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## HAY AND HAY MAKING.

Dr. Homes of the Maine Farmer, .. making or curing the grass is an op-" making."

The hay crop may well be considered as one of great importance to the agriculturist, being one of the princi-pal products of the farm, and the one pal products of the farm, and the one of his live stock during the winter, and a considerable portion of the fall and spring.

Yet while all concur in regarding this crop of prime consequence, there are but very few, comparatively speaktime and manner of cutting and securing the product. A late writer, in some judicious reflections upon the mode which will secure as much of tilizer, before they adopt the use of might ensue. the natural juices as possible, and in one.—Rural New-Yorker. "The list is the cheapest practical manuer, is the one I have endeavored to attain.-Counting nothing for board, and team we do not pay out \$1.00 per acre for cutting and securing our hay, at an avatage of one and a half tons per acre. In this section of the country the lands are principally of clay, and are quite free from stones. We lose ten times more out of hay by cutting too late than too early. Many let their clover and herds-grass stand till the seeds are ripe, and of consequence the stems become hard and wiry; a good share of the leaves have changed to a brownish state, and the natural sap has left the plant."

In cutting most, perhaps all kinds of grass, we think that the proper period is that, when the whole system having attained its maximum development, the flowers have unfolded, and when there is a large flow of rich and claimed the speaker. "I would reaccharine juice in the stalks and leaves, Some species of grass, it is true, increase somewhat in bulk after inflorsecence, but with the majority of plants used for hay, the development of the flower indicates, with sufficient accuracy, the attainment of their maximum excellence, and the time when they may perhaps be most economically cut. The article above quoted

"To get at the most proper time for cutting, let us inquire what rule the gatherer of herbs adopts in filling his medicine chest, or the distiller his plants. In collecting herbs and plants, they cut them as soon as they come into flower. At this period they contain all their useful qualities, and by cutting at this period they secure the greatest quantity of oil; but herbs that are out at this period and dried in the sun, lose much more of their invigorating and essential qualities than they do if dried in the shade. Plants of all sorts, if they are cut in full vigor, and afterwards carfully dried, without any waste of their natural juices, either by bleaching with rain or evaporating in the sun, contain a quantity of nourishing matter nearly double what they do when allowed to attain their full growth and make some progress toward decay. When moving is de; layed, as it very frequently is, till an advanced period of the season, when plants have not only reached their ultimate growth, but begin to decay, this description of herbage must become tasteless, dry, tough, and less nourishing. Also over care in drying in the hot sun, by bleaching the juices of the early grasses, must produce a similar

kind of fodder." In curing clover hay, the principal two hours!"

THE PEOPLE'S JOURNAL, value of which consists in the heds and foliage, we have observed; that when cut early and cured "grass cock," as it is called, the hay possessed a much more brilliant and beautiful ap- throwing in a little dusting and sweeppeasance than the same quality of grass, cut at the same time, and cured in the open air, or under a free exposure often for a protracted period to the sun. . By cutting this grass when the crop is in full blosom, allowing it to remain in the swath the first day after mowing, till nearly night, and then turning it carfully with a fork so as to expose a fresh and unwilted surface to the dews, and cocking it in the afternoon of the second day, in small compact cocks, of about eighty pounds of unmade hay, to the cock, it will make evenly and thoroughly, aud may be pitched and even trodden down in a mow without being deprived of its heads and finer leaves. The color will be a most beautiful green, and the very truly remarks in relation to this flowers will be almost as fresh in color subject, "that the grass crop is one of as when cut. After cocking, let the the most important, if not the most weather be fair or foul, no opening or "important to the farmer, and the turning, (unless in case of a protracted storm,) of the "grass cocks', should "eration upon which turns, after all, be allowed. It is unnecessary, as the "much the value of the crop. A short hay will "cure" completely through, growth, if well prepared, is more and the outside, when saturated with valuable than an abundant one spoiled water, will soon dry off, and effect no by an improper management in harm whatever to the hay. You will never see mouldy hay, if this method is adopted in "making" or curing it. In forming grass cocks, the fork is preferable to the rake, which is of ser-

