

Peculiar Origin of a Familiar Phrase.

The phrase "That beats Bob-tail" is not uncommon even now in many parts of the country, especially in the South. Its origin is traceable to a race which occurred about 1840, or shortly before that year, on the famous Fairfield track on the Mechanicsville turnpike near Richmond, Va.

In those days Bob Poindexter lived in Richmond. He was a sporting man, wore fine clothes and owned a number of horses. Among the animals was one he named Pizarro, a plain bay gelding, with black mane and tail, the latter bobbed short.

There was nothing extraordinary about the horse, and nobody looked upon him as a racer. But Poindexter took a notion that he could run. He used to drive Pizarro about Richmond hitched to a buggy. On the day that he was advertised to appear on the track a great crowd was present and excitement ran high for a great deal of money had been put up on other horses.

To the astonishment of everybody Pizarro beat every horse on the track, and the people went fairly wild.

Bob-tailed Pizarro never made much of a record. He won two or three races and then went to pieces. For years afterward when anything extraordinary happened in that section it was said of it, "That beats Bob-tail."—Baltimore American.

Cooking by Electricity.

An electric cooker is one of the novelties. If the claims for the invention can be substantiated, the woes of the long-suffering housekeeper are about to vanish forever. The comforts of home will be secured without any of its worries. Smutty, smoky, disagreeable coal and frisky, treacherous gas is to give place to electricity. Beefsteaks will be cooked by lightning. The drowsy housewife can push an electric button before she arises in the morning and the tea-kettle will be humming a merry waltz when she gets down to the kitchen. The day of the pine board and the butcher's knife is done. The public is destined to be treated to no more harrowing tales of kerosene oil explosions. And all this, the enthusiastic inventor claims, is at a marvelously low cost.—Chicago News Record.



Mr. Joseph Hemmerich
An old soldier, came out of the War greatly crippled by Typhoid Fever, and after being in various hospitals the doctors discharged him as incurable with Consumption. He has been in poor health since, until he began to take Hood's Sarsaparilla. Immediately his cough grew looser, night sweats ceased, and he regained good general health. He cordially recommends Hood's Sarsaparilla, especially to comrades in the G. A. R. Hood's Pills cure Habitual Constipation by restoring peristaltic action of the alimentary canal.

"German Syrup"

JUDGE J. B. HILL, of the Superior Court, Walker County, Georgia, thinks enough of German Syrup to send us voluntarily a strong letter endorsing it. When men of rank and education thus use and recommend an article, what they say is worth the attention of the public. It is above suspicion. "I have used your German Syrup," he says, "for my Coughs and Colds on the Throat and Lungs. I can recommend it for them as a first-class medicine."—Take no substitute.



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FARM GARDEN

REMEDY FOR THICK MILK.

Thick milk from a heifer is no doubt due to something in the heifer. The blood is not in a healthy state, and some treatment is necessary. Give a pound of epsom salts dissolved in a quart of warm oatmeal or linseed gruel, and note the result; if not effective, repeat in two days. It may be that the feed or the water is at fault, and this should be looked to. Sometimes neglect to give salt regularly has this result. This thickening of the milk is caused by a fermentation in it that may be due to various causes, but it is mostly caused by the condition of the cow. Sometimes it has been caused by impure water, and sometimes by uncleanliness of the pails or pans.—American Dairyman.

FARM ACCOUNTS.

The simplest form of accounts is the best for a farmer. A complete set of books may be necessary in a store or not required. As the farm business is mostly made up of buying and selling, the whole of the bookkeeping may be done with two books, a cash book and a ledger. Or a ledger only may be used, having one account for the cash. The double entry system is the best and the simplest. This consists of making a double entry of each transaction, as thus: A load of hay is sold; for cash, the cash account is charged with the money received, and farm account, or the particular field account, is credited. If something is bought and paid for, cash is credited with the amount and farm is charged. If the cash is not received or paid in either case, the parties are charged or credited, as the case may be. This is all that is necessary. Afterward, when facility has been gained, separate accounts may be kept for each department, as the live stock, dairy, or each field of the farm.—New York Times.

OCASIONAL SUBSOLLING.

