

Democratic Watchman

Bellefonte, Pa., February 4, 1910.

FARM NOTES.

—Never breed a ewe lamb until past its first birthday.

—The ram should not run with the ewes during the winter.

—This should begin when the colt is only a few days old.

—Never omit the kicking strap when the colt is first hitched up.

—No man is fitted to train horses who is not thoroughly sympathetic and brimful of horse-sense.

—Every man who raises one colt or many should realize the great importance of early education.

—Breeding too young will stunt the young ewe, and the loss in the long run will be more than the gain.

—If sows are to farrow in February or March, put them in warm, well-ventilated quarters, where they can exercise.

—Pigs are quick money, for in six or seven months they are ready for market, at a big profit if well fed and cared for.

—If tied at first with a strong, well-fitted halter that will withstand all trials to break, a string will hold him ever after.

—It is estimated that the total apple crop of the United States for 1909 will be about 3,500,000 barrels less than last year.

—If pigs show an unthrifty condition something is wrong in the feed or management. Find out the trouble and remedy it, or you will lose money.

—The Carnegie Institute has employed some western investigators to study the potato bug, with a view to its extermination. The experiment will cost \$10,000.

—Cold water never should be given the new milk cow. It may bring on a chill and cause milk-fever. Warm it a little for a couple of days. That will help to avoid the danger.

—Lands on the Delaware peninsula that have been farmed for two and a half centuries are producing larger crop yields today than at any former time since they were first turned by the plow.

—The best way to ruin a horse is to saw on his bit when he gets a little out of line. There may be other methods, but that's the best one we can think of just now.—From February Farm Journal.

—Government reports show that farm horses have increased in numbers from 13,000,000 to 20,000,000 since 1900, and in value from \$44.61 to \$95.64 each. Illinois has more farm horses than any other State in the Union.

—It is recorded that the dairy cows of Holland average little more than 9000 pounds of milk per year per cow. This gives the Hollanders as much butterfat from one cow as the average western farmer secures from four.

—The Minnesota experiment station is growing with considerable success a new variety of rye, known as Minnesota No. 2. It is stated that this rye will produce from eight to ten bushels more per acre than the common varieties.

—The Farmers' National Congress at its last session at Raleigh, North Carolina, passed strong resolutions for the enactment of the postal bank law, modernizing the parcels post system, and for government aid in the building of public roads.

—Push the calf right along. The first year of a calf's life will be the making of it. Away with the sore-eyed, gaunt, frowzy-haired little runt is see here and there, all weaned too soon. Let them have milk till too big to drink, before you cut it off entirely.

—Sparks' Earliana tomato seems to hold its own as the best early tomato! While it was first raised and developed in South Jersey, it has proved its adaptability to the varied conditions of many sections. In western New York gardens it is considered a leader.

—Professor W. J. Spillman declares that the farms have furnished this country with 92 per cent. of its Presidents, 91 per cent. of its Governors, 83 per cent. of its cabinet officers, 70 per cent. of its Senators, 64 per cent. of its Congressmen and 55 per cent. of its railroad presidents.

—There appeared in some parts of Indiana last season a small bug with variegated wings which destroyed thousands of potato bugs. A half-dozen bugs will quickly kill 100 or more of the potato bugs on a single plant. Specimens have been sent to the government for examination.

—Minnesota farmers have found six pounds of timothy, five pounds of white clover, three pounds of Kentucky blue grass, and one pound of red top seed per acre, to be an excellent mixture for pastures. If the ground is inclined to be wet, the red-top will take the place of the timothy.

—About five years ago chestnut trees in the vicinity of New York were observed to be dying, and since that time it is estimated that the loss has reached \$5,000,000. The cause is a fungus disease of the bark which experts have been unable to cope with. Thousands of fine chestnut trees have recently been cut down.

—Apple growers in Berkeley county, West Virginia, have shipped a great deal of fruit abroad this year at prices ranging from \$2.50 to \$10 a barrel, in the orchard. In many instances the net profits from the orchard have exceeded the original purchase price of the land, some orchards having produced over \$1000 per acre.

—By manuring pastures in winter the grass is protected from the bad effects of freezing and thawing, and the fertility which would be lost by allowing the manure to lie in stables or lots is absorbed by the soil, ready to feed the grass roots with the coming of growing weather. Grass seed in the manure will help to reseed the pasture.