TRY EXPERIMENTS .- If every farmer would appropriate a small portion of his farm every year to experimental farming, great benefit could ing, who adopt the same modes of not fail to result from the practice. I cutting and preserving it. We know, indeed, of no subject embraced in the has used plaster on his corn land routine of agricult al engrossments, liberally, and, as he supposed to great on which there is extent a greater discrepancy of opinion and practice. It plastered through the middle of his repancy of opinion and practice. It is important that some general system should be adopted as well in the man-should be adopted as well as the man-should be adopted as the man-should be adopted a agement of this crop as in that of ashes was applied, was the only one grain, at least so far as regards the that looked and that yielded better than the one to which no application was made. On many soils, ashes are of much more value than plaster, and importance of this crop says :-- that farmers should try every kind of fer-

> An agriculturist who has tried the experiment satisfactorily, says that a few seeds of the tomato dropped into the hill with cucumbers, or a tomato set out, which he says is the better mode, will keep off the black fleas and striped bugs, as they dislike the flavor of the tomato.

## ONLY TWO OF US.

BY MRS. ROBINSON.

"I've made an engagement for you to spend a day out this week," observed Lawyer Crosby, as his wife was placing dinner upon the table.

"Have you? I am sorry, for I fear I shall be too busy to fulfill it, she rejoined, in a slight tone of regret.

"Busy about what?" testily exspectfully inquire, for somewhat less than the hundredth time, what you can possibly find to do! It seems to me that you must really suffer from want of exercise."

"I do, undoubtedly," said Mrs. of the next day with much interest. Crosby, drily.

"It can't be otherwise," continued the lawyer, decidedly. "It is comparatively idle life for a woman to attend to a few household cares."

"A few household cares!" "Yes, my dear Mrs. Crosby, and the washing put into the bargain. What a laborious business!" Lawyer Crosby looked very wise, and spoke

with a slight degree of irony. "You talk like one who is unacquainted with his subject; but at the same time I am willing to allow that you know as much about it as the generality of men; and that can't be construed into a compliment to the sex, by any means."

"But is n't the fact a self-evident one, Mrs. Crosby? Have n't I eyes, and can't I see-observe-look about n -comprehend?" demanded the lawver.

"You might, without doubt; but whether you do, is another thing,' rejoined his wife.

"Be that as it may, however, I am satisfied that I can find enough to do to keep me out of idleness."

"When there 's only two of us?" "Only two of us," added Mrs. Crosby quietly; "for it is just as necessary that two should eat as four."

"Well, it certainly must be a great undertaking to cook a little food, wash a few dishes, and lay the table three times a day! Why, I could accomplish the whole of it in less time than

not comprise the whole of housekeeping, Mr. Crosby."

"Perhaps not; I should n't mind ing, once in a while. But it certainly appears laughable to hear a woman complain of the work when there is only two in the family. I verily believe it's nothing but habit," quoth the lawyer, with becoming gravity.

"Suppose you try it for one day," proposed Mrs. Crosby, with like seriousness. "I'll go to the office and do your work, and you can remain at home and do mine."

"It's rather a novel proposition, and I don't at this time recall to mind any celebrated men who have done housework. I have n't the least objection to trying it, notwithstanding, and presume it will be the easiest day's work I shall have this year," rejoined the husband.

Both being agreed, the next day was selected for the exchange of employments. A quiet smile lurked upon Mrs. Crosby's mouth, and the lawyer evidently thought it a fine joke; one amusement.

The deluded woman thought her time was fully occupied in keeping a good-sized house tidy, and in devising new means of gratifying the palate of the lawyer; who, strange to say, liked good food, and abundance of it. He seemed to think that this jumped upon the table ready cooked, and that Mrs. but to utter a few magical words, and ter of ceremonies. everything was done. - But to hear these triffing duties termed enormous, when there was "only two of them" to look after, seemed a great absurdity to Lawyer Crosby, and he inwardly resolved to write an article on the subject, and let the sterner sex know

pied herself in jotting down a list of the duties which demanded attention the next morning. This she folded and quietly handed to her husband, requesting him to make out a similar paper, so that no mismanagement

"The list is no longer than usual," every day. It is necessary, for they rightened; you can take your own time," she added, in a bantering tone.

the results, he remarked that he should across the table. probably 'make quick work of it,' and "Muddy coffee again, Mr. Crosby!" placing the paper in his pocket, re- abruptly said the lady. turned to his office.

