

FARM ORCHARD AND GARDEN
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CENTRAL POINT
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CORRESPONDENCE SOLICITED



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THE ROBIN SLAUGHTER.

From reports which have appeared recently in the daily papers the slaughter of the robins continues without abatement in the south, especially in portions of Tennessee. It seems that in the eastern portion of Rutherford county, in that state, the robins shortly before their migration north congregate by the thousand in the cedar groves, and it has become a custom to form large parties for the purpose of capturing them. In one night one of these parties made the record catch of 2,637 redbreasts, while it is estimated that 150,000 were captured on these roosting grounds alone in the three weeks preceding the one night's catch referred to. The plan followed in the capture of the birds is to have catchers stationed in the cedars, while others drive the birds to them. Those stationed in the trees are provided with bags, into which the birds are thrust when caught, one person sometimes bagging as high as 325 birds in a single night. And this wanton slaughter of these beautiful and useful birds is prosecuted for the munificent reward of 10 cents a dozen, which the dead birds fetch on the local markets. This case but emphasizes the need of carrying out a suggestion made in these notes some months ago that those interested in the effective protection of bird life should lend their combined influence to secure the enactment of a federal law which will exempt from such wanton slaughter all useful migratory or interstate birds. A letter of inquiry sent by the writer to the chief of the biological survey at Washington elicited the information that up to that time no legislation of this character had been presented or even given serious consideration. It would seem high time that some such action was being taken.

THE FLY CAMPAIGN.

It is a pretty good idea to carry the war on flies into their own territory—namely, out of doors. A big step along this line may be made by putting the accumulations of horse manure in the stable in some screened bin where the flies cannot have access to it, as this is the chief breeding place for the house-fly. If this is not feasible the same object can be accomplished by scattering slaked lime over the dung pile every few days. Thousands of the flies that swarm near the back door will congregate elsewhere if all garbage and slops are put in covered receptacles at some distance from the kitchen door, while those that do gather there may be killed by placing a formalin solution (two teaspoonfuls to a pint of water) in shallow dishes just outside the door and sweetening the solution with a little sugar. This fly killer is to be commended because it is cheap and is harmless if the little folks should drink some of it. The same solution can be placed in saucers in the house and the work of extermination completed.

A CORRECTION.

In a late installment of these notes a paragraph on the pear blight recommended kerosene as a suitable disinfectant for tools used in removing blight infected portions of pear and apple trees. This was given on what was supposed to be good authority, but a series of articles put in print within a few days by Professor P. J. O'Gara, pear blight specialist of the department of agriculture and stationed for the past three years in the Rogue river valley, states that no disinfectant should be used but corrosive sublimate—mercuric chloride—which is a deadly poison when taken internally, but has no ill effect on cuts or bruises on the hands. He recommends that a solution as strong as 1-1000 should be used, made by dissolving three tablets in four ounces or half a pint of water. A small sponge kept moistened with the solution is the most convenient means of applying it to the tools to be disinfected. It is important to disinfect the pruning tools after each operation, as well as the wound in twig or limb.

WIND AND GASOLINE POWER.

The chief drawback with the windmill as a furnish of motor power for pumping and other purposes lies in the fact that too often when power is most needed it is likely to go on a strike for lack of a breeze to stir it. While the gasoline engine has tantrums now and then, yet if worth anything to start with and handled discreetly it can usually be counted on to do business when needed, while it furnishes enough power to do many jobs too heavy for a windmill to handle. As a general thing a gasoline engine will prove useful and satisfactory quite directly in proportion to the price which the manufacturers ask for it, and this is a fact that it is well to keep in view when purchasing. Many a fellow buys a bargain counter gasoline engine only to excrete the day when he was so niggardly short-sighted.

Some one claims to have discovered that gophers do not like rye and that a strip of this cereal sown about a wheatfield will keep the rodents out of it.

An Iowa farmer got rid of a good sized patch of Canada thistles last year, after several methods had failed, by plowing them every ten days from April until August and then sowing the tract heavily to millet. A few weeks later he was unable to find a single thistle.

