



THE DISPOSITION OF THE HORSE.

The disposition of a horse largely influences its value. The education of the horse should begin when it is a colt. A noted breeder of horses, who had been successful, stated that the breed of the man was as important as the breed of the colt, as colts have varied in disposition according to the disposition of the men handling them.

EARLY LAYERS.

The breed that evinces a tendency to early maturity gives its indications both in the male and female. The cockerel will show the red comb and wattles early, and he crows as soon as he can. In selecting young cocks, if we wish to increase the desire for early laying, we have this rule to guide us; take the pullet that lays first, and the cock that crows the youngest and watch them. If they both develop early and push forward rapidly they should be retained, provided they are not akin. Endeavor to do the same the succeeding year. After a few seasons the propensity to lay will begin early in all the progeny, and by continued selection the habit will become permanently settled and the breed improved.—Poultry Keeper.

THE DAY'S WORK ON THE FARM.

There is no method for determining the value of a day's work on a farm. Farm laborers in some sections are paid certain sums, according to custom or usage, but there is much difference in the amount of work by different individuals. The supposition that anybody can work on a farm is known to be erroneous by farmers, for while there are certain duties that may be performed by strong and able-bodied men, yet skill is necessary in some departments. The best farm hands are those who know what to do and consequently relieve the farmer of much of the care and responsibility.

FEEDING FOR EGG PRODUCTION.

The most difficult work performed by hens that produce eggs is the manufacture of the albumen, or white, of the eggs. The yolk is composed mostly of the elements of food that produce fat, being known as the carbonaceous elements. In wheat and corn the carbonaceous materials are very abundant, but the substances from which the albumen is derived is lacking, in proportion to the yolk producing materials. For this reason the feeding of fowls on nothing but grain is not conducive to egg production. The food should therefore, be varied, lean meat, linseed meal, cut bone and finely cut clover hay (scalded) to be given in addition to grain.

WONDERFUL RESISTENCE OF SEEDS TO COLD.

Farmers have had varied experience with seeds. Certainly with imperfectly matured and poorly dried seed corn there is danger. As the following facts show, properly dried, mature seeds resist very low temperatures without risk. These temperatures may be so low indeed that they seem startling. The facts are offered here to show that it is seed quality to start with and not the relative winter temperatures, be they ever so unusual, that causes the trouble.

I sipped seeds last winter for immersion in liquid air, and therefore for subjection to extremely low temperatures. These seeds included corn, flax, wheat, rye, cucumber, castor bean, Russian sunflower, mimosa, yellow lupine, sainfoin and pine. At first these lots were immersed directly from room temperature in the liquid air and allowed to remain six and twelve hours. Other lots of the same sort were immersed twenty-four and forty-eight hours respectively. The seeds were then germinated, together with control lots from the original packages. There was essentially no difference in the proportion of the seeds germinated from the original lots and from those treated or immersed.

The corn was not of a high grade and the starch portion cracked badly from the extreme cold, yet the germination was about all that could be expected. With flax and rye the extreme cold was rather favorable than otherwise to the prompt germination of the seeds. These facts are stated to show that properly matured dried seeds are practically unaffected even at the extreme low temperature of liquid air equivalent to 310 degrees below zero. No fear need be entertained from outdoor temperatures if seeds are what we know as air-dry. By these facts we learn how admirably seeds are by nature prepared to withstand cold, provided they are in a proper condition of dryness.—A. D. Seiby of the Ohio Experiment Station.

BEEES A BRANCH OF FARMING.

Beekeeping on a small scale has become a branch of farming, and is very much on the increase. Farmers have found that it pays well to keep a few colonies of bees on scientific principles, and are receiving encouraging returns from them. Ordinarily, a few colonies will do so much better in a locality than where large numbers are kept, for any locality may become overstocked. A few hives on every farm is the way to get the best possible returns from them, and all the honey required for home use is easily secured. Bees are valuable on the farm besides the honey they produce, and fruit growers especially are taking a great interest in bees now, having become convinced by well authenticated experiments that good fruit