Probably no work on the farm pays so well as that done with the subsoil plow and that has been well underdrained. The advantage of subsoiling is that one operation lasts a number of years, and if the drainage is perfect, the land never loses the porosity which the subsoil plow gives it. If new land were drained as soon as the forest were cleared from it, subsoiling would not be needed. The decay of roots of trees in the subsoil makes a natural drainage way through which superfluous or stagnant water can pass. But in ninety-nine cases out of 100 drainage is not resorted to until the compacting of soil and its inability to carry off water makes drainage necessary. Then after the underdrain is down it takes years of freezing and thawing and clover growing to establish the old water courses again, or rather to make new ones. The subsoil plow helps this work amazingly. It should follow the drain, and it will do good to repeat the subsoiling every few years, thus enabling the soil to hold more water without being saturated, because the surplus must always pass off wherever an outlet is provided for it.—American Cultivator.

THE QUESTION AS TO STRAW.

It is a vexed question what to do with straw. One says it must be worked into manure—as much of it through the animal as possible, when a part of it will be made over into animal produce, and the rest, going into the manure-pile as dung, will be so finely ground up that it will rot readily; the rest to be used as litter. Thus all of it is utilized at home. Another would burn it, presumably on the wheat land, with the stubble, and says it is worth \$2 a ton to the land so treated. Another would spread it and plow it under; and still another would sell it, the price obtained being from \$2 to \$15, according to the state of the market and the condition of the straw, whether much broken or not. The fact is, no single rule will answer for all cases; each one must decide his own case for himself, on business principles. If no animal product of any kind can be sold with profit, commercial manures can be used to advantage to replace plant-food sold in the straw; and if there is a good market for it, sell it. If all these conditions are just reversed, use it up in the barn. If it can be neither sold or fed, the pile of it is large, and the quantity of manure made is small, then burn it with the stubble. Last of all, plow it in; a last resort, because of the difficulty in getting it well covered, and of the slowness with which it decays when so treated; not till decayed has it any use as plant-food. The manurial value of my straw is estimated at \$2 per ton; if burned, half of this may be lost in the nitrogen, all of which passes off into the air. If fed to the stock, it cannot but realize more than its mere manurial value, for animal produce is worth more than manure. If threshed by hand, and the straw is left in a good condition, little broken, it has been sold for \$15 a ton. There is a wide margin here for wise judgment as to what to do with the straw.—New York Tribune.

RULES FOR PLANTING THE WHITE PINE.

Edmund Hersey, Superintendent of the Bussey Farm, advocates the planting of the white pine. As a timber tree he claims it possesses more good qualities than any other native tree of Massachusetts. It is easy to grow from the seed or transplant when young. It will flourish on a light sandy soil or on a peat meadow, and on ordinary soil the growth is so rapid that the tree will be large enough for lumber purposes in thirty-five years. When the seed is to be planted by man the cones should be gathered just before the first frost in the autumn and placed small end up in the grass away from all enemies. After the first heavy frost, gather up the cones and shell out the seed by turning them small end downward over a vessel and giving them a rap with a stick, when the seeds will drop out. As soon as the seed is shelled it should be planted. The method of planting must depend on the condition of the soil; if it is a barren plain, shallow furrows may be plowed from east to west, five feet apart, turning the furrows to the south to afford a partial shade to the young

HOUSEHOLD AFFAIRS.

PICKLED CAULIFLOWER.

Strip off the leaves and quarter the stalk. Scald in salt water, but do not allow it to boil. Take the cauliflower from the dish to cool, sprinkle it with salt and water, put it on a colander for twenty-four hours to drain. When dry cut out the thick stalks, or if it be large divide it, give it a boil and split the flower into eight or ten pieces. Put these carefully into jars and cover them with cold vinegar which has been previously boiled with spices.—New York World.

A REGAL DISH.

Have you ever heard of a crown of lamb? It sounds regal, but it is nothing more than an appetizing side dish made as follows: Take a rib of young lamb with the thick under-bone cut away. Have the shanks "frenched," and the meat between them removed. When this is tightly rolled, the bones standing upward in a circle, it has the effect of a crown. Inside the "crown" lay some finely cut spinach, gravied and garnished with slices of hard egg. This looks inviting, and its appearance is in no way deceptive.—New York News.

WHOLESOME PUDDING FOR CHILDREN.

