

AGRICULTURAL.

TOPICS OF INTEREST RELATIVE TO FARM AND GARDEN.

ENSURING THE POULTRY BUSINESS.

Sometimes it is not easy to decide how to start. The first thing for the beginner is to determine what breed he likes best...

FERTILIZING VALUE OF BONE.

The fertilizing value of fine bone is much greater than that of coarse bone. The latter may lie in the ground for years while very fine bone is readily decomposed...

SALTING STOCK.

Too many farmers salt their stock on the impulse, or spasmodic plan. That is, they give them an extra allowance one day, and in perhaps a week or fortnight, according to the urgency of farm operations...

FARM AND GARDEN NOTES.

Onions keep best in barn lofts, where they freeze. If mildew appears on the rose bushes dust them with sulphur. Chop up grass for the confined poultry...

EVAPORATING FRUIT.

An expert advises that with small fruits, especially, care should be taken not to allow them to get too ripe, and in handling not to mash or bruise. Mushy fruit will not evaporate in as good condition as that which is more solid.

MULCHING TREES.

Mulching is generally applied to trees for one of two objects; late in the fall or early in winter as a protection against thawing and freezing during the winter. And in the latter part of spring or early summer as an aid in retaining moisture in the soil.

IMPORTATION OF DAIRY BREEDS.

The importation of dairy breeds of cattle has been much better sustained in the last few years, than that of the beef breeds. Importations of all kinds have fallen off, but of the latter more largely than of the former.

HOW MANY SHEEP PER ACRE?

This question has been asked us: How many sheep can be maintained per acre of a farm as a specialty? We have submitted the question to several persons having some experience in keeping sheep...

But a new era has dawned in live stock farming, and its advantages are as great in sheep husbandry as in other stock. We refer to the silo and ensilage feeding. The noted dairyman of Wisconsin, Mr. Hiram Smith, says he fully believes that with this new method of stock farming one acre of good land may be made to keep a cow. If it will, then the products of one acre may easily keep seven to eight head of sheep...

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TEMPERANCE.

LEARNING TO COUNT. "Number One—The beer shop slush, Number Two—Nor drink, nor brew, Number Three—A teetotaler be, Number Four—Keep drink from the door, Number Five—Abstain and thrive, Number Six—To abstain fix, Number Seven—Be to temperance given, Number Eight—Don't be caught by the bait, Number Nine—A mocker in wine, Number Ten—Be teetotal then!"

Dr. W. S. Searle says in the North American Review: But if the physical results of alcohol are varied, much more diverse are affected by its mental and moral nature of man. Indeed, they are as multiform as man himself. One general classification only is possible. Certain individuals (fortunately the small minority) are always pleasurably affected by stimulants. Each successive dose arouses in them increased exhilaration, and when intoxication supervenes their sensations are delightful. Their every sense is exalted; they fancy themselves endowed with every gift—with all power and possession. As is often the case, they are generally men of the most brilliant intellect, and of the most charming moral qualities. Once led captive by alcohol, these unfortunate soldiers have sufficient power of will to refrain from renewed indulgence. No moral considerations avail to restrain them, and with few exceptions, they yield wholly, finally and fatally to the tempter. For such men total abstinence is the only refuge.

TEMPERANCE NEWS AND NOTES.

Of the English bench of bishops twelve are pledged abstainers. "All-Sold Here" is suggested as an honest sign for saloon-keepers. New Zealand spent for drink last year \$10,650,000, the lowest amount for eighteen years. Of 500 men released from the Birmingham, England, workhouse on a recent holiday, not more than fifty went back sober. Although in many places in Germany other English words are comparatively unknown, the various English liquors are intelligible everywhere, and "American Drinks" are universally advertised. It was a young man who discovered pearls in Sugar River, says the Milwaukee Sentinel. Then he did the Cleopatra act of drinking pearls, though in a roundabout way. He transmuted his beer into greenbacks and the greenbacks into liquor, and when the liquor did its business with his head, he revealed his secret. A Loyal Temperance legion at South Framingham, Mass., a few months old, has a pledged membership of over 230 and an excellent plan for holding the interest of the children. The names of all members are to be placed in a bank vault and left there undisturbed for ten years. They will then be brought forth to commend and condemn their pledged worth.

DISEASES OF WINE TASTERS.

