

FARM AND GARDEN NOTES.

ITEMS OF TIMELY INTEREST TO THE FARMERS.

The Shipments the Richest.—Warm Water for Young Stock.—Handling Corn in the Stalk.—Soil for Greenhouses.

THE SHIPMENTS THE RICHEST.

The New York Experiment Station found that in the case of five cows the first pint of milk contained only three per cent. of fat, while the last pint contained 6.85 per cent., and the mixed milk from the whole milking averaged 2.55 per cent. In every instance the first half contained only one-third to one-half as much fat as the last half. Similar results are reported in Connecticut, also in Indiana and New Hampshire.—American Farmer.

WARM WATER FOR YOUNG STOCK.

The rough, starting coat of calves and colts their first winter is always due to troubles of digestion from changing suddenly from succulent to dry feed. But a part is due also to drinking too little water, because the water in winter is always cold. If water for young animals were warmed to a temperature near that of animal heat, they will drink more freely, and their food will digest, instead of remaining in the stomach breeding fevers and disease. Do away with constipation in young stock, and most of the difficulty in keeping them thrifty will be overcome.—Boston Cultivator.

HANDLING CORN IN THE STALK.

Well-cared corn is very heavy to handle. It takes thirty to thirty-five hills of corn to make a stook, and even after it has dried out as much as it will before winter, such a stook is pretty heavy lifting on a high wagon. Whenever it is desired to clear a field of corn, low-wheeled wagons with low racks should be used. Two men can work to much better advantage than one, the one on the ground cutting the hill against which the stook is built and lifting the stook from the bottom while the other on the load grasps the top, placing it where he wishes on the load, and keeping each stook separate as far as possible. This makes it much easier to unload. With a low wagon and two men not afraid of work, a large clearing can be made in a cornfield by one day's labor, and the corn be drawn under shelter, where it can be husked during weather too stormy or cold to permit comfortable husking in the field.

AN UNNATURAL HABIT.

The habit of egg-eating is a vice, of which, when once contracted, it is almost impossible to break the hen. When the habit is acquired by a hen it will spread through the flock, if not checked in the beginning. The best way to cure a hen that eats eggs is to eat the hen. Egg-eating is encouraged by leaving eggs in the nest over night; they get broken, and when a hen once gets the taste of an egg she is always desirous of cultivating that taste, and eats everything that looks like an egg. If you must keep an egg in the nest, use artificial ones, those that cannot be broken, or if broken, are unpalatable and bad for digestion. There are all sorts of artificial eggs, wooden, china, chalk, etc., any of these will do for nest eggs. Baked meat seasoned with a little pepper and salt and ground bones, will sometimes satiate this unnatural appetite. Dark nests are also used for hens that eat eggs, but not with good results. It is better by far to do the right thing at once and eat the hen. You will save yourself lots of trouble.—Feather.

SOIL FOR GREENHOUSES

After one or at most two years' use, the soil of greenhouses will become unsuited to the crop, and will need to be replaced. It is not easy to find just the kind of soil to make a new bed. It ought to be very largely humus, but much richer than swamp muck ever is, for the muck falls to decay only because it is kept submerged with water so long a time that all its fertility is washed out as fast it becomes available. It takes a whole year to properly prepare humus for the greenhouse bed. The best is made by composting sods for a year, putting in plenty of lime, which will clear away the insects likely to cause most trouble. These sods should be laid in alternation with cow manure, and some a trace of soda sprinkled over the top, to be washed down as the compost heap is moistened. The sod and excrement will rot down together, and the soil with the sod will hold the ammonia from the decomposing heap from being wasted. Besides the soil from growing plants there needs to be a large supply of coarse sand, to be kept entirely by itself to keep root cuttings in. The white rootlets that put out from the callous of a cutting are very tender and will not be put into soil that is very rich, and which is consequently always warm from the heat of decomposition.

ONLY MINERAL MANURE FOR VINEYARDS.

