

STAND PAT.

If you're down on your luck And your life runs awry; If fate brings you up With a discolored eye, Stand pat!

If all that you hope for, Every joy that you know, If all that you love Fades away like the snow, Stand pat!

If the blackmailer strikes With his venomous tongue, And you lift him to where The morning stars sang, Stand pat!

If you're borne back In a desperate fight, And it doesn't seem to count That you're eternally right, Stand pat!

If all that you hope for, Every joy that you know, If all that you love Fades away like the snow, Stand pat!

If the soul of earth sinks From under your feet, And you're nothing to wear And nothing to eat, Stand pat!

If all that you're given, That seems most divine, Turns turtle, goes down Through the billowy brine, Stand pat!

If death gets a blow In under your guard, And with sardonic leer, Hands over his card, Stand pat!

—Henry L. Turner Chicago Evening Post.

THE KEEPER OF A LIGHT.

His name was Samuel, and like the son of Hannah, he from his infancy was dedicated to the service of a temple. It was not a temple built by mortal hands; God's face shone upon it, and its waters were eyed back and forth by God's compelling hand.

His father, throwing off wet olivines to bend over the baby on its mother's breast, smiled at the grip of the little fingers around his own hand and said: "Hey, you're a fit will hold a tiller!"

Later, his father taught him many of the simpler forms of service that the sea demands of its followers, and his mother was proud of both her captives. Then came the day when the temple exacted one more sacrifice, and the father came home from the Banks, grim and crippled. He was able, in time, to hobble around, and through some means was made the keeper of the lighthouse on the Point; but he did not linger over his charge, and the son was left to continue it.

They lived in the lighthouse alone—he and his mother. But for her querulous fears he would have answered the call that ached within him, to go down to the sea in ships; as it was, his youth speedily aged there on the lonely, wind-swept Point. Dutiful son he was, but the varying emotions of the sea and the care of his light came to be his chief interests.

The lighthouse was small and old-fashioned, before the days of railroad and trolley and fast steam coasters many small vessels had piled along the coast, and the white lighthouse that marked the long rocky Point was of great service; but in later years, when the big vessels passed farther out, away from the danger, it served for little more than an old mile-stone, and the Government Lighthouse Board recommended its disuse.

Samuel and his mother were never lonely; his nature grew to be more and more like hers, and together they watched the sea and the clouds and the passing ships. It was not until after she died that Samuel became aware of the great silence that lay beyond the pounding of the waves upon the rocks, beyond the howling of the wind around the lighthouse, and that created a void in his little sitting-room which nothing he could do seemed to fill.

FOR AND ABOUT WOMEN.

The most important part of our environment we really carry within us.—Exchange. If I should name the greatest danger of childhood I would unhesitatingly say, Overfeeding. More babies are drowned in milk than sailors in salt water.—Dr. Oswald.

Suggestions for Stout Women.—First and most important is the question of corset. The woman who is stout makes the greatest mistake when she attempts economy in this particular. A poor corset is a most expensive luxury. It not only spoils the appearance of the stout woman, but it makes the fitting of her clothes a serious problem.

The stout woman can make no greater mistake than to try and deceive herself by wearing a close, tight-fitting corset in hopes that it will make her appear slender. The effect is distinctly the contrary. A well made, comfortable corset, fitted especially adapted to her personal requirements, will make her appear much more slender.

The stout woman should avoid plain, tight fitting blouses. They serve to emphasize her stoutness. The round and belted waists are the most trying ones she can wear. In wearing shirtwaists, the small shoulder yoke in front, which is fashionable this season, is one of the best adaptations, as it makes the shirtwaist fit far better across the shoulders, and gives an opportunity for some fulness in the front.

The back yoke for the stout woman is a serious mistake. It has a tendency to shorten the waist line, and add breadth across the shoulders. A few pleats in the center from the collar to the belt line is the best way of finishing the back. This gives long, straight lines as well as flatness.

All coats and jackets for the stout woman should end below the waist line. The three-quarter coat is not to be advised, as it detracts from her apparent height; consequently it should not be worn by the short, stout woman. The long, half-fitting coat is excellent, and lends grace to the figure.

The choice of materials is not important. Plaids are absolutely forbidden, except in small doses, when utilized as waist trimmings. Stripes should also be used with discretion. They have a tendency to make the stout woman appear conspicuous.

Black and darker shades are the best colors for the stout woman. Of course, it follows that no color should be used in brightening up and relieving the monotony of a dark color. Remember that the set of the shoulder depends on how the seams are put together.

The back portion of the lining should be held toward you, easing it a mere trifle on the front as you sew. Skirts should be kept on the sewing table as much as possible, and not handled as much as is absolutely necessary. The pleats in skirts must be carefully basted so that they will not pull out of place.

First of all, mark with tailor's chalk, or take a long basting thread, while the pattern is still on the material, and barely catch the material through the perforations, taking tiny stitches in the material along the lines of the pattern. When all pleats are marked the threads should be clipped, the pattern removed, and there is a distinct line marking the pleats accurately.

