

THE MERRY SIDE OF LIFE.

STORIES THAT ARE TOLD BY THE FUNNY MEN OF THE PRESS.

The Conquering Hero—The Elephant Walks Around—At the Military Manoeuvres, Etc., Etc.
Hail to the chief who in triumph advances!
List to the cheers down the length of our line!
Long may his brow wear the crown of the victor—
Smithers, the pitcher on our baseball nine!
—*Outing.*

THE ELEPHANT WALKS AROUND.
"Did you enjoy the circus, Johnny?"
"Very much. I had a ride on a big leather animal with a snake on his nose."
—*Chicago News.*

NOT THAT KIND.
Customer—"These collars don't suit me. They don't sit well on my neck."
Clerk—"How can you expect them to sit when they are standing collars."
—*Munsey's Weekly.*

RESULT OF WOMAN IN BUSINESS.
Griffin (coming to the point at once, "Kitty, will you have me?")
Kitty (equally businesslike)—"Thanks Mr. Griffin; but I really can't afford you."
—*Drake's Magazine.*

AN APT COMPARISON.
Mother (who has brought home some fruit)—"Do you like those nectarines, Robby? What do they taste like?"
Robby—"Yep. Taste like peaches without whiskers."
—*Puck.*

AT THE MILITARY MANOEUVRES.
"Captain, we have no more cartridges."
"None at all!"
"Not one."
"Then cease firing!" —*Figaro.*

NOT AT A LOSS.
Katie (aged five years, who doesn't like to say "please")—"Papa, pass the bread."
Papa—"If—what, my dear?"
Katie—"If you can reach it."
—*Munsey's Weekly.*

STYLE VS. COMFORT.
Mrs. De Style (first day on a farm)—"Horror! Our host is going to eat dinner in his shirt sleeves."
Mr. De Style (mopping his forehead)—"Thank Heaven! Then I can too."
—*New York Weekly.*

A PRACTICAL ILLUSTRATION.
Tourist—"What do you mean by slapping my face?"
Mountain Guide—"Excuse me, sir. I merely wanted you to hear the seven-wood echo. I had no pistol with me."
—*Fliegende Blätter.*

NO DANGER.
Mother—"Tommy, you mustn't go fishing with Freddy Slocum. He is just getting over the measles."
Tommy—"There won't be any danger, ma. I never catch anything when I'm fishing."
—*Brooklyn Life.*

JUST POSSIBLE.
"Do any street cars run on this track?" she inquired. "I'm a stranger in Detroit. If I walk on will they overtake me?"
"They may, ma'am—this is the age of miracles," was the startling answer.—*Detroit Free Press.*

A TRUE FRIEND.
Bronson—"Do you ever read your work to any one before you send it out?"
Funniman—"No, not now. I used to read it all to my friend Banks, but he is dead."
Bronson—"Poor fellow! No wonder."
—*Life.*

HAD TO LET 'EM GO.
Highwayman—"Hold up your hands!"
Hicks, Mauson, Smithers—"You can't rob us."
Highwayman—"Why not?"
Hicks, Mauson, Smithers—"Because we have only five dollars between us, and you can't take five from three."
—*New York Sun.*

A DUBIOUS COMPARISON.
Tompkins—"What do you think of Charlie Talkington?"
Miss De Smith—"I rather admire him. He is quite a young Samson."
Tompkins—"Perhaps you are right. Samson, you know, was the man who saw his enemies with the jawbone of an ass."
—*Munsey's Weekly.*

A "TOUGH" TIME.
"I'll trouble you for the time," said the footpad to the gentleman with a gold watch in a dark street.
"It is just striking one," said the gentleman, hitting the highwayman between the eyes.
"Don't hit me with your second hand," said the footpad, skipping off.—*Detroit Free Press.*

UNNECESSARILY SCARED.
"Is your young man there, Jennie?" her father shouted down stairs in sten-torian tones.
"Ye-es, papa," faltered the poor girl, while cold perspiration began to issue from every pore of the lover's body.
"All right. Ask him for the score, please; I didn't get it before coming up-town."
—*New York Press.*

TWO BOYS.
Little Daughter—"Oh, mamma, didn't you say Dick mustn't go with that neighbor's boy?"
"Mamma—indeed I did."
"Well, he's with him behind the barn smoking cigarettes."
"Horror! Is that dirty faced boy teaching Dick to smoke cigarettes?"
"No'm, Dick's teachin' him."
—*Good News.*

THAT WOULD FIX THEM.

