoration. The ones we illustrate were used at Christmas-time, and deceived many flower lovers. The dark ones, made of dark red, and the pink ones were very natural in appearance.

Patterns can be furnished, and paper sent where it cannot be purchased. L. L. C.

CHILDISH AMUSEMENTS.

Colds, sore throats and inclement weather keep many a child an unwilling prisoner in the house these days, and while the time hangs heavily from want of suitable occupation, they get into all sorts of mischief; or else, becoming cross and peevish, cause the mother no end of annoyance and care.

Three little people with whom the writer is most intimately acquainted, had such happy times both last winter and this, although kept indoors for weeks at a time, much of that time semi-invalids, that it has occurred to me it might help other mothers to know how they amused themselves.

They are passionately fond of flowers and of pets. Last winter, regretting the absence of the many flowers with which

their home is surrounded in the summer-time, they bethought themselves of a floral catalogue, and soon from this they had cut many illustrations, with which they began to play. Following this they cut out persons and houses, animals and barns, trees, fences, windmills, carriages, buildings of all kinds, grains, vegetables, etc. Some days they had farms completely equipped with all necessary buildings, implements, fences and stock. For days at a time they played with these—seeding, cultivating and harvesting the crops, caring for stock and poultry, etc., and having "lovely" times. Then there were cities and schools and churches. Whole families both at home and abroad, and such fun as they had preparing for the journeys, and such wonderful places as they visited.

Illustrations were cut from grocery, dry-goods and hardware catalogues, and from these most wonderful stores were stocked, that occupied their time for days. Then for a time they concentrated all their attention on people, and had perhaps a hundred of them. They celebrated weddings and birthdays, attended church and funerals, gave parties and receptions, and did about as real people would have done, excepting to quarrel, find fault and complain.

Then for a long time paper dolls claimed their attention, and they cut great boxes full of them, with many changes of clothing.

Many of the pictures cut from illustrated periodicals, especially those of persons and animals, had strips of cardboard twice the length of the picture pasted to the back, the extra length being bent backward from the top, thus holding the picture erect on the same principle that an easel stands. The subjects thus treated could be placed about at pleasure, and seeming more like "real," brought them, of course, more pleasure.

When tired of their quiet games, a little romp or some light household task "rested" them and kept them happy and contented.

I was careful always to keep the rooms well ventilated and not overheated, for I learned long ago that much so-called "nervousness," much fretfulness and peevishness may be avoided by pure air both day and night.

All country children have an almost unlimited fund of amusement in a basket of fresh, clean corn-cobs, and I well remember the wonderful buildings, fences and what not that my childish hands constructed. The child of town or village may find a partial substitute in a basket of clothes-pins, and my little ones often play with them.

Drawing amuses almost all children, and a sheet of tissue-paper laid over an illustrated paper, the picture to be traced with a lead-pencil, will give much pleasure, as well as be an aid to the child in making independent drawings.

My own little girls, six and eight years old, have spent much happy time with a set of drawing-cards obtained through the FARM AND FIRESIDE premium list last year. The cards are of heavy paper; the picture being outlined by slits and dots. With a sharp pencil they traced through these. When all were done, the card was removed, and the outline completed. These might be made at home by first tracing a picture on a piece of cardboard; then with a sharp knife cutting the slits and dots, leaving only enough of the card uncut to prevent its coming apart.

Letters cut from advertisements, etc., then each one pasted on a small square of cardboard, provide both quiet amusement and instruction, for from these the children

THE ROYAL BAKING POWDER, besides rendering the food more palatable and wholesome, is, because of its higher leavening power, the most economical.

The United States Government, after elaborate tests, reports the Royal Baking Powder to be of greater leavening strength than any other.

—Bulletin 13, U. S. Ag. Dep., p. 599.

ROYAL BAKING POWDER CO., 106 WALL ST., NEW-YORK.

can make selections to spell easy words. By way of variety the letters may be selected to form a single word of three or four syllables, and from these letters, then, may be formed as many shorter words as possible.

Making scrap-books is a delightful pastime for children, and one that they enjoy and appreciate more and more each day. Big aprons and conveniently spread newspapers will protect clothing, carpet and table from spatters and spots of paste, and render the cleaning-up process fairly easy. As the making of these books is more for pastime than for future reference or use, any pamphlet or similar book will answer the purpose, and almost any paper will furnish more or less of pictures. The cutting and preparing of these will give fully as much pleasure as the pasting them into place.

The child, no matter how young, should be required to clear up the litter when through playing, for we as mothers may teach carefulness and thoughtfulness for others, or encourage negligence, just as we allow children to do or not to do in their younger days and about their plays.

CLARA SENSIBAUGH EVERTS.

FOR IRRITATION OF THE THROAT caused by Cold or use of the voice "Brown's Bronchial Troches" are exceedingly beneficial.

Delicate Cake
Easily removed without breaking. Perfection Tins require no greasing. 10 styles, round, square and oblong. 2 layer tins by mail 30 cts. Circulars Free.
Agents Wanted. Richardson Mfg. Co., 9 St., Bath, N.Y.

A New Coffee Pot
Always sells well; the best ever made is now on the market—no toy at fancy prices, but a practical Pot for the million, that makes poor coffee impossible. Once used always used. Terms extremely liberal. Exclusive territory. A grand chance for Agents—ladies or gentlemen. Write for terms.
Wilmot Castle & Co., 51 Elm St., Rochester, N.Y.

TYPEWRITERS.
Learn typewriting at home and take a good position. We are closing out the largest stock all makes standard machines in the world (including Remingtons, \$15 upwards) at great bargains. We bought during the hard times, and sell correspondingly low. Absolute guarantee. Shipped anywhere for examination before accepting. Unprejudiced advice given. Wholesale prices to dealers. 52 page illustrated catalogue free.
TYPEWRITER HEADQUARTERS, 45 LIBERTY ST., New York City

Do You Know
How easy it is to wash clothes with either a GENUINE VANDERGRIFT WESTERN or IMPROVED PAN-AMERICAN WASHER? Satisfaction guaranteed, or amount paid will be refunded.
Catalogue and price list free. There is money in these machines for Agents.
The VANDERGRIFT Mfg. Co., Jamestown, N. Y.
Mention this paper.

SENT FREE Unitarian Publications sent free. Address P. O. M., Unitarian Church, Jamaica Plain, Mass.

ELASTIC STOCKINGS
FOR VARICOSE VEINS, WEAK KNEES AND ANKLES, LAME AND SWOLLEN JOINTS.
We are the only manufacturers in the world that make a perfectly solid SEAMLESS HEEL ELASTIC STOCKING which will neither rip nor chafe. The old style is sure to. For daily comfort wear our SEAMLESS HEEL.
We can save you 50 per cent. by ordering direct from us, and the goods being newly made (to your measure) will last much longer. Send address on postal card and we will mail to you diagrams for self-measuring, also price list.
CURTIS & SPINDELL, 2 Wyman Block, Lynn, Mass.

Our Household.

A WHISTLING SONG.

When times are bad and folks are sad
An' gloomy every day;
Jest try your best at lookin' glad
An' whistle 'em away!

Don't mind how troubles bristle;
Jest take a rose or thistle,
Hold your own
An' change your tone,
An' whistle! whistle! whistle!

A song is worth a world o' sighs;
When red the lightnin's play.
Look for the rainbow in the skies
An' whistle 'em away!
Don't mind how troubles bristle;

Each rose has got its thistle;
Hold your own
An' change your tone,
An' whistle! whistle! whistle!

—Atlanta Constitution.

CUTTING AND BASTING.

CALCULATION should always precede cutting out. First cut out the lining and lay it upon the material; thus you can best plan for the amount of new material necessary.

In cutting out garments that are to be lined, and you are not quite sure of your pattern, it is advisable to baste and try on the lining before the outside is cut; then if any mistake occurs it can be inexpensively rectified. Besides, should much alteration be necessary, it will be an economy of the outside material to first make the change in the lining. Even when this is done there will generally be a slight change in some of the seams after the parts are put together; so it is not safe to trim all the seams to the desired width until all has been fitted.

In selecting lining, always choose a good quality. Avoid stiff, unwieldy materials; soft silesia, percaline, sateen and French cambric are the approved fabrics for waist linings.

Be guided entirely by the waist line in cutting the body parts. Be careful to have this line parallel with the weave of the material, letting the rest of the form lie as it will. Stretch your material and secure it with thumb-tacks to the table before basting on the linings, which must be laid smooth, but easy, upon the outside, so that when on, the outer material will give, thus producing a smooth effect. Baste each piece securely all around at the waist line, and from top to bottom in the center, and mark through the seams with a tracing-wheel. Cut each piece out, but do not cut out the notches in the outside.

Baste the parts together in this wise: Take the backs, lay them evenly together and pin along the back seam. Begin at the waist line and baste toward the neck through the marks made with the wheel.

In stitching up the body, sew outside the basting; thus allowance is made for the bones and finishing.

Now take the side form, put it and the back together at the waist line. Holding the back next you, pin the seams together so it will be perfectly even at the top. The back naturally lies slightly full on the side form; this allows for the shoulder-blade. As both sides cannot be basted from the waist up, more care must be taken in pinning the left side first at the waist, and then from the top down, holding the back next you.

To the side form join the under-arm piece in like manner, basting in the wheel-marks.

Take the fronts, lay them on the goods, the front edge along the selvage, allowing one and one half inches for the hems. Baste with small stitches through the line for the center for the front on each piece, and on the right front baste a second line one half inch back of this, for the hooks; and on the left side, one half inch toward the selvage for the eyes, so that when fastened the center lines will meet evenly down the front. Baste the darts from the top down, after first having pinned them together from the waist line up, line to line, and from the waist line down.

Now join the under-arm seam of the back to the front, and stretch the front shoulder-seam to exactly fit the back shoulder, holding the back next you.

It is now ready to try on. If the hooks and eyes are not on, beginning at the waist line, pin the body together on the center line of basting, line to line. Any alteration necessary should be made only at the shoulder and under-arm seams. The front should never be touched.

After stitching the seams, it is wise to

try on again, as now is the time for alterations, and a little care now will prevent much annoyance in the future.

Overcast or bind the seams and press them open as flat as possible. This can be done best if with the finger you dampen with water along the stitching. Overcast around the neck and armholes, to prevent fraying in the trying on.

A body should always be fitted with the skirt on. M. E. SMITH.

BABY.

There came into port the other day,
The queerest little craft,
Without a stitch of rigging on;
I looked and looked and laughed.

It seemed so strange that she should come,
Across the stormy water,
And anchor there, right in my room,
My daughter, oh, my daughter!

—George W. Cable.

No matter how stormy the sea, nor how hard the times, these little crafts put in for some port right along, and the rigging is always awaiting them.

It differs in different places, but you may be sure, no matter what the rigging is made of, be it coarse or fine, elaborate or plain, the same amount of love goes into it all, and the heartiest welcome awaits the tiny craft.

In answer to a plea for these papers, I write for those to whom even the utmost particular of the wardrobe itself is as yet a mystery. I shall not make it too elaborate, for it is those to whom it must be plainest that need the minutest directions.

Absolute necessities all must have; luxuries can be added at any time. The rage now in all classes is for soft, dainty material, hand-made, and an entire absence of superfluous trimming.

Six slips of white Lonsdale cambric prove valuable for first dresses, and afterward for night wear. These should not be too long, as they are very cumbersome when handling a little child.

Six flannel skirts are almost a necessity. Three of Shaker flannel, and three of all-wool flannel of the widest width. The difference in the price of flannel is for the difference in width more often than quality. Then, too, cheap flannel shrinks, and is expensive in the end.

Good flannel will last two babies, at least. Flannel skirts should be a yard long from the band. Then as the child grows and the clothes must be shortened, there will be enough of the flannel to make two short skirts. You will not need but two cotton skirts, as they are only worn for dressy occasions.

Three belly-hands, either hand-knit in ribbing like the top of a stocking, or of soft flannel (old, if possible), taken bias.

Of wrappers it is best to have two or three. These can be of flannel or percale, owing to the time of year. These are useful to put on baby the first thing in the morning until you have time to dress it.

Diapers should be abundant. At least five or six dozen is not too large a number. Cotton diaper is the best material to use, and should be cut the length of a double square of the width of the material. To any one needing patterns for an infant's wardrobe, we will furnish twenty-six patterns of first long clothes, or seventeen of first short clothes, for thirty-five cents.

Send all communications to "Household Editor." CHRISTIE IRVING.

CONTRIBUTED RECIPES.

LEMON CAKE.—
½ cupful of butter,
3 eggs,
2 cupfuls of sugar,
1 cupful of milk,
3 cupfuls of flour,
2 teaspoonfuls of baking-powder.

Bake in jelly-pans. For the jelly:
1 cupful of sugar,
1 egg,
1 tablespoonful of butter,
1 lemon—grated rind and juice.
Boil until it thickens.

This recipe, if directions are strictly followed, never fails. It has given me such perfect satisfaction that I concluded I would send it to FARM AND FIRESIDE. M. K.

CONSUMPTION CURED.

An old physician, retired from practice, had placed in his hands by an East India missionary the formula of a simple vegetable remedy for the speedy and permanent cure of Consumption, Bronchitis, Catarrh, Asthma and all Throat and Lung Affections, also a positive and radical cure for Nervous Debility and all Nervous Complaints. Having tested its wonderful curative powers in thousands of cases, and desiring to relieve human suffering, I will send free of charge to all who wish it, this recipe, in German, French or English, with full directions for preparing and using. Sent by mail, by addressing, with stamp, naming this paper. W. A. NOYES, 820 Powers' Block, Rochester, N. Y.

HINTS.

Don't complain about the weather,
For easier 'tis, you'll find,
To make your mind to weather
Than weather to your mind.

Don't complain about the sermon,
And show your lack of wit,
For, like a boot, a sermon hurts
The closer it doth fit.

Don't complain about your neighbor,
For in your neighbor's view
His neighbor is not faultless—
That neighbor being you.

HELPFUL RECIPES.

APPLE SNOW.—In the bottom of a fancy glass dish place a layer of fine, well-sweetened apple sauce, then a very scant layer of fine, dry bread crumbs or cracker crumbs and a few tiny lumps of jelly. Over this spread a generous layer of whipped cream, sweetened to taste, then another layer of apple sauce, one of bread crumbs and jelly, and another of whipped cream; and so on until the dish is sufficiently full, having the whipped cream on top, over which place a few tiny lumps of the bright jelly, and one has a delightful dessert, easily prepared, and as attractive to the eye as it is to the palate.

BAKED APPLES.—Pare a sufficient number of tart apples, cut them in halves and remove the cores. Place in a baking-dish, and in the cavity formed by the removal of the core, place a raisin and a tiny lump of butter. Smooth a scant tablespoonful of flour in as little cold water as possible; pour over it a pint or more of boiling water, stirring constantly; add enough sugar to sweeten the apples sufficiently, and pour it over them. Set in a hot oven and bake until tender, and serve hot, dipping some of the rich, creamy syrup over each half of the apple.

SUGARED ORANGES.—Pare them, and with a sharp knife slice them crosswise, instead of dividing in sections. Sprinkle well with sugar, and let stand a few moments before serving.

SLICED BANANAS.—Pare the bananas and slice in thin, regular slices, into the individual dessert-dishes, sprinkling each layer with powdered sugar. Set on ice fifteen or twenty minutes, and serve with cream. Use a silver knife in slicing, so they will not turn black. CLARA S. E.

FROZEN EARS.

Paste this on the door of your medicine-case, and commit to memory:

After thawing out the ears with snow, before going near heat, apply as soon as possible a fifty-per-cent solution of camphor-phenique in olive-oil, with raw cotton. Renew when the cotton is dry. Do not put on any kind of warm applications.

STATE OF OHIO, CITY OF TOLEDO, } ss.
LUCAS COUNTY.

FRANK J. CHENEY makes oath that he is the senior partner of the firm of F. J. CHENEY & Co., doing business in the City of Toledo, County and State aforesaid, and that said firm will pay the sum of ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS for each and every case of Catarrh that cannot be cured by the use of HALL'S CATARRH CURE.

FRANK J. CHENEY.

Sworn to before me and subscribed in my presence, this 6th day of December, A. D. 1886.

A. W. GLEASON,
Notary Public.

Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally and acts directly on the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. Send for testimonials, free.

F. J. CHENEY & CO., Toledo, O.
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Gem Collection for 1895

contains one packet each of the new Aster White Branching, with immense double Chrysanthemum-like flowers in great profusion, alone 15c. per pkt.; New Petunia Burpee's Defiance Largest Flowering Mixed, flowers measuring over five inches in diameter; \$145.00 in cash prizes for the largest blooms—the finest Petunias in the world, never sold for less than 25c. per pkt. Imperial German Pansies Splendid mixed, more than fifty colors of the brightest and best Pansies. New Royal Dwarf Purple Cockscomb of immense size and great perfection. Marigold Legion of Honor, a novelty of rare and unusual beauty. New Calendula Giant Flowering Golden Yellow, immense light yellow flowers, perfectly double. Calliopsis Coronata, an annual variety, old but little known. Choice Coleus, with grand leaves of many brilliant hues. New Yellow Dolichos, a distinct novelty and the new Brazilian Morning Glory, large flowered, quite distinct both in foliage and flower.

The ten packets named above, purchased from us or any other seedsmen would amount to \$1.20 at regular cash prices, we will, however, send all ten varieties, with full directions for culture printed on each packet—The Complete COLLECTION for only 25 CENTS, or five complete collections for \$1.00.

Never before have such rare and valuable seeds of the most beautiful flowers been offered at such a nominal price. We hope to make thousands of new customers and we guarantee perfect satisfaction to every purchaser.

To each one who asks for it we will also send FREE BURPEE'S FARM ANNUAL for 1895, a handsome book of 174 pages, well known as a "leading American Seed Catalogue," or A Bright Book about Seeds, novel and unique.

If with the silver quarter you enclose two 2c stamps (or thirty cents in stamps altogether) besides the entire collection of seeds and either of the catalogues named, we will also send you a superb work of art entitled "A Year's Work at Fordhook Farm," this beautiful book gives many pictures from photographs of America's Model Seed Farm. WRITE TO-DAY as this advertisement will not appear again and such value was never before offered for so little money. Catalogues alone FREE to any address.

W. ATLEE BURPEE & CO., Philadelphia, Pa.
Mention this paper when you write.



New Chrysanthemum Seed

These charming new types of Chrysanthemum from Japan bloom the first year from seed. They embrace all styles, varieties and colors, including the exquisite new Ostrich Plum types, Rosettes, Globes, Embroidered, Miniature and Mammoth. Sow the seed this spring and the plants will bloom profusely this fall, either in pots or in the garden. From a packet of this seed one may have a most magnificent show of rare beauties. Price 25c. per pkt. or FOR ONLY 80c. WE WILL MAIL ALL OF THE FOLLOWING:

- 1 pkt. NEW JAPANESE CHRYSANTHEMUM Seed.
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- 1 pkt. GIANT WHITE SPIDER FLOWER, new.
- 1 pkt. JAPANESE WINEBERRY, king of berries.
- 1 pkt. NEW SPOON GOURD, curious and useful.
- 5 bulbs NAMED GLADIOLUS, 1 each of White, Pink, Scarlet, Yellow and Variegated.
- 3 bulbs MAMMOTH OXALIS, different colors.
- 1 bulb VARIEGATED TUBEROSE, Orange flowers.
- 1 bulb ZEPHYR FLOWER, a perfect fairy-like gem, and our GREAT CATALOGUE with 9 magnificent colored plates and covers, and sample copy of the MAYFLOWER with two great chrome plates. These 5 packets of seed Novelties and 10 choice Bulbs (worth \$1.35) will all flower this season, and we send them for 30 CENTS only to introduce our superior stock. 4 collections for \$1.00. Catalogue will not be sent unless asked for, as you may already have it.

Order at once, as this Offer may not appear again.

Send us the names of 5 or 10 of your neighbors who love flowers and we will add a fine Novelty, FREE.

OUR CATALOGUE of Flower and Vegetable Seeds, Bulbs, Plants and Rare new Fruits is the finest ever issued; profusely illustrated with elegant cuts and colored plates. We offer the choicest standard sorts and finest Novelties. We are headquarters for all that is New, Rare and Beautiful. This elegant Catalogue will be sent for 25c., or FREE if you order the articles here offered.

JOHN LEWIS CHILDS, Floral Park, N. Y.
Mention this paper when you write.

Selections.

THE DEAD BABE.

Last night, as my dear babe lay dead, In agony I knelt and said: "O God! what have I done, Or in what wise offended thee, That thou should'st take away from me My little son?"

Upon the thousand useless lives— Upon the guilt that vaunting thrives, Thy wrath were better spent! Why should'st thou take my little son? Why should'st thou vent thy wrath upon "This innocent?"

Last night, as my dear babe lay dead, Before mine eyes the vision spread Of things that might have been; Licentious riot, cruel strife, Forgotten prayers, a wasted life, Dark red with sin!

Then, with soft music in the air, I saw another vision there.

A Shepherd, in whose keep A little lamb—my little child— Of worldly wisdom undecified, Lay fast asleep!

Last night, as my dear babe lay dead, In those two messages I read

A wisdom manifest; And though my arms be childless now, I am content—to Him I bow Who knoweth best.

—Eugene Field, in Chicago Record.

MOST PERFECT CLOCK.

As is known everywhere, "Greenwich time" is the most accurate in the world, and the whole machinery of the clock which records it is very perfect. But notwithstanding this latter fact, it has to be constantly attended to and regulated by experts, so much so that being the most accurate, it may also be described as the clock which requires the most labor to make it continue to give satisfaction. It is, however, worthy of every attention, for the amount of work which it does with efficiency is astounding. It causes a current of electricity to pass through some wires every second. This serves as the motive force for several clocks, and regulates a large number of others scattered over Britain.

At one o'clock every day a current is sent which fires the time-guns at Newcastle, South Shields, Edinburgh and elsewhere. At the same time, time-balls are let fall by its agency at various places. The standard or public clock at Greenwich is regulated by comparing the time recorded on its face with that given by an astronomical clock, and the difference between true astronomical and true Greenwich time can be found from tables which are calculated for every day and for every hour in the day.

But the astronomical clock, which is regulated according to the movements of the stars, gains a second on true time in the course of every six minutes, so that the most constant attention and the greatest care on the part of the experts is necessary. But how, in what manner, is the clock put right? It must not be stopped or advanced by so many seconds in the usual way, because this would not advance or retard by the same number of seconds the clocks which are moved by its means.

It is done by electricity. A magnet is attached to the end of the pendulum, and beneath this is a coil of wire, so arranged that when an electric current passes through it in one direction, its influence on the magnet makes the pendulum move slower, and when in the opposite direction, quicker. The regulating expert knows that by sending a current through the wires for ten seconds, he alters the time of the clock by one second, making it faster or slower, according to the direction as described, so that he can regulate the standard clock to within a tenth of a second of absolutely true time.—Scottish Nights.

DO NOT SCOLD.

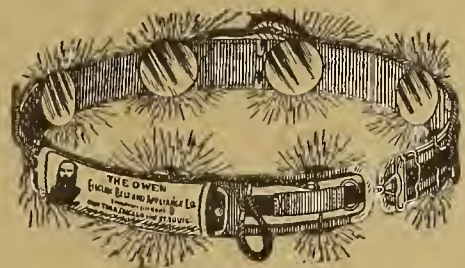
For the sake of your children do not scold. It is a great misfortune to have children reared in the presence and under the influence of a scold. The effect of the everlasting complaining and faultfinding of such persons is to make the young who bear it unamiable, malicious and callous-hearted, and they often learn to take pleasure in doing the very things for which they receive tongue-lashings. As they are always getting the blame of wrong-doing, whether they do it or not, they think they might as well do wrong as right. They lose all ambition to strive for the favorable opinion of a faultfinder, since they see they always strive in vain. Thus a scold is not only a nuisance, but a destroyer of the morals of children.

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A GUARANTEE



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W. J. BRODIE.

1057 W. Polk St., Chicago, Oct. 27, 1893. THE OWEN ELECTRIC BELT AND APPLIANCE CO.: Gentlemen—Solely in the interest of others who are, or may become similarly affected with myself, I venture to offer my experience with the use of the Owen Electric Belt, and that I am actuated entirely by that motive, must be apparent from the fact that until you see my name and address recorded on this letter you had no knowledge of either. I had long been a sufferer from chronic dyspepsia and nervous prostration, contracted or aggravated by many years residence in the East Indies. About three years ago I purchased one of your Belts in the hope that its use might afford me some relief, and wore it continuously as directed for about four hours every afternoon for a month or so, and the result was perfectly marvelous. My indigestion with all its attendant miseries, nervousness, depression, irritability and insomnia, from which latter I was a great sufferer, have disappeared. I then discontinued the use of the Belt (the existence of which I had indeed forgotten), until about six weeks ago, when a recurrence of my old trouble very forcibly reminded me of it. I again put it into wear (after ceasing its use for over one and one-half years), and with the same extraordinary results, being again restored to health, strength and vigor, after wearing it for only ten days. Under these circumstances I can most emphatically recommend to others suffering from the ailments which I have endeavored to describe, the adoption of the use of the Owen Electric Belt. I had long been aware of the curative powers of electricity from what I had read on the subject, and on my return to England I purchased from Pulvermacher of Regent street, London, the combined chain bands, of which he is the patentee, for which I paid three guineas, and although I must admit that I derived some benefit from their use, I am bound to say the general result did not approach the benefit derived from the use of the Owen Belt, besides which its utility is so great an improvement in comfort and convenience; Pulvermachers' being cumbersome and complicated in adjusting to the body, besides causing from being uncovered, blisters and sores, and above all not being able to regulate the current as is the case in the Owen Electric Belt. You are at perfect liberty to make what use you think fit of this letter, and I shall be glad to answer either verbally or by letter any inquiry made from me on this subject. I am, gentlemen, Yours respectfully, W. J. BRODIE.

COLUMBIAN LINIMENT FOR MAN OR BEAST. The best external application known; should be in every household. We guarantee Foot rot, burrs, scabs, fresh wounds, sprains, stiff joints, etc., etc. 25c. a bottle. Information furnished. Agents wanted. COLUMBIAN REMEDY CO., P. O. Box 525, Birmingham, Ala.

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Our Sunday Afternoon.

TWO CHRISTIANS.

Two Christians traveled down a road, Who viewed the world with different eyes; The one was pleased with earth's abode, The other longing for the skies. For one, the heavens were so blue, They filled his mind with fancies fond; The other's eyes kept piercing through Only for that which lies beyond.

For one, enchanting were the trees, The distance was divinely dim, The birds that fluttered on the breeze Nodded their pretty heads for him. The other scarcely saw the flowers, And never knew the trees were grand; He did but count the days and hours Till he might reach the promised land.

And one a little kind caress Would to a tender rapture move; He only opened his lips to bless The God who gave him things to love. The other journeyed on his way, Afraid to handle or to touch; He only ope'd his lips to pray He might not love a thing too much.

Which was the best? Decide who can? Yet why should we decide 'twixt them? We may approve the mournful man, Nor yet the joyful man condemn. He is a Christian who has found That earth, as well as heaven, is sweet; Nor less is he who, heaven bound, Has spurn'd the earth beneath his feet. -Good Words.

A SALVATION ARMY GOLD-MINE.

IN the Huachuca range of mountains, near Prescott, Arizona, is situated one of the most unique gold-mines of the world. The sixteen men who work the mine are all members of the Salvation Army, and the profits of the mine all go into the treasury of that organization. The history of the location and subsequent development of the mine was recently related by The Mining Industry and Tradesman.

"Old Dick" Taylor, the discoverer, is one of the best known and most successful prospectors in the territory. Coming to Arizona in the early days, he was a fair sample of the border ruffian joined with the successful miner.

It was immediately after the sale of the Apache mine for \$15,000 that he started on his wildest debauch in Phoenix. For over a month he did not draw a sober breath, and at last, reduced again to poverty, and weakened mentally and physically, he professed religion at an open-air meeting of the Salvation Army in Phoenix. For over two months he marched with the army at its nightly meetings, but finding such a routine life too irksome, he again started for the hills.

Nothing was heard of him for over two months, and it was reported that he had perished on the desert; but one day he again turned up in Phoenix with a burload of rich ore, which set the town ablaze with excitement. Some of the nuggets which he brought were valued at \$50. He announced his intention of turning his latest find over to the Salvation Army. It was duly proffered to and accepted by that organization, and fifteen men volunteered to develop it. Work was commenced over a year ago under the direction of Taylor, and has progressed steadily since.

The pay streak is sixteen inches wide, and has paid well from the start. Strict religious discipline is maintained in the camp, and the profits, after paying the necessary expenses, go into the treasury of the army, to aid in the work of that organization. Two shifts of six men each work under ground, while the remainder attend to the treatment of the ore and transportation of necessary supplies. Supplies are freighted one hundred miles.—The Ram's Horn.

THE BIBLE.

The Bible is an honest book, to be honestly interpreted. While its religious contents cannot be clearly apprehended, heartily felt, and effectively applied, unless the Holy Spirit moves on our mind and heart and will, it is a book written in human language. To deny this is to deny any real inspiration. As a human book, its words mean what they say. The Holy Spirit's influence will not change the force of a tense or proposition, nor alter the logical relations of the thought. It may seem pious to profess an ignorant dependence upon the Holy Spirit, but it has always led to fanaticism. In the long run, when men have the privilege of studying and neglect it under this alleged dependence upon the Spirit, they are only excusing their laziness and unfaithfulness.

The Holy Spirit can and does overcome our laziness and unfaithfulness, but never encourages them. This is to be emphasized, for the great increase in popular Bible study has stimulated a false mysticism. The minister of to-day needs to have very clear views on this point, and the correct method of study will enable him to guard others against such errors. If he does his duty in exegetical study, asking the blessing of the spirit on his efforts to know the meaning of the word, he can explain what the illumination of the spirit is, for he will know it by experience.—Prof. M. B. Riddle.

WATTS' FIRST HYMN.

In a little meeting-house at Southampton, Isaac Watts, a youth of twenty, worshipped with his father; but the dull and drowsy hymns, "bleated" in duller and drowsier tunes, were a source of great vexation to him, and he did not fail to make his complaints known to his father, who was a deacon of the church.

"Then try and improve them," said he.

The lad did so, and soon afterward, at the close of one of the Sunday services, his first hymn was sung:

Behold the glories of the lamb, Amidst His Father's throne; Prepare new honors for His name, And songs before unknown.

The hymn was a prophecy. "Songs before unknown" were now prepared. In 1707 his first hymn-book appeared. Taunted, it is said, by his father for his extreme dislike to Tate and Brady's "New Version of the Psalms," he was inspired to give his own version, and in 1719 it was published. From this time the world was inundated with hymns. Dr. Watts contributed no fewer than 697; but as it was not possible that all these could be good ones (some of them, in fact, are execrable), more than half have dropped completely out of use. Then came the Wesleyan revival, and with it the demand for more hymns; "for while John Wesley roused the hearts of the people to sing, his brother Charles put songs in their mouths." And this he did to the number of 600.

HAVE YOU EVER THOUGHT IT OVER?

When a man drops off to sleep his body does not do it all at once. Some senses become dormant before others, and always in the same order. As he becomes drowsy, the eyes close and the sense of seeing is at rest. It is quickly followed by the sense of taste. He next loses the sense of smell, and then, after a short interval, the tympanum becomes insensible to sound, or rather, the nerves which run to the brain from it fail to convey any sense of hearing.

The last sense to leave is that of touch, and in some hypersensitive people it is hardly ever dormant. This sense is also first to return upon awaking. Then hearing follows suit, after that taste, and then the eyes become able to flash impressions back to the brain. The sense of smell, oddly enough, though it is by no means the first to go, is the last to come back.

The same gradual loss of power is observed in the muscles and sinews. Slumber begins at the feet, and slowly spreads up the limbs and trunk until it reaches the brain, when unconsciousness is complete and the whole body is at rest.—Strand Magazine.

DRINK VERSUS DOLLARS.

It is becoming more and more apparent that on account of the close competitions of the commercial world, the successful management must employ clear heads and sure hands in order to win in the battle for dollars. It is not surprising, therefore, to learn that the managers of a railroad company have recently forbidden their employees to drink while on duty, or to frequent saloons or gambling-houses while off duty. It is, in fact, surprising that such action has not already been taken by all the railroads in the country. No one can say how many accidents have resulted from the incapacity wrought by drink. The vice-president and general manager of the road above referred to, in speaking of the action of his company, cites one case in which several lives were lost which was caused by the fact that the engineer had been gambling all night, and was too sleepy to perform his duty. The engineer's night of dissipation cost the road \$300,000.—Baptist Union.

\$6.00 TO CALIFORNIA

Is the price of one double berth in Tourist Sleeping Car from Chicago. This is on the famous "Phillips-Rock Island Tourist Excursions," and cars run through from Chicago, without change, on fast train, leaving Chicago every Tuesday and Thursday. Write for map and full particulars to JOHN SEBASTIAN, G. P. A., Chicago.

Health is a Bubble.

Prick it with a needle, or a cold draft of air, and it vanishes. There is this difference however. The bubble once gone never returns; health does. An



Allcock's Porous Plaster

acts like a magician's wand, calling into being health and strength which, it seemed, had left forever. Whatever part of the body needs it, finds it a sure relief and cure for stiffness, soreness, strain, sprain, congestion of every kind.

Be Satisfied with nothing but the genuine "ALLCOCK'S." Be not deceived by misrepresentations.

ALLCOCK'S CORN SHIELDS, ALLCOCK'S BUNION SHIELDS,

Have no equal as a relief and cure for corns and bunions.

Brandreth's Pills still hold the foremost place. The longer they are used the stronger is their position.

Don't Forget

that when you buy Scott's Emulsion you are not getting a secret mixture containing worthless or harmful drugs.

Scott's Emulsion cannot be secret for an analysis reveals all there is in it. Consequently the endorsement of the medical world means something.

Scott's Emulsion

overcomes Wasting, promotes the making of Solid Flesh, and gives Vital Strength. It has no equal as a cure for Coughs, Colds, Sore Throat, Bronchitis, Weak Lungs, Consumption, Scrofula, Anaemia, Emaciation, and Wasting Diseases of Children. Scott & Bowne, N. Y. All Druggists. 50c. and \$1.

Advertisement for a watch and cigars. Includes image of a watch and text: 'Box of 50 Cigars AND AN 18K GOLD FINISHED Watch, Charm and Chain. Cut This Advertisement Out and send it to us with your name and address and we will send to you by express for examination this genuine 18k gold plated watch (equal in appearance to solid gold) and a box of 50 of our very finest cigars. You examine them at the express office and if satisfactory pay the agent \$2.98 and they are yours. This is a special offer to introduce our cigars, and only one watch and one box of cigars will be sent to each person ordering at this price. The watch is a beauty and would cost you in a retail store twice as much as we offer the cigars and watch together for. Mention in your letter whether you want gent's or ladies' size watch and write to-day as this will not appear again. Address THE NATIONAL MFG. & IMPORTING CO., 334 Dearborn Street, Chicago, Ill. Always mention this paper when you write.'

Advertisement for a sewing machine. Includes image of a sewing machine and text: 'FREE! IT COSTS YOU NOTHING THIS HIGH-GRADE \$60.00 MACHINE ABSOLUTELY FREE. No Misrepresentation. No Scheme. We mean just what we say. This machine is yours free. No such opportunity has ever before been offered. We shall continue these liberal terms for only a short time. Cut this out and write to-day. Sewing Machine Department P608 OXFORD MFG. CO. 242 Wabash Ave., Chicago'

Advertisement for Beethoven Piano & Organ Co. Includes images of a piano and an organ. Text: 'FREE! Our 24-page catalogue of Organs, also our new and elegant catalogue of Pianos, containing 16 pp. We have the largest manufactory in the world, from which we sell direct to the consumer at wholesale prices, thus saving the profits of the dealer and the commissions of the agents. We furnish a first-class Organ, warranted 20 years, with \$27.50 stool and book, for only \$175.00. No money required until instrument has been thoroughly tested in your own house. Sold on instalments. Easy payment. We positively guarantee every Organ and Piano 20 years. Send for catalogue at once if you want to obtain the greatest bargain on earth. Write name and address plainly, and we will send by mail same day letter is received. As an advertisement, we will sell the first Piano of our make in a \$175.00 Stool, book place for only \$175.00, and cover free. Regular price, \$350. BEETHOVEN PIANO & ORGAN CO., P. O. Box 628 WASHINGTON, N. J. Mention where you saw this advertisement.'

Advertisement for Fairbank's Gold Dust Washing Powder. Includes image of a box of powder and text: 'You Can't Go Amiss if You get a package like this It contains the genuine GOLD DUST WASHING POWDER, a preparation that cleans everything to which it is applied. Cleans it with little labor, cleans it with little expense, cleans it without injury. It's a true friend to every housekeeper. Genuine sold everywhere in 4 lb. packages. Price 25 cents. Made only by THE N. K. FAIRBANK COMPANY, Chicago, St. Louis, New York, Boston, Philadelphia.'

Our Miscellany.

IN 1635, during the great "tulip craze" in Holland, a single bulb of the "Semper Augustus" sold for a sum equal to \$2,200.

RAILWAY accidents are so rare in Holland that an average of only one death a year results from them throughout the entire country.

ACCORDING to Gray, Michelet and Dobby, three eminent botanists, there is not a single known species of marine plant containing vegetable poisons.

IN proportion to the population, France has more money in circulation than any other country. In France it averages \$40.56 per capita; in the United States, \$24.34; in England and Germany, \$18.42.

IN ancient times in Greece it was customary to place a coin under the tongue of a dead person. This was to pay his fare to Charon, whose duty then was to ferry the deceased over the river Acheron, in the infernal regions.

IF a lion and a strong horse were to pull in opposite directions, the horse would win the tug-of-war easily; but if the lion were hitched behind the horse and facing the same direction, he could easily back the horse down upon its haunches.

BUENOS AYRES will soon see the completion of the largest opera-house in the world. It will seat 5,000 spectators, and the stage will hold 800 persons. The house is so constructed that box-holders can have their carriages driven up to their tiers.

WE have received the Sixth Annual Catalogue of the Keystone Woven Wire Fence Co., Tremont, Ill. It is loaded with just the sort of knowledge every farmer should possess, provided he wishes to be "up to date" concerning all matters relating to farm economy, and the subject of good fencing. This valuable cat. is sent free. Address as above and mention this paper.

MUSH and milk surprise parties are popular in some eastern localities. Those who make the party swoop down upon the subject of the surprise with a box of corn-meal and a jug of molasses. The mush is set to boil, the molasses is turned in taffy and abundantly pulled, cakes are baked, apples pared, and the mush is eaten along with fresh milk and rich cream. The mush and milk surprise furnishes a maximum of fun for a minimum of expenditure.

ABOUT twenty years ago Germany adopted the system of compulsory insurance of working-men against accidents. Since that time there has been paid into the reserve fund about \$88,000,000, of which about \$20,000,000 now forms the capital. In the year last reported more than \$7,500,000 were paid in indemnities, and more than \$3,000,000 were added to the reserve fund. It is now proposed to extend the system to apprentices and employees whose wages do not exceed \$476 a year.

THERE is a remarkable charm in the swift, agile, wheeling flight of the American sparrow-hawk that justifies Tennyson's line, "Sometimes the sparrow-hawk wheels along." The bird has powerful wings, and its poising, turning and wheeling in a high wind form a beautiful display of aerial gymnastics. The hawk rises in the face of a strong wind with an easy, graceful, wheeling flight, all afloat, yields to the impulse from without for a second or two, and then gaining complete control of itself, soars away as if the atmosphere were perfectly still.

WE speak of "China" and the "Chinese," little thinking that the natives of the flowery kingdom never hear those terms until after leaving the place of their birth or coming in contact with some traveler. They have many names by which they designate themselves and the land which they inhabit, but "Chinese" and "China" are not among the number. The most ancient name of China is Tien Hia, which signifies "beneath the sky." Since the present ruling house took control of the empire, in 1650, the name of Ta Tsing Kwoh has been applied to the kingdom as a whole, and Chung Kwoh to that portion known to American readers as the "middle kingdom."

THE sun has three known motions: 1. An axial rotation, which is plainly shown by the appearance and disappearance of well-known spots upon its surface. The mean period of this axial motion is twenty-three and one half of our days. 2. A motion around the center of the gravity of the whole solar system—a motion which can only be ascertained by the use of very delicate instruments, on account of its great mass, which is greater than the total of all the other bodies of the system combined. 3. A progressive motion through space in the direction of the constellation of Hercules. The rate of speed of this last-named motion is not known, but it is estimated to be 150,000,000 miles per year, and some investigators even think it possible that the rate will exceed the above estimate by at least half.

THE DOWN-TRODDEN SEX.

Mrs. Highupp (wearily)—"Woman's work is never done."

Mrs. Wayupp (drearily)—"Too true. A man may get rich and retire from business, but a woman must go on making and receiving calls to the day of her death."—New York Weekly.

ROMANCE OF PUMPKIN HOLLOW.

The old folks had gone to bed, and Sime and 'Mandy were in the dim little parlor, where burned a slow fire of sizzling hickory logs in the old-fashioned fireplace. The wintry blasts shook the old farm-house and the windows rattled, and a puff of smoke now and then came down the chimney on a return trip and circled familiarly about the room, but Sime and 'Mandy didn't mind it; they were sitting very close together. Sime, with throbbing heart and faltering tongue, had declared himself, and 'Mandy had listened shyly and with downcast eyes.

Sime's arm stole in a casual and apparently accidental way along the back of her chair. "And you'll have me, 'Maudy'?" "Yes, Sime."

It was spoken softly, but Simon heard it, and there was a sound like that of a quart of cold mush colliding violently with the side of a brick house.

Then the stalwart young man recovered himself and rose to his feet.

"'Mandy," he said, with the assured bearing of a man accustomed to acting with business-like promptness in all the great emergencies of life, "I've got to go to Chicago next Wednesday with four car-loads of hogs, and we'll get married in the mornin' and make the trip together."

A COLOSSAL COLLECTION OF REALISTIC PICTURES.

Over one thousand engravings were required to illustrate the contents of "Beauties and Wonders of Land and Sea." Neither pains nor money have been spared to make it a magnificent pictorial encyclopedia, authentic in its descriptions and realistic in its pictures. There are pictures of many of nature's greatest marvels in all parts of the world; in the waters of the ocean and at the bottom of the sea, in the forest, jungle and desert, in the torrid, temperate and frigid zones, in the islands and in the mountains, in the air and beneath the earth; from the smallest fish that swims to the monsters that infest the seas, from the sponge to the shark, from the insect to the reptile, from the humming-bird to the ostrich, from the harmless to the ferocious, and many other marvels too numerous to mention. See advertisement on another page.

YOU DON'T HAVE TO SWEAR OFF.

The St. Louis Journal of Agriculture says: "We know personally of several that No-To-Bac cured. One, a prominent St. Louis Architect, who smoked and chewed for years. Two boxes cured him so that even the smell of tobacco makes him sick." No-To-Bac's guaranteed to cure tobacco habit or money refunded by druggists everywhere. Book free. Sterling Remedy Co., 10 Spruce St., N. Y., or 45 Randolph St., Chicago.

WHITTIER'S BOYHOOD.

To illustrate the fact that children suffer intensely from causes which their elders regard as trivial, and which they themselves are inclined to laugh at in later life, Mr. Whittier once told this story of his boyhood to a friend: It was at an ancient hillside farm-yard near Haverhill. In ascending this hill his father was in the habit of relieving his horse by walking, and Greenleaf was expected to walk, also. It was a terrible trial to the boy, for a gander would begin his warlike threats as soon as he saw him, and in later life Whittier declared he could have marched up to a hostile battery without such a sinking of the heart as he felt whenever he approached this harmless but noisy fowl. If he had dared to tell his father of his agony or dread he could have remained safely in the carriage. But the fear of being laughed at prevailed over every other consideration. Mr. Whittier thought this was the experience of many children, and that parents should treat their apparently petty troubles with more seriousness than is their custom.

THE Hudson river is salty as far as Poughkeepsie, seventy-five miles from its mouth.

All First-Class Druggists

From present date will keep on sale the Imported East India Hemp Remedies. Dr. H. James' preparation of this herb on its own soil (Calcutta), will positively cure Consumption, Bronchitis, Asthma, and Nasal Catarrh, and break up a fresh cold in 24 hours. \$2.50 per bottle, or 3 bottles \$6.50. Try it! CRADDOCK & CO., Proprietors, 1032 Race street, Phila. Pa.

395 SPRINGFIELD A #10 WATCH FOR \$3.95 Warranted 5 Years. The GREATEST BARGAIN ever OFFERED. 11 Jeweled Springfield stem wind and stem set, movement cased in a genuine DuCher silver case, gents full size, made strong and heavy with two back caps to protect the works. Will keep its color and wear all lifetime. No retailer will sell this watch for less than \$10. Nother wholesale house will duplicate it for less than \$6.00. Our price for a short time \$3.95. Send us your name and full address and we will ship the watch by express for you to examine, and if you do not find it a bargain and equal to any \$10.00 watch you ever saw, don't pay a cent, but if satisfied it is well worth the money, pay agent our price \$3.95 and express charges and it is yours. A 5-year guarantee is sent with every watch. Order at once, this offer may be withdrawn. B. H. KIRK & CO., Wholesale Jewelers, 172 Washington St., Chicago.

AMBITIOUS WOMEN Can qualify for situations in Architects' Offices by the home study of Architecture and Drafting. Students make rapid progress in learning to DRAW and DESIGN. Twenty Technical Courses. Send for FREE Circular, stating subject you wish to study, to The International Correspondence Schools, SCRANTON, PA.

\$50 in GOLD SPECIALS given every month to subscribers to WESTERN POULTRY NEWS who raise clubs. A mammoth 16-page illustrated paper that tells how to MAKE MONEY RAISING POULTRY. Ladies are interested. You can compete if you send 25c for a yearly subscription. Five subscriptions for \$1, and the 5 count toward Specials. Money refunded if paper is not satisfactory. Address, Poultry News, Box 1466, Lincoln, Nebraska.

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12 BOOKS FOR 10 CENTS. Here is a Bargain. You cannot afford to let it pass by. Take advantage of it without delay. Remember that the entire lot of 12 books we offer for 10 CENTS. They will come to you complete in one package. Book of Short Stories. A collection of interesting sketches. Mormonism Exposed, by a Mormon Slave Wife. Telling about the secret rites of the Danites, doing of Polygamists with their numerous wives, etc., etc. This book is of thrilling interest. Prize Cook Book. A collection of valuable household recipes from the best cooks in America. If you don't need this book yourself, some lady will appreciate it. Dr. Parkhurst's Exposures. This book tells about the celebrated exposure of dens of iniquity in N. Y. Low life in the Metropolis is laid bare. Art of Love Making, and Guide to Etiquette. This little volume is indeed interesting. Book of Brief Narratives. Never before published. Very interesting. YOU WILL GET THE 12 BOOKS ABOVE DESCRIBED if you send us only 10 cents, silver or stamps. We pay postage. Send and be surprised. Address, KEYSTONE BOOK COMPANY, Box 1634E, Phila., Pa.



Farmer Brown—"Say, Neighbor Wayback, why don't you brush off that cobweb, waken up, take a farm paper, and keep up with the times?" Farmer Wayback—"Now, I never took no stock in this here 'book farmin'.' I've got along for fifty years without readin' no paper, and I reckon I won't begin now."

OVER 150,000 MEMBERS SAVING ANNUALLY Over ONE MILLION DOLLARS. The Members of the Association pay annually a membership fee (often less than the saving on a single article) which pays the company for doing the buying for its members. It is purely co-operative, and based on the principle that it is cheaper for large numbers of people to employ some one to do their buying, paying them for their time, than to pay profits on goods at retail. Frances Willard.

Table with 3 columns: MERCHANDISE, Retail Price, Mem-ber's Price, Sav-ing. Lists various household items like Gents' Watch, Ladies' Watch, Rogers Bros. Silver-plated Teaspoons, etc., with their respective prices and savings.

Regular MEMBERSHIP FEE is only \$2.00 FOR ONE YEAR. Our Day--The Altruistic Review The best home magazine published, is edited by the eminent lecturer and writer, Joseph Cook, LL.D. Miss Frances E. Willard is an associate editor. Subscription is \$2.00 a year. Any one sending, at once, \$2.00, for the magazine one year, will receive FREE a one-year membership, with certificate suitable for framing, and two catalogues comprising 670 pages, with 3,356 illustrations, quoting both the retail price as above and the wholesale price to members. This is an extraordinary offer, and if you accept it, you may save a large amount of money, and have the best magazine for the home free. Sample copy, 10 cents. Address OUR DAY PUBLISHING CO., SPRINGFIELD, OHIO.

Queries.

READ THIS NOTICE.

Questions from regular subscribers of FARM AND FIRESIDE, and relating to matters of general interest, will be answered in these columns free of charge. Querists desiring immediate replies, or asking information upon matters of personal interest only, should inclose stamps for return postage. The full name and post-office address of the inquirer should accompany each query in order that we may answer by mail if necessary. Queries must be received at least two WEEKS before the date of the issue in which the answer is expected. Queries should not be written on paper containing matters of business, and should be written on one side of the paper only.

Wheelbarrow Sprayer.—A. C. A., Keeseville, N. Y. Write to the Field Force Pump Company, of Lockport, N. Y., for price-list.

Seed of Horse-beans.—F. F. R., New Milton, W. Va. Send to J. M. Thorburn & Co., of New York City, for seed of these beans.

Time to Sow Alfalfa.—J. C. S., Elkhorn, Mont. Sow alfalfa on well-prepared ground in the spring, as soon as danger of severe frost is past.

Greenfly on Cucumber-vines.—A. S. L., Quinter, Kansas. To rid cucumber-vines or other plants of greenfly, spray with kerosene emulsion or strong tobacco-water.

Onion Soil and Varieties.—Miss C. K., Wyoming.

REPLY BY JOSEPH:—Sandy loam or sandy muck, well drained, is best for onions. Use Prizetaker for transplanting, Yellow Danvers for sowing in open ground.

Tomatoes in Florida.—P. D. E., Winter Haven, Florida. A tablespoonful of nitrate of soda applied to the young plant in early spring, will have a tendency to hasten fruit production and fruit ripening. If applied late, it may retard it. Don't use Paris green on beans and tomatoes.

Growing Potato Seedlings.—E. G., Sand Beach, Pa., writes: "I would like to know how to start the seed gathered from potato plums?"

REPLY BY JOSEPH:—Potato seed germinates as readily as tomato seed. Start plants in the same way—best in flats in the hot bed or greenhouse. Then pot or box off the young plants exactly as you would tomato-plants, and set them in open ground in May, in rows two feet apart, and plants one foot apart in the row.

Potato-scab.—An old subscriber, Menasha, Wis., writes: "Please tell me the exact proportions of materials for the treatment of seed potatoes, to prevent scab?"

REPLY BY JOSEPH:—Thoroughly dissolve two ounces of corrosive sublimate in two gallons of hot water, and pour this into a wooden tank, vat or barrel containing thirteen gallons of water. Let stand for some time, stirring repeatedly; then immerse seed potatoes in this solution an hour and a half. Take out and plant. Corrosive sublimate is very poisonous.

Heating Hotbeds.—A. B., Red Land, I. T., writes: "When sufficient fresh stable manure cannot be obtained, how can I make artificial manure that will suffice for a hotbed to propagate early plants such as cabbage, tomato, onion, sweet potato, etc.?"

REPLY BY JOSEPH:—Better make what is known as a fire hotbed. Modern books on gardening give all the details. Perhaps you might experiment with cut straw or hay moistened and mixed with bran, or with a mixture of well weathered muck, hen manure and bran.

Coach-horses—Alfalfa.—W. L., Ortello, Neb., writes: "What is the best horse for raising coachers from mares weighing one thousand pounds? The mares are bronco grades, of good action and high spirit.—What forage plant outside of the clover family would make good hay and do well in central Nebraska? We have very dry falls and winters."

REPLY:—The French coach would answer your purpose.—Alfalfa is a member of the clover family, but it would fill your requirements better than anything else we can name.

Growing Sweet Potato Slips.—O. M. A., Milberry, Cal., writes: "Please tell me how and when to sprout sweet potatoes?"

REPLY BY JOSEPH:—Here and further south we grow sweet potato slips in hotbeds, starting them in April in order to have the plants ready to set early in June. It takes from six to eight weeks to grow a crop of plants. There should be good bottom heat. Lay the potatoes in single layers, almost close enough to touch, upon a layer of sand, and cover with four inches of sand, then put on the sashes and manage them as you would any tender hotbed crop. Pull when the sprouts are of proper size for transplanting to open ground. You have to modify these instructions in accordance with your climatic conditions.

Crimson Clover, Buckwheat, Etc.—J. H. E., Washington county, Pa., asks: "Stable manure is scarce here. What can I put on my two acres of clayey soil, which I wish to put in garden crops, in order to bring the land up? Will crimson clover, or two crops of buckwheat, plowed under, be of service?"

REPLY BY JOSEPH:—Don't put much reliance on buckwheat. By growing and plowing under clover, and by the liberal use of wood ashes, or superphosphate and muriate of potash, or perhaps bone-meal in place of superphosphate, you can grow good crops of clover; and a good coat of clover, plowed under, is as good as a coat of stable manure. All leading seedsmen offer seed of crimson clover.

Fertilizer for Millet.—P. J. S., Galena, Ohio, writes: "I want to grow some millet next summer, but have no barn-yard manure. Can I grow it with some kind of commercial fertilizer?"

REPLY BY JOSEPH:—Millet wants warm and fairly rich soil. If the latter is fairly well supplied with vegetable matter, the chances are that the crop will be largely increased by the application of a few hundred pounds of some good fertilizer, one that contains some potash usually being necessary. Dressings of wood ashes will be good. Or you might try a little muriate of potash (one hundred pounds per acre) and as much dissolved South Carolina rock or other superphosphate, or even bone-meal.

Manure for Potatoes.—J. V. R., Dunback, Ohio, writes: "I have a patch which I have used for potatoes for a number of years. The tops grow large, but tubers remain small and unsalable. The patch has been well manured with stable manure. Should I use lime or kainite, or what else? Where can I get kainite?"

REPLY BY JOSEPH:—It is never safe to grow potatoes on the same spot year after year. If you must do it, and the plants have thus far been healthy, try lime by all means, and perhaps a little potash or wood ashes. Apply these things broadcast. If you wish to put on one hundred or one hundred and fifty pounds of muriate of potash per acre, which is a safe application, you can get it from any large fertilizer firm at about \$40 to \$45 per ton.

Steamed Bones.—J. H. R., Anderson, Ind., asks: "Are steamed bones a complete fertilizer? If not, what is lacking? I can get them for nothing, and grind them myself. Would they make a good fertilizer for wheat?"

REPLY BY JOSEPH:—Bones contain nitrogen and phosphoric acid, but no potash. To make a complete fertilizer of them you must add wood ashes or some form of potash, muriate of potash being as cheap as anything. Steamed bones, ground finely and dried, are worth about twenty-five dollars per ton for fertilizing purposes, and they will make a most excellent top-dressing for wheat, or any other crop on soils needing phosphoric acid. In some cases, potash may not be needed.

Land Lacks Something.—J. A. L., Toltec, Ark., writes: "I have a field of about forty acres of black, sandy land that seems to be very rich, makes a large stalk of corn or cotton, but does not fruit as it ought. What is the matter, and what can I do to make it yield more grain and not so much stalk? There is very much land affected the same way near me; the land is high and dry, and not subject to drought."

REPLY:—Your land probably lacks phosphoric acid or potash. We suggest that you experiment with fertilizers and find out which gives you best returns. Try first an application of barn-yard manure; but do not use it too heavily, as your land seems to contain sufficient vegetable matter. On one strip apply unleached ashes; on another a good superphosphate, and compare results.

Bean Growing.—R. H., Battle Ground, Wash., writes: "Kindly tell me how to raise white beans for market. Also, what kind of bean will suit our climate best? Our seasons are short, and some kinds do not ripen early enough to make a sure crop."

REPLY BY JOSEPH:—Inquiries about bean culture are frequently addressed to me. It is a pity that there is no book on modern bean culture in existence—at least, so far as I am aware. If I did not have so many irons in the fire, I think I would undertake publishing one. It is greatly needed. Later on I will give another article on the subject, although it has been treated a number of times. The small pea-bean and the medium will have plenty of time, I should think, to come to maturity when sown at the proper time, even in a locality with comparatively short summers.

Care of Horse-plants.—Mrs. J. A. M. C., Plain Grove, Pa., asks: "1. How can we get rid of the little flies which infest our house-plants? 2. What ails my fuchsias? They seem all right, but the buds fall off when half grown."

REPLY BY JOSEPH:—1. I cannot tell what kind of flies you refer to. If they are greenfly (aphis), the plants can be cleared of them by spraying with kerosene emulsion or tobacco-water, or by dipping the plants in these liquid insecticides. Flies in a room can be killed by dusting buhach (California insect-powder) all through the room, or burning a small quantity on a hot stove, and then keeping the room closed for awhile. 2. Evidently some of the conditions are wrong with your fuchsias. You may not have the right (winter-blooming) kinds. Or you may keep them too warm, or too wet, or the soil not right.

Strawberries after Cabbage—Sweet-corn Varieties, Etc.—D. W. P., Plimpton, Ohio, writes: "I have a field that has been in cabbage two years, and heavily manured every year. Would this be rich enough to raise strawberries to perfection, with only a good application of wood ashes?—What variety of early sweet-corn is most profitable for market, and what variety of intermediate?—Would you replot a strawberry-field that was plowed last fall after receiving a good coat of manure, when to be planted with melons this spring?"

REPLY BY JOSEPH:—I would plant strawberries in that cabbage-field, with every expectation of raising a good crop, especially if I had a good lot of ashes to put on.—For earliest sweet-corn we always plant the Cory, while Moore's Early is a good intermediate.—Yes, replot, by all means.

Corn Variety.—J. F. W., Sandusky, Ill., writes: "I have eighteen acres of newly cleared land which I wish to put in corn this coming season. It is on a ridge, naturally well drained. The soil is a deep, black, sandy loam with a yellow clay subsoil. The corn in this locality is of an inferior kind, and I wish to obtain a better grade by getting seed corn from some other state. What is your opinion of the Early Mastodon yellow dent corn, grown in the northeast of Ohio, I believe? Do you think it would succeed well here, not being acclimated?"

REPLY:—The reputation of the Early Mastodon corn is high, and we know of no reason why it would not succeed in your locality. It is a strong, rapid grower, of medium height, and matures in about one hundred and ten days of good corn weather. This variety is suited to your latitude.

Insect Remedies.—L. C., South Dakota, writes: "1. What is the best remedy for the cabbage-worm? 2. What is the best remedy for the large, brown squash-bug? 3. What is the best remedy for lice on cabbages and turnips?"

REPLY BY JOSEPH:—1. Use buhach (California insect-powder) mixed with three or four times its bulk of flour, and dusted over the cabbages with a powder-gun or bulb; or put it in water and spray the plants. Repeat as often as may be needed. The kerosene emulsion, tobacco tea, tar-water and hot soap-suds are also pretty reliable remedies for the pests. 2. The large, brown squash-bug should be hunted up and smashed or thrown into a dish containing water and a little kerosene. Go over the vines once or twice a day until no more bugs are found. 3. For lice on cabbages, turnips, etc., spray the affected plants with kerosene emulsion, strong tobacco tea or hot soap-suds.

Failure in Mushroom Growing.—H. L. S., Billmore, N. C., writes: "I have carried out instructions given by Peter Henderson and others, as near as I know how, have made many beds, used French and English spawn, but have met with failure every time. Am now trying a bed with some cow manure mixed with horse manure and mold. Can you suggest the reason for my repeated failures?"

REPLY BY JOSEPH:—Your experience is only that of a good many other people. Failure seems to be the rule and success the exception. Why you failed I cannot even suggest. Some mistake might have been made in the treatment of the manure, or the preparation of the beds, or the spawn was not good. Study Falconer's book on mushroom culture, and then follow his instructions closely. The new summer mushroom (*Agaricus subrufescens*) has far greater vigor and tenacity of life than the ordinary field mushroom. Give it a trial in a specially prepared hotbed, next April.

If gold dollars could be purchased for ten cents each, it would not be as big a bargain as the People's Atlas. See advertisement on another page.

VETERINARY.

Conducted by Dr. H. J. Detmers.

Professor of Veterinary Surgery in Ohio State University.

To regular subscribers of FARM AND FIRESIDE, answers will be given through these columns free of charge. Where an immediate reply by mail is desired, the applicant should inclose a fee of one dollar, otherwise no attention will be paid to such a request. Inquiries should always contain the writer's full address. Queries must be received at least two WEEKS before the date of the issue in which the answer is expected. Subscribers may send their veterinary queries directly to Dr. H. J. DETMERS, 1315 Neil Avenue, Columbus, Ohio.

NOTE.—Parties who desire an answer to their inquiries in this column, must give their name and address, not necessarily for publication, but for other good reasons. Anonymous inquiries are not answered under any circumstances.

Warts on Cow's Teats.—V. A. W., Springfield, Oregon. Please consult January 15th number of FARM AND FIRESIDE.

Capped Knee.—C. B., Tonganoxie, Kan. A capped knee of a cow is a rather ugly thing to deal with. I therefore cannot but advise you to leave it alone.

Discharges from the Nose.—A. R. S., Bank, Md. It is utterly impossible to base a diagnosis upon one solitary symptom, especially if it is as common as discharges from the nose. Have your horse examined by a veterinarian.

Hemorrhage.—A. M. E., Salem, Ind. According to your description your barrow must have died from hemorrhage in the small intestines, of which you say, "They were full of dark, thick blood, while stomach, large intestines and all other organs were healthy."

Not Uncommon.—E. L. C., Orleans, N. Y. What you describe (two massive shoulders) is not at all uncommon in aged boars. Of course, it is more frequent in some breeds and in some families than in others, and is not considered as a desirable feature in an animal used for breeding.

Get Diarrhea When Worked.—T. R., Delta, Ohio. I suppose you drive your horse too soon after feeding. Give sufficient time for digestion after each meal, and feed nothing but good food. Avoid feeding middlings and "mill stuff." A horse should have two hours for each full meal.

A Neighbor's Sick Cow.—A. J. K., Rita, Tenn. Your description is too indefinite. Tell your neighbor to examine his cow's mouth and throat, and the cause of the "slobbering," thirst and the want of appetite may be found. Coughing, a symptom common to nearly all diseases of the respiratory organs, may be due to some other cause.

Wart.—G. L., Grandview, Ind. Tie a small piece of surgeon's sponge to a stick, dip it (the sponge) into concentrated nitric acid, and touch the wart with it. Repeat this until two thirds of the wart has been burned away, but take care to get none of the acid on the skin of the mule, nor on your hands or clothes.

Small Lumps on the Jaw.—S. M. W., Thornton, Iowa, writes: "Is it dangerous to use the milk from a cow having small lumps upon her jaw?"

ANSWER:—I do not see any reason why it should be, unless the lumps are malignant cancerous growths, or the animal is otherwise diseased.

Spavin.—C. E., Caledonia, N. D. The lameness of your horse is caused by spavin. If the elevation made its appearance before the animal showed any lameness, it simply shows that the morbid process made its appearance first on the outside of the affected bone or bones, and later spread to the articular surfaces. Consult FARM AND FIRESIDE of November 15th.