and plenty of it, depends largely on honey bees, fertilizing the bloom. It is not only confined to the orchard, but if you will take the trouble to look into the matter further, you will find the bees on the blossoms of wheat, rye, corn, clovers, and many other staple cereals grown. Would any one say they do not to some extent fill the same mission on this as they do on fruit? Look at the cucumber vines, and a thousand other varieties of flowers, we scarcely think of, that are visited by the bees during the flowering season. Perhaps at the lowest rate of speed a bee will travel on the wing when they are swarming, which is about twenty miles an hour, but when hunting for honey and visiting the flowers, the speed is increased to nearly double; then think of the number of miles a bee travels during each day visiting blossoms in search for honey. The bee is surely one of our best friends, and no one should blame them for defending their hive even if they should inflict stings upon us occasionally when we are meddling with their business, for they never do it otherwise. Farmers should not go into the bee business, but all farmers should keep bees enough to supply their table with honey, and learn all about scientific beekeeping.—A. H. Duff, in Farm, Field and Fireside.

DAIRYING ON THE FARM.

The dairy has become such a distinct specialty in farming that many old-time farmers have abandoned it practically to those who do nothing else. Yet farm dairying on the ordinary farm is without question a profitable work, that can be carried on with other lines of work. We have not yet abandoned general farming for specialties with the great majority of farmers still raise miscellaneous crops, doing a little dairying, corn raising, cattle raising and fruit and vegetable growing. The fact is the day will never come when the majority will not diversify the farming sufficient to raise a great variety of crops.

The dairy cow, the beef cow, both have their place on the ordinary farm. Grass is at the foundation of all crops and all good farming, and no man can raise good crops of grass without being tempted to raise dairy cows too. The dairying part of the business brings in constant and all-the-year-round profits, which is a great convenience to the farmer.

Then when pigs do so well on clover and skim milk one cannot help feeling that dairying is essential to make success of raising hogs. And, indeed, it is. The man who raises a few pigs and omits the cows makes a mistake in planning. With a half dozen or more good dairy cows on the place there will be ample food for raising a dozen pigs for market. If the cream can be sold direct to consumers there will be sufficient skim milk left to fatten the hogs profitably.

Corn, clover and peas make the ideal combination of crops for the dairy cows, and they also prove pretty good feeding for pigs. From this same crop one gets sufficient to feed several colonies of good laying hens. Thus with returns coming in continually from the dairy cows and the hens, one can then look forward contentedly to the bigger returns from the grain crops, fruits, cattle or hay. These latter return profits only once a year, and it is sometimes a long and discouraging wait between times. It is far more satisfactory to have the side issues, which will keep up the supply of pocket money. Then if the main crop proves a failure one is not left entirely stranded. Diversified farming is the surest thing today in agriculture, and in that dairying is one of the most important of all.—W. H. Manton, in American Cultivator.

An Airship Prophecy.

A correspondent of the Westminster Gazette calls attention to an Eighteenth Century prophecy of the airship. It occurs in the verses of Erasmus Darwin—that distinguished grandfather of a more distinguished grandson. The passage is in "The Botanic Garden," published in 1791, when the possibilities of steam were becoming recognized, and it seems to contain the first suggestion of a steam-driven airship. That the author contemplated warlike as well as peaceful uses for such a contrivance is evident from the lines themselves:

Soon shall thy arm, unconquered steam afar
Drag the slow barge, or drive the rapid car;
Or, on wide-waving wings expanded bear
Thy flying chariot through the fields of air.
Fair crews triumphant, leaning from above,
Shall wave their fluttering kerchiefs as they move;
Or warrior bands alarm the gaping crowd,
And armies shrink beneath the shadowy cloud.

The Sort of Courage That Wins.

The courage that wins is of the kind that never wavers, that holds out in spite of the most adverse conditions. The men who have made their mark in the world have been noted for their "hanging-on" qualities, their "sticking" ability.

It is a comparatively easy matter to be courageous when everything goes your way, when the sun shines, and when you have plenty of friends who believe in you, but it takes superior character and great grit to maintain a steady poise when you feel everything slipping out from under you.—Success.

A lawyer's brief may be pretty long-winded.



SPOTTED VELVET ROSETTES.