Wife—"I'm terribly afraid of that band of gypsies that came into this neighborhood yesterday."
Husband—"Well, if any of them call here to-day get rid of them the best way you can."
Wife—"But suppose they won't go?"
Husband—"Oh, well; if the worst comes to the worst just invite them in and give them some of that angel-cake."
—*Judge.*

TOO MANY TITLES.
English Lord—"In your note to me you gave me more titles than I am honored with."
American Girl—"Did I?"
English Lord—"Yes. What does that C. S. stand for after my name?"
American Girl—"I'm sure I don't know. Brother told me to add it. Here comes Little Dick. I'll send him to find out. Dick, go ask brother what C. S. stand for after Lord Toplofty's name."
Little Dick—"I ast him when you addressed the letter. He said it meant 'Card sharp.'"
—*Good News.*

AN INGENIOUS SCHEME.
"I saw you with Strykoll yesterday; are you friendly with him?"
"Oh, yes, he and I are operating together in a field of enterprise at present; we are in a benefit company that pays \$500 to the members at the end of five years for the small investment of \$100."
"What are your duties?"
"Well, I work outside trying to get people to join."
"And what are Strykoll's duties?"
"He works inside trying to get people to drop out after they have joined and paid their dues."
—*Cape Cod Item.*

THE AMATEUR FARMER'S GUIDE.
Apple—A species of fruit on your neighbor's farm, of an enormous size and delicious flavor. A species of fruit on your own farm, something near the size of a marble, and about as palatable.

AX—A WEDGE-SHAPED PIECE OF STEEL, having an eye in which a straight stick, sometimes called a handle, is inserted. Used chiefly by your wife in cutting nails in two, and knocking sticks of stove-wood into her eye.

BARN—A 10x15 LOG STRUCTURE, with conveniences in the loft for bumping your head.

BUGS—SEE GARDEN.
Chiggers—See raspberry.
Cow—A domestic animal, whose chief delight is scattering the contents of the milk-pail over your best clothes.

DOG—AN ANIMAL NOTED FOR HIS PRESENCE when you don't want him, and for his absence when you do want him. Also a thing to kill sheep with and pay tax on.

FARM—FORTY ACRES OF BRIER-PATCHES and yellow ditches that you were deluded into buying.

FAILURE—SEE CROP.
Fertile—The condition of one single spot on your farm, situated directly under the fertilizer heap.

GATE—A CONVENIENCE FOR HOGS to crawl under. Also a thing to leave open and break hinges with.

IDIO—THE MAN WHO LAST BOUGHT THE FARM you now own.

LIE—THE FORTY BUSHELS PER ACRE the man who sold you the farm told you it would produce.

MONEY—AN ARTICLE YOU HAVE SOME faint recollection of having possessed before you left the city. If ever you have any more of it you will have to mortgage. [Which see.]

MORTGAGE—A THING TO GET MONEY with.

PLOW—A PECULIARLY SHAPED INSTRUMENT, admirably adapted to running under roots; having handles to place your stomach against in order to check your own impetus simultaneously with that of the plow.

RECREATION—HOLDING A HOOK AND LINE in a pool of water with one hand, while you fight mosquitoes with the other.

WORK—SEE PERPETUAL MOTION.
X—Twice as much per acre as you would be glad to sell out for, if you could find a man idiot enough to pay it.
—*Puck.*

New Property of Cotton-seed Oil.

If the newly discovered property of cotton-seed oil, which has been so widely proclaimed, shall prove to be all that is claimed for it, good judges are of the opinion that the usefulness of that abundant product is likely to be very considerably extended. The simplicity of the process is a valuable feature which gives probability to such a result. One gallon of pure cotton-seed oil, being placed in a suitable iron vessel, twenty pounds of lead are melted and poured into the oil, which at the same time is thoroughly stirred, under which operation the lead separates in globules, and when the oil is poured off, after cooling, there is found to be about seventeen pounds of the lead, the remainder being absorbed by the oil. On the lead being again melted, and the operation repeated to the fifth pouring—the amount of lead absorbed being less at each succeeding pouring—the total amount of lead absorbed is about ten pounds. The oil thus charged with the lead is then used as a paint, being applied in the ordinary way to protect from oxidation or corrosion, the liquid adhering closely and becoming very hard.—*Boston Transcript.*

A Photographic Freak.

A remarkable freak in photography occurred at Salem, Ill., the other day. A lady called at the photograph establishment of Mr. R. M. Edgeworth and sat for a negative for a cabinet-sized photograph. When a proof was taken there appeared on the lap of the lady a little child. The lady says that the child is an exact image of her child who died thirteen years ago; that even the clothing is the same pattern the child was buried in. She is greatly worried over the strange occurrence, as no picture of the dead child had ever been taken. Mr. Edgeworth says he cannot account for the mystery.—*St. Louis Republic.*

THE FARM AND GARDEN.