A German medical paper mentions a scientific investigation by Dr. Donnet, of Bordeaux, and Dr. Marandon, of Dijon, France, of the special diseases of wine tasters, whose services as experts are called in requisition to test the qualities of wines and liquors. It appears that these wine tasters frequently suffer with disturbances similar to alcoholism, although the clearest tasters do not swallow the wine, but, on the contrary, reject it, and even rinse their mouths afterward. One case mentioned by Dr. Donnet was that of a man thirty-two years old, who used to taste every day thirty or forty samples of wine, occasionally liquors and never ever swallowing any part of them. After two years he became very excited, lost his appetite, did not sleep well, and suffered with disturbances of sensibility, pains in the breast, a feeling of weakness, and difficulty in breathing. He improved after abandoning his profession, although a nervous debility still remained, noticeable by the facility with which he was set in tears. Another statement made by Dr. Donnet is the great number of apoplexies in Bordeaux, where many persons drink one and a half liters of wine with a meal. This number exceeds the number of apoplexies in any city of the world. All this serves to illustrate the fact that alcohol is indeed a violent poison, and that total abstinence is a safe and wise rule of conduct.

DO THEY GET THEIR REWARD?

When a father, says a letter to the Index, stands at the grave of a son who died from intemperance, and reflects upon the fact that he never raised a finger to help crush the power that has at last destroyed him whom he loved as he loved his own life, he realizes how late he is in his repentance, and that he has received his just reward. When a son sees his father slowly going to a drunkard's grave, and fails to help in crushing out the saloon power, at last, when his parent's loved form is hidden beneath the sod, he knows that his own punishment is just. When a wife who has a loved husband or son who is in danger of destruction through drink, and fails to use her influence to crush out the liquor traffic, she finds out, too late, her neglect, and sheds bitter tears of repentance over the graves of her loved ones destroyed by intemperance. When a daughter sees her father or brother being brought into the vortex of drink, and fails to raise her voice and use her influence against the drink traffic, she finds too late, when robbed of her loved ones, that her opportunity to save them has passed away forever. O fathers, sons, wives, daughters, wake up from your lethargy and help destroy the great liquor evil that is ruining so many homes in our glorious Land of Liberty.

MINNESOTA'S NEW LAW.

The new law in Minnesota which makes the drunkard rather than the liquor seller the criminal is reported to be working well. As will perhaps be remembered, it makes compulsory upon the police magistrate to impose a penalty of thirty days' imprisonment upon any one found guilty of drunkenness for the third time. In St. Paul the returns for the two months in which the law has been in force show a decrease in the number of arrests for drunkenness from 484 last year to 446 this. Last year no record was kept of "repeaters." This year there have been only two cases where any one has been found guilty of a third offense. The principle of this law is new in America, but is quite commonly accepted in Europe. In Austria, for example, whoever is punished three times during a year for drunkenness can be prohibited from entering places where liquors are sold for the time in the place of his residence and in the towns immediately surrounding it. Any infringement of this law is liable to a penalty of one month's imprisonment, or twenty dollars fine. The same penalties are imposed upon the dealer who sells the liquor.—New York Commercial Advertiser.

From investigations carried on by Dr. Rappoport in St. Petersburg, it would seem that the quantity of gastric juices secreted during sleep is much smaller than that secreted during the daytime or active life. The digestive power is also less. Pepsin is found to much the same amount; but chloride of sodium and hydrochloric acid are in smaller proportions.

SUNDAY SCHOOL.

LESSON FOR SEPTEMBER 22.

"Death of Saul and His Sons, I Sam. xxi, 1-13—Golden Text: Pa. xiv, 7-6—Notes.

When David again had Saul in his power, after the time recorded in the last lesson, Abishai wanted to slay him, David refused again to touch the Lord's anointed, and said: "The Lord shall smite him, or his day shall come to die, or he shall descend into battle and perish." The last of these predictions is fulfilled in the lesson of to-day. The events between the last lesson and this are: The death of Samuel; the death of Nabal, upon whom David was restrained from taking vengeance; David marries Abigail and Abimelech; in Saul's second time, he goes to the Philistines and lives at Ziklag; Saul again slays God by consulting the witch of Endor; David's town of Ziklag is smitten during his absence with his six hundred men; women, children and flocks all carried captive, but David pursues and recovers all.