Young girls wear neat little walking hats of dark brown, pearl gray or black felt. The hats are simple, the only trimming besides the neat hat band tightly drawn around the crown being the set of rosettes made of spotted velvet. These have quite a leopard-like effect. Black and white or black and gray velvet is used for the rosettes, and brown and white, brown and black, or brown and yellow or old gold are in the spotted velvet for the brown felt hat. The rosettes are two, three or four in number, and are made of spotted velvets only.

THE SPINSTER'S SOLACE.

A bevy of girls of our town, with the aid of an older head, planned a very enjoyable evening. The invitations were headed with a clever pen and ink sketch of a cat, the "spinster's solace." We invited the guests to come at three o'clock in the afternoon and to appear in the costume of the traditional spinster of "ye olden time." The majority of the girls wore cork-crew curls and all of them old-time gowns. They carried reticules and quaint bead bags containing sprigs of fennel, sweet flagroot and peppermint drops. Each one told a story of her courtship and why her lover was rejected. The guest telling the best story received as a prize a fine picture of a cat. After that we had a guessing match, the contestant giving the greatest number of correct answers to a series of cat questions being awarded the prize—a black cat pin cushion. The questions and answers were as follows: Library cat, catalog; aspiring cat, cata-mountain; tree cat, catalepsis; near relation, catkin; water cat, cataract; dangerous cat, catastrophe; barber cat, polecat; spicy cat, catsup; cat's favorite plant, catnip; musical cat, catgut. We had photographs taken at the conclusion of the tea. The table was served at five o'clock. The table was a long, old-fashioned one of mahogany, and all the quaint china and glassware obtainable was used on it. The menu included old-fashioned viands and preserves, cookies, hot biscuit, cold chicken, rich fruit cake, gold and silver cake, and other old-time varieties. Daguerreotypes, miniatures and faded photographs of relatives were brought by most of the "spinsters," and there was lots of fun inspecting them. After tea we sang "Auld Lang Syne and other ballads of "ye olden time."—Mrs. T. C. Cummings, in Good Housekeeping.

LURED BY A WOMAN'S TROUT FLIES.

Trout flies made by a woman are considered a great curiosity, because so far there is practically only one woman who has ever attempted making them as a regular business. She has made a great success of her work and all tempting feather-covered hooks prove as great a bait to fishermen as they do to the fish.

Learning to make trout flies is tiresome and slow work, yet it seems as though it were essentially a woman's work, for it requires patience, perseverance and nimble fingers. Men in the profession guard the secrets of manufacture carefully, and after a New York woman resolved to compete with them it was a long time before she could induce any man to show her the way. She served an apprenticeship by pulling apart man-made trout flies and making a careful study of their anatomy. Then she would put them together again, this was a start; and after a while her perseverance was rewarded. A man who was skilled in the art agreed to give her instruction, partly out of friendship and partly because he admired her pluck. She had to promise, though, that she would not teach any one else.

Of her work this woman chats interestingly. She says: "It is pleasant work that may be done at home, and it is one which gives a liberal education. All the birds of the air contribute their quota to the material which I use, and never before did I realize the great variety of their plumage and its wondrous beauty. I am compelled to study the insect manufacture, that I may duplicate it as nearly as possible, else it will never be able to fool the sagacious trout."

"I have grown to love my work to that extent that now I am always trying to see how artistic a fly I can make—not how many dollars it will bring me."

THE STORE DETECTIVE.

An advertisement in a recent paper called for the services of a "bright, intelligent woman as detective in a department store." Scores of women, young and old, put in applications for the place. Some of them had been employed by private detective agencies and had done such important work as the tracking of criminals, while a few had held places in department stores. From the latter applicants a young woman was selected. The greater number of the candidates for the place had had no experience of the sort, and were under the impression that no special adaptability was necessary for the task.

