

Country Roads.

If the condition of the public highways of a country is to be taken as an index of its civilization, we fear that certain sections of this country would suffer by the comparison. Especially would this be true if the judgment were applied to the public roads in most farming communities. In such places road making is too often looked upon as a matter of secondary importance. The people seem content to go to and fro over roads whose condition makes traveling a prolonged misery. Who that has taken a journey, however brief, in a farm wagon over a muddy country road seamed and crossed with ridges and ditches, worn by turbulent rain torrents, with frequent thank-you-man's in all the steep places to emphasize matters, does not have a painful recollection of the bumping, jolting and thumping process to which he was subjected, and a remembrance of his intense gratitude when the ride was over.

If a stranger to such experience, he would wonder in his exasperation why the community submit to be tortured in this manner when a little combined effort and painstaking industry would provide a remedy. Neither the fact that much solace in the remark that "it is nothing when you get used to it" if such a condition of things were unavoidable a spirit of meek resignation would be commendable, but where the ability and opportunity exist for improvement, to continue in the old way argues rather a lack of enterprise and intelligent interest in the common welfare.

Under the mistaken idea that road making is every body's business in general and nobody's business in particular, it often happens that no one will allow a public road bounded by his own lands to remain in a wretched condition. He works out his road tax upon it and no more. All effort beyond that seems to be regarded as a gratuitous service to the general public, an act of philanthropy which most people are not ready to perform. It is true to a great extent that the proper care of the highway is a matter of general concern, but since it is plainly impossible for the whole public to be impressed in caring for a particular piece of road it is manifestly absurd to allow a vague dependence on "somebody else" to stand in the way of one's own comfort and welfare.

It is evident that good public roads can be maintained only where there is a spirit of generous enterprise, coupled with a feeling of individual responsibility. This spirit and feeling will be heightened when it comes to be understood that good roads are a direct saving to every member of the community in reducing the wear and tear of horses and vehicles. It was wisely discovered by the manager of one of the first railroads in this State, that one dollar on the track was worth two dollars in the shop, and the remark is equally true of the common highway.

The old adage that "a stitch in time saves nine" is strictly applicable in this case. The expense of the frequent shoeing of horses, mending broken down wagons or buying new ones, necessitated by miserable roads, would go very far toward putting the latter in a fit condition. Smooth, wide highways not only ensure ease, comfort and quickness of travel, but nakedness prevents convey larger loads with safety, saving much in the cost of cartage.

ODD ITEMS

There is lack in odd numbers. That is, more peace in the house if there is but one baby instead of twins.

An Irish lover remarked: "It's a very great pleasure to be alone, especially when your sweet heart is with you."

The black poodle with his hair shaved in knobs and knobs, is the correct thing in canines in England just now.

Coffee cups become smaller and smaller for "after dinner service." The newest size is a trifle larger than the fat woman's tumbler.

A Baptist lady devotes to the Lord's cause all the eggs laid by her hens on Sunday. This looks like a dead set against sin.

If it be true that the physicians have plenty to do attending imaginary ailments, it is equally true that the sick have plenty to pay for imaginary cures.

"Don't you remember me?" asked the soda water clerk of the lady customer. "No, I can't say that I do," she replied, "and yet there is something familiar about your face."

Why do they call it a mail train when the females have more to say than the males?

If you want to make a dude mad ask him at what mistle store he bought his clothes.

Some one asks: "why is a dude like a match?" and we can't think why unless it be because both are light-headed.

It is a question whether it is better to talk in church, as members of the choir do, or to go to sleep, like the oldest deacon.

"No," said Brown to Robinson with a sigh, "I haven't got change for a five, but I should like to have a five for a change."

If Cleveland shall be nominated, he will certainly be elected, for a bachelor has never failed in an election to the Presidency. As all the old maid will support him, that will make this calling and election sure."

The most successful counterfeit of the dime is said to be made of glass mixed with some base metal by a process unknown to ordinary workers in metal and glass. The counterfeit looks exactly like the genuine ten cent piece, but on being struck with a hammer it is crushed to pieces.

A country girl, coming from the field, being told by her pocket cousin that she looked as fresh as a daisy kissed with the dew, said, "Well, it wasn't any fellow of that name, but it was Steve Jones that kissed me. I told him that every one in town would find it out."