PRUNING QUINCE TREES.
The lack of pruning which most quince orchards get is sufficient reason for their unfruitfulness. We have seen several quince orchards in full bearing this summer, and in every case it was where trees were trained to single stems, and these kept clear from suckers until bearing wood began.—*Boston Cultivator.*

TO STOP BLEEDING.
The *New England Farmer* is responsible for the following: "To stop the bleeding of a horse or other stock from a snag wound, says a horse man, make an application of dry manure and it will stop the bleeding every time. This information may be worth a good deal to many. While away from home recently a weanling colt of mine broke through a barbed wire fence and cut his fore leg badly. It had been bleeding for eight hours when I got home. I took dry horse manure and held it on the wound for one minute and the blood stopped flowing at once."

SAVING IN HORSESHOEING.
Horseshoeing, though often written about, is by no means an exhausted subject. A great saving can be effected to no detriment to the horse, or owner, and in many instances a decided advantage will be gained, if we will only lay aside old ideas. A western correspondent writes us that he has had ten years' experience in the mountains of Colorado, staging, freighting and ranching. His nearest railroad point is 100 miles distant, and many ranchmen make the trip and bring in heavy loads over the range on a road that any farmer in the Middle States would consider impracticable. Besides, there are scores of ranch teams which make ditches, run mowers, haul hay and haul timber over rocky roads without ever having a shoe on.—*American Agriculturist.*

BLOODY MILK.
S. W. Ware, of Joplin, wants to know why his cow gives bloody milk, which comes sometimes from one teat and sometimes from all of them, though the one teat is always worse than the others. It is the last of the milking that is bloody, the first being only slightly colored. From this description, replies C. W. Murtfeldt, the cow's udder has probably received some local hurt. The driver or someone may have cast a stone or a stick without intent to hurt the cow, but unfortunately he or she did afflict the animal and make a bruise. If she still gives bloody milk, make a careful examination for the seat of the trouble, and if found heal it up. If a wound, wash it clean and use hog's lard. That another teat may also be affected may come from the proximity of the trouble or from sympathy, much as if a man has a sore eye the other eye may also become sore. If the cow continues to give bloody milk, and from more than one teat, she had better be dried up, fattened and sold for beef. Of course, all such milk is unfit for use and may cause blood poisoning in those who partake thereof. It is best to be on the safe side. Sickness and doctors' bills may come to many times the value of the milk or cow.—*St. Louis Republic.*

RESTORING SOIL FERTILITY.
There are two methods of restoring the lost fertility of the soil. One is by the application of needed constituents derived from soils and sources other than the land on which they are to be used. This involves a direct outlay of money, and at once the question arises, Will it pay? In it are included the mineral elements of plant food, such as the potash and nitrates from foreign mines, guano—the excrement of sea fowl, originally derived from the sea—and phosphate rock, all more or less entering into the constituents of the commercial fertilizers now so common. The other may be said to be furnished, directly or indirectly, by the soil itself. The most direct way in which the soil can be made to fertilize itself while under cultivation is by the growing of plants whose decomposition will return to it a greater measure of fertility than was abstracted for their production.

While something had been learned in this direction through farm experience, it was not until science came to the aid of agriculture that the plants best fitted for soil renovation and the reason for preferring them as such became known. Science and experience having jointly determined that clover, peas and other plants of their class are the ones specially adapted to furnishing this requirement, it consequently follows that growing them and plowing them under when at their best is the most direct way to make the soil fertilize itself. This, however, is commonly thought too costly a method, requiring, as it does, the sacrifice of a crop. In lieu of it, by giving clover a two years' lease, much the same result can be realized through the decay of the stubble and its more extensive root system, and in the South the cow pea makes so rapid a growth that two crops may be raised in a season.

An indirect way in which the soil may be said to fertilize itself is through the application of the manure from stock fed on nitrogenous fodders grown upon it. This opens up the subject of the best rotation of crops and furnishes a wide field, not only for the farmer's own experiments, but also for a judicious use of the knowledge which the numerous experiment stations of the country are yearly placing within his reach without direct cost to himself.

After all everything depends on what the soil still contains and the manner in which the plant food taken off in previous crops may be most naturally and cheaply supplied again.—*New York Recorder.*

FEEDING COWS FOR BEEF.

What constitutes good beef, good mutton, and good poultry? It is the sweet, juicy, tender lean meat. But a small portion of the fat of beef or mut-

ton is eaten. Look at the bushels of butcher's waste in any market and see what a large per cent. of fat it contains. And the market man will tell you that very fat corned beef is "slow sale." I have never known of an instance where prize beef gave good satisfaction. On the contrary, it has been very unsatisfactory to both the butcher and the consumer. How shall we make good beef of our unremunerative dairy cows? My theory and practice may be illustrated as follows: We will take for an example a gargety cow—the worst in the list. There are but few cases of that class which cannot be controlled by proper feeding and a judicious use of salt-peter. In a bad case I would say do not feed corn meal or oil meal. Feed wheat bran, mill-feed, ground oats, or any other easily-digested, milk-producing food; and give night and morning a great spoonful of salt-peter (if so much proves to be necessary) dissolved and mixed with her grain rations. For feeding a healthy animal I would add to the above list cotton meal and a small ration of gluten-seed meal, omitting the latter during the last two or three weeks previous to killing. Well-cured, early-cut clover hay is preferable to any other dry feed. Turnips and cabbage can be fed quite freely during the earlier stages of meat production, without injury to the milk or butter, if fed ten or more hours before milking, as during that time her breath, skin, and kidneys will have eliminated all the odor from her system. Give milk-producing, muscle-sustaining food. Feed only that which is sweet and free from mold.

