



WHEN THE ORCHARD GIVES A PROFIT.

Time is required before an orchard may begin to give a profit. One cannot expect returns from an orchard in a year, as with animals, hence the sooner the trees begin to bear the less the loss of time, land and capital. It is important, therefore, that the best of care be given young trees from the start.

BUTT AND TIP KERNELS FOR SEED.

Professor Shamel, instructor in farm crops at the Illinois College of Agriculture, says that it is a good plan to shell off and discard both the tips and butts of the corn ears selected for seed. That was what we were taught to do when young, and we thought it the proper way until we saw the results of a trial made by the late Dr. E. Lewis Sturtevant, while Director of the New York Experiment Station at Geneva. He planted several rows of corn, placing the kernels in the drills just as they grew in order on the cob, also strips in which one had seed from eight butt kernels in each row, another from eight tip kernels in the rows, and the third eight kernels from each row as near the middle of the ear as possible. We think in every test the kernels from the tip gave earliest ripening corn, and in more than half also produced a larger yield than those nearer the middle of the ear. In every case the yield was at the rate of several bushels less per acre from those kernels near the middle of the ear.

CUT HAY EARLY.

Practical feeders have all noted that farm animals are less likely to make satisfactory gain during the spring months. Sometimes they will even lose flesh unless given the very best of care. They often refuse to eat the usual amount of forage. I have found that by saving my best forage until last that I can keep the animals from losing flesh and in a great many cases can make them gain. For this reason I find it desirable to have on hand a little supply of early cut hay or corn fodder. With milch cows this early cut forage makes it possible to keep up a fairly good flow of milk until the cows are turned to grass.

Not only do the animals do better when the best forage is retained for spring months, but the animals seem to be in better condition for making satisfactory gains when turned out to pasture. This is reasonable, for this kind of forage is similar in composition to grass, consequently when the change from winter to spring feed comes, there is but slight difference in the character of the food.

Early in the winter animals are in better condition to consume and make use of the more mature fodder crops. This is due partially to the appetite being keener during cold, crisp weather, and the digestive organs being in a more healthy condition. Where a large amount of hay is to be put up, it is, of course, difficult to cut it all when in bloom, but every effort should be made to harvest as much as possible at that stage.—L. O. Folio, in *New England Homestead*.

BUYING A COW.

Dairying is something new in this part of the country. Few farmers know the real value of a good cow. It is generally considered that a cow is worth from \$35 to \$40, and if she is a common scrub, she is clear property at that price, if milk is worth \$1 per 100 and a cow cost \$40 per year to feed, and the manure pays for the labor (but it does not), the cow gives 10,000 pounds of milk per year, and returns a profit of \$60. A cow giving 5,000 pounds returns a profit of \$10, and one giving 4,000 pounds or less returns nothing; labor and stable room about the same, besides the offspring from the 10,000-pound cow is worth at least \$10 per year, and from the 5,000-pound cow probably \$2, and from the scrub nothing.

Counting the lifetime of a cow 12 years the 10,000-pound cow gives a profit of \$700, the 5,000-pound cow, \$120, and the 4,000-pound cow only the value of her calf at birth, and the service fees taken off that amount.

When buying a cow, we should use the same judgment as we do when buying a horse. A small scrub horse will sell for \$50 to \$60; an ordinary farm or driving horse will sell for \$100 to \$110; but if we want a good draft horse, or a good roadster, we pay \$150 or \$200, and a good horse will readily sell for this amount, because they are bred to perform the work they are bought for. If this is true of a horse, it is also true of a cow.

In my experience a small horse cannot perform the same work as a larger one. Neither can a small cow. She might do it for a few years, but her constitution will not allow her to do so for any length of time, because she has not the strength in her body to sustain her in her work as the larger cow has. The large cow will consume more coarse fodder, but the small cow will need more grain to do the same work, and then she can't do it; at least, she never has done it for me.—*The Southern Farmer*.

THE FAMILY GARDEN.

The family garden usually pays a greater profit on the labor bestowed upon it than any other portion of the farm, even managed by the old-fashioned method of small plots and beds and hand cultivation. This being the case, it can surely be made to pay a much greater ratio of profit by planning to plant everything possible in long rows far enough apart so as to work them with a horse and cultivator, thus greatly relieving your muscles. And the saving in cost of cultivation is only a small part of the benefit of the long row ar-

angement. It will naturally lead to a much more frequent and thorough cultivation of our garden crops.

