



ITEMS OF INTEREST ON AGRICULTURAL TOPICS.

Utilizing a Dead Animal—Hay in the Stack—Bees and Clover—Leaching of Soils—Rye for Cattle—Low Land for Poultry—What Trees and Shrubs to Plant, Etc.

UTILIZING A DEAD ANIMAL. It is a loss of valuable material to bury a dead animal. Cut the carcass up into small pieces as possible, placing them in a large box or cemented pit, using both flesh and bones, as well as the entrails. Dry dirt may be used to fill the spaces between the pieces.

HAY IN THE STACK. Feed stack hay before that stored in the barn to avoid loss. While the hay will dry out nearly as much in one place as in another, there is a far greater loss in feeding value in that put up in stacks, due to spoiling on top by the weather and on the bottom by dampness from the ground.

BEEES AND CLOVER.

The amount of honey in the blossoms of the red clover probably is equal to, if it does not exceed, that in nearly all our other honey-producing plants, but the bees do not seem to find it, that is, the honey bees, for the bumblebees are able to reach it.

LEACHING OF SOILS.

Some years ago the late Dr. E. L. Sturtevant made some very interesting experiments in catching and analyzing the draining water, from the soil in a box which was filled and placed in an open space, where it was subject to the same weather conditions as the surrounding fields.

RYE FOR CATTLE.

I have raised rye for twenty years for pasturing sheep, cows, calves and hogs, and I have found that better returns were obtained from the crop in this way than any other.

Nearly all cattle, sheep and swine love rye, and they fatten on it, and keep in excellent health better than on almost any other farm crop.

This forces the roots back into the soil if they have been pulled up by the grazing animals. The needs of the ripened rye will also be forced into the soil, and these will soon begin to sprout.

LOW LAND AND POULTRY.

We are in receipt of a letter from a subscriber, who describes the land on which she proposes to raise poultry as "tide land which has been reclaimed from a gulf, but is well diked and in a high state of cultivation."

In Indiana, Michigan, portions of Illinois, Ohio and the states farther west are sections than which there could be no better for the poultry industry.

SHORT AND USEFUL POINTERS.

Give the hens a change in their grain ration. The neglectful farmer is generally a wasteful one. The best eggs are always laid by young healthy hens.

THE DETECTIVE'S TRADE.

ADEPTS AT RECOGNIZING CRIMINALS BY PHOTOGRAPHS.

No Matter How Scant and Inaccurate May Be the Data They Generally Lag Their Man if They Run Across Him—Some Famous Cases.

It is by no means easy to recognize a man never met before by a photograph, and still less so by a mere description, however accurate. Detectives, however, are supposed to be adepts at such a feat, and to do them justice, they are rarely wanting in this particular.

The material supplied to the police for the purposes of identification is, contrary to popular belief, very inadequate. Descriptions are commonly erroneous and photographs misleading.

As to the value of ordinary photographs, a detective once made the rounds of a certain town with one of a woman of whom he was in search.

Among the passengers was a woman and her children, who were met on landing by a man having the appearance of a laborer. He was not in the least like a commercial traveler.

On another occasion a man rushed on board an outward-bound liner just as she was on the point of sailing.

The belated passenger owed his downfall to nothing else but his bull neck. When the detective twisted himself round he noted that the last man had such a neck, and that it protruded beyond his collar.

When a detective is exceedingly doubtful about a man the hands sometimes give a clue or even afford a clinching proof. An officer once accosted on an Atlantic liner at Liverpool a steamer passenger who seemed to correspond in one or two particulars with a Figaro who had deserted his wife.

Upon one other point there is a good deal of misconception besides that of the value of photographs, etc. It is generally believed that a bearded wrongdoer runs a good chance of avoiding recognition by detectives if he gets a clean shave.

Lord Rosebery has aroused all Englishmen by telling them that America is the center of the Anglo-Saxon race and that if Pitt had lived longer Queen Victoria would be ruling from Washington.

SURFACE CIVILIZATION.

A Young Zulu Girl Who Couldn't Resist Her Natural Tendencies.

I think quite the most curious instance of the thinness of surface civilization among these Zulu people came to me in the case of a young Zulu girl who had been early left an orphan and had been carefully trained in a clergyman's family.

She proved an excellent nurse and thoroughly trustworthy; the children were devoted to her, especially the baby, who learned to speak Zulu before English, and to throw a red assegai as soon as he could stand firmly on his little fat legs.

In the course of a few months I received a letter from my friend, who was then settled in her up-country home, but her story of Maria's doing seemed well-nigh incredible, though perfectly true.

A Taffy Failure.

"What in the world have you been doing to these?" asked the clothes cleaner of his customer. "They look and feel as though you had worn them to a reception in a glue factory."

"Taffy pulling. Old-fashioned taffy pulling. I told the children about the glorious times that we had at such affairs in the country, when I was a boy on the farm, and of course, they must have one. I was in for it, and had as many old folks there as children.

London agents will ask the government to establish a national art gallery in this country. They have an idea that the taste for art in America should be cultivated.

WITH SILKEN CORDS.

Dr. Talmage Says So Should the Fishers of Men Mend Their Nets.

Christians Warned Against Harsh Criticism—Gospel Strife Deplorable—World's Heart Is Bursting With Trouble.

WASHINGTON, D. C.—In this discourse Dr. Talmage describes the gospel net and how it is to be repaired after being damaged; text, Matthew iv, 21, "James, the son of Zebedee, and John, his brother, in a ship with Zebedee, their father, mending their nets."

"I go a-fishing!" cried Simon Peter to his comrades, and the most of the apostles had hands hard from fishing tackle. The fishermen of the world have long attracted attention.

It is not a good day for fishing, and the apparatus is in better condition. Perhaps the last fish you hauled was so large that something snapped.

The trouble is with the nets, and most of them need to be mended. I propose to show you what is the matter with most of the nets and how to mend them.

In the Bible language an unmeaning verbiage when it talks about self denial, and keeping the body under, and about walking the narrow way, and entering the gate, and about carrying the cross?

Now, I have noticed a man cannot fish and fight at the same time. He either neglects his net or his musket. It is amazing how much time some of the fishermen have to look after other fishermen.

This opening century will require all our spare time to mend our own nets. God help us in the important duty!

Do you know that the world's heart is bursting with trouble, and if you could make that world believe that the religion of Jesus Christ is worth anything, you could see the whole world surrender to-morrow—yes, would surrender this hour.

When you are mending your net for this wide, deep sea of humanity, take out that wire thread of criticism and that horsehair thread of harshness and put in a soft suture of Christian sympathy.

Many of our nets need to be mended in these respects, the black threads and the rough threads taken out, and the light threads and the golden threads of Christian gentleness woven in.

Those who propose to mend their nets by secular and skeptical tools are like a man who has just one week for fishing and six of the days he spends in reading Isaac Walton's "Complete Angler," and Wheatley's "Road and Line," and Scott's "Fishing in Northern Waters," and Putnam's "Vade Mecum of Fly Fishing for Trout," and then on Saturday morning, his last day out, goes to the river to ply his art.

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