1. "Now the Philistines fought against Israel and the men of Israel fled before the Philistines." This was the battle to which David and his men had started, when they were sent back by the Lords of the Philistines only to find Ziklag desolate and burned with fire. God again hindered David from having anything to do with the death of Saul. It is a sad sight to see the people of God fall before the defilers of God, when the promise was that one should chase a thousand and two put ten thousand to flight (Deut. xxxii, 30); but the best of men are nothing if God is not with them, and Israel, through Saul, had forsaken God, and the dearly beloved of his soul is given again into the hands of her enemies because of her sin (Jer. xii, 7) that she may be chastening learn to know God.

2. "The Philistines slew Jonathan, and Abinadab, and Melchishua, Saul's sons." It makes one's heart ache to read this, especially concerning Jonathan, the loving, the brave, the noble. How David lamented for him is recorded in the next chapter, and we do not wonder at the depth of his lamentations over one whose soul was knit with his own, but we do wonder when we read that it was a lamentation over Saul as well as Jonathan.

3. "The battle went sore against Saul, and the archers hit him." He was not any longer in merciful hands, but in the hands of those who knew no mercy. Long suffering and mercy had followed him many years, he had been spared many a time and warned often; but "the that being often reproved, hardeneth his neck, shall suddenly be destroyed, and that without remedy," and now mercy is just for him and judgment has reached him.

4. "Therefore Saul took a sword and fell upon it." Saul being sore wounded asked his armor bearer to slay him; but notice the reason: "I am weary, and my sword is thrust me through and abuse me." What a fear he has of being dishonored by those un-circumcised, what a keen sense of honor, but it is the old story as when he pleaded with Sarai: "Honor me now before the elders of my people and before Israel." Job, xv, 30. It was his honor, and not the honor of God, that he was careful about. In Saul's case it was Saul and his glory that was uppermost; but in David's case, David was nothing and God was all, and his glory was ever to be thrust me through and abuse me.

5. "His armor bearer * * * fell likewise upon his sword and died with him." This looks heroic and like a spirit of devotion to his master, but had he been devoted to God, and instead of Saul, or more devoted to God, he would not have done so. No man who fears God will take his own life, and anyone who believes God concerning the awful facts of the judgment as revealed in Scripture could not think of such a thing. Simple unbelief is the cause of all such conduct.

6. "So Saul died, and his three sons, and his armor bearer, and all his men, that same day together." What then? The words of the Lord Jesus in Luke xxi, and other words of the Spirit plainly recorded in Scripture, teach us that if we believe God and are redeemed by the precious blood of His dear Son, "to die is gain," "to depart and be with Christ is better," and when the angel leaves the body, our conscious personal life continues, and the angels guide or carry us to perfect bliss in His presence. But if we die in our sin and disobedience, it is equally plain that the portion of such, while also personally conscious, is darkness, torment, gnashing of teeth and fearful looking for of judgment.

7. "Israel * * * forsook the cities and fled, and the Philistines came and dwelt in them." Here is not only the defeat and slaughter of the Lord's people Israel, but their possessions, which they ought to have kept and enjoyed, are possessed by their enemies. This is sad, indeed, and the only reason is that the people of God had turned their backs upon Him, and His wrath was kindled against them.

8. "The Philistines came to strip the slain." The defilers of God cannot do enough to show their hatred of Him and His professed followers. It is the devil who possesses them and who is called to a desecration and destruction of God's people. "They cut off his head and stripped off his armor, and sent * * * to publish it * * * among the people." Thus what Saul feared came upon him, and these un-circumcised Philistines abused his body. But worst of all, they put his armor in the house of Ashtoreth, and they fastened his body to the wall of Bethshan. What a victory for the idolaters, but it will not continue. Blessed be God that all the victories of His enemies are only for a little time, but the victory of His dear Son is for eternity.

9. "The inhabitants of Jabesh Gilead heard." Thank God for the faithful in all ages who will not tolerate an insult to His name. He will be avenged, and He will have them, a little flock until His body is completed and then shall the whole earth begin to be filled with them.

10. "All the valiant men arose and went all night." We are not told how many were valiant men, but it was with them as with the men of Gideon, there were but few, and yet God can do more with 500 like Gideon's band than with 200,000 or 300,000. He has always had them, has them to-day, and will have them, a little flock until His body is completed and then shall the whole earth begin to be filled with them.