A wholesome pudding for children, and one often tempting to their elders, is made from stale breadcrumbs and tart apples. Butter the bottom of a pudding dish and put in a layer of apples pared and sliced quite thick, strew the apples with grated crumbs, then with bits of butter, and a very little spice, either cinnamon or allspice, or both, if liked. Fill the dish in the same way as at first, with alternate layers of bread and apple, with the seasoning. Sweeten with a half cupful of molasses, mixed with the same quantity of boiling water. The top layer of the pudding should be breadcrumbs. Set the dish in the oven in a pan of boiling water. Cook until the apples are tender and the top is a rich brown. Serve as soon as it comes from the oven, with sweet cream or fairy-butter.—New York Post.

WARMED-OVER DISHES.

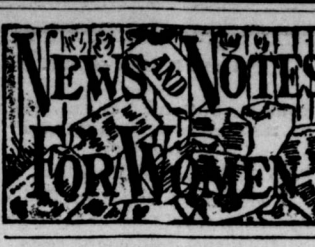
Don't let the family get a contempt for warmed-over dishes. When you do get up such a dish, be sure you make it so good that no fault whatever may be found with it; and do not have too many dishes of this class. Try to cook enough, and just enough, but should there be a little left, make good use of it.

In the first of this series we will tell one way of using up the bit of hash that was left from breakfast. Let us suppose there was only a spoonful or two left, not enough for another meal, or to combine with other meat for the next breakfast. If it was chicken, or corned beef, hashed with potatoes and not chopped so very fine, chop till quite fine and mix with it a little mayonnaise dressing. Now spread it between thin slices of buttered bread, and you have a few sandwiches to serve for supper to vary the bread and butter. For some of the family are sure to be fond of sandwiches. If the hash was well made and the sandwiches put up in good form no one will ever guess that they were made from the hash that was left over.

If there is a lunch to be put up for anyone you can give them occasionally a sandwich of this kind without buying meat for that purpose alone.—St. Louis Republic.

HOUSEHOLD HINTS.

Never use strong or rancid butter in seasoning vegetables. A scant cup of butter will often make a lighter cake than a full cup. Onions and apple sauce are the peculiar accompaniments of a goose. Milk is better for being kept over night in small tins than if a larger quantity is kept over in one vessel. It is said that to chew parsley after eating onions will remove the odor of the latter. Orris root has the same effect. A turkey when well cooked should be evenly browned all over. Cranberry sauce or currant jelly is the proper accompaniment. It is better to keep baked pastry in a cupboard than in a refrigerator, as it would be apt to get damp and heavy in the latter place. To keep jellies from moulding, cover them with pulverized sugar to a depth of a quarter of an inch. They will keep for years if this is done. For mildew, which is not an uncommon plant foe, dust with sulphur or sprinkle with sulphur water. Also dig a little soot into the soil. A spray of pure oil of turpentine mixed with one per cent. of lavender oil is said to have an astonishing effect in purifying the air of living rooms, the action being attributed to the ozone formed. The crepe tissue paper which can be bought in many colors for twenty cents a yard makes the prettiest candle shades, and is much used for fruits and small sachets intended for favors for Germans and dinners. An excellent remedy for inflamed eyes is to soak a little sassafras twig in boiling water; let it draw until the water becomes slimy and then strain through this muslin. Bathe the eyes frequently with the liquid. A large piece of charcoal laid in the refrigerator will help to keep it sweet. It should be renewed once a week. When meat and poultry are brought in to the house and are not eaten the same day, a piece of charcoal inside the poultry will keep it sweet. A handy receipt for curing hams is this: Take four quarts of salt, four ounces saltpetre, four pounds of brown sugar dissolved in water. Pack one hundredweight of hams closely together and pour this pickle over them; let them remain ten days and then smoke. At this season of the year, when many heavy articles, counterpane, etc., are to be washed it is well to know of an easy and perfectly safe method. Into an ordinary sized boiler half full of water put one teaspoon of this mixture: One pound potash, one ounce salt tar, one ounce muriate of ammonia; add the clothes and boil half an hour; rinse through two waters and dry. Children's hair grows more quickly than that of adults. Some say that tight-haired people are longer lived than their brethren with dark locks, which is not so consoling to the latter, since more than half of the inhabitants of this country have dark brown hair.



NEW YORK NOTES.