Heaves.—E. A. H., Spickardsville, Mo. Your horse, it seems, is affected with heaves, or what is essentially the same, a chronic and feverish difficulty of breathing, which, very likely, is incurable. Avoid feeding dusty and musty hay, particularly timothy and clover hay, and very bulky food in general. Good and clean wild hay in moderate quantities will do no harm.

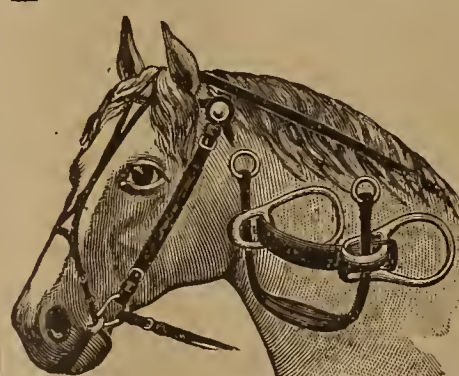
A Sick Pig.—C. E. M., Humboldt, Kansas. It is quite possible that your diagnosis is correct, or, in other words, that your pig became sick through exposure in a snow-storm. It is, however, also possible that what you complain of is a case of swine-plague, or so-called hog-cholera. By the time this reaches you, the middle of February, the case will have been decided by its termination. It will therefore not be necessary to say anything more.

A Serious Wound.—W. F., Equity, Ohio, writes: "My horse, while harrowing last fall, tramped upon something sharp and cut a gash in the pastern-joint, clear to the bone. Doctoring seems to do no good. What would you advise to do for it, and do you think it will cause the hoof to come off?"

ANSWER:—All such cases require the personal attention of a veterinarian, and cannot successfully be treated from a distance, or by any one who has not seen and not examined the case, and consequently does not know what parts have been lesioned.

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A Motherless Colt.—J. G., Wantagb, N. Y. A young colt that has lost its dam, and has to be raised by the bottle, is best fed with diluted cow milk to which some good white sugar is added, so as to make it as similar to mare's milk as possible. Gradually, when the colt gets older, the milk may be given more and more concentrated. In about six or eight weeks the colt may be taught to take a little solid food; for instance, oatmeal and a little fine and sweet hay. Feeding milk, however, should be continued until the colt has reached an age at which other colts are weaned.

Swells in Front of the Udder.—F. E. L., Norwich, Vermont. It is not inflammation of the stomach, but rather, inflammation of the skin. If you look a little closer, you will probably find some sores, pimples and scabs. If so, apply to them twice a day a mixture of liquid subacetate of lead, one part, and sweet-oil, three parts; give your mare some exercise, provide for her good, clean and dry bedding in the stable, and groom well, particularly where sun and moon don't shine; that is, on the lower surface of the body, between the legs, and on the posterior surfaces of the lower parts of the legs.

Grease-heel.—G. C. L., Edgerton, W. Va. Keep the diseased foot clean, but without using water. Apply three times a day quite liberally to the diseased places a mixture of liquid subacetate of lead, one part, and sweet-oil, three parts, and you will effect a healing unless the case is too inveterate. In that case you will do best to call in a veterinarian to treat the animal. After a healing has been effected, you may reduce the swelling by exercising the animal during the day, and bandaging the swollen leg in the evening, the bandage to be kept on until morning. This must be continued until no more reduction is effected.

A Hard Swelling.—O. H. G., Pillar Point, N. Y., writes: "I have a cow that has a hard bunch on her jaw, near the nose. It is between the jaw-bones, and is very hard. I noticed it about three months ago, and it has been gradually growing ever since."

ANSWER:—If the swelling is very hard, it very likely proceeds from the bone, but further than that I cannot learn from your description, which even leaves me in doubt in regard to the seat of the swelling, and does not convey any information concerning its nature. Have the cow examined by a veterinarian.

Probably Parasites.—C. C. L., Old Fort, N. C., writes: "I have two horses that have been affected a good while with some skin disease. They rub against the stable a good deal, and keep their hair ruffled up generally, as well as on the root of their tails."

ANSWER:—The skin disease you complain of is probably due to the presence of parasites; for instance, horse-lice, chicken-lice (if chickens are allowed to roost in the stable), etc. The food you feed has nothing to do with it. Any food that is sufficiently nutritious may be given. Groom well, and if the weather permits, give the animals, once a week, a good wash with a five-per-cent solution of creoline. At every washing all bedding and manure must be removed, and be renewed. If chicken-lice cause the eruption, the chickens must be banished from the stable.

Swelled Leg.—E. E. R., Summitville, Ind., writes: "What is the matter with my horse? His right hind leg swells in the pastern-joint when he stands in the barn (on dirt floor), and at times is lame. He does no work now, but was worked (not hard) during the summer. He is four years old and seems to be healthy. After a little exercise the swelling disappears."

ANSWER:—Your description fails to give any information directly indicating the cause of the swelling, but I believe if you will take the trouble to make a close examination of the fetlocks and neighboring parts, you will have no difficulty in finding the cause; that is, sores or so-called scratches. Bring them to healing by liberal applications, twice a day, of a mixture of liquid subacetate of lead, one part, and sweet-oil, three parts, and keep your horse out of mud, slush and filth. If then the swelling does not disappear, bandage during the night, and give exercise every day, as has been so often recommended in these columns.

So-called Blackleg.—F. A. D., Zionville, Kan., writes: "Quite a number of calves have died here from what they call blackleg. They are sick only a short time. The one I lost was swollen on the back, over the right hip, and could not use the right hind leg. Other calves were swollen in other parts of the back. Only good, fat calves and yearlings have died so far. My calves have been running on broom-corn stalks and buffalo-grass."

ANSWER:—A treatment, as a rule, is out of the question. The disease can be prevented by removing the threatened animals from the places—pastures, stubble-fields, etc.—where the disease makes its appearance, to another place, and by applying an antiseptic dressing to all wounds, sores or lesions that may exist on the legs. It also can be prevented by a protective inoculation on the lower surface of the tail with a culture of the micro-organisms, provided the malignant properties of the latter have been weakened by artificial means.

Luxation of the Patella.—J. N., Arapahoe, Okla., and S. S. F., Larissa, Neb. What you describe is caused by a chronic luxation of the patella, or knee-pan, which slips in and out of its place at the least provocation, but especially when the horses lie down and get up. If you expect to effect a cure, you must keep the horses standing—not allow them to lie down while under treatment. First, it is easy enough to push the knee-pan into its place, but on account of the chronic relaxation of the ligaments, it easily slips out. To avoid this, swelling and pain must be produced. This is best done by applying to both sides of the knee-joint a good blister. One that will answer can be made of cantharides, one part, and sweet-oil, four parts, heated together in a water bath for one hour. After that the oil can be pressed out through a piece of muslin, and is ready for use. To rub it in once every four days is sufficient. This treatment must be continued, and the horses must be kept standing until the ligaments have become sufficiently contracted to prevent the knee-pan leaving its place. Any new dislocation, of course, again strains and lengthens the ligaments.

Epileptic Fits.—C. A. W., South Hadley Falls, Mass. Genuine epilepsy seems to be a purely functional disorder, while symptomatic epilepsy or epileptiform fits or attacks, especially in dogs, may be produced by various causes, among them tapeworms in the intestines, and Pentastomum tenioides in the frontal and maxillary sinuses. In the latter case, however, the dogs also show other symptoms, such as discharges from the nose, frequent sneezing, pawing with the feet at the nose, as if desiring to remove something. If tapeworms are present, now and then, at least, proglottides (or tapeworm joints) will pass off through the anus. One of the best remedies against tapeworms of dogs is the extract of the male fern (Extract. felices

maris). The dose is according to the size of the dog—from 0.5 to 5.0 grams. It may be given in capsules or in the shape of pills. Still, if the cause of epileptic or epileptiform fits is not known, or cannot be ascertained, any treatment, as a rule, is in vain. Where the causes are known, the treatment consists in removing the same, and where it is a purely functional disorder, various sedatives, but particularly bromide of potash, have been recommended. Bromide of potash must be given for some length of time, three to four times a day, and of course between the attacks, and to medium-sized dogs in doses of 0.5 to 1.0 gram dissolved in water. To me, I must confess, its effect is rather doubtful; others seem to have more confidence in such a treatment. As to the single attacks, any excitement, or anything that will provoke an attack, must be avoided.

Leptomeningitis—Wind-colic.—V. T., Wautonga, Oklahoma T., writes: "I would like to find out something about the 'blind staggers.' I had a fine colt die with it. He got stupid one day, and the next morning he was blind. It lasted two days before he died. He did not know anything at all, and just went round and round. I would like to know what to do for that disease.—What would be the best to do for a horse that has wind-colic? I had a fine black mare to die with it."

ANSWER:—Acute leptomeningitis, or inflammation of the brain—and not blind staggers, which is a chronic affection—is undoubtedly the disease of which your colt died, because its sickness lasted only two days. It is a disease which usually either has a fatal termination or passes over into the chronic ailment called "blind staggers." It hardly ever yields to treatment. The best that can be done, if the symptoms are observed before any irreparable morbid changes have been produced, is to put crushed ice into a small sack—a flour-bag will answer—and by fastening it to the halter, put it on top of the head (over the poll), and tie it in such a way that it will stay there until the ice has melted, when more ice must be applied. If snow can be had, it will answer just as well. If neither ice nor snow can be had, some gunny-sacks folded up into a package may be tied over the poll and be constantly kept dripping wet with water as cold as it can be obtained. By such an application of cold the severe congestion is diminished, and thus a good deal may be accomplished. Internal medicine, which in such a case can be administered only with great difficulty, has seldom any effect whatever, on account of the disturbance of the functions of the central organ of the nervous system. Further than this, the patient should be kept as quiet as possible in a spacious and well-ventilated place, and all force should be avoided. A good physic would be indicated, but the trouble is it seldom comes to action. If a veterinarian can be had, he may make a subcutaneous injection with physostigmine—one and one half grains dissolved in distilled water. The possible causes are too numerous to dwell upon them in detail. I therefore will only mention one of them; namely, food too rich in nitrogenous compounds, but particularly excessive feeding with leguminous plants, and particularly the seeds of the same. Loco-weed poisoning produces somewhat similar symptoms, but unless an animal consumes an enormous quantity at once, the course of the disease is much less acute.—As to wind-colic, the best remedy is prevention; that is, not feeding anything that has a tendency to ferment. The most dangerous food, perhaps, is green clover and very juicy grass that has been cut while wet, been thrown in a heap and has become heated and wilting—in other words, has entered the first stage of fermentation. Still, any kind of food in a state of fermentation is dangerous.

Frequent Attacks of Colic.—J. T. B., Leeds, N. D., writes: "I keep a few horses, aged from one to ten years. Frequently they are taken with colic pains; always after drinking water. They drink, roll up the upper lip, go back into the barn, lie down on the side, paw with one front foot, and they keep rolling up the upper lip. Sometimes it will last ten minutes, and sometimes three hours. My horses are in fair flesh. They get good hay and water twice a day. At least one of them will have a spell once a month. Sometimes one mare will have a spell every day for three or four days. My neighbors' horses have the same complaint."

ANSWER:—You cannot do anything but feed and water your horses regularly, not hitch them up for work immediately after a meal, nor feed immediately after they come home from work. The predisposing cause, however, it seems, is a little deeper. It very likely is the same as in most cases of colic; namely, an aneurism in the anterior mesenteric artery, caused by the presence of immature specimens of a worm known as Sclerostomum equinum, in that blood-vessel. The natural history of this worm is briefly as follows: The sexually mature worm lives in the colon and cecum (large intestines) of horses. The eggs pass off with the dung, hatch, and then the embryo live as free rhabditides in stagnant water of pools and ditches. If such water is used for drinking by horses, the embryos get into the intestines, migrate through the mucous membrane and into the arteries, fasten themselves there, undergo several moltings, and by their presence and by the irritation which they produce, cause a degeneration of the walls of the artery, exudation, and more or less coagulation of the blood. If the demands on the functions of the intestines are suddenly increased, or if the intestines become extraordinarily expanded, an increased supply with blood will be the consequence. This increased supply increases the rapidity of the current and also the pressure of the blood-column. As a further consequence, portions of the exudates or of coagulates are torn loose, are carried into smaller arteries, close the same, and thus deprive that part of the intestines to which the closed artery belongs of its supply of blood. The intestine, thus deprived of its blood supply, ceases its functions, is practically dead, until the supply is restored through an anastomosing artery. Thus a colic attack is produced, and passes off again when the supply is restored, until finally the animal dies before the restoration is effected. Although I have only briefly outlined the process that takes place—a more explicit explanation is forbidden by want of space—you will see that the real prevention consists in keeping horses away from the source of infection, the stagnant water, and to water them exclusively from a good and deep well that receives no surface water. You will also see that all the usual nostrums often given in cases of colic can have no effect, and are useless.

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Smiles.

CLOSURE.

Though senators refuse to place A limit on their stay, The people oft attend to that Upon election-day.

—Washington Star.

THE OLD, OLD QUESTION.

Young man on the downward road, As you wander round about, Stop a moment and reflect. Does your mother know your route?*

*Will the indulgent reader, as a special favor, kindly give this word its old-fashioned pronunciation, for this time only?

WELL EDUCATED.

WHAT goes to make up an education depends largely upon the point of view. The Atlanta Constitution tells of a descendant of Ham, whose opinions on this subject were rather peculiar, to say the least.

A Henry county negro was discovered carrying a very large armful of books, which brought forth the inquiry:

"Going to school?"

"Yes, sar, boss."

"Do you study all those book?"

"No, sar, dey's my brudder's. Ise a ignorant kiuder nigger side him, boss. Yer jest oughter see dat nigger figgerin'. He done gone an' ciphered clean through addition, partition, subtraction, distraction, abomination, justification, creation, amputation and adoption."

UNAPPRECIATED.

There's a man up-town who has a mania for collecting all sorts of queer facts in history, science, and so forth, and his wife can't appreciate him at all. The other evening he laid down his paper.

"That's odd," he said to her.

"What," she inquired.

"The statement that it would take 12,000,000 years to pump the sea dry at the rate of 1,000 gallons a second."

She studied the statement profoundly for a full minute.

"Where would they put all the water?" she asked, innocently; and he paid no attention whatever to the question.—Detroit Free Press.

AS HE HAD "AYE DUNE."

A Glasgow minister tells the following incident with much amusement:

Having observed that one of his congregation was in the habit of gazing about the church during the prayers, he told him one day that he considered it would be more becoming in a worshiper to keep his eyes decently closed.

"Doesna the Scripture bid us watch as well as pray?" replied the man. "And hoo can a body watch wi' their een steekit? Na, na; I'll just stan' and glower aboot as I hae aye dune!"—Answers.

ONE LACKING.

A fine collection of instruments of torture, showing the celebrated "Iron Maiden," was being exhibited at a small town recently. Among the visitors were a couple of suburban residents.

"I say, Bill," said one, "they've got 'em all here, haven't they?"

Bill looked over the collection very carefully, and shook his head.

"No," he replied, "they haven't. I don't see anything of that squeaky old clarinet you practice on every night."

HER CRUELTY.

"A little thought," sighed Mr. Lease, as he wrung out the dish-cloth and hung it on the nail over the sink; "I little thought, when you called me your clinging ivy and promised to be my sturdy oak, that the time would ever come when you would treat me as cruelly as you did yesterday."

"Well, what did I do?" growled Mrs. Lease. "You know very well," sobbed the injured husband. "You deliberately let me start out shopping without telling me that my hat was not on straight."—Life.

A DISINFECTED KISS.

But along comes a medical authority which suggests that if people will kiss, the precaution should be taken to sponge the lips with diluted carbolic acid. There are many prudent persons who foresee evil, but it is doubtful whether they can be induced to go courting with a bottle of carbolic acid. Shades of attar of roses! What a suggestion.—Wheeling Register.

BETTER THAN A STRING.

Mother—"Johnny, ou your way home from school, stop at the store and get me a stick of candy and a bar of soap."

Father—"What do you want of a stick of candy?"

Mother—"That's so he'll remember the soap."—New York Weekly.

A FEW EXTRA SYLLABLES.

"Mum's the word," said the man who gossips.

"No," replied Willy Wibbles. "It may have been once, but uow chrysanthemum's the word."—Washington Star.

SOME BULLS.

London Tit-Bits offered a prize for "bulls." The first one here presented was deemed the best. The others were also selected for their excellence:

A certain politician, lately condemning the government for their recent policy concerning the income tax, is reported to have said:

"They'll keep cutting the wool off the sheep that lays the golden eggs until they pump it dry."

An Irishman, in the midst of a tirade against landlords and capitalists, declared that "if these men were landed on an uninhabited island, they wouldn't be there an hour before they would have their hands in the pockets of the naked savages."

Only a few weeks ago a lecturer at a big meeting gave utterance to the following: "All along the untrodden paths of the future we can see the hidden footprints of an unseen Hand."

"We pursue the shadow, the bubble bursts and leaves the ashes in our hands!"

One of the regulations of the West Boston Bridge Company reads: "And the said proprietors shall meet annually on the first Tuesday of June, provided the same does not fall on a Sunday."

An orator at one of the University unions bore off the palm of merit when he declared that "the British lion, whether it is roaming the deserts of India or climbing the forests of Canada, will not draw in its horns nor retire into its shell."

LITTLE BITS.

Tramp (after ringing door-bell)—"Please, ma'am, I've seen better days."

Housewife—"So have I. It's quite foggy to-day. Good-morning."

Wood—"Can you see any good in any of those Bertha M. Mud trashy stories they run in those so-called "family" story papers?"

Stone—"Yes; a solemn assurance goes with each that it will not be published in book-form."

Young Saphead—"Do you know, Miss Vassar, I've a great mind to frighten you by winking the boat!"

Miss Vassar (an athletic young woman)—"A young man like you tried that with me once, and the boat upset."

"Did it, weally? What did you do?"

"I swam ashore and notified the coroner."—Puck.

Every Man Should Read This.

If any young, old or middle-aged man, suffering from nervous debility, lack of vigor, or weakness from errors or excesses, will in close stamp to me, I will send him the prescription of a genuine, certain cure, free of cost, no humbug, no deception. It is cheap, simple and perfectly safe and harmless. I will send you the correct prescription and you can buy the remedy of me or prepare it yourself, just as you choose. The prescription I send free, just as I agree to do. Address, MR. THOMAS BARNES, lock box 113 Marshall, Mich.

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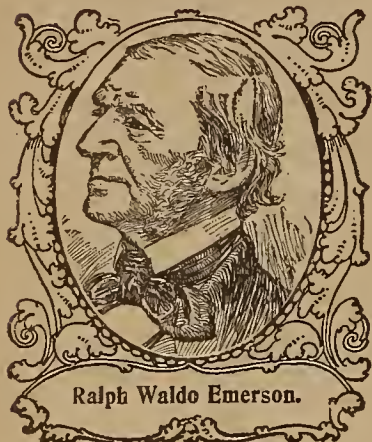
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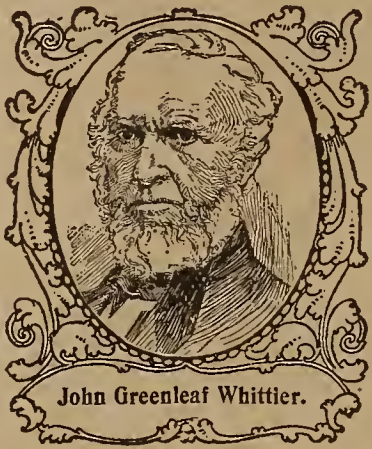
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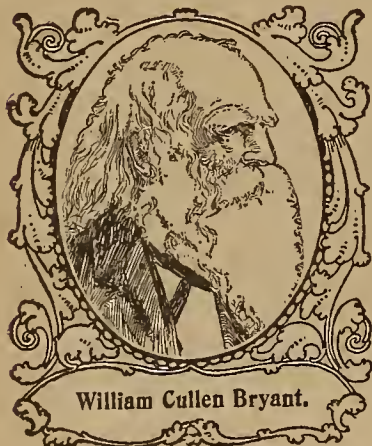
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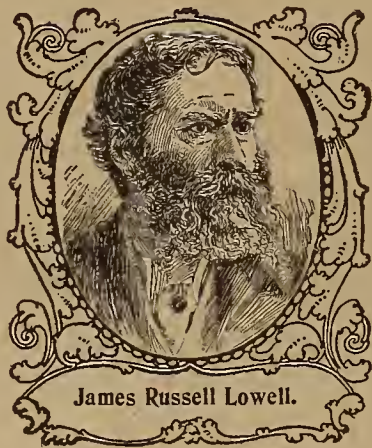


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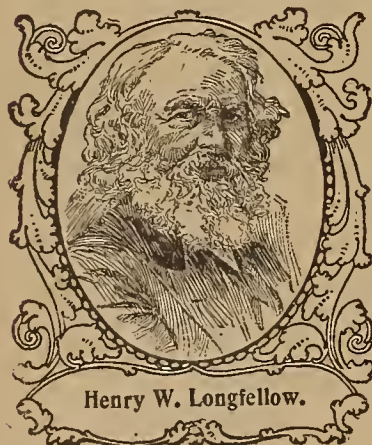


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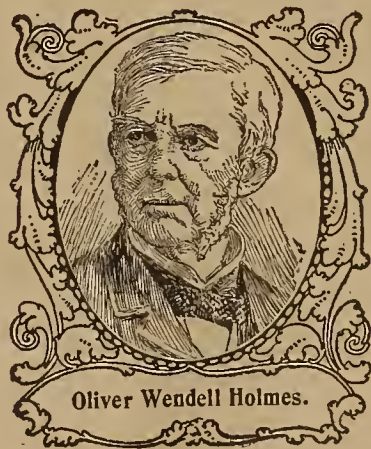
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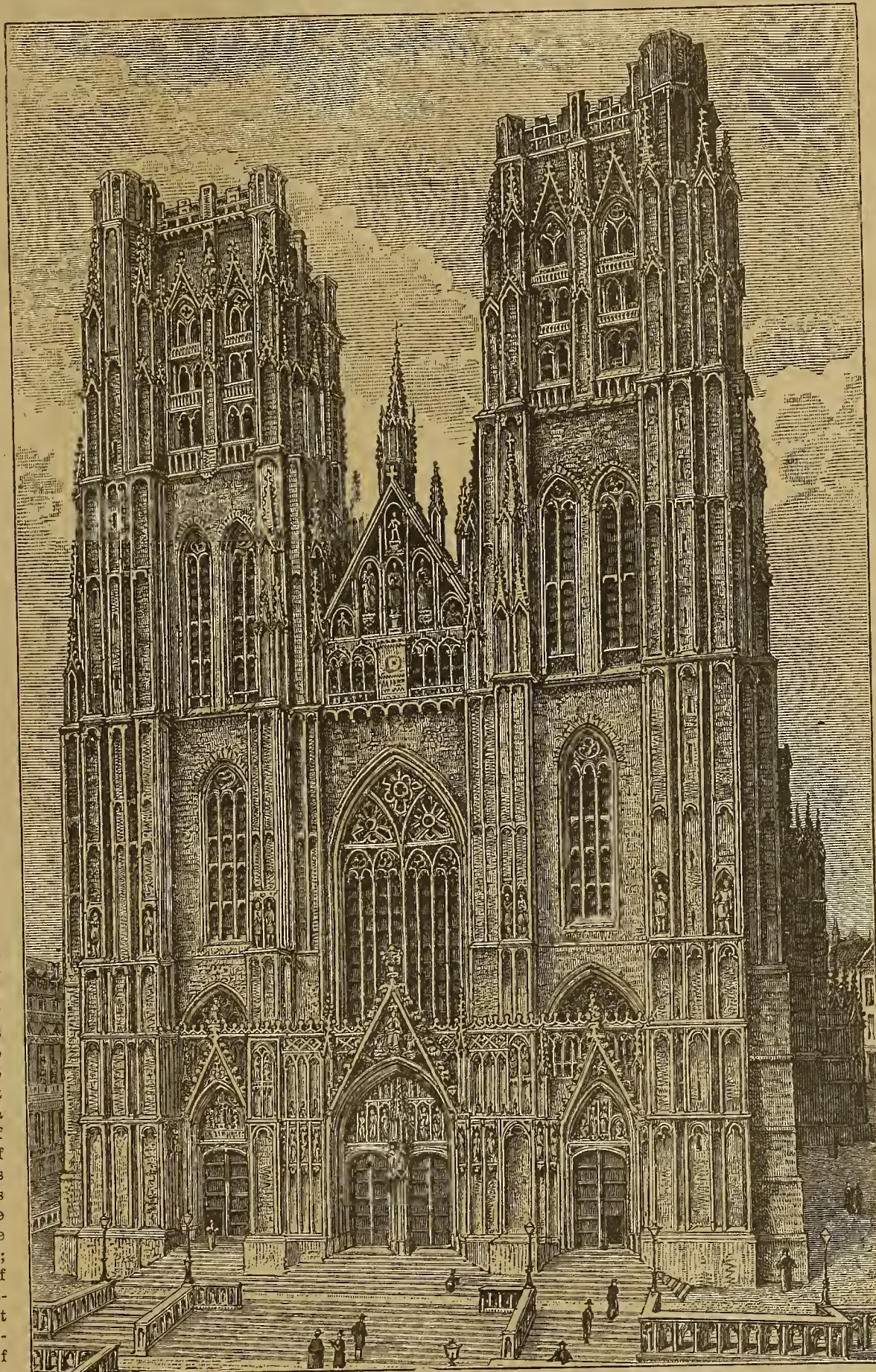
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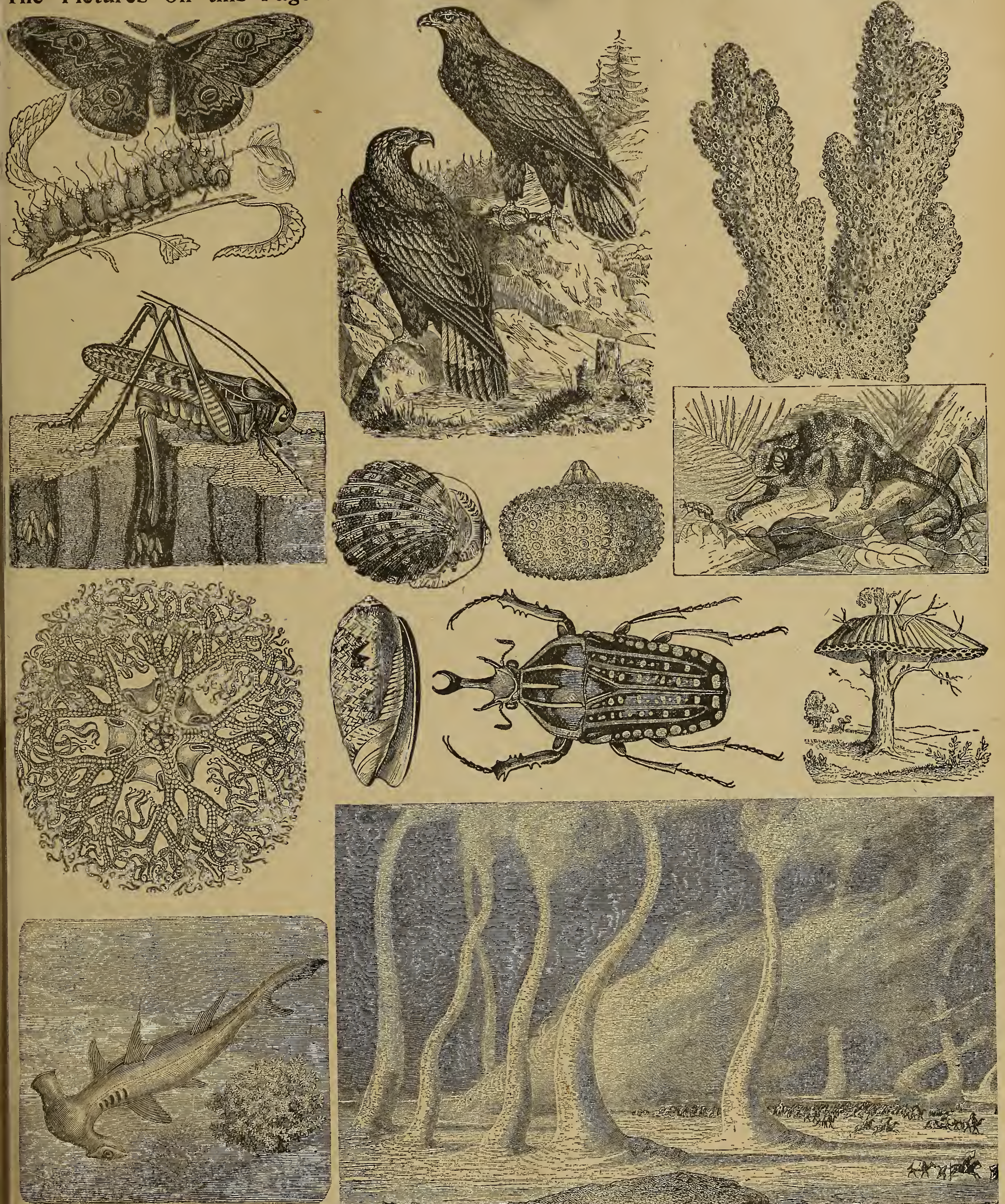
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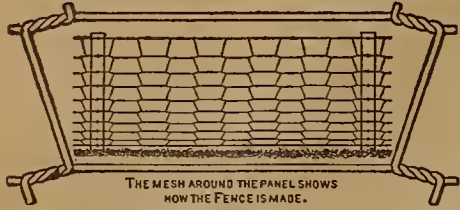
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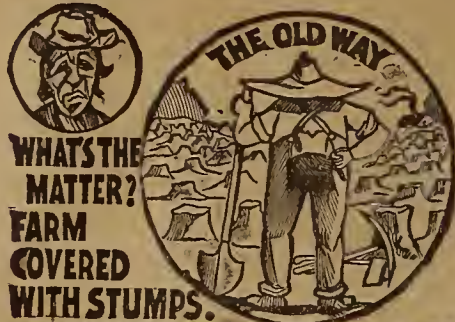
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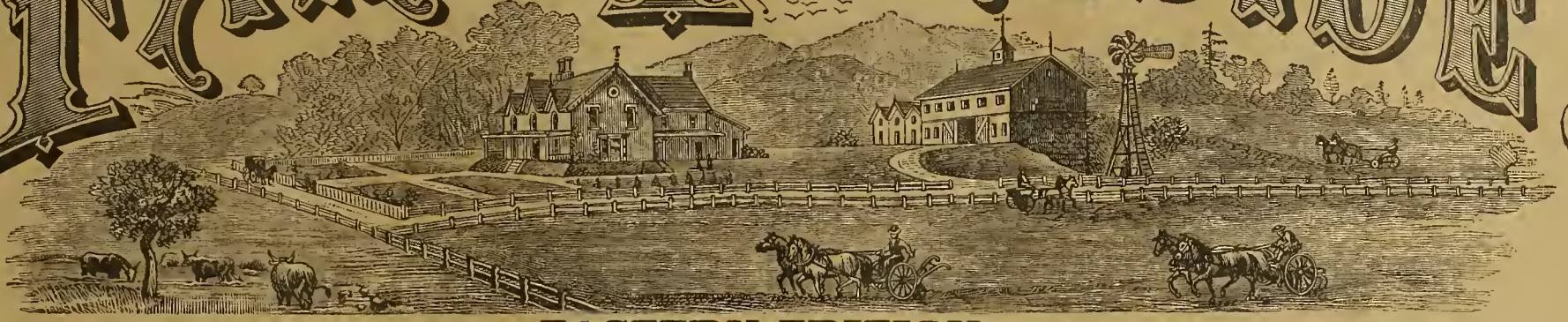
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VOL. XVIII. NO. 11.

MARCH 1, 1895.

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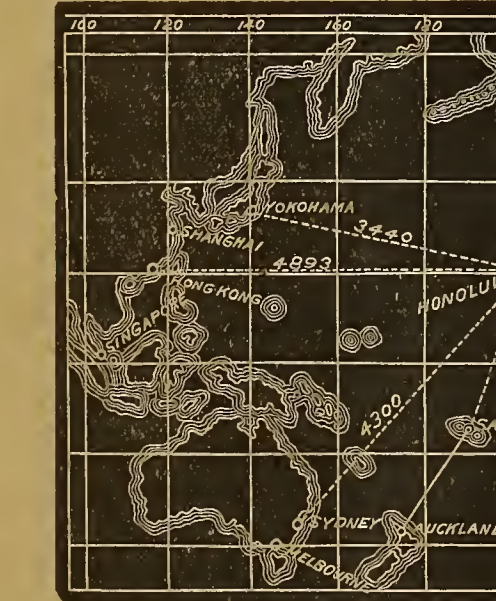
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moning another international conference on the currency question, cannot but be acceptable to the friends of true bimetallism in this country. This movement is in direct line with the declared policy of the United States. International bimetallism at the true ratio between gold and silver is gaining force every day. This movement for bimetallism must not, however, be confounded with the one carried on by extremists in this country under the same name, but of which the object is silver monometallism or a depreciated currency.

Great Britain is the one great power that has hitherto prevented the success of the international monetary conferences held for the purpose of getting the leading nations of the world to open their mints to the unlimited coinage of both gold and silver at a common ratio to be fixed by international agreement. But true bimetallism has been making great progress in England. Mr. Balfour, the leader of the Conservative party in the House of Commons, is one of its strongest advocates. The overthrow of the present government is imminent. Within a few months, probably, Rosebery will be succeeded by Balfour as prime minister. At the next general election for Parliament, the silver question will be one of the most important, as it is being aggressively pushed in English politics.

The statesmen and a majority of the people of the United States favor this movement to promote the restoration of silver by international agreement, believ-

ing that "the free coinage of both gold and silver by international agreement at a fixed ratio would secure to mankind the blessing of a sufficient volume of metal money, and secure to the world of trade immunity from violent exchange fluctuations."



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ing that "the free coinage of both gold and silver by international agreement at a fixed ratio would secure to mankind the blessing of a sufficient volume of metal money, and secure to the world of trade immunity from violent exchange fluctuations."

FRED PERRY POWERS contributes a very striking article to the February number of *Lippincott's*. His subject is, "The Fate of the Farmer." He says:

"The American farmer has long held a place greatly above that of the peasant of continental Europe in his income and style of living, because he has been able to possess a larger tract of land; and greatly above the English farmer in his independence, because he has been able to own

the ground he tills. He will not continue another half century to hold this enviable position.

"Sometimes we find the American farmer slipping away from his acres, and sometimes we find his acres slipping away from him. As a result of both tendencies, there is a separation, widening with the lapse of time, between ownership and cultivation.

"The American farmer is being detached from the earth. He is losing his farm, and is therefore imagining vain things. He is taking up the most foolish and obviously senseless notions regarding currency and credit and capital and labor and property that were ever harbored by the minds of intelligent human beings."

The closing paragraph of the article is very striking, and well worth pondering over. "The nearest we have ever come to an industrial Eden was the New England farming town of many years ago, where the population was homogeneous, and constituted the real American order of equities, among whom every man kept a horse, and no man kept a coachman. Yet we have got so far from that now that even a New England poet, no less distinguished a son of Massachusetts than Oliver Wendell Holmes, in his "Teacups," expressed his horror of a state of society in which the dreadful levelers had their way, and one man was not better or better off than another. The last of the great New England bards outlived his recollection of

He was elected member of the state senate in 1868, and by the Republican majority honored as president pro tem. In 1869, due to his personal endeavors, probably



ISAAC P. GRAY.

the fifteenth amendment became part of our constitution. This amendment was up for ratification by the state of Indiana; and Indiana had to ratify it or it would fail. By clever management, Mr. Gray so directed affairs that he overcame the opposition, which was determined by the Democratic members.

In 1872 he went into the Liberal party, and then into the Democratic party. In 1884 he was elected governor of the state. It has long been known that he has aspired to become senator from his own state. He was, above all, a politician; and he aimed at nothing less than the highest offices within the gift of the people.

THE recent rebellion in Hawaii has revived agitation of annexation, and an important step toward it was taken in the action of the United States Senate passing an appropriation bill for the construction of a submarine telegraph between this country and the Hawaiian islands.

Over forty years ago Mr. Seward, speaking in the Senate, said: "Who does not see that henceforth, every year, European commerce, European politics, European thoughts and European activity, although gradually gaining force, and European connections, although actually becoming more intimate, will nevertheless sink in importance, while the Pacific ocean, its shores, its islands and the vast region beyond, will become the chief theater of events in the world's great hereafter?"

A few months ago, in a letter to the *New York Sun*, the late Mr. Stevens, United States minister at Honolulu, said: "How any intelligent American who has carefully considered the relation of the North Pacific to the vast future American interest in that grand ocean domain, can be indifferent into whose control shall pass the Hawaiian islands, to you as to me is profoundly astonishing. Statesmanship, humanity and civilization demand that those islands shall at once and forever become a territory of the United States."

The German Reichstag recently adopted a resolution instructing the federal governments to issue invitations for an international monetary conference to take action for the rehabilitation of silver as a circulating medium. Prince Hohenlohe, son of the imperial chancellor, indicated the attitude of the German government in the following declaration: "Without prejudicing our imperial currency, one must confess that the differences in the value of gold and silver continue to react upon our commercial life. Following, therefore, the tendencies which led to the appointment of a silver commission, I am ready to consider, in conjunction with the federal governments, whether we cannot enter upon a friendly interchange of opinion as to common remedial measures with the other states which are chiefly interested in maintaining the value of silver."

The movement abroad in favor of bimetallism, and the action of Germany sum-

what made his race and his state great. There need be no dread of levelers.

THE death of Minister Isaac P. Gray, who is so well known throughout the central states, in the City of Mexico, February 14th, brought sadness to many hearts. He was just returning to Mexico from a visit to Indianapolis.

Mr. Gray has been for more than a quarter of a century a well-known politician in Indiana. At first he was a staunch Republican and Union man, and was commissioned in 1863 by Governor Morton as colonel of the Fourth Indiana Cavalry. Resigning in 1864 he recruited the 147th Indiana Infantry.

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FARM AND FIRESIDE,
Springfield, Ohio.

The Advertisers in this Paper.

We believe that all the advertisements in this paper are from reliable firms or business men, and do not intentionally or knowingly insert advertisements from any but reliable parties; if subscribers find any of them to be otherwise we should be glad to know it. Always mention this paper when answering advertisements, as advertisers often have different things advertised in several papers.

Berkshire Year Book. Every breeder of Berkshire swine should have a copy of the "Berkshire Year Book for 1894," published by the American Berkshire Association, Springfield, Ill. Price one dollar per copy.

Farmers' Bulletins. Under this title, the United States Department of Agriculture is issuing a series of publications on agricultural topics for general distribution. Applications for these bulletins should be addressed to the Secretary of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.

Feeding of Farm Animals. In reply to several inquiries for best ration for farm animals, we suggest that the writers send for Farmers' Bulletin No. 22, on the feeding of farm animals. This bulletin presents a statement of the well-defined principles upon which the feeding of farm animals rests. It will be followed by other bulletins on the same topic.

Human Food. "Foods: Nutritive Value and Cost," Farmers' Bulletin No. 23, is the first report of investigations conducted by the Department of Agriculture upon the nutritive value of the various articles and commodities used for human food, with suggestions of less wasteful and more economical dietaries than those in common use.

"A quart of milk, three quarters of a pound of moderately fat beef (sirloin steak, for instance) and five ounces of wheat flour all contain about the same amount of nutritive material; but we pay different prices for them and they have different values for nutriment. The milk comes nearest being a perfect food. It contains all of the different kinds of nutritive materials that the body needs. Bread made from wheat flour will support life. It contains all of the necessary ingredients for nourishment, but not in the proportions best adapted for ordinary use. A man might live on beef alone, but it would be a very one-sided and imperfect diet. But bread and meat together make the essentials of a healthful diet. Such are the facts of experience. The advancing science of later years explains them. This expla-

nation takes into account not simply quantities of meat and bread and milk and other materials which we eat, but also the nutritive ingredients which they contain.

"The cost of food is the principal item of the living expenses of most people. * * * The large majority of families in this country are said to have not over \$500 a year to live upon. On an average, more than half of this goes, and must go, for food. * * * Although the cost of food makes so large a part of the whole cost of living, and although the health and strength of all are so intimately connected with and dependent upon their diet, yet even the most intelligent people know less of the actual uses and values of their food for fulfilling its purposes than of almost any other of the necessities of life."

The annual report of the United States Department of Agriculture on the number and value of farm animals presents the following comparison:

STOCK.	Number.		Increase (+) or decrease (-).	Aggregate value.		Increase or decrease.
	1894.	1895.		1894.	1895.	
Horses.....	16,081,139	15,893,318	-187,821	\$769,224,799	\$576,730,580	-\$192,494,219
Mules.....	2,352,231	2,333,108	-19,123	146,232,811	110,927,834	-35,304,977
Milch cows.....	16,487,300	16,504,629	+17,329	358,998,661	362,601,729	+3,603,068
Oxen and other cattle.....	36,608,168	34,364,216	-2,243,952	536,789,747	482,999,129	-53,790,618
Sheep.....	45,048,017	42,294,064	-2,753,953	89,186,110	66,685,767	-22,500,343
Swine.....	45,206,498	44,165,716	-1,040,782	270,384,626	219,501,267	-50,883,359
Total.....				2,170,816,754	1,819,446,306	-351,370,448

The average values per capita of animals and changes in values are shown as follows:

STOCK.	Val. per head.		Increase or decrease.	STOCK.	Val. per head.		Increase or decrease.
	1894.	1895.			1894.	1895.	
Horses.....	\$47.83	\$36.29	-\$11.54	Oxen and other cattle.....	\$14.66	\$14.06	-\$ 0.60
Mules.....	62.17	47.55	-14.62	Sheep.....	1.98	1.58	- 0.40
Milch cows.....	21.77	21.97	+ .20	Swine.....	5.98	4.97	- 1.01

Nebraska Sufferers. While much has been done to relieve the urgent necessities of sufferers in the drought-stricken portion of Nebraska, more remains to be done. Food and clothing are immediate necessities. Two crop failures in succession have left the farmers without seed for future crops. They need grains for sowing the spring field crops, and seeds for garden vegetables. Those of our readers who have been blessed with an abundance can confer a blessing on these needy people by sharing with them.

NOTES ON RURAL AFFAIRS.

Tillage as Manure. In a paper read before the Western New York Horticultural Society at its last meeting, in Rochester (January 23, 1895), Professor Roberts, of Cornell University, reasoned that most soils contain plenty of dormant plant-foods, sufficient indeed for the production of annual fruit crops, and that it will be cheaper, usually, to fit these plant-foods for the use of the trees and plants by cultivation than to provide additional ones by manure applications. The primary object of tillage is to preserve moisture, and aid in rendering dormant plant-foods assimilable. The moisture, in dry weather, rises upward until it meets that layer of the surface which is made fine by tillage. The plant roots exude a slightly acid substance which acts on the plant-foods in the moist soil, and makes them available. Cultivation, therefore, is an indirect way of furnishing food to plants. It hastens chemical changes, especially also nitrification, which is aided by the presence of air, warmth, moisture and partial darkness. Nitrogen set free by tillage produces a better, stronger and healthier growth than nitrogen from rank stable manure.

Manuring Orchards. "You can't feed a horse with the curry-comb," said Professor Bailey at the same meeting. This seems to be in direct contradiction to Professor Roberts' teachings, and some might say, perhaps, that the professors should get together and agree on one story before lecturing to farmers in public. But I can easily reconcile these two doctrines. Many orchards, vineyards and berry plantations are starved because the plant-foods (already in the soil in great abundance), which might be set free by cultivation, remain

dormant and useless for the present, just for the lack of that cultivation. But there are also other orchards that stand in soils utterly worn out by continuous cropping, and which cannot be fed with the plow and harrow. Plant-foods must here be applied as well as tillage to put them into the way of producing good fruit again. The omission of tillage is usually fatal to the fond expectations of the fruit growers; the highest success is not within reach without it. In some cases we might let tillage take the place of manuring entirely, but where large crops are grown under good tillage, we can afford to feed the orchard by direct applications, and indeed would not show a great deal of ordinary foresight and prudence were we to omit such applications.

This seemed to be Professor Roberts' standpoint also, when for ordinary orchards he recommended mostly cultivation instead of fertilizers, "maneuvering" the soil more than manuring it. But if the trees are in full bearing, the soil may need reinforcement by additional plant-

foods. A dressing of phosphoric acid or potash, or both, may supply what is needed. Professor Roberts told one instance: An apple orchard of sixteen acres had been unproductive for some time. The owner then changed the treatment, applied thirty tons of ashes, gave good cultivation, and sprayed the trees, with the result that he sold the fruit on the trees the next year for \$3,000, without having to go into the orchard to gather the fruit, or incur any expense.

Tillage as Moisture Preserver. Attention was repeatedly called to the fact that the California fruit growers produce their fine fruits, although they have no rain from April to November, and they don't want any. But they are constantly tilling their orchards and vineyards; consequently, the ground right below the soil mulch provided by cultivation is always moist. This should be a lesson to eastern soil-tillers. They have more rain, and surely a sufficiency of it to raise good fruit crops any year, if they will only husband the moisture supply of the soil by preventing evaporation.

The apple orchards in this vicinity, some of them containing thousands of trees, present a good illustration. The land is a heavy loam, but seldom sufficiently under-drained. It contains all the plant-food needed for many crops, if it were made properly available by tillage. But the trees were planted too close. Now, as they have grown larger, the limbs of adjoining rows interlace, and exclude the possibility of proper working and spraying. At the same time there is an excessive demand for water to feed the excessive number of trees. The supply is excessive during the wet season, and short during the dry season, which is the season of growth and demand for moisture.

Thinning out the orchard is the first thing to be done in order to stop the excessive demand for moisture. It will be found that more good fruit can be grown on the one tree properly treated than on two or even four that are crowded and neglected. Thinning makes tillage possible, and this should be given freely and thoroughly in order to make the best possible use of the moisture supply. Within a quarter of a mile from where I

write are a few orchards with trees that have just come into full bearing age, planted forty feet apart. This distance is sufficient for the present. When the ground is plowed in spring, and not cultivated later on, it soon dries out during the hot weather, showing great and deep cracks. After a few weeks of dry weather, you might dig down through the hardened crust a foot or more deep, without finding a sign of moisture. No wonder the trees suffer! Now follow up the spring plowing with the frequent use of the harrow, or of some good cultivator, and keep the upper two or three inches of the soil constantly mellow; then see the difference. You can dig into the soil mulch with the foot at any time, and you will find moisture right beneath.

Dry Summers for the Fruit Grower. Eastern summers are not usually too dry for best success in fruit growing, so long as the grower makes proper use of his tools of tillage. Wet weather is a thing to be feared rather than to be wished for. Wet weather brings plant diseases and poor quality of fruits. Dry weather develops saccharine matter (sweetness) and high quality. In a dry and hot season we invariably have the best corn crops, also, but the corn receives its share of attention with the cultivator, and if you would treat it as most of our orchards are treated, without tillage, it would succumb to the dry weather just as quickly as other crops without cultivation. The lesson is obvious.

Price of Plain Plant-foods. Dr. Van Slyke, of the Geneva (N. Y.) experiment station (at the same meeting) gave the comparative amounts of phosphoric acid and potash needed for the production of tree growth, and for that of fruits, and demonstrated that fruit growers should apply manures far richer in potash than are needed by nurserymen, whose products (trees and wood) require the two substances in almost equal quantities. Evidently, he meant to convey the idea that farmers can save money by buying plain, unmixed plant-foods, and do their own mixing according to the needs of their crops and soils, than to pay the fertilizer "manufacturers" for the trouble of mixing them. He tells that the large fertilizer firms are not very enthusiastic about this idea of farmers buying plain raw materials. They don't seem to care much to sell to farmers nitrate of soda, and muriate of potash, and kainite, and dissolved South Carolina rock, etc. They prefer to sell them "ammoniated bone," and "grain phosphate," and "special manures" of all kinds, and to make the much larger profits they can secure by mixing and selling these fertilizers.

There were a number of firms, however, who gave the cash figures at which they stand ready to furnish the farmers these plain materials, and these prices range as follows:

Nitrate of soda, 96 per cent purity.....	\$4 to \$50
Sulphate of ammonia, 25 per cent nitrogen.....	67 " 75
Dried blood.....	40
Hog tannage.....	18
Ground raw bone.....	22 " 29
Steamed bone.....	22 " 40
Dissolved rock.....	14 " 18
Muriate of potash.....	41 " 50
Kainite, 12 per cent potash.....	12 " 15
Sulphate of potash.....	45 " 54

All these are fair prices, and the ones I have usually had to pay for these goods. Dr. Van Slyke added the advice to buy dried blood in Chicago rather than at the East. The leather waste of eastern manufacturers is frequently used in the adulteration of fertilizers. Scorched leather, when added to mixed fertilizers, cannot be recognized either by the eye or chemical analysis. It makes a big show in the percentage of nitrogen, but such nitrogen is unavailable. Dried blood is quite easily adulterated by leather admixtures.

Columbian Dairy Tests. It is understood that the committee on printing of the House of Representatives will recommend the publication of a small edition of the report of the Columbian dairy tests. As the demand for this report is likely to be very great, it would be well for those who wish to secure copies to make immediate application to their representatives in Congress.

T. GREINER.

Our Farm.

FORAGE CROPS.

NEVER was there so much interest in forage as at the present time. There are various reasons for this. First, the general depression has forced farmers to study and practice economy, and there has been an increase in the amount of fodder saved.

The unprecedented drought of the past year has necessitated unusual care in saving all farm products, and so an unusually large amount of fodder was saved the past season, and is being fed the present winter.

As an instance, I give this from a letter just received from a stock-feeding section of the older West. "We are all surprised to think we have never found how much good feed there was in corn fodder. One farmer told me in the fall he lost one stack of hay by fire. Thinking he would be short of feed, he cut enough corn fodder to take its place. As the weather was favorable, he cut the entire field of corn. The result was, he now has all his hay to sell at a high price. But I expect we will forget the lessons of this year by another season, if some of you writers do not remind us of it through the farm journals."

For the last ten years I have cut all my corn fodder, and I find it pays me. In this new country forage crops, especially the saccharine and non-saccharine sorghums with their heavy crops of seeds, are standard crops.

SORGHUMS.

But as farmers are learning the real value of forage I think the raising of the sorghums will extend into all parts of the country.

As one succeeding over the largest extent of territory, perhaps Early Amber sorghum stands first, and seed can be easily obtained, though for this section I prefer Folger's Early or Collier, as containing a very high per cent of sucrose, and excellent also for forage.

All of the saccharine sorghums are grown very much like corn, planting a few days later, a little closer together and not covering so deep. The after care is just the same.

They are sown very largely in the West for hay, using from forty to sixty pounds per acre, owing to strength of soil and how fine you want the hay; and then much will depend upon the season. If the season is wet or favorable, the stalks will grow much larger, and can be cut at least twice; if it is very dry, only one cutting can be made, and that not very rank, unless the minimum amount of seed was used.

The common sorghums are not heavy yielders of seed, but in a good year the seed is quite an addition. For best results the seed should be ground; otherwise but little of it will be digested.

Next on the list for a large section of the country is Red Kaffir corn, a non-saccharine sorghum, growing from four to six feet high, having good forage and long, heavy seed-heads. It is the earliest of all except Jerusalem corn, and will be best for points further north. The white variety is rather better for fodder, and if the season is favorable at heading-time, will produce as much or more seed, but does not always have complete heads. There are two kinds of the white, one with a white husk, or chaff, and the other black, the latter being the better, and so far with me has stood at the head of all.

There are many other kinds, known as maize, corn and millet, all belonging to the sorghum family, each excelling in some point, but on the whole not so good as those named for all purposes of feed and ease of handling.

COW-PEAS.

Have long been a standard crop in the South, and are working their way northward, and are likely to be a success in the middle line of states.

Without reference to their position botanically, they should be classed with the very rank-growing, tender beans. Any one who has grown such will need no further instructions as to their growing in an experimental way in testing as to their adaptability in new sections. Our experiment station here said they could laugh at droughts, but that is a mistake. In a moderately dry year and on sandy soil they are likely to produce a fair crop. As the cow-pea is a nitrogenous plant, it is likely to be grown more in the future as a fertilizer. Canada field-peas, which are quite different, are working southward.

ALFALFA.

More interest is being taken in alfalfa in the West than in the other plant. In a broad way I would say that alfalfa and clover meet, and together they cover the country. Where one does well it is not advisable to sow the other, except in an experimental way. Of course, there are exceptional localities, where each will cross the other's line and succeed well. But the North has its red and mammoth clovers, the South its crimson and Japan clovers, and the West its alfalfa.

Deep, loose soil, free from standing water, deep plowing, thorough preparation, seeding both ways with a press drill of twenty to twenty-five pounds seed per acre, without any other crop, as early in the spring as danger from frost will allow, then keeping weeds mowed down for first year, and next year mowed two or more times for hay, and then used for hog and horse pasture, and with care for cattle, seems to be the best method for alfalfa.

Where it proves successful it is one of the best crops that can be grown, being much more valuable than clover. I have a letter from a western Kansas stockman who raises it without irrigation. Last year, almost without rain, when all other crops were a failure, he had a yield of three tons per acre at two cuttings, besides late pasture, and a seed crop of ten bushels per acre. He had been a clover raiser in the East, and says alfalfa "is far superior to red clover in every sense of the word."

NOVELTIES.

For three or four years Lathyrus sylvestris has been advertised very highly, but I have seen but very few commendatory letters from farmers. I planted seed, but it failed to germinate.

The latest novelty is sacaline, and it comes with a sound of trumpets from the majority of seedsmen's catalogues; but the strain is the same in all.

It is my opinion that the seedsman who has decided to wait until it has been tested in this country, further than just an ornamental plant, shows the best interest for his patrons.

It is not necessary here to copy description, almost everyone will have it in a seed catalogue. I will only ask everyone to carefully study characteristics claimed for it, and see if they want such a plant growing on their farm.

If neither droughts, floods nor fire will kill it out, and it spreads by its roots, and attains a height of fourteen feet in a few months, I should not want it on a farm that I thought any other good crops could be grown upon. I would advise great caution as to planting it until more is known.

Oklahoma.

J. M. RICE.

NEW BREED OF POULTRY.

EDITOR FARM AND FIRESIDE:—In answer to your request for information about my new, and as yet unnamed, variety of fowls I will say, first, that they are not sports, but were produced by careful and continuous breeding. The cause of my breeding



NEW BREED OF POULTRY.

them was the want of something I could not find. So I thought I would make what I wanted, and the new breed is the result.

I have found all I wished; that is, a hen that is a first-class table fowl, lays a large egg, lays winter and summer, and sits on her own eggs.

My experiment has covered in time about six years. I have used five varieties

of fowls to breed from. As I wished the result to be a Dominique with smooth legs, I have used only fowls with smooth legs, and with colors that would produce a Dominique. In color I have what I did not expect. The hens are a dead black, and the cocks are a gray Dominique. This is a rule to which I have had no exceptions in two years. All my good pullets have been black and my good cockerels, Dominique. The photographs that I send are of fowls one year old.

In size they are much like the Wyandottes, but are very heavy for their apparent size. They have a small crest and beard; comb small, single in front, but divided at the back; ear-lobes small and white; legs smooth and brown in color (darker on hen than on cock), and with five toes on each foot. They have as yet no name, and are not in the market.

J. W. NICHOLS.

Ohio.

OUR SOUTHERN LETTER.

Atlanta, Ga., which is very properly called the "Gate City" of the South, now has a population of 108,644. Ten years ago it was 56,837, but little more than half its present number. This rapid increase is no



NEW BREED OF POULTRY.

doubt largely due to the enterprise of the leading citizens, who have expended their available capital in the establishment of manufactories of various kinds. The number of smoke-stacks that loom up in every direction are monuments indicating an industrial development that augurs well for the future.

The weekly *Constitution*, one of the leading papers of the South, is published here. Recently it has devoted a large amount of space in its columns to the discussion of the cost of the production of cotton, and to suggestions that will doubtless prove of financial value to cotton growers. Among the plans indorsed by one of the many conventions which have recently been held, is one recommending that the merchants be as lenient as possible; that the farmers produce all kinds of food supplies, and the townspeople buy these as direct as it is possible to do from the country people, instead of sending to the distant Northwest for them. It was further recommended that more spinning-mills, with cards and spindles, be established in proximity to the cotton-fields, and later, that there be added to these the looms necessary to convert the cotton into cloth, thus giving employment to an increased number of laborers. It was further recommended that pork-packing and beef-canning houses be established near the large towns and cities. The need of good local markets was emphasized. Attention was also directed to the fact that the northern farmer not only produces his bread and meat, and feed for his teams, but also has enough surplus of odds and ends to purchase his groceries, and possibly his dry-goods. In this way, what he realizes from his staple crops of wheat, corn and hay, brings him out at the end of the year just that much ahead of the southern farmer, who yet stakes nearly or quite all his chances on his cotton crop, and depends on outside sources for his family supplies, for his help, and feed for his teams. Such methods involve the payment of high transportation and commission rates, and risks are taken that the prudent farmer should avoid.

It is accepted as an axiomatic truth by the best writers on political economy "that no people in any locality can become permanently prosperous who are not self-sustaining." The planters who have made their lands produce their home supplies, as well as cotton for the money crop, are the only ones who are measurably contented and prosperous. There is but little doubt that the amount of money annually paid

out by the South for food products that might be raised in the cotton-growing states at a fair profit, is absolutely thrown away, in that the gross value of the cotton crop is diminished by over-production by an amount at least equal to that paid for these products.

The bed-rock upon which all permanent agricultural prosperity must rest, is that of having the various articles that we use manufactured as near to our doors as possible. In the same proportion as the distance between the producer and consumer decreases, will the value of farm products increase, for in this is involved the saving of transportation, and the still more expensive exactions of middlemen. Our consuls to foreign countries should spare no effort to extend the use and distribution of our manufactured and other products that are exported. With increased facilities for manufacturing and agricultural production, there must come an ever-widening market. It must not be forgotten that we need non-producing consumers, both at home and abroad, who have the ability to purchase from us.

The rapid increase of manufacturing enterprises throughout the South is an indication of more prosperous times, for with them will come an increase in the number of consumers of the staple products of the farm, and the more perishable ones of the orchard and garden. This constitutes the kind of a home market that is needed, and without which farming cannot be made a permanently prosperous industry. Every southern citizen who has the welfare of his native or adopted state at heart, should be willing to invest his capital in the building of manufacturing enterprises that can take the rough products of the field, orchard or garden and convert them into finished products of the best quality, put up in the most attractive form, and in sufficient quantity to meet the wants of local consumers and supply foreign markets. In this way agriculture, which is admitted to be the primal source of the nation's wealth, would soon regain its normal degree of prosperity.

W. M. K.

In Early Spring

Nearly everybody needs a good medicine. The impurities which have accumulated in the blood during the cold months must be expelled, or when the mild days come, and the effect of bracing air is lost, the body is liable

Hood's Sarsaparilla

to be overcome by debility or serious disease. The remarkable success of Hood's Sarsaparilla and the universal praise it has received, make it worthy your confidence. It is Peculiar to Itself in curative power.

It does purify, vitalize and

Hood's Sarsaparilla

enrich the blood, create an appetite and give great nerve, mental, bodily and digestive strength. Possessing precisely those elements of support and assistance which the body at this season craves, it is the "Ideal Spring Medicine."

Hood's Pills are hand made, and perfect in proportion and appearance. 25c. per box.

Our Farm.

GARDEN.

PERSONAL CORRESPONDENCE.—Notwithstanding all this cry of "hard times" and "unprofitable farming," the interest in farming and gardening is not on the wane. I infer this much from the unusual amount of correspondence, mostly inquiries about "how to do" this or that, which have lately come to my desk. Never before have I had at any one time such a stack of letters from the FARM AND FIRESIDE circle of readers on the table before me, all awaiting answers, and many of them by personal letter. Many of these inquiries concern matters that I have repeatedly explained in these columns. I am inclined to think that FARM AND FIRESIDE must be constantly gaining admittance into new homes, and extending its acquaintances. Possibly, also, the unprofitableness of many farm crops under the average management drives many to seek more profitable employment in horticulture, or has impressed them with the great need of improving their time-worn and profitless methods.

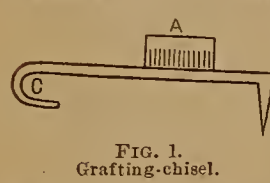


FIG. 1. Grafting-chisel.

On the whole, this increasing correspondence shows a newly awakening or increasing interest in farm and garden work, a desire to do better, and as such it is a hopeful sign. At least, I can find nothing in these letters that might be considered as a "wail of distress." All breathe cheerfulness and hope for better things.

Now, these letters are all right. But what a lot of work they expect of me! I would like to give one, received from a lady, as a sample. There are more than twenty questions in it, and to reply to them properly would require as many sheets of paper and about a day's work; and all this information is expected by return mail. One lady asks me to send her a few cuttings of Green Mountain and other grapes, and is willing to send the postage. I would cheerfully comply with these requests, but I have not the time to do it. If my fair correspondent will come to my place, she can have all the grape cuttings she wants by getting them from the vineyard. My friends must excuse me if I seem to treat them discourteously by ignoring such requests.

A HINT TO CORRESPONDENTS.—And now I will tell you a secret that may be useful to correspondents and save them and me time and effort. I like short letters. I invariably reply to short letters first. The long ones are laid back, to be looked over and answered when I have more time, and the longer they are the oftener they are laid back, and sometimes they are never answered. In order to dispose of a number of the inquiries now on hand, I will indulge in a little chat on the subjects referred to by them.

HEAVY MANURING.—G. W. W., Kansas City, Mo., says he has bought an acre of land inside city limits, that had the top soil taken off. Since then he has put one thousand loads of horse and cow manure on the one acre, desiring to raise lettuce, radishes, celery and cauliflower, principally. He also has fifty bushels of hen

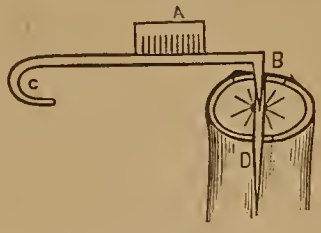


FIG. 2. Stock cut off and split, and cleft held open with wedge-shaped end of grafting-chisel.

droppings and one hundred bushels of wood ashes. How and when to apply them and how much land-plaster to add—these are the questions. The idea, evidently, is to form a new top soil. I suppose the land is well drained, for otherwise all efforts would be in vain. The way I would manage this is as follows: First, before putting on manure, the land should be deeply plowed and left in the rough to weather. Through the winter the manure may be applied quite liberally. One thousand loads per acre, of course, is a tremendous dose, but if you give it time enough to decompose and become fully incorporated with the soil, by repeated plowing and harrowing, it will undoubtedly make a fine soil for gardening purposes. I do

not think I would further enrich this at the beginning with poultry droppings, nor any other strong manure, but would apply these, or ashes or lime, the second or third year. I can see no particular need to use the land-plaster, except on the hen manure, to help it retain all its ammonia.

CANNING FACTORIES.—I have also had a number of inquiries from people who wish to get an outlet for some of their surplus vegetables and fruits by starting a canning factory. There is always much temptation in this idea for people who live where vegetables and fruits can be easily and cheaply produced, but not so easily sold at a fair price. The information, however, is not easily obtainable. Managers of canning factories, who know all about the business, fear competition, and are usually not very fast to give all the details; and at any rate, I would suspect them of the tendency to give a rather poor account of the profits, in order to prevent others from becoming overenthusiastic. Manufacturers of and dealers in canning-factory supplies, however, would wish to sell equipments, and would naturally paint the industry and its profits in the rosiest colors possible. Where the truth lies, few people really do know, and those who do know won't tell. I am not aware that there is any treatise in existence giving all the details of the business. I will try to ascertain them, and tell something more about this later on. If any of our readers can give a little of their own expe-



FIG. 3. Showing the scion cut for insertion.