The important advantage of a frequent stirring of the surface soil among all our growing crops, we are convinced, is too often greatly underestimated. It is said that it pays to hoe cabbage every morning during the early part of the season, and, although this may be carrying it to an extreme, we are convinced that a more frequent cultivation than is ordinarily given might prove profitable. The frequent breaking of the crusts admits of a freer circulation of the air to the roots, and aids them to make the most of all the dews and rains which fall. Next to actual irrigation, frequent and continued surface cultivation aids in securing and retaining moisture and supplying it to the growing plants.—*New England Farmer*.

GREEN MANURIAL CROPS.

Green manurial crops are now considered essential to good farming for several reasons, the principle being that certain kinds draw nitrogen from the atmosphere and thus add to the fertility of the land. The fall of the year is usually the time when crimson clover is seeded, and as it is liable to fall if seeded too late farmers have selected August (or not later than the middle of September) as the best period for seeding the crop. As crimson clover seems to fall unexpectedly, and at other times gives good results, it is difficult to induce some farmers to use it, but as a rule many failures that are attributed to the crop are due to mistakes on the part of the farmer. They have been informed that crimson clover could be sown on the ground, before corn was cut down, and a good crop of clover secured without any preparation of the soil; but, while crimson clover really grows at a season of the year when no other crop is occupying the land, and can be turned under even before warm weather appears in the spring, yet it is not so good a servant as to thrive under adverse circumstances. It does not fulfill the expectation of those who desire to secure a crop without labor. The fact is that it requires soil that has been well plowed, and it will grow rapidly if given an opportunity. Early seeding permits it to get a start and make considerable growth before winter, thus enabling it to withstand a severe season. It then starts off early in the spring, and by the time the farmer is ready to plow his corn land the crimson clover will be of sufficient height to be turned under as manure.

Where the farmer desires to improve his soil with green crops he does not expect to invest largely in commercial fertilizers, but he can assist his green crops by the use of one substance that is not costly and which is also a plant food. This substance is lime. When the land is plowed the farmer should apply about 20 bushels of air-slaked lime, harrow well and then broadcast the seed, harrowing again. The lime renders the soil somewhat alkaline, which fits it for the work of the minute bacteria which perform an important part in deriving nitrogen from the atmosphere and altering it so as to render it suitable for plants. The nitrogen is converted into nitric acid, while the plant depends upon the soil for its mineral matter. The ash of a plant will always contain lime, only in small quantities, but the ash of clover shows lime to be an important ingredient. Lime also assists in the liberation of the inert materials of the soil the roots of the clover utilizing them as food for the plants. The entire crop when plowed under, consequently not only adds nitrogen to the land but returns also the mineral elements derived from the lower soil, as well as the lime taken up during the growth. When the crop of crimson clover is plowed under it will be of advantage to apply about 10 bushels per acre more of lime in order to assist in neutralizing the vegetable acids that may be generated in the soil during the process of decomposition of the clover. While an application of commercial fertilizer will of course increase the crop of clover, yet the objects of many farmers is to attempt to avoid such expense and renovate their soils by the use of lime and crimson clover only.

Green manurial crops give good results on all soils. Whether a farm is fertile or impoverished the farmer can not add too much fertility to his land and the cheapest method of improvement, except loss of time in some cases is by plowing under green crops. If he is desirous of saving time he should rely on commercial fertilizers. Fortunately crimson clover occupies the land only at a period when no crop can be grown (from fall to spring), hence it is no in the way of any other crop, and as it adds nitrogen to the soil (which is the most expensive ingredient in fertilizers) the farmer can re-enforce his clover nitrogen in the spring with a potash and phosphoric acid fertilizer. Fertilizer manufacturers understand the value of crimson clover to farmers and they consequently prepare brands which contain the mineral elements only. The farmer, however, will lose nothing by having some kind of clover crop on his land. The growing crop will prevent loss from leaching of the soil, and by shading the soil the conditions are made more favorable for the work of the micro-organisms which are so essential to success with certain crops. The large amount of green material that may be turned under renders the land better enabled to hold moisture, and humus is formed while the covering crop is on the land. Outside of the cost of the seed but little expense is connected with the growing of crimson clover, and farmers should not omit it from their rotation of crops.—*Philadelphia Record*.

It is said that 1,000 pounds of poultry will cost less to raise than 1,000 pound of beef, and will sell for almost twice as much.

New Zealand is picking up in manu- factures. At last accounts she had 6,438 factories, with 48,938 employes.