"A store detective," said the manager of one of the big shops, "has to be gifted with a large amount of tact and intuition, as well as a quick eye and a level head. She must not be troubled with nerves or be imaginative or easily excited. She must be ladylike as to dress and manner and appearance, a good judge of faces and of persons. In fact, the place re-

quires a rare combination in the way of womanly cleverness and courage. Many women are employed by private detective agencies, and some of them make good salaries but as a rule these private detectives do not make good store detectives. The work requiring their services is largely that connected with divorce cases, and this class of work is not pleasant enough to appeal to intelligent and refined women, such as store detectives must be.

"Store detectives become adept at picking out and capturing shoplifters with their booty on their persons. One or two store detectives in this city have become very well known, and their work is in demand.

"Women have made more of a success of detective work in the shops and in connection with the Custom House than they have in criminal cases. In the Custom House they are invaluable in the detection of women smugglers, often travelling across the ocean in the big liners as regular passengers in order to watch some suspected woman. To obtain these places they must undergo a Civil Service examination.—New York Tribune.

VISITING MILLINERS.

Said the superintendent of a large millinery establishment: "There has been an unusual demand this season for visiting milliners. The practice of going out by the day in private houses is a phase of the trade that our young women have never taken much pains to work up, hence people who desire to get their hats trimmed at so much per day are at a loss to know where to pick up good all-around trimmers and modelers who are willing to hire out on such terms, and they come to us for information.

"Now that the ice has been broken, a good many capable girls have declared in favor of the house-to-house system, and they have made such big inroads on the trade of some of the popular establishments that those houses will have to take a new lease on their laurels, and incidentally on their customers, if they don't want to lose money. It is strange that the public was so slow to learn the worth of visiting milliners, for they really are of inestimable value to people with a limited income. For years women who knew that their expenses could go so far and not an inch further have been economizing by employing seamstresses by the day to make their dresses, but somehow it never occurred to them that to get their hats made the same way would be a good plan. This season, however, they have awakened to the possibilities of the home industry and have kept the girls pretty busy.

"And it is not the families in straitened circumstances alone that are making a bid for visiting milliners. Well-to-do women like to save a penny as well as their poorer sisters, and if they can get a woman to come in and trim up half a dozen stylish hats at the rate of \$2.50 or \$3 a day they are naturally going to hire her in preference to patronizing an expensive house.

"However, it behooves the anxious economist to exercise discretion in the selection of a milliner. A great many girls in this business are specialists. Some can make frames, some can shape, while others can do nothing but trim. If a hat is ordered in a big store it passes through a dozen hands, but when made at home it is necessary that the milliner employed be a general practitioner capable of carrying the headgear through all the stages of construction. Then, too, the visiting milliner is often given old material to work with, and it takes an artist of the first water to fashion a becoming, pretty hat out of last season's velvets, laces, and feathers. That many girls can accomplish this feat is evidenced by the demand for home milliners, whom scores of women all over town have hailed as a kind of sartorial savior.—New York Times.

A Pearl Famine Threatened.

We are threatened by a famine which is already showing itself and beginning its pinching work. The center of this famine is in Paris and Americans are said to be responsible for it, and will, with the rest of civilization, have to suffer its dire consequences. Already has its presence been felt in New York. This famine does not mean starvation, though it does mean denial, not in the matter of daily bread, but in the important matter of pearls. Pearls have of late been growing more and more popular, more and more rare, and therefore, more and more expensive.

Pearl necklaces that our grandmothers wore are being resurrected, and the jewellers of Paris and New York are being called on to supply a most unusual demand for these chaste ornaments. Americans are said to be the great pearl hunters, and so keen is their pursuit that prices are mounting daily. A pearl necklace which sold for \$2,000 twelve years ago will today cost from \$6,000 to \$8,000.

A Shifting of Waistcoats.

An actor named Wright, who was once impersonating the first grave digger in "Hamlet," prepared to take the house by storm by increasing his person within a dozen or more waistcoats of all sorts of shapes and patterns. When about to commence the operation of digging the grave for the "fair Ophelia," Wright began to unwind by taking off waistcoat after waistcoat, which caused uproarious laughter among the audience. But as fast as he relieved himself of one waistcoat Paul Bedford, who was playing the second grave digger, increased himself in the cast-off waistcoats, and increased the salvos of laughter for as Wright

SOME RUSTIC INDUSTRIES.