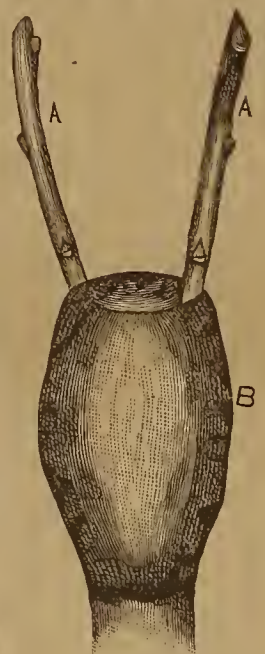


FIG. 6. Graft covered with wax. AA, scions; B, wax.

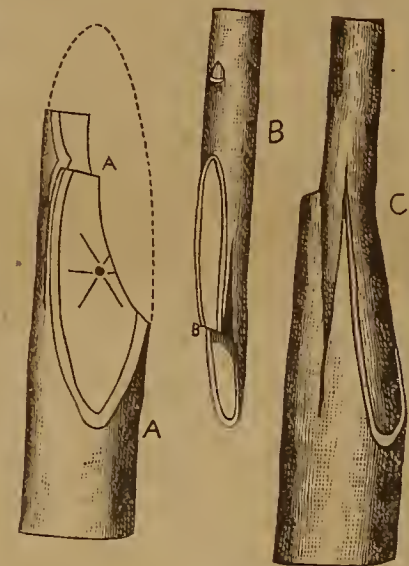


FIG. 7. A, stock; B, scion; C, scion and stock united.

rience in canning vegetables or fruits for commercial purposes, it will be appreciated.

CELERY ROTTING.—A correspondent asks for the reason of her celery stalks rotting when earthed up. The ground is low and wet, and she finds it almost impossible to make peach-trees grow in it.

The land wants drainage. Otherwise, no crop can be expected to do its best, and peaches certainly will have no show on such soil, although trees on plum stocks would perhaps do better than those on peach roots.

COMPOST FOR MELONS.—For melons, I use and would want my stable manure thoroughly rotted, and then a good quantity mixed into the hills, or better, spread broadcast and plowed under. How long it will take to fit fresh manure for such use I can hardly tell—some months at best, if you keep the pile in a brisk heating condition and frequently forked over.

SOWING SPINACH.—An Indiana reader, and others who desire to raise spinach, may safely sow it at any time when the ground is open and the soil well prepared. Spinach is one of our hardiest vegetables, and winters well in open ground here without any protection. I sow it in drills a foot apart, using about ten pounds of seed to the acre, and if the plants stand excessively thick, I thin them to about three or four inches apart. Under ordinary circumstances I do no thinning. I plant the Long-standing Summer or the old round-leaved spinach.

RHUBARB AT THE SOUTH.—A reader at Jackson, Miss., asks whether rhubarb can be grown there. I can see no reason why it should not. Let us hear from our southern readers. T. GREINER.

Orchard and Small Fruits.

CONDUCTED BY SAMUEL B. GREEN.

GRAFTING.

LIMITS OF GRAFTING.

It is quite common to hear very surprising stories about grafting. Quite lately a prominent grape grower referred to his efforts to graft the red currant on the red maple-tree. Even Pliny says: "Some apples are so red that they resemble blood, which is caused by their being grafted on mulberry stock." But budding or grafting is never successful unless the graft and stock are nearly allied, and the closer the relationship between them the more certain the success. Lindley says: "Varieties of the same species unite most freely; then species of the same genus; then genera of the same natural order, beyond which the power does not extend." For instance, pears work freely on pears; very well on quinces and mountain ash; less successfully on apples or thorns, and not at all upon plums and cherries; while the lilac will take on the ash, because of the near relationship between the two. But there are many exceptions to any rule that could be laid down concerning this matter. Some plants are increased most readily by budding, while others graft more easily than they are budded. Some stone fruits are very easily budded, but grafting them is a much more uncertain operation.

Stock is the term used to indicate the plant grafted upon, whether large or small.

Scion is the term used to express the part inserted, of whatever size or form it may consist. These should be of the new, well-ripened growth of the season. If scions are to be used in the spring, they should always be cut late in the fall, as they are liable to be injured by the winter.

However, spring-cut scions may often be used successfully, but it is not safe to trust to them, especially if when cut open the heart-wood appears dark-colored. Scions should not be cut when frozen. They should be stored in moist sawdust or sand in a cold cellar, or buried in the ground outdoors during winter. Cherry scions are most safely carried through the winter when packed in moist leaves. If packed in sand or sawdust they sometimes become water-soaked. Plum scions should be cut in the spring.

The principles which underlie grafting are the same as in budding; that is, the scion and stock must be closely related;

the work must be done in such a manner that the inside bark of both scion and stock come closely in contact; and at a season of the year, and under such circumstances, that they may unite at once, or as soon as growth starts. The success of the operation largely depends on having the stock and scion perfectly healthy; in selecting the proper season, which varies somewhat with different plants; in getting a perfect union of the inner barks of scion and stock at least on one side; in making all the cuts with a sharp knife, that the parts in contact may have a smooth surface; in

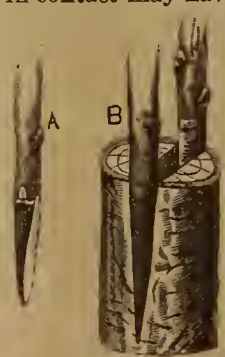


FIG. 5. Perspective view of scion and completed graft.

doing the work rapidly, so that the surface may not be exposed. Grafting-wax is generally used for covering the wounds made in grafting. A good grafting-wax is one that will not become too soft in summer, so as to melt and run down the stock, or so hard in winter as to crack and split off. A very reliable grafting-wax is made by melting together resin, four parts, by weight; beeswax, two parts; tallow, one part. When well melted, pour into a pail of cold water, grease the hands slightly and pull the wax until it is about the color of pulled molasses candy. Make into balls and store for use. This wax should be warmed when applied. If it is too hard, less resin and more tallow may be used. Some propagators use linseed-oil instead of tallow.

Clay is frequently used for covering

wounds made by grafting, and it gives quite as good results as any of the waxes, if properly applied. For this purpose some very tenacious clay should be used, and it is thought to be improved when mixed with about one third of fresh cow dung and a little plasterers' hair. The whole mass should be thoroughly worked over before using.

CLEFT-GRAFTING

Is a very common form of grafting, and is more universally known and used than any other. It is commonly performed to change the bearing of apple, plum and various other trees and plants. It is generally the most practical method to use on

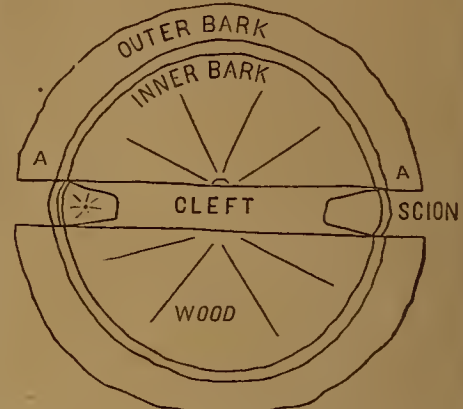


FIG. 4. Cross-section through a graft showing cleft and scion in place.

branches two or three inches in diameter, but it also works well on quite small stocks.

The tools used are a sharp, fine saw and a grafting-chisel, a good pattern for which is shown in Fig. 1, where A represents the blade for splitting the stick; B, the wedge-shaped end for holding the cleft open; and C, a hook by which the tool may be hung on some convenient branch.

Cleft-grafting is performed as follows: The place selected for the insertion of the scion should be where the grain of wood is straight. The stock is then cut "square" off with a sharp saw and is split through its center with the grafting-chisel, to a depth sufficient to allow the scion to be put in place. The cleft is held open by the chisel (Fig. 2) until the scion (Fig. 3) is cut and inserted, when the wedge is withdrawn, allowing the stock to close on the scion and so hold it in place. If the stock does not spring back so as to hold the scion firmly, it should be tightly drawn together with a string. The number of scions inserted will depend on the size of the stock. If the stock is not over three quarters of an inch in diameter, one scion is enough to insert; but on larger stocks two may be

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put in. All the cut surfaces, including the ends of the scions, should now be covered with wax, as shown in Fig. 7.

The scion to be inserted in cleft-grafting should be cut wedge-shaped, lengthwise, as shown in Fig. 3, and its cross-section should also be wedge-shaped. Fig. 4 represents a cross-section through a newly made graft, showing cleft in the stock and two scions in place (note how the edges of the wood come together). Fig. 5 represents the scion and graft as seen in perspective. Fig. 6 shows graft completed and covered with wax.

WHIP-GRAFTING

Is illustrated in Fig. 7, in which A represents the stock with a slit at A; B the scion with slit at B; C the scion and stock put together. When finished, all the cut surfaces should be covered with grafting-wax, as shown in Fig. 6. In this form of grafting it is seldom that the inner barks come together on more than one side of scion and stock. It is a method that is very quickly performed by one accustomed to it, but its use is limited to branches or stems under three fourths of an inch in diameter, but for stocks coming within this limit it is very convenient. It is much used by nurserymen in root-grafting apple, pear and plum seedlings, which is done to a large extent during the winter months, when but very little can be accomplished out of doors.

GRAFTING BELOW GROUND.

If grafting is done just below the surface of the ground, the work is much more certain of being successful than if above the surface, and the resulting tree will be harder than if the union were above ground, since the weakest point in a tree (the graft) will be protected by the earth. Of course, very frequently it is impracticable to do the work in this manner. The methods adapted for grafting below ground are the same as for above ground, only not so much wax is required.

In grafting below ground it is important to remove the soil until a smooth, straight part is found of sufficient length to contain the scion. It is important, also, to keep the wounds free from dirt, for however much it may help to have the whole graft covered in this way, any soil on the cut surfaces will prevent that desirable close contact of the cells which is necessary for successful work. When grafting is done below ground, suckers will often start from the stock in great numbers. These should be all removed, or the graft will be ruined. A little observation soon teaches one to distinguish at a glance the difference between sprouts from the stock and the scion. In removing these suckers they should be pulled away from the stock, and not simply cut off. Only one shoot should be permitted to grow from each scion, and this should be the thickest and generally that starting lowest down. The lowest is saved because wherever a root starts there is generally a crook formed, and if near the ground it is not unsightly.

Nightcap is a term given to signify a paper bag that is sometimes drawn over and tied below the graft as soon as it is completed. Its use is to prevent the shriveling of the scion due to exposure to drying winds. It is especially desirable in top-grafting trees in dry seasons or in exposed locations. It is a very valuable adjunct to the grafting outfit, and its use should be more general. Of course, the bags should be removed as soon as the scions start, and the same care should be taken in the use of wax around the graft as if the nightcap was not used.

INQUIRIES ANSWERED

BY SAMUEL E. GREEN.

Wild Crab Stock—Grafting on Suckers.

—J. A., Silverdale, B. C. The native wild crab is not a good stock for the apple, as it is so small that the graft soon outgrows it. Then, again, the wood of this crab-apple is so fine-grained that it does not form a good union with the cultivated apple.—Suckers are not desirable stocks for apples, as they seldom grow well when moved. It is best to sow the apple seed, and to graft on the seedlings, or else buy the seedlings, which cost about \$5 per thousand.

Grafting—Cherry Stock—Root-grafts.—S. L. P., Canton, Ohio, writes: "I have learned to graft and bud by reading your paper. As I have some calls to do this work for my neighbors, please tell me the price for budding and grafting by piece-work.—What kind of sour cherry-trees will not sprout from the roots, and where can I get those roots to graft or bud on?—Will small roots from an apple-tree twelve years old be as good to graft on as a seedling root?"

REPLY:—The price of grafting and budding by piece-work varies greatly. Where there is a large amount of top-working to do, probably one cent a graft would be a fair price. Where the work consists of grafting or budding on small stocks near the ground in large quantities, one half cent per graft would probably be

a fair price. Where only a small amount of work is to be done, probably five cents each would be none too much.—All sour cherries sprout from the roots, and yet it is very desirable to get them on their own roots, as they are longer-lived thus grown than when grafted. The Mazzard cherry is used as a stock for the sour cherry. It does not sprout, and the sour cherries take well on it. They may be bought of most of the large nurserymen at about \$4 per thousand.—No, they are not so good as seedlings, yet they are sometimes used successfully.

Apple-borers.—J. T. L., Chatton, Illinois. Where borers are deep in the trunk, so that they cannot be killed by a flexible wire or dug out, it is a good plan to put a very little carbon bisulphid in the holes and then stop them up with putty. This material can be bought through the druggists for about fifty cents per gallon. It is much like gasoline as regards danger from fire. It vaporizes after being put in the holes, and its vapor kills the borers. To keep the borers out, apply some of the various tree washes recommended in FARM AND FIRESIDE.

Mulch of Leaves.—G. W. B., Hartford, Wis. Leaves make a very good protection for strawberry-beds, providing some poles, corn-stalks or other material can be had to keep them in place until rain or snow falls on them. Corn-stalks are very good, and when used with leaves, answer every purpose. Evergreen boughs are admirable where they can be obtained; but where these materials cannot be had, the plants can be covered with earth from between the rows. If oats are sown rather thinly in the strawberry-bed in August, they make a very good winter protection.

Bitter Rot.—G. T. C., Hubbardton. I think your apples are affected with one form of bitter rot. It affects some varieties more than others. I suggest that you burn a little sulphur in your cellar before you put your apples in it, and again after they are put in, so as to well kill any spores that may be on the fruit. Of course, the apples should be in open packages when this is done. I think the rot commences when the apples commence to sweat and that the sulphur fumes will be taken up by the moisture, and thus prevent the rot. There is no danger of using too much sulphur. A good way to use it is by putting a teaspoonful or more on a hot brick.

An Old Cranberry-bed.—J. C. W., South Sudbury, Massachusetts, writes: "I have an old cranberry-bed that used to bear abundantly, but for the past three years has yielded little, if anything. I am told it would restore fruitfulness to mow the vines off. Can you give me any suggestions about what to do with the bed? The bed is in the middle part of a large muck meadow, and flat. Soil is about right for cranberries, as to moisture. The vines are very long, thick and matted."

REPLY:—It sometimes improves old, matted cranberry-vines to be mowed off, but are you sure the unfruitfulness is not due to the work of insects? I more than half suspect that they are responsible for the trouble. You would do well to consult some of the Massachusetts cranberry growers about this.

Grape Queries—Red Currants.—B. H. S., Grahamville, Ky., writes: "1. Does it injure grape-vines to remove the foliage around the clusters when the grapes are ripening? 2. Does it cause the grape to mildew to sow the vineyard in stock peas in June, after the vines have been well cultivated? 3. Does spraying prevent grape-rot?—Does it pay to grow red currants?"

REPLY:—1. Foliage should never be removed from grape-vines for the purpose of ripening the fruit. Removal of any part of the foliage retards ripening of the fruit, and the removal of all the foliage stops the ripening process entirely. 2. Not necessarily; but I think if a vineyard is doing well the fruit is crop enough to take from the land. 3. Spraying, properly done, prevents the fruit rotting, and so does bagging the fruit when very small.—It pays to grow red currants in some sections, but whether it would pay with you or not depends on your market.

Chemical Fertilizers for Peach-trees.

—W. A. E., Muncy, Pa. It will do just as well to sow your kainite and ground bone broadcast after plowing, and then harrow it in deep, as if it was drilled in. There is no need of using nitrate of soda or nitrate of potash, as nitrogen in some cheaper form will do just as well. Ground rendered bone or tankage are good materials to use with your kainite, as they contain much nitrogen as well as phosphoric acid. Some ground bone contains but little nitrogen. Where peach-trees are not making growth enough, I like to use some stable manure around them occasionally to supply humus to the soil. Lime is not probably needed in your soil, and the largest part of the ground bone you apply is lime, which is all that is needed. The kainite contains much common salt, as well as potash, and salt is not needed if you use this. In fact, it is seldom beneficial to land. I prefer to use kainite rather than salt around apple-trees. Where the land has been cultivated many years, it often lacks humus as much as anything, and in such cases stable manure or some green crop plowed in will be a great help. And above all things cultivate the land frequently.

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Conducted by P. H. Jacobs, Hammonton, New Jersey.

FREE AND FULL.

THE best way to manage a flock as the spring opens is to compel the hens to find their own food as much as possible. By so doing, they will instinctively select the food they prefer, and will save the expense of grain, will have more exercise, better appetites and bright, rosy combs. Never feed the hens unless you know that they require your assistance. If they come up at night with their crops full, you will find eggs in the nest the next day or after. If the weather is rainy and the hens cannot forage, should you prefer to feed them, let the meal consist of fresh meat and bone. A meal of corn twice a week may be allowed if the hens appear rather poor in flesh, but not otherwise. When hens are running on grass and all kinds of insects are plentiful, they will secure all they need. The full crop when they come in to roost only indicates the store laid up for the night. The amount of food that has been eaten during the day is sometimes enormous, for they are always busy.

START WITH STRONG STOCK.

The eggs used in hatching out chicks should be from hens that are active and vigorous. Hardiness is the prime factor in the matter, and a good start with strong stock leaves half the battle won. Under no circumstances should eggs be used from inbred stock, or from hens that are subject to ailments, as constitutional defects are easily transmitted. To prove this, select for breeding purposes a male that is healthy, but that has some peculiarity, such as a twisted comb. When the chicks are old enough to exhibit their combs, the chances are that every chick will have a twisted comb. Such experiments with the male have been made often enough to fully demonstrate the importance of selecting the eggs with great care.

WHEN CHICKS ARE CHILLED.

The problem of ventilation is yet unsolved. There are those who maintain that chicks should not be exposed outside at all, while others contend that it is necessary to success that the house be well ventilated, and that the chicks be allowed in the yards. Both are correct. If the wind is in such a direction that no drafts come down on the chicks, and no warmth in the house is carried away, it is well enough to ventilate; but when ventilation brings drafts (especially on damp days), the chicks will take cold. And as a cold shows its effects nearly always on the bowels, the cause is attributed to the food, when the real cause is that the chicks have been chilled. It is difficult to convince most persons that as the chicks are always close to the floor, they get plenty of fresh air.

THE UNCERTAINTY OF EGGS.

The principal loss with breeders is in hatching; not that the incubators are at fault, but because of the difficulty of getting fertile eggs. There may be "more blanks than prizes." When one hatches but four eggs, each costing three cents, the first cost of producing a chick may be more than the whole cost of the food required to carry it to a marketable age. It is on the superabundance of worthless eggs that all the hopes are shattered. The hatching of chicks in midwinter, either by hens or incubators, is something that keeps the operator in doubt, until the hatch is over, whether he will have the egg-drawer "alive" with chicks, or have to carry out the eggs in large baskets to be buried.

FEEDING CHICKS.

After the chicks are feathered they will be hardy, and may be fed anything that they will eat. In fact, there are no secrets of feeding. All that is required is to give a variety of food. If the chicks are on a range they will not need much assistance. Even if they should become weak in the legs, if they still have good appetites, and do not droop, it only indicates rapid growth, and the chicks will gain very fast. The most important matter then is to prevent lice. When the early hatches thrive and the chicks of later hatches do not seem to grow, the cause is always due to lice.

CORRESPONDENCE.

HINTS FOR BEGINNERS.—The first step in the poultry business is to provide a suitable shelter. On most old farms there is already some old shed or other unused outbuilding, which may be spared for the purpose, and a new house built by the good man or a handy boy will not cost much, as a large one is not needed at first. If possible, have plenty of windows; a large one fronting to the east, one to the south, and another to the west are none too many. Let them be protected within and without by stout strips of wood nailed across. The floor should be of dry sand or gravel raised several inches above the surrounding soil. Surface drainage should also be provided, for hens hate water as badly as do cats, and will huddle together in dry corners, neglecting food and exercise, rather than wade through water to obtain them. The house, if in the cold latitudes, should have a small loft above, with a snugly fitted floor, filled with straw or chaff to prevent frozen combs. To prevent frozen feet, have the roosts well raised from the floors, and made of strips of boards too wide for the fowls' feet to be clasped around. A ladder for reaching them may be made of a board, with strips nailed across it a few inches apart for steps. Boxes should be nailed against the wall and provided with fine straw or chaff for nests. Furnish plenty of them, and have some quite high and others on the floor, to suit all tastes. A feeding-trough to protect the food from filth and waste, may be made by nailing strips of lath, six inches high, upon a narrow board bottom four feet long. The cover is also a narrow board, one edge of which is hinged onto the upright lath ends, the other to be nailed to the lath ends at the other side. Good drinking-fountains may be bought very cheaply, but one as good as any may be made from an old kettle, with a tightly fitted board cover, with small holes cut in its outer edge to admit the fowls' beaks, but not the wattles, which are often frozen in severe weather. A fowl with frosted wattles or combs will be of little use for at least six months. A supply of china eggs, or the nest-egg gourd, complete the simple furniture of the house, which should be made snug and weather-tight by nailing battens to all cracks. Drafts of cold air are very apt to produce roup in fowls thus exposed. In the extreme North it is well to bank the hen-house up to the windows with sod, dry earth, etc. A warm hen-house means a good return in eggs for the food consumed. Now make a pail of thin whitewash, add ten cents' worth of carbolic acid, and apply it boiling hot to the inside walls, and all woodwork, roosts and nest-boxes. Be sure—be very sure—that your roof does not leak. Fowls do well by those who make them comfortable. No hen that has suffered all night from a stream of icy water pouring down her spinal column, will be apt to declare a dividend next day, and where the fowls are obliged to sit up all night to fight lice or other vermin, the owner need not expect "fried eggs for breakfast in the morning."

INQUIRIES ANSWERED.

Crossing Breeds.—R. H., River Falls, Wis., writes: "Will a cross of Sebright bantam and Red Game be a desirable one?" REPLY:—It is not a favorite cross, as there is nothing to gain by using the bantam. Oats—Large Eggs.—C. C. E., Southington, Conn., writes: "Are oats suitable for fowls? Some of my hens will not eat them.—One of my hens layed an egg weighing four ounces. What is the cause?" REPLY:—Oats are excellent. The hens refuse them because you have given grain almost exclusively, and should make a change to meat and green food.—Large eggs indicate an overfat condition. Brooder Chicks.—F. K. M., Exeter Station, Pa., writes: "My brooder chicks have bowel disease and weak legs." REPLY:—Probably due to lack of warmth and perhaps bottom heat in brooder. A brooder should be kept at about 100 degrees, and the brooder-room at about 70 degrees. Sweet-corn for Poultry.—L. E. H., Ada, Ohio, writes: "We have a lot of sweet-corn and beets. In place of green food, can such be used for poultry?" REPLY:—They are suitable foods, but are not substitutes for green food. A mess of finely chopped clover hay, scalded, is better. Turkeys.—C. L. P., Hutchinson, Kan., writes: "Some of my turkeys have swelled heads and are blind." REPLY:—It is roup, due to exposure. Anoint heads with vaseline and add a tablespoonful of chlorate of potash to each quart of the drinking-water. Keep them under shelter. Breeds.—C. H. C., Keyport, N. Y., writes: "Which breed do you recommend for one desiring to keep ten hens, for eggs only, no hatching?" REPLY:—Probably the Brown Leghorns, Minorcas or Black Spanish would answer your purpose.

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Our Fireside.

The Old Manor-house in Louisiana

BY SARA H. HENTON.

CHAPTER II.

By this time Enid seemed to be the only one who had kept her head. Jack didn't want to go in the house, and was begging his mother to let him run and see the orange-trees.

"Oh, mother, please don't make me go in! Just listen to the mocking-birds, and see the roses blooming!"

Mammy had gotten Mis' Pauline up the winding stairway to her old room. Ah, the memories! The sun was shining in dreamy splendor on the lofty ceilings. The house had been furnished in blue hangings, and the faded blue lambrequins still hung at the windows; the old, massive mahogany dresser and tester bedsteads and chairs were the same; the carpet was faded and old. It had been over twenty years since she had crossed the threshold of that room. She had known the pangs and joys of motherhood since she had left it, a light-hearted, happy bride; she had also known days of exquisite happiness in her young husband's love and protection, and now it seemed that her sad life was in keeping with the changes, shattered and here as she felt.

Mammy had a bright, blazing fire of pine knots, and the brass andirons were shining.

Enid had compelled Jack to lie down awhile beside his mother.

"Why, mama," said Jack, "don't cry; it's jolly and grand down here; I don't want to be down, I'm well."

"Hush, son, you are feverish now; your cheeks are flushed and you are so excited you alarm me. I do wonder if there is a good physician here!"

"Yes; Mr. Charles wrote me there was one," said Enid.

Jack's feverish condition made Mrs. Howe forget her troubles for awhile, and she busied herself making a brandy and rock candy cough-syrup for him.

"You know, Mammy, he has been very ill, and you must help me get him well."

Jack showed very plainly that he did not understand colored folks.

"Mama," he said, "how can you let Aunt Rhody kiss you on your cheek that way? She is so black and ugly."

"Hush—sh, son, don't let her hear you!"

Bessie had run down the winding stairway; but with her usual tact and gentle courtesy, had stopped to ask Mammy Rhody (as if she were hostess) if she could look around.

"Ah, honey, you's got a voice jes' like Mas' Don's; he wuz jes' like Ole Mis'."

"Oh, do you think I look like Uncle Don, Mammy? I am so glad; I want to be just like the Hamptons. Papa used to call me Uncle Don; you know he loved him next to mama."

"Dar's Miss Enid—is dat her name? She look like her par. I 'member him well; he wuz monstrous good-looking. Now, honey, yo' axed me 'bout de house; yo' is jes' as free as dem mockin'-birds in de trees—"

And before Mammy was through speaking, Bessie was singing and warbling a song as happy and joyous as the birds themselves.

Mr. Charles, the agent, had kept up everything very well. He had had whitewashing and painting done, had a carpenter put on a shutter that had been broken off, replace a door-step, and above all things, Mammy argued that he must not forget the rose-bushes and vines; they must be trimmed, the old garden walks weeded, the grape-arbors repaired, the orange, lime, fig and plum trees looked after.

Mammy divined in a moment who was mistress in the Howe family, and walking up to Miss Enid, said:

"I s'pose yo' will carry de keys, as Mis' Pauline is so po'ly?"

"Why no, Mammy; you carried them before I was born, and I want you to rule us all, you dear old soul," and she gave her back the keys.

Enid could not have said or done anything to please Mammy so much as that speech. She dearly loved to rule, and she had been quite despotic making "dem free niggers (as she called them) in de place know she wuz left to rule ober dem all."

Mammy brought a tray up to Jack and Miss Pauline, with a fragrant cupful of her Mocha and some of her delicate wafers, and a basketful of oranges, golden and sweet, picked from Mis' Pauline's favorite tree—one planted by Mammy before Pauline was born, down by her cabin door, where the children when small loved to get an orange.

Mammy Rhody had set the old mahogany table in the stately dining-room adjoining the breakfast-room. She was anxious to display all the Hampton splendor of "befo' de war" to these younger Howes.

"Oh, Enid," said Bessie, "I feel like I must have a gown with a train, to sweep down this

winding stairway. Just smell the odor of jasmine. Or is it sweet violets? It is everywhere. I will never leave this old place, Enid, for it is just too lovely, it is gorgeous! I've been down to the cabins, the old greenhouses and the grove."

Mr. Charles was awaiting them in the dining-room. He was a very intelligent gentleman, and had quite a serious business air. He seemed very anxious to please Mrs. Howe and

delicate pink gown. She rushed down the stairway with her garden-hat in hand, and scissors to cut roses for the vases, humming a merry tune, and almost before she knew it, had rushed into the arms of an elegant young gentleman who stood in the doorway.

"Pardon me," said Bessie, "I didn't see you."

"Certainly," he said, lifting his hat like a Chesterfield, with as much grace, saying: "Is

now, nohow. Seems like de war broke up all de big families. Ole Colonel Gibson, he keeps up his place, but la! dar ain't no women-folks ober dar; jes' de kurnel an' his son."

Jack improved rapidly, and never staid in the house a day after the first; and he and Pete were boon companions, notwithstanding Pete was so black.

Mammy and Pete stood aloof at first, being a little afraid of these northern folks. But Mammy soon saw that they held everything sacred connected with the old manor-house, and that made her their willing slave. She brought up a young mulatto girl, Lucy by name, a daughter of Lucinda, Mrs. Howe's maid before she was married. She was neat and good-looking, could read and write; in fact, was very well educated, having gone to a country school for some time. Mammy said Lucy must wait on the young ladies, as she had to cook and serve nice meals for them. She could not trust any of "de younger generation" to cook for her white folks.

"You know, chillen, yer mar useter hab a maid fer ever" room, but now dat's all changed. I feel like God wuz pow'ful good ter me ter let de ole house be filled wid some oh my young misses agin, so I kin hear music in de ole house. I'se seen it look awful lonesum. Ob moonlight nights I useter imagine I seed 'em dancing, an' I'd hear young people's voices laughing; an' den, when de wind would howl an' de dogs would whine, it seemed like de spirits ob de departed had cum back."

"Oh, Mammy, was there ever a ghost story about Brompton?"

"Why yes, chile, all dese quality houses hab a ghost story. But I ain't gwine ter tell any now; sho ter skeer yo' all ter death."

The morning Dr. Gibson was to bring over the gentle saddle-horse proved to be beautiful, and Bessie's mother interested herself in getting Bessie ready, with her pretty blue habit and hat, and even went down to meet the son of her old friend, to thank him for his kindness, and to see them off.

This was a great day for Enid. To have her mother look cheerful, and take an interest in everything, made the world look different to them all. Enid had been such a slave to her mother's whims that she never thought of self. Having lost one loving parent, she seemed worried about her mother's condition, fearing they would lose her, too.

Mrs. Howe had been a fond, loving and unselfish mother previous to her husband's death. That completely changed her; her health failed, she became irritable and exacting with her children.

A few days after the young people's ride, Colonel Gibson rode over and called for the ladies. He was a very soldierly-looking man, with iron-gray hair and brown eyes. Enid saw him first, and exclaimed:



BESSIE INTRODUCED ENID TO DR. GIBSON.

the young ladies—it was a paying office to him.

"Mr. Charles, have you any riding-horses gentle enough for two city girls who have never even learned to mount?" asked Bessie.

"I haven't any gentle enough for ladies to ride, but I can manage that for you. Our nearest neighbor, Colonel Gibson, has a fine lot of riding-horses. His young son, Dr. Gibson, keeps a supply for his own use, and I'll see him to-morrow."

Bessie had not spoken about the riding-horse to her mother; in fact, she was so entertained investigating the saloon parlor, drawing-room, and a thousand and one new sights, that she had forgotten about it herself.

Enid was as happy as Bessie, but in a more quiet, dignified way. She was a fine musician, and was amused when she saw the old piano in the drawing-room, and said that she knew that would draw her mother down-stairs; that it must have belonged to her great-grandmother, as it had little spindling legs.

"Yes," said Mrs. Howe, "I never would practice, or learn music, and mother said she would not get me a new one."

Old Mammy had a pine-knot blaze in the library in the evening, according to the old-time custom. It was a massive room, with walnut shelves that at one time had been lined with books; but some of them had been shipped North to their home there. Still, enough remained to keep one busy. This room would have graced a Vanderbilt or Astor mansion in New York. The candelabra of silver were still sitting on the wooden mantels.

The girls missed their gas-lights, and as nightfall came on, they always grew a little nervous. When Mr. Charles spoke of having to go to New Orleans on business, they asked directly if it would be safe to leave them, and would not listen to his leaving them alone.

Not many of the old servants were living. The old hutler, Uncle Joe, was quite feeble. The girls had made a visit to the aged and decrepit servants, carrying them presents, and some dozen or more of the old ones had come up to the house to visit the ladies, look at them, and tell about "Mas' Don and Ole Mis'."

CHAPTER III.

"There has fallen a splendid tear
From the passion-flower at the gate;
She is coming, my dove, my dear;
She is coming, my life, my fate!"

Bessie looked like a picture, with her golden curls blowing about her face, and dressed in a

this Miss Howe? I saw Mr. Charles yesterday, and he told me you wished a gentle riding-horse. Excuse me, Miss Howe, I am Mr. Gibson, your nearest neighbor. Our parents were old friends, I believe."

"Oh, yes," she replied; "do sit down." And they were soon talking as if they had known each other always.

The piazza was luxuriant with vines, running roses, cape jasmines, and the flower-laden atmosphere was wafted to them from all sides. This was such a beautiful world, it seemed doubtful if there ever could be cold, snowy, gloomy days again.

Bessie was silent and thoughtful for a moment. The handsome stranger, with such tender, brotherly manner, she felt drawn toward him; he seemed to be in keeping with nature, which was so joyous, all sunshine and fragrance. The thought came to her for a moment, it was just such a day as this that papa met mama, and they sat on this piazza and were so happy.

"Pardon me," she said, blushing, as he, noticing her silence, had respected it by keeping silent himself.

Mrs. Howe, hearing voices, sent Enid to see who it was. Bessie introduced her to Dr. Gibson, and Enid was so entertained that she forgot to report to her mother. Dr. Gibson showed by his glances of open admiration that he thought these young ladies very fair; and they were both beautiful, though so different.

Dr. Gibson asked permission to bring some of his young friends over to see them, and proposed to make their visit to their old home a pleasant one. "Though, of course, it is not at all as it used to be," he said. He proposed bringing a gentle riding-horse for both young ladies, but Enid declined, saying that one of them always remained with their mother, adding that she would be glad to have him teach her some time. When he had gone, the girls rushed up-stairs to tell their mother of their charming visitor. Mammy Rhody was in the room, and she said:

"Clar, Mis' Pauline, dat looks like de ole times, sho, when de kurnel wuz a boy an' useter cum ter see yo'. He did lub yo', sho, an' it went pow'ful agin him when yo' married."

Mrs. Howe blushed like a young girl. The daughters had never heard of Colonel Gibson's love affair.

"By de way," said Mammy, "I promised ter let de Chiltons an' Howards know when yo' alls cum. I mus' send Pete ober dar ter tell 'em. We ain't got many plantation families

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MOTHERS
and those soon to become mothers, should know that Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription robs childbirth of its tortures, terrors and dangers to both mother and child, by aiding nature in preparing the system for parturition. Thereby "labor" and the period of confinement are greatly shortened. It also promotes the secretion of an abundance of nourishment for the child.
Mrs. DORA A. GUTHRIE, of Oakley, Overton Co., Tenn., writes: "When I began taking Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription, I was not able to stand on my feet without suffering almost death. Now I do all my housework, washing, cooking, sewing and everything for my family of eight. I am stouter now than I have been in six years. Your 'Favorite Prescription' is the best to take before confinement, or at least it proved so with me. I never suffered so little with any of my children as I did with my last."

"Oh, mama! there is such a handsome man coming up the walk. I wonder who he can be?"

Mrs. Howe looked out, and said at once: "Why, that is Harry Gibson. I didn't think I would know him. I wonder if he will know me?"

"I'll tell you what to do, mama, let me go first, and tell him my aunt will be down to see him; that mauna is confined to her room most of the time (that won't be any story), and then you come, and see if he will recognize you."

Mrs. Howe, for a wonder, entered into the plan, and Enid went down and very cordially greeted the colonel, saying she had heard her mother speak of him; that her mother had been very sick for some time, but her aunt from the East would be down to see him.

Enid conversed agreeably, and he remarked that she must look like her father, as he saw no resemblance to her mother.

"No," she said; "Bessie is like her."

Just then a lady came walking in gracefully, dressed in a delicate violet-colored gown, trimmed with soft lace about the throat. Before Enid could introduce her aunt from the East, Colonel Gibson had rushed up to her, taking her hand, saying:

"Why, Pauline, you have changed but very little!"

"Why, mama," said Enid, "I am so glad you felt able to come down!"

"Yes, daughter," she said, blushing crimson, "I thought it was my old friend. How are you, Colonel Gibson?"

"It used to be Harry and Pauline in the old days," he said, gallantly. "Do you know, Miss Enid, I used to carry your mother over the swollen creeks to school, pack her books and fight all her battles, yet after all that she went off and married a New-Yorker."

They were soon all at ease with the colonel. He had improved, Mrs. Howe thought, both in manner and appearance. His iron-gray hair was very becoming, and he had acquired an affable manner, easy and graceful, by contact with the world. When she went away he was hardly more than a boy, she being only a school-girl when she married.

The ladies pressed him to stay to dinner (they still carried out their New York custom of having six o'clock dinner); and when Bessie and the doctor got back from their ride (this was the fourth one), Mrs. Howe and Enid insisted on their both remaining to dinner.

Mammy Rhody was in ecstasies now, for if there was anything in which she delighted, it was in getting a dinner for company. It had been so long since she had had that pleasure that she made extra efforts, covering herself with glory. She said she knew what a fine cook they had "down at de kurnel's, an' she had ter stir rouu' monstrous." She was glad to see the colonel and Mis' Pauline thrown together. She had never gotten over the colonel being thrown aside for Mr. Howe, and she hated to give up Mis' Pauline to go so far away. Now she wasn't "too ole or black ter be a match-maker," and in her old heart she built many air-castles.

CHAPTER IV.

"Thou shalt not want for anything That he who loveth thee can bring; And love makes all things to be had— Prynthee, sweetheart, be not sad!"

It was soon whispered about the neighborhood of Brompton that Mrs. Howe and her two lovely daughters had come to stay some time, and that the girls were unusually beautiful—one a queenly-looking brunette, rather proud, and the other a bewitching fairy, ready to love and be loved.

Colonel Gibson frequently had young men from New Orleans out, fishing and hunting, and about this time a party of three came; the Misses Chilton and Mrs. Howard and daughter had called, invitations were showered on them, and the girls were having a splendid time.

Mrs. Howe's health improved, she grew stronger, and was more like her old loving self. She took the greatest interest now in the girls' costumes, their appearance, and in their young gentlemen visitors. She did not often go anywhere herself, but let the girls go, and invited young people to Brompton.

Colonel Gibson invited all the old plantation families that used to visit and be friends, to his home to meet Enid and Bessie. He gave them a dance in the evening, and of course Mrs. Howe had to chaperon them, there being no lady there except the housekeeper.

"Norfolk," his home, was a low, rambling, brick manor-house, built about the same time as Brompton, with which it vied in beauty and architectural display, but which now, alas! was not kept up as in the days of opulence and wealth. Yet nothing could mar the beauty of the wilderness of roses and running vines and mosses, all so new and beautiful to the girls.

It was their first party, their first ball dresses. Did they ever forget it? Never! for it was there they met their fates. It was intended, Mammy Rhody always said—she had infallible signs when events of great importance were to occur.

A young lawyer, Mr. Lawrence Hunt, from New Orleans, frequently came out to Norfolk to hunt and fish, and was a great favorite with the family. He was considered quite an eligible match among the elite of New Orleans, but he was not at all susceptible, and seemed to have gone thus far without any more than a passing fancy for some of the fair

maidens. He was worth aught for, it seemed, if invitations, perfumed little notes and boxes of flowers meant anything, for his mail was filled with such.

"He is not to blame, however, for his popularity," said young Dr. Gibson, "for he is too much of a gentleman to flirt, or to encourage a girl unless he really loves her. But his lucrative law practice and distinguished appearance cause him to be singled out by the fair ones."

He was attracted at once by Enid's rare beauty and dignified manner, and said to Colonel Gibson:

"I shall be your debtor for life, I do believe, for inviting me here to meet that lovely girl. She is just the style I have been looking for all these years." And it really proved to be true.

The girls, with their mother, came earlier than the appointed hour for the arrival of the guests, and the colonel insisted on them coming into the little breakfast-room and trying a salad of his own make, that surpassed even Sidney Smith's concoctions.

"I have some delicate quails on toast; and as I was young once myself, and know that girls never eat anything at their first party, I want you-all to come together and have a feast."

He told the ladies they deserved it, for their three hours' work in attending to the decorating of the rooms with flowers. The girls came down wearing their garden-hats and pretty pink muslins; the roses in their cheeks vied with those in their belts, and their eyes were dancing with joyous expectation.

It was a merry, jolly party that lunched together. Mr. Hunt wanted to claim half a dozen dances with Enid, and Dr. Gibson wanted to monopolize Bessie, but the colonel put in his claim and forbid such exclusive engagements. He said that all the boys in the neighborhood must be introduced, and the party must be a success, appealing to Mrs. Howe to know if that was not noblesse oblige. She laughingly agreed with him, and they ate their delicious lunch without any embarrassment, soon becoming very well acquainted.

Lucy, the young lady's-maid, brought their dresses over in the boxes, just as they were shipped from New York. They were simple white muslins, trimmed with rare old lace ruffles that belonged to their mother. The girls were to wear no ornaments except white and delicate pink rosebuds, and no style of dress could have shown off their dimples and curves to better advantage.

Mrs. Howe wore black velvet, with point lace and diamond brooch.

Jack was dressed in velvet pants and jacket, with lace ruffles.

Mrs. Howard and Mrs. Chilton were very pretty dowagers, and came to chaperon Ethel and Lucy Howard, May and Norwood Chilton and John Rauldolph. Numbers of old families living ten and fifteen miles away came.

The music was unique—four fiddlers, who were renowned in days past for making music in the manor-houses. At least two of them boasted of using the fiddles that had been the property of their fathers. Colonel Gibson wanted to send to New Orleans for an orchestra, but the girls insisted on adhering to old-time customs.

Life, although it was constantly intertwined with the memories of her dead husband, gradually drew Mrs. Howe into a happier existence. His memory might be held sacred, and yet life's duties must be cheerfully fulfilled, its troubles bravely borne; besides, she must live for her dear children's sakes. She had lived in such a morbid, melancholy state, in darkened rooms for so long, it looked like a new world, and she had to reason with herself whether or not she was justified in allowing so much brightness to come into her life.

Not so with her young daughters. They were so truly happy that they felt they owed the whole world a caress.

"How well they look, Pauline," said Colonel Gibson, turning a beaming face to Mrs. Howe, as Bessie and Frank waltzed by them, arm in arm, and Enid pretty soon after them on the arm of Captain Randolph; "and take them all in all, what a good-looking family they are, to be sure," he said, laughing.

Enid does not know that she is so beautiful, does not feel the shadow of her coming power, or gress that the lithe, willowy grace of her straight young form, the glorious brown of her eye, the pure glow of her brunette skin, the chiseled outlines of her small features, would purchase for her power and pleasure of which her innocent girlhood had never dreamed. No lover has whispered in her ear, but she has caused the hearts of two men to heat with a new and strange emotion.

"Is it possible that she will make a conquest?" thinks her mother, who is versed in the coming signs of Cupid. Enid, her dear, indifferent, self-contained daughter, is certainly the belle of the Gibson german.

Captain Randolph is not unlike Lawrence Hunt in disposition. He is considered very cold—hard to please, the girls call it. He has visited numbers of pretty and some very beautiful girls, but has never known what it is like to be in earnest. Such is the reputation of Mr. Hunt. They both showed very plainly their preference for Miss Howe, and it was amusing to see how they vied with each other to gain her hand in the dance, to have her favor them. But she is calmly serene—seems not to notice their disturbance.

On the morrow a new, strange life is to begin for her.

[To be continued.]

YET, AM I OLD.

I never knew that I was old— Like truth in dreams that truth yet ceases. Until the honest "photo" told Me I was old! As children turn from ghostly dark, As our hearts chill at barbarous tales We will not look, we will not hark, Our age to mark! We know our hope has broken wing, We know we shall not miss the world; But all is nothing to the sting The old lines bring! Yet, after all, when once we bow Submissive to the iron fact, We find that life can, even now, Enthral, somehow! Eyes that are kind o'erlook the gray That shimmers on our whitening head; Kisses from lips we love delay Joys but a day.

—Ladies' Home Journal.

"THE MOST BEAUTIFUL THING."

In visiting one of the large city hospitals, the writer asked the superintendent of nurses what was the most remarkable incident that she remembered in her long hospital experience. The lady thought for some time, and then, with a perplexed smile, said:

"We are so used to suffering that I cannot recall any special incident, such as you desire."

She stopped, while her face became grave. Then it lighted up. "I can tell you what, was the most touching and impressive thing I ever saw in my hospital experience. I don't need to think very long for that."

As the writer begged her to relate the story, she began:

"It took place several years ago. There was a terrible accident in the city where I was then nursing, and two lads were brought in fatally mangled. One of them died immediately on entering the hospital; the other was still conscious. Both of his legs had been crushed. A brief examination showed that the only hope for the boy's life was to have them taken off immediately; but it was probable he would die under the operation."

"Tell me," he said, bravely, "am I to live or die?"

"The house surgeon answered as tenderly as he could: 'We must hope for the best; but it is extremely doubtful.'"

"As the lad heard his doom, his eyes grew large, and then filled with tears. His mouth quivered pitifully, and in spite of himself, the tears forced themselves down his smoke-grimed cheeks. He was only seventeen, but he showed the courage of a man."

"As we stood about him, ready to remove him to the operating-room, he summoned up his fast-failing strength, and said:

"If I must die, I have a request to make. I want to do it for the sake of my dead mother. I promised her I would. I have kept putting it off all this while."

"We listened, wondering what the poor lad meant. With an effort, he went on:

"I want to make a public confession of my faith in Christ. I want a minister. I want to profess myself a Christian before I die."

"We all looked at each other; it was a situation new to our experience. What should we do? A nurse was dispatched at once for a clergyman who lived near by. In the meanwhile we moved the boy up-stairs to the operating-room. There we laid him on the table. By this time the minister had arrived, hatless. The boy welcomed him with a beautiful smile. The clergyman took his poor hand. I had been holding it, and it was already growing cold. The house surgeons, the nurses and others who came in to witness his confession, stood reverently by. The boy began:

"I believe—" he faltered, for he could hardly speak above a whisper, he was so weak. I could not help crying. The surgeon did not behave much better. Not a soul in the room will ever forget the sight, nor the words when the boy said:

"I believe in Jesus Christ—His Son—our Lord—and Savior—"

"He stopped, because he had not strength to say another word. The clergyman, seeing that the end was near, hastily put a small piece of bread in the lad's mouth, and a few drops of hospital wine to his lips; thus formally administering the sacrament and receiving the lad—from the operating-table—into the company of those who profess the name of Christ. Summoning up all his strength, while the minister was praying, the boy said distinctly:

"I believe—" With these blessed words upon his lips he passed away."

"The surgeon put aside his knife and bowed his head. The Great Physician had taken the poor boy's case into his own hands. That, sir, was the most touching and beautiful thing I have seen in my hospital experience of almost twenty years."—Youth's Companion.

BEWARE OF OINTMENTS FOR CATARRH THAT CONTAIN MERCURY,

as mercury will surely destroy the sense of smell and completely derange the whole system when entering it through the mucous surfaces. Such articles should never be used except on prescriptions from reputable physicians, as the damage they will do is ten fold to the good you can possibly derive from them. Hall's Catarrh Cure, manufactured by F. J. Cheney & Co., Toledo, O., contains no mercury, and is taken internally, acting directly upon the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. In buying Hall's Catarrh Cure be sure you get the genuine. It is taken internally, and made in Toledo, Ohio, by F. J. Cheney & Co. Testimonials free.

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FOOLSCAP.

The origin of this term, as applied to paper, is curiously associated with an event of the greatest historical importance. Linen paper was introduced into England in the reign of Edward III., probably in the year 1342. It was first manufactured there in the reign of Henry VII., in whose private expense account, as published in the "Excerpta Historica," there is the following entry: "For a reward given at the paper mill, 16s. 8d.," date May 24, 1498. Under Charles I., with almost everything else for which its general utility created very considerable demand, writing-paper was forced to yield its share to the king's extravagant and unlawful revenue. A monopoly for its manufacture was granted by the sovereign in consideration of the payment of a heavy excise duty. As a symbol of his exclusive privilege, the monopolist was allowed to stamp his paper with the royal arms of England as a water-mark.

The long Parliament, after bringing Charles to the scaffold, eager to destroy the last monument of his hated rule, abrogated all existing monopolies and ordered the royal arms to be effaced from every object which had borne them. Upon paper, as a further show of their contempt for royalty, they caused to be substituted the figure of a court fool, in the costume in which he appeared in the courts of the old English kings, of which the most notable article was a fantastic sort of cap. Between the years 1649 and 1660, the paper in most common use bore that effigy.

Charles II., on his accession to the throne, restored the royal arms, and at the same time enlarged the sheet. As, however, the term "foolscap," which had now come into general use, designated, not so much a particular size as a particular kind of paper—the kind in common use, in distinction from letter-paper—it was retained, and has ever since continued the classical term in that application. The present generation, from the same propensity, it may be presumed, which Mr. Addison takes note of in the English as an unsocial and churlish indisposition to utter one syllable more than is absolutely indispensable, have clipped it down to "cap paper." The standard size of a foolscap sheet, as now established by law in England, is 16 3/4 by 13 1/2 inches.

A BLIND ARCHITECT.

Perhaps it is not generally known that the architect who designated the plans for the library and natural history building, the Howe building, and a number of tenements belonging to the Perkins institution, and the Massachusetts school for the blind, is himself a pupil of the school and totally blind.

He also designated the plans for the kindergarten for the blind. His name is Dennis Reardon.

Mr. Reardon saw as well as any one till he was nine years of age. Then his sight failed partially. He attended the school and recovered it in a measure, but when twenty-nine years of age, he lost it entirely.

He is now a middle-aged man, pleasant-faced, a singularly pleasing manner, and an interesting, well-informed conversationalist.

"First, I get the idea of what I want in my head," he said, speaking of his work. "Then I draw the plan in raised lines. I do not get the correct measurement, but the plan I have assists me in explaining to a draftsman. I give him the figures, and then he draws the plan with the correct measurements."

He showed the reporter a plan for tenement-houses. Running his finger lightly over the raised lines, he explained where the bay-window was, how far it was to project, the folding doors, closets, etc. Sometimes, instead of raised lines, he uses pins and a string in a pin-cushion. He says he does not read as rapidly as those who have been educated to it from childhood. Adults seldom grow so proficient as children who have grown up in the school.

Mr. Reardon is also foreman in the printing-room, which furnishes all the books and reading material for the blind in the institution, and also the books contained in the public library in Boston, Fall River, Providence, Portland, and many other New England cities.

The only charges made are those for transportation. Their large printing business has outgrown their room, and an addition is needed very badly. They are trying to save enough to enlarge their quarters, and no doubt, with a little aid from the friends of the institution, it could soon be accomplished. His next work will be the plan for the annex.

This architect and printer is earnest and cheerful in his work.—*Boston Post.*

DO THE NEXT THING.

Don't live a single hour of your life without doing exactly what is to be done in it, and going straight through it from beginning to end. Work, play, study, whatever it is, take hold at once and finish it up squarely; then do the next thing, without letting any moments drop between. It is wonderful to see how many hours these prompt people contrive to make of a day. It is as if they picked up the moments that dawdlers lost. And if you ever find yourself where you have so many things pressing upon you that you hardly know where to begin, let me tell you a secret: Take hold of the very one that comes to hand, and you will find the rest will all fall into line and follow after like a company of well-drilled soldiers; and though work may be hard to meet when it charges in a squad, it is easily vanquished if you bring it into line.

FIRST FIRE ON THE HEARTH.

What a joy we all find in it! How we all like to collect the sticks for that fire, if we are where sticks are to be collected; how we like to oversee its building; how all of us have advice to offer and instruction to give; how we must all lay on our special contribution; how favored is the one who may touch off the flame at last!

If we are by the sea, we have gathered driftwood for it this many a day, and have dried it in the hot noon suns for this very evening's blaze, when it shall fill the room with flames of emerald and ruby, sapphire and Spanish topaz, and we shall hear in its sizzling over dropping coal and ashes, in its roaring up the chimney, the sound of storm and rushing wave in the midst of safety, and paint our pleasure with the tragedy of the last sigh and smothered cry of drowning sailors.

And we sit and tell tales of horror and shipwreck and ghostly visitant till the flame falls and leaves us chill as the ghosts that have trailed their garments by.

And if it is in the country-side we sojourn, then what equal wouder we see in the dear blaze, as it sends out its warmth and cheer on the cool morning air, or in the evening gloom when the heavy dews warn us all indoors! For there are burning all the spices and fragrances and sunshine and colors condensed from the hot months.

We look at its luster much as those old voyagers might have looked at the splendid conflagration when their ships were burning behind them; we well might wonder at ourselves that we can look at it so lightly, for here are our oars and sails and paddles burning, our alpenstocks and buckboards, our long evening strolls, our days in the heart of the wood, our double-handed abundance of flowers. But we know it is only because we know we are going forward to new pleasures that we can face and face the flames so gladly.

And if we have gone back to the city, and it is there that we have put the blaze together on the little hearth in the back parlor, or in the big one in the big hall, then it is like kindling a fire upon an altar, it is the recognition of home; on the shrine of domestic life we offer to our lares and penates a sacrifice of all the joys of summer—perhaps with a half-conscious prayer that the hearth may not be bare in any other home in all the cold mouths to come.

And as we watch the flames shine and roar and flash up the chimney and disappear among the eternal stars, we know it is all a mirror of the transformations of life and death, and so find a new sacredness in the blaze that is the seal and sign of home.—*Rehoboth Herald.*

A PROSPEROUS INDUSTRY.

In 1854, when the manufacture of agricultural implements was in its infancy, the Buckeye Agricultural Works, now owned and operated by P. P. Mast & Co., Springfield, Ohio, was founded by Messrs. Thomas & Mast, and in 1871 the present company was incorporated.

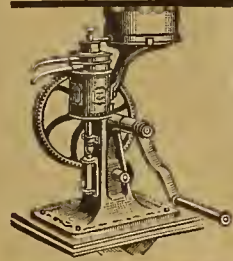
From a comparatively insignificant business then, it has since grown to be one of immense proportions, and at the present time is exceeded, in the value of its output and in the number of workmen employed, by only one other industrial establishment in Springfield, a city famous for the magnitude of its implement factories. The chief specialties of this company, Buckeye Grain Drills and Buckeye Walk-over and Sunbeam Cultivators, are the most practical and complete implements for their respective uses in the market, and although other parties have attempted to imitate them, they have never been equaled by any other manufacturers.

These implements are the product of the inventive genius and experience of the management of these works, and during its career of nearly forty-one years the implements manufactured by this establishment have been improved and kept right up to date with the general progress of the country. The line manufactured also embraces Hay Rakes, Cider Mills, Potato Planters, etc., and while each particular machine is carefully made and is as perfect as human ingenuity has been able to attain, the Buckeye Grain Drills and Cultivators monopolize the larger part of the output, and are in use in annually increasing numbers throughout every land the sun shines on where grain is sown or crops are cultivated.

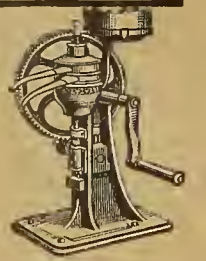
The factory facilities of the company embrace a plant covering twenty acres of ground, upon which are erected numerous substantial buildings having a combined storage area of about ten acres. The mechanical equipment is complete in all details, much of the machinery in use having been invented and designed by the management and is in use by no other manufacturers. Power is supplied to the machinery by two steam engines and two turbine water-wheels, and three hundred skilled workmen find employment in the works. The plant is connected with the railway system of the city, and every modern facility and aid to economical production and superior workmanship and finish have been provided.

Please accept thanks for the copy of "Gems from the Poets," which was received yesterday. I don't see how you can give away such a valuable book at the very low price of your excellent paper. Very respectfully,
W. C. HAINES, Lansing, Mich.

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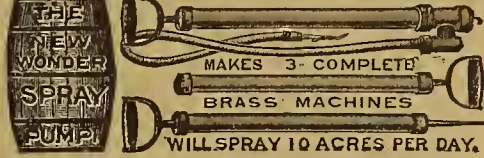
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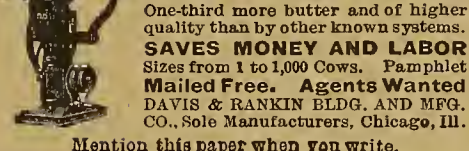
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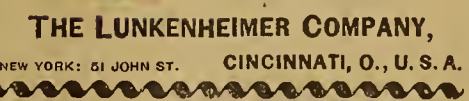


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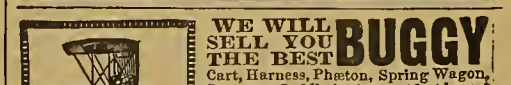
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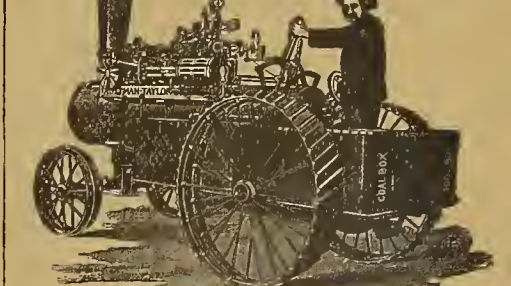
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confronts the searcher for elasticity who runs up against the Page fence. As he gathers himself together again, he ponders not over "the mistakes of Moses," but his own. He thought because it had proved a myth in other cases it might in this. The success of The Page has induced the makers of soft wire fences to claim boundless elasticity in every little "hump" or twist, or perhaps it is carefully stowed away at the end of the line. "Live fences" in the sense that a snake lives as long as its tail "wiggles."

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Our Household.

WAITING FOR PAPA TO COME.

BY S. Q. LAPIUS.

Such a quaint, golden-haired little darling!
Sitting there in the big rocking-chair,
As the sinking sun smiles in upon her
And the summer breeze toys with her hair.
The faint smell of the roses sweeps o'er her,
And the honey-bees drowsily hum,
So she lazily drifts off to dreamland
While "waiting for papa to come."

The red sun disappears o'er the hilltops,
And the gentle breeze sinks down to rest,
As the dark, noiseless shadows of evening
Slip stealthily in from the west.
But she notes not the gathering twilight,
For my wee darling's senses are dumb—
She is threading the mazes of dreamland
While "waiting for papa to come."

Such a wan, fever-parched little darling
Lying there 'neath the coverlet white,
As the pale moon peeps in at the window,
And the wind softly whispers, "'Tis night."
Ah! the sweet face is haggard and pain-drawn,
The thin hands are helpless and numb;
She is fading away like a sunbeam
While "waiting for papa to come."

On the bank of that beautiful river,
Where the pure ones of earth find a rest,
Where the palm branches nestle and quiver,
Gently stirred by the songs of the blest.
Knowing naught of earth's suffering and sorrow,
Hearing naught of earth's din, harsh and grum,
There our dear angel darling is watching
And "waiting for papa to come."

THE LATEST FASHIONS.

To those who are compelled to talk, whether it be upon paper or by word of mouth, what a boon to them is the inexhaustible subject of the weather. And now that we are just between the seasons of winter and spring, when our weather-prophet is never certain in his promises of fair skies and dry sidewalks, when umbrellas and rainy-day costumes are more in demand through the day than any other style of dress, perhaps a few hints in this line might be acceptable to our readers.

Some years back a woman in the street on a stormy day was a rarity, and unless compelled to go out, contented herself with an occasional peep into the outer world from back of the curtains; but now there are just as many women to be seen braving

the right direction was made when the trained skirt was no longer conceded the correct thing for the street, though it should be chronicled as an historical fact, that during the reign of the long dress skirt for street wear, our sidewalks were cleaner than before or since, and the microbes were in clover when safely and cozily housed on the hem and facings of



FIG. 1.—HOUSE-GOWN.

feminine street finery. The rainy-day costume first demands a short and quite plain skirt, hung in a way that the fullness comes in the back, yet allowing an easy hang in front and on the sides. A coat or Eton jacket, with a felt hat either severely plain or trimmed with materials that dampness does not affect, is one of the neatest and most practical costumes. The handsomest ones have a skirt of black silk made perfectly plain, which, as we all know, dries out like new and does not shrink. With this is worn an Eton jacket of astrakhan cloth, with full sleeves to match the skirt, and a small toque of astrakhan with stiff wings or quills. Many women make the mistake that any old boots are good enough for rainy weather, that no one notices another's feet on a rainy day, and the result is that her feet are her least consideration, while they receive more attention from others, and are the subject of more comment on a stormy day than at any other time. Low shoes, with overgaiters and rubbers, of course, keep the feet dry, but are very far from being becoming, as it makes the neatest and trimmest of ankles appear thick and clumsy.

The swell and sensible boot is the plain calf, which buttons high above the ankle, and has cork soles, which require no rubbers. By the way, one of the latest departures among some of the fashionable women who affect the calf boots is having them "shined" at the corner stand just as men are in the habit of doing. However, those of more modest tendencies step into a shoe-store hard by and send out for the polisher, who, for the modest sum of ten cents, comes in and puts on a "shine" that would shame the old-time mirror of burnished steel.

In a few weeks spring fashions will be fairly launched, as buyers will by that time have returned from Paris and other fashion centers, with

their models and words of prophetic wisdom. Even now whispers of what is to be have reached these shores, and tales of novelties and changes for the spring are already being discussed.

The announcement that chiffon will be passe for spring wear is hardly creditable, as its becomingness is too palpable, and the many who have provided themselves

with the billowy chiffon waists are not likely to discard them. Yards and yards of plaited lace in black, white and colors will be much used on gowns, wraps and for the still popular collarette, as well as in millinery. Yellow lace is largely bought by dealers, and promises to be a feature of next season's styles wherever it can be used. Gowns of the most correct cut and charming build will be draped with a profusion of net and lace flounces.

The fashion-makers have cried presto, change, and the smooth, satin-like cloths of last season have disappeared, and for the spring we have goods with a rough surface and crepons more crinkled than ever in honeycomb or crushed patterns. The most of the new materials are interwoven wool and silk, and in truth there will be scarcely a new material shown that is not in part silk. Silk gingham, silk chevots, silk wools and mohairs all owe their beauty to the luster given by the intermingling of silk in their meshes.

Fig. 1 shows one of the new ones, with organ flutes embroidered from waist to hem, being of yellow satin duchess, with sprays of forget-me-nots embroidered in blue, with a generous sprinkling of gold sequins between the green leaves and blue flowers. The back of the bodice has a draped effect of yellow satin, with bow and ends of cream lace falling over an embroidery to match that of the skirt, while the full puffed sleeves finish at the elbow with a full frill of cream lace. The front of the bodice is filled from the shoulders, and drawn in at the waist line, and has a sprinkling of gold sequins and forget-me-nots irregularly arranged. This same costume for street or visiting is very stylish and elegant when duplicated in cloth, trimmed with black silk passementerie or open jet, in which case the draped effect in the back of the bodice is omitted, being trimmed flat to match the back of the skirt.

This is a season of velvet, both for wraps and gowns, black being given the preference. The black velvet gown forms an appropriate gown for almost any dressy occasion, and for the street is also given a place of prominence. The one shown in Fig. 2 is of black velvet, made with full, plain skirt, with a plain, round waist, cut square back and front at the neck. The deep frill of cream lace which is sewed on the arm seam, falls full over the large puff of velvet, while a twist of black Brussels net, spangled in burnished steel, finishes the bottom of the bodice and the open neck, the bows of the same being full and caught with buckles of jet and steel. Many of the spring costumes will be trimmed in velvet and fur, and some of the extreme styles for midsummer are to display a unity of May and December by placing fur on gauze and dotted swiss.