The liege lord of Mrs. Crosby practised law in a suburban town, and had acquired considerable property by the same. His wife had independence enough to do her own housework, but could not help thinking that she deserved some credit for so doing. She had no particular desire to be praised; 'justice where justice is due,' was her motto; and our readers will doubtless coincide with her in the belief that it was rather hard to work busily a 'she had done nothing comparatively.'
It was not encouraging, to say the least, and she awaited the experiment

Morning came, and the lawyer aroused his wife, and informed her in in a significant tone 'that it was quite time to dress and make a fire.' Mrs. Crosby did not wait for a second bidding, but remarked as she left the chamber, 'that he might put himself in readiness to see about breakfast.'

Our heroine had taken- the precaution the night previous to prepare the kindlings, and in a short time had a brisk fire. She allowed herself to do usually left the coal dust and cinders | could carry on operations without an for her to sift and clear away, as well as the remnants of wood and shavings much more pleasant. to pick up; and she didn't feel inclined to limit his privileges at this added, aloud, "and have things go on time. The dining table stood in the in regular order. Here goes: Get lady looked at him with some curiosmiddle of the room, covered with breakfast, clear table, wash dishes, began to read.

before he made his appearance. It if they happent to call.' was something novel to see his wife "Bless, me, is that all?" cried our reading before breakfast, and he could housekeeper. "I call that making a inkstand just as you rang, and you see not help smiling to witness her perfect a great fuss about a little matter. It the effects of the accident." sang froid.

"Those duties you have named do | tation when his wife happened to take | their demolishment. As the idea didn't | confess the exact state of the case to an extra nap of five minutes.

The gentleman made no reply, for he understood what the remark meant without the aid of an interpreter. He proceeded to business with great alacrity, piling the books and papers upon chairs, and nearly spilling some oil, by carrying a lamp the wrong way, and, by allowing the kettle to boil over, some five minutes before he got ready to take it out, he succeeded in getting the cloth laid, though in rather an awkward manner.

"I think I should relish a piece of beef steak," remarked the lady in the

rocking chair. "Ah, then you shall have it," replied the housekeeper of the day, patronisingly, as he busied himself with napkins, cups, saucers, plates, knives, forks, etc. He tried to recol-lect how Mrs. Crosby arranged them, but in spite of all his attempts, he could make no application to that lady for advice, as she was apparently ab-

sorbed in her reading.

Adjoining to the kitchen, the lawyer attended to the making of 'a delicious which would afford him a large fund cup of coffee, and had a long struggle of merriment and be the means of of beefsteak, which refused to broil to proving to his wife that housework his satisfaction. When returning to was nothing more than a pleasant the dining-room, after a long absence, looking heated and impatient, Mrs. Crosby remarked, consulting her watch, that he had been absent long enough to make a beefsteak.'

This observation the lawyer remembered to have heard before, but he did not make it apparent. At length the coffee and meat were brought in, and all things were pro-Crosby (or some other person) had nounced ready by the officiating mas-

Mrs. Crosby seated herself and began to carve; the lawyer took his place at the head of the table, and proceeded to pour out the coffee.

"The bread, Mr. Grosby," suggested the lady.
"Bless me, I forgot it, he exclaimed,

dropping the coffee-pot, and jumping up so hastily that he came very near overturning the table.

The bread was soon procured, cut

in slices varying in thickness from a wafer to a chunk of four inches.

"The butter, Mr. Crosby," suggested his companion, when he was again fairly seated.

"I declare-what a poor memory I have got!" And setting down a cup said the lady, smiling at the earnest-which he had taken up for the second ness with which he surveyed it. "I time, he started for the missing article. go through with the same performance Placing it in triumph beside his wife's plate, he renewed his attempts at cofcannot be omitted. But do n't be fee-pouring, and this time was successful; but it must be confessed that he eyed the dark-looming beverage Feigning the utmost indifference to with some uncertainty as he passed it

The lawyer had int a word of reply. "Very smoky beefsteak, my dear! what have you done to it?" she coutinued, pushing a large piece of the obnoxious article on one side of her plate. "You must be extremely careless, or such things could n't happen so often as they do!'

"What a woman this is to remember, to be sure! Anybody would suppose she had kept a diary of my unlucky observations for a year. Why she has them all at her tongue's end!' whole morning, and then be told that | thought the individual addressed, tho' he didn't see fit to make any immediate rejoinder.

The lawyer had but little appetite; his wife remarked the fact, and hoped 'that the simple exercise of getting breakfast' had not taken it away, as one person who should be nameless was in the habit of asserting.