As a rule I think it better to keep the beef cows farrow and in milk; and with good keeping, we get a fair quantity of extra good milk, the cows often paying for their keeping up to the last day. In winter, for a few weeks previous to killing, give the animal enough beet-sugar or long blood red preferred—to keep her bowels in a healthy condition; it may take half a bushel or not more than half a peck a day. Never overfeed; never spoil the appetite. Undigested food makes no blood; imperfectly digested food makes impure blood, and impure blood cannot make good meat. A little salt-petre tends to allay fever—which is often an attendant of high feeding—and stimulates the kidneys to throw off any impurities from the blood. The animal when killed should be in a thriving, gaining condition, not on the shrink. Remember that the juiciness of the meat depends largely upon how the cow was fed for two or three weeks before killing, and that the flavor depends upon what it was fed for the two or three days previous to killing. Our seacoast butchers do not allow salt marsh hay to be fed to their animals for a few days before killing; and turnips are not allowed anywhere. A man who was an army butcher during the war said that they turned some cattle into a wheat field in Virginia one night, and some of the cattle were killed the next day, but that the meat couldn't be eaten by any one but a Frenchman; and, on examination, it was found that field garlicks were growing among the wheat, and the cattle had eaten freely of them. There can be no hard and fast rules for feeding; animals differ, and the same animal requires different feeding at different times. Before turning out, in changing from dry feed to pasture, give in the morning all the hay they will eat, and for their grain ration give mostly corn meal—scalded if convenient—continuing the daily rations of meal for three or four weeks, and the hay as long as they will eat it. A full ration of immature grass is as bad for a cow as green apples for a boy. For a butter producing cow in dog days, I prefer ground oats to any other kind of feed. It makes sweeter and firmer butter than most other kinds of feed. Through the summer feed primarily for milk and butter, but always keep the cows gaining in flesh and yet not too much in fat.—*American Agriculturist.*

FARM AND GARDEN NOTES.
Late pullets should either be pushed or marketed.
By having the poultry yard in a sandy or gravelly soil much slush is avoided.
Horses affected with the heaves are seldom cured, but the difficulty may be lessened by shaking the hay, cutting it, and moistening it well before feeding.
As long as the animal eats all the food you give it nothing is wasted. Do not lessen the supply because the quantity required is less than you wish to give.
Fully one-half of the failures with brooders are due to want of care in keeping warm. Brooders should be arranged so that there will be no corners into which the chicks can crowd.
At the season when the market-gardener is busy disposing of his crop of peas, beans, cucumbers, lettuce, onions, beets and radishes, he should be taking advantage of every moist day to set out celery plants.
Wool must be equally strong the entire length of the fiber, or necessarily it will be of less value to the manufacturer; and wool of that kind cannot be grown unless the sheep is kept in good condition all the time.
All butter tubs should be soaked in strong salt brine for two or three days before packing and then filled with butter to within one-half inch of the top; then cover with a cloth and a paste of fine salt and water, which should be pressed against the tub so as to exclude air from the butter.
All kinds of foods may be relished by stock, but the food that gives the best results is that which is most easily digested and assimilated. The individual characteristics of an animal should be considered in feeding. Some animals will digest certain foods which would not be beneficial to their associates.
When the peach trees lose their dark green color and the leaves drop off prematurely, examination of the trees should be made for the borer or for lice around the roots. Sometimes the trees will show the ill effects of a strong growth of grass or weeds near the trunk. Keep the top soil loose, and look well for borers.

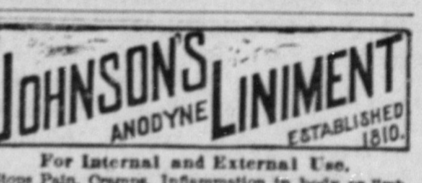


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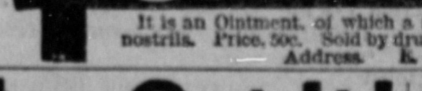
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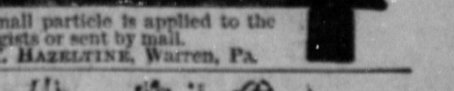
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