A chic costume is shown in Fig. 3, where appears a tan cloth skirt with a narrow band of Persian lamb on the bottom. The round waist is of tan cloth, with the fronts cut in three points, which tie with black satin ribbon over a shawl drape of black and white checked velvet, which comes from the shoulders, extending to the waist line, showing between the points. Revers and rolling collar of Persian lamb, with full sleeves of cloth, trimmed at the wrist with Persian lamb, completes one of the naggiest costumes shown for street or visiting wear. The short, round waists seem to be more popular than ever, while the Eton jacket for street wear is seen with all sorts and conditions of costumes.

A new fancy in gloves is to have the back embroidered with very small cut-jet beads, though the plainer the glove the more flattering to the hand and the more elegant in taste.

New spring hose is shown in black and colors, with bands of lace insertion running either around or lengthwise.

Bonnets are, if anything, smaller, and are worn so far back as to be almost out of sight. Jeweled and tinsel effects with a suspicion of jet is one of the leading combinations in millinery.

A shade of pale blue-gray is predicted as the popular color for spring tailor-made gowns for those who can wear this trying shade; and for those not so fortunate as to possess a fine complexion, a soft, warm

shade of red will be the color. Checks of the shades of blue-black and blue-brown and yellow-red and rose, stripes of pale tan overlaid with delicate bars of peach color and dotted irregularly with black spots, are among the new fabrics for the coming spring season.

Veils of fine black mesh, so thickly sprinkled with chenille dots as to make one dizzy to look at them, are most worn.

Black brocaded India silks are shown in great variety, being both effective and inexpensive.

Corn yellow promises to be one of the leading shades in millinery. MARY K.

ECONOMIZING TIME.

During the long summer and fall days, when the housewife's hauds are so full, and there is little time for other than the plain, homely duties of housekeeping, she looks forward longingly to the winter-time, when pickles and preserves shall all be made, the canning and drying done, and she have a little leisure time for reading, recreation and the fancy work which is dear to the heart of every beauty-loving home-maker.

But when the short winter days have come, and it seems to consume about all of the daylight hours to prepare the three meals a day and attendant duties that cannot be left undone, then she begins to think regretfully of all the many things she had planned to do, and to wonder if next winter there won't be more time, and she can then accomplish some of the things she has so long dreamed of.

It may help some of these same busy ones to know how one bright woman has solved the problem, and learned to have some leisure from domestic cares during the time when Jack Frost holds sway and old Boreas reigns.

Washing was reduced by having the family wear colored flannels, and all other clothing of colored material as far as practicable. Woolen sheets made them more comfortable at night, and saved much washing. All flannels were carefully shaken and stretched before being hung to dry, and were then folded and laid away without ironing. Pillow-slips likewise. Every-day table-cloths and napkins and towels were folded twice before being ironed; then well pressed with a very hot iron, and were all right. Dish-towels and such things were folded away without ironing. Dark kitchen aprons, etc., were



FIG. 2.—EVENING GOWN.

the storm as men, in consequence of which some very fetching ideas are displayed in the storm costume.

A well-gotten-up woman shows to particularly good advantage on a dull day, but there must be an absence of dragged skirts and soiled boots, a difficulty easily overcome if one will but take the pains to provide a proper outfit. The first move in



FIG. 3.—CALLING COSTUME.

folded once and ironed "double," so that a great deal of time and strength were saved.

On the regular baking-day, the entire day was spent in food preparation that saved much time during the rest of the week. Beside the bread, as many pies as would be needed during the week were baked, some empty crusts to be filled and make cream pies for variety, cake, cookies

or doughnuts, a large pot of baked beans, and one of boiled beans prepared, a gallon crock of mush made to have for frying, and at least a peck of potatoes boiled without paring to have for warming up.

She had long before learned that the longer beans were cooked the better they were, and the more easily digested, so she knew that each time they were warmed up they would be better than previously, and in cold weather could be kept for a week or ten days. Mush and potatoes also were good keepers, and if frozen, and not thawed out until ready for use, then cooked at once, would keep almost indefinitely, yet be as nice as fresh.

A large piece of meat was also cooked to have to slice cold, or to quickly warm up. Other meats were prepared ready for use, and put where they would be convenient. If poultry or game would be wanted during the week, it, too, was prepared ready for cooking, and put to freeze until required.

Last, but not least, some other potatoes were pared, ready for cooking, washed, covered in a close vessel to exclude the air, and set where they would freeze solid and stay frozen, and were all ready to cook when wanted as a change from the warmed-up potatoes; for if frozen potatoes are dropped into boiling water, without having been washed or allowed to thaw in the least, they are not only not hurt by the freezing, but the flavor is much better. But should they thaw out even a little, they are unfit for use.

Should one's stock of potatoes suddenly freeze, they are by no means worthless, as usually supposed, but may, if kept frozen, be used by dropping into boiling water and kept boiling, but of course cannot first be peeled or even washed.

As her family was fond of cabbage, a large jar of cold slaw was made, for if set in a cool place, it will keep for a week. A head or more of cabbage was also cut ready to cook, and put to freeze to wait until needed.

"A big day's work," you say? Yes; but it sounds greater in the telling than it really is in the doing, if one but plans their work beforehand, and thus know how to make every step and act count, and do the right thing at the right time to save the most labor and time. As much of the labor of preparation may be sitting work, it keeps one from becoming overtired if they but plan beforehand.

With all this previous preparation, it took but little time or work to prepare the meals, and suppers were usually cold, with the exception of a cup of tea, or mayhap some warmed-up beans.

Another advantage: If she wanted to go away to spend the day or the afternoon, preparations for the meal to be eaten in her absence were all so nearly made that the "men-folks" left at home could easily complete it, and she could go and enjoy her little outing with a satisfied feeling and clear conscience.

When spring came she declared she had never spent so pleasant and profitable a winter, and meant to continue the plan as long as she was a housekeeper. She had



OLD POINT PATTERN.

not only accomplished more in the way of extras than in any two previous winters, but she had also done much more visiting and had more company during that three months than during any entire year of her housekeeping experience.

Cold slaw to keep a week or more, she made as follows: Chop the cabbage fine, salt to taste, and cover with the following dressing: Put one pint of good vinegar where it will boil; add a well-beaten egg,

a pinch of salt, two heaping tablespoonfuls of sugar, lump of butter size of a hickory-nut, a dash of black pepper and one of cayenne pepper, little mustard if liked, and when it boils, a scant tablespoonful of flour, smoothed in a little cold water. Let boil two minutes, stirring constantly, and pour hot over the cabbage. Mix thoroughly, and when cold it is ready for use.

CLARA SENSIBAUGH EVERTS.

A CROCHETED WHEEL FOR TIDIES, MATS, LAMBREQUINS, ETC.

ABBREVIATIONS.—Ch means chain or chains; st, stitch or stitches; tr, treble or trebles; s c, single crochet; d c, double crochet; sh, shell or shells.

The wheels, when finished off, may be joined together, suitable to taste. Also, they may be joined together with the picots, on each of five shells, and more shells added if wanted. First, ch 8 st, join with 1 s c.

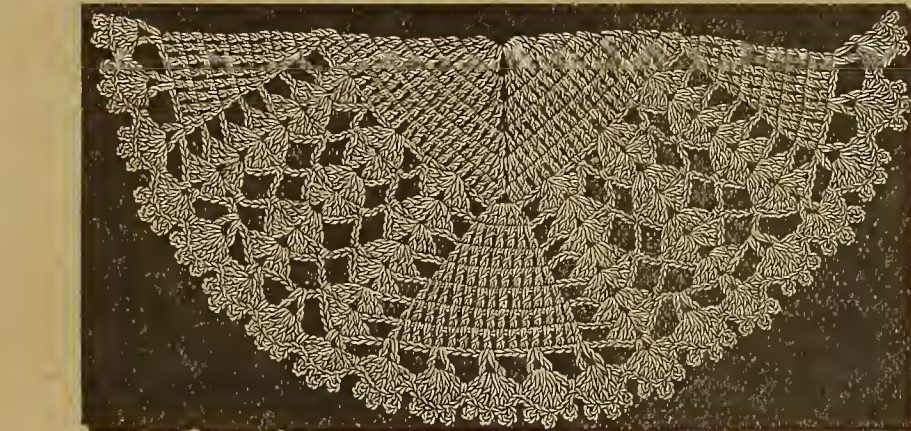
First round—Ch 3, 2 tr in next st (after the s c), * ch 2 (2 tr in next st) twice. Repeat from * 3 times, ch 2, 1 tr in s c, (where it is joined together). 1 s c in the last st of 3 ch. Counting 3 ch as 1 tr in each of five rounds.

Second round—Ch 3, * 1 tr on each tr, 2 tr in the first st of 2 ch, ch 2, 2 tr in the next st of ch. Repeat from * 4 times, ** 1 tr on tr, 1 s c in the last st of 3 ch.

Third round—Repeat the second round to **, 1 tr on each tr, 1 s c in the last st of 3 ch.

Fourth and fifth rounds—Repeat the same as the third round.

Sixth round—Ch 5, * 1 tr in each st of the next 11 st, ch 1. Repeat from * 7 times, 1 tr in the next 10 st, 1 s c in the third and fourth st of 5 ch.



CROCHETED WHEEL FOR TIDIES, MATS, LAMBREQUINS, ETC.

Seventh round—Ch 5, 3 tr under the last st of 5 ch, * ch 4, miss 3 tr st, 1 d c in next st, miss 2 st, 1 sh (3 tr, ch 1, 3 tr) in the next st, ch 2, 5 tr under 1 ch (at the corner), ch 2, miss 4 tr st, 1 sh in the next st, miss 2 st, 1 d c in the next st, ch 4, ** 1 sh under 1 ch. Repeat from * 4 times. The last time only repeat to the **, 2 tr under the s c in the fourth st of 5 ch, 1 s c under 5 ch.

Eighth round—Ch 5, 3 tr under the same ch (1 s c is under), * 1 d c under the first st of 4 ch, ch 4, 1 sh in sh, ch 2 (at the corners), 2 tr in the first and last st of tr, and 1 tr in each tr st, between the first and last st of previous round; ch 2, 1 sh in sh, ch 4, 1 d c under the last st of 4 ch, ** 1 sh in sh. Repeat from * 4 times; the last time only repeat to the **, 2 tr in ch, 1 s c is under of previous round.

Ninth round—Ch 5, 3 tr in the same ch, * ch 4, 1 d c under the last st of 4 ch, 1 sh in sh, ch 2 (at the corners), 2 tr in the first and last st of tr, and 1 tr in each tr st, between the first and last st of previous round, ch 2, 1 sh in sh, 1 d c under the first st of 4 ch, ch 4, ** 1 sh in sh. Repeat from * 4 times; the last time only repeat to the **, 2 tr in ch, 1 s c is under of previous round.

Tenth and twelfth rounds—Repeat the same as the eighth round.

Eleventh and thirteenth rounds—Repeat the same as the ninth round.

Fourteenth round—* Ch 5, 1 d c in the same ch of sh, ch 5, 1 tr, ch 1, 1 tr, in the second st of 4 ch, ch 5, 1 d c, ch 1, 1 d c in 1 ch of sh, ch 5, 1 tr, ch 1, 1 tr, in the first tr st at corner (ch 5, miss 3 st, 1 tr, ch 1, 1 tr all in the next st), 4 times, ch 5, 1 d c, ch 5, 1 d c in 1 ch of sh, ch 5, 1 tr, ch 1, 1 tr, in third st of 4 ch, ch 5, 1 d c in 1 ch of the next sh. Repeat from * 4 times, and at the end join together with 1 s c.

Fifteenth round—First ch 4, 1 tr, 1 picot, (ch 5, 1 s c in the last tr crocheted), 1 tr, 1 picot, 1 tr, 1 picot, 2 tr. All in the same loop 5 ch, on the shell, and count the 4 ch as 1 tr, * 1 d c under the next loop of 5 ch. Crochet a shell of 6 tr and 3 picots under 1 ch between the tr, and over each shell in loop of 5 ch. Repeat from * all around the wheel, and when it is all finished off, there

will be as many as forty small shells for an edge, and joined together.

ELLA MCCOWEN.

BABY'S OUTFIT.

The little luxuries of a baby's outfit are too often very expensive, if bought outright, though after the arrival of the little mite that upsets the whole house, the mother's time is too entirely occupied to make many of them herself.

A cap and cloak are first necessities, and as the cap will soon be outgrown, it is well to have a succession of them. A closely-crocheted silk cap is best to use before the child is able to sit up, but afterward a cap made of white China silk, of which a yard will make three, is the most serviceable. The simple pattern we can furnish, if necessary, at small cost.



BABY'S CAP.

The best cloak is of eider-down, in a simple circular, with one cape and a collar, all of which may be lined with China silk. This makes a warm cloak, and a very light one for the child to carry. This is quite essential to consider. Though a little more expensive, lansdown lined with eider-down in cream white is a pretty material. This material can after awhile be utilized as a dress. As a child outgrows a cloak, it is well to look forward and buy such material as will work over into some other garment. We will also give, in another issue, full directions for a very pretty sack, and easily knit by the grandma from the printed directions.

Bands knitted in plain ribbing, with a little tag in front to pin other garments to,

are more comfortable than those made of flannel. If flannel is used next the skin, it should be what is called silk flannel.

Little square flannel shawls are quite useful with very small babies, and can be as plain or elaborate as one cares to make them.

The one requisite of all an infant's belongings should be exquisite neatness, and delicacy and softness of materials.

CHRISTIE IRVING.

OLD POINT PATTERN.

Our lace illustration is an old point pattern made with feather-edge braid, using a number of lace stitches familiar to all lace-workers, and readily acquired from the pattern.

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Our Household.

HONITON LACE CENTERPIECE AND DOILIES.

LACE braids and stitches enter largely into the handsomest piece of modern embroidery, giving a dainty finish with less needlework than solid embroidery, but requiring a little more outlay for the materials. However, a neatly finished piece of ideal Honiton, besides being useful, is a thing of beauty for years to come.

Articles made of this braid are, as a rule, worked with white filo wash silk, so there is no anxiety for the results of laundering.

The centerpiece illustrated is one of the handsomest designs to be found. Two designs for doilies are also given. Much variety may very easily be obtained with the braid, so that a set of doilies may differ in design, yet be harmonious in style.

The braid is basted smooth and close on fine linen, or if a very dainty article is desired, linen lawn may be used. Cut and apply the detached sections, when necessary, to suit the design. Care must be taken to securely fasten each cut end of the braid, else trouble will ensue from unraveling, and a neat piece of work be impossible. When the braid has been basted to the design with fine thread, the outer edge of the braid is permanently secured to the linen by a long-and-short stitch. This is merely a long-and-short buttonhole-stitch reversed, so that the cross loops are on the

knot and weave in and out around the knot a number of times; secure so it will retain a round shape. Twist over the remaining single thread and secure the end to the lace so that it will not show. The wreath in the center is also composed of the braid, though of a smaller design. The



HONITON LACE DOILY.

stems are worked with filo in stem-stitch, and the center of the flowers over and over with the silk to form a button, after which the material is cut from under with a pair of fine, sharp-pointed scissors.

The centerpiece requires three yards of the small braid and three yards of the large and eight skeins of floss. The braid costs from twelve and a half to fifteen cents per yard; the silk forty cents a dozen skeins, and the linen fifty cents.



HONITON LACE CENTERPIECE.

edge of the braid, while the stitches themselves extend beyond the braid onto the lawn or linen; a short stitch alternates with a long one through the work. The outside edge of the braid is secured by catching the edge when working the scallops, which are worked in the ordinary way with a double thread of filo. Run the edge of the scallops with cotton thread before working, to prevent fraying. The spaces formed by four medallions of the

A started piece, with materials, can be furnished for two dollars and twenty-five cents. M. E. SMITH.

HOME TOPICS.

SPRING COOKING.—This season of the year is a trying one to the ingenuity of the country housekeeper who wishes to give variety to her meals. Most kinds of winter vegetables are gone, and in the North three months must elapse before the earliest spring vegetables will be available, unless you have a cold-frame, which nearly all farmers might have if they would only take the trouble.

If you still have some beets in the cellar, it is best to boil up a big potful of them, remove the skin, cut them into convenient size and put them into glass jars. Fill the jars as full as you can; have some vinegar boiling hot in which you have put a half teacupful of sugar to a quart of vinegar, a teaspoonful of salt, and spices if you like. Fill the jars with this vinegar and seal them. In this way you can have beets until something else comes to take their place, otherwise they will soon commence to sprout and be spoiled for use. When you wish to use the beets, they may be served as pickles, or sliced, heated in a frying-pan with a tablespoonful of butter and two of water, and served as fresh beets.

Turnips are nearly gone, and those still left are beginning to wilt; but if they are peeled, cut in small dice, boiled until tender in salted water, and drained, they are appetizing when served with butter, pepper and a little vinegar.

SALT PORK.—Except in the near vicinity of a city, fresh meat is rarely on the farmer's table, and the following recipes may prove



HONITON LACE DOILY.

braid between the large scallops of the edge are buttonholed around without catching the linen, and filled in with what is called in lacework "a spider," which is made by crossing the thread from corner to corner, twisting back again and buttonholing to the next corner; twisting back and buttonholing to the middle of the side, and so on until the last cross, when you twist to the center; tighten with a

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the beginners in the art of bread and cake making, there is no aid so great, no assistant so helpful, as the

Royal Baking Powder.

It is the perfect leavening agent and makes perfect food. Do not make a mistake by experimenting with any other.

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welcome to some housekeeper who has not had years of experience in cooking:

Cut the pork in slices about a quarter of an inch thick; trim off the skin, pour boiling water over it, and drain it off, then cover the slices with cold, skimmed milk and let them stand over night. In the morning, drain off the milk, saving it, roll the slices of pork in flour, dust a little pepper over them, put a spoonful of drippings in the frying-pan, and when hot, put in the pork and fry until a light brown, turning it often to prevent burning. When the slices are brown, take them up on a hot platter, pour out all but two spoonfuls of the drippings, and into this stir a table-spoonful of flour; when the flour is stirred smooth, pour in a pint of the milk in which the pork was soaked, stirring it all the time until it thickens and is not lumpy. Season with pepper, and serve in a separate dish. Pork fried in this way, with baked potatoes, corn-bread and coffee, is a breakfast not to be despised.

A piece of salt pork for roasting is quite a different dish, if scalded, soaked in milk as above, and then deep gashes cut in it and filled with a bread dressing made as for turkey. A strip of muslin must be put around to keep the dressing in. Put the pork in a moderate oven and bake it slowly an hour and a half, then drain off the drippings and put in the pan with the meat, the milk in which it was soaked.

When the milk is hot, put in some peeled potatoes and bake until they are done. Serve the pork with the potatoes around it on the platter, and gravy in a gravy-dish.

HEALTH VERSUS EDUCATION.—"I killed my only daughter," said a sad-eyed mother to me not long ago. "She was ambitious for an education, and I ambitious for her and proud of her attainments, so I kept her in school and urged her to study until she graduated with highest honors; but it cost her life. She only lived a few months, and now how bitterly I mourn her loss. I might have saved her if I had only taken her away from school when she began to complain so much of headache and back-ache."

A great many girls are strong and healthy, and can bear very hard and continuous school work, but if your daughter grows nervous and worries over her studies, is pale, loses her appetite and complains of lassitude and aches, do not run the risk of her loss of health, perhaps of life, even if she will graduate in a few more months. How infinitely better it will be for her to leave her studies and grow strong and well. Another year she can doubtless do the work easily and without any danger to her health.

A mother's responsibility is always great, but it seems to increase when the children leave her care and enter school. It is her duty to know all the influences that surround them, and as the years go by and their studies are increasing, she must be sure that they are not overtaxed. If mothers would see that all the habits of their girls are regular, and their minds and bodies developed symmetrically, their associates pure and their dress plain and comfortable, until they are eighteen years old, there would be fewer weakly women, fewer heartbreaks from girls "gone wrong," and fewer mothers left desolate by the early death of their daughters. MAIDA McL.

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SAMUEL WILSON, Mechanicsville, Pa.

DOING THE BEST WE CAN.

Baby had fallen asleep, and I, tired from the day's labor, had dropped into an easy-chair by the window. The short, gray day was almost at its close, and through the fast-gathering twilight I could just discern the naked branches of the trees across the road, while they swayed slowly back and forth as if rocked by some unseen hand; my thoughts were lifted out and up into the realms of mysterious things, but I was suddenly brought to earth by the appearance of a stout figure in the doorway, which with saucer and spoon in hand, approached me, exclaiming exultantly;

"Ain't it going to be just lovely?"

Milda's good, honest face shone radiantly as she dipped the spoon into a soft, creamy mass and slowly poured it back again, meanwhile inviting my inspection of the contents, which was—soft soap.

"Yes, indeed," said I, warmly; "it is very nice."

For two or three days Milda had been devotion personified to an ash-barrel from which slowly trickled the biting lye, which would balance an egg every time it was tested, so Milda announced several times each day, and now the climax had come, and the soap was just lovely.

Milda retired with an air of having satisfactorily accomplished a work begun, while I took up a bit of unfinished work, thinking meanwhile of the real enjoyment of doing a work well.

Native ability counts for much or little, and its unequal distribution in different individuals must always be considered.

People are constituted so differently; to some everything tried is easy of accomplishment, while to others it is only by the hardest labor that any degree of success is achieved.

Yet granting all this, I think the root of much "bad luck" springs from the soil of carelessness. Our best judgment and utmost care must go into our homeliest tasks, else failure will be pretty apt to crown our efforts.

We are apt to think that our homely work is only to rush through with, and that we are to save our best strength for something better than drudgery.

Somebody tells a story something like this: In the Louvre is one of Murillo's pictures, which reveals the interior of a kitchen instead of mortals in old dresses, two beautiful white-winged angels are doing the work, while a little cherub runs about trying to help by getting in the way.

In an artist's eye homely work is beautiful—such as angels would do. Then isn't it worthy our best efforts?

MARY D. SIBLEY.

"BROWN'S BRONCHIAL TROCHES" are of great service in subduing Hoarseness and Coughs. Sold only in boxes. Avoid imitations.

TO WASH PONGEE SILK.

Peel and grate four good-sized potatoes, add three gallons of clear rain-water; stir well, and allow it to settle at least twenty-four hours. Then carefully pour off the water from the sediment. Wash the silk up and down in the water, warmed, being careful not to crease it; hang it without wringing over a line to drip a little, then lay between clean muslin; roll and allow it to stand a half hour, then press with moderately hot irons on the side intended to be the wrong side. L. L. C.

Deere & Co., Moline, Ill., come to the front in the present issue of FARM AND FIRESIDE with an advertisement of their new "C. H. D." Cultivator. This implement, though a new one, embodies every essential quality desirable for executing the work it is intended to do. Its mechanical construction is perfect, and it walks over and through the soil with ease and efficiency. Over 20,000 were sold the first season; this fact is conclusive evidence that as a farm implement *par excellence* it fills the bill. For additional particulars address Deere & Co., Moline, Ill., and mention this paper.

HINTS ON CANNING FRUIT.

If two silver dollars are put in the bottom of a kettle of preserves, jam or fruit, they will keep the mass from burning at the bottom. The dollars move around in the bottom of the kettle and keep the fruit from sticking.

Then, when the rubbers of the glass jars are old, I screw down the tops and put sealing-wax as I would on tin cans, and never have had better luck. I never could keep fruit in glass jars before, as I could not screw the tops on tight enough.

Paris, Texas. MARZEE PRIDE.

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A clergyman, after years of suffering, from that loathsome disease, Catarrh, and vainly trying every known remedy, at last found a medicine which completely cured and saved him from death. Any sufferer from this dreadful disease sending his name and address to Prof. Lawrence, 85 Warren st., New York, will receive the means of cure free and post-paid.

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The pattern I ordered is just as good as the one I paid 25 cents for. I send money for another. MRS. H. H. BOMBERGER, Lititz, Pa. See patterns on another page.

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46 "FORTY & SIX YEARS" 46

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Our Sunday Afternoon.

LIFE'S CONTRASTS.

Perfume of roses and warbling of birds, Sweetest of sweet June days, Kindest glances and tenderest words, Murmuring brooklets and whispering trees, Drowsiest song of the soft humming bees: Hope, love, trust, peace, And besides— I and he, he and I.

Wintry winds rustling the fallen dead leaves, Sullen and lowering the sky, Creeping mists hiding sad earth as she grieves, Mourning for days gone by; Cataracts foaming 'neath bare, leafless trees, Chilly blasts sweeping o'er lone, barren leas; Heartache, doubts, tears, And besides— I alone, only I.

—Temple Bar.

Ah, sad-eyed weavers! the years are slow, But each one is nearer the end, I know, And some day the last thread be woven in— God grant it be love instead of sin.

—Anonymous.

"WILL YOU LAUGH TO ME AGAIN, MOTHER?"

It was little three-year-old Mabel who asked this question one morning in the early spring. She had been bringing me the first spring flowers, and oh, how "buful" she thought those bright yellow dandelions were! I had enjoyed them, too, and had responded to her enthusiasm with words of appreciation and thanks; but it was the smile which seemed to delight the little darling most, and as she started out to hunt for more flowers, she came back to ask in her own earnest, winsome way, "Will you laugh to me again, mother?"

It was a simple question, or rather, request, but it almost startled me, and started a new train of thought.

Was that dear little heart hungry for more brightness, and thus seeking for it as the vine sends forth its tiny branches in search of the sunshine?

While careful, and perhaps too often troubled about household duties, striving to have everything as comfortable as possible for the dear husband and little ones, had I been failing to give them the smiles and sunshine which their hearts craved, and which I could so gladly and easily give them?

When I was quite young, I remember being touched by hearing a little child say, "Mama, they are the laughingest folks at Uncle P—'s I ever saw. I wish we had more laughin' at our house." Ah! perhaps our little ones often wish for "more laughin' at our house," though they do not say so. Surely, we should strive in every way to gladden their young lives, and be careful that by our care-worn, or perhaps frowning faces we do not repel their natural light-heartedness.

Phillips Brooks once said that "the truest humor is the bloom of the highest life," and while we should never encourage silly simpering and giggling, should we not seek to cultivate in ourselves and our children that "true humor" which, like the sunshine, always carries with it gladness and bloom?—Sunday-school Times.

GOD'S PLAN.

Let us be satisfied with God's plan for saving the world, and not try to help him by any false methods. There is a limit to our own responsibility. The burden of the world's evil does not all rest on our shoulders. Let us calmly wait on God, and check our foolish impatience. Then why be cast down in despair that truth does not conquer in a day? Why not look out upon life's drama with cheerful content, knowing that God rules, and that he will order all things well? Looking the darkest facts fairly in the face, our supreme question should be, "Lord, what wouldst thou have me to do?" Faithfully doing this, the spirit may calmly rest, undisturbed by this world's confusion. Cheerfully accepting all duties and difficulties, contented with life's privilege, with the divine treatment of us here and the heavenly hope of the life to come, we shall climb the celestial summits with songs of joy.—R. R. Shippen.

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The Bible is to men what they make of it. To one it may be a useless ornament for the center-table; to another an old book full of myths and meaningless fables; but to the earnest student who seeks truth it becomes "the power of God unto salvation." We may love other books, as Milton, Spencer, Carlyle, Emerson, Taylor and Drummond. There are many in the great brotherhood of authorship that are dear to every student, and we would not willingly sacrifice their companionship. But when we are in straits, when the soul cries, when death separates from the tenderest companionships, when words are needed that will rebuke sin, then we may well put aside all books but one. In that we find an interpreter for all our feelings, a hope that encourages the soul in darkest night and sheds a ray of light on every path. It is a spring that never gives out in the dryest summer, nor freezes in the coldest winter, and that because it has its source in the abundant, beneficent and all-satisfying love of the great Father. It can never fail.—Methodist Protestant.

THE FIRST FRUITS.

The Old Testament requirement of presenting to the Lord the first fruits, finds no annulment in the New. It was, like many another law, as good for one time as another; something of permanent value and obligation.

The "first fruits" were asked for because these are the choicest and most set by, and therefore very properly belong to him whose claim is first.

We are to give to him not the leavings, the ends of things left over after every other wish has been met, but the first and best out of the earnings, scant or full. We are, first of all, to set apart the tenth, and hold it sacredly as his.

One is never the loser because of this systematic giving. The bank of heaven keeps strict account with every depositor, and repays with large interest. "Honor the Lord with thy substance, and with the first fruits of all thine increase: so shall thy barns be filled with plenty." Better security one could not ask for investments. Only it is to be genuine giving to him, born of the recognition of his right to own all.

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If any young, old, or middle-aged man, suffering from nervous debility, lack of vigor or weakness from errors or excesses, will in close stamp to me, I will send him the prescription of a genuine, certain cure, free of cost, no humbug, no deception. It is cheap, simple and perfectly safe and harmless. I will send you the correct prescription and you can buy the remedy of me or prepare it yourself, just as you choose. The prescription I send free, just as I agree to do. Address, E. H. HUNGERFORD, BOX A. 332, Albion, Mich.

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Queries.

READ THIS NOTICE.

Questions from regular subscribers of FARM AND FIRESIDE, and relating to matters of general interest, will be answered in these columns free of charge.

To Destroy Moles.—E. B. Franklin, Ohio. Moles can be poisoned by strychnine mixed with sugar, inserted in the runs through a smooth tube or quill.

Matrimony-vine.—C. E. M. A., Minnetonka, S. D., writes: "I send you a spray of a hardy climbing vine I have and do not know the name of."

Reply by George W. Park.—The branch received is of Lycium barbarum, the old-fashioned matrimony-vine from Barbary.

Rations for Calves.—P. W. M., New Canaan, Conn., writes: "Please give me a balanced ration for bringing up calves by hand, either with skim-milk or water, something that will not give them the scours."

Reply.—To sweet skim-milk, warmed, add a little linseed-meal cooked to a jelly, beginning with three quarts of milk and a teaspoonful of linseed-meal as a ration for a calf less than a week old, and increasing the quantity of both gradually as the calf grows older.

Alfalfa—Grass Land.—A. R. M., Orchard, Col., writes: "What is the amount of alfalfa seed required to plant an acre? Is thirty pounds per acre an excessive amount?"

Reply.—Twenty pounds of alfalfa seed is sufficient to sow an acre.—The method proposed for preparing the bottom land for timothy and clover is all right.

Alfalfa—Sacaline.—W. H. W., Juniper, Ariz., writes: "Our farms in nearly all the little valleys in the mountains are being damaged very much by the water cutting great ditches through the land, washing away in some places, and covering nice pieces of land a foot deep with sand in others."

Reply.—For your locality the best forage plant known is alfalfa. Send to the United States Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C., for Farmers' Bulletin No. 20, on reclaiming washed soils.—Sacaline will be thoroughly tested by the experiment stations this season, and we will know more about it next year.

Meadow.—T. W., Ephrata, Pa., writes: "I have fifty acres of light, rolling, gravelly soil. I want to turn it in a permanent hay-field. What is the best kind of grass to sow upon it for the finest and largest yield?"

Reply.—The best grass for permanent meadow is timothy. Your land, however, will not produce large crops of timothy in dry seasons. It is best to sow a mixture of timothy and red clover after a crop of wheat.

VETERINARY.

Conducted by Dr. H. J. Detmers, Professor of Veterinary Surgery in Ohio State University.

To regular subscribers of FARM AND FIRESIDE, answers will be given through these columns free of charge. Where an immediate reply by mail is desired, the applicant should inclose a fee of one dollar.

A Barren Cow.—W. H. J., Hartland, Kan. If your cow is barren and already five years old, the best you can do is to prepare her for the butcher.

Fracture in the Shoulder-joint.—J. O., Northville, S. D. A fracture of either the shoulder-blade or the humerus in or near the shoulder-joint is incurable; at any rate, will leave the horse a worthless cripple.

A Chronic Cough.—A. T., Nashville, Mich. Have your horse, which had a bad cough for a year, and has "a great rattling" in the head, examined by a veterinarian.

Garget.—A. E. K., Saddle River, N. J. The treatment of garget, unless already too late, consists in thorough and frequent (once every two hours) milking. All the clots must be milked out.

Sick Pigs.—A. C., Pine Island, Minn. If you do not tell me any more than that your pigs cough and then die, I cannot make any diagnosis. It is possible that they die of swine-plague.

Lump-jaw.—G. L., New England, Ohio. Please consult FARM AND FIRESIDE OF February 1st.

A Cow with Many Ailments.—C. M. P. Your cow, according to your letter, is affected with so many ailments that it will be best for you to consult a veterinarian.

Worms.—E. R., Webberville, Michigan. If your horse is troubled with so-called pinworms, make injections of raw linseed-oil into the rectum, and feed well.

A Slight Discharge of Blood.—L. S., Independence, Iowa. A slight discharge of blood when in heat is not so very uncommon in cows, especially in young cows, and don't amount to anything.

Two Teats United.—H. W. M., Altamont, Kan. If two teats of your heifer are united, nothing that will really improve the condition can be done.

A Wind-sucker.—J. T. S., West Pkeland, Pa. Your five-year-old horse is a wind-sucker. Wind-sucking is a bad habit, of which it is impossible to break a horse that has indulged in it for a year.

Discharged Blood.—W. H. W., Wood River, Neb. If your boar discharges blood after serving a sow, you will have to examine him to learn where the blood comes from; at any rate, whether it comes from some sore on the outside, or from the urethra.

Weak in Hind Quarters.—J. R., Arkansas Post, Ark. Your description leaves me in doubt whether your mule is partially paralyzed, is lame, or very weak.

Ringworm.—E. L. G., Redfield, S. D. What you describe is so-called ringworm. Paint the diseased parts once a day with tincture of iodine, and at the same time have the stable thoroughly cleaned.

Epileptic Fits.—E. R., Liberty Center, O. If your dog has had epileptic fits for three years, it is almost certain that morbid changes, which cannot be removed, are existing in the brain.

Garget.—W. W. W., Monrovia, Ind. The predisposing cause consists in indifferent milking, and the immediate or producing cause in the introduction of a fermenting principle—fermentation-producing bacteria—into the accumulated milk in the udder.

Bitten by a Rabid Dog.—R. L. G., Modesto, Ind. If your horse has been bitten by a rabid dog, and the wound has not been immediately cauterized, either with a caustic or with a red-hot iron, the horse will be in danger for several months, and will need watching.

Lice on Horses.—I. H., Macon, Mich. It is too cold now to subject horses to a thorough wash, which therefore must be delayed until milder weather sets in.

Hollow-tail.—A. L. C., Newburg, Oreg. Hollow-tail is a term of the same kind as hollow-born, lampass, blind-teeth, etc.; that is, an imaginary anomaly mistaken for the cause of a morbid process situated somewhere else.

Garget.—L. B., Norwalk, Ohio. Garget, in nine cases out of ten, is caused by indifferent milking. The Paris green and the potato-patch have nothing to do with it.

Badly Crippled.—L. C. H., Oilville, Va. According to your description, your mare seems to be badly crippled and suffering from various ailments. The principal one, however, seems to be spavin in the left hock.

Dysentery of Calves.—M. L. W., Conover Ohio. It is caused by infection—pathogenic bacteria, probably introduced with the milk. If the patients are very young, say less than five or six days old, or if the fluid excrements are bloody or very fetid, a treatment is seldom of any avail.

Paralysis.—J. M. M., Rusville, O., writes: "What is the matter with my sow, and can she be cured? She has a good appetite, but cannot raise her hind parts off the ground."

ANSWER:—If the sow is in a good enough condition, it will be best to convert her into pork. If not, change her food; avoid sour slop or sour milk, potatoes, etc., and give wheat or rye bran, or corn with a little soluble bone-meal and a pinch of salt added.

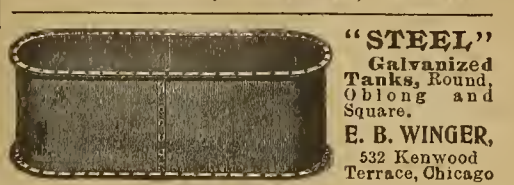
AN ANSWER:—You say your cat is "scabby-looking," but do not say that there are scabs and crusts, which would be present if the disease were mange; besides that, mange of cats usually makes its appearance first, or is worst, on the head and behind the ears.

AN ANSWER:—You say your cat is "scabby-looking," but do not say that there are scabs and crusts, which would be present if the disease were mange; besides that, mange of cats usually makes its appearance first, or is worst, on the head and behind the ears.

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Dr. Isaac Thompson's Eye Water. Sore eyes, inflammation, etc.

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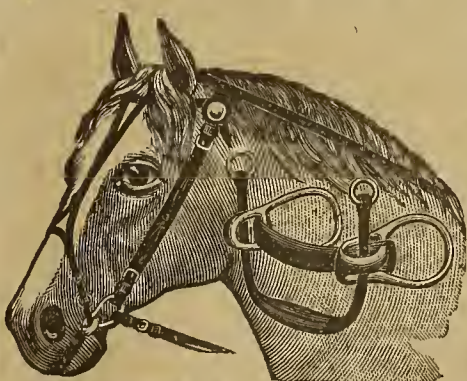
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BUSHBERG CATALOGUE AND GRAPE MANUAL. In 1869 Mr. Isadore Bush brought out a little volume classifying the then known families and varieties of the native American grapes. In 1875 he rewrote and enlarged his previous edition, and again in 1883 it was revised. Those familiar with these publications will be glad to learn that there is now in press the fourth edition of this most valuable book. Some of the articles of greatest interest are: The origin and history of the vine; the climate and soil affecting the growth and maturity; the location and how to plant; new and diversified methods of grafting, pruning and training; diseases and how to prevent them, prepared especially by B. T. Galloway, of the United States Department, with the very latest rules of spraying; insects injurious and beneficial, by C. V. Riley, late of the government service. But the most important to those who wish success is the classification of American vines, the last writings of the late Dr. Geo. Engelman, and taken up with renewed search and energy by that Darwin of American grape evolution, Prof. T. V. Munson, of Denison, Texas. This article from the pen of Mr. Munson is a synopsis of his treatise prepared for the government, and by obtaining it Mr. Bush forestalls our tardy government in giving it to the public. Through it the reader will learn what families to plant in his especial region, and in the thorough descriptive list of all known hardy American grapes following, he can choose the most pleasing and remunerative varieties. The work is profusely illustrated, and Mr. Bush has spared neither pains nor expense to obtain articles from the specialists who are absolute authority aside from his own knowledge and life-long research. Price, paper, 50 cents; cloth, \$1. Bush & Son & Meissner, Bushberg, Mo.

CATALOGUES RECEIVED.

Storrs & Harrison Company, Painesville, Ohio. Garden, field and flower seed, fruit and ornamental trees.
Peter Henderson & Co., 35 and 37 Cortlandt street, New York. Manual of everything for the garden.
Ellwanger & Barry, Rochester, N. Y. Specialty catalogue of rare and choice trees, shrubs, plants and roses.
William Parry, N. J. Small fruits, fruit and ornamental trees.
J. V. Cotta, Nursery, Ill. New northern fruits of superior value.
Thomas J. Ward, St. Mary's, Ind. Fruit-trees and small fruits.
D. Hill, Dundee, Ill. Hardy evergreens a specialty.
Plant Seed Company, St. Louis, Mo. Fiftieth anniversary catalogue of vegetable, field and flower seed.
E. H. Upson, Wilmot, Ind. Fruit farm and poultry-yards.
R. M. Kellogg, Ionia, Mich. A revolution in strawberry growing. Double the crop—a quarter of the work—no hand weeding—all big berries—new methods—continuous large crops. Fail not to send for this free booklet.
John W. Hall, Marion Station, Md. Pedigree seed potatoes, berry-plants, etc.
Northrup, Braslan, Goodwin Co., Minneapolis, Minn. Northern-grown tested seeds.
L. L. May & Co., St. Paul, Minn. Seeds, plants, bulbs and fruits.
D. Landreth & Sons, Philadelphia, Pa. One hundred and eleventh year, practical seed farmers and merchants. Album of views on the various seed farms of the Landreths.
Griffith, Turner & Co., Baltimore, Md. Farm and garden supplies.
T. J. Dwyer, Cornwall, N. Y. Catalogue of the Orange County Nurseries.
Joseph Harris, Moreton Farm, Monroe county, N. Y. Rural annual and catalogue of Moreton Farm seeds.
Luther Burbank, Santa Rosa, Cal. Originator of new fruits and flowers. Grafts of the "Giant" prune and "Wickson" Japan plum.
T. W. Wood & Sons, Richmond, Va. High-grade seeds and guide for the farm and garden.
Phoenix Nursery Co., Bloomington, Ill. Fruit and ornamental trees, shrubs, vines, hedge-plants, etc.
Fred E. Young, Rochester, N. Y. Fruit and ornamental trees, small fruits, roses, etc.
Daisy Implement Co., Pleasant Lake, Ind. Farm, garden and orchard implements—seed-drills, wheel-hoes, spraying-pumps, mole-traps, etc.
Milwaukee Harvester Co., Milwaukee, Wis. "The Circus on the Farm," an entirely original entertainment.
E. B. Winger, 532 Kenwood Terrace, Chicago, Ill. Windmills for farms, irrigation, creameries, and power purposes, pumps, etc.
Aspinwall Manufacturing Co., Jackson, Mich. Potato-planters, potato-diggers, seed-potato cutters and Paris-green sprinklers.
Gould's Manufacturing Co., Seneca Falls, N. Y. How to spray, when to spray and what pumps to use.
Geo. Ertel Co., Quincy, Ill. Ertel improved Victor incubator and brooder.
Chas. Gammerding, Columbus, Ohio. Illustrated catalogue of pure-bred poultry.
F. L. Wright, Plainfield, Mich. Fruit and ornamental trees, small fruits.

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Beautiful music! Let me dream again, Light fleeting shadow, After the ball, Sweet dreams, Old willow cradle, In the gloaming, My son, my son, Man that broke the hank at Monte Carlo, The pilot, Anvil chorus, Two little girls in blue, Little Annie Rooney, Ta-ra-ra-boom-de-ay, Little fisher maiden, We'd better hide a wee, and 148 other choice songs, words and music, absolutely free if you send 10 cents, for 3 months' subscription to our great musical fashion and literary magazine. Send silver dime, or 11 one cent stamps to Sawyer Pub. Co., Waterville, Maine.

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EXTRACTS FROM CORRESPONDENCE.

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FROM KANSAS.—In the February 1st issue of FARM AND FIRESIDE are extracts from an article by ex-Governor Lewelling and from an address by Governor Morrill, of Kansas. Lewelling's statements are untrue—at least those of the extract referred to—and are extremely belittling to Kansas, to the general government and to their author. When an intelligent gentleman who is indebted to the United States government for the largest personal liberty and the most effectual protection of life and property that can be had of any government on earth, descends to the assertion that our government "in reality guarantees nothing but wretchedness and want," and that he is "living in an age of exquisitely refined barbarism," he is placing either his gratitude or his intelligence, as even his partisan fanaticism, on a very low plane. He says the farmer "is rapidly tending toward poverty;" and this in the face of the fact that the Kansas farmers are prosperous and accumulative. Take Leavenworth county as a sample. The old dwellings are rapidly disappearing and beautiful, commodious residences are taking their places, in many instances modern in all their appointments; and large, substantial barns are replacing the various structures used for barn purposes. These improvements, as a rule, come out of the profits made on the farm by careful, intelligent cultivation of the soil instead of cultivation of politics. Many of these farms have been purchased on time, and paid for and improved, by farm products; yet this eminent (!) authority wails, "Farmers are rapidly tending toward poverty." Any one desiring to know that the reverse of these statements is true has but to read Governor Morrill's inaugural address. Governor Morrill says: "When Kansas was admitted to the Union she had scarcely 100,000 people; now she has one and a third millions. Then the wealth of the state was less than \$60,000,000; now it is \$1,800,000,000! Then we had not a mile of railroad; now we have 8,908 miles, only two states having a greater mileage—Illinois and Pennsylvania. There are 9,088 public school-houses, and the total sum paid for educational purposes the past year in the state was about five and one third million dollars. In 1890 we had 4,920 church organizations, with 284 buildings valued at seven and one half million dollars. * * * There can be no more complete refutation, no more emphatic condemnation of the organized and persistent assaults upon the fair fame, good name and business credit of the people of Kansas than is found in the simple recital of facts I have given in your hearing. * * * Its credit as a commonwealth is the peer of any of its sister states. Kansas state bonds would be as eagerly sought by the investor as United States bonds, if put upon the market to-day. Its outstanding debt is but \$789,000, of which \$433,000 is in our own treasury, the property of the school fund, and but \$256,000 is held against it by all the world without, and over against this we have a taxable wealth accumulation of but thirty-four years, the cash value of which is \$1,800,000,000!" This review of the progress and prosperity of the state by Governor Morrill is an unanswerable refutation of ex-Governor Lewelling's "age of exquisitely refined barbarism." Casimir-Perier, the ex-president of France, says of the French people: "I do not doubt the good sense and justice of France, but public opinion has been misled." This applies with equal force to the United States. Public opinion is being misformed and misled. False conditions are being forced on the people as facts by sensational agitators, who seek notoriety and personal gain. The rise and fall of trade that is governed and created by the fitful, varying financial pulse of the world—independent of the tariff and free silver agitations—is charged by these narrow-minded or designing agitators to local and national legislation. They tell the people that the national government is seeking to

create two classes—an aristocracy and a lower class of serfs or peons; forgetting that every official possessed of a thimbleful of brains knows that he is an official through the simple act of voting by the majority of the people of all classes, subject to the changing whims of the people, liable to be retired at the next election, holding not one single item of absolute power within himself, but the creature of the great waves of popular opinion that sweep over our land like the free winds, and almost as fickle and changeable in action. It is more than sickening to hear, as the writer did a few days since, men probably sixty years of age say, "It has been getting worse and worse, John, ever since you and I were boys." And they were prosperous, independent farmers, living fat and full, and knowing that within the period they mentioned this country has made greater progress than any other country on the globe. Just such bosh as this results not from the actual knowledge and observation of men, but from being "misled" by men supposed to be "well posted" and strictly honest in all they say, and conscientious in their profession of devoting their time and best effort to the "people." It is time that men of brains, who intend to remain in this benighted land of "refined barbarism," should pull square up against the fact that they are planting seed that, when full-grown and ready to harvest, will show a

mighty crop of the variety that always causes "dear friends" of labor to stay at home in the peaceful walks of life bravely (!), while the "misled" go forth nobly to give their all for other men's folly. L. T. Tonganozie, Kan.

FROM FLORIDA.—I will say to any one who has a few hundred dollars and no home, and who wishes to change to the sunny southlands, you have now the opportunity of a lifetime. You can find many beautiful homes open for homestead entry. One hundred and sixty acres of wild land can be had of the government for the nominal sum of about \$27. This is extra fine land, free from malaria, healthful, and with plenty of pure water. The lands are easily and cheaply brought into a state of cultivation, and produce corn, cotton, oats, rice, rye, millet, potatoes, melons, peaches, plums, pears, apples, pecans, grapes, quinces, etc. These lands can be found in Santa Rosa county, Florida. Many improved homes can be purchased in southern Florida cheap for cash. We never have a drought to cut our crops short. I will say to the stock raiser, this is the place for him. Cows, horses, sheep and goats live all the winter on the range. I will say to the sawmill man that this is the place for him, as we have thousands of acres of very fine pine timber. I will say to the merchant that there is a good opening here for him. W. J. B. Berrydale, Fla.

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As lately a sage on fine ham was repasting (Tho' for breakfast too savory, I ween), He exclaimed to a friend who sat silent and fasting:

"What a breakfast of learning is mine!" "A breakfast of learning?" with wonder he cried, And laughed, for he thought him mistaken. "Why, what is it else," the sage quickly replied, "When I'm making large 'Extracts from Bacon?"

A DIFFERENT MATTER.

"Miry Saunders is an awful smart gal," said Mrs. Abijah Wilson, as she folded her shawl in its regular creases on her return from the High Bridge academy "exercises." "I must say it, if she is my niece, that I consider she has real talent. Her composition was jest as smooth as if she'd wrote for the papers all her days. Her ma set there, jest like a bump on a log, an' didn't appear to know what was bein' read. It must 'a' been real disapp'utin' to 'Miry, after the way she's worked over that composition."

"What was the subject of her writin'?" inquired Mr. Wilson.

"It was a graduatin' 'essay,'" answered his wife, "an' it showed a good deal of thought in a 'sixteen-year-old gal, jest finishin' off her schoolin'. It was called 'The stern duties of life upon which we are about enterin'.' That was the caption of it, an' the idee was well carried out."

"Well, now, it's sing'lar how gals is made, ain't it?" inquired Mr. Wilson. "Now, I sh'd never've expected to hear 'Miry holdin' forth on jest that subject."

"Why wouldn't you, I'd like to know?" demanded the gifted essayist's aunt.

"Well," said Mr. Wilson, "I some way or 'nother didn't think 'Miry was jest puppered to tackle that subject. For yist'day afternoon, whilst I was over to her pa's, 'Miry she lay in the hammock readin' a paper novel, whilst her ma did up the dinner dishes an' all the rest o' the work. But then," added Mr. Wilson, "I reckon comp'sitions is one thing, an' kerryin' out the ideas that's in 'em is another thing."

THE EVOLUTION OF A BONNET.

How it happened is unknown to the writer, but in some way one of those emblems of vanity and barbarism that the ladies long ago discarded, a common wire bustle of prodigious size, found its way into a large barrel of clothing sent to a missionary for distribution among some of the poorest and most ignorant negroes of the South.

An elderly negro named Mose Jackson happened to be present when the barrel was opened. He had nearly a "baker's dozen" of half-naked children, and some of the clothing was given him for them. The bustle aroused a little indignation in the missionary, and she threw "the thing" aside, when Uncle Mose picked it up and asked if he could have it.

"Oh, yes," said the missionary, "take it along with you. Perhaps you can make some use of the wires in it."

The next Sunday Mrs. Mose Jackson appeared at the little mission church in a bonnet that was the envy and despair of all the sisters present, and a matter of no little surprise and dismay to the missionary. After church, the missionary made it convenient to take Mrs. Mose Jackson and say to her:

"See here, Mrs. Jackson, where did you get that dreadful bonnet?"

"W'y, la, Miss Jones, I made dis yer bonnet my own se'f, an' I nebbah spent no money on hit. De trimmin' I had in de house an' de frame was one what come in de bar'l de good ladies in de Norf sent an' you done gib hit to Moses fo' me, an' mighty 'bliged I is fo' hit."

REVISED ENGLISH.

"Me fader's got a new Sunday suit of er cose," remarked one of the little girls in Miss Winslow's sewing class at the mission.

"Den why don't he uever wear 'em?" asked another little girl triumphantly.

"Hush, Katie!" said Miss Winslow softly. "I have no doubt Maggie will tell us all about it in her own way."

"Yes, miss; he can't wear 'em now, cose de pants is goue," explained Maggie.

"How did he come to lose them?"

"He didn't lose 'em, miss; dey was stolen!"

"That is too bad! How did it happen?"

"Well, you see, miss, one day when he was off to his work and mudder was gone out to do a day's washing fer Miss Van Nobs, and I had taken the baby out to the park to get the air, somebody broke into our room and stole me fader's new Sunday pants on him."

"Stole them on him? You don't mean exactly that, do you?" asked Miss Winslow, with an indulgent smile.

"Naw, she don't," cried Katie, scornfully. "She don't know how to talk proper. What she means is they stole them off him."—New York World.

AN UGLY COUGH, even when it appears deep-seated, can be alleviated, if not immediately removed, by Dr. J. Jayne's Expectorant, a popular and long established remedy for Bronchial and Asthmatic Affections, and for fifty years an approved helper for all Lung Complaints.

DON'T TOBACCO SPIT AND SMOKE YOUR LIFE AWAY

Ah! what a warning to millions of America's men who are daily tearing down their naturally strong physical and nervous system. Stop a moment! Did you take to tobacco naturally? Well, no! And now you want it—why? Because tobacco tastes good? No, but to gratify a feeling hard to explain, and only satisfied by nicotine.

LIFE'S SHORT! THE USE OF TOBACCO MAKES IT SHORTER.

We have not the time, much less the inclination, to preach printed sermons for the sake of making a man quit tobacco, IF HE DOESN'T KNOW THAT IT HURTS HIM. We want to talk to the man who realizes that he is TOBACCO spitting and smoking his life away, who WANTS TO STOP AND CAN'T. Tobacco has produced a diseased condition of the nervous system, and from time to time, you are compelled to feed the never ceasing demands, and you may have, like millions of other men,

A TOBACCO HEART. Nearly every day the newspapers give an account of some eminent man falling suddenly dead at his desk from heart disease. As a rule, no middle-aged man in active business dies thus suddenly unless poisoned, and that poison, in a majority of cases, is tobacco. Meanwhile the slaughter goes on. The press and the pulpit seem muzzled, the majority being participants in the popular vice, and those who are not seem hypnotized and afraid to speak out.

VITALITY NICOTINIZED

Tobacco destroys manhood. Tens of thousands of men feel the darkening clouds of early decline, because nature, not exhausted naturally, but burdened with the taking care of a tobacco-poisoned blood, has slowly and surely succumbed to the frightful effects of tobacco upon the vital forces, that makes strong men IMPOTENT and DESTROYS THEIR MANHOOD.

YOU ASK FOR PROOF.

Test NO-TO-BAC under our Absolute Guarantee; feel how quickly No-To-Bac kills the desire for tobacco, eliminates the nicotine, steadies the nerves, increases the weight, makes the blood pure and rich and tingling with new life and energy. Hundreds of letters from aged men testify to years of tobacco slavery, and tell how No-To-Bac destroyed tobacco's power and brought back feelings long since dead, while sensations of a younger existence once more warmed the cockles of the old man's heart. Gloomy days were gone, the sunshine was brighter; the warble of the little birds all spoke of love; the old man made young again and—happy.

IT IS TRUE, NO-TO-BAC DOESN'T CURB EVERYONE.

What's the use of telling a lie to get caught at it? You know and so do we, that the claim "never fails to cure" is a quack lie, and fraud's talk. Our guarantee is clean cut and to the point. Read it. We would rather have the good will of the occasional failure than his money. Beware of the man who says, "Just as Good as NO-TO-BAC." It stands alone, backed by men of national business reputation and integrity, who are personally known to the publisher of this paper, who also indorses our guarantee.

TENS OF THOUSANDS OF TESTIMONIALS

Have been received from enthusiastic users of NO-TO-BAC. We print a few to show how NO-TO-BAC does the work. We do not want your testimonials doubted, for they are truth—pure and simple. We know it and propose to back them up by offering a reward of \$5,000 to anyone who can prove that any testimonial published is false, or that we knowingly and willingly cause to be printed testimonials that do not, so far as we know, represent the honest opinion of the writers. Signed, H. L. KRAMER, Treasurer.

Snuffed for Thirty-Five Years. RUDD, KY., May 12, 1894. GENTLEMEN:—No-To-Bac entirely cured me of a thirty-five year snuff habit, and made me gain 24 pounds. Thank God for No-To-Bac. Yours truly, MRS. M. A. RUDD.

No-To-Bac a Money and Life Saver. CHICAGO, ILL., April 11, 1894. DEAR SIR:—No-To-Bac did the work, and I gladly recommend it as a money and life saver. You can consider me a walking, talking, living advertisement, and I believe that I have already induced many people to take No-To-Bac. Very Respectfully yours, A. T. MYERS, Business Mgr. of the Western Tourist and Industrial Magazine, 1206 Chamber of Com. Bldg.

Three North Carolinians Cured. NEUSE, N. C., May 1, 1894. GENTLEMEN:—Your No-To-Bac has completely cured myself, S. P. Hatch and W. A. Green of this place. Mr. Green has used tobacco in every form for thirty years. I had used it for 15 years. We are all gaining in flesh every day. No-To-Bac is truly worth its weight in gold. Yours truly, J. T. HUNTER.

Reports 36 Cures and 1 Failure. MT. Ayr, IA., Nov. 11, 1893. GENTLEMEN:—I have the first failure to report. Mr. J. H. Morris used tobacco from early boyhood, now 40 years of age. Please advise me. I have great faith in the efficacy of No-To-Bac, having cured at least 36 very hard tobacco users. Yours truly, B. C. WARREN, Druggist.

Smoked, Chewed and Snuffed 51 Years. BUTLER, PA., June 13, 1894. DEAR SIR:—Three boxes of No-To-Bac cured me of smoking, chewing and snuff habit, to which I had been addicted for 51 years. The nicotine is out of my system, and since I quit using tobacco I can't bear the smell of it. Very truly yours, HENRY BEAN.

No-To-Bac Makes My Nerves Strong. PATTERSON, PA., June 13, 1894. GENTLEMEN:—One box No-To-Bac entirely cured me of the tobacco habit and strengthened my nerves, built up my system and increased my weight. I now praise No-To-Bac to my friends and all tobacco users. Yours sincerely, WESLEY L. ZEIDERS.

OUR GUARANTEE IS PLAIN AND TO THE POINT. Three boxes of NO-TO-BAC, 30 days' treatment, costing \$2.50, or a little less than 10c a day, used according to simple directions, is guaranteed to cure the tobacco habit in any form, Smoking, Chewing, Snuff, and Cigarette habit, or money refunded by us to dissatisfied purchaser. We don't claim to cure everyone, but the percentage of cures is so large that we can better afford to have the good will of the occasional failure than his money. We have faith in NO-TO-BAC, and if you try it you will find that NO-TO-BAC is to you WORTH ITS WEIGHT IN GOLD.

WHERE TO BUY OR ORDER NO-TO-BAC. Sold by wholesale and retail druggists throughout the U. S. and Canada, or sent by mail anywhere for price—one box, \$1; three boxes, \$2.50. Our president, Mr. A. L. Thomas, is a member of the great advertising firm of Lord & Thomas, Chicago. Our secretary is Mr. P. T. Barry, of the Chicago Newspaper Union, Chicago. Our treasurer is Mr. H. L. Kramer, general manager of the Indiana Springs Company, owners of the famous Indiana Mineral Springs, Ind., the only place where magnetic mineral mud baths are given for the cure of rheumatism. We mention this to assure you that remittances will be properly accounted for, that our GUARANTEE WILL BE MADE GOOD AND YOUR PATRONAGE APPRECIATED. BE SURE when you write to mention this paper, and address THE STERLING REMEDY CO., BOX 258 INDIANA MINERAL SPRINGS, WARREN CO., IND. CHICAGO OFFICE: 45 Randolph St. NEW YORK OFFICE: 10 Spruce St. CANADA OFFICE: 374 St. Paul St., Montreal.

\$1,000,000 CURE FOR RHEUMATISM. SCHRAGE'S RHEUMATIC CURE. Never Failed. Cured thousands. Pleasant, Harmless. Cures Gout, and all RHEUMATISM and Neuralgia. True testimonials free. Highly indorsed. Doctors praise it. Take nothing "just as good." Cures where all else fails. Costs nothing to investigate. Highest indorsements. WRITE TO-DAY. SWANSON RHEUMATIC CURE CO., 167 Dearborn St., Chicago.

FREE CURE. Kidney URINARY DISEASES and RHEUMATISM. ALKAVIS is a Positive Cure for Kidney & Urinary Diseases, Rheumatism, etc. It is from the new Poly-nesian shrub, KAVA-KAVA (botanical name: Piper Methysticum) described in New York World, Feb. 8, 1893, and Medical Gazette, of Dec., 1892. Endorsed by the Hospitals and Physicians of Europe as a sure Specific Cure for Kidney and Bladder Diseases, Rheumatism, Diabetes, Bright's Disease, Brick-Dust deposits, Liver Disease, Female Complaints, pain in back, etc. Sold at Two Dollars a Bottle. Descriptive Book sent free to all. We know that ALKAVIS is a Positive Cure for these diseases, and to prove to you its Wonderful Effects, and for the sake of introduction, we will send you enough for one week's use, by mail, prepaid, FREE, if you are a sufferer. It is an unfailling cure. A trial costs you nothing. Address, The CHURCH KIDNEY CURE CO., 416 Fourth Avenue, New York. Mention this paper when you write.

COINS. If you have any rare American or foreign coins or paper money issued before 1878, keep them and send two stamps to Numismatic Bank, Boston, Mass., for Circular No. 20. A fortune for somebody. Agents wanted. Adv. Dept. N.

DON'T MISS THIS. To introduce our celebrated Perfume, we will send a case post paid, for 12 cents. We will mail with it, absolutely free, a beautiful gold plated Garnet and Opal ring. Send 12 cents in stamps and we will surprise and delight you. Ad. W. S. Everett & Co., Lynn, Mass.

FREE. A fine 14k gold plated watch to every reader of this paper. Cut this out and send it to us with your full name and address, and we will send you one of these elegant, richly jeweled, gold finished watches by express for examination, and if you think it is equal in appearance to any \$25.00 gold watch pay our sample price, \$2.75, and this yours. We send with the watch our guarantee that you can return it at any time within one year if not satisfactory, and if you sell or cause the sale of six we will give you One Free. Write at once, as we shall send out samples for 60 days only. Address THE NATIONAL M'F'G & IMPORTING CO., 334 Dearborn St., Chicago, Ill. Mention this paper when you write.

MY HUSBAND. \$50 Kenwood Machine for - \$23.00 \$50 Arlington Machine for - \$19.50 Standard Sings - \$3.00, \$11.00 \$15.00, and 27 other styles. All attachments FREE. We pay freight ship anywhere on 30 days free trial, in any home without asking one cent in advance. Buy from factory. Save agents large profits. Over 100,000 in use. Catalogue and testimonials Free. Write at once. Address (in full), CASH BUYERS' UNION, 158-164 West Van Buren St., Chicago, Ill. Mention this paper.

Our Miscellany.

GOOD THINGIBUS—PUSH IT ALONG.

Version of Wisconsin University Latin:
Boyibus kissibus
Sweet girlorum,
Girlibus likibus
Wanti somorum.
—Milwaukee Illustrated News.

CHINA raises and consumes more ducks than any other country in the world.

A FAIR article of molasses can be made from the stalks of the common maize.

THE native home of wheat is supposed to be the mountain regions of Armenia.

THE English railroads have cost their owners about \$227,000 a mile; ours have cost about \$3,700, or a little more than one fourth as much.

DARIUS HYSTASPES in 480 B. C. introduced a system of assessment and taxation of land, and made himself so obnoxious by it that he was called Darius the Trader.

OF the 12,000 miles which form the land girdle of China, 6,000 touch Russian territory, 4,800 British territory, and only 400 French, while 800 may be described as doubtful.

THE stars and stripes are seldom seen in foreign lands flying aloft from tugs. In the Bermuda Islands the Philadelphia tug Galdisen is, however, engaged winter and summer waiting for a stray distressed craft which may pass there and may need assistance to tow them in to effect necessary repairs and save her cargo from total loss.

A NEW YORK collector owns a Louis XIV. watch that is said to have once belonged to the Empress Josephine. While she lived at Malmaison she presented it to Abbe Blanchard, and he in turn gave it to his niece, Marie Fectig, of Strassburg. This watch, which was purchased at the Fectig sale in Strassburg in 1879, occupies the center of a black enamel and gold cross, and is decorated with the figure of a kneeling angel and heads of saints.

MORE women than men voted at the recent election in Colorado, and they cast a larger percentage of their registered vote than the men. They led the men in Denver by 8,000 votes, besides inducing 6,000 men to vote who usually neglect this duty.