FAVORITES FOR COOL DAYS.

Black taffeta frocks are great favorites for cool days. Often the only touch of color is given by the ecreu or coffee colored lace collars and cuffs, and numberless tucks in every variety of design make up the trimming. The taffeta is much used also in tailor suits, which are extremely neat. These may have the revers of white silk, on which are set tiny applied flowers.

STYLISH DUST COATS.

It is a poor woman who cannot have a dust coat this year. There are the most stylish ones imaginable in linen to be had at the most reasonable prices. Some of the smartest have the coachman's capes, three jaunty little capes at the top of these long coats, which are strapped across the front with linen straps fastened on either side by linen-covered buttons. They are stylish, and a very good style, too.

ROYAL FISHERWOMEN.

The Dutchess of Fife is undoubtedly facile princeps amongst our royal fisherwomen. She enjoys most of her angling on the Dee, in Aberdeenshire, where there are ever salmon of surpassing size and beauty to be taken by the expert fisher. The afternoons and evenings at Mar Lodge are mostly devoted to the pursuit of the sport, and fine results often attend her efforts. The Dutchess can play and land a salmon with the best of her guests there.

The Queen knows how to handle a rod, and she likes nothing better than taking the creel and reel, accompanied by one of her daughters, and having an hour or two's restful sport by the shimmering Dee or the silver Tay. Princess Victoria is very nearly as keen an angler as her sister, the Dutchess of Fife, but the lives of the Queen and Princess are of a busier kind than hers.—*Ladies Field*.

WHEN BUYING NEW BOOTS.

You hardly believe that there are special times and seasons for the trying on of new shoes, but so it is. You need a larger pair of shoes in summer than in winter, and it is always best to try them on in the latter part of the day. The feet are then at the maximum size. Activity naturally enlarges them or makes them swell; much standing also tends to enlarge the feet. New shoes should be tried on over moderately thick stockings, then you can put on a thinner pair to ease your feet if the shoes seem too tight. It is remarkable what a difference the stockings make. If they are too large or too small they will be nearly as uncomfortable as a pair of shoes that are too tight. New shoes can be worn with as much ease as old ones if they are stuffed to the shape of the foot with cloth or paper, and patiently sponged with hot water. Or if they pinch in some particular spot, a cloth wet with hot water and laid across the place will cause immediate relief.—*Woman's Life*.

FOR A BRIDE'S MOTHER.

It is difficult to find anything in the way of a dress for a bride's mother. A rich silk material is generally selected, and there are certainly very handsome new fabrics of this style this spring. One of the most beautiful is silk granite, a sort of thick grained dull satin, draping well and forming soft, heavy folds. As to the fashion of the dress, a jacket bodice is more becoming to a rather stout figure than a bolero or cuirass.

Another dress for mother is in tan color, made in redingote form, with long train and wide plaits at the sides. The front is open from the collar down, over a plaited underfront of ivory satin crossed with a lattice work of black velvet ribbon. The corsage is sharply pointed in front and rounded behind. The train sleeves enlarge toward the wrists over triple puffs of mousseline de soie over ivory satin.

RIVAL FOR ROSA BONHEUR.

England has a woman animal painter who, many Britishers insist, is the only worthy successor of the late Rosa Bonheur. She is a rather pretty young woman, Miss Lucy Kemp-Welch by name, who says she cannot remember the time when she first began to draw. Her fame came early, for she already had two of her paintings purchased by the trustees of the Chantry Bequest, one titled "Colt Hunting in New Forest," and the other called "Lord Dunsford's Dash Upon Ladysmith."

Only two other women painters have been similarly honored by the Chantry trustees. Borne at Bournemouth, Miss Kemp-Welch and her sister, Edith, also an artist, who has exhibited at the academy, were educated entirely at home, under the superintendence of their parents. They had a free, happy, open-air life, and a small menagerie of pet animals served as models for the budding artists. Neither wealth nor influence came their way; the elder sister achieved her almost phenomenal success entirely unaided by either. At her capacious studio at Bushey, in the midst of Professor Herkomer's colony of artists, she necessarily plies her brush—usually on equestrian studies, in which she patently excels.—*Chicago Tribune*.

HAIR DECORATIONS.

Now comes the decorations of the hair. Nothing could be more fashionable than the black knot, and this must at once be

put in place. It consists of a broad pin, which is to hold the rear locks up. It may be very fancy and should resemble a buckle, more or less, to be truly chic. These back hair fasteners come as broad as three or four inches wide, and, again, they are, some of them, narrow and some so wide as to look like a shield of metal to protect the back of the head, but used in any way they are pretty. The tiny jeweled flower is also seen, but it is not so useful, being small.