The liability of grapevines to mildew and rot on fruit or leaves is very greatly increased by feeding the vines heavily on coarse, nitrogenous manures. These, in their decay, furnish good fields for propagating disease germs in the soil, and the large amount of nitrogen they furnish in midsummer makes a sappy, succulent growth of leaf and new wood that is very subject to attacks of disease germs. While it is true that spraying with Bordeaux mixture and other fungicides will check these

diseases, it is still better to fertilize the vines only with potash and phosphate manures, which will not stimulate the vines unduly, and which will keep them healthy. It is not true that a great amount of nitrogenous fertility in any form is needed to produce the best grapes. With plenty of mineral fertilizer, chiefly potash, the grape bunches will be earlier and better ripened, while the wood growth to be cut away in fall pruning will not be so over-luxuriant. French vintners never manure with stable manure. All the vine receives is the ash from the yearly prunings, which are regularly burned after drying and sprinkled around the vines. Manure affects the quality of the wine. If it ever becomes necessary to apply nitrogenous fertilizers to grape vines, the grapes are eaten.—American Cultivator.

COWS DURING COLD STORMS.

When the first storm occurred two winters ago I happened to be away. Upon returning home at evening I found the cows in their places as usual, but the driving snow was pouring through every little crevice, even the nail holes. The walls of the stable are double, with tar paper between the boards, but shrinkage and other causes produce crevices. I at once went to work with scraps of tar paper and lath to stop these openings. The stalls are built as an addition to the main barn; a three-foot space, half the length of the stable, is open in front of them. This I closed up at once with straw, one of the farmer's best friends. The stable being full of cattle, a sufficient amount of heat was produced to keep them comfortable, if all these openings were closed, except in extremely cold weather. When I was done, I concluded that my cows ought not fall off in the flow of milk. For two milkings, however, the amount decreased about five per cent., then it returned to the normal and finally went above it, though the weather was still cold. I watered them in the stable and watched their needs carefully, and it paid.

Experimenters last winter indicate more strongly than ever that close stabling during cold weather is best. On a few days, when it seemed above freezing, I turned my cows out. The flow of milk was invariably reduced. Dairy cattle need very little exercise at any time and enjoy close stabling, provided their quarters are comfortably arranged.

I once saw great quantities of corn burned in Nebraska, and thought it was a great mistake, but find it was a profitable transaction, as corn was cheap and coal very high, but I have seen more corn burned to produce heat in Indiana than was ever burned in Nebraska. It takes as much fuel to keep the cow warm when fed and burned in the body, as when burned in the stove. Here, wood and coal are far cheaper than corn for fuel. There is no more business sense in burning corn in your house than in sheltering cows in open stables and trying to keep them warm with corn. I believe we are approaching an era when stables will be generally heated by some economical method, such as the hot water. The apparatus could be provided at small expense. The man who holds his cows up through a storm and prevents his feed going off in heat through the cracks, is going to have a decided advantage. Perfect ventilation must go with warm stables, or the animal's constitution will be weakened and tuberculosis invited.—American Agriculturist.

FARM AND GARDEN NOTES.

The great study should be, not only to produce best fruit, but so distribute it that all may have some and none too much.

Over-production of small fruits is practically impossible for many years to come, if distribution can be made more uniform.

Soil, location, cultivation and mulching are all important factors in guarding against drought. Results should be carefully noted.

Many good local markets are entirely overlooked in the mad rush of shipments to the larger cities. Near local markets are often best; study them well.

The proper distribution of small fruits will not be complete until special refrigerator cars are placed on all lines from which sales can be made at any point, the same as meats at the present time.

Better methods of distribution would lessen cost to consumer and largely increase the demand for berries. Fruits would then be considered a necessity with other food, not a luxury for occasional use.

The great cities are often glutted with inferior fruit, carelessly picked, poorly packed and roughly handled, making shipment to small towns and cities an impossibility. While this may result in good pay for the transportation companies, it leaves small profits for the commission man and certain loss for the producer.

Growers should understand that it costs just as much to pick, pack, transport and sell poor fruit as good; good fruit in a fair market is sure to pay well, while poor fruit in any market is almost certain to return a loss. The remedy is giving more care to the details of production and working for better markets in the smaller towns and cities.

The universal consumption of fruit means the employment of millions of women and children in a pleasant occupation; it means the most perfect combination of the useful and beautiful in the common walks of life; a stimulant to better health, higher thought and a deeper interest in rural pursuits. With a growing demand, promising a larger consumption, we will next consider, WHO SHALL GROW THE SMALL FRUITS?—Home and Farm.

HOW OREGON WAS SAVED.

A Stirring Reminiscence of Sixty Years Ago.

To one man are the people of the United States indebted for the possession of the rich region which now comprises the States of Oregon, Idaho and Washington and part of Wyoming.