The gentleman winced, and prepared himself a generous slice of bread and butter, which he proceeded to dispose of as though he had lacked food for weeks.

When the morning meal was concluded, Mrs. Crosby donned her bonnet and shawl, and remarking that she ust what her husband had been in the would send home the dinner, left the habit of doing, and no more. He house. Our here was now alone, and eye-witness; which he observed 'was

"Now we'll consult the list," he books, papers, writing materials, and put closets in order, wipe down shelves, other articles used the evening before. clean shelves, clean knives, clean sink, These she did not molest, and without | rub silver, black stove, keep fire, atpulling up the shades or putting back | tend the door bell, sweep hall, brush | linen assumed enormous dimensions the chairs, she took a newspaper and stairs, sweep parlor, dining-room and under the searching glance of his viskitchen, dust furniture, trim lamps, do itor. He dropped his eyes, and for-The lawyer had evidently com- chamber work, wash meat for oven, pleted his toilet quicker than common, clean vegetables, stew cranberries, sooty hands. but it was nevertheless nearly an hour | make pudding, and entertain visitors,

sounds larger than it really is. I think

made a great many journeys between leave.
the dining-room and kitchen, which "What an ingenious excuse that

an awkward affair, and didn't pro- hero, glancing complacently in a mira large piece out of a platter, (which a hearty laugh. could 'put 'em through' quick. But etables etc., remained untouched. a mistake that caused many other mis-; sphere of action. takes during the day, owing undoubtlawyer wrapped about his hand.

It may be well remarked that the the fire. aforesaid list was laid carefully in a conspicuous position, and frequently referred to. He attended to the silver, and then glanced at the clock.

The hands pointed to an hour which inexperienced housekeepers.

brush."

The stove was quite hot, and he much work had been laid out and could n't work to any advantage. The how completely nonplussed she must more liquid he put on, the more it appear, if a client should happen to would sputter and fly off with a crack- call for advice. This last was such an ling noise. He thickened the liquid, amusing idea, that our lawyer rubbed but it would not adhere to the stove, his hands together and laughed to himand he began to think it was be-self at the ridiculous figure which he witched.

At this stage of affairs he happened that time making.

to recollect that somebody had said Leaving the lawyer the to work out that milk was the best thing to wet the powder with; so he hastened to the pantry, and pouring out a quantity, applied it to the refractory stove. That didn't mend the matter much, and the smell of burned milk began to stared somewhat perseveringly when filled with smoke, the floor around the office with an assured step, and prostove was dotted with little spots of coed to hang up her bonnet and shawl blacking, and the lawyer's hands were with a genuine business air. certainly not the cleanest that ever resounded through the house, making our hero start as though he had been surprised in some dishonorable act.

He looked towards the door, then at his hands, and finally at a large stain on his shirt bosom, which bore a

strong resemblance to blacking. "I won't go; they may ring all day if they like!" he exclaimed, impatiently, going to the wash-basin and trying to bring his hands to the accustomed color; but a second ring warned him that some person without was not

inclined 'to give it up so.'
"Confound that tintinabula! I suppose it's some old man for boots, clothes, grease, or rags. If he does it again I'll bring a suit of assault and battery!" cried our incipient housekeeper, making a few desperate dashes at the dish-cloth, which he mistook for the towel, and hurrying towards the door, which he opened with a trembling hand.

"Ah, good morning, lawyer!" said well-dressed, good-looking young lady, who evidently expected to see somebody else appear. "Is Mrs. Crosby in?

"Yes-I-no, she is n't in,' he stammered; for to tell the truth, the lawyer was thinking more of his personal appearance than his wife's absence; besides, he imagined that the young ity, and this embaraassed him the more.

Now it must be observed that our hero was remarkable for the neatness of his dress, and the stain upon his got the stain in contemplating his

"Excuse the disorder of my dress this morning, Miss Haynes," he added. "I was so unfortunate as to upset the

This it must be confessed, was "I've been up a long time, and I'll clear the table, to begin with, as rather a departure from the truth. But the lawyer couldn't think of any she remarked, without looking up.