11. "The inhabitants of Jabesh Gilead heard." Thank God for the faithful in all ages who will not tolerate an insult to His name. He will be avenged, and He will have them, a little flock until His body is completed and then shall the whole earth begin to be filled with them.

12. "They took their bones and buried them under a tree at Jabesh, and fasted seven days." It was only their bodies that rescued after all. We are after sons, and our Captain will rescue the bodies, too, in due time, not to be buried, but to be raised incorruptible, immortal, just like His own glorified body. This is the end of the story of Saul raised by the God of Israel to be King over His people; if he had only obeyed God what a blessing he might have been and what a different record he might have left. Are you walking in God's way in your own way, and all record will you leave?—Lillian Helper.

If it were only the exercise of the body, the moving of the lips, the bending of the knee, men would as commonly step to heaven as they go to visit a friend; but to separate our thoughts and affections from the world, to direct them for all our cares, and to engage in its proper object, and to hold them to it till the work prospers in our hands, this is the difficulty.—Baxter.

RELIGIOUS READING.

JESUS KNOCKS.

Deaf thou not hear that sound? Must it be always draw-ed By clamorous voices of the world replying? It is the voice of One that standeth crying: Of One that standeth at a fast closed door Patiently knocking—knocking evermore.

Deaf thou not hear that sound? The snow is on the ground; Fought, the cold north wind is blowing chill; But surely must that heart be colder still— Frozen with cold, and fettered hard with sin That cannot take this Blessed Stranger in.

Thou dost not ask what door Is that He knocks before, Nor who it is; for thou art well awares It is none less than Jesus standing there! He waits, He pleads, as only He knows how Thou hast not always listened—listen now!

I think I hear Him say, "Thou wilt not be a way Thy trust friend! I shed My blood long years Ago for thee. To-night I shed my tears If still I find no entrance to thy heart, Is it some sin from which thou canst not part?"

"Is it the love of gain That makes My knocking vain? Didst thou but know what treasure I have brought! What peace! What pardon!—thou wouldst count as naught All else beside. Right dearly were they won, For I have died for thee, My Son! My Son!"

"The thorns have pierced My brow; The nail-prints even now Are in my hands—these hands that bring to thee Such gifts; O, say at last thou lovest Me, For I have waited many a weary year, His that hath ears to hear, now let him hear."

Thus Jesus knocks, O, might There only be no night One door by eager, trembling hand unbarred To let him in, one heart, however hard, Touched by the greatness of this Love divine! Whose shall it be? O brother, why not thine?

PARENTAL PRAYERS.

Surely among all prayers that go up to God none are dearer or more prevailing than the intercessions of parents for their children. They are the hallowed breathings of the purest, tenderest love. Such prayers, if persistent, believing and importunate, may we not say that God always answers in some way in the end? Monica, the mother of Augustine, prays for her son. For a time he goes up and deeper into sin, and it seems that the mother's supplicants are unheard or unavailing. But she faints not; she will not give him up; she refuses to be discouraged. For many years her son wanders far from God, farther and farther, but she stays at her altar, unmoved, believing still, and pleading with her God earnestly. At last all her intercessions are answered in one hour when Augustine falls down at Jesus' feet in submission, and instantly turns all the wealth of his splendid life into the service of his w Master.—Presbyterian Observer.

GOD GAVE HIS BEST.

It is a mistake to suppose that a full man is good enough for the heathen. They need the very best we have. God gave His best, even His only begotten Son, to rescue the lost world. The most darkened and ignorant souls need the best training.

When our blessed Lord was presenting His Gospel to a fallen Samaritan woman He seems to have preserved His best thoughts for her. He began to speak of the living water, and she said: "Sir, I know that Messias have had their greatest successes when England's best scholars, like Bishop Pattison and Bishop Selwyn have devoted their splendid talents to the conversion of the heathen and lowest savages of Micronesia and New Zealand."

"THE SAME OLD JIM."