A HANDY little device has been brought out for preventing the waste of current that often goes on in the electric lighting of hotels and large buildings. In a hotel, bedrooms, cellars and other places where persons are constantly passing in and out and requiring light for only short periods, it not infrequently happens that the light is switched on and left burning, sometimes for many hours, to no purpose.

TO ASCERTAIN the time at night, the Apache Indians employ a gourd on which the stars of the heavens are marked. As the constellations rise in the sky the Indian refers to his gourd and finds out the hour. By turning the gourd around he can tell the order in which the constellations may be expected to appear. The hill people of Assam reckon time and distance by the number of quids of betelnuts chewed. It will be remembered how, according to Washington Irving, Governor Wouter van Twiller dismissed the Dutch colonial assembly invariably at the last puff of his third pipe of tobacco.

IMPOVERISHED land is now "vaccinated" on the continent of Europe. It is generally known that land is enriched by planting it occasionally with a leguminous crop like clover or lucerne, the roots of which absorb more nitrogen than they take from the ground. Where the nitrogen came from was the problem. Messrs. Hellriegel and Willfarth have discovered that the absorption is due to a minute organism, a sort of disease in the roots, which, when the supply of nitrogen in the soil begins to fail, appear as an excrescence, draw nitrogen from the air, and so enrich the soil again.

DON'T STOP TOBACCO

It is Injurious To Stop Suddenly

And don't be imposed upon by buying a remedy that requires you to do so, as it is nothing more than a substitute. In the sudden stoppage of the use of tobacco, you must have some stimulant, and in most all cases, the effect of the stimulant, be it opium, morphine, or other opiates, leaves a far worse habit contracted. Ask your druggist about BACO-CURO. It is purely vegetable. You do not have to stop using tobacco with BACO-CURO. It will notify you when to stop and your desire for tobacco will cease. Your system will be as free from nicotine as the day before you took your first chew or smoke. An iron-clad written guarantee to absolutely cure the tobacco habit in all its forms, or money refunded.

WE HAVE HUNDREDS, WE PUBLISH BUT FEW.

Office of the Pioneer Press Co., C. W. Hornick, Supt. St. Paul, Minn., Sept. 7, 1894. Eureka Chemical & Mfg Co., La Crosse, Wis. DEAR SIRS—I have been a tobacco fiend for many years, and during the past two years have smoked fifteen to twenty cigars regular every day. My whole nervous system became affected, until my physician told me I must give up the use of tobacco for the time being at least. I tried the so-called "Keeley Cure," "No-To-Bac," and various other remedies, but without success, until I accidentally learned of your "Baco-Curo." Three weeks ago to-day I commenced using your preparation, and to-day I consider myself completely cured; I am in perfect health, and the horrible craving for tobacco, which every in vete rate smoker fully appreciates, has completely left me. I consider your "Baco-Curo" simply wonderful, and can fully recommend it. Yours very truly, C. W. HORNICK.

Rodden, Ill., Jan. 14, 1895. Eureka Chemical & Mfg Co., La Crosse, Wis. DEAR SIRS—I have been a tobacco fiend for thirty-three years, and during the past two years have used chewing tobacco very extensively. My nervous system being affected considerably. I have often tried to give up the use of tobacco, but always failed, until I bought three boxes of your "Baco-Curo." I used tobacco at the same time while taking "Baco-Curo," and after a week I lost the appetite for tobacco—smoking or chewing. I am enjoying better health, and consider your "Baco-Curo" the safest, most harmless and reliable remedy for to break the tobacco habit. Yours truly, JOHN RODDEN, Postmaster, Rodden, Ill.

Rodden, Illinois, January 15, 1895. Eureka Chemical & Mfg Co., La Crosse, Wis. DEAR SIRS—I have used chewing tobacco very extensively the past thirty years. I tried so-called "No-To-Bac" and other remedies, but without success, until I bought three boxes of your "Baco-Curo." I continued chewing tobacco while taking the preparation, and find that the horrible craving for tobacco has left me, and I consider myself cured. I can fully recommend "Baco-Curo" to any person wishing to break themselves of the tobacco habit. Yours very truly, S. D. WHITE.

What Mr. Kraemer says of "Baco-Curo."

This is to certify that I, F. D. Kraemer, of Atlantic, Iowa, was an inveterate smoker of cigarettes for more than two years. About eight weeks ago I bought three boxes of "Baco-Curo." I began taking it according to directions, and after taking one and one half boxes, all the desire for cigarettes left me and I have had no desire since. I can heartily recommend "Baco-Curo" to all who are slaves to the Cigarette habit or tobacco habit in any form, and are in search of a cure. I had become so under the influence of cigarettes, I could not remember anything; could not study, unless under the influence of the drug, which is death in the end, if kept up. Cigarettes are sapping the lives out of more boys and young men to-day, than anything that is known to the world. Boys, before it is too late get some of this remedy that killed the craving for cigarettes in me and save your young life. Restore yourself to manhood. You will feel as though you had escaped an awful doom, and you have, when cured by "Baco-Curo," for you feel like a new being. I never felt better in all my life than at this present writing. I did not know what was the matter with me, until informed by the agent. He told me what was the reason I could not do anything unless under the influence of the death-dealing poison found in cigarettes. I did not believe him at first, until he explained the action on the system. Then I bought the goods, and thank God and all concerned, I am a sound person to-day. Hoping that this may reach the unfortunate cigarette smoker, I remain Yours respectfully, F. D. KRAEMER.

PRICE \$1.00 PER BOX OR THREE BOXES (30 days treatment and guaranteed cure), \$2.50. For sale by all druggists, or will be sent by mail upon receipt of price. SEND SIX TWO-CENT STAMPS FOR SAMPLE BOX. Booklet and proofs free. Eureka Chemical & Mfg Co., La Crosse, Wis.

SAINTS cut only a small figure in the geographical names of New England. They are abundant upon the maps of most of the southern states save Virginia and the Carolinas, and they are to be found scattered over the rest of the country in three or four different languages. It might be a little hard to find in any calendar the St. Jones of Delaware, the name of a small creek familiar to the river and harbor hills if not to commerce.

All First-Class Druggists

From present date will keep on sale the Imported East India Hemp Remedies. Dr. H. James' preparation of this herb on its own soil (Calcutta), will positively cure Consumption, Bronchitis, Asthma, and Nasal Catarrh, and break up a fresh cold in 24 hours. \$2.50 per bottle, or 3 bottles \$6.50. Try it! CRADDOCK & CO., Proprietors, 1032 Race street, Phila. Pa.

WOODBURY'S FACIAL SOAP For the Skin, Scalp and Complexion, the result of 20 years experience treating the skin. A book on dermatology with every cake. Druggists sell it. John H. Woodbury, Dermatologist, 127 W. 42d St., N. Y. City. Send 10c. for sample soap and 15c. for book.

SUSPENSORY BANDAGES. Circular free. FLAVELL'S, 1005 Spring Garden St., Phila. Pa.

Independence, Wisconsin, Jan. 28, 1895. Eureka Chemical & Mfg Co., La Crosse, Wis. GENTLEMEN—Last summer I furnished Mr. James Reid, of the town of Burnside, Trempealeau Co., with three boxes of your "Baco-Curo." He had chewed tobacco for over forty years, and the last year used over sixty-five pounds. He commenced using "Baco-Curo," and one box did not have the effect; when he had used about one half of the second box, he began to lose his taste for tobacco, and when he had used one half of the third box he had lost all his appetite for it, and is now entirely cured. Yours truly, J. C. TAYLOR, Druggist.

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN. This is to certify that I, William S. Sawyer, of Atlantic, County of Cass, State of Iowa, having been an inveterate smoker of tobacco, bought three boxes of "Baco-Curo," Dec. 21, 1894. Began taking same, according to directions, and can say that I am completely cured of the tobacco habit. "Baco-Curo" is simply wonderful, and I recommend it to all who are slaves to the tobacco habit and wish to be cured. I am in perfect health and have not felt so well in years. That terrible craving, which every tobacco user has more or less, has completely disappeared and I feel like a new man. Hoping that this may do some one good and lead them to try this wonderful remedy, "Baco-Curo," I remain Yours truly, WM. S. SAWYER, Atlantic, Iowa.

Clayton, Nevada Co., Ark., Jan. 28, 1895. Eureka Chemical & Mfg Co., La Crosse, Wis. GENTLEMEN—For forty years I used tobacco in all its forms. For twenty-five years of that time I was a great sufferer from general debility and heart disease. For fifteen years I tried to quit, but couldn't. I took various remedies, among others, "No-To-Bac," "The Indian Tobacco Antidote," "Double Chloride of Gold," etc., etc., but none of them did me the least bit of good. Finally, however, I purchased a box of your "Baco-Curo," and it has entirely cured me of the habit in all its forms, and I have increased thirty pounds in weight and am relieved from all the numerous aches and pains of body and mind. I could write a quire of paper upon my changed feelings and condition. Yours respectfully, P. H. MARBURY, Pastor C. P. Church, Clayton, Ark.

Atlantic, Iowa, Feb. 4, 1895.

HAGMIRE'S PILE REMEDY Cure guaranteed. Put up by H. A. Hagmire & Co., Avon, N. Y. Price 25c. per Box.

YOU You can now grasp a fortune. A new guide to rapid wealth, with 240 fine engravings, sent free to any person. This is a chance of a lifetime. Write at once. Lynn & Co. 48 Bond St. New York

SPRAY PUMPS The "DAISY" Sprayer kills insects and curculio on trees, plants &c. and SAVES FRUIT. Throws constant stream 50 feet. In use 10 years. 150,000 sold. Send stamp for latest Recipes. Agents Wanted. Price \$1.50 express paid. W. M. Johnston & Co., Canton, O. Mention this paper when writing.

A SPRAYER and Hand Force Pump. Thousands in use. All Brass \$2.50. Double acting. Throws water 50 feet. I have the Sprayer you want. Sells on sight. Catalogue free. H. B. RUSLER, Johnstown, Ohio.

WALL PAPER SAMPLES FREE from the factories not controlled by the Wall Paper Trust, at prices fully 30 per cent. lower than others. White Blanks that retail at 10c., 4c. a roll. New Lustres " " 16c., 7c. " " Embossed Golds " " 35c., 15c. " " Other grades and colors as low. DEALERS write for large books by express and TRADE DISCOUNT. KAYSER & ALLMAN, The Largest Wall Paper Concern in the U. S. 932-934 Market Street, PHILADELPHIA. 418 Arch Street. Mention Farm and Fireside.

Subscribers should examine the wonderful bargains in premiums offered in connection with one year's subscription to this paper, as advertised in January 1st and 15th and February 1st and 15th issues. You may still take advantage of any of the great bargains offered in these issues. For want of space the premium offers are omitted this time.

New York Weekly Tribune one year, \$1.00 Farm and Fireside one year, .50 Total, \$1.50 By Special Arrangements we will give BOTH FOR 50 CTS. All orders must be addressed to the publishers of this paper, as follows: FARM AND FIRESIDE, SPRINGFIELD, OHIO.

Orland, Cook County, Ill. Please accept thanks for People's Atlas, which came to hand in due season and in good order. The wonder to me is how you can give so much valuable reading matter for so little money. Success to you, and long may you wave. Respectfully yours, WM. BRIGGS.

LEARN to finish Photographs in 3 days at home, and make \$12 a week. Will you work for me? Full instructions, 20 cents in silver and 4 2-cent stamps. R. E. Green Photo Co., Portland, Mich.

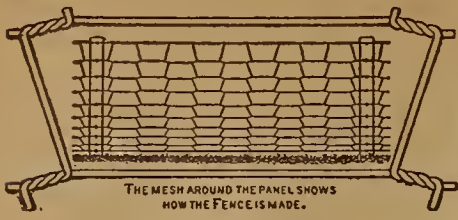
\$80 Hard times sellers, low prices. Sheet Solder, Pocket Mucilage, Ink Eraser, etc. Send for prices. FRANKLIN MFG. Co., Palmyra, N. Y.

SEND \$1.00 for box (25) best 5c. Cigars. Agents wanted. ALEX. POAGE, Ashland, Ky.

200,000 Acres So. Missouri Fruit, Farm and Stock Lands, \$2 to \$4. Emmett Howard, Memphis, Tenn.

If afflicted with SORE EYES USE DR. ISAAC THOMPSON'S EYE WATER

FREE! SAVE MONEY! Our New 1895 Catalogue. We are the only firm of manufacturers selling exclusively to the public direct at factory cost. You get the Exact Value for your money. No Agents', Dealers' or Middlemen's Profits Added. CASH or on EASY PAYMENTS, to suit your circumstances. Pianos and Organs shipped on 30 days' trial under special warrant for 25 years. No cash required in advance. Safe delivery guaranteed. Note.—As an advertisement we will sell the first purchaser in a place one of our fine PIANOS for only \$169—or one of our PARLOR ORGANS for \$25. All extras FREE. CORNISH & CO. Washington, New Jersey. Established nearly 30 years.



THE MESH AROUND THE PANEL SHOWS HOW THE FENCE IS MADE.

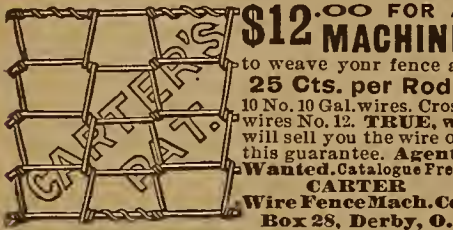
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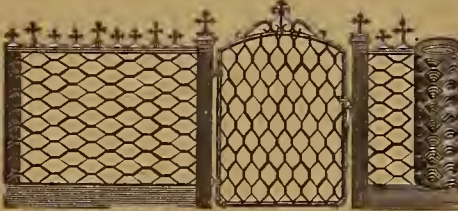


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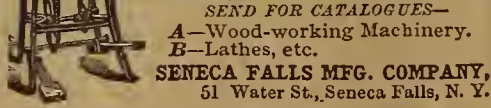
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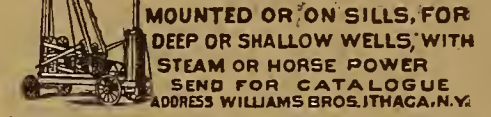


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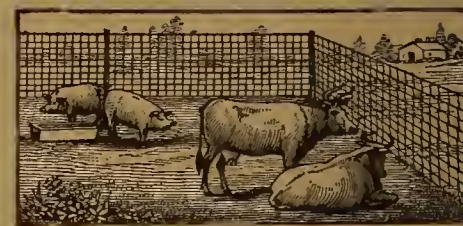
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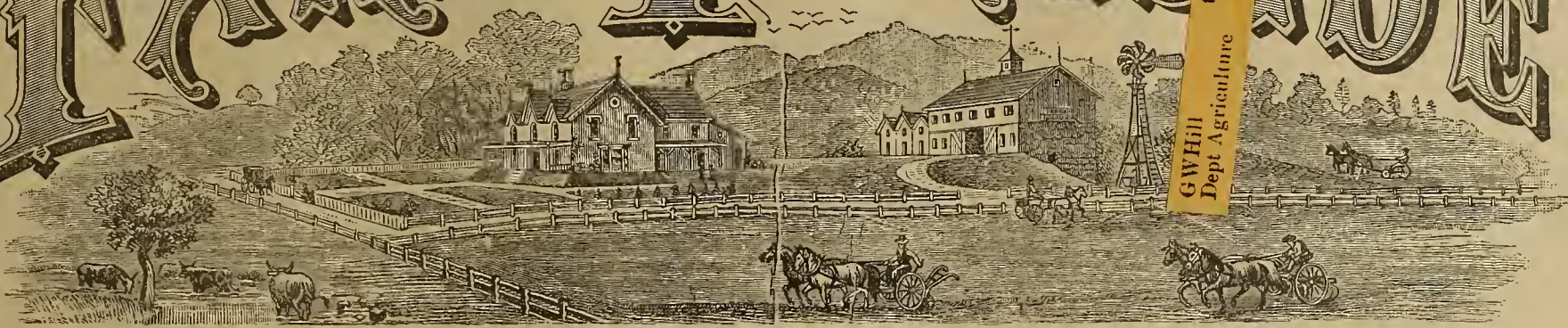
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FARM & FIRESIDE



EASTERN EDITION.

Entered at the Post-Office at Springfield, Ohio, as second-class mail matter.

VOL. XVIII. NO. 12.

MARCH 15, 1895.

TERMS { 50 CENTS A YEAR.
24 NUMBERS.

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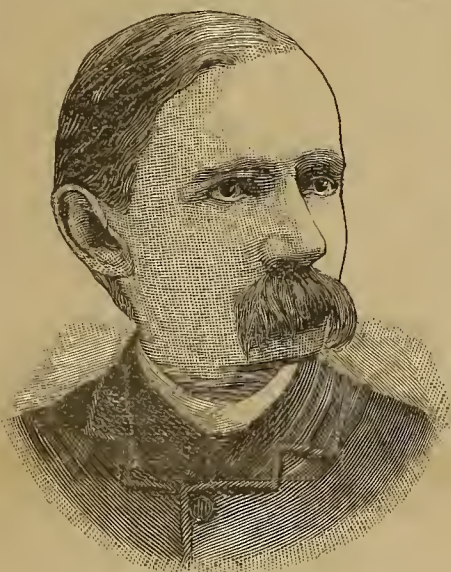
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foreigners, and they ask Congress for a sixteenth amendment, enfranchising all women who can read and write the English language, and further provide that no native or foreign born men shall be allowed to exercise the suffrage except on the same basis.

THE first break in the membership of President Cleveland's cabinet was made by the resignation of Postmaster-



POSTMASTER-GENERAL WILSON.

General Bissell. His successor is the Hon. William L. Wilson, of West Virginia. Mr. Wilson is widely known as a "tariff reformer," and, as chairman of the ways and means committee in the late Congress, is closely identified with recent tariff legislation. Last fall he was a candidate for re-election to Congress, but was submerged under the political tidal wave that rolled over the country. Whatever men may think of Mr. Wilson's position on the tariff question, all acknowledge his high character and personal worth.

THE most conspicuous colored man during the last fifty years has without doubt been Frederick Douglas. His death, February 20th, makes an irreparable loss in the ranks of the great men of our time. When we think of Frederick Douglas and something of what he has done, we naturally associate him with such men as William Lloyd Garrison, Wendell Phillips, John Brown, Henry Ward Beecher, Oliver Johnson. He was the only one among them with negro blood in his veins.

His life should be an impulse and a constant inspiration to his race. No colored man has been more illustrious. No man, black or white, has been better known for half a century in this country.

He was born a slave, in 1817; his mother a negro woman, his father a white man. He conquered opportunities and achieved renown in the face of extraordinary difficulties. At the age of twenty-one he managed to escape from slavery, making his way to Connecticut, where he supported himself while zealously pushing forward self-education. William Lloyd Garrison knew and esteemed him, and rendered him aid in the way of education.

As early as 1841 Mr. Douglas delivered an address which excited the enthusiasm of all who heard it. For several years he traveled through New England, depicting slavery and its horrors with no fanciful sketch, but painting it in plain realism,

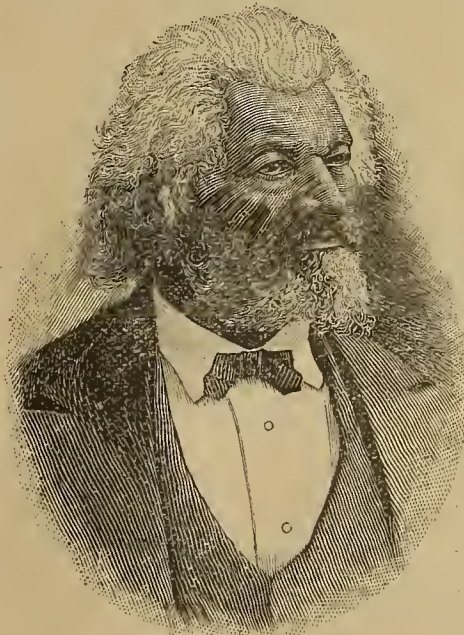
colored possibly by the warmth of his race. For some time he edited a paper in Rochester, N. Y. At the request of Lord Shaftesbury, he in 1845 visited England, where he remained two years lecturing. During his residence in Rochester he was consulted by anti-slavery leaders, and it has been asserted that John Brown made his plans to raid Virginia by way of Harper's Ferry at his home.

When the war broke out, he urged Mr. Lincoln to enlist negroes in the army and emancipate the slaves. Two of his sons were enlisted, and he himself rendered great aid in forming two regiments in Massachusetts.

His profession since the war has pre-eminently been that of lecturing. It has proven so remunerative that at the time of his death he was able to leave a fortune of \$200,000 or \$300,000. He has served the nation in different ways. In 1871 he was assistant secretary to the commission of Santo Domingo; in 1872 he was a member of the territorial council of the District of Columbia and presidential elector for the state of New York; in 1876 he was marshal of the District of Columbia; in 1881, recorder of deeds for the District of Columbia; in 1889, minister of the United States to Hayti.

Among the books which Mr. Douglas has written may be mentioned the "Narrative of My Experience in Slavery," "My Bondage and My Freedom," and "Life and Times of Frederick Douglas."

His first wife was a negress, his second a white woman. Mr. Douglas' nobility of appearance was so striking that whoever beheld him felt instinctively that the man before them was one of note. He was always received with enthusiasm. His last public appearance, on the day of his



FREDERICK DOUGLAS.

death, was at a woman's suffrage meeting, a cause which he has long advocated zealously.

THE international monetary conference proposed by Germany is an assured fact. England, France and the United States have already taken the necessary steps for the appointment of delegates. The prompt action of England is significant evidence of the growth of sentiment abroad in favor of true bimetalism. The present outlook for the solution of the silver question through international bimetalism is hopeful.

A WRITER in *Lippincott's* thinks that it is only a matter of a few years until the American farmer has followed the English yeoman into extinction, and the landlord and tenant classes will have superseded. He maintains that the Populist movement is the beginning of the dying struggle for political power among that race who supplied most of the fathers of the republic.

During the last decade the number of farm owners decreased in all the New England states, and the number of tenant farmers increased. This was also true, according to the writer, in the four middle states. In the South, farm tenancy is largely the result of the emancipation of the slaves.

The western farmers, who many years ago got their land for little or nothing, are now growing old. They are renting their farms to men who will live on less than the full produce of the land rather than not live at all; and they are moving into the large towns and cities to enjoy life, educate their daughters, and start their sons in business. Even so far west as Minnesota and the Dakotas this is going on. In Illinois and Wisconsin it is a common thing. The tenants, being obliged to divide the produce with the landlord, are in a state of poverty, and they will stay so. As they do not own the land, they will suffer instead of profit as it advances in value. As the population increases, the value of the land will increase, and the number of persons who can afford to own land will decrease. There has already started in the Northwest an agricultural peasantry which has no future except one of increasing rent charges. The sharper the competition for chances to earn a living, the greater rent will the landlord be able to exact."

WHATEVER may be the merits of municipal ownership of street-car lines, gas-works and electric-lighting plants, it is an erroneous assumption that it is a cure for political corruption. Although giving satisfactory results in some cities, in others municipal ownership is a perennial picnic for public plunderers. The *Philadelphia Times*, an advocate of municipal ownership, recently made this admission: "If Philadelphia had given the gas-works away for nothing thirty years ago, the municipality would be vastly richer to-day, and an immeasurable amount of political debauchery would have been averted."

THERE ought to be in the business of housekeeping a certain two or three weeks when the house-mother should be entitled to a vacation. No other business is so confining, nothing more of a nervous strain. And that it is a business no one can deny. The only difference between it and many other business ventures is that it never brings very great returns to the one partner who puts in the largest amount of capital; namely, her whole life. It is not at all surprising that many of our young married women prefer boarding in their early married life, as the vision of household drudge doesn't present a very alluring side to them. Some one says, "The world is made up of one third tyrants and two thirds martyrs," and housekeepers pretty generally belong to the latter class.

WITH THE VANGUARD

ON March 4th the "carnival of incompetence" ended. Its record reminds one of the little Sunday-school girl's answer, "The sins of omission are those we ought to have committed but haven't." The American people have occasion for gratitude to the late Congress for the blunders it might have made but didn't.

"It would not seem ill-advised to declare," says the *Review of Reviews*, "that the whole financial history of modern nations furnishes no instance of incapacity so great, of statesmanship so utterly wanting, of common sense so pitifully abdicated, as our own country has shown in the past two years. There has been frittered away the highest public credit that any nation ever attained; and this change has been wrought when no difficulties whatever existed except the one difficulty that the party in power could not agree upon any policy."

The "culminating atrocity" in this record of incapacity is the method used by the administration in its third issue of bonds. Under secret negotiations with a syndicate of brokers the administration sold \$62,315,000 of United States bonds for \$9,000,000 less than they were worth on the open market. Verily, "public office is a private snap."

THE National Council of Women which met recently in Washington is of signal interest to every woman in this country. The various subjects under discussion comprised a long list. Prominent among them is the idea of home, motherhood and the better care of children. In speaking of restraining foreign immigration, the point in question is the granting to foreigner's privilege we do not even grant to our own men, and have not as yet to our educated women. There can be no question of the advantage of the votes of educated women over ignorant

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FARM AND FIRESIDE,
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The Advertisers in this Paper.

We believe that all the advertisements in this paper are from reliable firms or business men, and do not intentionally or knowingly insert advertisements from any but reliable parties; if subscribers find any of them to be otherwise we should be glad to know it. Always mention this paper when answering advertisements, as advertisers often have different things advertised in several papers.

Guernsey Breeders Will doubtless appreciate the new magazine devoted to the Guernsey cow. The *Herd Register and Breeders' Journal* is a sixty-page quarterly published by the American Guernsey Cattle Club, Peterboro, New Hampshire.

Filled Cheese Is one of the frauds that have greatly injured the dairy interests of the country. The statistics given in an article on the following page show the damage done to our export trade in cheese. But that loss is insignificant compared to the injury done to the cheese trade in the home market.

Profit Sharing. At the fifteenth semi-annual profit-sharing distribution recently made by the Procter & Gamble Company, of Ivorydale, Ohio, nearly \$10,000 were divided among 379 employees. The dividend was equal to twelve per cent of their wages for six months. It is a pleasure to note the continued success of the profit-sharing plan adopted by the company a few years ago, and the fact that there were profits to divide in a period of great business depression.

Pure Food. The eighth annual report of the Ohio dairy and food commission is a record of good work for the benefit of the people of Ohio. At one time Commissioner McNeal was vigorously opposed by the Wholesale Grocers' Association of the state. But they have experienced a change of heart. By resolution they directed their secretary to mail copies of the Ohio pure food laws to all manufacturers of food products, and accompany the same with a circular letter stating that all food products sold to the members of the association must comply strictly with these pure food laws, and that suits must be defended by the manufacturers at their cost, and all fines paid by them. This movement to secure better goods and to hold the manufacturers, who are primarily responsible, for infringements of the law was very gratifying. In pledging them every assistance possible in carrying out their resolutions, the commissioner says that no other set of men can exercise so great an influence toward eradicating these evils, and hopes that the druggists and pharmacists of the state may be equally active in their efforts against impure and fraudulent drugs, and that eventually we may all realize that the benefit and protection must be the benefit of the producer and dealer in these lines of goods.

Dairy Organization. The cause of pure food and the suppression of counterfeits would be greatly assisted by better organization among dairymen in favor of laws against adulteration of dairy products. The National Dairy Union is an organization that should receive the hearty support of the dairymen of the country. In the fight against the sale of oleo as butter, the Dairy Union is encountering a strong combination. It needs funds for its legitimate work. Will the dairymen render effective assistance by each giving one dollar to help the National Dairy Union? If so, send it to the president, W. D. Hoard, Fort Atkinson, Wis.

Peanuts. The American people consume annually about four million bushels of peanuts, at a cost of \$10,000,000. Fully three fourths of the crop is hauled by the vendors of the roasted nuts. The other part is used by confectioners in the making of peanut candy, burnt almonds and the cheaper grades of chocolate. Peanuts do not form a part of the regular articles of food, but consumers will not be averse to knowing that they have a very high nutritive value, and that they are getting the worth of their money. Experiments have been made in making a bread of peanut-meal, but not with complete success. Peanut-oil is of good quality, and can be used as a salad-oil in place of olive-oil. After the oil is extracted, the cake is a valuable animal food.

"Peanuts; Culture and Uses," is the title of Farmers' Bulletin No. 25. It can be obtained by applying to the Secretary of Agriculture, Washington, D. C. The methods of culture described will be of special interest to growers. The bulletin says that present conditions do not seem to warrant any considerable increase in the acreage of the crop, and that efforts should rather be made to increase the average yield per acre by more careful cultivation and a proper rotation of crops.

San Jose Scale. A few years ago this insect pest was introduced into two nurseries in New Jersey from California. Since that time its distribution has been going on yearly from these centers, and it is now found far and wide. The experiment station, New Brunswick, New Jersey, has issued a special bulletin on the subject that should be in the hands of every fruit grower in the state. The bulletin says that this scale is in some respects the most important insect introduced into the state within recent years. Its wide range of food-plants, its marvelous powers of multiplication, and its deadly effect upon the infested trees, all make it a pest of the first rank. No farmer ought to consider the matter unimportant enough to neglect, even though he has only a single tree.

The bulletin gives effective remedies for the pest, but its recommendation should not go unheeded. Carefully and thoroughly examine every tree and every shrub received from nurseries before setting them out, and whenever anything suspicious is noticed, reject the stock rather than put it into the field and run the risk of losing not only that which has been just planted, but also everything else that may be in the vicinity.

NOTES ON RURAL AFFAIRS.

An Ideal in Catalogues. I have just received a copy of Ellwanger & Barry's "Supplementary Catalogue" for 1895. This, so far as the illustrations are concerned, comes fully up to my ideal. I am aware that it takes nice glazed paper and skilful printing to bring out these photo-engravings in all their clearness and beauty, but in this catalogue it is done, and done well, and the pictures are real beauties, not one among them that is meaningless or would remind one of the usual stock-cut style. They are such pictures as we find in the circulars of Mr. Burbank, the famous originator of new fruits in California, and they always inspire confidence, and give us a high idea of the party issuing the catalogue.

A Good Grape. Among the pictures is a fine one of the Winchell grape. I have repeatedly spoken of this, perhaps under its alias, "Green Mountain," for the two names are used for one and the same grape, and a good one it is. I have

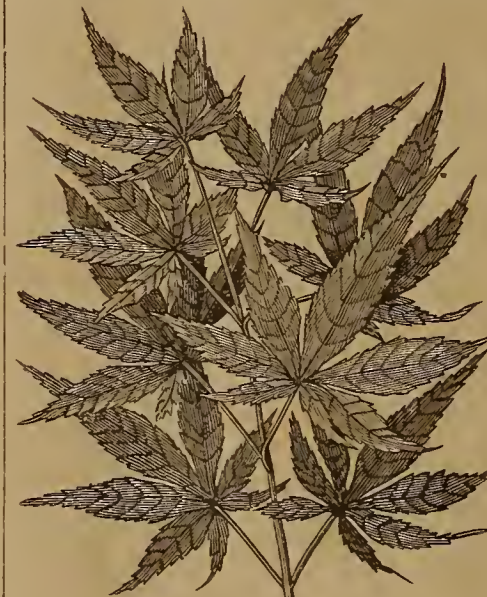
not to take back or modify a single word I have ever spoken in its praise. The characteristics of this grape are so pronounced that it is easily recognized from the picture. I had clusters exactly like the one shown. It can only be the Green Moun-



WINCHELL (GREEN MOUNTAIN) GRAPE.

tain (Winchell), and no other. It is a pity that this fine variety has to suffer under the disadvantage of two names. Ellwanger & Barry think, from what they have seen of it in the past seven years, that it is one of the few grapes adapted to general cultivation, and of especial value to the amateur, while its earliness, productiveness and vigor, combined with fine quality, render it also very desirable for market. All of this, I think, I can safely indorse.

Japanese Maples. A fine picture is that of a specimen of blood-leafed Japanese maple. There are a number of varieties or species of Japanese maples on the grounds here, and they are surely the most striking and beautiful of all ornamental trees, or rather, shrubs, I have ever seen. The catalogue description fits them perfectly. They are indeed "rare and beautiful colored-leaved trees of medium size, especially adapted for embellishing grounds of small extent, where the large deciduous trees with colored foliage would



FOLIAGE OF BLOOD-LEAFED JAPANESE MAPLE.

not be admissible for lack of room to develop. Their growth is comparatively slow, and they form in time low shrubs or trees, with the branches more or less spreading and covered with beautiful, attractively colored and finely divided foliage." Although quite hardy, they succeed best in sheltered positions, and should receive some protection for two or three years after being planted.

A Beautiful Evergreen. Still another picture shows a magnificent specimen of the Colorado blue spruce. A number of these choicest of all evergreens are also on the lawn. Every visitor admires them. It is a native of the Rocky mountains. The foliage during its season of growth has a striking steel-blue color, and affords a marked contrast to the green of other trees. Too much cannot be said in its praise as an ornamental tree.

More About Potash. A subscriber at Clintontville, Pa., tells me that he has received a circular which quotes kainite, sulphate and muriate of potash, etc. He desires to know what are the differences between these ingredients, whether it would pay to use any of them, to what crops and in what quantities they should be applied, etc.

A few days ago I talked on the manure problem at a farmers' institute held in Suspension Bridge, N. Y.; and by the way, Mr. T. B. Terry, the celebrated farmer, writer and lecturer of Ohio, was there, also, and talked on clover and potatoes. I there explained the one great difference between stable manure and commercial fertilizers; namely, that in the former we know pretty nearly what we have and what we can do with it, while the term fertilizers embraces a lot of things of entirely different character—things with the true nature of which the average farmer is entirely unacquainted, and in the use of which he is groping in the dark. Stable manure, especially when old and well rotted, can be used promiscuously; concentrated fertilizer cannot. The former is a safe manure for all; the latter is like a sharp tool, serviceable in the hands of those who know how to use it with discretion, but unsafe for the careless handler. To those, however, who know the nature of the different plant-foods and the proportion in which they are contained in the various materials offered by our fertilizer men, these concentrated commercial fertilizers furnish a wider range of selection and a chance to secure certain desired results at a minimum cost.

These potash fertilizers contain potash and no other plant-food. Kainite has about 12 or 13 per cent of actual potash, muriate about 50 per cent, and sulphate (high grade) nearly as much. Sulphate of potash and magnesia, I think, has about 25 to 30 per cent of actual potash (potassium oxide). A pound of this is worth 4½ or 5 cents, and everyone can figure out for himself what a ton of each one of these fertilizers is worth. The sulphate form is usually considered the more valuable one, but as I have always obtained as good results from muriate of potash, I prefer to buy this as the cheaper of the two. Applied in excessive doses, it is liable to do damage to some crops. I found this out once when I applied it at the rate of 600 pounds per acre on an experimental potato-plot, and could not raise even a crop of weeds on the piece for two seasons. Usually, it is safer to apply muriate of potash as well as kainite in the fall. I sow it broadcast by hand as I would sow wheat, and rather less than upward of 200 pounds of muriate or 500 pounds of kainite per acre. In exceptional cases, especially for fruit crops, we can exceed these rates, even largely where the potash supply in the soil has become well reduced.

Where Potash is Needed. It would be folly to buy and apply any of these potash fertilizers on soils having already a full natural supply of potash and enough for the needs of any crop. Every farmer must be the sole judge of the condition and needs of every particular piece of his own land. He must understand to draw conclusions by inference. The inquirer already mentioned says his soil seems to need potash, as wood ashes do great good. This is a good indication, even if not an infallible one. By all means try potash, and then perhaps phosphoric acid. Potash alone has often great effects on mucky soils. It is less needed on heavy loams. T. GREINER.

Second-crop Seed Potatoes. The potato grower who has a home market for his crop and wants to be first in that market, will find it to his advantage to use second-crop seed potatoes. These small tubers are full of vitality, and whether planted whole or cut, send up but one sprout. The plants grow vigorously, and the new tubers grow to marketable size in less time than those from ordinary seed. For an extra early crop, the grower will make no mistake in planting the true second-crop seed of good early varieties of potatoes. In the South two crops of potatoes are often grown the same season. The second planting is made in midsummer with seed from the first crop. The second crop grows till frost, and its product is the true second-crop seed recommended.

Our Farm.

ECONOMIC FERTILIZING.

THE making of compost heaps, with the view of economizing fertilizing materials, was begun by the most progressive planters of Georgia and adjoining states about twenty years ago. Time has demonstrated most conclusively that the cost per acre for commercial fertilizers can, by using compost, be reduced fully one half and the yield be fully as great. The most careful experiments of an analytical character have demonstrated to an absolute certainty that a compost composed of superphosphate, kainite, muriate or sulphate of potash, cotton-seed or cotton-seed meal and stable manure is not excelled by the more costly and best grades of commercial fertilizers.

Until the introduction of Peruvian guano, a few years before the war, by the southern planters, for use in the gardens or truck patches, commercial fertilizers were unknown, and no manure of any kind was thought to be necessary in the growing of cotton or corn. When a steady decrease in the average yield became manifest, the cause was sought, and the conclusion reached that the organic and inorganic elements taken from the soil by the crops should be restored. Manufacturers of phosphatic ammoniated fertilizers advertised that they could supply the substances needed to restore the fertility of the soil. Planters quickly adopted phosphate manuring, or half manuring, and an increase in yield resulted, but it did not produce continuous satisfactory results. The system hastened on the removal of humus or organic matter from the soil, and rust, which is one of the resulting effects of improper nutrition, made its unwelcome appearance, and the evil effects of summer droughts became still more apparent.

The time soon came when the plan of turning the land out to "rest," so that nature might restore its failing powers, would no longer pay, and the new and better era of intensive culture, or better farming on fewer acres, was ushered in. Dr. Charles W. Dabney, Jr., now assistant secretary of agriculture, who was then director of the North Carolina experiment station, was among the first to earnestly advocate the composting of manure. Almost without exception, he found that experience in the field taught the same lesson as pure science, and that commercial fertilizers pay best in connection with composts, which also betters the mechanical condition of the soil. Composted manure is a more available form as plant-food than when fresh from the stable. A well-managed compost heap is indeed a farmer's bank which is always solvent.

W. M. K.

ALSIKE CLOVER.

It would appear from observation that this species of the clover-plant has not received the attention of farmers that its valuable characteristics would demand. In northwestern central Ohio we have for several years acknowledged its worth, and it has been sown to an increased extent year by year. Many consider it far superior to the medium or common clover in a number of respects. I recently requested one of our most successful farmers to enumerate some of the advantages that alsike possessed, and believing the facts may be of service to your readers I reproduce them here. The farmer referred to is Mr. Jacob Leininger, Jr., who is always on the lookout for the best of everything.

On a field of nine acres he sowed, in the spring of 1893, one half bushel of alsike clover-seed. On the ninth of July last it was cut, and on the sixteenth threshed from this field fifty-six bushels of choice seed, which is at the rate of six and two ninths bushels per acre. It was sold at six dollars per bushel, a total of \$336; he valued the straw for feeding purposes at \$20; the second growth made pasture to the value of \$14; the manurial value of chaff and unused straw was \$30. This makes for the nine acres a grand total of \$400. The expenses of threshing, cutting and marketing were \$60, leaving a snug sum of \$37 per acre for the use of the land, which beats fifty-cent wheat by far, at the average yield of the state.

Mr. Leininger enumerates among the advantages the following points:

First, "I consider it the best fertilizer, because the condition of the roots enables it to entrap more nitrogen than other clovers." This is a very important feature, because nitrogen is one of the most expensive elements to supply, if purchased on the market, while the clover-plant performs this service while making its growth.

Second, "It makes excellent pasture throughout the season."

Third, "It does not freeze out, like other clover." This is due to the fact that instead of one long, tapering tap-root the alsike has numerous roots, spreading and branching, which hold more firmly in the soil. It is also due to this fact that more nitrogen is gained from the atmosphere.

Fourth, "Because it never fails to produce a crop of seed; ripening before drought or grasshoppers can injure it materially." This cannot be said of medium clover, for of late years the dry seasons, the grasshoppers and the clover-midge have made the seed crop very uncertain.

Fifth, "Because it yields more seed to the acre than medium clover." If one gets over two bushels of medium clover-seed to the acre he considers it a good yield, but with alsike the yield is usually four to six bushels per acre.

Sixth, "Because alsike seed commands a better price on the market, usually one dollar more on the bushel." Mr. Leininger might have added a few more advantages, as follows:

Seventh, it requires less seed to sow a given amount of land, and if one is to purchase his seed, this is quite an item.

Eighth, it ripens about the same time that timothy does, and hence is better adapted to sow with that grass for meadow, and being finer-stemmed, stock relish it better than the best of red clover hay.

Ninth, it affords excellent pasturage for the honey-bee, and where the farmer keeps bees this is quite an item and should not escape consideration.

Tenth, medium clover scarcely endures more than two years at best, while alsike will last a number of years, and if permitted to ripen its seed, will continue to reseed itself thus almost indefinitely. Therefore, for meadows or pastures it is almost invaluable, and should be found on every farm.

Though it produces but one crop each year, and that the seed crop, yet being easy to thresh it is not necessary to rot the straw first, but the straw is equal to ordinary clover hay, and thus answers the same purpose in this respect that medium clover does.

Farmers are frequently losing money because they neglect to test that which to them is new, and I believe alsike clover has been neglected far too long. Though I believe in caution, it is easy to be too cautious for our own good. It is well to test such things on a small scale first, and not run any great risk until you find your soil and climate suitable to the thing tested.

JOHN L. SHAWVER.

FILLED CHEESE.

Dairy organizations and pure food associations, especially in the West, are active this winter in their efforts to secure pure food legislation. In this connection there is one evil which has not received the attention it deserves—filled cheese. In a few states, like New York, the manufacture of this spurious product is prohibited, but in most of the western states there is little or no effort to regulate the evil. Dairymen are energetic in fighting oleomargarine, but this stuff which is injuring reputation quite as much as "bull butter," and from the standpoint of public health is even more dangerous, has received but scant attention at their hands. It would almost seem that some good dairymen might be interested in the production of the nauseous compound.

The manufacture of skim cheese, and especially of filled cheese, is doing radical damage to honest cheese-makers. There would perhaps be no objection to the first article if it were sold for what it is, a low-grade product, as it is at least healthful and may meet a demand which always exists for cheap goods. In the case of the filled stuff, however, it is a fraud and a swindle deleterious to public health, and its manufacture should be absolutely prohibited. The output of the compound is increasing, makers in Wisconsin being especially active. It is a disgusting compound of skim-milk and grease, especially such as rancid butter or neutral lard, and

its sale tends to disgust lovers of pure cheese without establishing any permanent demand for itself. Its effect in our home market is seen in the lessened rate of cheese consumption, where there should be a steadily increasing ratio.

The most palpable damage, however, has been to our foreign trade. The secretary of the Liverpool Provision Trade Association, in a letter, says: "This product is neither wholesome nor palatable, but is injurious to the American cheese trade, as it curtails consumption of the genuine article by disgusting the community with American cheese." Trade records substantiate this. Prior to 1881 our shipments of cheese advanced steadily, and in that year increased 147,995,614 pounds, valued at \$16,380,248. Since that time, and mainly as a result of increasing shipments of this filled cheese, there has been a steady decline, until last year our shipments were only 73,852,134 pounds, valued at \$7,180,331. The fraud has already cost our dairymen a market worth more than \$9,000,000 a year. Here is an opportunity for our various dairy associations to demonstrate their usefulness.

In Canada laws relating to manufacture of dairy products are strict, and strictly enforced. The dairy commissioner establishes dairy experiment stations, furnishes instructions to butter and cheese makers by means of bulletins and dairy meetings or institutes, and gives the dairying industry every possible government encouragement. In cheese-making especially every effort is made to protect makers and encourage them to turn out a constantly improving standard of quality. Under this fostering care, as might be expected, the business is flourishing in spite of hard times.

Frauds in manufacture are impossible, and the foreign trade we are losing is going to our northern neighbor. To appreciate what Canada is gaining by her governmental interest in dairying, and at the same time what we lose by our *laissez faire* policy, note her export trade and compare it with our figures before given. In 1881 she shipped 54,713,020 pounds, valued at \$6,091,534; in 1893, 133,946,365 pounds, valued at \$13,407,470. She now occupies the position we held fourteen years ago, as the greatest cheese shipper in the world.

B. W. S.

PICKED POINTS.

A pneumatic riding-saddle has been invented. It works upon the same principle as the tire of that name. The rider's movement on the cushion of air does away with the friction on the horse's back, relieves the animal very materially, and adds to the comfort of horseback riding.

Persons who feed swill or slops to pigs in winter, unless they have a frost-proof place to keep it, are apt to have much trouble in thawing it out when they happen to have a surplus on hand. An ingenious neighbor has adopted a plan to overcome this difficulty. He made a board pen under an old shed near the hog-pen, about five feet square and as high as his swill-barrel. He placed the barrel about a foot from the middle of one side, so it could be reached conveniently, and then packed horse manure all around the barrel, up to the top. This keeps the swill warm, and it is better for the pigs than cold swill. This plan might be extended some way, and be made to warm drinking-water for horses and cattle.

Tuberculosis in cattle and the tuberculin test are exciting an intense interest in New England and New York. As the destruction of affected animals by officers of the law goes on, some owners of herds almost threaten "the shotgun policy." Dr. Law, who is probably the best expert in the United States, recently delivered an address on the subject before the Connecticut Board of Agriculture. He declared that in the hands of experts the test is reliable. His view of tuberculosis is that it is very prevalent, and is fraught with great danger to human life, and that it should be stamped out. To do it, it is estimated that it would cost Connecticut \$250,000 and New York \$3,000,000.

As full value is not paid for diseased cattle destroyed, it is not to be wondered at that owners of herds, especially of the expensive, high-bred ones, should view the impending onslaught with fear and trembling. New York has been paying half of the assessed valuation of animals

slaughtered; but Dr. Law recommends that two thirds or four fifths be paid, to encourage co-operation of owners. In the West and South, where the cattle are out of doors much of the time, the disease is found the least. Direct sunlight will destroy the exposed bacillus in a day. How does this compare with constant confinement in close stables, or with covered barn-yards? The old motto should be remembered, "Sunlight for sweetness and health."

GALEN WILSON.

SORGHUM AS A PROFITABLE CROP.

I regard sorghum as one of the most profitable crops raised on the farm. It is also one of the surest crops. In over twenty-five years I have met with but a single failure. This was in 1893, and was caused by drought. In this instance the cane was too badly stunted to justify its being made up into syrup, but even then it made three tons of excellent dry forage and eight bushels of seed per acre. In 1894, also a droughty year, I had eleven acres planted in sorghum. On two acres I succeeded in getting a full stand, and each made one hundred and ninety-six gallons of superfine syrup, which was sold at twenty-five cents per gallon, making \$98. Of seed, I got about seventy-five bushels, worth here fifty cents per bushel for feeding purposes, making \$37.50 more. In addition to the above, I saved two thousand bundles of fodder (dried blades), worth seventy-five cents per one hundred bundles, making \$15 more, or a total on the two acres of \$123.50. On the other nine acres (richer land) I failed to get more than one third of a stand, but did not wish to plow it up, so cultivated it. The cane was extra fine, the seed-heads large and extra heavy, and the fodder abundant. The nine acres made exactly nine hundred and nine gallons of as fine an article of syrup as I ever saw, which at twenty-five cents per gallon amounted to \$227.25; one hundred and eighty bushels of seed worth \$90, and five thousand and nine bundles of fodder worth \$37.56 1/4, or a total of \$354.81 1/4 on the nine acres that were almost a failure. I have not taken out the cost of making and harvesting the crop, but simply shown the actual yield.

Mississippi.

G. H. TURNER.

Blood Will Tell

Most surely upon the condition of the physical system. If the blood is pure and full of vitality it will carry health to all the organs of the body; it will expel the germs of disease and the result will be a condition of perfect health. If it is impure and impoverished, such a condition will be impossible. The best way to

Keep the Blood Pure

Is by the use of Hood's Sarsaparilla, because Hood's Sarsaparilla is the best blood purifier that medical science has ever produced. This is the secret of its wonderful cures of scrofula, salt rheum, nervousness, sleeplessness, rheumatism, and all other diseases which originate in the blood. Take

Hood's Sarsaparilla

If you were about to travel to a warmer or colder climate you would make careful preparations. Besides taking a supply of warmer or cooler clothing you would select a stock of medicines as safeguards. We are all now about to change to a warmer climate, and what can be more reasonable than to take a reliable medicine? Certainly you need to

Purify Your Blood

Before the warmer weather comes, in order to expel from the system all the accumulations of winter and build up the body so as to enable it to resist the debilitating effects of warm weather. For this purpose there is no preparation equal to

Hood's Sarsaparilla

It thoroughly expels from the blood all impurities, creates an appetite and improves digestion, drives away that tired feeling and nervousness and gives the strength and vigor without which we cannot appreciate beautiful spring.

"I have tried Hood's Sarsaparilla and found it to be an excellent medicine for impure blood. I highly recommend it."

FANNIE E. PRICHARD, Utica, N. Y.

Hood's Pills the after-dinner pill and family cathartic. 25c.

Our Farm.

CHATS WITH CORRESPONDENTS.

HILL MANURING FOR POTATOES.—Usually I am not an advocate of "hill" manuring, but there are some exceptions to all rules. The most notable exception to this is in the case of sweet potatoes. For these I do not like soil that is rich all over, simply because it stimulates a straggling growth of vine, and induces the latter to strike roots all over the ground. Root growth should be confined to the hill where the tubers are to grow. Hence, we put a shovelful of old compost right under the plant (in the cross-mark, then ridging), or mix a handful of fertilizer with the soil in the hill. Possibly we can apply manure broadcast without fear, for the "bunch" sweet potatoes, but I am not sure. For Irish potatoes I invariably apply old stable manure broadcast, and preferably to the clover crop preceding the potatoes. We feed the manure to the clover, and the clover to the potatoes. Nor do I think that there is much to be gained by applying fertilizers in the hill or drill. The plants occupy the entire ground long before the tubers begin to form, and the roots will find the available plant-food without difficulty wherever it may be. In practice, however, we like to have a portion of the fertilizer near the young plants in order to give these a good send-off, and therefore apply it in a wide band in the drills after the trenches are opened, then go through once more with the marker attachment of the Planet Jr. horse wheel-hoe, pushing it well down, and thus mixing soil and fertilizer well together in the bottom of the trench.

HOTBED-MAKING TIME.—A. M. B., of Pierce county, Wis., asks about hotbed-making, and how early cabbage and tomato seed should be sown in hotbed in his locality. I have usually been trying to get my hotbeds in running order just as early as the season will permit. This sometimes is early in March, and sometimes not until April. But when I had a chance to start the hotbed up about the middle of March, I thought I was doing very well, and did not hesitate to go at it. With the greenhouse going, of course, I feel very little anxiety about the hotbed; indeed, do not feel the necessity of one, as I can begin sowing seed for early plants just when I please, and need frames only for hardening my plants. Sow cabbage and tomato seed at once, or as soon as you can have your hotbed started after this. Transplant the cabbage-plants into cold-frames when a few weeks old, giving them space enough to grow strong and stocky, and treat the tomato-plants in the same way a few weeks later.

BEST VEGETABLES.—In some instances it is not always easy to decide which is the best potato, or sweet-corn, or other vegetable or fruit to plant even for home use, and the request of a lady reader in Lancaster, Ohio, to name these "best" varieties is one which I do not especially relish. Tastes differ, purposes differ, soils differ, cooks differ. I like the Early Ohio for a first early potato, and the Freeman, for quality, as an intermediate sort. For late, White Star with us stands yet at the front, although I have a number of my own seedlings which I usually plant promiscuously, and which suit my purposes. Carman No. 1, from what I have seen of it during one season, suits me well enough, and I shall plant largely of it, but will have to wait at least another season before I can give a definite opinion of it as to all its points. For sweet-corn I usually plant Cory for earliest, Black Mexican for intermediate, and Stowell's Evergreen for late. As to richness, tenderness and sweetness, nothing has yet been brought out, so far as I know, that equals the Black Mexican. When approaching maturity, it begins to turn a purplish or bluish color, which is against it in the markets. We eat it before it begins to color. It is then perfectly white, and a treat indeed. Among wax beans and peas there are any number of varieties offered by seedsmen, and you can hardly miss it. For earliest peas I have used the Alaska with entire satisfaction for a number of years. The Horsford's market garden pea, as also the older McLean's Little Gem, Bliss' Everbearing, etc., are good intermediate wrinkled sorts. Champion of England is best in quality, and late, but I do not want it, as it grows so tall and needs "brushing." There are

scores of good summer lettuces, and you can use any of them and be satisfied. Of celeries, I use White Plume for early. Giant Pascal for late. If you select Early Erfurt or Snowball cauliflower, White Spine cucumber, Early Jersey Wakefield and Surehead cabbages, Emerald Gem muskmelon, etc., you will find you have not made a bad choice. I am also asked whom I consider the most reliable seedsmen. I think I have answered this question in a recent number of FARM AND FIRESIDE. The great majority of our leading seedsmen, whose business advertisements you find in the papers, are perfectly reliable. There are a few who give extravagant promises and descriptions, especially of the high-priced novelties. Of these professional boomers I would fight a little shy. You can tell by the whole tone of his catalogue whether a dealer deserves your confidence or not.

COMPOST FOR THE LETTUCE-BENCH.—In order to force lettuce-plants to rapid growth under glass, we want a light, porous compost that is rich in available nitrogen. Such a compost we can get by mixing cow manure, horse manure or sheep manure, muck, rich loam, woods earth, etc. I usually take the following proportions: One load of old cow manure, one load of old horse manure, two loads of muck, one load of sand. This is mixed up in early summer, worked over a number of times—if possible, once a week or fortnight—all summer long, and then put on the greenhouse benches in October. It then makes a rich, loose, black loam that cannot be excelled for forcing lettuce, radishes, rhubarb, etc. This compost, however, is much too rich for growing plants, as it would produce a rank, sappy growth that is not wanted. Old rotted sods, or other fibrous loam, with a small addition of the old compost already described, will be far better for this purpose than the clear compost. I never use hen manure or ashes as a fertilizer in greenhouse or hotbeds. These materials, however, have great value as a top-dressing for onion land, etc. Never mix ashes with hen manure, or horse manure, either. Apply the ashes separately. Tobacco-dust makes an excellent top-dressing for the lettuce-bench, as it is a good remedy for the greenfly. All these remarks were inspired by an inquiry of F. C. S., of Detroit, Mich.

FERTILIZERS FOR POTATOES.—How to apply "phosphate" in planting potatoes, whether broadcast or in the furrows, is a question asked by G. W. W., of Pennsylvania. The question shows again what a vague idea the average farmer has of fertilizers. A phosphate, strictly speaking, is a substance which contains only one of the chief plant-foods; namely, phosphoric acid. If this is in a soluble form, we call the fertilizer a "superphosphate." The fertilizer we want for potatoes, however, is not a plain phosphate, since the chief plant-food, usually needed, is potash. The cheapest way to supply these plant-foods is to rely on clover for nitrogen, muriate of potash for potash, and dissolved rock (or perhaps basic slag) for phosphoric acid. In the March 1st number I told at what rates mineral substances can be bought at the seashore. I would apply a few hundred pounds of each per acre, and apply them broadcast to the clover. They will give a large crop of clover, and this will give a large crop of potatoes. To apply to the potatoes directly, I usually broadcast 100 to 200 pounds of muriate of potash—in early spring, or better, during the winter or fall—and sow the "phosphate" (dissolved rock, bone or whatever it may be) in the furrows, mixing it well with the soil in the bottom of the furrow before planting the potatoes.

GROWING BEANS FOR MARKET.—What kinds to grow as a dry bean is asked by J. B., of Illinois. There is the white kidney, the marrow, the medium, the pea and the navy. Any of these can be grown to advantage. Marrow and kidney are somewhat later. Pea and medium come handy when you must plant late and the season is getting short. In a general way, I would advise to plant just the variety which will sell best in your own town, or which your produce buyer asks for.

CLUBROOT OF CABBAGE.—A Coopers-town, Pa., reader wants to know the cause of clubroot in cabbage, and how to prevent it. Clubroot is a disease caused by a fungus (a low form of plant life). It

sometimes, but rarely, appears in new land; I have never seen a case of it on new soil. But when cabbages are grown in succession, one year after another, the disease is quite liable to develop, except in soils that have plenty of lime, or to which lime has been applied in very large doses. The one great preventive, therefore, is rotation. Don't grow cabbage, or any member of that tribe—as cauliflower, turnips, radish, etc.—two years in succession on the same ground. A plant once affected with the disease is past recovery. Destroy every plant in a hotbed or cold-frame, when any of them show signs of the clubroot. A number of wild plants, such as mustard, shepherd's-purse, etc., are also subject to the disease.

ASPARAGUS GROWING.—Referring to an inquiry by J. C. R., Missouri, let me say that there is no need of making any extra preparations for asparagus. That used to be done, and is yet done to a large extent in Europe, and yet we grow fatter stalks in America than are usually grown in Europe. What the crop wants is rich, warm soil, naturally drained, and plowed deeply. Make furrows five feet apart, and set the plants eighteen inches or two feet apart, six to eight inches deep in the trenches. Cover gradually, keep weeds down and the surface well tilled. By this treatment I guarantee a good crop of very large, tender shoots the second or third year. Don't plant on cold or poor soil. The old Conover (Colossal) is yet as good as any. In fact, the differences between the so-called varieties are slight.

WOOD ASHES FOR VEGETABLES AND FRUITS.—A number of inquiries about wood ashes prompt me to repeat that wood ashes, leached or unleached, are a good manure for all sorts of vegetables and fruits. Usually, I would advise broadcast application. They are of especial benefit on light soils, and may then be put on at the rate of 100 bushels of unleached or 200 to 300 bushels of leached ashes per acre. For melons, cucumbers, squashes, etc., a smaller quantity would do if applied scatteringly in and around the hills, and well stirred into the soil before planting, although the stuff can be put on after planting. Wood ashes are about as good a thing as I know of for all kinds of fruits.

SQUASH-VINE BORER.—A Connecticut subscriber, E. J. D., has seen all his efforts made toward raising Hubbard squashes go for nought, simply because "white worms an inch or more long, with dark heads," have eaten off the connection between the top and root, and thus killed the otherwise promising vines. This is not a solitary instance, nor a rare complaint. I have lost many vines in just this way. The worm is the squash-vine borer, the larva of a moth closely related to the peach-borer. Some years ago I frequently found half a dozen of these disgusting worms in a single root, where they tunnel and eat, and finally cause the death of the plant, unless precautions were taken to cover the joints near the original root with damp soil firmly packed, and thereby to induce the formation of roots at the covered joints. Since I have adopted the practice of covering the soil all around the plants with the tobacco-dust and bone-meal mixture, frequently mentioned by me as one sure preventive of bug attacks, I have not had much trouble with the borer, either. Cutting out and destroying the worms is often recommended; but I have seldom been able to save infested plants by these means.

LAYING DOWN CUCUMBER PICKLES.—A Kansas subscriber, J. H. P., comes with the often-asked question how to lay down cucumber pickles to be sold in bulk. The first requirement is large vats or tanks. Some growers around here have such tanks holding 100 or more barrels. The pickles are simply dumped in, with about a bushel of salt to each ten crates of pickles, and water enough to make a brine, under which they are kept by cover and weights. In the last few years the pickles have not brought the former good prices, nor sold as readily. But the industry used to be a paying one.

CUCUMBERS FOR PICKLES.—For either large or small pickles, I prefer the long, smooth varieties, such as Long Green, White Spine, etc. You can pick them when just of the size desired, and they are

then of good proportion. The Early Russian is very early, and a few plants may be all right; but it is not productive enough, and the pickles are "chucked." The Japanese climbing cucumber may be interesting, but from one trial I feel sure it is not going to take the place of our cucumbers for pickles.

CABBAGE-WORM.—A lady of Brewton, Ala., asks how to dispose of the cabbage-worm. This has been told innumerable times. You can do it by dashing hot water or soap-suds over the cabbages after they have begun to head; or by spraying with buhach suspended in water, or with strong tobacco tea, or the kerosene emulsion, or by throwing a handful of tobacco-dust, or almost any other dust-like material, into the heart of the plant. Mr. A. S. Fuller uses and recommends tar-water; and indeed, there may be other remedies in plenty, but among those named you can find one that is handy and convenient in your case.

POTATO-SCAB.—A Wisconsin reader inquires about the cause and a remedy for potato-scab. It is now well understood that the cause is a fungous disease, but there are some mysteries about it yet. Sometimes we grow a clean, smooth crop from scabby seed, and sometimes the crop runs quite scabby when the seed was clean. The disease is supposed to breed in the manure in the soil, and the infection can be carried from the scabby potatoes fed to stock, through the manure to the soil. In the first place, we should try to select soil that is free from scab. This is not always easy, simply because we do not usually know whether soil is infected or not. We may suppose, however, that soil on which no potatoes have been grown for some time, and which has received no stable manure, is free from the scab fungus. Next we should be careful not to use manure that may be infected with the disease. It is safer to use commercial fertilizers than a promiscuous lot of stable manure. Finally, the seed should be disinfected before planting. Dissolve two ounces of corrosive sublimate (a strong poison) in hot water, and dilute to fifteen gallons by the addition of cold water. Then soak the seed potatoes, whole, in this solution for ninety minutes. This is best done by putting a quantity in a coarse sack (old fertilizer-bag), and hanging them into the barrel or vat. (It should be a wooden vessel.) Take the potatoes out after they have soaked long enough, then cut them and plant them. Be sure that stock will not get hold of any of these soaked potatoes. T. GREINER.

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GRAFTING.

[Continued from last issue.]

GRAFTING APPLES.

Apples in the open ground should be grafted about the time the buds are nicely started, but the scions should not have started at all. It is the easiest of all the fruits to graft, and almost any method may be used successfully on it. The scions should be from four to six inches long.

GRAFTING THE PLUM.

The plum is most successfully grafted very early in the spring—even before the frost is out of the ground or a bud has commenced to swell. The work when done at this time is generally successful, though not as certain as the apple.

The plum may be quite successfully root-grafted in the house in winter, as recommended for the apple, and treated the same way, but it generally takes a year longer to get the tree formed, since in this case the growth from the scion is quite slow the first two years.

On account of the slow growth, trees grown in this way are often crooked and unpromising. This defect, however, may be remedied by cutting away in the early spring of the second year all the growth from the scion except one strong bud at its base. If this work is done very early in the spring, it will result in throwing the whole strength of the root into a single bud and the forming of a stem that is straight in place of the former crooked one.

A much better and more satisfactory plan than root-grafting is to plant the plum stocks in the nursery one year before they are intended to be grafted, and then graft them below the surface of the ground very early in the spring. For this purpose, cleft or whip grafting should be used. When work is done in this way the result is a very strong growth from the scion. If the suckers are pinched off and the whole strength of the root forced into one shoot, the result, on rich land and in the case of strong, healthy stocks, will be to give a growth often exceeding four feet in height. Sometimes the growth in this latter case will be so heavy that the branches are liable to be broken off in the wind, and should be tied to stakes with soft strings. The scions should be from four to six inches long.

GRAFTING THE GRAPE

Is done most safely very early in spring, even before a sign of growth appears, but it may also be grafted about the time the first leaves are nicely expanded, if the scions are kept dormant until that time. The work should always be done below the surface of the ground. Any form of graft may be used, but that most commonly used is cleft-grafting. In making a cleft-graft upon a grape-root, it is often necessary to saw the cleft in the stock with a fine saw, on account of the crooked, twisted grain of the wood, which does not allow it to split straight. Some growers do not use any wax around the graft, but simply cover it with a mound of well-packed earth up to the upper bud of the scion. The scions should be about six or eight inches long.