There is a style of hair dressing that is neither high nor low, yet which is becoming very much in vogue. It is the classic style. It calls for an ornament, which, fifty years ago, was on every woman's dressing table, but which today is scarce indeed. This is the ferroniere, that tiny thing, which, suspended from a chain, hangs over the forehead.

The ferroniere may be a little heart of enamel if one is looking for cheapness, or it may be a costly thing like a diamond in a setting of gold, or it may be a historic thing, like a carving of coral or an intaglio of ivory. It may quite run the gamut of ornaments, yet if it be hung by a chain and suspended around the head it is a ferroniere still. Fastened to the narrowest of black velvet ribbons it can be hung in its place upon the forehead instead of by its chain of gold.—*Detroit Free Press*.

ENOUGH WOMEN IN THE WORLD.

There are 15,300,000 men who would have to remain single even though all women on earth should marry. In other words, there are in the world 15,300,000 more men than women. Europe is the only continent with a numerical preponderance of women, but even in Europe there are many countries where men outnumber women; that is the case in Italy, Greece, Roumania, Bulgaria, Serbia, and in many minor principalities. The aggregate of the population of those countries gives the men a majority of about 500,000. Portugal, Sweden, Norway, Russian Poland and Great Britain show a preponderance of women, at the ratio of 1,000 women to 1,000 men. In Germany there are 1,039 women to every 1,000 men, while the majority of women in Hungary, Russia, France and Belgium is comparatively insignificant. Although the other continents show a more or less pronounced numerical preponderance of men, it would be a mistake to assume that there are no countries on those continents where the women outnumber the men. Nicaragua, the South American republic, and other countries have more women than men. The most peculiar conditions are found in Hawaii. In Hongkong there are only 409 women, and in Hawaii 533 women to every 1,000 men. It has been found that women are more sociable than men, and that they avoid countries where the population is thinly scattered over large territory. Hunting and pastoral people, and even those in the first stages of agricultural development, for that reason invariably have more men than women. The countries with the greatest industrial development, in proportion to their area, show the greatest numerical preponderance of women; other elements which greatly influence the percentage of women are their legal status, including the laws of inheritance and succession, unfavorable marriage laws and other conditions detrimental to the rights of women. Climate and meteorological conditions also influence the relative ratio between men and women. In the tropical and polar zones the men predominate in numbers. Dry and sterile countries invariably have more men than women, while the opposite is the case in fertile countries with sufficient rainfall.—*Chicago Record-Herald*.

FASHION NOTES.

The dominant tone of the latest and smartest dress features is extreme daintiness. The very flat last is a most noticeable feature of milady's correct summer walking shoe.

Boleros still particularly persist as a style feature, the latest effects in them being jeweled. The exaggerated long, pointed waist in front is no longer good form—just a slight elongation is better style.

Blue or green panne as stock and girdle give an exceedingly chic touch of color to the prevailing linen costume. Beautiful French passementeries in Arabian and Renaissance designs are very recent offerings in dress trimmings.

Artist's bows, with very narrow, short loops and flowing ends in grenadine, Louisine and foulard are a new notion in neckwear.

Those in the know predict a very strong tendency to velvet effects forming part of the weave in the fashionable fall textiles. The desire to "rustle," such a craze a few seasons ago, has all died out. All the most attractive silk underskirts are made of soft-finished silks.

Shirt-waists buttoning in the back are novelties but are not pretty enough to counteract their inconvenience, so are not apt to be generally popular. Striped light-weight French wash flannels in dainty light colorings are the smart thing for cool mornings at the shore or in the mountains.

Fine lace effects in silk or lisle still continue the style in hosiery, but neat and tasteful as a pattern. Glaring figures or striking ideas are abjured.

Yoke effects, following closely the lines of a man's overcoat in very manly style, are among the most desirable of the advance showings of girls' fall top coats.

Even glove buttons for fall are to show the art nouveau craze. Heads and other ideas in relief are to be seen upon even these trifling parts of the feminine costume.

Persian patterns, for all the world like a part of the wartime Persian shawls of our grandmothers, are the newest effects in fancy hose. Liked by some but dubbed in the height of ugliness by others.

UNIQUE HOME FOR WOMEN.