The Money Value of Nature's Bounty and Woman's Work.

In one respect at least harvest time brings back very forcibly to the minds of the elderly in agricultural districts the fact that since their day rustic industries have undergone immense changes. The local conditions of rural life as regards the agricultural and cottage laborers have doubtless been appreciably improved during the last fifty years. Wages have increased and much physical exertion has been modified by the use of mechanical and labor-saving contrivances. It is the women, however, of the cottage homes who are the greatest gainers by the changes in rural conditions. Fifty years ago they took their share of the field work with the men, and summer and winter alike the wife or daughter was as much a field hand as the husband or father.

But now it is only upon special occasions that the cottage housewife is to be met with working in the fields or on the land at all, unless it is in her own cottage garden. There is one characteristic of "Rustic Industry" which has been handed down from long antecedent times, and which has always seemed to have been the woman's work, and yet, during the last few years it, too, has ceased to find its wonted votaries. Gleaning in the cornfields, as Ruth gleaned, after the reapers in the fields of Boaz, has vanished for ever. The reaper and self-binder leave little for the gleaner to pick up, and as the days of high-priced bread seem also to have passed, the laborer who lived largely upon the brown bread ground from the corn of their own gleaning now eat the white bread the baker's cart leaves at their door. Thus there is no incentive to pursue this old world industry. It has gone the way of silk-worm culture—a species of rural industry which James I. and succeeding monarchs made strenuous efforts to encourage. In connection with the silk-worm, mulberry trees were planted in prodigious quantities sixty years or so ago for silk-raising purposes, but now the tree has all but disappeared from England and women have lost an occupation. Fruit gathering still keeps its place as one of the village industries in which women excel.—London Mail.

The Savviness of Sir Charles.

"How do you do, Sir Charles? I think I had the honor of meeting you with Lord —."

"What do you want?"

"Well, Sir Charles, I have endeavored to state in my letter—"

"Yes, I have your letter, and you write a very slovenly hand."

"The fact is, Sir Charles, I wrote that letter in a hurry in your waiting-room."

"Not at all, not at all. You had plenty of time to write a legible note. No; you are careless. Go on."

"Well, Sir Charles, a vacancy has occurred in—"

"And you are very untidy in your appearance."

"Well, I was travelling all night. I only—"

"Nonsense; you had plenty of time to make yourself tidy. No; you are naturally careless about your appearance. Go on."

"Well, Sir Charles, this vacancy has occurred in—"

"And you are very fat."

"Well, Sir Charles, that is hereditary, I am afraid. My father was very fat—"

"Not at all. I knew your father well. He wasn't fat. It's laziness."

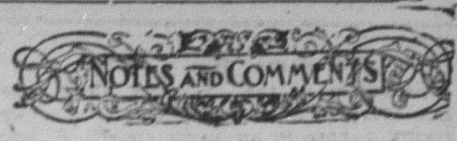
Nevertheless, the visitor got the job he came to seek.—O'Brien's Life of Lord Russell of Killowen.

American Locomotives Lead the World.

American locomotives, running on American rails, now whistle past the Pyramids and across the long Siberian steppes. They carry the Hindu pilgrims from all parts of their empire to the sacred waters of the Ganges. Three years ago there was but one American locomotive in the United Kingdom; today there is not a road of importance there on which trains are not being pulled by American engines. The American locomotive has successfully invaded France. The Manchurian Railway, which is the real beginning of Oriental railway building, bought all its rails and rolling stock in the United States. American bridges span rivers on every continent. American cranes are swinging over many foreign moles. Wherever there are extensive harvests there may be found American machinery to gather the grain. In every great market of the world tools can have no better recommendation than the mark "Made in America."—Frank A. Vanderlip, in Scribner's.

The Telephone.