INQUIRIES ANSWERED

BY SAMUEL B. GREEN.

Paper Bags for Grapes.—G. W. D., Sparta, Tenn. I do not know any concern making a specialty of such bags, but think you can get some information in regard to them from J. C. Vaughan, State street, Chicago. Try also some of the wholesale paper-houses of Nashville, Tenn.

Size of Trees for Planting.—D. S. W., Overton, Ohio. I prefer the medium-sized trees for planting, providing always that they are thrifty. It is safest to plant in the spring, but autumn planting is all right for moving apple and other hardy trees, if properly done. Peach-trees should not be moved in the fall.

Transplanting Pear Seedlings.—E. R. W., Centerville, Mass. If the pear seedlings to which you refer are healthy, they will make good stocks to graft on. It would be best to transplant them to the garden this spring and graft the following year, or else bud them next August. You cannot transplant them and graft them with much success the same season.

Best Manure for Strawberries.—J. E. C., Berlin, Mass. On sandy, dry land there is no fertilizer so good as well-rotted stable manure, as it helps to retain the moisture in the land. Fresh manure causes the land to dry out, but rotted manure retains the moisture. If you must use some commercial fertilizer, I think an application of 400 pounds of ground bone and 100 pounds of kainite would answer your purpose.

Horticultural Journal—Station Reports—Nursery Book.—E. B., Franklin, Ohio. *American Gardening* is the leading horticultural paper.—For reports of the Ohio experiment station, address at Wooster; for Indiana, La Fayette; for New York, Geneva and Ithaca; and for Massachusetts, Amherst. I could give you the whole list of stations, but these are the ones I think most likely to interest you.—“Bailey’s Nursery Book” is the handiest thing on nursery work. It can be bought of the Rural Publishing Co., New York.

Fruits for Eastern Pennsylvania.—A. G., Limerick, Pa. The Lincoln pear and plum and Alaska quince are new fruits, and their value is not generally known. The Ben Davis apple is a winter variety of good color and great hardiness. Fruit keeps well, but is rather inferior in quality. If you are intending to plant for home use, it would be better for you to plant some more thoroughly tried varieties than those you mention, with the exception of the Ben Davis apple; for instance, the Orange quince, Lombard plum and Anjou pear.

Small Fruit Varieties for Southern Michigan.—D. C. F., Norwalk, Ohio. You should be governed somewhat by the soil and market. It would be a good plan to talk with fruit growers in the vicinity of your Michigan farm. Also, write to Prof. L. R. Taft, Agricultural College P. O., Michigan, for his latest fruit bulletin, and be governed accordingly. The varieties I suggest are as follows: Strawberry—Crescent, Warfield and Haverland of the pistillate kinds, and Beder Wood and Michel’s Early of the bisexual kinds. Black-cap raspberries—Souhegan, Ohio and Nemeha. Red raspberries—Cuthbert, Turner and Marlboro. Blackberries—Snyder and Ancient Briton.

Crops in Orchard—Orchard Fertilizer.—O. S., White Ash, Pa., writes: “I have planted an orchard, and would like to know if it would be a good plan to sow buckwheat in the orchard and leave it stand without being cut. Would the buckwheat help loosen and enrich the ground and keep the weeds down? If so, would it be good to follow this plan for three or four years? The ground is a slaty clay. Which would be the better, ground bone or superphosphate as a fertilizer, and how much to a tree?”

REPLY:—A better plan would be to grow some such cultivated crop as corn in the orchard, and manure with stable manure. Young trees should have the soil kept loose around them all through the growing season. Buckwheat is a good crop for an orchard, but should be plowed in when in flower. Clover is better than buckwheat, as it leaves the soil in better condition. A very good plan to follow in a young orchard, where the plan outlined is impracticable and where there is room, is to sow to clover, but run a cultivator on both sides of the trees. Two hundred and fifty pounds of ground bone and seventy-five pounds of kainite per acre, I think, will make a suitable fertilizer for your orchard.

We are in receipt of “Bauscher’s Poultry and Seed Catalogue” (John Bauscher, Jr., Freeport, Ill.), a fine specimen of typography, replete with valuable information for the poultry breeder and gardener. Mr. Bauscher’s stock of fowls is one of the largest and finest in the country. Especial care is taken in breeding his stock to keep it up to the highest standard. Our readers, if interested in high-class, pure-bred poultry, should not fail to secure Mr. Bauscher’s fine illustrated catalogue. Address as above and mention Farm and Fireside.

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is the name of our monthly that tells all about new vegetables, fruits and flowers, and how to grow them. Columns are open for discussion on garden work and questions are answered. We have acres of Experimental Gardens and tell our readers what we grow and how we grow them. Fully illustrated and nothing published like it. **A POTATO GROWN 150 YEARS** is what we have just imported from Ireland that has been in cultivation there 150 years and is their greatest variety. We have all there are in this country and will give each subscriber one potato. Golden Banded Lily of Japan is just the thing to set in the garden or lawn, grows nearly 5 ft. high and has many large spotted blossoms. 2 Tuberoses, one white, sweet scented, extra choice. 3 Gladioli, one each of white, pink and variegated. For only 25 cents we will send our monthly one year, Potato, Lily, and 5 bulbs. Club of 5. \$1.00. Success With the Garden Co., Box 123, Rose Hill, N. Y.

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THE POULTRY YARD.

Conducted by P. H. Jacobs, Hammonton, New Jersey.

POULTRY-HOUSE, WITH UNDERNEATH RUN.

THE design is to show a house that may be extended to 200 feet or more. The fowls are given the upper story for roosting, the lower portion being a scratching-place.

The house should be 12 feet wide, 8 feet high for the lower story and 6 feet for the upper story.

The object is to permit of plowing the ground floor of the lower story with a one-horse plow, for an extended building. The idea may be a novel one, but the plan will save much labor. Of course, such a house is more expensive than some others, but it affords complete protection from storms in the winter and gives shade in summer, the plowing turning the filth and droppings under.

Inclined steps leading to the upper portion are not shown, but can be arranged according to preference, as may also the nests. The house may be divided into sections of 16 feet or more, with twenty-five hens to each apartment. The apartments, both above and below, may be divided with wire netting, that for the lower apartment arranged on frames, so as to be movable, to admit of plowing. A passageway may be arranged, if desired.

Observe that plenty of light is afforded, which will be found of great advantage, so do not spare windows in such a house, especially in the lower portion.

The details of steps, roosts, nests, etc., have been left out, in order to convey the

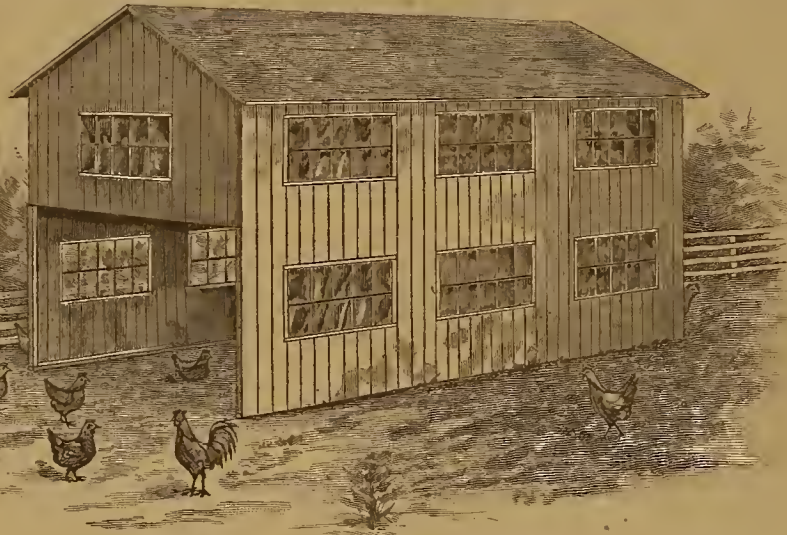
Fowls will eat almost anything, and without injury. There is no rule by which to feed them. Give them anything that they will eat, but change the food often. Do not simply change from one kind of grain to another, but make a complete change, and then return to grain again. If kept on one kind of food for a time, the fowls show their disgust by refusing it. They will not lay until they get something else, as it is required by them, and those who feed a variety of food will make no mistake.

LINSEED-MEAL AS A RATION.

It is not difficult to feed a complete ration. The addition of a simple article to a hen's ration may make an excellent layer of her. In the spring a hen will take more exercise, and will thus demand more food. Instead of gorging her with corn and wheat, allow her but a limited supply of both those foods, and give her more fresh, lean meat and bone. Milk is one of the best foods, but a hen cannot drink enough milk in a day to give her the nitrogen required. A gill of linseed-meal to a pint of corn will increase the ration to a value equal to two pints of corn, so far as nutrition is concerned. The gill of linseed-meal contains more bone-forming matter than a pint and a half of corn, and as much nitrogen as three gills of corn. Hence, it will be seen by feeding that little gill of linseed-meal what a great saving of corn is made in quantity, and what a great gain is made in the bone-forming and flesh-forming elements of the food.

GUARD AGAINST GAPES.

Keep chicks on clean ground, and they will escape gapes. Gapes seldom appear on new locations. It is on the old farms, on ground that has been occupied for years



POULTRY-HOUSE, WITH UNDERNEATH RUN.

one idea of an underneath run, which will more than pay for itself in the comfort of the hens and the increased number of eggs.

This house is designed by Mr. Daniel Gibbons, Pennsylvania.

CHEAP EGG FOODS.

Among the many substances that are the best for inducing egg production may be mentioned blood from slaughter-houses. In the winter season it can be kept for quite a while, and may be fed by mixing it with equal parts of corn-meal and bran to a stiff mess. The reports that have come from those who have used it are largely in its favor. In the meantime, a supply of cut bone should not be overlooked, and the hens should have a ration of such at least every other day.

If those who keep poultry would feed less grain and take time to procure such materials as could be had at a small cost from the slaughter-houses, the expense of maintaining the hens would be much less than when large rations of grain are used, and the supply of eggs would be more than doubled. It is the sameness of diet—the one kind of food from day to day—that throws the hens out of condition for laying, and entails a loss where one could just as easily secure a profit by going to a little extra trouble to provide a variety of food in order to afford the hens an opportunity to do their best.

Green food should not be omitted from the list at any time. In winter the best substitute is finely chopped clover hay, scalded; and a pound of such food makes a large and bulky meal. Cooked turnips are also excellent, and a cabbage will be eaten clean to the stalk. Refuse from the breweries and glucose factories make excellent food for poultry, and the blades of corn fodder, cut up and scalded, are also relished. It is the variety, the change of food, which keeps the hens in good working order.

by poultry, that gapes destroy so many chicks. As a precaution, scatter air-slaked lime freely over the ground, dig or spade the surface and lime the ground again. If a gill of spirits of turpentine be thoroughly mixed with each peck of lime it will be an advantage. By so doing the gapes may be prevented.

If lice are suspected, examine the hen first, as all lice on the chicks come from the hen. If lice are found, dust the hen and chicks with fresh Dalmatian insect-powder, holding them head downward so as to get it well into the feathers, and rub a few drops of melted lard well into the skin of the heads and necks. Of course, their quarters must be cleaned of lice, also. This may be done by sponging the boxes well with coal-oil, touching a lighted match to it and allowing the fire to run over the boxes, both inside and outside. Then dust the boxes well with insect-powder and examine them frequently.

HOW NATURE PROVIDES.

Nature provides for the hen liberally, and we can learn lessons from her. The birds in their wild condition do not lay in winter. They begin in spring, when the green herbage becomes plentiful and insects and seed are numerous. They are then able to procure all the elements of egg production without difficulty, and they are better enabled to lay, because the amount of food required for their bodily support is lessened. The domestic hen can be induced to lay in winter because she has shelter and food provided for her, but she has no selection of food, and can only consume what is allotted to her. She may not provide a single egg, simply because she is deficient in her supply of egg material, though reveling in well-filled troughs of grain. When the spring opens and she is at liberty, she refines corn and seeks other food.

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INQUIRIES ANSWERED.

Number in a Flock.—A. B. C., Little Rock, Ark., writes: "I have a yard 25x50 feet. Will fifty chickens be too many for the space?"
REPLY:—Not of chicks, but ten adults are sufficient for so small a yard.

Scaly Legs.—R. McK., Beaver, Pa., writes: "Some of my hens have scab or scurf on their legs."
REPLY:—Anoint once or twice a week with a mixture of sulphur and lard, and the difficulty will disappear.

Enlarged Liver.—T. B., Norway, Mich., writes: "I had a pullet that was sick for a long time. At death I found the liver enlarged, weighing over two pounds."
REPLY:—It was probably caused by excessive feeding of grain and lack of exercise.

Muscovy Ducks.—R. D. T., Story City, Iowa, writes: "I have a pair of Muscovy ducks. How can I care for them to get the best results?"
REPLY:—They may be managed the same as other ducks, but do not overfeed them. As soon as the weather opens, give them the run of a grass-plot, and feed a mess of soft food, of mixed grain, at night.

Roup.—J. B. M., Sand Bank, N. J., writes: "My fowls become blind, and stagger; the young ones being mostly affected."
REPLY:—Probably roup, caused by colds or exposure. They are also perhaps very fat from overfeeding, but the roup is in a mild form. Reduce grain, feed meat and give only one meal a day for awhile. Add a teaspoonful of chlorate of potash to each quart of the drinking-water.

Loss of Appetite.—J. F. T., Elkhart, Ind., writes: "My flock has been kept up very closely during the cold weather, receiving a variety of grain. They seem to have lost appetite."
REPLY:—Cease the grain for awhile and give lean meat, or cut bone and meat, with a mess of linseed-meal and bran, twice a week. Add a teaspoonful of tincture of nuxvomica to each quart of drinking-water for a week.

Lice.—G. N. D., South Enid, South Dakota, writes: "My chickens are infested with a large, flesh-colored louse. I can find only one or two of them on a chicken, under the wing, but not on the head. Have used coal-oil and lard. Occasionally a hen recovers, but most of them die."
REPLY:—Kerosene should not be used on the body. Mix a tablespoonful of fresh insect-powder with a gill of lard, and anoint, twice a week, top of head, under the wings and around the vent.

Bronze Turkeys.—G. T. H., Waverly, Mo., writes: "Please give the markings of Bronze turkeys, pure bred."
REPLY:—Plumage a rich, lustrous bronze. The feathers in the back have narrow, black bands across the ends; wings are black, with greenish luster; primaries penciled across with gray bars; the ends of the coverts form a ribbon-like mark; tail is black, penciled with narrow bands of light brown. Legs of young birds are black, but lighter in adults.

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EGG yield doubled and one-third grain bill saved by using our G. R. EEN BOX & CATER. THE ONLY one receiving an Award at the World's Fair. Special Catalogue Free. WEBSTER & HANNUM, 113 Albany Street, Cazenovia, N. Y.

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Our Fireside.

The Old Manor-house in Louisiana

BY SARA H. HENTON.

CHAPTER V.

WELL, John Randolph," said his pretty sister Blanche, "you disgusted me last night! You never paid any attention to my guest.

You just seemed infatuated with that Miss Howe. I don't know who made himself the most conspicuous about her, you or Lawrence Hunt."

Mr. Randolph blushed deeply, and replied:

"What did you think of her, little Sis?"

"Oh, I thought her very pretty. But I can tell you now, I know enough about women to know that she has left her heart in New York. You are all wasting your time."

"Nevertheless, Sis, I am going straightway to my funeral. Don't you and Miss Cecil want to go with me? It is lovely driving to-day. You can talk to that pretty little fairy, Bessie."

"Oh, I suppose Mr. Hunt got there before Miss Howe arose, this morning," said Miss Randolph.

"Why, Sis, I wouldn't show so much venom. You have reigned belle so long you might be generous and step down gracefully."

The Misses Howe were as popular among their own sex as with their masculine acquaintances. The success of their first party led to half a dozen or more in the neighborhood. Strange to say, Mr. Hunt was neglecting his law business for the first time in his life, and was a daily visitor at Brompton. Never did true love run smoother than with Frank Gibson and Bessie.

Although Enid and Bessie danced until the wee small hours, they were always ready for breakfast; looking as if they had just awakened from their beauty sleep, and ready to enter into all that was delightful—walks, drives, etc.—with renewed zest. This was all charming to Mr. Hunt, who had seen much of the fashionable belle who always seemed afflicted with ennui, and who viewed the world through blase glasses.

Mr. Hunt was very proud. He fought gallantly for some demonstration from Enid, without betraying his affections in words. Any woman of the world would have known he was deeply, dangerously in love with her; but Enid thought it nothing more than chivalrous attention, and with that maidenly reserve so natural to her, did not allow herself to dwell too much upon the subject. She did not carry her heart on her sleeve.

Captain Randolph was in every way Mr. Hunt's peer—a fact which he recognized, and it made him very jealous of that gentleman; indeed, it was a mutual feeling of jealousy. Never a day passed without one or both being at Brompton. Enid did not possess tact, and but for Bessie's kind heart and a desire to keep peace, there would have been some awkward visits. It was only when Captain Randolph declared his love for Enid and pleaded with her to not make him miserable for life, that she began to realize her position.

Oh, how earnest he seemed! And was it in her power to blight his happiness? She stood before him with her enchanting face, and her tender glance met his. She did not know that she tormented him. In spite of her eighteen years she had the innocence of a girl whose mind had never dwelt on coquetry or the grand passion.

"Have you been coquetting?" His heart beat to bursting. "Oh, pardon me! You look so calm—as if you did not understand what it would be to me to lose you. I have never asked another woman to marry me; I have thought I loved, but now I know I never did!" he murmured in a low voice; and lifting her hand to his lips, kissed it.

Just then Lucy, the housemaid, announced Mr. Hunt. Crimsoning, Enid tore away her hand, but not before Lawrence Hunt had seen the act. Captain Randolph bowed himself out in confusion, and with a burning anger in his heart for the interruption. He was mollified somewhat by the thought that perhaps Enid loved him, after all.

As he passed out, he encountered Bessie and Frank sitting on the piazza. Of all passions, love is the most selfish, not excepting hunger and thirst. Bessie and her lover could afford to be generous, but they had been so absorbed in each other that they had not been watching the by-play of the rivals; but as Captain Randolph passed them, they saw from his countenance that something had gone wrong. They knew that Mr. Hunt had just been admitted, but had hardly given it a thought. The captain asked that his horse be brought around immediately. Bessie was all attention. She insisted on his remaining to dinner, gave him her bunch of violets, and

pinned them on the lapel of his coat; all the while wondering if Enid had refused him, or if Mr. Hunt had interrupted their love-making. She was all excitement, and the doctor thought he would tease her by saying: "Bessie, I don't see how I can trust you to leave me at all. Look how your mother went back on father, and how do I know that you

say to them, sister? I think you ought to confide in me; my heart is like an open book to you, dear."

"I can't talk to you now, Bess," answered Enid.

Taking her large shade-hat from the rack, went swiftly across the sunny garden into the cool, shady woodlawn behind. She thought

the lookout for some one else's ailments, now was she to have one?

When they got back to the house they found both Colonel Gibson and Frank there. Frank had stopped on his way to see a patient. The colonel laughingly said that Frank would ride ten miles out of his way to come by Brompton.

"Look here, Enid," said the colonel, "I came over to see what you have done to my young friend, Lawrence Hunt. He came home looking as black as Lucifer, packed his valise and took the first train to New Orleans. I know he ought to be there, attending to his law practice; but he didn't seem to think it so important yesterday. You are to blame for that speedy departure, my ladybird. Come, now, give an account of yourself."

He looked up into her face, expecting to see her smile; but instead, he saw a pained look come into her pale face, and tears that seemed ready to drop, swimming in her beautiful brown eyes.

Mrs. Howe responded for her daughter, saying:

"Colonel, Enid is not well, and I fear she will have to become Frank's patient if she persists in sitting on the damp ground or on the logs in the woods."

By this time Enid was able to control her voice, and she replied:

"Oh, mama, you are always uneasy about our health. I did have a dull headache, and thought that perhaps I could walk it off. But I am sorry to hear Mr. Hunt left so suddenly. We have enjoyed his visits, and are indebted to him for many charming evenings."

The colonel knew by the tremor in her voice that something unusual had occurred, and thought perhaps she had refused Mr. Hunt and accepted Captain Randolph. He admired both of the gentlemen. They were equal in point of family, fortune and prospects. It was only to be a matter of choice with Enid; she would do well to marry either, provided she loved one of them. They were regarded as the two most eligible young men in Louisiana. Mrs. Howe had heard their merits discussed by Mrs. Howard, Mrs. Stephens and others. All congratulated Colonel Gibson upon having such a charming guest as Lawrence Hunt, and hoped he would have him out often. The Randolphs were exclusive; the captain very much so.

Mrs. Howe could not help feeling flattered by their attention to her daughter. It brought to her mind a

remark made about Enid's beauty, just before they left New York. Mrs. V, a prominent society leader and southern woman, whose



AND LIFTING HER HAND, PRESSED IT TO HIS LIPS.

won't desert me for one of those stylish New-Yorkers."

"Frank, are you in earnest? If you are, take your ring back. After I have boasted of never loving anybody else! I know what you mean, sir. You are ashamed of me because I have never been courted by any other lover. That's it, sir!" And she pelted him with a handful of roses, trying her best to look indignant.

"I deserve your indignation, dear. Forgive me; but if I thought there breathed a man who would ever come between our love—"

"Is Doctah Gibson yere?" asked a black pickin'ny, ridin' up hurriedly and calling loudly from the side door.

"What is it, Ned?" asked the doctor. "Dar has been mo' sick folks sendin' fur yer, an' yer par sez cum along home an' look at yo' slate."

"All right, Ned; I'll go back with you." "Frank, you didn't finish your murderous speech."

"I'm afraid my patients think I'm going to murder them all; but I haven't neglected one of them. You don't think I have, do you, my queen?" said Frank, pressing her little hand and begging for a kiss at the same time.

The truth was that Frank carried his happiness into every house. It was a good time for his patients. His bonny face was as bright as a May morning, and it cheered many a weary sick one to see such a physician.

There never were two sisters more unlike in their love affairs than Bessie and Enid. Bessie knew at once that there was but one man in the world for her; she had no doubts. She had compared him to the dozen other young men she had met. Many of them were charmed with her fresh, young beauty, and evinced a desire to continue their visits; but she showed so plainly that Dr. Gibson was her choice, that it dampened their ardor. There never was a young woman more sure of her heart. She was tasting the first drops of the heavenly nectar—rare drops which are sometimes given to mortals.

"Life is very sweet; I did not know how sweet," she said, soft and low.

"Where are your castles located, Bessie—in Spain?" inquired Enid, as she came upon her just as she repeated her last words.

Bessie sprang up excitedly, and blushed crimson to find that she was "dreaming aloud."

"Where are you going, Enid? You have run off two young men, both looking as if they meant harm to some one. What did you

the breath of the piney woods might cool her heated brow. She had a favorite resting-place in the twisted roots of an old tree, and there she seated herself. The profound stillness afforded her relief. Her eyes and brow ached with a strained, feverish pain which oppressed her, so eager, so intense was her desire to think out the problem. Now she saw with painful clearness why life of late had been so sweet—what a fool's paradise she had lived in. Why could she not love the one who loved her? How did she dare let her heart go out, loving where it was not sought? Perhaps she had not been able to hide it. Had her mother or Bessie discovered her unmaidenly secret? She had not known that this deep, quiet liking, which never made her face flush nor her pulse throb, was true love; but when Captain Randolph kissed her hands, and when Lawrence Hunt's eyes saw it, she knew if it had been his hands that held hers, it would have been sweet.

"And to think how suddenly it dawned upon me—it struck me like a blow. And how he looked at me, as if he thought me unmaidenly! Had he read my secret and thought I was false, flirting with both? Ah! there is pain in loving. Yet Bessie is in ecstasy. She knew Frank loved her before she betrayed her heart. If I have done this thing I will not know peace any more!"

CHAPTER VI.

Out from the hollow a bluebird's trill
Faintly ripples, then dies away;
Catskins peep o'er the low-pulsed rill—
Something has happened since yesterday.

A whole volume of undreamed-of probabilities unrolled themselves before Enid as she recalled the revelations to which she had just listened.

"Captain Randolph will come back for his answer. I do believe he thinks I love him; he seemed to think I had acted as if I did."

There was one thing unusual in this young woman's self-condemnation—she had no girlish sense of triumph in having brought this experienced, self-possessed man of the world to her feet.

She rose slowly, put on her hat and strolled back to the house. She would be equal to the task she had set herself; she must hide her feelings behind a mask of quiet composure.

"Why, daughter, you look pale," said Mrs. Howe, as she and Jack met her half way, having become uneasy about her.

Her mother noted a change at once. Enid was so seldom distraught, had always been on

A Bank Failure.

AN INVESTIGATION DEMANDED.

A general banking business is done by the human system, because the blood deposits in its vaults whatever wealth we may gain from day to day. This wealth is laid up against "a rainy day" as a reserve fund—we're in a condition of healthy prosperity if we have laid away sufficient capital to draw upon in the hour of our greatest need. There is danger in getting thin, because it's a sign of letting down in health. To gain in blood is nearly always to gain in wholesome flesh. The odds are in favor of the germs of consumption, grip, or pneumonia, if our liver be inactive and our blood impure, or if our flesh be reduced below a healthy standard. What is required is an increase in our germ-fighting strength. Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery enriches the blood and makes it wholesome, stops the waste of tissue and at the same time builds up the strength. A medicine which will rid the blood of its poisons, cleanse and invigorate the great organs of the body, vitalize the system, thrill the whole being with new energy and make permanent work of it, is surely a remedy of great value. But when we make a positive statement that 93 per cent. of all cases of consumption can, if taken in the early stages of the disease, be cured with the "Discovery," it seems like a bold assertion. All Dr. Pierce asks is that you make a thorough investigation and satisfy yourself of the truth of his assertion. By sending to the World's Dispensary Medical Association, Buffalo, N. Y., you can get a free book with the names, addresses and photographs of a large number of those cured of throat, bronchial and lung diseases, as well as of skin and scrofulous affections by the "Golden Medical Discovery." They also publish a book of 160 pages, being a medical treatise on consumption, bronchitis, asthma, catarrh, which will be mailed on receipt of address and six cents in stamps.

beauty was the theme of many tongues, told her, with evident satisfaction, that Enid had been taken for her younger sister while they were both shopping in one of New York's most fashionable establishments.

"Aud, my dear Mrs. Howe," she said, with all her charming suavity of manner, "I considered it a great compliment, I assure you, for Enid is one of the prettiest girls in New York. You have kept her in the background until she has no idea that she is unusual looking at all."

Mrs. Howe had been so wrapped up in her woes that she had given Enid's looks very little thought; but now she felt a motherly pride that her daughter should eclipse the New Orleans belles, and have two such distinguished men her admirers.

"But perhaps Enid will not favor either of them, and disappoint her friends," thought Mrs. Howe; for Enid was not at all worldly wise, and would only consider her heart in a matter so sacred. Really, there was no one less mercenary than Mrs. Howe. She had married for love, and wished her daughters to do the same; but she had never discussed marriage with them, considering them children, almost.

Enid pleaded a headache and retired, leaving the colonel and Mrs. Howe to entertain each other, and they became quite confidential. It was a good time for the colonel to look after his own affairs, for his old love was fast being rekindled. He had never really loved but one woman, and that was Pauline Hampton. He married a second cousin, to whom he was devoted; she worshiped him and made him happy. He had such a noble nature that he could only be gentle and tender to a woman, and his delicate young wife thought she was first in his affections, and lived supremely happy in his love. But there was a tiny scar left by Pauline's marriage. He had loved her from childhood. It did not seem so many years since they were in the springtime of life. These last few months together had been very precious to both. They hardly realized how dependent they were becoming upon each other's society. It was very sweet to Mrs. Howe to have some strong arm to lean upon. She was so alone—no brother or near kinsman—that it was a boon to her to lay all her business worries and future plans before this big-hearted old friend. She had not thought of marriage as yet. He had, but he was careful. She had rejected him once; he would feel his way and not be rash—at least he thought he would.

Mammy Rhody was highly elated with her successes. She was "mos' sho ob Mas' Frank Gibson fur Miss Bessie, an' dar's great hopes ob de karnel an' Miss Pauline; an' dar's de queen, Miss Enid, so powerful prond lookin', mebbe she'll marry one ob de Hunts er Randolphs. Den I'd be willin' an' ready ter die. Ise done my work on dis earth ter make three good matches. I jis' tell yer all," addressing the colored people in the cabin, "Ise prayed ober dis thing; it wuz intended. Didn't de bird fly roun' de house three times? Dat's de sign, ob three weddin's. Ise a procratener—oh, I mean a predestinater. What is ter be will be, sho!"

Mammy Rhody had helped on the cause in the way of aiding digestion and keeping her guests in fine spirits, for her cooking was superb; every meal was a work of art, and put the people at their best.

Did you ever think, my readers, how much happiness such a cook contributed to a large household? It is felt from the nursery to the drawing-room. It starts the family off all right from the breakfast-table to fight their battles; it aids health. The thought is worthy of consideration.

Old Mammy Rhody was an important factor in communicating harmony throughout the old manor-house.

When Enid entered the dining-room the next morning, after her severe headache, she found her mother at her post pouring out coffee for Jack, who was the only other member of the family present. Mrs. Howe looked as fresh and bright as if she had retired at her usual hour, when the fact was she and Bessie had remained up very late discussing the pros and cons of Enid's lovers. Mrs. Howe was very tender and solicitous about her daughter's health. Did she feel weak, or did her head hurt her still?

"Oh, how beautiful, how delicious!" cried Bess, bending in high delight over a basket of blossoms. "See what exquisite ferns. I wonder who sent them? Ah! here is a letter—'Miss Enid Howe.' Oh, I thought Frank had sent them to me."

"My dear, hand them to your sister," said Mrs. Howe.

"Who left them, Bessie?" asked Enid. "Lucy said a colored man left them and rode away. Don't pretend innocence, you dear old impostor," said Bessie, putting the basket in her lap; "you know all about them."

"Indeed I do not!" "Finish eating your breakfast, daughter," interposed Mrs. Howe. "Bessie, you are the laggard this morning. Let Lucy put your flowers away for the present, Enid."

Enid blushed scarlet as she took the note and laid it aside. She knew the handwriting. It was Captain Randolph's, and she dreaded to open it. She could not force herself to eat anything, and after drinking a little chocolate to please her mother, she ran away to her room to read her note.

"Mama, Enid is getting positively giddy. Look at her rnuuing," said Bessie, laughing.

"You must not tease your sister." "I tell you now," said Jack, "I want Captain Randolph for my brother. He is going to give me a pony, and he brought me my little shepherd dog. I wouldn't give him for fifty of that other man what comes here so much, sho-o-o!"

"Well, Jack, your grammar is improving under Pete's training. I expect Mr. Hunt would give six dogs and as many ponies for your good opinion. By the way, what do you think of Dr. Gibson, Jack?"

"Oh, Mammy says he is 'jis' one ob us,' anyway."

"Now, Bessie, you have the best of it," said Mrs. Howe, laughing heartily at Jack's mimicry.

"Well, mama, I thought I'd better get Frank to bring over a horse or two, to please Jack, for I'm not going to love anybody that dear old Jack can't love, too."

Then she dashed over to him, hugging him vigorously, and they chased each other out into the open air and sunshine as happy as could be.

After spending a long day in almost complete seclusion, Enid was informed that Captain Randolph was in the library and wished to see her. Profoundly occupied with his thoughts, he sat in a large arm-chair, and was not conscious of a light footfall which noiselessly approached him, and a low, soft voice said timidly:

"How are you this afternoon?" [To be continued.]

HELP VERSUS ADVICE.

The other day when a horse drawing cart-load of coal got stalled on West street, the public was promptly on hand with advice.

"Put on the whip," shouted the driver of an express-wagon.

"Take him by the head," added a truckman. "If he was my boss," said a man with a bundle of clothes under his arm, "I'd tie a cloth over his eyes. 'I've seen it done a hundred times, and it makes 'em pull their best.'"

"Don't believe it," said a man with a cane. "I've owned horses all my life, and I've had some bad ones among them. The only thing to do is to blow into his right ear."

"You mean the left," said a small man with a very thin voice.

"No, I don't! I mean the right ear. I've tried it often enough, I guess."

A crowd of fifty people had gathered, and now the driver got down and looked the ground over. One wheel was down in a rut. He stood looking at it, his hand on the horse's hip, and everybody around him tendering him advice, when two sailors came along, and one of them called out:

"Ay, mate, but here's a craft on a reef."

"Over with her, then."

Each seized a wheel for a lift, the driver clucked for the horse to go ahead, and away went the load as easily as you please. They were the only two of the whole crowd who had not advised the driver how to do it.—New York Sun.

TWO SYSTEMS.

The mails of the United States are carried over the country by the railroads in cars which are commonly placed next to the cars used by the express companies for the conveyance of parcels. The difference between the business of an express-office and of a post-office is slight. In Great Britain the post-office department transacts nearly all the express business of the country.

In the United States the two operations are separated, and each is performed on a system of its own.

The express company seeks for able men to be its agents; it promotes those who are faithful; it transfers its employees from one place to another as they are needed; it retains the services of those who do well so long as they do well.

The government seeks for postmasters among the politicians of the party which happens to be in power; it never promotes men to responsible positions in the department on account of faithfulness; it never transfers men from one post-office to another; the best service is no security against the removal of a postmaster when a change of administration takes place, and the more important his office the more speedily will he be removed.

One system or the other is wrong. It is certain, however, that the express companies will never be so unwise as to adopt the government plan.—Youth's Companion.

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The Illinois Central Railroad Company offers for sale on easy terms and at low prices, 150,000 acres of choice fruit, gardening, farm and grazing lands located in SOUTHERN ILLINOIS. They are also largely interested in, and call especial attention to the 600,000 acres of land in the famous YAZOO DELTA of Mississippi, lying along and owned by the Yazoo & Mississippi Valley Railroad Company, and which that Company offers at low prices and on long terms. Special inducements and facilities offered to go and examine these lands both in Southern Illinois and in the "Yazoo Delta," Miss. For further description, map and any information, address or call upon E. P. SKENE, Land Commissioner, No. 1 Park Row, Chicago, Ill.; or, G. W. MCGINNIS, Ass't Land Commissioner, Memphis, Tenn.

The pattern I ordered is just as good as the one I paid 25 cents for. I send money for another. Mrs. H. H. BOMBERG, Little, Pa.

THE OLD HORN COMB.

A. M. MARRIOTT.

Oh, the music, oh, the music Of the old horn comb, When, with paper wrapped around it, We marched about the room, And blew our very hardest, In notes so loud and clear— To us the sweetest melody Our ears shall ever hear.

Do not talk of a piano, Or mention a brass band; In fact, a full-sized orchestra Was never half so grand As the duets and the solos With which we rent the air, And almost split the universe With our "music" everywhere.

A lot of us together With our combs were just a sight; When we got our racket started, 'Twas sure to put to flight Four-footed beasts of every sort, And of our friends as well; To them 'twas simply torture, Which words could never tell.

We can ne'er forget the jingle Of the tunes we loved the best, Or the way our lips would tingle As against the comb they pressed. But no matter, no such music Will e'er charm our ears again, As we listened quite enraptured, To each shrill, ear-rending strain.

Oh, many years have passed away Since I left that home so dear, And many joys, and sorrows, too, Have come each passing year; But memory will ever cling Around that happy home, Where I made such lovely music On an old horn comb.

PROFITABLE WORK FOR WINTER.

There are many weeks during the winter season when men in farming communities and small towns find the time hanging heavily on their hands—that is, they do if they are inclined to be active, energetic and industrious. The younger and the shiftless man hail with delight the winter weather, when it is so cold or so stormy or so something or other that they have a reasonable excuse for idleness. For this class of persons suggestions or counsel are thrown away.

But there are, all over this land, bright boys, stirring and wide-awake young men and steady and hard-working heads of households, who would be glad indeed to utilize some of the winter days, so that, during the remainder of the year, a little profit might be added to the oftentimes not very heavy balance. If a stitch in time saves nine, certainly a nail, bolt, screw or a few minutes' intelligent work may save many times nine. During the long winter days, when there is nothing to do save to keep the stock fed and watered and in good order, the thrifty and forehanded farmer and the many men whose occupations demand implements of all sorts, are using all their spare moments in putting their tools and machinery in proper shape.

It really takes but a little trying and trouble to learn how to do this sort of thing, and almost any one can acquire it in reasonably short time. It is true that there are brains so dense and foggy that mechanical ideas fail to penetrate them. These persons usually do more harm than good if they set out to do repairing of any sort.

It is very easy, if one sets about it in the right way, to put all of the belongings required for the summer in excellent condition. A bolt here and a brace there; an ingeniously arranged rod of metal to strengthen a weak part; a bit of tough wood bound on with wire, to add to the stability of the implement; a few teeth cut out with a pocket-knife for the garden-rake; the hoes, shovels and spades made sharp by judicious application to the grindstone; new handles substituted for broken ones, and made smooth by the use of a bit of sharp glass, by which the wood is shaped and polished—all of these things are so necessary and save such an amount of ready cash that the only wonder is that every place of any size does not have a repair-shop and tool-house as an indispensable part of its equipment. A building ten feet square and comfortably well built would cost but a trifle, and in it might be all the appliances for keeping accessories of the place in good condition. Every farmer should give his boys a term or two at a trade school. The ingenious ones would readily pick up ideas on blacksmithing, carpenter-work, mason-work, and building generally, and would certainly acquire deftness in the handling of tools, an experience which would be invaluable to them all of their lives.

A little forge to mend articles of metal, a work-bench and a kit of tools are no very great investment, and would save their cost by affording facilities for repairing at the moment when it is needed. Half of the machinery goes to wreck because there is no time to spare to take it away to be mended. If it could be put into the tool-house and fixed up as soon as the day's work is done, and be ready in the morning, the economy of it would tell very decidedly by the end of the year.

It would be a good thing for every neighborhood to employ some one to instruct boys that cannot be sent away from home. Evening schools in all of the trades might easily be established in every hamlet and four corners. A traveling instructor, a man of sense and ingenuity, who would take up this business, could make a good living at it, and confer on the communities he visited an incalculable benefit.

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HOPKINS' YOUNGSTER.

She was a very pretty child, with the customary bright, yellow hair—which would turn to brown in a few years—and blue eyes that were even then on their way to becoming gray; but though she undoubtedly resembled Hopkins in many ways, she was not his child. Her mother and father had both died one winter in the South, more than a year ago; and Hopkins, being the child's uncle on its mother's side, had taken it for his own because there seemed to be no one else to take it. All Hopkins' people were dead, also, or abroad for indefinite periods; and remembering, with a shudder, the crudity of the child's father's relations, Hopkins knew his sister would never rest in her grave if he allowed them to bring it up. So he did a queer thing, as he was more than apt to do, and took the little girl to bring up himself.

Not that he attempted the thing single-handed—that would have been too wild an undertaking even for Hopkins; he simply brought her home, and his faithful old housekeeper and her daughter took the little one in hand, while he treated her as if she were his daughter, and consequently was not hored by her presence a great deal.

She was three years old when she came to him, and inside of six months she was calling him "papa" quite as if she had never had another such relative; and Hopkins, having a lurking fondness for children, rather encouraged her to do so, though pretending to himself that it annoyed him.

Very few of his club friends knew of his eccentricity in this case; but those who did, and who saw him driving with her every pleasant afternoon in the park, smiled and murmured:

"There is Hopkins with his youngster. Queer eh, he," and pass on.

Now, added to his love for children, Hopkins loved home life; and being a young man who had seen comparatively little of that life, he naturally idealized what little he knew of it. When the youngster came to his house and made a broad beam of sunlight wherever she went, that idealization grew even larger, and he wished in truth she were his daughter, and that Katherine—but here Hopkins smiled and stopped thinking.

He was in love, of course. There had never lived a Hopkins in all the generation after generation of Hopkinses that had not been in that condition during the greater part of his life; but Hopkins was quite sure that though his ancestors had been ardent lovers all, none of them could have cared for their chosen ones as he cared for Katherine—a fact which he imparted to them one night as he sat in the library and mused on the subject after the youngster was safely put to bed. And the only answer those respected ancestors made was to let a quiet smile spread over each and everyone of their paint-and-canvas faces, and broaden in the firelight's pleasing glow:

But though their descendant was not ordinarily a coward, and quite as self-possessed as most young men of his set, when it came to saying those same fervent words to Katherine herself, he found it just a little more than he could muster courage to do. The awful possibility of failure stared him so constantly in the face that if he did not tremble in his physical knees when he thought of it, he undoubtedly did so in their astral counterparts. Yet whenever he went around the square to see her, as he did very regularly now, he invariably started down the steps with the firm determination to ask her and have it over with; and he invariably came back with that strong resolve done up in splints, as it were, and a feeling of self-contempt, mingled with self-pity, embedded in his inind.

But one night—it was one of the nights when he did not go to see Katherine, and which had been spent with the youngster in an extremely noisy and romping but entirely happy manner—a great idea came to him; and the idea bearing upon the subject always uppermost in his mind nowadays, he began the next day to develop, and nurse, and enlarge it, and get ready to make it of use to him.

The next day but one, that idea having been made the most of, he came home early in the afternoon, and instructing Mrs. Higgins, the housekeeper, to put on the youngster's best bib and tucker, he ran up-stairs to his room, where he found his own clothes properly laid out by his faithful man. In the course of an hour he reappeared, and at the foot of the stairs found the youngster waiting for him, looking exceptionally pretty in a dainty little gown he had not seen before.

"We will be back in an hour or so, Mrs. Higgins," said he, as they went out the door. They found Miss Katherine alone; and as she came into the room and Hopkins rose to greet her, she ran quickly by him with a little nod, and falling upon her knees in a very girlish but pretty fashion before the smiling youngster, she cried:

"Oh, this lovely child! And she is really yours, Mr. Hopkins?"

Hopkins smiled.

"All mine," said he, "by virtue of adoption."

Then Miss Katherine took the youngster upon her lap—the prettiest picture he had seen for months, was that—and they fell to talking of other things, while the child, with her big blue eyes upon Miss Katherine's face, listened thoughtfully to it all, and wondered why her "papa" looked so happy. And Hopkins' idea of a home life with Katherine at its

head, meanwhile, grew strong and waxed exceeding great.

Ten minutes passed, and then, as Miss Katherine was asking the little girl about herself, the youngster suddenly straightened up, and looking at her thoughtfully, said:

"Yes, I loves my papa and my dolls and everything; but I loves you, too. Won't you be my muvver?"

For a moment Miss Katherine's pretty face turned from rose to white, and back again; but before she could make answer to the youngster's remark, Hopkins had swallowed his fear and the crisis was passed.

"You hear what the youngster says, Katherine," said he, taking one of her soft hands in his and leaning forward. "I love you, too, dearest, and I want you for my wife. Do you think you could love me, and be a 'muvver' to this little one?"

What her answer was is no matter now; but some time later, as Hopkins and his youngster were walking gravely, though how happily only he and Katherine knew, home again, the child looked at him for a moment, and then whispered up to him:

"And I said it right, didn't I, papa? Jes' like you told me to?"—Demorest's.

ORIGIN OF VARIOUS WORDS.

Charles VIII., king of France, having given his mistress, Agnes-de-Sorel, the castle of Beaute, she was thence called the Demoiselle de Beaute. This introduced the term beauty in France, and afterward in England.

The expression of profane literature owes its origin to Pope Gregory I., who ordered that the library of the Palatine Apollo should be committed to the flames, under the notion of confining the attention of the clergy to the Scriptures. From that time all ancient learning which was not sanctioned by the authority of the church has been emphatically distinguished as profane, in opposition to sacred.

The etymology of the word husband may not be generally known. The head of a family is called husband from the fact that he is, or ought to be, the band which unites the family together, or the bond of union among the family. It is to be regretted that all husbands are not husbands in reality as well as in name.

The term picnic is probably borrowed from the French pique-nique or pic-nie, which latter orthography Rousseau employs in his promenades where he speaks of dining with some friends, "en memire de picnic" (in picnic fashion). The term is used by the French to imply a dinner, supper or festival, where two or more persons elub together, each paying his share of the scot.

The word honeymoon is traced to a Teutonic origin. Among the Teutons was a favorite drink called metheglin. It was made of honey, and was much like the present mead of the same name of the European countries. The same beverage was in use among the Saxons, as well as another called marat, which was also made of honey, but flavored with mulberries. These honied drinks were used in great abundance at festivals. Among the nobility the marriage ceremony was celebrated a whole lunar month, which was called a moon, during which the festival was called a honeymoon, or honeymoon, which means a month of festival. The famous Alarie is said to have died on his wedding night, from the effects of too much indulgence in metheglin.

TEA AND COFFEE CULTURE IN HAWAII.

It is not generally known that the cultivation of tea and coffee in Hawaii is rapidly becoming a matter of importance to our American markets. Fine qualities of tea and coffee are being grown successfully, and it may be expected in the near future that these islands will become an important source of supply. Both tea and coffee grow luxuriantly, and both, it is noteworthy, are being prepared almost entirely by machinery, instead of by hand. This it is thought will compensate for the low wages paid to the pickers and other tea-workers in China, and enable Hawaii to rival the Chinese market prices. The tea, for example, is picked by machine, which gathers only the young and tender leaves and never makes the mistake of picking the tough leaves, however thick they may be. Next, the leaves are withered, rolled and then packed without being touched by any hand.

In preparing the coffee-berry for market there are also a number of ingenious and efficient machines which do the work much more cheaply and in a more uniform manner than it could be done by hand. The disk pulper and the Gordon pulper are principally used. Several of the Hawaiian coffee planters have erected extensive drying-houses, and a large crop this year may be readily prepared for market. The coffee-plant grows luxuriantly on the island in almost every soil. Wild coffee has even been planted among the highlands and in the forests, in some cases at an elevation of over 2,000 feet, and gives an abundant crop. It is reported that this year a number of people are applying for land with the intention of raising tea and coffee, and several large plantations are being equipped.

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Our Household.

THE KITCHEN FLOOR.

BY ALICE PEASE BATES.

There are trials of various kinds
In this curious world of ours;
There are things that vex us at home and
abroad,

For thorns always mingle with flowers.
But in the line of home duties, I know
There is nothing that tries me more
Than to get down once a week on my knees,
For scrubbing the kitchen floor.

In the first place, it always comes Saturday,
With everything else to do;
There are all kinds of cleaning and mending,
of course,

Accumulates all the week through.
And in all the hurly and bustle about,
I confess it does vex me sore,
To think I must get on my knees, not for
prayer,
But to scrub that kitchen floor.

Oh, servants tried and worn,
Oh, housekeepers weary and sad,
If sympathy only could give you cheer,
I would surely make your hearts glad.
But this, as you say, will not help,
I can only beseech and implore,
That when we cross to the other side,
There will be no kitchen floor.

DAINTY FRAMES AT SMALL EXPENSE.

CERTAIN articles about a house may be pretty, although cheap, if with their cheapness they show a daintiness of taste and a happy propriety. In nothing can one make better results of taste and beauty without expense than in the framing of our dear friends' photographs. The photographs may be placed about the house on mantel or table, without frames, but a setting of some kind, particularly one planned and worked out by one's own hand, is a mark of special regard, and speaks almost as plainly as the bouquet of fresh flowers which some persons keep blooming before the portrait of a friend, making the place a very shrine of affection. We give you models of several designs, all exceedingly pretty, yet the materials are only bits of cardboard and ribbon, a little water-color paint, and a touch of gilt.

Fig. 1 is the simplest, yet worthy of the dashing young man in the uniform of a world's fair official whose photograph fills the opening. The frame is made of a piece of matt cardboard; a cluster of pansies ornament the top, and one pretty blossom lies below. Pansies mean "thoughts," and therefore they are especially appropriate for this frame, which you may be sure some sentimental girl painted to hold the face of her sweetheart. The edges of this frame have gilt put on in ragged touches. If you like gilt, don't use it too abundantly, as a superfluity gives a tawdry effect. Ribbon of a harmonious lilac color, arranged in bows, and a loop at the top, is used to hang it on the wall.

Fig. 2 may cost much or little. It has a foundation of stiff cardboard, over which a layer of cotton batting makes a soft surface, and on top of which may be fastened the covering of leather, satin or paper. The edges of the material are neatly pasted over the cardboard, and a plain backing of white paper is pasted over all. A piece of stiff cardboard is fastened on the back to act as a support to the frame and keep it standing at the proper slant. For my part, I prefer a frame made entirely of paper, although one of white satin is truly exquisite. Beautiful painting makes the cheapest paper worthy of admiration. The frame illustrated is made of white water-color paper, of which a sheet that costs twenty cents makes four frames.

Fig. 3 is made of white matt cardboard; you can buy each panel for five cents. An oval opening is graceful. Paint clusters

of violets tied with bow-knots. Your own skill will decide the degree of beauty attained. A shoemaker will punch holes at the proper places to hold the ribbons, which act as hinges for this miniature two-panel screen. Baby ribbon is the prettiest, bunched up in rosettes. This frame is charming.

Perhaps you wonder how to hold the photographs in place. It is not nice to paste them, for that spoils the card, and besides, it is agreeable to change the pictures sometimes. Buy white envelopes of the exact size for cabinet photographs; on the upper side of the envelop cut out a place corresponding to the opening of the frame, then paste the envelop with the flap at the top on the back of the frame. You will find this an excellent plan. The photograph can be slipped in place, and the flap need not be pasted. It will keep out the dust, even if not fastened.

The frame shown in Fig. 4 is merely an enlargement and variation of the one with two panels. Three

cards, exactly square, with round openings, suit pictures which show only the head, and are particularly pretty for profiles. The circle is three and one half inches in diameter. The design painted are ferns on the middle panel, and wreaths of daisies and forget-me-nots on the end panels.

These descriptions are given to act as mere suggestions. You will conceive many new ideas, no doubt, and perhaps excel the frames described. K. K.

HOME TOPICS.

BREAD STICKS.—Take a teaspoonful of light bread dough and work into it a



FIG. 4.—PHOTO-FRAME.

teaspoonful of butter and the beaten white of an egg, adding only enough flour to work it smooth. Let it rise until very light, then turn it out on the board and roll it out about a quarter of an inch thick. Cut it into strips half an inch wide and five inches long, lay them on a greased pan, let them rise for twenty minutes, and bake for ten minutes in a quick oven. These sticks are especially nice served with salads.

CHEESE PUDDING.—This is a favorite hot dish for lunch or supper. Put two cupfuls of milk into a saucepan with a tablespoonful of butter. As soon as it is hot and the butter melted, pour it over a teaspoonful of fine bread crumbs. Let these soak about an hour, and then beat thoroughly and add three well-beaten eggs, a quarter of a pound of grated cheese and a little salt. Pour this into a buttered pudding-dish and bake it half an hour. Serve it hot as soon as done.

CROUP.—If you notice a whistling, wheezing sound in a child soon after it has gone to sleep, though it seemed perfectly well on retiring, it is a symptom of croup, especially if in addition to this it seems feverish. Always keep a bottle of hive syrup and one of vaseline in the house, if you have little children. The minute you discover croupy symptoms, give half a teaspoonful of hive syrup to a child of five, and more or less according to age. Cut a piece of flannel, shaped like a bib, large enough to cover the chest, and a piece of cotton to cover it; put strings at the neck long enough to cross in the back, pass under the arms and tie in front. Spread vaseline thickly over the flannel, grate on some nutmeg and drop on five drops of turpentine. Rub these well into the vaseline and put it on the child's chest. If the treatment is commenced on the first appearance of the symptoms, the child will grow easier in a short time, the flesh

become moist and the danger be over. If this does not happen in half an hour, give another dose of hive syrup and send for the doctor. If you have no hive syrup, give a teaspoonful of vaseline. Powdered alum and molasses is an old-fashioned remedy, which may be given if nothing better is at hand. If you have no vaseline, use lard instead for the plaster.

If a child is inclined to be croupy, be especially careful that its feet are kept warm and dry, and keep it in the house after sunset.

SPRING MEDICINES.—Many people think



FIG. 3.—PHOTO-FRAME.

they need tonics, bitters, etc., during the first weeks of spring. The better way is to change the diet. Instead of meat, starchy vegetables and rich pastry, eat eggs, fish and green vegetables, as spinach, lettuce, dandelions and onions. Instead of paying out money for medicines, buy more fruit. Drink lemonade, exercise freely in the fresh air, and use water plentifully, both internally and externally. A pair of rubber boots and a short dress, walking length, so that you may go out to walk even if the ground is wet and muddy, will do you far more good than a bottle of sarsaparilla. Try my prescription and see if "that tired feeling" does not disappear, the eyes grow bright, the breath sweet and

the complexion clear and rosy. In fact, you will feel better, look better, and consequently be a better woman.

MAIDA McL.

ASPARAGUS.

Many people are fond of this early spring vegetable, but think it too much trouble to raise. Not so; just give it its natural element. It is a native of the seashore, hence requires a sunny location, sandy soil, salt and moisture.

Every spring an asparagus-bed should have a sprinkling of salt, a top-dressing of manure and cover with sand. It is well to take a heavy fork and loosen the dirt in the beds before the manure is put on; spading would injure the roots, and a fork



FIG. 2.—PHOTO-FRAME.

will loosen the dirt equally as well in a little more time.

If you have no bed of asparagus, start one this spring, early. It may be done as soon as the ground is free of frost enough to work, and the plants will get a good start.

Do not cut the shoots for the first year, and but very little the second, and then you will soon have a nice bed that with care will last a lifetime. A bed may be grown from seed or roots. Seed requires three or four years, roots one or two years before cutting.

GYPSEY.

FRANKFORD'S MIRACLE.

Samuel Hart, a Paralytic, Astonishes People by Walking—Once a Cripple and a Paralytic, now as Spry as a Boy.

(From the Philadelphia Record.)

Mr. Hart and his wife conduct a dry-goods store at 4661 Frankford avenue, Philadelphia. He is about seventy years of age, and fought for the Union bravely throughout the war with Col. Gray's regiment, the 28th Penn. Vol., and is a member of Phil. J. Kearney Post No. 55, G. A. R. He also belongs to Shackamaxon Tribe, No. 116, of the Improved Order of Red Men, the Knights of Pythias, and numerous other organizations. Here is the story he told a reporter.

"Six years ago while I was working at my trade as a carpenter, I fell down-stairs and fractured my skull, sprained my spine in two places and sustained other serious injuries. I was picked up for dead, carried home and laid for thirteen months out of my mind. Then I had my skull trephined at the Hahnemann hospital," here Mr. Hart exhibited a small portion of his own skull-bone which he carries as a pocket piece, "and I began to improve, but my spine gave me a great deal of trouble. Although I was under treatment by a skilled physician I grew rapidly worse. On February 14th last I was suddenly seized with locomotor ataxia. Both my legs below the knees were numb and completely paralyzed, and I had a painful sensation about the hips. I fell and was confined for about five months in an invalid-chair. Besides the paralysis of my lower limbs I suffered excruciating pains in my back and legs, could not sleep soundly, my nerves were completely upset and my appetite went back on me. I could not walk at all and at times had frightful convulsions.

"My wife and I agreed that it would do no harm to try the Dr. Williams' Pink Pills and we got a supply. Before I had finished the first lot I was able to leave my invalid-chair. The life blood again coursed through my once dead legs, and I put the chair up in the garret. It has been there ever since. I have steadily improved ever since and my legs are now as sound as a dollar. My form is more erect and I walk with the same springy motion that I had when I was twenty-five years old. Let me give you an instance of my activity." He picked up a cane, held it with both hands a slight distance apart and hopped through it and back again with the agility of a school-boy. "That is something very few young men can do," he said, with a touch of pride in his tone.

X SAMUEL HART.

Sworn to before me this 21st day of August, 1894.

GEORGE L. BATTERSBY.

[SEAL.]

Notary Public.

Dr. Williams' Pink Pills contain all the elements necessary to give new life and richness to the blood and restore shattered nerves. They are for sale by all druggists, or may be had by mail from Dr. Williams' Medicine Company, Schenectady, N. Y., for 50c. per box, or 6 boxes for \$2.50.

TRIED RECIPES.

I have received so much benefit from our beloved paper that I feel like adding my mite.

TOMATO SOUP.—Take about a pint of tomatoes and put on stove to cook; season with salt, pepper and butter, and when well cooked, add four pints of milk, and let come to boil, when remove at once. If you do not salt the tomatoes before you add the milk, the milk will curdle. This is a delicious soup.

GINGERSNAPS.—One cupful of sugar, one cupful of molasses, one cupful of lard or butter, one teaspoonful of salt, one teaspoonful of ginger. Put on stove, let come to a boil, remove, and mix with a teaspoonful of soda dissolved in a little hot water; mix stiff and roll thin, and bake in a quick oven.

WASHINGTON PIE.—Bake two crusts; put one pint of milk with one cupful of sugar on to boil. Take the yolks of three eggs and one half teaspoonful of salt, three tablespoonfuls of flour; mix with enough milk to make a smooth batter, and stir into the milk on stove, stirring constantly until it thickens. Remove from fire, flavor with lemon or vanilla, or both, put into crusts, and beat whites and add a little sugar, and put on top. Return to oven, and brown slightly.

I wish to thank Margaret M. Moore for her splendid cake and frosting recipe. Please try these recipes and report.

MRS. A. B.

CABBAGE SALAD.—One small head of cabbage, two onions, two bunches of celery

and four cold boiled potatoes. Chop these articles fine in a hash-bowl, salt and pepper to taste. Then add the yolks of five hard-boiled eggs, well powdered, slicing the whites in rings. Over this pour boiling hot a mixture made of one pint of good vinegar, butter the size of an egg, two teaspoonfuls of sugar and one teaspoonful of mustard. Eat cold.

C. P. G.

FROSTED FEET.—A tried and effective remedy for frosted feet and ears: Pour boiling lard into a hole cut in clear, clean ice. Use as a salve.

A. R. M. J.

A CHAPTER ON KNITTING.

KNITTED SLIPPER.—Soft Germantown yarn in two colors, and ordinary-sized needles are used for these slippers, making a close, firm cloth, retaining the shape as long as used. Size No. 5.

Cast on 22 stitches with the gray.

Knit 3 rows plain of gray.

Knit 2 rows plain of blue.

Alternate until there are 18 stripes for the front. Widen 1 stitch on each side of every stripe. Cast off on a string 18 stitches for the side. Knit off 20 stitches for the front, the remaining 18 stitches knit back and forth until 44 stripes are knit, join to the stitches on the string. Take up the stitches around the top on three or four needles. Knit plain as for stockings, only tighter, for 23 rounds, narrowing 1 st at each side of the instep for 4 rows.

This plain knitting when finished should be firm enough to curl over and form a roll, as in the illustration. A rosette of baby ribbon completes the slipper.

BABY SOCK.—With Saxony yarn cast on 100 stitches.

Knit right and wrong 39 rows.

This done, take onto a third needle 40 stitches, knit 2 together, knit 16 plain, knit 2 together for instep; this leaves 40 stitches on other needle. Turn, slip 1, knit back to where two were knit together, and knit 2 together, one off each needle. Continue back and forth across the instep until 21 stitches remain on each needle. Knit 1, throw thread over, knit 2 together for eyelets to the instep. Knit plain across the instep and begin eyelets again.

Knit 20 rows like foot and begin the openwork, which consists of 5 stripes of 12 stitches each.

Knit 1, knit 2 together, repeat, throw thread over, knit 1, do this four times, knit 2 together, repeat across until five stripes are formed. Knit as long as desired, shape over a form, and tie at ankle with cord and tassels.

LADY'S MITTEN IN SQUARES.—Use Saxony or silk.

Cast on each of three needles 23 stitches.

Knit one row plain, purl two rows.

The openwork has seven stripes of twelve stitches each, as follows:

* Throw thread over and knit 1 four times and narrow twice, repeat seven times.

Knit twice around plain.

Knit once around purl *.

Repeat from * to * eight times.

Rib for one and one half inches, purl a row.

Knit 3, purl 1, repeat around; if not enough, add stitch to make it come out even.

Repeat three times around and purl a row.

In the middle of a needle purl 1, and mark with a thread, knit 2, purl 1, knit 2, purl 1, and mark again; this is five for the beginning of the thumb. Knit 3 and purl 1 three times around, and purl a row.

On every fifth row widen 2 stitches where the marks are, one in each of the thumb seams.

Knit 13 rows of squares.



KNITTED SLIPPER.

Put on a string 28 stitches for thumb, add 7 stitches to the hand for the thumb gusset, and narrow down to three.

Knit 14 rows of squares, and narrow off.

Take up the thumb stitches, and the seven added to the hand for a gusset, narrow to three.

Knit seven squares, and narrow off.

The length of mitten should be twenty squares.

GENTLEMAN'S ONE-FINGERED GLOVE IN SQUARE-STITCH.—Cast on each of three needles 24 stitches.

Rib for two inches for wrist.

Knit 3 stitches, purl 1, repeat around; if not enough to come out even, add more stitches. In the middle of a needle, purl 1, and mark with a thread. Knit 2, purl 1, knit 2, purl 1, and mark again for the thumb, proceed as before, and purl the fourth row always.

Every fifth round widen 2 stitches where the marks are, being particular to widen right in the thumb seam.

Knit 13 rows of squares.

Put off on a string for thumb 28 stitches. To the hand stitches add 7 stitches for the thumb gusset; as you knit around, narrow these extra stitches down to 3 stitches.

Knit five rows of squares.

Put on a string for the finger 28 stitches, and 5 stitches for the finger to the hand stitches.

Knit seven rows of squares, and narrow off in the next three rows of squares.

Take up the finger stitches and the five extra on the hand part. Knit 3, purl 1, repeat around three times and purl a row. Repeat for eight squares, and narrow off the thumb.

Fine yarn is used for these gloves.

M. E. SMITH.

FOR THE LONG WINTER EVENINGS.

"Do tell us something new, by means of which we can entertain a crowd of young people, the guests at a church social or a home party!" Sospoke a friend of mine not long since.

And judging from the satisfaction she evinced at my list, I decided to give others the benefit as well.

Young people must have pleasure. Enjoyment of some kind must be provided



GENTLEMAN'S GLOVE. LADY'S MITTEN.

them; and it is often the fault of parents and friends that they take up with "questionable amusements," because others are not provided.

A game entitled "The Wide, Wide World," is not only interesting, but instructive as well. Each guest is asked to wear some emblem representing some place upon this or the other side of the ocean.

The ice is broken as soon as the company arrives, for each one, is intent upon finding out what his neighbor represents.

Much amusement and many merry peals of laughter will be heard as the guessing goes on.

After refreshments have been served, a card is presented to each one, with the request that the locality or geographical name be written down, with the name of the person representing it.

A prize is to be given to the one who has the most correct answers. Any place that can be represented can be taken. "As a starter," I append the following:

"Idaho," a miss named Ida carrying a hoe.

"Marseilles," a lady wearing an apron of that material, or a little boy wearing a blouse of it.

"Brussels," a gentleman donning a cap made of Brussels carpet.

"Black Sea," a letter C, black in color, pinned to the dress.

"Red Sea," a complete red costume, meaning see red.

"Egean Sea," a crown upon which are the letters E, G and C.

"Holyoke," a small ox-yoke, carried.