Brocades are fashionable. Rosa Bonheur is still a busy painter. There are ribbons with satin back and face that look like felt. Changeable moires are used for handsome reception dresses. Very rich, very wide velvet ribbon is used as a flat garniture. Mauve is still a good color, though the fete rage for it has passed. The newest bright-colored, changeable silks are called "sushines." Among the Sierras there is a woman stage driver, Mrs. H. J. Langdon. A new hair pin for evening wear is an orchid in enamel in natural colors. The Empress of Austria has begun the study of the modern Greek language and literature. The women employes of the Chicago telephone companies have been attired in black uniforms. A chapter of the Young Women's Fraternity, Pi Beta Phi, has been founded at Swarthmore College. Gold embroidered on velvet, felt, cloth and other materials is much liked by those who can afford it. The Dowager Empress Frederick, of Germany, owns a chain of thirty-two pearls that is valued at \$175,000. Vienna, Austria, has eight cooking and housekeeping schools for girls and ninety-three trade schools for girls. Many women who wear an abundance of rings like to remove the gloves while shopping. The fur glove comes off and on very easily. Mrs. Sunabbi Wadia, a lady from the Orient, as her name implies, is about to reach out for fame on the London stage as a comedienne. Arabella Mansfield, of Iowa, was the first woman admitted to the bar in the United States. She became a full-fledged lawyer in 1869. Dr. Margaret Whyte, a lady graduate, has been unanimously appointed to the position of resident medical officer to the Women's Hospital, Melbourne, Australia. In Finland, above all other countries, do women enter into the business of life. They are clerks, doctors, dentists, builders, managers of small companies and bank cashiers. Miss Lillie Stover, only surviving granddaughter of Andrew Johnson, has just died at Knoxville, Tenn. She was buried beside the grave of the ex-President at Greenville. Every winter seen in Paris is said to have a plastron of some kind of a contrasting color and fabric. Crapes chiffon, China silk, surs, bengaline, taffeta, and brocade are all pressed into service for this accessory. The French percale shirt, tucked from the neck to the bust, and then allowed to flare, is liked by women who do not care to assume a stiff shirt; they can, of course, be worn far into cold weather with a cloth shirt and jacket. Miss Chapman, the well known sculptor, has been commissioned to model the two Spanish bullocks Queen Victoria keeps in the park at Osborne. They have enormous horns and are considered remarkably beautiful creatures. Mrs. Croly (Jennie Jones) has consented to teach women the alphabet of journalism in the chair recently established for this branch in Rutgers Female College, New York. Mrs. Croly is herself a veteran in newspaper work. At the Normal School in Holmesburg, Penn., the custom prevails of conferring on the clergyman's daughter who attains the highest rank in the graduating class the honor of having her father deliver the opening prayer at the commencement exercises. It is said of Julia Ward Howe that, despite her great age, she can talk fluently and interestingly on any topic under the sun. Mrs. Howe is still studying Greek, a language she began to learn only a few years ago, and has also taken up Modern Greek, or Romainic. Miss Frances Power Cobbe, who has recently waged vigorous war on the vivisectionists in England, is described as an extremely jolly old lady, very stout, with a round, ruficund face, and her merry laugh is most infectious. She is generally surrounded by an army of pet dogs. Somebody, who evidently has wearied of the conservative styles allotted to brides, has attempted to start the fashion of making a bride's traveling-dress in some unique and hitherto unknown style. It is needless to say that the average sensible bride doesn't care to have her new relation ticketed on her wardrobe. Lean women who desire to accumulate a plump covering on their bones are advised to avoid worry, to cultivate calmness, to sleep eight hours every day, to take moderate exercise, to eat fattening foods, such as soup, butter, cream, fat and juicy meats, olive oil and farinaceous articles, and to take warm baths at night. The home of the Roumanian Queen, Carmen Sylva, situated in the heart of a forest at the foot of the Caraimian Mountains, is beautifully decorated, according to the Queen's own designs, the feature of the house being a music room fitted up with a beautifully painted glass ceiling and walls frescoed with a cycle of fairy tales of her arrangement. Miss Lily E. Benn has for the past three years lived in the East End of London, and has interested herself greatly in the welfare of the children and young girls in that quarter. Perhaps her best work has been in her sewing classes, where she teaches girls from nine to fourteen years of age to cut and make the garments for which their instructor provides the material. Mrs. "Buffalo Bill" is an amiable domestic woman, very popular in the neighborhood of North Platte, Neb., where she lives. Her home, Scout's Rest, is a long, low building, four miles from the town, large and roomy, quite like an hotel, and it is surrounded by 3000 acres of prairie land, magnificent stables, and fine pasture lands, where are kept many thousands of fine blooded horses and cattle.

A Mammoth Competition.

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