

# LIVE STOCK & AGRICULTURE

## QUEER SQUASHES.

Europeans Strange to Our Eyes, but Useful In Some Ways.

### GOOD FOR PIES AND JAMS.

Italian Varieties Valued Also as Ornamental Plants—French Cultivate Them as Field Crop For Feeding Cattle—Seeds Pressed For Oil.

Writing in American Homes and Gardens of "Gourds and Melons of Unusual Growth," Jacques Boyer says:

In Europe squashes and pumpkins are used almost exclusively in the fresh state in making soups and for other purposes. The peasants of the south of France make excellent pies and jams of some varieties and also stew them like potatoes. In ancient times pumpkins were cleaned of their seeds, dried and prepared in various ways in winter. They formed an important article in the food of Roman slaves, and this custom of drying pumpkins was continued to a late period in the vicinity of Genoa, Italy.

The market gardeners of Paris preserve the purity of race of their gourds by collecting the seeds themselves. In Anjou an oil which is edible, but quickly becomes rancid, is extracted from the seeds.

The Italian squashes, which are generally elongated and of green or yellowish color, are nonrunning varieties. The stems are very short and thick, and the leaves are large, dark green and deeply incised into five or seven lobes, with somewhat indented edges. The fruit has a smooth, dark green rind, marbled with yellow or pale green.

The early crook neck squash, which is bright yellow in color, curved near the stem and entirely covered with rounded excrescences, is valued especially as an ornamental plant. The Touraine citronille, on the other hand, is cultivated chiefly as a field crop for the feeding of cattle. The rind is smooth and dark green, and the flesh is yellowish white and of inferior quality. The seeds, which are very oily, are used in France in the manufacture of certain medicinal lozenges.



Photograph by Long Island agriculture experiment station. VENETIAN SQUASH.

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### CITY MAN AS A FARMER.

Educator Advises Study of Certain Sciences and Specializing.

If the city man who has a longing to get back to the farm imagines he can lead a quiet rural life in the capacity of an agriculturist and succeed in that line he is mistaken, according to Professor O. S. Morgan of Columbia university.

New economic conditions and a tempered public opinion toward the life of the farmer have turned the tide, so that today the tendency is for the city man to seek agricultural pursuits rather than the proverbial farmer's boy to go to the city to seek his fortune, Professor Morgan said. His advice to the city man who desires to take up farming is to go slow and first to acquire at least a general knowledge of some of the sciences, such as biology, physics, geology, botany and chemistry; then specialize, for the city man is normally a specialist from temperament and training, and that kind of farming is best, declared the educator.

#### What is Silage Worth?

A correspondent of the National Stockman and Farmer at Dubois, Pa., wants to know what a ton of good corn silage is worth in the silo. That is a question which frequently arises in farm settlements and on which a great variety of views may prevail. Some have given silage a very low value, counting merely the cost of growing, the crop and putting it up. With a big variety of corn and a high tonnage silage can be figured down to quite a low value, but such figuring is manifestly unfair. Silage contains corn in varying amounts, usually around five bushels per ton in good silage, and the price of corn should be considered in estimates as to the price of silage. Using this as a basis, our friend can rate the value of his silage by basing it on the corn it contains. In recent years most estimates have been at \$2.50 to \$3 per ton, but it may be worth more if rich in grain.

### "COMBINATION FARMING."

The profits of farming are being investigated in an extensive way by the Cornell (N. Y.) experiment station. The plan is to compare the actual returns and outgoes based on figures obtained by agents visiting the farmers in the various counties of the state. The idea is to give comparative figures rather than to disclose facts to which the individual farmers might object. The conclusion seems to be, on the whole, in favor of combination farming against special farming.

It appears that farmers make more money by having a number of side issues in combination with whatever may be their specialty. The experiment station suggests the importance of the farmer having a combination that will furnish the most profitable work throughout the day and throughout the year and asserts that no single product will accomplish this result.

