

## HUMOR OF THE HOUR

### HIS FATAL MISTAKE.



Edith—Why did you cut Clarence, after his handsome wedding gift?  
Ethel—The horrid thing enclosed a card, wishing many happy returns of the occasion.

### Fascinating.

Howard—And how did the plain widow Perkins capture the fastidious Mawker?

Coward—Oh, took him out in her car and showed him a few hundred of her building lots.

Howard—Ah! I see. A case of love at first sight.—Harper's Weekly.

### Something Souful.

"You are going to say something souful," declared the fiancee. "I see it in your lovely eyes."

"What I was going to say is this," responded the fiancee. "Won't you wear a rubber band around your head nights, so as to train your ears not to stick out?"

### A Temperance Movement.

"George," spoke his better half, "you are interested in the temperance movements, are you not?"

"Why, certainly I am," he answered. "Well, suppose you go out and make a few of them with the pump handle. I am in need of a pail of water right away."

### ESPECIALLY DESIGNED.



Mrs. Snail—Yes, Mr. Weaver, the curtains are beautiful and cheap, but I'm afraid they attract flies.

Mr. Weaver—But think, Madam; they will also catch the flies and thus save their cost, in a short time, in fly paper.

### THE CAPTAIN'S LITTLE JOKE.



Lieutenant—Officer McClubbe averages 25 arrests a day.

Captain—Ah, I see; a regular lightning arrester.

### A Reasonable Doubt.

Officials have a right to ask questions in the performance of their duty, but there are occasions when it seems as if they might curtail or forego the privilege. Not long ago an Irishman whose hand had been badly mangled in an accident entered the Boston City Hospital Relief Station in a great hurry. He stepped up to the man in charge and inquired:

"Is this the Relief Station?"

"Yes. What is your name?"

"Patrick O'Connor sir."

"Are you married?" questioned the officer.

"Yes, sir, but s this the Relief Station?" He was nursing his hand in agony.

"Of course it is. How many children have you?"

"Eight, sir. But sure, this is the Relief Station?"

"Yes, it is," replied the official, growing a little angry at the man's persistence.

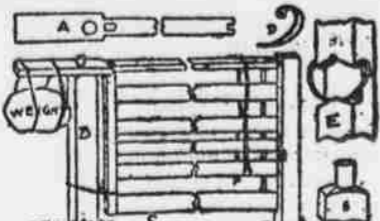
"Well," said Patrick, "sure, an' I was beginnin' to think that it might be the paintin' station!"

## DAIRY CREAMERY

### Gate For Cow Lot.

Opens Either Way But Stock Cannot "Work" It.

The gate shown in the design has many points of merit. It opens either way, it latches automatically and stock cannot get it open, it swings above a deep snow, the post never pulls up or leans as it is held in place by the balanced weight of the gate. The heaviest gate on the farm can be opened and closed by a child or a person on horseback. It is made like an ordinary gate except it is fastened at the top beam, (A) the round hole in the beam fits loosely around the top post (B) as is shown in C. The wide end of



### GATE FOR COW LOT.

beam sustains a weight of stones a little heavier than the gate itself, or a weight may be hung to the beam. The bottom of the gate is held in place by a chain passed loosely around post and frame and stapled to both. Two pieces of old tire shaped like D are stapled to the post at free end of the gate as is shown in E. The frame holds an iron spike which, in closing the gate, lifts the piece of tire, passes under it and lets it fall back in place. The gate is securely fastened. To open, pull down the free end of gate, lift the piece of tire and the gate swings free. To open on horseback use the arrangement shown in C. Grasp the stick, pull the length of rope through the hole, with the forked end of the stick lift the piece of tire nearest you, pull to the rope and the gate swings open. As you ride through grasp the other stick and pull the gate shut after you.