"Lowell," the letter L pinned to the bottom of a boy's pantaloons.

"Manhattan," a man wearing a hat.

"Berlin," a bit of crewel worn as a bracelet.

The record for the past six months shows a very decided gain in sales, in the subscriptions and advertisements.

Keep your mind on Allen's Lung Balsam, as this is the season for Coughs and Colds. Its expectorant and healing qualities, and being free from all combinations of opium, places it at the head of all Cough remedies. It approaches so nearly a specific for Consumption that 95 per cent of cases which are taken in time are cured.

"Bolton," a wagon-bolt, worn as a guard.
"Belfast," a small bell worn as a bangle.
"Hayti," a wisp of hay worn as a cravat.
"Fairfield," a lady carrying a choice engraving of a beautiful field.

"Mount Ayr," a lady wears a very high chignon on top of her head.

"Marblehead," a young man carrying a piece of marble on his head.

"Blanco," merely the letter O.

"China," a lady wearing a necklace of toy teacups.

"America," a Goddess of Liberty.

"Minnehaha," a young girl named Minnie, who is constantly laughing.

"New Hampshire," pictures of ham tacked to the lapels of a gentleman's coat (new ham, sure).

"United States," the names of several states tied together.

Old-fashioned charades are always enjoyable. For a change, give it a literary turn, and call it an hour with authors and poets.

"Disgusted with Burns," can be represented by a boy with several court-plasters on his face, neck and hands, and bandages wherever one can conveniently be placed.

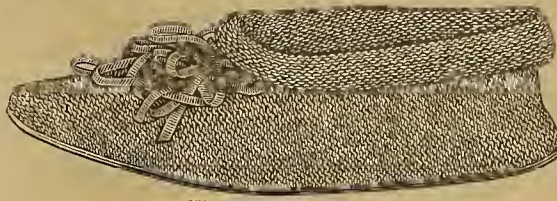
"Longfellow," a boy on stilts, his head touching the ceiling. The covering for the stilts can be made by cutting off an old pair of pantaloons and sewing them to the bottom of another pair. Of course, this one is easily guessed, but 'tis funny, nevertheless.

"The Gray and the Blue," a little girl dressed in gray; a boy in a blue sailor costume.

"Tale of Two Cities," two sheets of foolscap paper, headed with the names of any two prominent cities, below which is a description, or history, rather, of each.

"She," a lady enters the room, bows and retires.

"Barefoot Boy" and "Little Brown Hands" can each be represented by a little country urchin.



KNITTED SLIPPER.

"After the Ball," a cat running after a rubber ball.

"Our Mutual Friend," a young lady between two gentlemen.

"Tempest and Sunshine," a smiling miss and a frowning one.

"The Sketch-book," a book of sketches.

"Bitter-sweet," uncooked cranberries, having a very little sugar sprinkled over them.

A pleasing variation will be to represent the author with his work. Thus: Payne, author of "Home, Sweet Home."

The first scene shows a boy, evidently suffering from an overdose of green apples; hands clasped over his stomach, eyes rolling, and his whole countenance expressing intense suffering.

Act second.—A pleasant sitting-room, in which sit father and mother, reading, while the children play happily at different games.

"Science of Wealth," by Walker, is nicely shown by different members of the company plying various trades and professions in the first scene, while in the second, a man walks rapidly back and forth across the stage.

"Mother Truth's Melodies," by Mrs. Miller; a woman dressed in gray or blue, or some sober, truthful color, wearing glasses, walks in with any number of rhymes and verses attached to her dress.

The second scene discloses a woman with floury dress, apron and miller's cap. Key and his "Star-spangled Banner" can both be represented by one act. A flag, from which hangs a large key.

"Duty," by Smiles. Duty is represented by a young girl in calico gown, busily sewing on a patch-work quilt. By her side lies a fairy tale, which she now and then glances at wistfully, but does not touch. She faithfully plies the needle until her task is complete. Smiles is represented in the second act by a man with a perpetual grin on his face.

WHAT IS IT LIKE?—This is also an excellent game, which acts as an "ice-breaker" in a "stiff" crowd. One person is selected to guess, and leaves the room, while the company decide upon some object. Suppose the one chosen be a leaf. The one who is to find it out is recalled by a shrill voice shouting, "Heigh-ho."

Entering the room, he asks one, "What is it like?"

"Like Mary's dress," is the answer.

"Why?"

"Because it is green."

The questioner goes to each one in turn, and the one who, by his answer, enables him to guess it, is the one to go out the next time.

They might select a plate, and say it was like a silver dollar, because it is round; or a chair, because useful; or a sheet of paper, because white, and so on. E. B. S.

BEWARE OF OINTMENTS FOR CATARRH THAT CONTAIN MERCURY,

as mercury will surely destroy the sense of smell and completely derange the whole system when entering it through the mucous surfaces. Such articles should never be used except on prescriptions from reputable physicians, as the damage they will do is ten fold to the good you can possibly derive from them. Hall's Catarrh Cure, manufactured by F. J. Cheney & Co., Toledo, O., contains no mercury, and is taken internally, acting directly upon the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. In buying Hall's Catarrh Cure be sure you get the genuine. It is taken internally, and made in Toledo, Ohio, by F. J. Cheney & Co. Testimonials free. Sold by Druggists, price 75c. per bottle.

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Our Household.

AT PLAY.

Play that you are mother dear
 And play that papa is your beau;
 Play that we sit in the corner here,
 Just as we used to, long ago.
 Playing so we lovers two
 Are just as happy as we can be,
 And I'll say "I love you" to you
 And you say "I love you" to me!
 "I love you" we both shall say,
 All in earnest and all in play.

Or, play that you are that other one
 That some time came, and went away;
 And play that the light of years agone
 Stole into my heart again to-day!
 Playing that you are the one I knew
 In the days that never again may be,
 I'll say "I love you" to you
 And you say "I love you" to me!
 "I love you" my heart shall say
 To the ghost of the past come back to-day!

Or, play that you sought this nestling place
 For your own sweet self, with that dual
 guise
 Of your pretty mother in your face
 And the look of that other in your eyes!
 So the dear old loves shall live anew
 As I hold my darling on my knee,
 And I'll say "I love you" to you
 And you say "I love you" to me!

Oh, many a strange true thing we say
 And do when we pretend to play!
 —Eugene Field, in Chicago Record.

THE LATEST FASHIONS.

Now that the Lenton season is once more with us, the reigning frivolities in vanity fair have been put aside and repentance in sackcloth and ashes lay claim to the time heretofore given to parties, dances and other social festivities. Party finery has been laid up for repairs and Easter alterations.

There seems an abundance of surplus time for looking up the new ideas in dress,



WALKING-COSTUME.

which will be most appropriate and fetching for the Easter-tide. Our smartshops are filled with shoppers, purchasers and fresh new goods to the heart's content. Snow and zero weather are thoroughly antagonistic to spring novelties, yet where they are placed upon sale one is bound to talk about them. Fine importations are rarely ever duplicated, so sell almost at sight.

Bluet seems to be brought out again in spite of the fact that it is trying to almost any complexion, and those who can wear it in direct contact with the skin are as few as cherry blossoms in midwinter. Batiste, madras and other spring and summer materials, elaborately embroidered in white and colors, are shown in a great variety of pink, heliotrope, green and navy blue, with yellow in the lead. These are pattern dresses, and are usually made with the plain, full, all-around skirt.

Black dotted swiss is one of the popular novelties, and will be made up with quantities of black lace, and in many instances where the lace is used as a ruffle will have white underneath, the whole being made over a lining of black taffeta silk.

The new India silks are mostly in black with a taffeta finish, and are thickly covered with very small figures. Some have a crinkled effect like the popular crepon.

These can be had in good quality, twenty-four inches wide, for from sixty-nine to eighty-nine cents per yard.

The organdies, which come in an endless variety of colors, have a dotted swiss effect, with flowers in contrasting colors, or shades of the same color as the background. These will be made up with a profusion of lace and flowing ends of satin ribbons.

Bonnets keep on extending sidewise until the idea is overdone, with great bows



PAQUIN SKIRT.

of ribbon and bunches of flowers hung on either side of the head about the ears. The effect is seldom becoming, as it makes the heavy face look heavier, and the slender one becomes hatch-shaped. The original idea of the broad bonnet is pretty and quaint, but loses its beauty when exaggerated. Hats for the coming spring are to be mostly little close affairs of rough straw, the toque being one of the favorites. Many costumes worn this spring will include a hat of the tam-o'-shanter fashion made of the material to match the dress.

The reign of the pretty silken blouse corsage seems likely, like Tennyson's brook, to "go on forever," judging from the daily increase of number and elegance of those attractive and becoming additions to a woman's toilet. Usually when a style takes such a hold upon the people as to be so universally worn by all classes, it soon loses its popularity, and the most select members of society will have none of it. But until the great creators of style and fashion find something equally pretty, equally practical, and withal as picturesque and becoming, wherewith to replace the



DANCING-GOWN.

blouse waist, the latter will not be de-throned.

Though designers hint at plainer styles in bodices, those most worn for evening are much trimmed in soft, fluffy effects. The one shown is of erise silk with cream lace points and black satin ribbon for trimming. The effect in the back is the same as that shown in the front, being made full over a tight lining, and held in place by the bands of ribbon with small bows, which end at the line of the bust.

In tailor-made skirts there is but little

change. They remain "in statu quo," rather full around the sides and back, but charmingly plain in front. The bodice has three box-plaits front and back, and on some the center plait in front has small buttons placed very close together. Word comes from Paris of the extraordinary popularity of black gowns in the French capital. They can hardly be more in evidence there than here, though they invariably have some glint of color on the bodice.

The newest combination with black is gold.

They tell us, too, that chiffon has undoubtedly received its conge, and in its place plain and figured nets and new gauzes are to be worn.

The latest dancing-gowns have lace instead of chiffon, and the Easter toilets are to show this garniture extensively used on both skirts and bodices.

One of heliotrope taffeta finished India silk has a full skirt, with a deep flounce of sheer cream lace, caught in festoons with bows of violet velvet. The open-neck bodice of violet velvet, with a full vest to match the skirt is finished with a full fall of lace stiffly held out on the shoulders by the large, puffed sleeves of velvet. Many of the sleeves are made to droop at the shoulders, and no doubt the spring style will tend in that direction, though at present the broad effect at the shoulders seems to be as much in favor as ever.

A pretty and new idea in a walking-costume is shown with a full, plain skirt of dark green crepon, with waist in a lighter shade of green moire antique, with three box-plaits both back and front, which have a beading on each edge of yellow moire. The Recamier yoke is of green moire edged with a band of open emerald passementerie, which is headed with points of cream lace, with the same effect shown in



EVENING BODICE.

the back. The large sleeves of crepon are finished with a gauntlet cuff of moire and emerald passementerie. The buttons on the plaits match the passementerie used.

Jet and lace are much combined on fancy waists and wraps, and in many instances skirts are trimmed with alternating rows of yellow lace and open jet placed over a contrasting color. The full blouse effect coming from beneath a yoke is particularly becoming to slender figures, and will be largely affected in the spring styles.

A gray cloth Paquin skirt with a slight flare at the sides, has a bodice with blouse effect of black velvet, which is filled on the yoke of gray cloth trimmed with bands of burnished steel passementerie, which match the belt and collar. The sleeves are deep cuffs of velvet to the elbow, with a large puff of gray cloth caught at the side with a rosette of burnished steel.

Many of the new jet trimmings are festooned, and will be used for capes as well as for gowns.

Fuchsia red, yellow, various shades of green and all the tones of violet are shown in the new spring goods.

Narrow stripes are very popular in silks and velvet, many shades being combined.

The new black India silks are brocaded in small patterns, while the plain ones are woven almost gauze-like for accordion-plaited effects.

Velvet is in high favor for ceremonious gowns among matrons who can afford them.

It is quite noticeable that women who wear organ-plaited skirts are seldom tired enough to sit down.

Long-neglected coral, for years monopolized by babies, is coming in fashion again.

What used to be called the "Langtry knot" has been revived in hair-dressing.

The "Napoleon" craze will be apparent in some spring and summer fashions.

Fur trimmings are talked of for warm-weather dresses.

MARY K.

HOW SOAP CLEANSSES.

Most persons have very indistinct ideas of the manner in which soap acts in removing dirt. This is not so simple a matter as it may seem, for even chemists have been more or less puzzled by it; although there is now substantial agreement among them as to the chemistry of the process. One of the explanations of the cleansing action of soap is due to a suggestion made by no less famous a man of science than Prof. W. Stanley Jevons.

It is generally considered that the efficacy of soap depends mainly upon its decomposition, when it is mixed with water, into an alkali and a fatty acid.

The alkali thus set free dissolves the grease by which the dirt is attached to the surface to be cleaned, and the water then carries the dirt off. But this is not all; the fatty acid from the soap neutralizes any free alkali remaining after the loosening of the dirt, and thus prevents the alkali from attacking the cleansed surface itself. This is very important when soap is applied to the skin, and the painful effects produced by some varieties of soap are due to the fact that they possess an excess of free alkali, more than the fatty acids can neutralize.

But there are other factors concerned in the action of soap. Its cohesive power, upon which the formation of soap-bubbles and lather depends, enables it to gather up the dirt as it is loosened by the alkali. Then, too, the process is assisted by the curious property which soap possesses of producing a great agitation among solid particles suspended in water.

This, of course, tends to the ready removal of the dirt after it has been detached from the surface, and it is this action that Professor Jevons has pointed out as being one of the elements of the cleansing power of soap.

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A WATCH IN THE NIGHT.

In the long, dim night, if you cannot sleep,
Don't fall to counting the dreamland sheep,
They follow their leader fast and fain
Over the hedge and in a dizzy train,
But they have no power to drive away
The haunting ghosts of the weary day.

Cease, if you can, from adding lines,
Of curtsying figures, sevens, nines,
Sixes, elevens, till by and by,
Like a cloud of notes in a summer sky,
You could brush them away, but back they'd
creep,
And never, never would bring you sleep.

And, whosoever may bid you, do not say
The verses you learned in your childhood's
day,
Over and over until full fain,
You wish you were merely a child again
With a head that at touch of the pillow
knew
The tender drooping of slumber's dew.

But, dear, just think of the forest pool
Where the ferns stand close on the edges cool,
Where the whispering willows bend and lave,
And the lisp is heard of the rippling wave.
Hark to the wind in the pine-tree tops,
To the syllabled murmur in grove and copse,
Shutting your eyes, drifting out to sea,
Where the stars look down and the sails float
free,
And the waters will croon you a drowsy tune,
And the lulling of slumber will reach you
soon.

Or think, if you will, of the sweet, green
grass,
Acres and acres where no feet pass,
Of daisies and clover, that over and over
The zephyrs kiss with the heart of a lover,
Of dunes that are billowy 'neath the sun,
Where the skylark stoops when his song is
done.

Or ever you know it, unaware,
The angel of sleep will find you there,
Will sift his poppies above your head,
And rock you as if in a cradle bed;
And, hushing and hiding, will bury you deep
In the wonderful, beautiful cave of sleep,
And you'll never awake till the new day's
dawn,
When the watch of the dark, dull night is
gone.

—Margaret E. Sangster.

TRYING ON AND FINISHING OF A WAIST.

Try the waist on the figure for which it is intended, and pin it together down the center of the front through basting, which ought to mark the center. To do this, take hold of the lap (which should be allowed to each front when cutting out) on each side of the dress, and put them together first at the waist line. Pin up the front perfectly even, one lap with the other. If these two lines do not meet, the waist and bust measure have been taken too small. Never make alterations on the front, as that spoils the shape of the waist. If the bust and waist are but a little too tight, they can be let out at the under-arm seam. After the waist is fitted right, stitch it up, being careful not to have the tension on the machine too tight, and be very careful to stitch outside of the bastings, because the bones will take up some room on the inside of the waist. It is wise to put the fastening on before stitching up the under-arm seams. Press all the seams flat, by dampening them slightly. Shape the waist as desired around the bottom. After putting on the whalebones or steels, face or cord the edge with a piece of material shaped to fit. In basting on this facing, hold the waist on top. Any facing, such as for the bottom of sleeves, etc., can be put on neater and smoother by holding the facing inside, or underneath when basting in place; then turn and hem in place. Turn up a narrow hem around the waist, and baste before the facing is put on; turn the under side of the waist, and hem both edges of the facing neatly to the lining, and press. Cut the collar from military canvas, cover with material and line, holding the lining underneath when basting.

To put the collar to the dress, hold the collar wrong side up under the body, and sew the neck of the body around the collar. This gives the necessary fullness required to the body. It is nice to first bind the neck of the body with a narrow strip of silk, and press very flat before securing the collar. By this finish the collar can be removed, if desired, in order to use other neck garniture.

As no decided rule can be given for adjusting the sleeves, the distance up from the under-arm seam varying from one and one half inches to two inches. This must be ascertained by basting the sleeve in and trying on. If the freedom of the arm is not hampered, the sleeve can be stitched in. Lapels, wide collars and double breast should be cut in the material, not the lining. Fancy lapels, ruffles, etc., of course,

are added to a finished waist. For boning a waist, steel stays come in varying lengths to suit the different seams of waists. The most popular style of steel stay is covered with sateen or satin upon one side and white goods upon the other. The lining and outside are firmly cemented together to the steel, and extend about one eighth of an inch beyond the steel at each side, and are neatly finished at the ends by the edges being pinked. The steel is very flexible, though it possesses sufficient resistance to keep it in the shape desired. It is placed over the seam just as an ordinary casing is, and there secured by herring-bone-stitch, a fancy cross-stitch made from side to side over the steel. The snug fit now deemed necessary in all tailor-made costumes cannot be accomplished when the costume comprises a coat and vest as its upper portion, without the use of whale-bones or steels. In coats, especially the tight-fitting ones, bones are frequently used in every seam, and in vests, in the darts and under-arm seams, and if the garment is double-breasted, in the center of the front seam.

In boning these garments, the outside fabric is seamed separately from the lining, which is, of course, added afterward as in men's coats and vests. If buttons are to be the means of fastening the body, lay the lining upon the outside fabric, with the right sides of the parts and the center lines together, and stitch the two together a little more than half way from the edges to the center line, when a medium-sized button is to be used. If large buttons are selected, make an ordinary seam at the edge, and use a stay for the buttons, basting it in place. Now turn the parts right side out at the seam; smoothly baste the lining to the outside, and cut the latter out by its lining. A row of hand or machine stitching is generally made at the center line, and along it the buttons are sewed, making a neat, firm stay for the buttons. For the buttonhole side allow from the center line enough to provide ample room for the buttonholes. If hooks and eyes are used, a narrower allowance need be made.

Turn back the lining on the buttonhole side along the basting which indicates the fold of the hem, and stitch along the folded edge. This stay prevents the edge from stretching between the buttonholes, as it often does when the stay is omitted, when it stretches, wrinkles form, or a fullness which pulls away from the buttons, disclosing the stitching of the button stay. After the stay is basted, lap the front edge of the lining over the corresponding edge of the outside, with its right side (the side which comes next the figure) downward, and its front edge so that the distance from the edge to the center line of the front will be equal to the distance from this edge to the center line of the lining, so when the outside is turned back over the edge of the lining, the two center lines will come together. Baste the edges of the lining to position, turn under the edge of the front and baste it down, and then stitch along each basting. Now turn the front over even with the lining edge, and hem neatly to the lining. M. E. SMITH.

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The wheat that took the first premium at the World's Fair last year over all others was raised on the farm of Mr. A. A. Lambrigger, ten miles south of Sheridan, Wyo. The variety was "Wyoming Ambre," and it yielded 69 bushels to the acre and weighed 66 pounds to the bushel.

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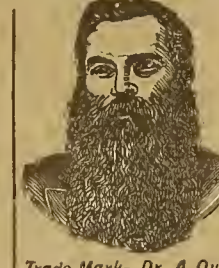
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Our Sunday Afternoon.

THE COMING OF NIGHT.

The loitering day looked backward smiling,
And slipped out through the West,
Where rosy, misty forms beguiling,
Besought her for their guest;
"Oh, follow, follow through the West!

"Our golden portals wide are swinging
For thee alone, for thee,
And wistful voices clear are ringing
Across the darkling sea,
In eager welcoming to thee."

Aloft her silver censer holding,
The star-eyed night drew close.
Her mantle round the hushed earth folding,
More sweetly breathed the rose,
As night with tender tears drew close,

Her dusky sandals softly gleaming
With wandering threads of gold,
Brothered by vagrant fireflies, seeming
Beneath each wing to hold
A fairy spinning threads of gold.

With silent footfall, weaving slowly
A mystic, slumbrous spell,
She came; and something sweet and holy
The weary earth befell,
When woven in the slumbrous spell.

—Celia A. Hayward, in Lippincott's.

SUNNY ROOMS MAKE SUNNY LIVES.

LIGHT is one of the most active agencies in enlivening and beautifying a home. We all know the value of sunlight as a health-giving agent to the physical system; it is not less so to our moral and spiritual natures. We absorb light, and it nourishes us with strange powers. We are more active under its influence—can think better and work more vigorously.

Let us take the airiest, choicest and sunniest room in the house for our living-room—the workshop where brain and body are built up and renewed. And let us there have a bay-window, no matter how plain in structure, through which the good twin angels of nature—sunlight and pure air—can freely enter.

We can hang no picture on our walls that can compare with the living and everlasting pictures which God shall paint for us through our ample window—rosy dawns, golden-hearted sunsets, the tender green and changing tints of spring, the glow of summer, the pomp of autumn, the white of winter, storm and sunshine, glimmer and gloom—all these we can have and enjoy while we sit in our sheltered room, as the changing days glide on.

Dark rooms bring depression of spirits, imparting a sense of confinement, of isolation, of powerlessness, which is chilling to energy and vigor; but in light is good cheer.

Even in a gloomy house, where walls and furniture are dingy and brown, you have but to take down the heavy curtains, open wide the window, let light stream in, and gloom vanishes, and care and sadness flee.

Keep your house sunny, and keep your soul sunny. Let the Son of Righteousness arise on you with healing in his wings, and you shall find that "light is sown for the righteous, and gladness for the upright in heart."

LIVING AT OUR BEST.

Do not try to do a great thing; you may waste all your life waiting for the opportunity which may never come. But since little things are always claiming your attention, do them as they come, from a great motive, for the glory of God, to win his smile of approval, and to do good to men. It is harder to plod on in obscurity, acting thus, than to stand on the high places of the field, within the view of all, and to do deeds of valor at which rival armies stand still to gaze. But no such act goes without the swift recognition and the ultimate recompense of Christ.

To fulfill faithfully the duties of your station; to use to the uttermost the gifts of your ministry; to bear chafing annoyances and trivial irritations as martyrs bore the pillory and stake; to find the one noble trait in people who try to molest you; to put the kindest construction on unkind acts and words; to love with the love of God even the unthankful and evil; to be content to be a fountain in the midst of a wild valley of stones, nourishing a few lichens and wild flowers, or now and again a thirsty sheep, and to do this always, and not for the praise of man, but for the sake of God—this makes a great life.—F. B. Meyer.

A LITTLE WHILE.

I sometimes go into a sick-chamber where the "prisoners of Jesus Christ" are suffering, with no prospect of recovery. Perhaps the eyes of some of those chronic invalids may fall upon this article. My dear friends, put under your pillows these sweet words of Jesus—"a little while." It is only for a little while that you are to serve your Master by patient submission to his holy will. That chronic suffering will soon be over. That disease which no earthly physician can cure will soon be cured by your divine physician, who, by the touch of his messenger, will cure you in an instant, into the perfect health of heaven! You will exchange this weary bed of pain for that crystal air in which none shall say, "I am sick," neither shall there be any more pain.

Not only to the sick and to the poverty-stricken child of God do these tender words of our Redeemer bring solace. Let these words, "a little while," bring a healing balm to hearts that are smarting under unkindness, or wounded by neglect, or pining under privations, or bleeding under sharp bereavements. I offer them as a sedative to sorrows and a solace under sharp affliction—"a little while and ye shall see me;" and the sight of him shall, in an instant, wipe out all the memories of the darkest hours through which you made your way into the everlasting rest.

HOUSEKEEPER'S SUNDAY.

Housekeepers need one day in seven for rest as much as any other class of laborers, but too often the Sabbath is crowded with work that seems inevitable. While some duties must be performed, Sunday's work may be greatly lessened. Much work may be saved on Sunday in the cooking. During the week the wise housewife will plan all her Sunday meals and purchase everything needed. It does not look very consistent to see professed Christians patronize butcher-shops, bakeries, milk and ice wagons on the Lord's day. The mother's Sabbath is not complete unless some time is spent in religious instruction, and by an attractive recital of Bible stories, early teaching a love for God's word. This hour can be made one of real pleasure to the little ones if wisely conducted, and will be a bright spot in their memories and an incentive to right living in the years to come. A calm, useful, well-spent Sabbath is the crowning joy of the whole week.

THE SALOON WASTE OF MONEY.

At a largely attended meeting of the Catholic clergymen and laymen of one of the leading parishes of Chicago, Father M. P. Dowling, one of the most earnest of those demanding reform, made an address in which he gave some startling figures. He said that the total cost of the world's exposition was \$25,000,000, the gate receipts \$10,000,000, and the appropriation of the city of Chicago \$5,000,000. And yet, stupendous as these figures are, the money annually paid to the Chicago saloon-keepers is nearly twice the combined construction and general expenses of the world's fair, about five times the total gate receipts, \$3,000 going to them for every \$1,000 paid the fair. He made a terrible arraignment of the saloon, and appealed for help to save the perishing thousands whose degradation is due to drink.—*Illinois Watch-tower.*

NOT IN THE BIBLE.

Nine persons out of ten, or thereabouts, if asked where the expression "God tempers the wind to the shorn lamb," can be found, will answer, "In the Bible." But they will be mistaken. This is one of the three or four proverbial quotations generally believed to be in the Bible, which are not there. It is from Lawrence Sterne's famous "Sentimental Journey," in the chapter called "Maria." The other proverbs commonly credited to the Bible are, "Cleanliness is next to godliness," which is found in one of John Wesley's sermons, and "Pour oil on the troubled waters," which is derived from a statement in Pliny's natural history, written 1,800 years ago.

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An old physician, retired from practice, had placed in his hands by an East India missionary the formula of a simple vegetable remedy for the speedy and permanent cure of Consumption, Bronchitis, Catarrh, Asthma and all Throat and Lung Affections, also a positive and radical cure for Nervous Debility and all Nervous Complaints. Having tested its wonderful curative powers in thousands of cases, and desiring to relieve human suffering, I will send free of charge to all who wish it, this recipe, in German, French or English, with full directions for preparing and using. Sent by mail, by addressing, with stamp, naming this paper. W. A. NOYES, 820 Powers' Block, Rochester, N. Y.

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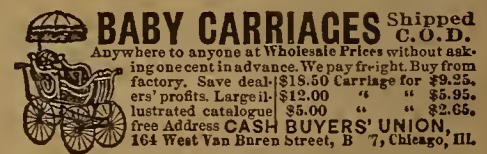
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Queries.

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Questions from regular subscribers of FARM AND FIRESIDE, and relating to matters of general interest, will be answered in these columns free of charge. Querists desiring immediate replies, or asking information upon matters of personal interest only, should inclose stamps for return postage. The full name and post-office address of the inquirer should accompany each query in order that we may answer by mail if necessary. Queries must be received at least two weeks before the date of the issue in which the answer is expected. Queries should not be written on paper containing matters of business, and should be written on one side of the paper only.

Kainite.—W. J. F., Deitz, W. Va. The commercial fertilizer known as kainite is a by-product of the salt mines of Stassfurt, Germany. It contains twelve per cent or more of potash.

Growing Onions.—A. B., Tyler Hill, Pa. Sow at once two ounces of Prizetaker in hot-bed, or box under glass. You will need 10,000 to 12,000 plants for your piece four rods by three. Put ashes and hen manure on the land broadcast after plowing, and thoroughly harrow afterward. Then set plants in rows one foot apart and three inches apart in the row.—JOSEPH.

Tobacco Culture.—R. A. R., Calvert, Tex., writes: "Please inform me how to plant, cultivate, cure and market tobacco."

ANSWER:—It would require a short treatise to answer these questions. Such has been prepared by the Department of Agriculture for distribution among farmers. Apply to the Secretary of Agriculture, Washington, D. C., for Farmers' Bulletin No. 6, "Tobacco: Instructions for its Cultivation and Curing."

Cutting Seed Potatoes.—J. A. M., of Plainfield, Ill., asks whether the seed end of potatoes should be thrown away or not. The facts in the case are that the seed end gives us the first and strongest sprout, invariably, and why should we throw it away? For this reason I prefer the seed end of the potato. In practice, there is very little difference in yield or general qualities of the tubers grown from the stem end and from the seed end. The eyes on the seed end are closer together, it is true. But the first sprout grows so strong and thrifty that it usually prevents the development of other sprouts close around the first.—JOSEPH.

Use of Land-roller.—J. A. F., Christiansburg, Va., writes: "Please inform me how and when to use a land-roller to the best advantage, whether to roll for wheat in front of drill or after, or both; also for oats and corn."

ANSWER:—The best use of a land-roller is in preparing a fine, firm seed-bed for grain crops, for wheat and oats especially. If they have that, it is seldom that a roller can be used to advantage after sowing. If not, and the soil is loose and cloddy, it will be a benefit. It is sometimes impossible to get the ground in proper condition before planting, and a rolling afterward may benefit greatly. Use the roller when conditions require it.

Kainite as Fertilizer—Fertilizer for Potatoes.—H. B., Parrish, Ill., writes: "What is the composition and price of kainite?—What is the best fertilizer for Irish potatoes?"

REPLY BY JOSEPH:—Kainite contains about thirteen per cent of potash, and can be bought at the seaports for about \$10 to \$12 per ton.—The best fertilizer for potatoes is a good young clover sod that has been well fed, either with stable manure or with mineral fertilizers, such as wood ashes, or superphosphate and some form of potash. If to be applied directly to the potato crop, 500 to 800 pounds of some special "potato or vegetable manure," analyzing about 4 or 5 per cent nitrogen, 8 to 12 per cent phosphoric acid and 6 to 10 per cent of potash, will be found safest, but not always cheapest.

Turnips for Hogs—Profit in Eggs.—A subscriber of Sumner county, Tenn., writes: "I wish to sow turnips in spring for feeding to hogs. What kind and when should I sow seed?—I can buy Leghorn hens at twenty-five cents apiece, and grain at fifty cents per bushel. Have plenty of green stuff and pasture. Eggs are selling for fifteen to twenty cents per dozen. Can I make anything at this?"

REPLY BY JOSEPH:—Why raise turnips for early feed, when clover (crimson or ordinary) is grown so much more easily? For winter feed, turnips will come handy enough. You can sow the flat varieties among corn, at last cultivation; or sow the Swedes (rutabagas) along in July, in drills eighteen inches to two feet apart, giving good cultivation.—Young laying hens are cheap at the price named at this season of the year. I would not sell my pullets now at seventy-five cents each, for I expect that they will bring me more money in eggs during the next five or six months, and I have to pay fifty cents or more for wheat, etc. If I had the room and buildings, I would buy up all the young Leghorns that I could get at such a figure.

VETERINARY.

Conducted by Dr. H. J. Detmers. Professor of Veterinary Surgery in Ohio State University.

To regular subscribers of FARM AND FIRESIDE, answers will be given through these columns free of charge. Where an immediate reply by mail is desired, the applicant should inclose a fee of one dollar, otherwise no attention will be paid to such a request. Inquiries should always contain the writer's full address. Queries must be received at least two weeks before the date of the issue in which the answer is expected. Subscribers may send their veterinary queries directly to Dr. H. J. DETMERS, 1315 Neil Avenue, Columbus, Ohio.

NOTE:—Parties who desire an answer to their inquiries in this column, must give their name and address, not necessarily for publication, but for other good reasons. Anonymous inquiries are not answered under any circumstances.

A Soft Knot.—L. A. S., Fayetteville, Ohio. "A soft knot" is too indefinite a term, and unless you give a better description I cannot answer you.

Itching.—P. A. K., DeSoto, Mo. It seems your dog is too fat, eats too well and too much, and has not enough exercise.

Habitual Colic.—J. M. O., Pleasant Dale, W. Va. Your mare suffers from habitual colic, and some day will die of it. Feed, water and exercise moderately, but regularly; this is about all you can do.

Ringworm.—G. D., Shippensville, Pa. What you describe is ringworm. Paint the affected parts once a day, for several days in succession, with tincture of iodine, but at the same time have the stalls cleaned and the bedding removed; also disinfect the grooming utensils, such as currycomb and brush, so that no new infection may take place.

A Lump in the Teat of a Cow.—W. A., Byphala, Ohio. Please consult answer given to C. O., University Park, Col., in present issue, and have your cow examined by a competent veterinarian.

Insufficient Vitality.—J. H., Lenox, Ohio. If you do not keep your sow quite so fat and grant her a little more exercise, and perhaps change her food a little, substituting wheat bran for wheat, the pigs of the next litter will probably have more vitality and may live.

Not Enough Milk.—G. L. A., Newport, Pa. You probably milked your cow too long before calving. Feed well, and keep on milking, and the cause of your complaint—an insufficient amount of milk—will disappear, or perhaps has disappeared when this reaches you.

Swine-plague.—M. R., Bartlett, Ohio. Your hogs have swine-plague (so-called hog-cholera). The disease was introduced among your hogs by the sow that was taken to another man's boar, which latter, you say yourself, has been sick. Old boars in particular often recover.

Paresis.—O. C. L., Rice Hill, Oregon. The cause of the paralytic symptoms (paresis) of your horses seems to be a spinal meningitis. Last summer a good many cases occurred in Ohio and adjoining states. It seems to be infectious. Voluntary exercise is beneficial, hence the favorable effect of pasturage.

A Stiff Neck.—O. B. W., Sweet Springs, W. Va. Learning nothing more from your communication than that your young sow has a stiff neck, holds her head to one side, and does not thrive as well as the others, I cannot tell you the cause, nor suggest a remedy. If the deformity is not congenital, it may possibly be due to rachitis.

Ringworm.—R. B. M., Eureka, Kan. The cutaneous eruption you complain of is so-called ringworm. Apply to the affected spots once a day for several days in succession some tincture of iodine, and at the same time clean out the stable, and clean and disinfect the grooming utensils, and thus prevent a new infection.

Lumps.—O. S., Girard, Kan. The "lumps that you call wens," according to your description, may be warts; or if the same are black, and your horse is gray, they probably are melanotic tumors. If such is the case, do not interfere with them in any way or manner, but leave them severely alone, otherwise they may become very ugly and exceedingly troublesome.

Tympanitis.—M. E. M., Kinderhook, N. Y. Yes, your cow died of tympanitis (bloating), caused by eating too much food liable to ferment—spoiled clover hay, perhaps. Immediate relief is effected by the use of the trocar. The proper place is at a point equidistant from the hips, the last rib and the end of the transverse processes of the lumbar vertebra on the left side of the cow.

Induration of the Mammary Gland.—W. E. M., Cisco, Texas. What you describe appears to be induration of one of the mammary glands (one side of the udder). Such an induration must be considered incurable, and is best left alone; at any rate, an udder thus affected cannot be restored to a normal condition. Of course, if abscesses should form, they must be lanced and be treated like any other abscess.

Ringbone.—W. F. J., Fordyce, Ark., writes: "I have a mule six years old that strained one ankle of fore leg about a year ago, and has been lame ever since. There is a hard substance formed around just above the hoof, that seems to grow larger. What will cure it?"

ANSWER:—Your mule seems to have ringbone. Please consult FARM AND FIRESIDE of November 15th.

Alkaline Water—A Lousy Colt.—H. C. H., Redfield, S. D. What you complain of seems to be due to the alkaline water your horses are compelled to drink.—Your colt, very likely, is lousy. Examine the same outdoors when the sun shines. In bright sunshine lice are apt to crawl to the ends of the hair. Feed well, and groom well with the brush until the weather is mild enough to apply a good wash.

May be Mange.—F. S. B., Normal Square, Pa. Your four heifers may have mange; at least your description indicates that such may be the case. If the weather permits, give them once every five or six days a good wash with a five-per-cent solution of Pearson's creoline in water, but every time they have been washed, take them to a clean, non-infected place, and then clean and disinfect their stalls. Internal medicines are useless.

A Lump.—J. W. C., Washington, Kan. The simple statement that your cow has a "lump" of four and one half inches in diameter, and situated on the neck in front of the shoulder-joint, does not convey any idea whatever concerning its nature. It may be a tumor, and it may be malignant or not malignant, and it may be something else; for instance, a diverticle of the esophagus. Examine that lump, or have it examined by a veterinarian.

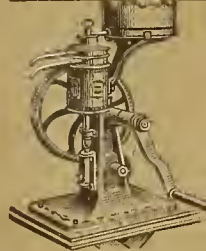
A Cribber—Lordosis—Not Lively Enough.—C. H. N., Landisville, Pa. There is no remedy for cribbing.—There is no remedy for lordosis (sunken back). If such a horse is very fat, the deformity will be less conspicuous.—If you want to instill more life into your horses, feed an abundance of good oats, and if the horses are otherwise healthy, they will get lively enough for all purposes. Still, even if feeding oats you cannot convert an old plug into a thoroughbred, or into a colt.

Injured Shoulder-joint.—G. W. P., Soldier, Idaho, writes: "I have a mare, three years old, which has been kicked by a bare-footed horse on the shoulder-joint, and the latter has swollen until it is now very large, sore and hard. She can raise her foot to step forward, but drags it when moving backward."

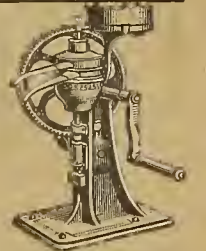
ANSWER:—The prognosis in your case entirely depends upon the severity of the injury produced. If one of the bones constituting the shoulder-joint is broken or split, your mare will remain a cripple; and if only the softer parts have been bruised, she may get well. This is all your statement of the case enables me to say.

Dropsy—Swine-plague—Elephantiasis.—A. C. B., Newcastle, Neb. Your yearlings suffer from dropsy, caused by entozoa either in the lungs or in the intestines. They must have been pastured some time last summer on low, wet, swampy ground or in places which contained pools or ditches of stagnant water.—What you will do with your hog that had swine-plague, or cholera, I do not know, but I do know that your hog, no matter what you may do, will never fully recover if the weakness in the back of which you complain is the consequence of morbid changes left behind by that disease.—The swelling of the hind leg of your horse, if of one and a half years' standing, is elephantiasis, and is permanent. It cannot be removed, and it is exceedingly doubtful whether it can be reduced any.

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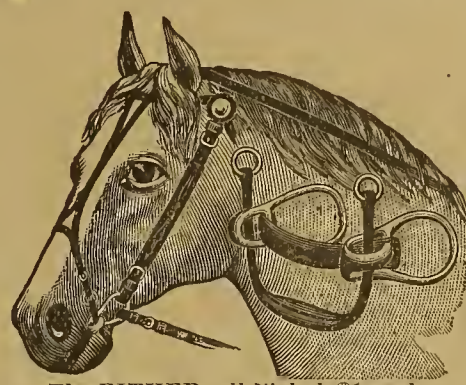
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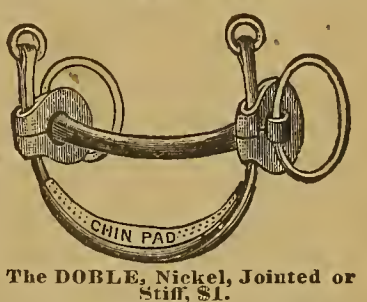
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THE HUMANE BIT CO., Newark, New Jersey.

Epileptiform Spasms.—C. C. C., Sago, O. Your pigs suffer from epileptiform spasms or fits. Have the same, perhaps, had access to excrement of a person or persons that have a tapeworm? I ask this question, because in pigs such fits are in some cases caused by the fumes of the larvae of the human tapeworm (Cysticercus cellulose), if the latter have found their way into the brain. The disease of the pigs thus affected is usually called "measles." But, of course, epileptiform fits can and may be produced also by other causes.

Deformed Hoof.—J. W. K., Austinburg, Ohio. The deformity of the hoof which you describe can only be removed by a careful surgical operation, which requires an expert surgeon. The applications which you propose—blistering, etc., with "caustic balsam" and other kinds of stuff can only make the condition worse, and may totally ruin the foot, and make the horse a cripple. To produce a new hoof requires a year. The time can be shortened by artificial means, but in that case the hoof will be composed of morbid horn and be of no account.

Wants to Know What Ailed Her Sheep.—A. B., Charlevoix, Michigan. No definite diagnosis can be based upon your description. It seems some important symptoms and morbid changes escaped your observation. The only conclusion I can draw is that your sheep died of anemia and dropsy, caused by some worm disease—maybe worms in the liver. A post-mortem examination would have revealed the cause or causes of disease and death. Perhaps your sheep have been on low or wet ground during the summer, or have had access to stagnant water.

An Old Sore.—S. E., Hutt, Ohio. The best you can do is to employ a veterinarian. No wonder that proud flesh makes its appearance, if the wound is constantly exposed and first treated with all kinds of irritating, corrosive substances and then poulticed. Dressing with iodoform—to which, perhaps, a little tannic acid may have been added—and absorbent cotton and proper bandaging would have been a better treatment. Dressing and bandage, of course, must be renewed twice a day.

A Thin Colt and a Thin Horse.—C. C., Fayetteville, Ohio, writes: "What is good for a colt, ten months old, with little appetite and very thin? It has a good, healthy appearing coat of hair. What is good for horses that remain thin, having good hay and plenty of grain? Is it advisable to feed much grain in winter to horses not working? What should be a feed?"

ANSWER:—If you make no further statement, it is difficult to advise you. You say you feed good hay and plenty of grain, but you do not say how much hay you feed and what you call plenty of grain; nor do you state what kind of grain. Ten pounds of oats and ten pounds of good, sweet hay daily is about right for a medium-sized horse that is not worked much.

Sheep Dying.—M. B., Port Tobacco, Md. The edematous swellings of your sheep are only a symptom of a secondary morbid change; namely, general dropsy. The primary disease, which caused the general debility and decline, was undoubtedly caused by entozoa, or worms, probably by lungworms (Strongylus filaria) in the lungs; but other worms—in the intestines, perhaps, or flukeworms in the liver—may also have contributed their share, or may even have been the principal cause. If you had made a thorough post-mortem examination, and had opened the bronchial tubes, the intestines and the gall-duets in the liver, the cause, undoubtedly, would have been found. In the future, especially in the summer, keep your sheep away from low, wet, swampy and inundated grounds, and also from pools of stagnant water, because these are the places where the worm brood usually is picked up.

Worms.—W. J. W., Federalsburg, Md. If your horses have worms, feed them well, and do not allow them to drink any stagnant water, but only water from a deep well or from a good spring. For medicinal treatment please consult the numerous answers to worm questions that have appeared in these columns, or else give a description of the worms.

A Variety of Questions.—H. C. B. 1. The rust fungi of oats (Puccinia coronata), where present in large numbers, large enough to make the oats musty and very dusty, are very injurious to horses and cattle. 2. A spontaneous generation does not take place nowadays. Where weeds make their appearance, there the seeds of them have been before them.

Chronic Gastritis and Enteritis—A Lousy Pig.—E. D. B., Southampton, Ont. Your colt, it seems, suffers from a chronic catarrhal inflammation of the stomach and intestines, therefore does not digest its food and remains poor. Whether the disease has been caused by bad, spoiled or damaged food, by large numbers of intestinal worms, or by other causes, does not proceed from your communication. If we have an early spring, and your colt can have a good pasture, the same may recover. If not, the prospect of recovery is a poor one.—Wash your lousy pig once every five or six days, in all at least three times, with a five-per-cent solution of Pearson's creoline in water, and at each washing clean out the pig-pen in a thorough manner. Also feed well. If the weather is too cold for a wash, you may rub in a little gray mercurial ointment on the neck of the pig just behind the ears.

A Weak Mare—An Ox with Sores.—E. R., Wapela, Canada. The weakness of your mare, as you say yourself, was probably the result of very poor and had food, or of food insufficient in quality. The hemorrhage from the vagina may indicate abortion, though not necessarily. If it does or did, abortion will have taken place before this reaches you. Your other questions about your mare, whether she will be fit for work next spring, etc., I cannot answer, because I do not know the animal and the condition she is in, and cannot even tell whether she will be alive next spring.—Neither can I give you any information concerning the sores of your ox. If they show no inclination to heal, they probably are of a fistulous character, or extend to the bones, which in that case are apt to be carious. Whether a working-ox that has been hard-worked, been ill-used, is ten or more years old, has constantly suppurating sores all along his back to the root of the tail, and is very poor, can be fattened for beef, I do not know.

Obstruction in the Teat of a Cow.—C. O., University Park, Col., writes: "I purchased a Jersey heifer some five months ago. Her bag and teats appeared then all right; and she has been milked well and regularly, but about two months ago a lump could be felt high up in the right front teat. It seems to be about the size of the end of a man's finger, and it is difficult to get the milk through it and out of the teat. It requires about half an hour of squeezing and stripping with both hands at a time to get less than a pint of milk from said teat. The extra work on it has made it half an inch longer than the others now. The cow is healthy, will have second calf in two or three months, I think."

ANSWER:—I am afraid that what you describe is a case of mammary tuberculosis, and therefore would not advise to use the milk. To ascertain with certainty whether or not your cow is tuberculous, the tuberculin test should be applied. Write about it to the veterinarian of the agricultural college and experiment station at Fort Collins, Colorado.

Our Miscellany.

THE IDEAL FEMALE ARM.

FIND great difficulty in getting a model with good arms," said a well-known sculptor recently. "It is astonishing how few women there are with arms that conform to the standard. A perfect arm, measured from the wrist-joint to the armpit, should be twice the length of the head. The upper part of the arm should be large, full and well rounded. There should be a dimple at the elbow. The forearm must not be too flat, not nearly as flat as a man's, for instance.

"From a well-molded shoulder the whole arm should taper in long, graceful curves to a well-rounded wrist. It is better to have an arm that harmonizes even if the parts do not conform to the generally accepted lines. For instance, a full, round upper arm which is joined to a flat or thin forearm has a very bad effect. Perhaps it is only a little worse, however, than a graceful, well-molded forearm tacked on to a thin, scrawny upper arm.

"Correctness of form is not the only thing necessary for a good arm. The owner must possess the power of expression with her arms. American women are deficient in this, as a rule. Those nationalities which show the most expression in their arms are the Spanish, French and Italians. The warmest admirer of Sarah Bernhardt would not claim that she had beautiful arms, yet no one can say that the divine Sarah ever appears ungainly in consequence. Much more lies in the faculty of arm expression than is generally supposed."

SURE TO BE UNLUCKY.

In a village in the north of Scotland, the parish minister, meeting a farm servant who is a member of his flock, the following conversation ensued:

"Well, John, and how are things doing with you? I hope you are keeping well."

"Heh, sir, it's hard work I hae tae dae; nae rest from morn tae nicht; work an' work, an' nae a minute's peace for me."

"Well, John, we must all do our share in the work of this world. Remember, it is only the preparation for a better world, where there will be no more work to be done."

"Weel, sir, I'm nae sure that there will be naething for me to dae in the ither world. I'll be told, 'John, clean the sun.' 'John, hang out the moon.' 'John, light the stars,' an' so on. I've nae doubt they'll always find something for me to dae, unlucky man that I am!" —Pearson's Weekly.

FROM THE HAWVILLE CLARION.

The subject of discussion at the last meeting of the literary society was:

"Resolved, That an old woman in russet shoes looks worse than a fat man smoking a cigarette."

The debate was long and spirited, but as each side seemed to have an impregnable position, and if such a thing were possible, the preponderance of evidence, the result was a complete deadlock. The judges were unable to render a decision, and the question was laid on the table ad infinitum. A short debate followed on the subject:

"Resolved, That it is possible to be happy though alive."

This was won by the affirmative side, which was largely composed of our Populist friends.—Puck.

CALLING A SPADE A SPADE.

Rev. Mark Guy Pearse tells the following story:

A member of the church once got drunk. He sought to go back to God and get his peace restored. He could not find the Savior, so he sought again. His minister called upon him. The minister said to him:

"You pray again."

They knelt down together. "O God! Thou knowest thy servant in a moment of unwatchfulness was overtaken by sin."

"Nonsense!" said the minister. "Tell the Lord you got drunk."

That was another matter; he could not bring that up. He began again:

"O Lord! Thou knowest thy servant in his weakness and frailty was overtaken by a besetment."

"Nonsense! Tell the Lord you got drunk."

At last the poor fellow said:

"O God, have mercy upon me! I got drunk."

Then very speedily that man was at peace with God again.

BUSINESS THRIFT.

"See you common-looking old codger with the basket?"

"Yes."

"Well, he commenced going around picking up sticks and bones ten years ago, and had to go on tick for the basket—"

"And now he's worth fifty thousand, I suppose?"

"Nothing of the kind. He still owes for the basket."—Judge.

BRILLIANT.

May—"Are you still calling on Nellie Update?"

Brother Jack—"Yes. She's a very bright girl."

May—"She must be. I hear you don't need a light in the parlor when you and she are there."—Philadelphia Record.

EARTHWORMS SIX FEET LONG.

The giant of the earthworms is a creature of Australia known to the scientist as Megascolides Australia. Although it is a monster from four to six feet in length, and from one inch to one and three fourth inches in diameter, it is as harmless as our common angle-worm, which it much resembles both in color and bodily structure. Like our common angleworm, it can only be removed from its burrows with great difficulty. If a portion of the creature's body be uncovered and grasped, with the intention of pulling it from its sinuous burrow, the experimenter is likely to be disappointed, because the worm can hold to the sides of his den until his body is pulled in two.—St. Louis Republic.

CROCODILE TEARS.

The expression used in the head-line has long been in general use to describe hypocritical sorrow, or pretense of sorrow where no grief is felt. Its origin has been referred to several sources: One, believed in by the old naturalists, was that the crocodile would mourn and shed tears as if in great agony until a sympathetic traveler would investigate the cause and get devoured for his trouble.

Manderville says: "In a certain coudree long serpents called crocodiles slay men and then eat them weeping."

Spenser ("Faerie Queene") says: "The cruel, craftie crocodile, which in false gryef hyding his harmful guile, doth weep full sore and sheddeth tender tears."

A MATTER OF STYLE.

"Yes, sir," and "No, sir," and "Yes, ma'am," and "No, ma'am," are said at present to belong only to the respectful conversation of inferior with superior—servant to mistress or master—and should not be taught to children, but they should be taught to say, "Yes, papa," "Yes, mama," "No, papa," "No, mama." But old-fashioned people will cling to the former style. Abroad, clerks, employees and tradespeople generally say, "Yes, madam," and "Yes, sir," and the custom prevails in many of the leading establishments of New York. Modistes and dressmakers, who pride themselves on their good styles, never omit "Yes, madam," or "No, madam."

HE LIVED IN THE PIE BELT.

A boy in this city who was asked to write out what he considered an ideal holiday-dinner menu, evolved the following:

Furst Corse.

Mince pie.

Second Corse.

Pumpkin pie and turkey.

Third Corse.

Lemon pie, turkey and cranberries.

Fourth Corse.

Custard pie, apple pie, chocolate cake and plum pudding.

Dessert.

Pie.

—Buffalo Express.

BUSINESS PREVENTED TROUBLE.

Two passengers on a western train became involved in a controversy which waxed so hot that one of them called the other a liar.

"What's that—a liar?" and he was on his feet in an instant.

"Yes, a liar," was the emphatic response, "or my name ain't John Smith, of Smithville."

"What, the hardware merchant?"

"The same."

"Mr. Smith, I am delighted to meet you. I represent Mr. Sharpedge & Co., of New York, and can show you a line of samples that will make your hair curl."—Texas Siftings.

IN TIME OF NEED.

In view of the high death-rate in Bosnia and Herzegovina, the local government has issued a document expressing its unqualified satisfaction at the increase of lady M.D.'s. Just as in the Indian zenanas, the Mohammedan women refuse to be treated by men physicians, and their native nurses being very ignorant and superstitious, a high rate of mortality among the feminine portion of the population is the inevitable result. One of the two qualified lady physicians, practicing in the above provinces, attended during the past year no fewer than 520 female and thirty male patients.

DOMESTIC WEATHER PROPHETS.

Probably everybody knows that there are hygroscopic plants which indicate more or less clearly the quantity of moisture in the atmosphere. A strip of seaweed hung in an exposed position frequently does duty as a popular and easily comprehended weather-glass, although it may be doubted whether its predictions are of much value. More reliance can, says the Cologne Gazette, be placed in the behavior of a pine twig, which may very readily be pressed into service as a domestic weather prophet.

A SUBSTANTIAL POULTRY FENCE.

We know of no line or article used by our readers that would interest them more than improvement in fencing, and we would now call your attention to a new and what we think a very practical and substantial poultry fence, manufactured by the De Kalb Fence Co., 38 High St., De Kalb, Ill. They claim this fencing does not require posts closer than two or three rods apart, and does not require a top or bottom rail to hold it in perfect shape, which is a great improvement and great saving over the old style of poultry fence. We think it would be an advantage to any person that is in want of fencing for this purpose to write the above company for their catalogue and full description, which they will mail free.

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1 Ladies' Watch, gold filled case, Elgin works.....	12 50	8 25	4 25	1 All-wool Suit Clothes.....	9 00	6 25	2 75
1 Set Rogers Bros. 1847 Silver-plated Teaspoons.....	2 00	99	1 01	1 Top Buggy.....	65 00	36 00	29 00
1 Set Rogers Bros. 1847 Silver-plated Knives.....	3 50	1 59	1 91	1 Cooking-stove.....	10 00	5 98	4 02
1 Pair Gents' Shoes.....	2 50	1 49	1 01	1 Road-cart.....	15 00	8 85	6 15
				1 All-wool Henrietta per yard.....	1 15	90	25
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A ROUGH REMINDER.

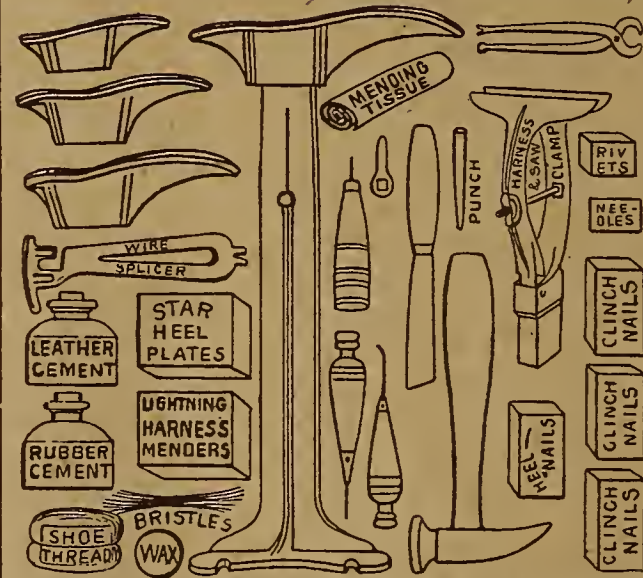
He said that he wanted to milk the cow once, just to remind him of the time when he was a boy on the farm.

OUR HANDY COBBLER

Save Your Money and Time

By Mending Your Shoes, Boots, Harness, Rubber Boots and Coats, Wire Fences, and do a Hundred Odd Jobs at Home with Our Cobbling Outfit.

Premium No. 68.



MANY A BOOT OR SHOE would last longer if it had a little patching done to it, and yet it is thrown away because of the inconvenience and expense of taking it to the shoemaker.

MANY A RUBBER BOOT has been rendered useless by reason of a nail-hole in the sole, and you never could think to take it to the shop for repair.

MANY A RUBBER COAT is made uncomfortable by a leak in the seam and nothing at hand to stop it.

MANY AN ACCIDENT has occurred by having a defective strap in the harness because the means were not at hand for repairing it.

MANY A DOLLAR is paid out for repairs that could just as well be made at home, and many a dollar is lost by putting off needed repairs, awaiting a convenient time to go to the shoe or harness shop.

MANY DISCOMFORTS, inconveniences and losses such as the above can be avoided by having about a Handy Cobbler, a complete outfit for repairing boots, shoes, rubber boots, rubber coats, harness, wire fences and a hundred of odd jobs around home.

NO ONE CAN AFFORD TO WASTE MONEY at any time. Therefore, you should not waste a moment waiting to send for this handy outfit, with which you can save many times its cost every year.

The following are the articles the outfit contains, with their retail prices:

4 Iron Lasts.....	\$1.50	1 Box Lightning Menders.....	.20	1 Dozen Bristles.....	.05
1 Iron Standard.....	.50	1 Packages Shoe-nails.....	.40	4 Harness-needles, assorted.....	.05
1 Shoe-hammer.....	.15	6 Pairs Heel-plates.....	.30	1 Harness and Saw Clamp.....	1.00
1 Shoe-knife.....	.25	1 Bottle Rubber Cement.....	.25	1 Leather-punch.....	.20
1 Sewing-awl.....	.10	1 Bottle Leather Cement.....	.25	1 Box Rivets.....	.25
1 Harness-awl.....	.10	1 Ball Shoe-thread.....	.05	1 Pair Wire-nippers.....	.25
1 Pegging-awl.....	.25	1 Ball Shoemaker's Wax.....	.05	1 Package Mending-tissue.....	.25

Every article in the outfit is made from first-class material, and will give excellent service. So far as the tools are concerned, there is practically no wear out to them.

PREMIUM NO. 68.—This is the complete Cobbling Outfit as described above. Price, \$2.75; or with Farm and Fireside one year, \$3.

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SHIPPING DIRECTIONS Cobbling Outfits must be sent by freight or express, at the purchaser's expense. By a special arrangement with the express companies one outfit can be sent by express about as cheap as by freight, and often cheaper. By this arrangement you will get your outfit in a very short time after the order is received. Give shipping directions.

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 Always mention this paper when answering advertisements.

Our Farm.

THE CANNING INDUSTRY.

Of late much attention has been directed toward the canning industry. The preservation of vegetables, fruits, etc., in a substantial and permanent form appears to producers who can grasp ideas, as one of the necessities of civilization. The world must be fed, and the farmers of the United States should and can supply the material to do it well. The progress of this industry and the improvements machinery has inaugurated, especially within a year or so, bring its profitability as a proper subject for present consideration. Suppose we look into tomato culture.

Four hundred bushels per acre is considered an average tomato crop. Farmers near a factory have usually received twenty cents a bushel for tomatoes. This gives \$80 per acre for a crop produced at very little more cost than an ordinary one. But suppose they only get ten cents per bushel, it would be \$40 per acre; even at five cents per bushel it would still be \$20 per acre, which is more profitable than any other present line of farming. It has occurred that the price of tomatoes has gone as high as forty cents a bushel, giving the enormous income of \$160 per acre. Hence, if fifteen or twenty farmers combine with their local merchants to build a canning factory, even if it did not pay large dividends on the small amount of stock owned by each, one can easily see how it may increase the income from the farms.

The canning factory crop can be raised with and in addition to the usual crop. It is handled at a time which does not interfere with the handling or cultivation of the other crops, and what a farmer gets out of it may properly be considered that much gained over his usual farming. Ten acres of tomatoes at present prices would add \$800 to a year's revenue from the farm; but to be carefully conservative, suppose we cut that amount in two; there are few farmers but would be greatly benefited by such an increase of revenue.

It goes without saying that in every farming community everything depends upon the farmer, and it necessarily follows that an improvement in the farmer's condition benefits everybody else. While a canning factory located in a rural community, and owned by the farmers and business men, affords great advantages to the farmer, it also furnishes many valuable benefits to the whole community. It gives employment to all the surplus labor of the community. It runs during the vacation of the schools, and school-children can find remunerative employment peeling and assorting tomatoes, doing light handling, etc., acquiring valuable habits of industry, as well as a knowledge of the worth of labor, employment and compensation being substituted for idleness and play.

Like any other industry, as it has grown in importance, inventive genius has kept pace with it. But a few years ago canned goods were sold for twice what they are now, yet there is as much profit in canned goods now as then. By the improvement in machinery in the continuous process and other inventions, the cost of canning has been reduced one half, and as the price has been reduced the consumption has increased. Only a few years ago canned goods were classed among the delicacies in which the rich alone indulged. Then the art of canning was supposed to be a mystery. Canning factories were operated with locked doors and barred windows, and with a class of machinery that would now have no value except in a junk-shop as scrap-iron. Through the improvements made in canning machinery during the last few years the cost of canning has been so reduced that what were a few years ago only luxuries for the rich are now the necessities of the poor.

THE GREAT GERMAN COFFEE BERRY.

Coffee at one cent a pound, that is what it costs to grow it, good coffee, too. Some say that it is better than Rio. This we know, while in Europe last summer in search of seed novelties we often drank this in hotels in France, Holland and Germany. Thirty-five packages earliest vegetable seeds, \$1.00, not 3 cents per package. Largest growers of farm seeds as oats, grass and clover, corn and potatoes, etc., in the world. Early heavy yielding vegetables our specialty. If You Will Cut This Out and Send It with 15c. postage to the John A. Salzer Seed Company, La Crosse, Wis., you will get free a package of their German Coffee Berry seed and their catalogue.

Your patterns are a great attraction. It is worth taking the paper for. Mrs. R. H. WILLIAMS, Sundance, Wyo. See pattern offer on another page.

EXTRACTS FROM CORRESPONDENCE.

FROM MISSISSIPPI.—Fruit growing in southern Mississippi and Alabama, as a source of profit, is in its infancy; yet no locality in the whole country is better adapted to this pursuit than the coast country along Mississippi sound. The large markets of New Orleans and Mobile are near at hand, with railway transportation several times a day each way, and an ample and efficient express service extending to all northern points. The season is from three to six weeks earlier than that in the latitudes of Cincinnati and Chicago, which enables the fruit and vegetable grower to ship his products to great northern markets at a time when the highest prices are obtained for them, if the best only is shipped in attractive packages. Pears, peaches, plums, grapes, figs, oranges, strawberries, blackberries, raspberries, dewberries, in fact, small fruits of all kinds succeed admirably. The pear is a leading fruit, and justly so, because it flourishes in great excellence, and in the hands of an intelligent shipper is very profitable. In the course of two summers spent on the coast I saw the Bartlett, Duchess, Jefferson, Seekel, LeConte, Kieffer and Idaho mature in beautiful form and flavor. The LeConte and Kieffer are highly popular. The former is cultivated more largely than any other variety. It is a very early sort, ready for picking about the first of July. To obtain the best results it should be removed from the tree ten days before it is fully ripe, and be kept in a cool place. In this way it becomes juicy and well flavored. Thus handled, it is a good shipping pear, and reaches market in fine condition. When this pear reaches market its only rival is the California Bartlett, and as a rule it sells for more money than the latter. Such is the testimony of a number of growers and shippers. The peach crop in the South is a very profitable one. In middle Georgia it leads every other orchard crop. In southern Alabama and Mississippi less attention is paid to it than one would expect to find. I was told that as fine peaches were grown there years ago as could be found anywhere, but that of late years the borer and curculio have become so destructive that this fruit has been much neglected. With the aid of modern appliances which reduce the inroads of such enemies to a low minimum it is not unreasonable to suppose that the peach industry might become in this region as profitable as in Georgia. Plums are grown in perfection. The principal varieties cultivated are the Kelsey, Botan, Satsuma and Loquat. The Japan persimmon grows to immense size in great perfection. Grapes grow in perfection. The grape-list of the Mississippi Horticultural Society includes nearly all of the leading and best-known varieties. Among the most popular along the coast are Herbe-mout, Concord, Ives' Seedling, Norton's Virginia, Diana, Pocklington, White Niagara, Cloutou, Delaware, Martha and Hartford. Exceeding all others in popularity is the Scuppernon, not cultivated in northern states, but flourishing in the highest excellence within the influence of the salt air from the sea. A prominent southern horticulturist writes: "There is nothing in the whole horticultural world that will produce an annual crop with as much certainty, both as to quality and quantity, as the Scuppernon grape. This is the only grape known that is entirely free from all insect pests, and wholly exempt from all diseases to which grapes are subject." There is no failure of this crop. It is late in blooming, and therefore not liable to injury by spring frost. The fruit sets and grows rapidly, maturing in August and September. Five acres of Scuppernons can be cultivated as easily as one of any other grape. The vines do not require pruning, as they prune themselves, and are trained over an arbor. The fruit is as large as the Concord, and larger generally, though that on different vines varies from each other. This grape makes a very fine wine. Champagne equal to the best is made from the Scuppernon grape, and a fine brandy also. The possibilities of profit in growing this grape are very wide. An average profit per acre, it is claimed, is \$300, but \$1,000, and even more, has been obtained, as I am credibly informed. The fig has been cultivated in the vicinity of the Gulf of Mexico from Texas to Florida with most satisfactory results. Along Mississippi sound it has become very profitable, the fruit being sought for canning at factories at Biloxi and New Orleans. The quince and many other fruits beside those named grow luxuriously in the same region. The orange is cultivated in some favorable localities there for commercial purposes. The hardier varieties are successfully raised. Twice only within a half century on the coast have orange-trees been badly injured by an unusual low temperature. So far as melons and similar products for early market are concerned, there is no better locality in the United States. T. H. G. Mississippi.