The ultimate evidence of value in a religion must be its fruits, or the effects which it produces on the temper and conduct of its adherents. Religion has its seat in the heart. No amount of outside manipulation can make a man a real Christian. Forms of faith, attention to rules and ceremonies, are no sure evidence of a good man. Some of the worst men have served the devil under the guise of devotion to God. Piety and Jesus are no better for their long prayers and sanctimonious faces; the devil will work under their profession of holiness, and, in due time, burst to the surface in a fiery flood. The Canadian Indian, in his best way, hit the nail on the head, when, in depicting the Jew's doctrine, he said: "The face, the heart, the washing. Water on face all go for nothing to bed me, Jim. Ink Tree had an ever with strong water. Baptism on face do him no good; he the same old Jim still." The aim of Christianity is to dispose of this old Jim. No holy water sprinkled upon him will do the work; the old man must be cast from the heart, and the new man renewed in the image of Christ introduced. Christianity is essentially a heart work. To be sure, heart religion will manifest itself in external conduct, but it must be first in the heart. The heart is the matter of first importance.—Zion's Herald.

RESULTS OF PHYSICAL TRAINING.

The Northwestern Christian Advocate, from the late brutal prize-fight exhibition, draws the following useful lesson concerning the value of non-alcoholic physical training: "The one thing that attracts us in this instance is the result of Sullivan's training by reason because of his success in training the big drunkard, whose profanity, quarrelsomeness and general debauchery are a general disgrace to even that profligate. After being seduced in whisky for years, damaged by typhoid fever, and disabled by a broken arm, this Sullivan has submitted to severe training, exercises, dieting and abstinence, until he is pronounced a perfect specimen of physical manhood. If all this be true, it suggests the possibilities respecting any man whose bodily functions have been damaged by whatever means. If the Muldoon can uplift such a man, what may not other trained trainers do for the sober, temperate man who needs corresponding attention and relative rebuilding? We have no doubt that proper training can add a very large fraction to the life and efficiency of many hundreds of professional men, and thus add to the sum total of the world's brain-workers."

A FRUIT OF THE HOPKINS BUSINESS.

According to the Topeka (Kan.) Capital, the 500 saloons in Kansas City, Mo., have fleeced \$20,000 a day from the laboring men, employed 580 business places, 2000 residences and 2000 offices, and driven laboring men and mechanics from 400 dwellings to seek work in Kansas. As a further fruit of this business, says the Capital, \$10,000,000 are invested in buildings that are not paying taxes, 74 chattel mortgages were filed in June, while from two to three thousand idle men stand in the public square begging for work.

ENAMORED OF THE CHASE.

The Adventures of a Chicago Youth Who Was Seized with an Ambition to Go West and slay the Bison of the Plains.



Johnny Murphy, of Chicago, reads of Red Eye, the noble Indian fighter and buffalo slayer.



Fired by the exploits of Red Eye, he takes to the chase. "Ha, the noble game!"



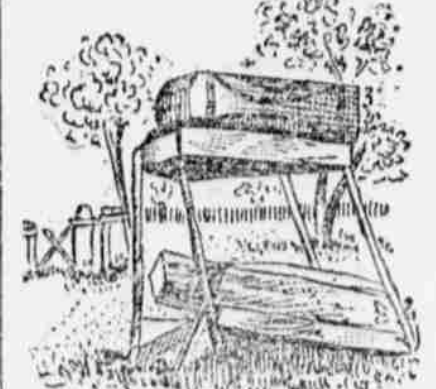
The noble game at bay.



Johnny returns from the chase.—Chicago Ledger.

A Crow Indian Cemetery.

The Crows haven't made such progress toward civilization as to put their dead under ground. They still inclose the corpses in boxes and perch them on platforms as high in the air as possible. In a different climate a Crow cemetery would be a nuisance. Montana air makes mummies of bodies thus exposed. There is nothing in one of these places to offend the officiators. Tourists, who bring with them their amateur cameras, have great sport visiting the "last resting place" of the Crows. They even open the boxes, take out the dried bodies and prop them in groups in order to obtain more striking views.



The Crow is anything but a stoical individual. If you say "How" to him he is likely to reply with emphasis, "Good morning." He is a wit and a sport, and when he is in town he sees all that is going on. He will start a game of "tag" in a crowd and keep it up by the half hour. When he goes into a store he knows just what he wants and doesn't pull over forty different things while trying to make up his mind. But he is still addicted to feathers and leggings and blankets and the loudest possible colors.—Globe-Democrat.

An Addison county (Vt.) farmer has a coat that has learned to ring the farm bell by cat-ching the rope in his teeth and prancing back on a forth.