### Separators.

Separators do much of the most valuable work of modern farming. There is the gin for separating the seed from cotton; the threshing machine for separating wheat and oats from the straw; bean, pea and clover hullers for separating the seed of those plants; the fanning mill for separating dirt, chaff and foreign seeds from the pure seed and finally the last and one of the most important separators, the cream separator. This wonderful invention enables the farmer to separate the cream from the milk as soon as it is drawn and have the fresh warm skim milk to feed the calves or pigs. The butter fat brings a good price and by feeding something to take its place with the skim milk almost as good a calf can be raised as with the whole milk. The churn will yield more than in the old days of hand skimming, nor will the calf as in those days be knocked in the head with the dash. If the butter fat is sold to the creamery, the use of the separator makes fewer trips necessary with a much lighter load to carry. A one-horse buggy will haul the cream from a two horse load of whole milk. Then the skim milk often comes back unfit for the calves.

### Value of Sweet Skim.

The value of the pure sweet skim milk fed to pigs fresh from the cream separator, was found by the well-known dairyman, Mr. C. P. Goodrich, to be much greater than usually estimated. He found that 100 pounds of gain in pigs weighing 125 pounds when fed alone, and one bushel of corn fed alone made a gain of ten pounds. This puts a high value on sweet skim milk. When he joined skim milk and corn in due proportion the feed value of both were increased 20 per cent, showing that both made a fine balanced ration. He fed 100 pounds of sweet skim milk with one bushel of corn, and that gave 18 pounds of gain to the shoats. Hoard's Dairyman says:

"In our own experience we have made skim milk worth 63 cents per 100 when fed to grade Guernsey calves sold at 7 months of age at \$25 each.

"It is well enough to say that a large part of the feeding value of separator skim milk may be wasted by improper methods of feeding; also its best value is always found in feeding it to young pigs and shoats."

### Breaking a Cow to Milk.

If you are going to break a young cow, the first thing you have to do is to keep cool, writes Paul Kautz. Many kicking cows are made bad by bad breaking and bad temper. It is a good idea to tie the new cow up the first few days and give her the very best treatment so she has won your confidence. Before you are going to milk be sure to have your finger nails trimmed close as possible. Do not rush milking at once, but start gently. When you are through milking get her and give her something to eat during the time of milking. I have done milking for fourteen years at home, on the farm of my parents.

## LIVE STOCK

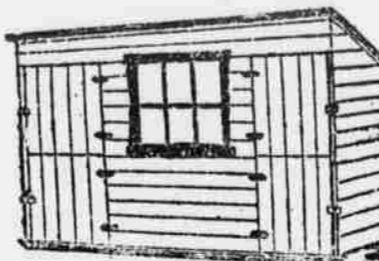
### Portable Hog House.

One of the Best, Cheapest and Handiest Ever Contrived.

Mr. Olin A. Dobbins, of Ohio, sends to the "National Stockman" the following description of his portable hog house.

"We send herewith a sketch of what we think the best, handiest and cheapest hog house we have ever used. Two doors in front make it convenient for ventilating, as we have them face south in the Winter time. If there is a cold wind from the southwest the west doors are closed and the east ones opened. Should the wind be in the east or southeast they are reversed. The house is divided inside by a portable partition which should be nearly four feet high and made of good oak boards with very narrow cracks between them, especially near the bottom. With this partition in place it makes good roomy beds 5x8 feet each for the sows, and when through with it for sows the partition is removed and placed by the back wall and held there by a large wooden button turning over the top board. In this shape we use it for twenty to twenty-five pigs and find it better than any of the half-dozen different patterns that we have used and are using, as it affords better ventilation and is easier to clean as there is plenty of room.

"Size of house is 8x10 feet, four feet high at back and seven feet in front. The runners or foundation are 4x4 oak, beveled off at each end with an axe so as to run easily. The two center runners are fourteen feet long, so that they may extend out two feet at each end of the house. Across these outer ends we spike 2x4 or 2x6 pieces to hitch to. The floor should be of good oak boards but need not be very tight. The



### THE PORTABLE HOG HOUSE.

sides are matched lumber and the roof should be as tight as possible. We have used felt paper for roofing for five years, but the kind we used became leaky in about two years and now we have four or five houses to re-roof. We expect to try galvanized iron or tin. The uprights or studding are 2x2 placed two feet apart; except that there are 2x4's placed at each side of doors. Doors are fastened shut by means of strong wooden buttons—each held by a spike.