That man was Marcus Whitman, who, nearly sixty years ago, went as a volunteer missionary to the Indians of the far Northwest. By his daring and perilous journey 4000 miles across the continent to the city of Washington, in the midst of a severe winter, he saved to the nation the vast territory then known under the generous name of Oregon.

One day in the latter part of the thirties there arrived in St. Louis four Flathead Indians. They were all men of great importance in their tribe.

"We have come from our homes toward the setting sun," explained the spokesman, "through heat and hardships such as few men have known. We have come to see the white man's book of life, and to hear from the old lips of the pale face the story of his God. Our people are in darkness, and they shall know the truth. Where shall we find the book that tells of the white man's heaven?"

Marcus Whitman, then resident near Elmira, N. Y., in company with his young wife and a handful of hardy pioneers, sailed down the Ohio and up the Mississippi and Missouri rivers on a raft.

A few years later we find him at Wallatpal, a settlement near Fort Walla Walla, composed nearly altogether of fur traders and trappers.

At this time—1842—the boundary line between the British and the United States possessions in the Northwest was still an unsettled question. Under the treaty of 1818-1828 it was commonly held that this country was open for settlement to the first people who went thither in sufficient numbers to hold it and organize a government.

The United States, on the other hand, claimed that Captain Robert Gray, a Bostonian, was the first to discover the Columbia River, in 1792; and, further, that the immense tracts belonged to it by subsequent purchase and treaties with Spain.

Notwithstanding the validity of our claims American statesmen did not believe the region was of the slightest value, and took no pains to secure it. This was the condition of affairs when, in 1842, the missionary Whitman rode from his home at Wallatpal to Fort Walla Walla to attend a dinner tendered to some recent arrivals from England.

The talk as to the ownership of the country ran high, the Englishmen taunting Dr. Whitman about the ignorance of American statesmen concerning the natural wealth of the region, and made bold to declare that a movement was on foot to bring a large British colony thither and to settle the dispute as to the country's ownership by raising the English flag.

In the midst of the argument a Canadian runner broke in upon the festivities to announce that an expedition of 150 Englishmen was then about 300 miles up the river, intent upon finding homes in the disputed region, and that these would immediately be followed by more colonists.

Dr. Whitman saw there was no time to lose if Oregon was to be saved to the United States.

Then and there he determined upon the course of action which was to make him a hero and his determination was not prompted by any selfish motive.

When the feast was over young Whitman made his excuses, and, filled with the enthusiasm of his ideas, hastened back to Wallatpal. A winter of unusual severity had already set in, but notwithstanding the pleadings of his family, and the gloomy forebodings of friends, the hardy young patriot could not be deterred.

So October 3, 1842, three days after his return from Wallatpal, he set forth on his remarkable journey. With him went General A. L. Lovejoy, a guide and three pack mules. He was also accompanied by a party of Cayuse Indians, who finally bade him farewell, and returned, after telling him that they never expected to see him alive again.

For the first eleven days of the journey the road was plainly marked, though beset with danger from the Blackfeet Indians, who were then beginning to be very hostile to white men.

He set out toward to southeast to discover a new route to the Mississippi settlements and passed through blizzards and many hardships to Fort Uncompahgra, in the Spanish country, on Grand River.

The little band passed onward into the heart of the big mountains, bent on discovering the way to the ancient Spanish settlement of Taos, northwest of Santa Fe.

When about one-third of the distance was accomplished, the party encountered a blizzard of awful severity and for ten days they endured this, during which time the provisions became scarce and the animals unmanageable.

When the storm finally abated the guide deserted the party and Dr. Whitman was forced to return alone to Uncompahgra to procure a new one. After still further hardships and deprivations the little band reached Taos, where they found provisions so scarce that they could add none to their already depleted stores.

But they pushed on, crossing streams filled with broken ice and suffering pangs of hunger, until they had travelled about half of the distance between Taos and Santa Fe. Here the last of the stores were consumed, and death by starvation was close at hand.

Before Dr. Whitman and his associates reached Santa Fe they were compelled to eat the doctor's dog and one of the mules.

Once in the capital city he found it a comparatively easy task to convince President Tyler and Secretary of State Webster of the desirability of the Oregon country. His frozen hands and feet bore witness to the long journey and the President promised him all the aid in his power.

A year later saw him at the head of a caravan of 1000 people bound for Walla Walla.