WODEL RETREAT FOR THOSE WHO DESIRE REST.

Located in a Pretty Washington Suburb—Successful Sisterhood Money Put in a Common Fund—Religion or Politics Not Discussed.

Out in Mount Pleasant, one of the prettiest suburbs of Washington, there is a large brick house which shelters a unique community consisting of twenty-five women under the government of Mrs. Martha McWhirter, writes W. E. Curtis in the *Chicago Record-Herald*. Most of them have found marriage a failure and have left worthless or incompatible husbands to enjoy life in a sisterhood where each can do exactly as she pleases, provided she contributes her share to the general purse and does nothing to disturb the harmony of the family. They do not live lives of absolute idleness, but each performs a certain amount of labor under the direction of Mrs. McWhirter, who seems to me a woman of remarkable personality and executive ability.

Some years ago in a letter from Texas I told an interesting story of four women at Belton, a little Texas town, who, having been deserted by their husbands and thrown upon their own resources, established a boarding-house which soon grew into a hotel and had the reputation of being the best in the State. Nobody but women were employed, except one negro man who did the heavy lifting and took care of the horses. This hotel became so popular that the proprietors started several others like it at Waco and in different parts of Texas and they were all successful under the capable management of Martha McWhirter. They started laundries also and other enterprises which brought large profits, and within a few years enabled Mrs. McWhirter to retire from active labor with money enough laid by to support herself and her companions in comfort during the rest of their lives. In looking about the country for a location which suited her health and taste, Mrs. McWhirter found the climate and conditions at Washington agreeable. She bought two large houses in Mount Pleasant, remodeled them into a single mansion of forty rooms, and invited to this shelter a limited number of distressed sisters who had found the matrimonial yoke wearisome and sought peace.

The community has gradually grown and now consists of twenty-five women of 30 years old and upward who are living what they consider an ideal life. Each one who enters the community surrenders to it all the property she possesses and it goes into the common fund, which is quite large. The amount is unknown, and is estimated all the way from \$100,000 to \$500,000. They agree also to obey the orders of their superior and submit to the rules of the organization, which are few and simple and are chiefly for the regulation of labor. Mrs. McWhirter assigns the duties of her subordinates. There is only one man about the place and he is an aged negro, the same who was employed by them at their original venture at Belton, Texas, twenty years ago. He does the heavy outdoor work, and the women are assigned to whatever they can do best inside. One of them is a physician, who not only looks after the health of the community, but answers calls from the neighborhood. Another is a dentist, who has a chair and a case of instruments in the reception-room of the house which makes un-protected male visitors apprehensive. Others are seamstresses and milliners, although extravagance in dress is prohibited, and one is a shoemaker, who not only mends but makes the footwear of the household. Mrs. McWhirter selects the cooks and the housemaids according to their tastes and qualifications, and thus far, she tells me, there have been no "kickers." Every woman in the community has cheerfully accepted the situation and performed the duties to which she has been assigned. The labor is light, being distributed among so many, and as the underlying principle of the community is to promote peace, comfort and happiness of its inmates, the effort of living has been reduced to a minimum.

The women have no politics and do not pretend to be reformers. Nor do they interfere in any manner with the outside world. They enter the community to obtain relief from care and anxiety and to avoid all responsibility and everything that will interfere with their tranquility. If they become tired of their restful surroundings and desire to return to scenes of activity they are allowed to leave, but they forfeit whatever they have contributed to the common fund. Two or three nervous creatures who sought the shelter of the community found that they could not endure its peaceful atmosphere and returned to their husbands. One of them soon regretted her vacillation, but they would not allow her to come back again. Each woman is allowed her own religion. No attempt is made to influence the conscience. No religious or political discussions are permitted. Mrs. McWhirter believes in a strict interpretation of the Bible, and a literal obedience to the teachings of Christ. She declares that theologians are to blame for much of the evil and unhappiness from which people suffer in this world; that controversy is destructive of happiness, but the teachings of Christ bring peace.

The Squirrel Hunter's Weapon.

The cream of squirrel hunting is enjoyed by the man who uses a light rifle of small calibre and medium power. The "22 long" as now turned out by our leading makers, is an excellent weapon—in fact, the best in the world for the purpose. Though not of sufficient range to be dangerous to people or stock at a distance, it throws lead with surprising accuracy to the tops of the tallest trees. Good rifle shots always aim for the squirrel's head, both to add to the difficulty of the sport and to avoid

spoiling meat. And be it known that a squirrel's head at a range of forty or fifty yards is no easy mark. If a reader doubts this, keep all empty shells, and at the end of the day let him try to make the dead squirrels and the empty shells tally.—E. V. W. Sands, in *Outing*.