"The following includes most of the lumber needed: two pieces 4x4-10 feet; two pieces 4x4-14 feet; eighteen pieces 2x2-8 feet; twenty feet of dressed siding; eighty feet 1-inch oak flooring; 110 feet (surface) one-half-inch sheathing for under the roof and roofing."

### Using Pure Bred Boars.

Many make the mistake of thinking only farmers who make a business of selling breeding stock need to use pure bred boars. There is, on the other hand no very good reason why any breeder or farmer should use grade sires.

Good pure-bred sires can be secured at reasonable rates, and far greater dependence can be placed upon a good animal of pedigreed stock than can be upon a good grade. Of course we do not make this contention for the pure-bred scrub, for pedigree alone does not make an animal by any means.

If an animal is properly built, is healthy, and in addition has pure blood running through his system, the chances are that he will sire better pigs than a grade would whose characteristics are not as firmly fixed. The choice of sires is an important matter, and only good stock should be used.

### Roughage For Sheep.

Timothy hay is a comparatively poor roughage for sheep. Clover, pea vine hay or any other kind of hay made from legumes is good. If one grows peas or beans for their seeds, the straw makes good sheep feed. Of course, some concentrated food must be fed, too. Some here feed the pea straw unthrashed, but many a pea is lost then. As peas are rich in nitrogen, this means quite a little. They are, however, a good feed for sheep when ground.

### Be Clean At All Seasons.

Greater regard for cleanliness is demanded in warm and damp weather than at any other time, but cleanliness ought never be neglected in any season. Don't let the houses and yards become filthy and foul-smelling simply because it is warm weather.

### Sheep Oats For Horses.

The finest winter feed is sheep oats. The horses will go through the winter in good, strong condition and in the spring they will be fit for work. Let them eat the heads and best of straw, and use the rest for bedding.

## TRIALS OF BANKING.

The Swedish Farmer Wanted What He Wanted.

The recent financial stringency about doubt cast more or less uneasiness over many of the small depositors in country banks, and although there were many who did not want to show their uneasiness, they nevertheless felt a hesitancy as to making further deposits, and many desired to withdraw their money already on deposit. That this desire was fixed in the minds of some who yet desired to betray no mistrust or to give offense to the bankers is illustrated by the following incident, which is said to have occurred at a bank in a country town in one of the Middle Western States:

A Swedish farmer had sold some hogs on the local market, and upon receiving his check in payment immediately went to the local bank to realize on his sale. Upon presentation of the check the banker said to him, "Do you wish the money on this check?"

"Vell, I tank I just so vell tank him," was the quick reply.

"You really want the money?"

"Yeh, I tank I take the mon-ee."

"But do you really need the money?" asked the banker.

"Vell, no. I don't exactly need him, but I tank I take the mon-ee."

"Well," said the banker, "if you really want the money, of course I will give it to you, but I thought if you did not need it perhaps you might open an account and deposit the money, and then check against it as you need it."

This seemed assuring to the Swede, and he said: "Vell, if you pays my sheecks, don open de account," and the account was opened and pass book and check book handed to the new customer.

Half an hour later a close friend of the new depositor appeared at the cashier's window and presented a check signed by his friend for the full amount of the deposit, which was promptly paid by the banker without comment.

In about an hour the Swede appeared, and, walking to the cashier's window handed the banker his check book minus only one check, with the remark, "Vell, I don't tank I needs him any more."

## SOLITUDE.



Clarence—Rowing is a very violent exercise. Sometimes after a long row, I lose control of my arm by evening.

Virginia—Oh, don't let's go far!

### The Main Point.

The Englishman and the American were talking about honesty among men.

"Speaking about honest men," said the American proudly, "our George Washington was the most honest man the world has ever known. Why, he took a hack at the cherry tree and then told his father about it."

The Englishman pondered in silence for a long time. Finally he drawled:

"It may be deuced clever in George telling his father about taking the hack, but tell me this."

"Well, what is it?"

"Did he pay the driver?"