—A fowl should always be fattened as quickly as possible. Ten days is long enough, but it should be confined either in a coop or a number in a small yard. They must have a continual supply of fresh water, and should be fed four times a day, the first meal being given early and the last one late. A recommended mixture is three parts cornmeal, one part ground oats, one part bran, one part crude tallow, the entire lot scalded and fed for the first three meals, with all the corn and wheat that can be eaten up clean at night. Weigh the articles given.

A Bernard Shaw Criticism.

Before fame came to him Bernard Shaw wrote dramatic criticisms for the London Saturday Review. The following sample is characteristic of the man:

"I am in a somewhat foolish position concerning a play at the Opera Comique, whither I was bidden this day week. For some reason I was not supplied with a program, so that I never learned the name of the play. At the end of the second act the play had advanced about as far as an ordinary dramatist would have brought it five minutes after the first rising of the curtain or, say, as far as Ibsen would have brought it ten years before that event. Taking advantage of the second interval to stroll out into the Strand for a little exercise, I unfortunately forgot all about my business and actually reached home before it occurred to me that I had not seen the end of the play. Under these circumstances it would ill become me to dogmatize on the merits of the work or its performance. I can only offer the management my apologies."—Every-body's.

An Obliging Father.

A man who grew rich had a son of whom he disapproved, and when the son was married against the father's wishes the father made him an allowance of \$20 a week and said that was all he could have.

While later he was discussing the matter with a friend of his pioneer days. "Do you think \$20 a week is enough for the boy?" he asked.

"Well," replied the friend judiciously, "I don't know about that."

"It's a darn sight more than we had when we started in," argued the father.

"Perhaps it is," said the friend, "but you must remember that times have changed. We used to dig clams for our dinner."

"By George," said the father, "I guess I have been too severe with him! I'll be kinder in the future. I'll buy him a spade and show him where the clams are."—Exchange.

His Conciliatory Way.

Mr. and Mrs. Pickaway, although really fond of each other, had frequent quarrels owing no doubt to infirmities of temper on the part of both. Mr. Pickaway was telling his troubles to his elderly maiden aunt.

"I try to be as good a husband to Bertha as I know how to be," he said, "but we don't seem to get along. It takes so little to irritate her, and when she starts scolding she never knows when to stop. She takes offense, too, at such little things."

"Then don't say those little things, Joshua," said his aunt. "When she is cross you must try to be conciliatory."

"I am conciliatory, Aunt Betty," he answered. "I often say to her, 'Bertha, I know the utter uselessness of trying to reason with you, but will you listen to me just a minute? and she gets mad even at that.'—Youth's Companion.

They Like Fat Girls in Tunis.

A Tunisian girl has no chance of marriage unless she tips the scale at 200 pounds, and to that end she commences to fatten when she is fifteen years old. She takes aperients and eats a great deal of sweet stuff and leads a sedentary life to hasten the process. Up to fifteen she is very handsome, but at twenty what an immense, unwieldy mass of fat she becomes! She waddles, or, rather, undulates, along the street. Her costume is very picturesque, especially if she be of the richer class. She is clothed in fine silks of resplendent hues of a bright red, yellow or green and wears a sort of conical shaped headdress, from which depends a loose white drapery Turkish trousers and dainty slippers. The heels of which barely reach the middle of the feet, complete the costume.

Evolution of the Apple.

Apples are new in the economy of the world's use and taste. At the beginning of the last century few varieties were known, and we can go back in history to a time when all apples were little, sour and pucker-crab apples and nothing else. The crab apple was and is in its wildness nothing but a rosebush. Away back in time the wild rose, with its pretty blossoms that turn to little red balls, apple flavored, and the thorny crab had the same grandmother.

A Curious Error.

The Rev. Dr. Edward Everett Hale told how a curious error crept into the translation of the Lord's Prayer into the Delaware Indian tongue. The English translator had as an assistant an Indian who knew English. "What is 'hallow' in Delaware?" asked the translator. The Indian thought he said "halloo" and gave him the equivalent. Therefore the Delaware version of the Lord's Prayer reads, "Our Father, who art in heaven, halloored be thy name."