They reached the promised land in safety and organized a government in accordance with their country's laws. Shortly after a treaty was entered into with England recognizing the ownership of the United States to all that vast area.

And that is how Marcus Whitman saved Oregon.

FEET GOVERN THE COMPLEXION

A Startling Scientific Declaration, Recently Sprung.

It may not be generally known that the feet are an excellent index to the state of health, and that the more care given to these useful appendages of the human form shows a marked improvement in the complexion.

The feet should be kept warm and dry. The feet need frequent bathing, a nightly bath, if possible, in warm water and a brisk rubbing with a dry, coarse towel. The glands or pores of the feet are among the largest of the human frame; consequently the necessity of keeping them in the best order will be readily appreciated. The color of the feet are also a good index to health. When in fair condition, the soles and heels, the tips of the toes and a narrow edge on the outside of the foot will be a rosy, bluish-pink, the tops will be white, and the nails shine with a pearly, faintly pink lustre.

If a person is debilitated or anemic, or in a low state of vitality, the feet will indicate the fact more readily than the face. The heel, instead of blushing a tender, rosy pink, will show a livid, greenish yellow. The soles and toes will also pale to a yellowish hue, and a general toughness of the cuticle of the soles will become apparent.

The healthful exercise of the functions of the feet have a wonderful influence upon the complexion. Thick, fligid or oily skins, that local treatment is thrown away on, will show a noticeable improvement if treated through the feet. If the color is too high, or a habitual, unbecoming flush overspreads the face, a hot foot bath upon retiring will decrease the unbecoming blush to a gentle pallor.

If the soles of the feet show a disposition to harden and toughen, treat them to a vigorous course of massage. Bathe twenty minutes in hot water, in which a little borax has been dissolved, and while still moist rub into them thoroughly a quantity of mutton tallow that has been melted and is still warm. If there are callouses and corns, bind a generous dab over the spot, after rubbing thoroughly, and the tenure of the corn will be a very short one indeed. This massage of the feet cannot be too highly recommended, either for those who find in beautiful pedal extremities or comfort in walking or standing. For feet persistently damp a teaspoonful of spirits of camphor in the bath of one pall will be found to have a tonic and cleansing effect, and is said to prevent the taking of colds from damp. The dressing of the feet enters largely into their general comfort and well being.

If they are cramped and suffer from friction, the facial expression and complexion will not fail to chronicle the fact. To the habitual cramping of the feet, the wearing of unhygienic make of shoes, and general indifference to the care demanded by these sensitive members, is due the flushed face, the blooming nose and broken veins that disfigure many cheeks, the bloodshot eyes and unlovely complexion, the owners of which would be very incredulous were they informed of the true source of those unhealthful ills.—Philadelphia Press.

The Most Useful Metal.

A chemical authority states that silicon, as well as carbon, renders iron more fusible.

Muhall says the United States produces one-third of the steel manufactured in the world.

The iron deposited by the galvanic battery is grayish white and takes a beautiful polish.

It is said that the first cannon cast in the United States was made at Hagerstown, Md.

Ships built of steel are said to be able to carry 20 per cent. more freight than those of iron.

In the fourteenth century Belgium was the principal seat of the iron manufactures of Europe.

Rust consists of ferric oxide, ferrous oxide, ferrous carbonate, calcic carbonate, silica and ammonia.

The common copperas of commerce, so extensively used as a disinfectant, is a salt of iron, the sulphate.

The so-called "finewares" used by tinners are merely sheets of iron rolled very thin and plated with tin.

The iron pyrites, or "fool's gold," is abundant in many parts of the world. It is a bisulphide of iron.

Spice Are Dried Buds.

The Spice Islands have given the world few things more popular than the dried buds of a tree smoked and dried in the sun, named in Latin from their resemblance to a nail, clavus, and called by us cloves. In the same group of islands a small collection of islands are planted entirely in nutmeg trees.

NOTES AND COMMENTS.

St. Kilda, the lonely islet west of the Hebrides, has demonstrated that it is not entirely out of the world by sending a subscription of \$12.50, raised among its sixty families of fishermen, to the fund for the relief of the Armenians.

According to a recent Parliamentary report, seventy-one persons died of starvation in London during 1895. In only a few cases was the privation that led to the fatal issue due to self-neglect. The majority of cases were women and over 50 years old.