### Seven Was the Number.

"She had seven husbands," says a Billville exchange, in an obituary notice, "and outlived the last one of them; and we don't think we would have been called on to write this notice of her now but for the fact that the horse she was driving on the road to get the license to marry the eighth took fright and ran away with her, and she caught cold and went to a better world where all our troubles are ended, on account of there being no marryin' there!"

### Variable.

The late Judge Saunders, of North Carolina, was noted as an angler, but he had a poor memory as to the weight of the fish he had taken. On one occasion a friend, trying to entrap him, said: "Say, Judge, what was the weight of that big catfish you caught the other day?"

The judge turned to his waiter and said, "Bob, what did I say that catfish weighed yesterday?"

"What time yesterday, boss—in de 'mornin', at dinner, or after supper?"

### As George Sees It.

George Ade says the class distinction in this country is roughly divided into two classes: Those who saw coal, and those who sit on the fence and tell how to mine it.

## BEEES AND BEE KEEPING

### Experts Engaged.

Services Result in Great Commercial Benefit to Owners.

From recent reports received at the Department of Commerce and Labor it appears that the honey interests of England have found it worth while to employ experts to supervise that industry. Cornwall, the best honey producing county in that country, was the first to engage the service of an expert in beekeeping, with vast commercial benefit. When, three years ago, "foul brood" an infectious disease among bees, attacked the apiaries at Cornwall, and worked great destruction, the supervisors determined that it would be necessary to destroy hundreds of hives where the disease was prevalent. This forcible extinction of the hives saved the industry in the county. There now remain but a few traces of the disease.

In order that attention may be drawn to the success that may attend beekeeping the authorities have instructed their expert inspector to visit all beekeepers in the county, examine the hives kept by them, and give advice as to their condition and management. It is also the duty of the inspector to work up markets.

### Cleanliness of Honey-Making.

Science has recently demonstrated many things of which the beekeeper might well take note and use to advantage in popularizing honey. Scientific investigations and close observation have determined that the bee, with its strong instinct for cleanliness, puts the cleanest housekeeper to shame in the thoroughness with which it polishes and disinfects the comb cells, the receptacles for storing honey. It gathers the aroma-laden nectar distilled by the blossoms and, in all its purity, places it in the honey sack. After reaching the hive, it is placed in the comb cell, where the bees blow a current of air warmed by the inmates of the hive continuously over the open cells, evaporating it to the consistency of ripe honey and in its marvelous process making the various methods invented by syrup and sugar manufacturers appear crude and unclean.

### Care With Combs.

All the precautions necessary to keep my large stock of extracting combs are to space them one less to the hive than they are used in the summer, and then leave them where they will freeze during the winter, writes an apiarist. The moths pass the winter usually in the egg stage, and a good, solid freezing will kill them, so in the spring there are no worms to seat the comb. There are usually two broods during the season, one in the spring, the other during the fall. It takes about three weeks for the larvae to mature. Another point in the safe keeping of combs is the presence of pollen or dead brood. The larvae of the moth cannot live on wax alone; they must have some other food. Combs used for extracting seldom have any pollen or other nitrogenous food for the worm in them. The combs which are in the hive where the bees have died are the most liable to their attacks.

### Wee Girl a Beekeeper.

Beekeeping is one of the last things in the world in which one would expect a little girl to excel, yet Ethel Grace Leadon of Surrey is among the most expert beekeepers in England. She is as skillful in driving a swarm of bees from one hive to another as is the most experienced veteran of the craft, and in taking combs from hives she is twice as successful as the average girl of two or three times her age. Little Miss Leadon is an active member of the Surrey Beekeepers' Association, having a vote in all its affairs. In the exercise of her franchise, however, she is guided by her papa, from whom she learned all she knows about caring for the honey-makers.

### Profit in Honey.

I know a small farmer near me who has sold \$125 worth of extracted honey from fifteen colonies, writes T. M. Barton, of Kentucky. He may realize nearly as much more from the fall flow. I know some poor tenants who have secured an abundant supply of this most healthful sweet from two or three colonies. This is a great help to a poor man with a family.