GEORGIA'S PEACH BELT.

Fourteen Thousand Acres in One District Now Set Out With Trees.

Perhaps the largest peach-growing district in the globe is that around Fort Valley and extending to Albany, Ga. The peach orchards cover more than 14,000 acres within a radius of ten miles of Fort Valley, and in this area there are something like 1,000,000 peach trees, 20,000 pear trees, 70,000 grape vines, 9,000 plum trees, and 1,500 apple trees.

It is impossible for one who has never visited this region to realize what immense proportions the fruit-growing industry has reached. The railroads are taxed at the height of the season to get the crops to markets. Each fruit car carries an average of about 400 cases, and this year's crop will require not fewer than 2,000 cars to move it. At \$1 a crate—a very low estimate—the crop around Fort Valley will bring in something like \$620,000.

It can readily be realized from these figures what the fruit industry brings to Georgia. There are a dozen or more fruit companies formed in Ohio, which own nearly 10,000 acres of peach lands in Houston county, on which there are more than 700,000 trees. The capital stock of these companies is something more than \$400,000.

Year by year the peach-raising companies are spreading out and getting into new territory. The part of South Carolina immediately adjoining the Georgia line is coming to the front as a peach-growing country, and the yield there this year will be large. Old fields which have for years scarcely been regarded as worth paying taxes on, are being set out in orchards.—*New York Sun*.

Leap Years in This Century.

Some curiosities concerning the new century have been collated by the Rev. Prebendary W. A. Whitworth, the well-known vicar of All Saints', Margaret street, London. It will have, for instance, 36,525 days, which is one day more than the departing century could show, a difference due to the fact that 1900 was not a leap year, but 2000 will be so regarded. With regard to leap years it will be remembered that every year of only 365 days is too short by nearly six hours, but by having a leap year with its extra day every four years we should make every four years more than eleven minutes too long. Some years, therefore, have to be left out, and the present calendar provides for only ninety-seven leap years to occur in four centuries, which reduces the average length of the year to 365 days five hours forty-nine minutes twelve seconds, which, being only twenty-two and one-half seconds too long, may be considered, for all ordinary purposes, as correct. This explains why in the seven years 1897-1903 there is no leap year. As to the error of about twenty-two and one-half seconds in the average year, Mr. Whitworth remarks that it would take 700,000 years to bring midsummer to December.—*London Globe*.

Hamlet by Signs.

Very useful work is done by the Adult Deaf and Dumb Institute in Manchester, says the *Lancet*, in keeping up a link of association and interest among deaf mutes scattered over a large area. Some travel great distances to take part in a reunion in Manchester that has now become an annual event. This year it took place at the Hulme Town Hall, where a tea party in the evening was followed by a performance of "Hamlet" by deaf mutes. Probably the feeling for dramatic representation is as strong in them as in others, but to those who can hear and speak it is difficult to imagine that it can be fully satisfied with signs and gestures, more especially when they are trampled with the rapid and complicated movements of the finger language. The performance was, however, a great success. Last year the same "actors" gave "Romeo and Juliet," so that the success was not altogether due to novelty. The dressing of the play was effective, the scenery was good, and there was spirit in the acting and the audience, judged by their attention, felt a real concern in the development and the incidents of the play.

The Chief Justice Apologized.

Even chief justices are betrayed into slang occasionally. Sir John Madden, the chief justice and lieutenant governor of Victoria, angry at the absence of all the barristers in a libel case that was down for hearing, characterized the proceeding as a "fake." This is a piece of pugilistic slang and is understood to mean a make-believe fight, both boxers having previously agreed as to the final issue. London and New York have witnessed many such "fakes." Next morning the three leading barristers concerned appeared in court, explained their absence and indignantly repudiated any idea of a "fake." The chief justice then apologized, expressing his regret that he had permitted himself to use such a word, and adding that the bar would understand how such expressions sometimes slipped out without due regard to the surrounding circumstances. A bland assurance of his belief that the parties in the case were animated by the "fullest litigant animosity" raised a laugh and agreeably closed the incident.—*London Chronicle*.

King Edward wants faster trains. Having been a long while getting to the throne he objects to wasting traveling time now that he has arrived.

A medical man gives it out that the high collars now worn by men and women produce cancer of the throat.