FROM FLORIDA.—Lee, Dade and Monroe counties are in the extreme south end of the peninsula. Monroe is composed of the island of Key West and a small part of the mainland. Dade county lies on the Atlantic, and only a narrow strip of good land, the rest in Lake Okechobee and the Everglades. The completion of the drainage system will give it a vast amount of sugar lands. Lee county

has about 3,000,000 acres of land, all of which can be reclaimed and cultivated. The freeze of December 29th, and one since, did but little harm in these three counties, except the loss of tropical fruits one year. Tomatoes, egg-plant, cucumbers, snap-beans, etc., were mostly killed to the ground, and had to be replanted. Onions, cauliflower, cabbage, turnips, celery, beets, radishes, lettuce and all hardy vegetables were not hurt. So we have plenty on the table. The citron, orange, grape-fruit and lemon were not hurt in Lee county, not the fruit, leaves or blossoms. Oranges are being picked, boxed and shipped every day from all parts of Lee county. Mercury went down to twenty-four degrees for about three hours the morning of December 29th, and down to thirty degrees one morning in February. The reputed productive wealth of Florida is about fifty million dollars, in hogs, cattle, wool, sugar-cane, rice, cotton, cereals, vegetables, lumber, poultry, fruits and tobacco. The loss of five or six millions does not bankrupt the state. I have orange-trees with the limbs bending to the ground, so heavily laden with as fine fruit as ever grew. The grass is green all over Lee county, enough to fatten 250,000 head of cattle. We have guavas, Avocado pear, mango and other young tropical trees that did not shed a leaf by the frost. The phosphate, as well as fish, oysters and naval stores, are of great value to Florida, also fur and alligator-skins, to say nothing about the money left by the thousands of tourists. A freeze in Florida does not do the harm an untimely one would do North, as we raise three or four crops a year from the same piece of ground. We are eating sweet potatoes and also Irish potatoes that were ripened before the freeze, and we will plant Irish potatoes and melons till April, as well as corn. Pineapples and bananas are now fruiting here. L. C. W. Fort Myers.

FROM NEBRASKA.—Sheridan county is in the northwestern part of Nebraska, and is crossed from west to east by the Niobrara river, and besides has several good, running streams. The southern part, or south of the Niobrara river, is mostly all sand-hills, but it has some fertile places along the sides of creeks and lakes, where hay grows abundantly. This part is only good for stock raising. When the winter is mild and there is no snow on the hill, the stock will eat the dry grass and fatten in winter, and hay only need be fed when the snow covers the ground. This is one of the finest places for stock raising in the state. The northern part is hilly, and is called the pine ridges. It is covered with yellow pine. It is too hilly for farming, but is good for stock raising. There are several small creeks flowing through that part, with some good farming land. The central part is a nice rolling prairie, with black loam soil, and is crossed by the Chicago Northwestern railroad, where are located three of the liveliest towns of northwestern Nebraska. Rushville, the county-seat, has about 800 inhabitants, and is a fine business place. Land is cheap, from \$3 to \$10 per acre, and produces good crops of all kind. Wheat takes the lead, and potatoes do better here than elsewhere. As we are in the semi-arid region, there is lots of talk of irrigating; and with our soil the county will take the lead in raising crops of any kind, and land will raise 100 per cent in a short time. There will be some experiments made next summer with windmill irrigation, and some farmers are organizing irrigating companies. Rushville, Neb. P. G. J.

FROM GEORGIA.—This section of Georgia is exceptionally healthful. We have pure water in abundance, plenty of good timber, fine building stone and a good climate. We are not subject to droughts. An entire failure of crops is unknown. There are many valuable minerals in sight, which could be mined with little expense, in paying quantities. Land is cheap, and there are fine openings for northern colonies to engage in farming and manufacturing. J. T. C. Round Oak, Ga.

KIRK, COL., October 22, 1894. Farm and Fireside, Springfield, Ohio. The patterns came as per order, and I can say I'm very much pleased with them. They require no fitting. Yours very respectfully, MRS. H. E. SUTHERLAND.

BUY the best Quart Berry Basket. Manufactured by C. R. CASTLE, Geneva, Ohio.

MEN and BOYS wanted to distribute circulars, samples of tobacco medicine, newspapers, etc. \$3 to \$5 a day; no canvassing; business model. Good 2c stamp. CIRCULAR AD'Y, CO., Kansas City, Mo.

MILLINERY TAUGHT BY MAIL By expert milliner. Send 20c. for sample lesson and circular, to Milliner, 15 W. 24th St., New York.

CHURNS BUTTER WORKERS FOR FARM DAIRIES. Address for Catalogue, CORNISH, CURTIS & GREENE MFG. CO., FORT ATKINSON, WISCONSIN.

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SHARON POULTRY YARDS Prize-winning Strains of S. C. B. Leg., W. F. B. Spanish, B. P. Rocks, Pekin Ducks and M. B. Turkeys. Send your orders early. My birds are first-class in every respect. Eggs \$2 per 13, or \$3.50 per 25. Excellent turkey eggs; they are \$2.50 per 10, or \$4 per 20. Walter Shevey, Bland Co., Edna, Va.



FAYETTE COUNTY, WEST TENNESSEE, is attracting more immigration from the North and Northwest than any other part of the South. Its cheap lands, fertile soil, genial climate, fine transportation and hearty welcome to homeseekers are the inducements. Large number Northern people located here. Are you thinking of coming South? Write to SOUTHERN HOMESEEEKERS Co., Somerville, Fayette Co., Tenn.

BINDER TWINE Agents wanted to sell direct to Farmers. Big commissions and lowest prices on Manila and Sisal Twine. **W. C. FOEGLMAN & CO.,** 17 W. Lake St., Chicago, Ill.

Chickens Thrive If they're hatched in our **INCUBATOR**, brought up in our **BROODER**, fed with bone ground in our **BONE MILLS**, and protected by our **POULTRY NETTING**. Everything simple and mechanically perfect. Illustrated catalog free. **THE COLUMBIAN MFG. CO.,** Greenfield, Ohio.

SEEDS FREE! My catalogue of New and Rare Seeds and Plants and eight pkts. **Choicest Flower Seeds** (just the same as I sell for eighty cents), including the **Best Pansy Seeds** in the world, blooms two to three inches across, fifty distinct sorts, and an **endless variety** of rich and odd tints and markings, many not found in other strains, all mixed; the grand, new Brazilian Morning Glory, *climbs fifty feet, leaves a foot across, large pink flowers*; New Mammoth Doubled Fringed Poppies, *scarlet, striped white*; Elegant New Dwarf Spotted Petunias; 100 varieties Verbenas, mixed; 30 varieties Double Prize Asters, etc.; also checks good for 65 cts. worth of the choicest novelties of the season, if goods are ordered from catalogue, all sent free to those who did not try my seeds last year, and who send 10c. for postage and packing, within 30 days. L. W. Goodell, Flower Farm, Pansy Park, Dwight, Mass.

Our FLOWER GIRL Collection

During 1895 we will mail one full packet each of four famous flowers, all medal winners at the World's 10 cents Fair for only **CANNAS**—Rich crimson, with gold border. **PANSIES**—Mixed, in gorgeous colors. **NASTURTIUMS**—Constant flowering, brilliant variety. **SWEET PEAS**—Exquisite mixture. This collection without **BARGAIN CATALOGUE** all for 10 cts.; the best seed book of the year. It tells the Whole Story for Garden, Lawn and Farm. We have **REDUCED TO 3 CENTS A PACKET**, most standard kinds of vegetable and flower seeds, about half price; size of packet as before. Our stores in Chicago and New York afford the promptest service everywhere. Send to-day five 2c. stamps and you'll get the "Flower Girl Collection" of seeds and this beautiful Bargain Catalogue. We can save you half on seed prices. **NEW YORK, 26 Barclay St. CHICAGO, 88 State St. VAUGHAN'S SEED STORE.**

Smiles.

WEATHER WOE.

Oh, what a fickle, changin' thing
This winter weather is!
It blew, an' snow, and then it thaw,
An' now, by jing, it's friz.

-Washington Star.

SHE WAS ALWAYS SELF-SACRIFICING.

THE life work of Farmer Millsap's
wife was over. Like a head of wheat
fully ripe, she was about to be
gathered in by the grim harvester.

"Obadiah," she said in a feeble
voice, as the end drew near peace-
fully and painlessly, "you have been a good
husband to me."

"I have tried to be, Lucindy," replied
Farmer Millsap.

"You have laid yourself out to make things
easy and comfortable-like for me."

"I have always tried to do my sheer,
Lucindy."

"Obadiah," she went on, "we've lived to-
gether fifty-five years, hain't we?"

"We have."

"And ever since we were married you've eat
all the bread crusts, hain't you?"

"I don't deny it. Lucindy, I have."

"You've eaten the bread crusts for fifty-five
years, so's I wouldn't have to eat 'em, hain't
you, Obadiah?"

"I don't deny it, Lucindy."

"Obadiah," said Farmer Millsap's wife after
a pause, "it was very kind of you. And now
you won't mind my telling you one thing,
will you?"

"No. What is it, Lucindy?"

"Obadiah"—and there was a world of self-
abnegation in her voice—"I always was fond
of crusts."—London Tit-Bits.

WENDELL PHILLIPS' CUTTING RETORT.

Dr. Furness, of Philadelphia, tells a charac-
teristic story about Wendell Phillips. Several
clergymen boarded a street-car in Boston
one day, and one of them hearing it intimated
that Wendell Phillips was in the car, got up
and asked the conductor to point him out.

The conductor did so, and the minister, going
up to the orator, said:

"You are Mr. Phillips, I am told?"

"Yes, sir."

"I should like to speak to you about some-
thing, and trust, sir, you will not be offended."

"There is no fear of it," was the sturdy
answer, and then the minister began to ask
Mr. Phillips earnestly why he persisted in
stirring up such an unfriendly agitation in
one part of the country about an evil that ex-
isted in another part.

"Why," said the clergyman, "do you not go
South and kick up this fuss and leave the
North in peace?"

Mr. Phillips was not the least ruffled, and
answered, smilingly:

"You, sir, I presume, are a minister of the
gospel?"

"I am, sir, said the clergyman.

"And your calling is to save souls from
hell?"

"Exactly, sir."

"Well, then, why don't you go there?"—
Life's Calendar.

HE WAS THE MAN.

How true it is that a guilty conscience needs
no accuser was well shown by a little occur-
rence reported by an exchange.

A gentleman went out of town for a day's
fishing, taking a luncheon with him. When
he reached the creek, he discovered that he
had dropped the luncheon somewhere on the
way, and hastened back to look for it. By
and by he met a burly negro, who looked very
well pleased with himself, and was picking
his teeth.

"Did you pick up anything in the road as
you came along?" asked the gentleman.

"No, sah," answered the colored man: "I
didn't pick up anything. Couldn't a dog have
found it and eat it up?"

A "JACKASSABLE" TRAIL.

Up to last night the survey trail for the
electrical power enterprise has been extended
2,300 feet into the canyon on the north side of
the river. It is from four to eight feet in
width, and is open for the use of the public,
provided the workmen be not interfered with.
It is not wide enough for vehicles, of course,
but is, so to speak, pedable, jackassable and
equasable—or in other words, pedestrians and
equestrians can readily traverse it.—The Daily
Californian, Bakersfield, Cal.

FISHY.

"Why," growled the large, raw-boned man
who was hanging onto a strap, "why do we
permit the minions of this transportation
corporation to pack us in here like a lot of
sardines?"

"Because we are suckers," replied the little,
weak-eyed man who was taking home a steak
for supper.—Cincinnati Tribune.

YOU DON'T HAVE TO SWEAR OFF.

The St. Louis Journal of Agriculture says:
"We know personally of several that No-To-
Bac cured. One, a prominent St. Louis Archi-
tect, who smoked and chewed for years. Two
boxes cured him so that even the smell of
tobacco makes him sick." No-To-Bac's guar-
anteed to cure tobacco habit or money re-
funded by druggists everywhere. Book free.
Sterling Remedy Co., 10 Spruce St., N. Y., or 45
Randolph St., Chicago.

ALL FIRED.

"Jinks is a fiery young man, isn't he?"
"Yes. Why, only the other night he was
sparking with his latest flame, and the old
man, who doesn't approve of the match, came
in and raised blazes and finally fired him after
they had had a hot time of it, and poor Jinks'
plans all went up in smoke."

"Well, it's a burning shame."—Judge.

WHAT HE CALLED IT.

A little Australian boy had been to a
museum of natural history. When he came
home he was asked where he had been, and
said:

"Ob, we've had a lovely time. We've been
to a dead circus."

RETURNING HIS LOVE.

He—"Charlotte, I love you; can you not re-
turn my affection?"

She—"I'm afraid I'll have to, as I have no
use for it."—Pittsburg Bulletin.

Every Man Should Read This.

If any young, old or middle-aged man, suffer-
ing from nervous debility, lack of vigor, or
weakness from errors or excesses, will in-
close stamp to me, I will send him the pre-
scription of a genuine, certain cure, free of
cost, no humbug, no deception. It is cheap,
simple and perfectly safe and harmless. I
will send you the correct prescription and
you can buy the remedy of me or prepare
it yourself, just as you choose. The prescrip-
tion I send free, just as I agree to do. Address,
MR. THOMAS BARNES, lock box 113 Marshall,
Mich.

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stamp for our bargain list of high-
grade second-hands. Good wheels \$10 to \$75.
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mammoth catalogue. Address, Clothing Dept. P450
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is made of fine gold plate for ladies' or
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and our catalogue of 1895 for 10 cents, 3 for
25 cents. One live agent wanted in every
town. Curtin Jewelry Co., Man-
ufacturers, Attleboro, Mass.

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I have just bought an Immense Lot of Books, at a sacrifice
and I propose to give them all away in order to introduce my
celebrated magazine. You can have 10 Books Free, as follows:
Manual of Etiquette, Volume of Useful Information,
Book of Unique Stories, Book of War Stories, Famous
Comic Book, Secrets for Women Only, Beautiful Fe-
male Slaves of to-day, (an exciting book), the greatest Magic
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Again yourselves compose,
And now put all the aptness on
Of Figure that Proportion
Or Color can disclose;
That if those silent arts were lost,
Design and Picture, they might boast
From you a newer ground,
Instructed by the heightening sense
Of dignity and reverence
In their true motions found.

—Ben. Jonson.

MISS MUFFETT'S SPRING HAT AND COAT.

The ready-made goods for children's wear are so many, so varied and so cheap, comparatively speaking, it does not pay an over-worked mother to rob herself of sleep and recreation to sew for the little people. But where there are materials already on hand to be made up, and there is time to make them up, it is unquestionably easier to

avenue, promenading with her nurse, is sometimes a pitiful little lay figure for a mass of silk, and fine lace, and furbelows generally, that make all genuine child sport impossible. But much oftener, she is as simply though as tastefully gotten up as if she were the daughter of a mechanic—but one having a deft-fingered wife—instead of being, as she really is, the heiress apparent of hundreds of thousands of dollars.

It is wiser to hold the light-weight, warm-weather clothing back until the really warm days come, and for the first spring days to lighten the winter garments by removing the fur cape or some of the extra ornamentation, than to hurry young children into spring clothing with the advent of the first warm day, and let them shiver in their new clothes through all the

The felt hat of winter has been replaced by one of flexible, fine blue straw, that has a low crown drawn in a little in crimps about the base, after the fashion of a tam-o'-shanter, with the medium-sized brim curving upward a little. There are some rosettes of the ribbon disposed about the crown, and a long, blue feather curls over the left side and falls over the yellow curls.

The coat, as it blows, apparently discloses a dainty white muslin frock, which is, however, but an enveloping pinafore over a little wool dress, the latter for warmth and the pinafore for cleanliness. The shoes are tau, and so are the long hose, and until the cold days are vanished, the stockings will be covered with soft russet leather gaiters buttoning to the knees.

Her brother has a rough blue cloth cefer, a cap that is a semi-sailor with scant brim and drooping crown, and a pair of long sailor trousers, and is altogether a quaint little figure when he takes his walks abroad.

DINAH STURGIS.

CALLING-TOILET.

A charming toilet for a bride to repay her first calls in is shown in Fig. 4, one of the attractive models for early spring wear. The gown itself is of golden-brown crepon, made with a plain Paquin skirt, and a round waist with large sleeves, some lapels of large-mesh ecru lace and a touch of green velvet on the bodice. The coat is of deep cream broadcloth fitted closely at the

The girlish little turban is of navy-blue straw, with rosettes of white chiffon and some branches of "pussy willows" for trimming.

White glace kid gloves.

A SPRING WALKING-TOILET.

A stylish dress of velvet and colored satin, that is being made for an April trousseau, is illustrated in Fig. 5. The satin is striped, with green and blue shades predominating, intermixed artistically with fine lines of yellow, rose and white, all the stripes running across the web. The full, plain skirt, with its wealth of fashionable organ-plaits, is finished about the bottom with a piping of velveteen in green of the shade in the satin, and has a ruffle of silk set about the inside of the skirt. The waist is a semi-blouse made over a smoothly fitted lining, but full enough back and front and long enough in the forms for the satin to droop just a trifle over the pointed belt of peacock-green velvet. The huge sleeves and the stock at the throat are also of the velvet. For warmer weather later in the season, a stock of chiffon the color of the yellow in the satin might be substituted.

For the cool days when a shoulder-wrap is needed, the butterfly cape of chinchilla, depicted in the illustration, will be sufficient, as the sleeves of the dress are of themselves warm.

The hat is of black braid, trimmed with



FIG. 4.—CALLING-TOILET.

a huge bow of black satin, some black feathers and a cluster of yellow primroses. Yellow gloves stitched with black, and a parasol of black tulle lined with peacock-green silk.

GREEK PEOPLE.

The term viking is thus defined by a traveler in Norway. Vik means creek and ing means people, wherefore viking means people of the creeks, the creeks of old being, of course, the fjords of to-day.



DIAGRAM OF BODICE IN FIG. 6.

produce more attractive little togs for the children than any that can be had at low prices. The cheap ready-made clothing for children lacks the fine finish that makes their little garments so dainty. The fine goods displayed for their wear are not cheap, since nice workmanship costs more than the materials.

succeeding cold days that are interspersed through our North American springs. For example, a blue cloth coat, for a girl of five, that is trimmed with beaver, and which is bound to be too small next winter, is being thus fixed up for early spring:

The cloth has been beaten and brushed, and then sponged with a liquid made of alcohol, soft water and ammonia, one third each. In place of the belt, which fastened with a fur button, four rosettes of fresh blue ribbon are set at intervals on the waist line where the plain, short waist is joined to the plaited skirt; two of the rosettes are in front and two are at the back. They are connected with two strands of the ribbon of which they are made, and which cover the seam. The little round cape bordered with fur has been taken off, and in its place a deep, turn-down collar has been made from the cape. The collar which falls over the tops of the full sleeves is slashed nearly to the neck in two places, back and front, so that four wedge-shaped revers are formed. In each of the two corners of each of the four pieces there is a tiny rosette of the ribbon. The collar fastens a little to the left of the front, to avoid a seam through the collar rever that falls over the front. The effect is odd, and the work very little. The collar is sewn to the coat all around, excepting the inch or two from the middle of the front that laps to the left to meet the starting-point of the collar there.



FIG. 6.—WASH DRESS.

The busy woman who makes the children's clothes at home, does better to select the simple patterns, and make them so well that they display in quality of style what they lack in quantity of ornamentation.

A young lady of five years on Fifth

back, with loose fronts and huge bishop sleeves; the sleeves just below the elbow merge into a deep, full box-plaiting, that is set off at the top with rosettes of black satin ribbon. Black marabout-feather trimming borders the cape collar, and in place of the standing collar there is an adjustable ruche at the neck, made very full, of black chiffon, finished off with rosettes and long ends of black ribbon. The black trimming on the coat makes it much more becoming to the ordinary complexion than the cream cloth by itself would be.

The picturesque rolling hat is of coarse, yellow straw trimmed with black chiffon rosettes, black ostrich tips and a stiff little nosegay of white and purple violets.

Tan suede gloves with black stitching.

WASH DRESSES.

Many of the wash dresses, so called, are altogether too complicated ever to be washed, their only relief being, when soiled, to be packed off to the rather expensive dry-cleaner. On the other hand, some of the models for really smart morning gowns of cotton stuffs are very simple, easy to make, and tasteful and chic when done.

A fresh and dainty dress is made from one of the new heavier cottons, a white marseilles strewn with navy-blue rings, in the fashion of Fig. 6. The diagrams of the blouse waist and the one-piece sleeve will make the process of making plain at a glance. The belt has a large buckle of pearl in front, and the blue velvet collar (which is finished separately and then blind-stitched on, so that it can be easily taken off) has a smart little knot of velvet loops and ends on each side of the middle plait, each bow being held by a tiny pearl buckle. The lining of the blouse fastens with hooks and eyes, the outside plait of the marseilles being held in place with studs of blue enamel. To facilitate laundering, the lower edge of the full outside of the blouse is not bound in with the lining, but gathered over a drawing-string.



LOVE.

Two shall be born in widely severed homes;
In native language, each of diverse clime;
And neither add a faintest seeming trace
Of happy fragrance to the other's dreams.
Till, all unknown to restive consciousness,
The magic something, wakened deep within,
Shall press them onward, over rolling waves,
Through frequent dangers near and nearer
still;
To bid them fathom in each other's eyes,
As light unscals a wistful mystery.

And other two shall journey in the way
Of peaceful life, so nearly side by side,
That all along, a slightest closer turn
Must change the dual courses into one;
Alike, uncertain if the confidence,
So long reposed, is more than friendliness.
Till, in some quiet moment of content,
A seeming change shall place them hand in
hand;
A seeming trifle blend their pliant souls
In tender harmony—and that is love!
—Addison Brainerd.

ENJOY THE CHILDREN NOW.

I WAS forcibly struck by a conversation which I heard not long since, the import of which was that the older children became, the more care and trouble they were. I was especially surprised to hear one of the ladies advocating this idea, for she is the mother of three most charming little girls, whose ages are six, eight and ten years. They are very bright in music and their school studies, besides being perfect little helpers at home, and aid their mother in all branches of house work, thus saving her many steps.

In reply to my question, "Surely your girls are far less trouble now than when they were babies, are they not?" she answered:

"No, they are not. I wish I could have kept them babies always, for I so dearly love tiny babes that I never think the care of them any trouble."

Said another mother: "Oh, I think little ones under three years of age a vast amount of care, but when they get to be that old they are irresistibly charming. I wish my little ones could always remain just three years old."

And just so the conversation went on, some claiming that the children were the "sweetest" at one age, some at another.

Then one mother spoke up, saying: "From what has been said, does it not follow that if we wish to take the greatest amount of comfort from these children which God has given us, we must begin by enjoying them now, no matter what their ages may be?"

All agreed heartily to this proposition. I have pondered much over the conversation which took place that afternoon, and have drawn some valuable lessons from it. We lose much of the joy and comfort which the Lord intends us to take in our little ones, if we are continually longing for the time when they shall be able to sit alone, or to walk, or talk, eat at the table, or to dress themselves, or to go to school, etc.

If we allow ourselves to think more of the care of children than their "sweetness," we certainly will make life a burden to them as well as to ourselves. Some children are naturally restful, while others are—well, at least patience-trying; but are we not, as mothers, often innocently to blame for that? Some children there are who appear to have the faculty of asking questions aggravating to a fault. And yet it appears that they really cannot keep from it.

Our little Walter, who was born in India, seems to be one of these. I shall never forget the unconscious reproof he gave me one morning when I was conducting our devotions in the absence of my husband. Walter had been particularly trying during the presence of

company the day before, for which I had seen fit to punish him. Sunday morning, after the usual petition, "God bless Walter and little Ruby," he spoke up in a voice full of feeling, "Mama, ask the Lord to help me not to ask so many questions; I don't want to be so naughty." Do you wonder that my voice trembled and eyes filled with tears, as I uttered his request?

Well do I remember how every faculty of my being seemed on the alert the first year in India, how everything being new and strange elicited many questions, and much conjecturing from me. We, as mothers, have great need of wisdom and patience, which is far different from over-indulgence. Above all, let us take all possible comfort from the darlings each day, for they will not be with us always. They are of far more value than fame, reputation, ease or gaiety. Then let us enjoy their charming innocence or trying ways, whichever it may be.

ELLA BARTLETT SIMMONS.

ALL ABOUT THE NERVES.

Very few persons have even a slight conception of nerves, as they exist, and of the part they have to play in the affairs of life.

The nerves are the "wheel of fortune," and any little interference with their cogs means a deflection from the normal.

The nervous system begins with the brain and ends at every extremity. Little ends of systems of complex compositions are the telegraphic and the transfer agents of every impression transmitted to the central station. Nerves are simply the exponents of impressions, and are not responsible for what they transmit. Nerves start from the spinal cord, and incidentally the brain, and are simply agents of more important matters than the various senses which they subserve.

The nerves are subject to external influences which are not regulated on a monetary scale. They are masters in every sense of the word. They may maintain their energy for years, or they may serve their time of duty and degenerate. While they hold their sway they regulate life; when they get tired they are useless.

The life of the nerves is a matter of idiosyncrasy. One may preserve an ideal for many years, and another for as many months. It is the temperament and the individual which act as a balance-wheel.

Nerves are subjected to every influence of wind and weather, to sensations of sight, hearing, tasting, feeling and smelling; they have to attend to every function of the body, and to regulate the affairs of life.

If one could bear in mind that impressions have to be received and recorded, it would not require much reasoning to be convinced that the lines of delicate tissue which attend to this work require a little rest, as well as do other parts of the body, and they are human as well as energetic in the performance of duty.

The nerves of the eye, of the ear, of the hands and feet, of the nose and mouth, are sensitive bodies, and convey simply sensory impressions which have to be recorded by the brain. These impressions are photographed and deposited in recollection, and form the basis of dreams.

The nerves of the body, which have nothing to do with sensation, control the muscles, both voluntary and involuntary, and preserve the secondary part of existence. They make you walk, move your arms, and in general keep you going. Other nerves not connected with the muscles or muscular exertions waste their exertions and their energy on the various functions of life.

The English railroads have cost their owners about \$227,000 a mile; ours have cost about \$63,700, or a little more than one fourth as much.

BE YOUR OWN DRESSMAKER.

Any FOUR Patterns, and the Farm and Fireside one year, 50 cents.



No. 6341.—LADIES' PLAITED WAIST.
Sizes, 32, 34, 36, 38, 40 and 42 inches bust measure.
Regular price, 25 cents; price to you, 11 cents.

The basque portion can be worn under the skirt, or the body can be cut only to the waist line, and finished with the belt. The rolling collar is attached to a neck-band, and can be made separately if desired. The sleeves are the newest mode for waists of this kind, being quite full at the top, and narrowing at the lower edge.



No. 6340.—LADIES' SHIRT-WAIST.
Sizes, 32, 34, 36, 38 and 40 inches bust measure.
Regular price, 25 cents; price to you, 11 cents.

This is one of the advance styles of the popular summer shirt-waist, which will be largely in evidence before many months. Ladies who prefer these garments made up at home are now choosing their materials from the new fabrics that stock the counters of the dry-goods stores.



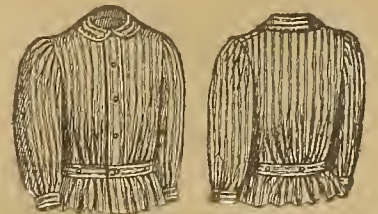
No. 6351.—LADIES' MATERNITY JACKET.
Sizes, 32, 34, 36, 38, 40 and 42 inches bust measure.
Regular price, 25 cents; price to you, 11 cents.



No. 6353.—THREE LADIES' SLEEVES.
Sizes, 32, 36 and 40 inches bust measure.
Regular price, 30c.; all three to you for 11c.



No. 4078.—LADIES' CAPE.
Sizes, 32, 34, 36, 38 and 40 inches bust measure.
Regular price, 30 cents; price to you, 11 cents.



No. 6354.—BOYS' SHIRT-WAIST.
Sizes, 20, 22, 26 and 28 inches breast measure.
Regular price, 25 cents; price to you, 11 cents.



CANDY-MAKING AT HOME.

IN the LADIES HOME COMPANION for November 1, 1894, was an article showing how money could be earned by making and selling the French cream candies. It was my intention to follow this article in December with another one containing a few more directions on the subject, but illness prevented my so doing.

In the meantime I received a number of letters asking for more recipes and additional information. I am obliged to make a small charge for information sent by mail, as it is impossible for me otherwise to answer such letters at all. Through the paper I shall be glad to furnish such instructions as I am able to give. In this article I will gladly give some of the particular recipes asked for, but for obvious reasons I cannot publish the names of box manufacturers, nor of those who furnish confectioners' supplies, etc. Such inquiries will have to be answered by mail, though in many instances daily papers and magazines have such advertisements in their columns. One letter I received interested me very much. The writer asks "how to start out to sell, and how to fix the prices."

In one instance a young girl, who earned quite a sum of money making these candies, wrapped each pound first in waxed paper, then in white wrapping-paper, making very neat, oblong packages, which she tied with strings of various colors. The packages were then placed in a chip basket which had been neatly lined with white paper, covered with the same, and sent by a small brother, with explanatory notes, to each of her neighbors and acquaintances. The child soon returned with an empty basket and a pocketful of small change. The candies were such as mentioned in the article of November 1st, and were sold for thirty-five cents a pound. Orders soon began to come in, and she was obliged to call in the assistance of first one and then another member of the family, and they were all kept busy. In many places druggists sell fine candies, and there is no doubt that cigar dealers and grocers would do the same for a commission, though a large quantity, possibly as much as you could make, can be sold privately. Of course, this is the most profitable, as no commission has to be taken off.

When candies are to be packed in boxes, the harder candies, such as those made of nuts, cream chocolates, caramels, etc., should be put at the bottom, and those to be sent by mail or express should have a sheet of waxed paper, cut to fit the box, between each layer of candy. Over the top, after the sheet of waxed paper and the lace paper, should be placed a thin layer of cotton, as a further protection. Arrange the top layers prettily, having a few glace nuts, such as almonds (blanched), pistachio-nuts and other fancy candies, to mix in with them. Creamed fruits, either fresh or preserved, should be put in the little crimped papers sold for the purpose. Small circles of French tissue-paper can be crimped over a large tumbler, but to avoid a "home-made" look it is better to buy boxes, molds and all the necessary accessories from those who sell confectioners' supplies.

The prices to be charged for candies depends on circumstances. The kinds given in the article above referred to you can afford to sell for thirty-five cents a pound, and even at that price, after you have your supply of flavors, colorings and utensils, you will more than double your money. Candies made of the French or dried fruits, glace nuts, etc., for which I will give directions by and by, will command fifty or more cents a pound. In these days of cheap sugar, except in the large cities, very few candies are sold for a higher price than fifty cents, though a few years ago seventy-five cents and a dollar

were the usual prices for the finer French candies. Molasses candy, the various taffies, caramels, etc., are not as profitable as the French cream candies, and are far more tedious and difficult to make. Still, those who make a business of selling candy are obliged to keep all kinds. I think I have answered all the questions asked, and will give some of the recipes particularly requested.

PEANUT BRITTLE.—Shell the peanuts, and remove the skins, put them in the oven for a few minutes, and slightly scorch them. Butter or oil shallow pans and spread the nuts evenly over them. Boil one pound (or more, remembering to keep the proportion) of granulated sugar with one cupful of water until it "threads or hairs," then add half a teacupful of vinegar, and boil very rapidly until, when trying it in ice-water, it is hard and brittle. Now watch the syrup carefully until it begins to turn a pale yellow, or straw color. Take it immediately from the fire and pour it over the nuts, having the candy about an eighth of an inch thick. Stand in a dry, cool place, and when nearly cold, cut into small squares, if so desired.

CHOCOLATE CARAMELS.—A quarter of a pound of grated chocolate (unsweetened), one teacupful of brown sugar, half a teacupful of butter, one teacupful of molasses and one of cream. Cream the butter and sugar, add the chocolate, then the molasses, then the cream. Boil all together until the candy cracks in ice-water; pour it immediately into well-greased pans. When nearly cold, before it begins to harden, mark into squares, cutting nearly through. Caramels should be half an inch thick, and those are nicest that are marked in half-inch squares. When hard, break them apart and wrap each one in waxed paper.

VANILLA CARAMELS.—Wash the salt from two ounces of butter; put two pounds of sugar, with a small cupful of water, into an agate saucepan, and stir it over the fire until the sugar melts (no longer). Let it come to a boil, and when covered with bubbles, add, slowly stirring all the time, a cupful of thick, sweet cream; then add the butter and a teaspoonful of the extract of vanilla. Let it boil together until it begins to change color, pour it out quickly and proceed as directed above.

NUT CARAMELS.—Walnuts, almonds, filberts or peanuts may be ground in a meat-chopper, and added to the above, when it reaches the crack. Coconut, finely shredded, makes another variety, and may be added the same way. Still another variety is made by adding the nuts, etc., to the chocolate caramel when it reaches the crack. All caramels should be wrapped in waxed paper; sometimes they are dipped in chocolate fondant, and are very nice.

COFFEE CARAMELS.—Make an extract of coffee as follows: Two ounces of finely pulverized coffee—Mocha and Java, half and half—and one full gill of boiling water. Put a piece of fine flannel or two thicknesses of cheese-cloth over a heated teacup, pushing it down in the center. Place the coffee in this hollow, and pour the water (which must be boiling) over it. As soon as it all drips through, pour it back again over the coffee, this time pressing gently to get out all the extract. This extract is useful for flavoring candy in many ways. For caramels, add the coffee extract instead of the vanilla, as directed in the rules for vanilla caramels. Another way of making them is, boil one pound of sugar with a small cupful of water until it changes to a yellow-brown, add the coffee, boil two or three minutes carefully, then pour into pans, and proceed as before.

In my article of November 1st, I gave full directions for making the boiled candy, or "fondant," which is used in making all the French cream candies, and I also gave minute instructions for making and dipping quite a variety of the candies,

with suggestions for a number more. I also mentioned one way of using up the remnants of the candy. By remnants, I mean the melted fondant left in the boiler after dipping candies. This, no matter how small the quantity left, should be scraped out, rolled into a small ball, soft and smooth, pressed into a cup and covered closely with oiled paper, until you are ready to use them.

Remnants of the green candy can be worked until soft, then shaped into peapods with the peas showing. To make the pod, which should be small, form the candy, with as little handling as possible, into an eclipse slightly flattened, cut it through the middle, and with the knife press it slightly open, enough to insert the peas, made by rolling tiny pieces of the candy into balls. You can also make separate peas (out of the pod), forming the germ with a little melted chocolate, using a very fine camel's-hair brush. A very few of these scattered among the other candies look pretty.

Small acorns in their cups can also be made of the green remnants; the cups can be marked with a toothpick to imitate nature. Small pieces of nuts, candied ginger, apricot, pineapple or cherry can be sandwiched between pieces of candy of

blanched and thoroughly dried before dipping. Some of the almonds may be slightly scorched, for a variety, some persons preferring the flavor. Peanuts should have the skins rubbed off; walnuts and shellbarks carefully split, so as to have perfect halves; chestnuts should be boiled, peeled, split and perfectly dry; Brazil-nuts should be sliced, or divided into quarters.

Candies made of gum arabic, such as marsh-mallows, etc., will have to wait until another time.

EUNICE H. BARRINGTON.

FLOWERS THAT FLOURISH IN POOR SOIL.



It occurs sometimes that there exists a bare corner or space around the dooryard that it is desirable to fill with flowers. It may be that rich soil cannot conveniently be procured, and that neither time nor strength are at command for artificial culture. Unless there is something at hand that will almost take care of itself, do without will be the finale, as to flowers. But nature is provident, and if her ways are considered with care, there will be found every requisite within reach of beautifying your own little corner of the wide, wide world.

The following flowers come from seed grow fast, and bloom profusely. They all do well on poor soil, require very little work, and no water to speak of. Nasturtiums are the gayest of bloomers, and receive marked admiration from all beholders. Their hues are rich as gems of the Orient, and in texture they are velvety. The foliage is snappy, tender, and always appears as if it was freshly grown. The deep, glowing red and yellow, velvety blooms, intermingled with the fresh green, circular leaves borne on clean, straight, upright stems, forming spherical clumps of intermingled blooms and foliage, to a novice would seem the result of rich plant-food and much watering and general care. But such is not the case. On poor soil, exposed to the full rays of the summer sun, all the ordinary mixed varieties bloom to perfection. And the royal Cloth of Gold and Empress of India do better than well. Just plant them in the sunniest border of the yard, clay or sand for soil, and they will take Priscilla's advice, and "speak for yourself, John Alden."

Sanvitalia is a beautiful yellow bloomer that cares not for rich soil. The nightly dews, with all summer sunshine, brings out the full blooms, as double and round as the largest purple clover, glowing like molten gold, covering the whole surface of the ground with trailing foliage.

Portulaca is too well known to need any description, but we all like sometimes to compare the excellencies of an old friend with the best in life, and so with this old favorite. Both single and double Portulaca come readily from seed, and carpet the surface of the soil with mossy, gold-green leaves and brilliant blooms. Snowy white, dull red, dazzling scarlet, brilliant crimson, and light and deep yellow, saucer-shaped flowers form an arabesque of showy colors in beauty bright on the poorest of hot, dry, sandy soil, or hard, clay-baked ground.

To be sure, Portulaca does not last all day. The flowers close before noon. But in the dewy morning, when nature all around, in bees, butterflies, birds and flowers, is awakening, fresh and gay, they outlive everything else in fresh beauty, morning after morning, month after month.

Browallia is not a showy flower. The colors of the two varieties are simply white and azure blue. But it remains in bloom a long time, covers itself with a perfect veil of tiny white and blue flowers, and forms a mass of rich foliage. It does well in hanging-baskets, and droops gracefully over the sides of jars and boxes, and will grow and bloom in sun or shade, but produces less foliage, and infinitely more blooms on poor soil in the sun.

Amaranth of all kinds, bachelor's-button (Globe amaranth), Joseph's-coat, gomphrena, xeranthemums and immortelles do better on poor soil. Any one of this large genus of plants is worthy of extensive culture, applying the term extensive to the variety and quantity, as none of them require much art in culture.

All the flowers here enumerated have the happy faculty of husbanding the forces of nature to the beautiful ensemble of many gay and gorgeous blooms, relieving the cultivator of expense or trouble.

Pass Christian, Miss. Mrs. G. T. D.

March BILL OF FARE.

Breakfast.

Fruit.
Hominy. Brown Bread.
Broiled Oysters.
Corn-cakes. Fizzled Beef.
Baked Potatoes.
Coffee. Tea.

Luncheon.

Toast.
Veal Croquettes.
Beaten Biscuit. Lettuce Salad.
Baked Apples.
Chocolate.

Dinner.

Ox-tail Soup.
Canned Corn. Creamed Turnips.
Salmon Salad.
Stuffed Beefsteak, Tomato Sauce.
Stewed Celery. Spinach.
Cheese. Pickles. Wafers.
Cream Pie.
Washington Pie.
Hot Coffee.

contrasting colors. The candy must be rolled very smoothly into small balls and slightly pressed on either side of the nut, etc.

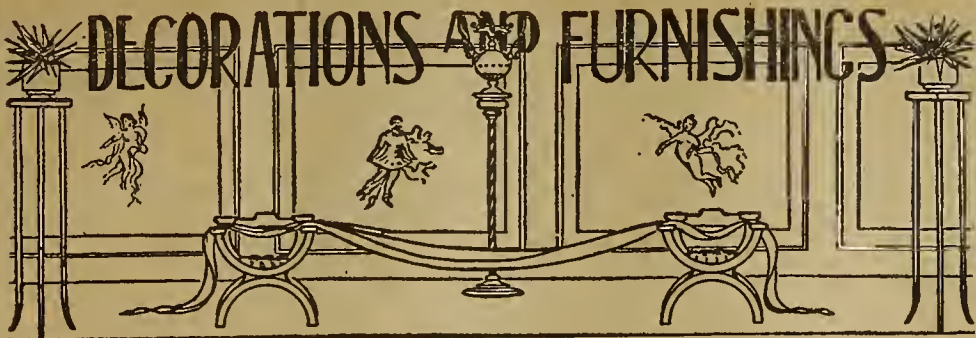
Raspberry fondant can be rolled into inch lengths, a little thicker than a lead-pencil. Melt a little fondant in a saucer, roll the raspberry rolls into this, and then into some very coarse granulated sugar. These are also exceedingly pretty and ornamental for the tops of boxes. Granulated sugar can be sifted to get the coarse particles used in ornamenting candies.

Chocolate fondant, melted, of course, can be dropped, one drop at a time, on oiled paper, making the small chocolate buttons, drops or wafers, as they are severally called in different places. These drops, or buttons, can also be made of the melted fondant of different colors, and are bright and pretty.

This subject of using up the remnants is almost inexhaustible, as your own inventive genius and good taste will doubtless suggest.

GLACE NUTS.—Boil one pound of granulated sugar and one cupful of water until it "hairs," add half a teacupful of vinegar, boil very fast, but watch closely, and take the candy off of the fire the instant it begins to change color. Stand the saucepan in boiling water while you use it. The pans should be ready greased, and the nuts all ready at your right hand. Have two or three forks or dippers (I mean the regular candy dippers) greased also; Dip the nuts, one at a time, as directed for creams, and if possible give them a second coating—they will be so much handsomer. If the candy gets stiff, put it on the fire again till it liquifies, but be very careful it does not burn. This can be done only twice, as it will get too hard to use.

Almonds and pistachio-nuts must be



A COLONIAL LIVING-ROOM.

As proof conclusive of the present development of artistic taste and "common sense" in house-building, one has but to compare the stiff, box-shaped carpenter's houses, with ugly hip roofs, one small portico over the front door for the "stranger within the gates," and none for the comfort of the occupants, that prevailed a score or more of years ago, and that no beauty of surrounding lawn, trees or flower garden could make look homelike and hospitable, or the more recent nondescript so-called "Queen Anne" style, with eels and wings of various shapes, sizes and angles covered with jig-saw and turning-lathe "ornamentation," with the modern colonial.

The latter—now in such decided favor—is a distinctive style that combines the best features of both the others with the earlier colonial, and is characterized by charming individuality. It is equally as roomy, substantial and dignified as the first-mentioned one, but free from its stiffness and lack of harmony with its surroundings; and with its low gambrel-roof, broad verandas and soft coloring, is as artistic, cheerful and homelike as the Queen Anne was intended to be, but without the extravagance and the extreme conceits of that style. To be sure, the colonial style is based upon the classic, but it is not enslaved by it. Good work is dignified and substantial without being stiff; is never pretentious, and however elaborate the carving or other ornamentation, it is never excessive. In short, stateliness without stiffness, refinement and dignity, artistic beauty with strength, are its most prominent characteristics, and no other style produces such homelike houses—houses in such perfect harmony with their surroundings that they seem to have sprung from the very ground upon which they stand—as does this.

For the finishing and furnishing of interiors its possibilities are even greater. Open recesses with turned pillars at the front of them; mantels, cabinets, window or inglenook seats are an unerring constructive feature of every large hall, parlor, living-room and dining-room; and these as well as all movable furniture are characterized by good proportion, fine and appropriate turnery, cornice and moldings, perfect joinery, high finish of surface, and the effective use of fine wrought-iron and brasswork.

Now, individuality and common sense were never before so evident in house-building, but there is still abundant opportunity for the display of both. So in planning a house, if you would build a home as well, shake off the bondage of custom, and turn a cold shoulder upon Mrs. Grundy.

Provide a good cellar, perfect drainage and sewage, and the best possible facilities for warming and ventilating the upper stories. But once above the cellar stairs, with all due appreciation of the superiority of a sunny kitchen with pleasant outlook from the windows, and of the compliments of the dear four hundred friends upon the charming situation and beauty of your parlor and drawing-room, do make all these subservient to the situation, size, finishing and furnishing of the family living-room and dining-room. This belief was carried out to the letter in the colonial living-room here illustrated, and one would look long and far to find a more charming, "homey" room, or a more cheerful, attractive dining-room than the one contiguous to this at the right, and connected by a wide arch. Double sliding doors also connect the latter room with the main hall.

Only a brief description of the room here shown is necessary. The pilasters at the sides of the bookcase and mantel are

Ionic in style. The mirror-frame in mantel has an egg and dart molding. If carving is too expensive, this can be obtained in papier-mache, and the shell ornament in the top of the bookcase can be made of plaster. Leaded glass doors could be effectively substituted for drapery in the latter. Dado of plaster, the cap a wood molding similar to the other wood finish. Cornice of plaster. The scones are of Venetian ironwork, andirons, genuine "antiques," of brass, and the clock a "grandfather's" in reality as well as name.

In this strongly lighted, sunny room a color scheme of olive-green, dull pink and cream was used. The woodwork painted olive-green, walls a lighter tint of same, frieze still lighter and ceiling greenish cream. A detached design of wreaths and torches will soon be stenciled on the frieze with deeper shades of olive-green, soft pink and cream.

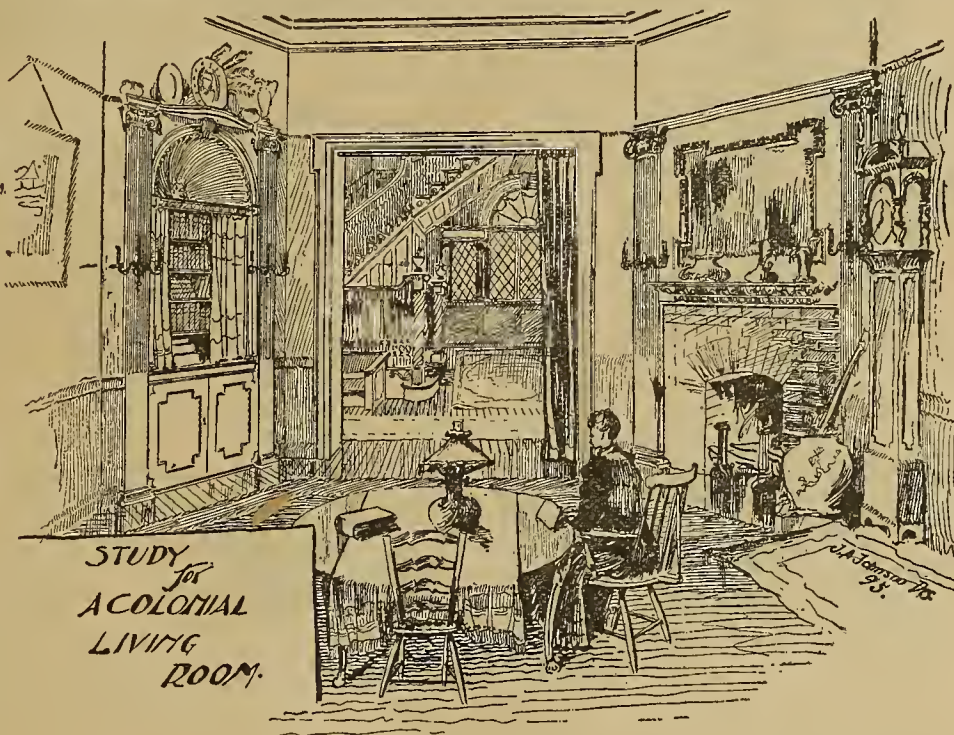
KATHERINE B. JOHNSON.

REQUESTED INFORMATION.

M. M. M.—Certainly it is possible to make your new house homelike and pleasant with the furnishings you now have, and a small

for the windows. One walnut rocker and the small table enameled greenish cream would be pretty in your room. Suspend door and window curtains from poles by sewing them to the eyes of brass pole-rings. Dye the old white woolen sheet light olive-brown, and embroider in an all-over design of scrollwork in outline-stitch with old pink, deeper brown and cream rope silk.

L. P. M.—With your husband a professional painter, there surely is no reason why your cottage, with its cozily arranged, sunny rooms, should not be charming, though none of the furnishings or decorations are expensive. Use flat paints to tint the rough, plastered walls. Terra-cotta is too warm a color for a room as strongly lighted from the south as your parlor. Old blue and cream would be far more pleasing. Nothing would at once give such an air of elegance and comfort to the room as an antique oak mantel with overmirror, brass fireplace trimmings, and hearth and facings of blue and cream-colored tile. Better economize in almost any other direction and add one. The parlor and alcove will be treated as one room until we are ready for furniture. Paint the woodwork ivory-white; side walls a delicate tint of old blue; ceiling medium tint of cream. Stencil an eighteen-inch frieze of scrollwork in cream, and afterward outline, or touch it up with gold. Ingrain carpet with border. Ground deep tone of old blue, with an all-over conventionalized flower or foliage design in self-tones. Cream holland shades. Long curtains of cream madras, with figures in delicate old blue. Use poles one inch in diameter, enameled cream and brass-trimmed. (If your lace curtains are really good, give them a decided cream tint in laundering, and utilize them, but do not cheapen the beauty of the room with coarse ones.) At the wide arch connecting with bedchamber have portieres of tapestry, or all-over figured chenille with old blue ground—medium tint—and figures in creams, tans and old pink or old rose. Use brass-trimmed, antique oak poles, and allow the portieres to hang in straight folds to the floor. The 8x9 feet alcove with large south window will make a charming library. Have a built-in or movable bookcase of antique oak, and a writing-desk if you like. Recover the lounge with antique oak frame, using tapestry that repeats the coloring of the other furnishings, and set a small table with reading-lamp at the head of it. (If the black walnut stand is handsome, utilize it for this purpose.) One large rocker, perhaps a smaller one, too, and a footstool will be ample. Have one or two rattan chairs in the parlor, and the rest of the furniture of antique oak. Golden brown, cream and old pink would be a highly effective combination of colors for the adjoining



STUDY for A COLONIAL LIVING ROOM.

amount of money judiciously expended. But with a house so handsomely finished, the four main rooms and guest-chamber in oak, natural finish, and the amount and variety of furniture that you now have, it seems a pity to expend a dollar for carpets, curtains or furniture that are not really good. So instead of attempting to spread a little money over so great a surface, I should either postpone furnishing the parlor or papering any of the rooms until another year. You can tint the walls and ceilings of the five rooms you mention for what it would cost to decorate the parlor with suitable paper, and the former gives highly artistic effects. With parlor, dining-room and your bedchamber contiguous to the sitting-room, and connected with same by an arch or double sliding doors, artistic effects are impossible unless the color scheme of the different rooms combines harmoniously. With the handsome chenille portiere of old blue with deep dado in cream, soft brown, old blue, old pink and wine color, that you wish to hang between the sitting-room and parlor—as a starting-point you can easily choose such combinations of colors. But to use a carpet of "glaring red and old gold" in the sitting-room would be another story. Indeed, you positively cannot use that carpet in a room with those portieres. Put the former in northeast guest-chamber, and adopt some such color scheme as the following for the other rooms: Parlor, old pink, olive-brown, dull yellow, cream and old pink; sitting-room, old blue, cream and a little old pink and wine color; dining-room, olive-brown, old rose, dull yellow and cream; bed-chamber, sage-green, old pink and cream. The two rockers upholstered in red plush, and red and old gold tapestry, respectively, could be inexpensively recovered with tapestry of suitable coloring; the other patent rocker can be used in either the parlor or sitting-room. With bookcase and organ you have an abundance of furniture for the sitting-room, your room and guest-chamber. Get one or two handsome pieces of mahogany for parlor, and two natural-tinted rattan chairs. Cream holland shades at all the windows, unless you prefer sage-green in your bedchamber. Put cream lace curtains at sitting-room or parlor windows, according to quality. Enamel the stained round stand, bedstead and commode old gold, and use them in the guest-chamber. Make long sash curtains of the cream swiss

bedchamber, with its north windows and black walnut furniture. Paint the woodwork a medium shade of golden brown; wall deep brownish cream; ceiling light cream. Stencil the frieze of arabesques in old pink, and touch it up with bright gold. Ingrain carpet without border. Ground warm brown with all-over design in self-tones. Cream holland shades. Long curtains of Japanese crape; cream ground with figures in old pink. Finish the edges with three-inch frills of plain cream crape. Use the small, black walnut table in this or the dining-room, as you need most. The terra-cotta plush taken from the couch could be utilized to make a handsome scarf or cover for this table. Pinkish terra-cotta and cream would be a pretty combination of colors for the hall, also for the bath-room. Paint or stain the floor a deep tone of the former color, and paint the woodwork several shades lighter. Walls deep cream, terra-cotta figure ornament in frieze, and ceiling light cream. What a pity that you could not have added four feet more to the length of your combination dining-room and kitchen, and made two attractive, convenient rooms. Indeed, as it is, I would rather put a partition through it and have a dining-room 9x16 feet, not including the bay-window, and a kitchen 7x15 feet. Rightly arranged, and with a large pantry like yours, the latter would not be inconveniently small. If you need to warm the dining-room from the range, connect the rooms with wide double doors. With a door from the kitchen into the outer hall (next to the pantry) the dining-room need not be used as a passageway, and with its broad bay and four windows opening to the south, it would be charming in a combination of sage-green, cream and dull yellow. Paint the woodwork a medium tint of green; the side walls deep cream, green figure ornament, touched up with gold in frieze, and ceiling pale cream. Ingrain carpet, without border; ground deep tone of green, with all-over small, geometrical figures in self-tones and dull yellow. Sage-green holland shades at windows, and curtains that reach just below the bottom of the casing of plain cream cheese-cloth finished on the inner and bottom edge with a fringe of the same. Or prettier yet, have curtains of Japanese crape, cream ground, with figures in dull green. Portieres of cretonne, cream ground, with design in green and old pink. Antique oak furniture.

THE OLD YEAR AND THE NEW.

The old year is dead, and the new year has commenced to live. How many of us have resolved to be better men and women, and do more for suffering humanity, to get more out of self, and more in sympathy with our neighbors, and those that are in trouble around us. Perhaps we made good resolutions last, but did we keep them? I think some did. Some noble men and women have done more the past year for God and humanity than ever before. But alas, with some I fear it has not been so. Time and money have been wasted on things that satisfieth not. Hard feelings have crept into the heart, and they cannot look back over the past year with pleasure and thankfulness; they cannot feel that any good has been achieved. Now this should not be so, for we are nearing eternity, we have one year less to live. The past year will never come back to us, but the fruits of it may come back in glad recollections or memories laden with sorrows and regret.

On some of us God has laid the heavy hand of affliction the past year, but if we have lived right in his sight we can look up with confidence and feel he does not willingly afflict the children of men.

Let us all do the best we can through this year that we have commenced to live, being sure that if we do well the work that God has given us to do in this life, he will fulfil all his promises to us, which are grand and many.

A greeting here I bring to you,
A hearty greeting, good and true;
And may all joy and goodly cheer
Enhance for you the glad New-year.

Mrs. J. W. F.

GERANIUM CULTURE.

It would seem as if every detail relating to geranium culture had been so thoroughly discussed that there could be nothing new to advance in this line, yet with them as with all our favorite plants the subject never grows old, is never exhausted, and is continually suggesting new ideas, and therefore new ways. The geranium is an old favorite plant, with which every child and adult is familiar. It is still one without which no plant collection, either large or small, is complete. I have no intention of commending this plant, but to give a few hints that may be of benefit to the amateur. The geranium is neither a contrary nor exacting plant. It will grow and bloom freely if all day in the full blaze of the sun, or where it is shaded part of the time, though the blossoms will be brighter if given plenty of sunlight and heat. Then it will do better in an ordinary fertile soil than when too rich with manure, etc., for when the soil is too rich, it will produce rank foliage and but few blossoms. When space is limited it is better to start slips of geraniums each spring, and trans-set the old plants in the open ground during summer, and remove to the cellar in the fall, where they can rest until warm enough to plant in the open ground again. But where there is room to grow large geraniums it should be done, for while the young plants generally carry two or three clusters, the old ones are ablaze with a score or more.

Chase county, Neb. Mrs. N. B. H.

PERENNIALS.

From seeds sown August, 1893, the past summer I had a beautiful white campanula. It was one of the daintiest flowers in my garden, so pure and waxy-looking. A double purple one was a curiosity to us all, never having seen one before, but I do not think the purple as pretty as the single variety. I have a number of fox-glove plants that did not bloom, owing to dry weather, but I expect a pretty show another season, as they are so large and thrifty-looking. My sweet-williams were in many colors, with a few double varieties, and by using them as a border for a bed of tender plants, I had an exceedingly pretty bed when in full bloom.

Barnstable county, Mass. L. G. S.

NON-BLOOMING RUBRA BEGONIA.

MR. EDITOR:—I have a Rubra begonia three years old. It has two branches, one seven feet and eight inches, the other six feet and six inches. It has not bloomed any for about five months. About three months ago I shifted it into a tin bucket about eleven inches across the top, using soil composed of about equal parts garden loam, sand and leaf-mold. It is growing nicely. Please tell me what to do with it to make it bloom.

ANSWER:—As soon as the plant fills the vessel with roots it will begin to bloom. It will be well, therefore, not to disturb it.

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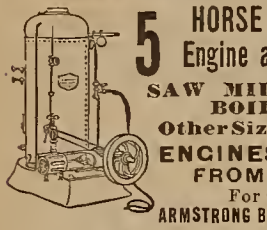
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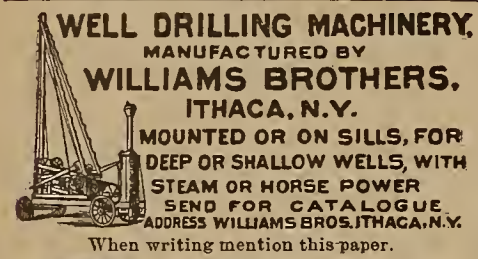
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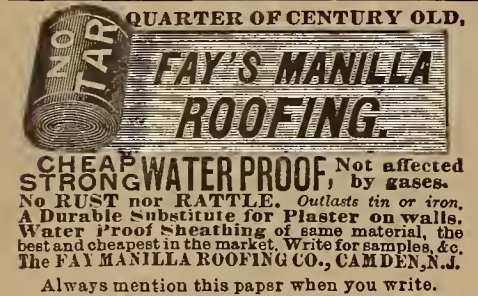
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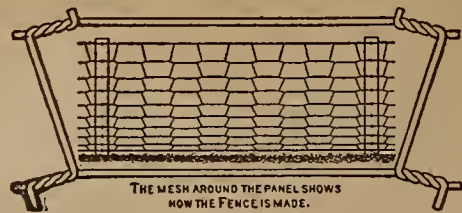
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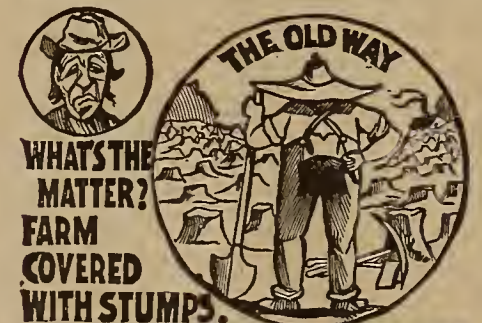


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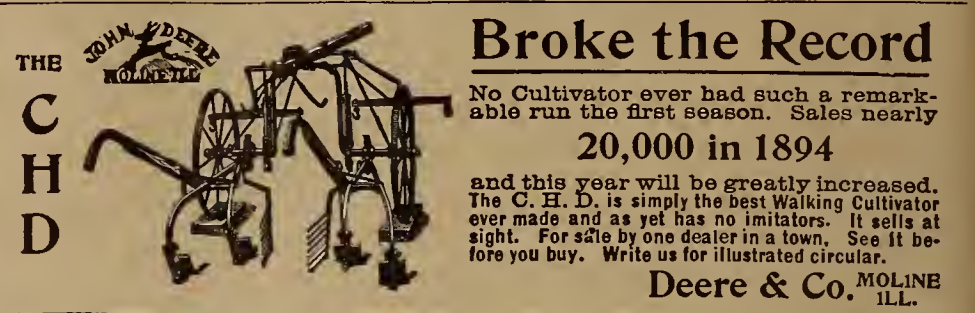


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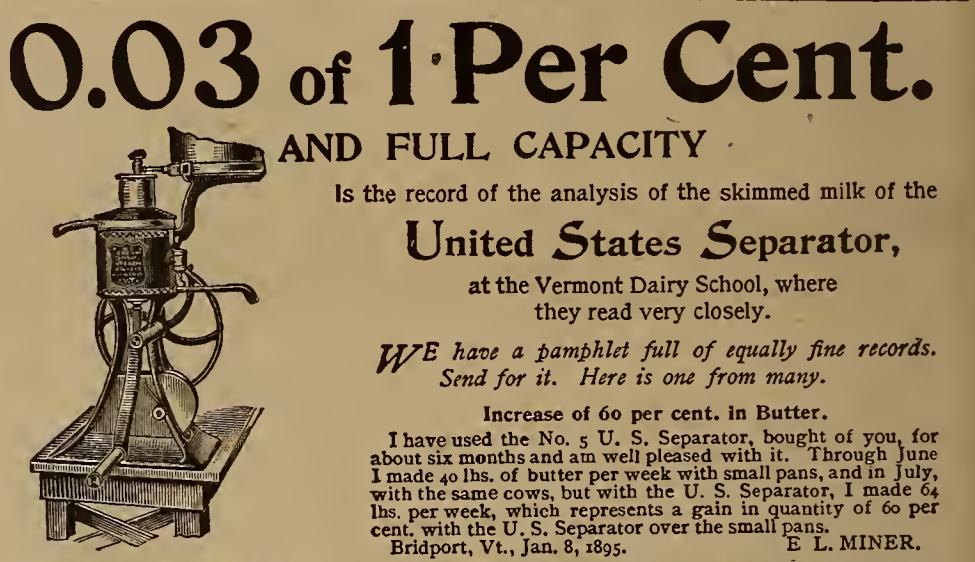
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