This was the lawyer's favorite saluhither and thither, at a great hazard of dilemma; and he was not disposed to Tom didn't seem to know whether

occur to him that he should carry a his fair-eyed friend, who, after making waiter full of articles at a time, he a few commonplace remarks, took her

necessarily consumed considerable was! Nobody but a lawyer would time. The dish-washing proved rather have thought of it," soliloquized our gress so rapidly as he could have ror pertaining to the hat tree. Imagwished. He could n't wipe the cups line his mortification at discerning a handily, the saucers seemed bungling, black streak across his face, which and the plates would slip back into gave it a most ludicrous aspect. No the water; but after breaking a cut- wonder the young lady looked at him glass tumbler, (which he felt certain with curiosity, for nothing probably, of matching the next day,) knocking but good manners restrained her from

he resolved to paste together while Lawyer Crosby went back to the dinner was cooking,) and cracking a kitchen with a slow step. To his utpet dish of his wife's while setting up ter astonishment it was twelve o'clock, a pile of plates, the matter was brought and he had quite forgotten dinner. to a close. The knife-cleaning was an- The fire was entirely out, the room other thing altogether; there would n't | was in a sad plight, the list of duties be any danger of breakages, and he not half completed, and the meat, veg-

the black spots were deeper seated. His zeal had cooled amazingly than he imagined, and required the since morning, and he half-repented exhibition of more 'elbow grease' acceding to his wife's proposition, than he had any idea of. He con- He had expected every moment to see tended longest with the carving knife, her enter, express herself satisfied which, in consequence of being awk- with the experiment, and desire him wardly handled, inflicted a deep cut, in a very humble manner to go back as a token of remembrance. This was to the office and resume his legitimate

But Mrs. Crosby did not appear, edly to the clumsy bandage which the and he was at length obliged to collect his energies for the purpose of making

After wearing out his patience, he succeeded in his undertaking, and consigned the meat to a cold oven. It was too late to think of a pudding. Mrs. Croshy must excuse that item. admonished him that 'time waited for 'although he had always expected it of no man,' and had no sympathy for her under all circumstances. He began to think that it did require some "What's next on the docket, I ingenuity and calculation to dispose wonder?" he thought, consulting his of so many duties in a morning, and memorandum. "Ah, stove to black! to have some faint suspicion that Well, I must admit that the coffee house-keeping wasn't such a fine joke which boiled over has n't improved its after all. He wondered how Mrs. appearance much. I'll look up the Crosby prospered, and whether sho didn't wish herself safe at home;-So saying he prepared the polish busied bimself in anticipating how and set about the operation at once. frightened she would be at finding how fancied Mrs. Crosby was about that

> the rest of the items, we will attend the footsteps of Mrs. Crosby to her husband's office and note her experience

Tom Pettifoger, the lawyer's clerk, be quite disagreeable. The room was he saw Mrs. Lawyer Crosby enter the

"Tom," said Mrs. Crosby, snapping was, when a violent ring of the bell her fingers carelessly, "is this office in perfect order?"

"Yes ma'am." replied the infant barrister, more surprised.

"In beg leave to differ with you, sir. Do you see these papers scattered all about here? Pick them up and file them in proper order."

Where is the-lawyer?" asked Pettifogger, with mouth agape. "I'm lawyer to-day, Tom, and you

are my man of business. Mr. Crosby told me that you had a memorandum of to-day's work. Produce it if there's such a thing."
Pettifoger fumbled about awhile

among the papers, and succeded in findng the document in question. With the faintest possible smile that a woman could produce, Mrs, Lawyer Crosby read as follows:

ITEMS.—Hebeas corpus for Levi Lewis. A writ of replevin for the distress of Simcon Snooks. Fill out a quit-claim deed for John Styles. Advise Captain Saunders about action for damages against Farmer Jones. A writ of attatchment in the case of Brown rs. Smith. Examine letters respecting Bright's breach of promise case. Send Higgins's bill. Write a threatening letter to Thompson. Terrify Joe Bunker, if possible. Respectfully invite Comonel Drummer to call and settle Major Green's bill. To-take depositions in Wiggin's slander case Get up an issue between Townsend and Ferris. Distress the widow Sauburn. Make out cost and damages in case of Foger and Folsom. Examine the title of lands lying north of the Misleto River, claimed by Talbot and Tomkins. Kick Bill Buzzleton (firm of Buz-

zleton and Brigs) out of the office .-Browbeat Mrs. Chandler for her landlord Hoggin. Tweak Johnson's nose. The above to be done, besides attending to incidental office business, as it may occur.

"Well, here's work!" thought our lady, her ardor considerably cooled by. this formidable array of duties. "Tom But the lawyer couldn't think of any | do you know much?" she asked, re-