Remember, too, that a pleat that is to be stitched only half way down must be basted the entire length so that it may be pressed properly. CRAB APPLE JELLY.—Wash and wipe the apples, cut in half and place in crock on the back of the stove or the oven, setting in another vessel of hot water if there is danger of too great heat.

When they are soft place in jelly bag to drain over night. Measure this juice and allow one pint of sugar to one of juice. Boil and skim the juice ten minutes before adding the heated sugar. Stir till dissolved, then boil eight or ten minutes. This makes a very tart jelly. Mint may be used to flavor this to serve with mutton or lamb.

CRAB APPLE AND WILD GRAPE JELLY.—Simmer together with just enough water to prevent burning, wild grapes, washed and stemmed, and one-third the quantity of crab apples cut in pieces. Crush with a wooden spoon, cook about two hours, then turn into a jelly bag and drain over night without squeezing. Measure the juice in the morning, heat and skim carefully, allowing a pint of heated sugar to each pint of juice, and proceed as with other jellies.

APPLE JAM.—Pare, core, and weigh tart apples, allowing for four pounds of apples, four pounds of brown sugar. Chop apples, meantime making a syrup of the sugar with as little water as can be used; add apples, and grated peel of four lemons, and a little ginger root. Simmer till the fruit pulp is translucent and golden in color, when place in small jars. Loaf sugar may be used, if lemons and ginger omitted, and the pulp cooked longer.

For a simple bed-room table is a denim square edged with white fringe.

FARM NOTES.

—You can't out out pear blight to quick-ly. —Barn the tent caterpillars with a torch. —If you cannot see a gain in the pigs every week, investigate matters. Something is wrong. You can just see a healthy pig grow.

—There is a good profit in poultry, yet it is something more than to go out and pick up the dollars. The hen will do her part if the owner does his. —Keep plenty of fresh clean water in the poultry yards so the fowls can have plenty of it. They need it these hot days. Provide for best health in all stock.

—Have a collar that fits the horse and you will prevent much of the sore shoulder distress. Prevention is cheaper than cure. It is cruel to have sores on horses. —The attempt to raise a calf by hand is not an easy matter, as it is subject to scours, which soon ends its life if the disease is not cured. If the calf is provided with milk fresh from the cow and receives it in clean vessels much of the difficulty may be averted. Sour milk is not fit for any young animals.

—Sheep will not thrive on all kinds of soil. Some breeds are very active and thrive only in large flocks, but the large mutton breeds require good pasturage and will not give satisfactory results if compelled to work over a large area for all they get. All sheep should have dry soils. Foot rot will occur in a flock that is kept constantly on wet land.

—Where mounds show indications of falling, give an application of manure this winter, leaving it on the surface. In the spring apply 50 pounds of nitrate of soda, 100 pounds of sulphate of potash and 200 pounds acidulated phosphate rock. This should be done in April, the bare places to be seeded with seeds of a variety of grass which makes considerable growth.

—Do not spread gas lime directly on your land. It is destructive to plant life unless modified by atmospheric influences. It should first be worked into composts with old turf, wood manure or manure. A mass of green vegetable matter, such as weeds, may be used with it as compost, and it should not be spread until the whole heap has been reduced to a fine condition.

—Parsnips are best sown in mounds in the open air. Lay them on boards slightly raised above danger from water, cover with straw after heaping them and then cover the straw with earth well pressed to the straw. Leave a wisp in the top to allow gases to escape. They are excellent in winter for the table and for stock, and are usually but slightly injured by frost.

—Kin-dried sand is recommended as a material in which to pack apples in winter. Experiments have shown that beets, carrots and parsnips can also be conveniently kept in bins in the barn, when the spaces are filled with perfectly dry sand. The point to observe is to keep the roots cool, but to avoid freezing. The dry sand allows the roots to be taken out without difficulty, and at any time when it is desirable.

—Ground intended for onions should be plowed as early as the weather will permit, as the onion crop is the first to go in. One method of producing onions is to sow the seed in hotbeds and transplant the small bulbs later. The seeds may be sown in the hotbeds even in January or February. By thus growing them there is a saving of time and less difficulty with weeds. If preferred the onion sets may be produced of seedsmen.

—A comfortable home, surrounded with well kept lawns, shrubs and flowers, a kitchen garden with abundance of vegetables and small fruits, are essential for economical and comfortable living. Such surroundings tone up the land, stimulate a man's ambition, make him enjoy and appreciate his home, inspire him with zest in his business and help him to secure success. The influence and importance of such surroundings are too little considered and appreciated.

—Almost every summer, no matter what droughts may prevail, enough moisture falls during the growing season to make crops if it were properly saved. The way to do this is by frequent cultivation. Summer rains are often very slight, wetting down often only two or three inches of the surface even on tilled land. If this is left alone the moisture soon evaporates and does little good. If the cultivator is run below the depth that the rainfall has reached, the evaporation is checked. What is quite as important, the moving of soil while it is moist, if not wet, helps greatly to put its latent fertility in soluble condition.