The conclusion is not against specialized farming nor in favor of ordinary general farming, but rather leaning toward what the station calls "combination farming," which depends mostly on the specialty, but advances the income by a wise selection of side lines which enable various economies of labor and equipment and add decidedly to the profits.—American Cultivator.

### "TUCKING IN THE ENDS."

Little Things to Be Done to Make Stock Comfortable in Winter.

With the winter here a number of ideas come to us if we would make the stock comfortable.

Most barns need to be better lighted. Great improvement has been made in this respect in the past few years, but a trip through the country shows far too many barns where little light ever comes in save through the cracks in the siding.

The old board slides may be taken out and sash for glass be put in their place. The opening many times needs to be made a good deal larger, but this can easily be done by any farmer who is at all handy with a saw.

Then, too, more attention should be given to furnishing fresh air for the cows. This can in most barns be accomplished by putting a board shaft from the floor up through to the top of the barn.

A good many barns have more ventilation than is good for the stock, but it is not of the right kind. The kind which gets in at the cracks and where boards are off is about the worst possible.

Straw enough for bedding is a necessity of comfort. True, good straw is marketable at a good price, and yet if used as bedding and turned back on the land it is worth a fair price.

The day of foddering out on the ground is long gone by on the best and most successful farms, and yet many still do it. Good racks ought to be made for this purpose.

Lay in a stock of currycombs and brushes for use on the backs of cows and young stock and see that they are used every day. The time to begin is now.—American Cultivator.

#### Honey Farming.

With the development of reclamation projects in various states of the west a new and attractive industry has made its appearance—nothing more nor less than honey farming. Now that extensive irrigated tracts are being added to the arable lands, honey growing on a large commercial scale has become a profitable enterprise. The average cost of bees is about \$5, and in irrigated territory a hive will produce about seventy-six pounds more honey a year than its members require. The honey sells at the point of production at prices ranging from 15 to 20 cents a pound. As bees multiply at the rate of 100 per cent a year, it is estimated that a bee farm will return annual dividends of 150 per cent after the first year. It would be difficult to imagine an easier or more profitable form of farming.—New York Mail.

#### Good Feed For Shots.

Corn and oats, half and half, soaked twenty-four hours or else ground make an excellent feed for growing shots four to six months old.

### FACTS ABOUT TRIPOLI.

Country Italy Began War Over a Moslem State Since 665 A. D.

The African provinces of the Ottoman empire which Italy sought embrace an area estimated at 398,900 square miles, or nearly six times the size of European Turkey and nearly four times as large as Italy. The country is badly watered, and the products are scanty. Cattle and sheep are raised; also dates, oranges and lemons, barley and wheat. There is a considerable trade in ostrich feathers, which come by caravan from central Africa. There are about a million inhabitants, mostly Berbers. The Jews number perhaps 10,000. The European population is in the coast towns and consists of Maltese and Italians, about 5,000 or 6,000.

Tripoli was conquered by the Arabs in 647-665 A. D. and has ever since remained a Moslem state. In 1510 Ferdinand of Spain took it, but in 1553 the Turks under Torgoud and Sinan captured it. From 1714 to 1835 the Karmani family of beys ruled principally independently, but since that time Turkey has governed the country. Several rebellions (notably in 1842 and 1844) have been suppressed. The region embraces the vilayet of Tripoli (Tarabulous el Gharb) and Bengazi, an independent sanjak. Tripoli city has about 30,000 inhabitants, Bengazi 35,000, while Derna is the only other coast city of any size.

Tripoli city is a station of the north African mission, an English society, and medical work is carried on there among all classes. Of late Italians have been quite active in opening schools in Tripoli, especially for the Jews. An American archaeological expedition is at work in Bengazi.—The Orient, Constantinople.

#### What About the Hired Man?

They talk about the servant girl, suggesting this and that To make her life more happy in the mansion or the flat.

They say to teach her music and to cultivate her mind And never, never speak to her in tones that are unkind.

But— What about the hired man, Hired man, tired man, Frequently the fired man—

What about his life? Nobody ever sighs for him, And books nobody buys for him Or intimates that ples for him Or gives to him a knife.