As Corrected.

"Tommy," said the teacher to a bright grammar class pupil, "correct the sentence 'I kissed Jennie two times.'"

"I kissed Jennie three times," replied Tommy proudly.—Chicago News.

His Ad. Answered.

A man stopped at a newspaper office on his way to the theater and placed an advertisement for a boy. Half an hour later one fell from the gallery into his lap.

Simple.

"How do you keep your razor sharp?"

"Easy enough. I hide it where my wife can't find it."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

The Explanation Given by the Book on Phrenology.

They were newly married and were calling upon one of the friends of the bride who had been particularly pleased upon the occasion of their wedding. The bridegroom, apropos of nothing, began to talk about phrenology and told how his wife had discovered two very prominent bumps on the back of his head. He was proud of them. So was she, and she passed him around that the host and hostess might feel the bumps and know of their existence. Then she explained:

"My book on phrenology says that they mean good memory and generosity."

It was evident that she was proud of the facts, and so was he. But the host, being of an inquiring turn of mind, wished to satisfy himself, so he got down a phrenological work from one of his library shelves and after much labor found the bumps on the chart. Turning to the notes, he read, seriously at first, then unsteadily. The bride became suspicious, but she was game and said:

"Read it out loud. Please do!" And the host read:

"These bumps are most frequently found on cats and monkeys."

Other topics consumed the remainder of the visit, which was brief.—New York Sun.

They Were "Over."

He was a regular patron of the restaurant. Perhaps that is why he felt justified in making clever remarks to the waitresses, remarks which they were puzzled to know how to answer. One day, however, the smallest and timidest girl happened to be serving this irritating customer, and it fell to her to answer him in kind.

"I'll have some steak," he said, coming in late for dinner, "and some squash, and some— Got some baked potatoes, fine, brown baked potatoes?"

"Baked potatoes are all over," said the girl.

He leaned back in his chair and gazed at her quizzically.

"Baked potatoes all over, are they?" he replied. "All over what?"

"With," she replied simply.—Youth's Companion.

Chivalrous Johnnie.

"What's the matter, dear?"

"I have just had a fight with Johnnie over dividin' the candy you gave us."

"Was there no one to take your part?"

"Yes'm; Johnnie took it."—Houston Post.

A Cruel Stab.

Katie—What a lovely ring! Mathew—Isn't it? This ring was given me on my twenty-first birthday. Katie—Really? Why, how well preserved it is! It's hardly a bit worn!—Cleveland Leader.

Her Choice.

"May I offer you my umbrella and my escort home?"

"Many thanks. I will take the umbrella."—Fliegende Blätter.

Poetic Justice.

"Pa, did you ever hear of a real case of poetic justice?"

"Yes. A man who once swindled me out of \$600 in an irrigation scheme died of water on the brain."—Chicago Record-Herald.

Medical.

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Beginning of Movement for Teachers' Pensions.

New York and Philadelphia were the first to establish pension funds for teachers, and their plan has been generally followed by the other cities that have such funds. From being a purely philanthropic movement, the idea began to grow that taking care of a teacher after her usefulness was over was a fair business proposition. Boards of education no longer felt the necessity of continuing in service those whose efficiency was impaired.

For the first few years every cent of the money necessary to support these associations was provided by the teachers themselves, but Philadelphia subsequently gave \$5,000 a year to the fund, and New York gives 5 per cent. of the excise tax, which annually nets \$300,000 to this fund. From being the sole work of teachers, there is now scarcely a city in which this pension system is in operation that does not in some way contribute to it.

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What Might Have Been.

"That man Biffin lacks courage and energy."

"Yes, confound him!"

"Why do you say that?"

"Because he was courting my wife long before I met her. If he had had a little more courage and energy—But what's the use of talking about it now?"

"That must be a pretty bad tooth-ache to swell your face like that. Why don't you see a dentist?"

"I did call on your friend, Dr. Pullem, yesterday and experienced great relief."

"You must be mistaken. Pullem has been out of town for a week."

"I know. I felt relieved when I found that out."

Reckless Driving.

"What is the matter with your wife? I see she's got her hand in a sling."

"Reckless driving."

"Horse?"

"No; nail."

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