—It has been demonstrated by repeated tests that a cheaper mode of feeding than that of fattening with corn can be practiced with a varied diet. It is near the time when the hogs will be penned in order to make them as fat as possible. They should be fed plenty of corn, but the animal requires food for other purposes than for fat, and unless the ration is balanced in a manner to provide all its wants the hog will not make that gain in weight that it would if fed judiciously. A mess of chopped hay (steamed), potatoes, turnips, bran or skim milk will add 50 per cent. to the growth and weight of the animal by promoting health and thrift.

—If the method of testing cows could be made in a different manner, and, instead of recording the amount of milk, a particular cow produced a large amount of butter per week, the test demonstrated the amount of butter produced according to a given proportion of food consumed, it would then be of no consequence whether a cow produced 10 pounds or 20 pounds of butter per week, provided she gave a large profit on the amount of food, capital and labor required for the production of the butter credited to her, whether her production be great or little, and, instead of tracing pedigrees to cows of large records, let the foundation be laid upon cows that are capable of yielding the greatest quantity at the least possible cost. A cow that is capable of assimilating a large quantity of food is a valuable one, but the quantity should be in proportion to the animal, and usually fully informed regarding the true merits of the cow regarding her value (leaving out the question of the "fancy" or fictitious estimate) to the farmer as a machine for converting one kind of product into another, the tests are only matters of competition for notoriety, and afford no light on the actual merits of the animals for the purpose of the dairy.

—Iron, it is stated, may be coppered by dipping it into melted copper, the surface of which is protected by a layer of cyanide and phosphoric acid, the articles thus treated being heated to the same temperature as the melted copper.

First Sulphur Matches.

In these days of rapid progress it does not take long to make an appliance old-fashioned and out of date, says the Youth's Companion. Not more than 70 years ago the match was considered an innovation of a daring and dangerous type. The conservation still scraped away with its steel and flint, holding the sulphur dipped stick in fear and trembling.

One Robert Gibbs tells the story of the first match he ever saw. A schoolfellow who had visited London brought back with him, besides his stories of that wonderful town, a box of the newly invented matches. He exhibited them to his wondering mates and, as a great favor, presented one to Gibbs. The boy took his prize home, stuck it in the chimney-piece and gleefully watched the surprise of his mother.

Now you may throw away the tender box, he said. No such thing, responded the prudent woman. Matches which light themselves will find no place here. Why, some night we might be burned in our beds! Give me the tender box. A Salem, Mass., newspaper of June, 1836, speaks approvingly of one of the inhabitants of its town.

"Notwithstanding the convenience of these dangerous little articles which are in almost everybody's hands, but which, with all their charms, bid fair to prove a heavy curse on the community, we learn there is one man in Salem, a respectable tradesman who keeps a store where we should generally expect to find such things, but who has never sold them or allowed them to be used on his premises. He sticks to the flint, steel and tinder; he shows his wisdom in so doing. How many more can say as much?"

Why should a fisherman be very wealthy? Because his is all net profit. Why is your eye like a man being flogged? It is under the lash. How do you account for the water in a watermelon? By recalling that it was planted in the spring.

Why is a field of grass like a person older than yourself? Because it is past your age (pasturage). How many make a million? Very few. What is the difference between an Indian and an Irishman? One smokes the pipe of peace and the other smokes a piece of pipe.

Why are cats like unskilled surgeons? Because they mew-sill-late and destroy patients (patience). When may a chair be said to dislike you? When it can't bear you. What should you do to it? Cane it. Why is a proud girl like a music box? She is full of airs.

Eyeight tests for chauffeurs are being agitated for in Germany. The movement has the support of medical practitioners and Government officials, who point out that such tests are compulsory for railway men, while motor car drivers are given certificates after merely proving their ability to manipulate the mechanism of an automobile, without inquiry as to whether they may not be short-sighted or color-blind.

—Graft often goes about disguised as a business opportunity.

CONGRUOUS.

Why should a fisherman be very wealthy? Because his is all net profit. Why is your eye like a man being flogged? It is under the lash. How do you account for the water in a watermelon? By recalling that it was planted in the spring.

Why is a field of grass like a person older than yourself? Because it is past your age (pasturage). How many make a million? Very few. What is the difference between an Indian and an Irishman? One smokes the pipe of peace and the other smokes a piece of pipe.

Why are cats like unskilled surgeons? Because they mew-sill-late and destroy patients (patience). When may a chair be said to dislike you? When it can't bear you. What should you do to it? Cane it. Why is a proud girl like a music box? She is full of airs.

Eyeight tests for chauffeurs are being agitated for in Germany. The movement has the support of medical practitioners and Government officials, who point out that such tests are compulsory for railway men, while motor car drivers are given certificates after merely proving their ability to manipulate the mechanism of an automobile, without inquiry as to whether they may not be short-sighted or color-blind.

—Graft often goes about disguised as a business opportunity.