OTMEAL DRINK.—It is one of the best recipes printed for gratuitous distribution by the National Health Society. Put one tablespoonful of coarse oatmeal into three quarts of cold water and boil for half an hour; while hot sweeten to taste with brown sugar. Most people prefer it strained. This is very good with cocoa, about half of each, as a hot drink, or it can be flavored with lemon and lemon peels in it. If it is to be drunk cold, one-half ounce of citric acid may be put to each two or three gallons. Lemon juice is preferable to the acid, but very much dearer. Rice or barley drink can be made in the same way, using broken rice or barley instead of oatmeal. Any of the above are excellent drinks for the harvest field and very cheap.

Care of the Teeth. While it is a fact that good and bad teeth are inherited, yet good ones may soon be injured by neglect. Not as a matter of health should the teeth be preserved as far as possible, but for appearance. Nothing more detracts from the comeliness of a young man or woman than the display of teeth yellowed black from neglect; the better looking the person, the more glaring is this blemish. Parents are often greatly to blame in this respect. As soon as a child gets its permanent teeth he or she should be taught to use a tooth brush with water, at least once a day. This would often save the child a considerable amount of money and perhaps misery in after life. The use of a tooth brush too stiff, with water simply, morning and night, is all that most teeth require. If tartar collects in spite of this, the use of Castile soap (the white is preferable) upon the brush will generally answer. If something more is needed to keep the teeth clean, prepared chalk is one of the safest tooth powders. Avoid all tooth powders that are at all gritty. Some contain powdered pumice stone, which will remove both the tartar and enamel in the teeth, with passing ease. It is important to apply it to the back side of the teeth as to the front, and instead of only moving it across the teeth, a part of the brushing should be from the gums upward and downward, to remove any particles that have lodged between them. Never use a metal-tipped tooth pick, a simple wooden one is preferable to the quill so commonly used. Whenever decay is noticed in the teeth, go to the dentist at once.

A Cure for Diphtheria. Dr. Deitrich, a French physician, says that a sure cure for any ordinary case of diphtheria is to utilize the vapors of liquid tar and turpentine so as to dissolve the fibrous exudations that choke up the throat and lead to such fatal results in the diphtheria cases. Dr. Deitrich's process is simple: He pours equal parts of turpentine and liquid tar into a tin pan or cup and sets fire to the mixture. A dense rosinous smoke arises, which obviates the air of the room. "The patient," Dr. Deitrich says, "immediately seems to experience relief, the choking and rattling stop; the patient falls into a slumber, and seems to inhale the smoke with pleasure. The fibrous membrane soon becomes detached, and the patient coughs up microbes. These, when caught in a glass, may be seen to resemble the smoke. In the course of three days afterward the patient entirely recovers." This treatment has been tested in New York recently, and with gratifying results. It is based on the theory that diphtheria is due to the rapid multiplication of living fungi, which are killed by the fumes of the tar and turpentine. Indeed, all successful treatment of diphtheria is by the use of medicines which destroy local sources of infective life.—Demorest's Monthly for July.

Opposite St. Louis, in the Mississippi, there is a small island which has been drifting down stream for the last twenty years. Its area is about 100 acres, and it moves quietly along at the rate of eight inches a day. So far it has advanced a mile from the position it occupied twenty years ago.

The religious press—lugging a Sunday school teacher.

Vital Questions!!!

Ask the most eminent physician of any school, what is the best thing in the world for quieting and allaying all irritation of the nerves, and curing all forms of nervous complaints, giving natural, childlike refreshing sleep always?

And they will tell you unhesitatingly "Some form of Hops!"

CHAPTER I. Ask any or all of the most eminent physicians: "What is the best and only remedy that can be relied on to cure all diseases of the kidneys and urinary organs, such as Bright's, and other kidney diseases, liver complaints, severe coughs, called consumption, indigestion, biliousness, malaria, fever ague, &c.," and they will tell you: "Evaporated Hops!"

CHAPTER II. "Paralysis." "Almost dead or nearly dying" For years, and given up by physicians, of Bright's and other kidney diseases, liver complaints, severe coughs, called consumption, have been cured.

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