The ladies read their papers at the Helpful Household clubs And talk about the hardships of the maid who bakes and scrubs.

They advocate a fashion plate upon the kitchen wall, And higher aspirations they propose for one and all.

But— What about the hired man, Hired man, tired man, Soon or late the fired man—

What about his lot? Nobody ever thinks of him Or sends out fancy drinks for him Or talks of fashion's kinks for him Or gives to him a thought.

They write to all the papers on the servant question now, And women of authority with high and bulging brow

Get up and make orations on the way to help the maid, And tell how like a parlor every kitchen ought to look.

But— What about the hired man, Hired man, tired man, After while the fired man—

Who's concerned for him? He'll have to keep his hustle on And toil and tug and hustle on And heave and pull and tussle on Or else his chance is slim.

—Chicago Evening Post.

## A Pack of Nonsense to Laugh At

#### Loss Not Irreparable.

Returning home one evening, the husband found the bride in tears. Between sobs she managed to let him know that something horrible had happened.

"It does seem too awful," she said, "that the very first meat pie I made for you should be eaten by the cat."

"Well, never mind, dearest," said her husband cheerfully, patting her on the shoulder. "We can get another cat easy enough."—Harper's Weekly.

#### A Load on Her Mind.



#### Reminiscences.

"Once I could have bought the site of Chicago for \$400 in Mexican money."

"I know how it is, old chap. I had a chance to buy a beefsteak once or 11 cents a pound."—Kansas City Journal.

#### Those Telltale Eyes.

Mrs. Jagg—My husband's eyes in the morning are an open volume to me. Mrs. Swagg—How do you mean? Mrs. Jagg—They are red.—Comfort.

## FRAYED TITLES.

Ones That Formerly Suggested Elevated Positions.

### TERM BARON IN GERMANY.

Waiter Once Said He Who Tipped a Pfennig Would Receive This Distinction—Kriegsraad Usually Worn by Mildest Danish Apothecaries.

There was a time in France when "monsieur" carried considerably more significance than it does now. Indeed, it conveyed the idea of high rank, pretty much as it does to this day among the Norman population of the Channel islands, and even in England the wife of a knight or a baronet, who is by courtesy "my lady," is in reality only "madame." But for the last seventy years at least "monsieur" has ceased to be any more distinctive than "esquire" in England, "senor" or "don" in Spain, "signor in Italy, "senhor" in Portugal, "herr" in Germany or, it might be added, than "colonel" or "judge" in certain parts of our own country.

In England even within the memory of men living the old distinctions of "mist" and "esquire" were to some degree preserved. A gentleman entitled to "bear arms"—an "armiger"—had alone the right to the latter designation, although by courtesy it was extended to every landowner and justice of the peace, and in New England the latter functionary is to this day styled an "esquire" or "squire," though we have dropped the redundant "worship" still claimed by certain English magistrates. Then "esquire" was extended to every professional man, though legally it is in England confined to some of the younger sons of dukes and marquises and their eldest sons, to the eldest sons of baronets and knights, to all the untitled sons of noblemen, to justices of the peace, officers of the army and the navy, barristers and doctors of law and medicine. It is not the right of surgeons or attorneys and, curiously enough, does not necessarily belong to landed proprietors. In some old books the distinction is carefully maintained in the prefatory list of subscribers, the misters and esquires being divided into separate categories. Even in the body of the text the "armiger" is always mentioned under this title, and until recent times, says the New York Press, it was not regarded as a clumsy pleonasm to address a letter to "His Worship the Honorable Reginald Barker, Esq., J. P.," just as a foreigner who prides himself on his knowledge of English etiquette always insists on appending "esquire" to every Briton's name, no matter what may be its immediate antecedents.

Mister, or master, has lost all its original meaning. It is no longer expressive of power or possession. In England almost every one above the grade of laborer or small tradesman regards it as little better than an insult to be addressed in a letter as plain "Mr."