An effort is being made by the Government authorities of Missouri to put into execution a scheme for changing the course of the Osage River near its mouth so as to make it follow a straight course to the Missouri instead of winding around and wasting much valuable land.

The big revival now going on in Philadelphia culminated the other day in a street parade of 3000 church-workers. In a way this suggests the religious processions of the Middle Ages in Europe. The houses along the route of the parade were decorated with flags and Chinese lanterns; red fire was burned, and skyrocketers were set off, while the paraders sang various Gospel hymns as they marched.

An extraordinary instance of hereditary tendency to suicide was told by Professor Brouardel, in Paris, recently. A farmer near Etampes hanged himself without apparent cause, leaving a family of seven sons and four daughters. Ten of the eleven subsequently followed the father's example, but not until they had married and begotten children, all of whom likewise hanged themselves. The only survivor is a son, who is now sixty-eight years of age and has passed safely beyond the family hanging age.

When the University of Chicago was started it was thought good policy to secure eight or ten of the best men in the country by offering them the unprecedented salary of \$7000. But aside from the few men thus favored for a special reason at the beginning, other salaries have been fixed upon about the scale that obtains at Yale, Harvard, and half a dozen other first-class institutions. In other words, \$5000 is the maximum that any instructor may hope to reach, while the rank and file of the men are paid from \$1500 to \$2500.

Colonel D. W. Hughes is a queer genius who lives in Audrain County, Missouri, having selected the little village of Vandalia as his permanent place of residence after testing the advantages to be found in thirty-eight states and territories. He has invented many contrivances of one sort or another in the course of his wandering career, the most important of which is a corn-plating machine. Out of this he made considerable money, but his hopes of a fortune are now founded on an instrument which, by means of X rays, perhaps, will not only reveal the culinary value of eggs, but also the gender of their embryonic occupants. Both these things, the Colonel says, his invention will do with speed and certainty.

Andrew, Messer, vice president of the National Grange, says that the Grange originated in Washington. Thirty years ago O. H. Kelly, a clerk in the Interior Department, was sent out officially to look into the condition of the Southern farmers and see what means could be taken for their relief. While making his tour, Mr. Kelly, who had once been a farmer himself, conceived the idea of a great fraternal order of husbandmen, to be conducted on co-operative lines, like the Masons. This order, he proposed, should bridge over the differences between the farmers of the North and South, and should teach them that their interests were identical. When he returned to Washington he told some friends of his idea, and the nucleus of the present organization was then formed by seven men, all of them with agricultural interests.

Emigration to America has created so great a dearth of labor in the agricultural districts of Germany that Chinese coolies are now being imported in perfect hordes for field work in the provinces of Silesia, East Prussia, Posen and Pomerania. Inasmuch as the coolies are content to labor for twenty cents a day, all told, the German land owners are enthusiastic about the innovation, and those peasants who have hitherto turned a deaf ear to the arguments in favor of emigration are now being driven to the wall, and may shortly be expected to arrive in this country in shoals. It is almost certain that coolie labor will in a short time be extended to other German industries and trades, and before long John Chinaman is likely to become as great a problem in the labor market and in the political situation of Germany as he was a few years ago in the United States.

Montserrat, the little West Indian island to which death and destruction have just been carried by a hurricane, deserves more of the world's regard than it has ever received. At Montserrat is made a very large part of the lime juice to which modern sailors owe their almost complete exemption from that terrible form of blood poisoning which used to be the result of almost every long voyage. One of Captain Cooke's best claims to fame and grateful remembrance is the fact that he first demonstrated the possibility of taking a crew around the world, if need be, in a sailing ship without losing a single man from scurvy. The lime juice with which he supplied himself, and by the administration of which he saved his sailors from the effects of their salt-meat diet, did not come from Montserrat, but the culture of some lime trees began there

many years ago, and the juice their fruit produces is in high repute all over the world.

The Chicago Railway Review says that the supply of natural gas is fast giving out. Mr. J. D. Weeks has just made a report on the supply and its decline for the national labor bureau in which it appears that the supply has fallen a half in seven years. In 1888 the value of the gas produced was \$22,629,875. In 1895 it was \$13,006,650. In Pennsylvania the fall has been much greater than in Ohio and Indiana. In 1888 the gas produced in Pennsylvania was worth \$19,282,375; in 1895 it was \$5,852,000. The decrease has been less rapid since 1891, owing to the general introduction of meters, but it has gone on at a rate of about 5 per cent. a year. As the product shrinks rapidly when the pressure falls, it may not be over ten or fifteen years before very little gas is produced. The waste of the past ten years will be looked upon as egregious folly. Mr. Weeks points out that when the number of wells is regulated and restricted the yield of gas lasts longer. This certainly suggests the wisdom of legislation and inspection on this subject.