### Bees Don't Hurt Fruit.

It is the business of the bees to gather honey, and they will suck the juices of fruits and flowers wherever found, but careful observation has proved that they do not puncture fruit for the purpose of getting at the juice. Such injury to fruit is caused by other insects and birds, the bees only taking what has been made easily accessible to them.

### Beekeepers in United States.

There are three hundred thousand beekeepers in the United States, and the annual production of honey has a value of \$15,000,000.

### Poisons on Blossoms.

Illinois beekeepers want the State to prohibit the use of poisons in fruit sprays until the blossoms have been fertilized by bees.

## A STORY BY KIPLING.

Swimmer Seemed to Be Musing but That Wasn't the Answer.

A magazine editor was praising Rudyard Kipling.

"I was glad when Kipling got the Nobel prize," he said. "I thought it would encourage him. He is in a bad way now."

"You know he is writing scarcely anything. I thought he was idle, lazy, and I took him to task about it. He said he knew he looked idle, but in reality he was trying hard to work, only he was stuck."

"He said he resembled a man who made a bet one summer day at the seaside, that he would swim out a mile and a half to a certain buoy. The bet was accepted, the man stripped and plunged in. His friend retired to the hotel to watch his progress from the window."

"From the window, with a field glass, the friend saw the swimmer reach the buoy in due course, draw himself up out of the water, and sit down comfortably with his legs dangling over. So far, so good. Evidently he was resting, well pleased with his feat."

"Some minutes passed, and the swimmer had not moved. The watcher returned to his book. But every now and then he looked up, and still the swimmer sat in the same position on the buoy."

"An hour, two hours, went by—still the swimmer remained. A white, slim figure seen against the oncoming dark, and, thoroughly alarmed at last, the watcher got a boat and a couple of men and rowed out to his friend."

"Out there the mystery was soon explained. The man was stuck fast to the buoy, which had been freshly tarred that morning."

### Poet and Creditor.

A Paris contemporary tells this story about Joseph Mery, the French poet: A creditor called one morning early to ask payment of an account. He interviewed the poet in bed and expressed sorrow at having to trouble him, but would he settle the account.

"With pleasure," replied Mery. "Have the goodness to open the first drawer of that cabinet."

"I have, sir," replied the creditor, "but there is nothing there."

"Indeed? Well, try the next."

"There is nothing in it."

"That is strange. Try the third."

"There is nothing in there either."

"Look on the mantelshelf."

"But it is the same as the drawers."

"It is incredible. Have you looked on the table?"

"Yes."

"And in the secretarie?"

"Yes, and there is nothing."

"In my clothes?"

"Yes; I have turned out all the pockets."

"Ah, well," replied Mery, with the greatest composure, "if there is no money in the drawers or on the mantel or on the table or in the secretarie or in my pockets, how in the name of all that's wonderful can I give you anything?"

### Hardly Appropriate.

A great, big, husky, good-natured curb broker, who only recently earned fame on the college "ridiron, was very much perturbed the other day over a daintily enveloped note fresh from a New York girl wintering at one of the Florida resorts. He showed the missive to one of his friends and asked him if he understood it. The latter read the letter aloud: "Thanks for your thoughtful present, but did you ever hear why Satan never used his?"

"What did you send the girl?" asked the other chap.

"Pair of ice skates—beauties, too."

## STRICTLY PRIVATE.



First Messenger Boy—Bob's in the secret service now.

Second Messenger Boy—How?

First Messenger Boy—Carrying notes to chorus girls for young De-Millyun.

### Disproved.

Jenks—"The boss told me this morning that I looked as if I had gone to bed with my clothes on. I told him pretty sharply that he was mistaken."

Clark—"Oh, come, now; you know you did it."

Jenks—"I did not! These are my brother's clothes."—Catholic Times.

### Surprising.

"On your trip abroad, did you see any wonderful old ruins," he asked.

"Yes," she replied, archly, "and guess what?"

"Well?" "One of them wanted to marry me."

### Entirely in Accord.

Edith—Well, I shouldn't care to be in your shoes?

Madge—No. They would pinch. Dear, wouldn't they?