In Germany a similar condition exists. "Herr" is no longer "lord" and to be acceptable must usually be qualified by "well born" or even "high well born." In like manner "frau" and "fraulein," "true" and "broken," which in the north were titles of "people of

quality," are now the ordinary designation of those who fifty years ago would have been content with their "trade" as handle to their name, while their wives and daughters would never have expected any other designation than that by which they were baptized or at best "madame" or "Jomfrue."

In Spain "senor" and "senora" are of universal application, and, though in Portugal "dom" is (or was) strictly reserved for the royal family, the Spaniard not styled "don" would be much offended. So in the new world the profession of republicanism does not prevent every Latin American from being addressed somewhat tautologically as "senor don."

In Germany and Belgium nobility of a nominal description is becoming so common that titles, unless of a very unequivocal kind, are being gradually abandoned. "We call everybody a baron," the waiter explained to a departing guest, "who tips us a pfennig," and in Denmark it is almost equivalent to a personal affront to ask any one above the rank of a country schoolmaster whether he is a "kammeraad," or court councillor. Yet, strange to say, the truculent title of "kriegersaad," or war councillor, is usually borne by the mildest of village apothecaries.

It is the same with the English "esquire" and "mister." Anybody in England can "bear arms" and, for the matter of that, does so without troubling the college of heralds, and, except that sometimes in addressing a letter to his tailor or butcher there may be in the mind of the average Englishman a doubt whether the addressee should be called by the first or the second title, all distinction between the two has been practically lost, and it is perfectly certain that to neither is there attached the smallest title of honor.

### ITEMS OF INTEREST.

During the last census decade the population of this country increased 21 per cent.

At the beginning of the year 1911 there were twenty-five irrigation projects under government patronage, in the course of construction. Four have been finished in the meantime.

A general increase has been made in the pay of the members of the London police force which will add \$400,000 per year to the municipal expenses.

For the first time in history a joint stamp, bearing the legends both of France and Britain, has been issued in the New Hebrides islands, which are jointly administered by the two countries.

The yearly bill for preventive diseases in this country amounts to from \$2,000,000,000 to \$4,000,000,000. The damage from insects annually is estimated at \$1,049,000,000.

California, ranking second in the matter of activity in the development of water powers, has 1,070 wheels generating 466,774 horsepower. There are several states with more wheels, but less horsepower.

In 1910 lead production of the United States was 372,227 tons from domestic ore and 168,553 tons from foreign ore and base bullion. The principal producing states were Missouri, with 161,659 tons; Idaho, 99,824; Utah, 57,081, and Colorado, 35,685. Seventeen other states contributed.

## OCEAN CURRENTS.

Bottle Voyages an Aid to Study of Direction and Movement.

### KNOWLEDGE IMPERFECT YET.

Various Causes Contribute to Making Destination of Corked Messages Uncertain—Two Hundred Such Papers Found Annually.

The officer of a vessel who while at sea steps to the rail and hurls a well corked bottle overboard in which there is a slip of paper is not bent on a rognant venture. Instead of a request for a letter of acknowledgment and possibly an acquaintance from the seaside maiden who might find it, perhaps a year later, that slip of paper contains the names of the vessel and its master, the date and the latitude and longitude at which the bottle began its voyage. Below this there are blank spaces for the name of the finder, the date, locality and the postoffice address.

At the bottom of the slip, printed in eight different languages, are these instructions: "The finder of this will please send it to any United States consul or forward it direct to the hydrographic office, Washington, D. C."

The whole operation represents a little step in a great task upon which work has uninterruptedly gone forward for many years. It is one means of determining the direction and movement of the great as well as the smaller currents of the ocean, and it will perhaps be due to the continual varying of the latter currents that this task may never be ended.

There has been a knowledge of the existence of ocean currents since ships began to traverse the oceans, but until the early seventies it was limited. Mariners knew that on the west coast of Europe there was a force which tended to carry them southward and that on the east coast of North America a similar force which carried them northward, but they knew neither the true set nor direction.

It was the object to determine the direction and rate of flow in originating this system of bottle voyages, says the Washington Star.