The Army and Navy Gazette calls attention to a remarkable feature of Queen Victoria's reign, the enormous number of wars, little and big, that have marked its progress. Scarcely a twelvemonth of this period has passed, indeed, without finding England at war in some part of the world. Here is a list of the principal campaigns and expeditions: Afghan war, 1838-40; first China war, 1841; Sikh war, 1845-46; Kaffir war, 1846; second war with China, second Afghan war, 1849; second Sikh war, 1848-49; Burmese war, 1850; second Kaffir war, 1851-52; second Burmese war, 1852-53; Crimea, 1854; third war with China, 1856-58; Indian mutiny, 1857; Maori war, 1860-61; more wars with China, 1860 and 1862; second Maori war, 1863-66; Ashanti war, 1864; war in Bhoctan, 1864; Abyssinian war, 1867-68; war with the Basutoes, 1868; third Maori war, 1868-69; war with Looshals, 1871; second Ashanti war, 1873-74; third Kaffir war, 1877; Zulu war, 1878-79; third Afghan war, 1878-80; war in Basotland, 1879-81; Transvaal war, 1879-81; Egyptian war, 1882; Sudan, 1884-85-86; third Burma war, 1885-92; Zanzibar, 1890; India, 1890; Matabele wars, 1894 and 1896; Chiral campaign, 1895; third Ashanti campaign, 1896; second Sudan campaign, 1896.

From Argentina—by way of Paris, it is only fair to admit—comes news of the passage of a remarkable law, by the enforcement of which the statesmen of that far-away Republic very foolishly expect in the course of a few years to crowd its plains and mountains with inhabitants. One clause of this enactment reads: "On and after January 1, 1897, every unmarried male citizen of Argentina who is not less than twenty or more than eighty years of age, shall, on the first day of each month, pay a tax, the amount to be determined by the municipal authorities." This is certainly going a long way, but the South American legislators were still further, if the Parisian dispatch can be trusted, and rounded out their law with another clause, which reads: "A celibate of either sex who shall, without legitimate motive, reject the addresses of him or her who may aspire to her or his hand, and who continues continuously unmarried, shall pay the sum of 500 piastres for the benefit of the person, man or woman, who has been so refused." Perhaps this scheme will work as its inventors hope, but the chances are that before January 1st arrives, Argentina will have lost by emigration every unmarried person now living in the country.

A Cat's Household Duties.

Miss Angie Eddes, a lady living near Stockton, Cal., owns a cat bearing the euphonious name of Biddad that is a marvel of feline intelligence and industry. Miss Angie lives on a little place of her own, where she has her busy hands pretty full in looking after the ranch work and attending to her father, who is a cripple, and the cat, Biddad, has come to be very helpful to her in many ways. Among other sources of revenue, Miss Angie has a dozen fine bearing almond trees that bring in no inconsiderable amount, and Biddad is invaluable to her in taking care of the nuts. Every morning in falling time Miss Angie sets a large basket out in the orchard and Biddad begins work, frisking back and forth under the trees, picking up the plump brown nuts, never ceasing till the basket is full, when he goes in, letting his mistress know, by pulling at her apron, that he needs her help. Aside from thus relieving Miss Angie of all the trouble of gathering the nuts, Biddad's services are called into requisition to protect them from rats, which otherwise would begin to ravage the trees as soon as the young almonds show evidences of maturity.

Another one of Biddad's accomplishments is that of churning, at which he is quite an adept. Old Mr. Eddes, who has quite an inventive faculty, has invented a little churn, with a unique, light-running trade, upon which Biddad mounts and treads away with the most painstaking industry till the work is done. So expert has the cat become that he can tell by the sound of the milk when the butter has come, and strikes with his paw on the little bell which is attached to the churn to let his mistress know.

In the midst of all this industry Biddad finds time for as much fun and frolic as the average cat, and is a source of great amusement and pleasure to the old man Eddes, relieving him of many tedious hours.

The Jefferson family has been on the stage for five generations.