It has not been many years since a noted scientist, in an exhaustive article, satisfied himself and thousands of others that the telephone could never be brought into practical use. Today it is estimated there are 2,278,000 telephones in use in the United States alone. No man attempts to do business now without the aid of the "phone. Business is transacted over the telephone although the parties are separated by thousands of miles. The home and the office are brought together by means of the telephone. These instruments have now invaded the country districts, and the telephone and the free delivery of mail are going hand in hand. Here, in Ohio thousands of farmers have the telephone in their homes, and they find it of immense advantage in a business and social way, and yet the telephone is not many years old.—Toledo Blade.



was getting thinner Paul grew fatter and fatter. Wright, seeing himself outside, kept on the remainder of the waistcoats and went on with his part quite crestfallen.—Chicago News.

It is perhaps a little early to wonder whether telephone companies will have the assurance to maintain their present rates after Marconi has reduced the cost of messages across the Atlantic to one cent a word.

Somebody has started a profitless query as to the oldest triplets living. S. E. Buffum of Taunton, Mass., answering it, says he has three brothers, triplets, who are all well and in business in the West, and who were fifty years old last May. They are of New Hampshire birth.

Asiatic Turkey is to be rescued from semi-barbarism by the construction of \$140,000,000 worth of railroads, one of which will run through the Euphrates Valley from end to end. The new roads will follow the old caravan routes, and they will touch all the principal cities and towns of Bible land.

The statement is going the rounds that John D. Rockefeller, who is thought to be the richest man in the world, is shut out from most of the pleasures of life by the nervous effects of the strain of managing his wealth. Thus he can eat only hot milk and crackers, it is said, and must retire nightly at nine o'clock. He finds it necessary to avoid all excitement.

George Gould predicts that the year 1902 will be a great one for the railroads. That means, of course, an assurance of another year of uninterrupted prosperity to the country at large. The country can stand the prospect without flinching, but the railroad companies, opines the San Francisco Chronicle, will have to improve and enlarge their equipment very materially.

Max Nordau, the author and physician, delivered a speech before the Zionist Congress in Basle, Switzerland. He spoke of the physical and intellectual amelioration of the Jews, and advised them to cease emigrating from Eastern Europe to the sweating dens of London and New York City. He said that those already there should organize themselves into co-operative bodies for their mutual betterment.

Pictorial post cards originated in Germany some twelve years ago, and like all great things, began in a very small way. Who actually started the idea is not generally known, but it is generally believed that about the year 1888 a few post cards bearing pictures of celebrated places first began to find their way into Berlin. Last year hundreds of millions of picture cards passed through German post offices, yielding to the government an average income of \$15,000 a day.

The police of Philadelphia have ascertained that there are 352 blind persons in the Quaker city. The inquiry was made at the request of the Home Teaching Society and Free Circulating Library for the Blind, a society whose praiseworthy objects are to find out where the blind reside, to send its teacher to instruct them in reading at their homes, and afterward to supply them with a regular exchange of embossed books from its library.

In the matter of woman's rights Abyssinia is far ahead of Europe and America, according to an authority, the house and all its contents belong to her, and if the husband offends her she not only can but does turn him out of doors till he is duly repentant and makes amends by the gift of a cow or the half of a camel; that is to say, the value of half a camel. On the other hand, it is in the privilege and duty of the wife to abuse her husband, and she can divorce herself from him at pleasure, whereas the husband must show reason to justify such an act on his part.

The operations of the law against lese majeste in Germany are extending. It is now as unsafe to say anything derogatory concerning the Crown Prince as it is concerning the Kaiser. Recently a workman at Hildesheim was sent to prison for making an uncomplimentary remark about a picture of the Crown Prince, and an elderly woman at Breslau was jailed for criticizing his features and the appearance of his hair. The official bears stand ready to gobble up any thoughtless person who says, "Go up, thou baldhead!" A half-imbecile workman at Breslau has been imprisoned for two years for using offensive language about the Empress and Crown Prince.

Boston was at one time considered the most distinctively American of the cities of the United States, but that distinction exists no longer. A recent published report of the Boston Board of Health, a good guide to the division of population, shows that the number of deaths for the week was 237, as against 202 for the corresponding week a year ago. Of the number 233 were white and 4 colored; 146 were born in the United States, 85 in foreign countries and 6 of unknown nationality; 47 were of American parentage and 161 of foreign parentage. The increase in the foreign-born population of Boston is mostly from Ireland, Canada and Russia. The German population of Boston continues small.