In 1873-6 the voyage of the United States ship Challenger showed that there are two kinds of ocean currents, permanent and semipermanent. By the use of specially constructed apparatus it was discovered that the permanent currents possessed a drift or movement far below the surface, while the temporary currents affected the surface waters only. This is shown decidedly in the movement of the bottles. The bottles following a regular stream or permanent current will move nearly twice as fast as those traversing a semipermanent current.

There are twenty-seven permanent currents in the oceans of the world, and there are nearly as many more of the semipermanent variety existing at one time. Several causes tend to originate and maintain these drifts. Uniformly directed winds have the greatest influence, and differences of temperatures, storms, polar ice and eddies each have some effect, creating usually the currents of semipermanent variety.

When a bottle is thrown overboard in midocean it is not always possible, therefore, to forecast its landing place unless it be launched in the midst of the great currents, such as the gulf stream. A semipermanent current formed on the edge of the main current by either of the above causes may grip it and whirl it off to some distant part of the ocean, where it may drift into another and entirely different part of the ocean. About 200 bottle papers annually reach the hydrographic office in Washington. On a liberal estimate this means that about 70 per cent of those thrown overboard are recovered.

There are three causes which tend to produce an element of uncertainty in the tale told by these bottles of the rate of flow of any ocean current—drifting into a temporary current produced by stormy winds, being carried around an eddy and the length of time they may lie on an unfrequented shore before being picked up. The great number of bottles thrown overboard, however, almost entirely eliminates these defects, since the average rate of drift of the majority is nearly the same.

The greatest drift of any bottle yet reported to the hydrographic office was that of one thrown overboard from the steamship Fuerst Bismarck on May 1, 1898. According to the letter of transmittal from the United States consul at Hamburg, it was recovered at Gluckstadt, on the Elbe, Aug. 1, 1898. Having been thrown overboard opposite Cape Race, on the Newfoundland coast, the distance covered was 2,400 miles, giving 26.1 miles as the lowest possible estimate of the average drift per day, or a little over one knot per hour. It is supposed that a preponderance of westerly gales helped the bottle along.

#### Jewel Weighs 243 Pounds.

Jewel experts throughout the world have been thrown into a state of excitement by the appearance of a beryl that weighs 243.1 pounds and is 18.9 inches high and from 15.75 inches to 16.5 inches in width. This is the largest beryl ever found and is reported to have been sold by its finder for nearly \$25,000. The beryl was picked up by a Turk in the state of Minas Geraes, Brazil. Its color is a greenish blue, and it is absolutely free from impurities. It is estimated that this one crystal will furnish at least 200,000 carats of jewels of various sizes.—Minneapolis Journal.

#### The Worth of Freedom.

"It costs more," said a prominent Washingtonian, "to get divorced than it costs to get married."

"Maybe so," said the lawyer as he took the big check, "but it's worth more, isn't it?"

#### He Got the Egg.



Amateur Conjuror—Has any gentleman in the audience an egg?



One gentleman had, and the conjuror promptly got it.

#### Business Looking Up.

"Why have you painted your sign upside down?"

"I carry aviation goods. I want it so that the bird men can read it as they fly overhead."—Pittsburgh Post.

#### Getting Out of the Dark.

On the death of his first wife a literary celebrity of the south erected an elaborate memorial to her on which was inscribed the sentiment "The Light of My Life Has Gone Out." The late Bishop Wilmer of Alabama pointed out the memorial to a friend who read the words and then asked, "But he married again, didn't he?"

"Yes," replied the bishop, "he did. You see, he struck another match, as it were!"—Harper's Magazine.

#### His Direct Opposite.



Bertie—I shall never marry till I meet a woman who is my direct opposite.

Minnie—Well, there are plenty of bright, intelligent girls in your neighborhood.

Off Day For Gallantry. Young Lady—Won't one of the gentlemen in the car offer me his seat?

Conductor—I think not, Miss. You're too pretty. They've all got their wives with them.—Fleegende Blatter.

#### Cause For Provocation.

Owner (feebly)—What happened to us?

Chauffeur—A telegraph pole ran into us, sir. I never see such road hogs.—Puck.