It is a whole lot more sensible to jog along behind old Kate or Dobbin with a nest egg in the bank than to be scooting over the highways in a late model automobile, the purchase of which has meant the putting of a mortgage on the town home or farmstead. Many the folks who have done or are doing this very thing in haste will doubtless have opportunity to repent at leisure.

Perhaps there is no influence which tends to get the boys and girls started in the right path in taking up the work of outdoors and the home so much as a little appreciation bestowed now and then, even if the point should be strained a bit at times, for, after all, excellence of achievement in any case is a comparative and not an absolute matter. Appreciation will make a task a pleasure instead of drudge work, which it so often degenerates into when only criticism is given.

The first navel orange tree of which there is any record was found growing on the north shore of the Mediterranean sea in the year 1565 by a monk, who wrote a description of the tree and fruit and painted a picture of it. Grafts of this tree were later taken to Spain and thence to South America, whence scions were brought to this country by an American lady in 1809, they being propagated in the botanical gardens at Washington. Because of this fact it is usually called the Washington navel.

Growers of sweet peas in a good many sections had this favorite source of fragrant bloom well nigh ruined last season by the green aphides, or plant lice. These are sucking and not biting insects, and hence the ordinary poisons do not reach them. They must be killed by contact with some spray, and for this nothing is better than a solution made by steeping tobacco leaves or stems in warm water. This may be applied to the vines with an effective hand sprayer. If one treatment does not kill all of the lice, a second application should be given.

Inspections made at the different packing and slaughter houses of the country show that fully 2 per cent of all hogs killed are affected with tuberculosis. An interesting fact in connection with this state of affairs is that the outward and seemingly thrifty appearance of an animal is no guarantee whatever that it is free from disease. Investigations into the causes of the disease in hogs show the most frequent causes of infection to be the feeding on buttermilk from creameries, eating milk from tuberculous cows and feeding behind cattle affected with tuberculosis.

As a result of a recent order issued by the secretary of the interior there have been withdrawn from entry in Wyoming, Utah and Idaho 2,000,000 acres of land which are underlain with phosphate. He has also recommended to congress that a law be passed which will permit of the mining of this rock phosphate, but only on the condition that none of it be exported. Secretary Ballinger is to be commended for this action. Inasmuch as half of the phosphate mined in this country last year was exported, here would seem to be a phase of the conservation of resources movement that congressmen might well give their aid to.

Breeders of Jersey cattle seem to be dividing into two camps over the question of the type of cow which shall be accepted as a standard by growers of this breed of dairy cattle. Some, the minority, contend that the show ring type—the smaller inland type—shall be adopted as the standard. More hold that the larger American type of cow with the big barrel and udder, the one which makes the best showing in pail and churn, shall be the model to copy after. Since dairymen keep cows for the money rather than the pleasure there is in the business the latter type of cow would seem to be the one which will ultimately prevail.

The butter fat and oleo fellows have been having it out before a congressional investigating committee at Washington the past few weeks, and at the time of writing it is uncertain what the outcome of the hearing will be. The controversy has been precipitated anew because the oleo fellows—really the packing trust—want the tax on colored oleo removed so that they can realize a still larger profit by selling it under the guise of butter. The butter men contend, and rightly, that this is in reality an attempt to get money under false pretenses and in so far works an injustice to their business. The law in force governing the sale of oleomargarine levies a tax of 10 cents a pound on oleo colored to imitate butter, while the tax on the uncolored product is but one-fourth of a cent per pound, the consumer being allowed to color the oleo after purchase to suit his own taste. While the high price of food products is a live one, it is hardly so live as to justify the passage of a law which will enable the packing trust to palm off beef grease and cottonseed oil on a hungry public for what they are really not.

Saturday Night Talks By Rev. F. E. DAVISON
Rutland, Vt.

THE PARABLES OF THE KINGDOM.

International Bible Lesson for July 3, '10—(Matt. 13: 31-33, 44-52).

The Parables of the Kingdom, like the Sermon on the Mount, were designed to unfold the true principles in the development of the Kingdom of Heaven, of which Christ is the author and finisher. They constitute the most beautiful and impressive example of illustrative teaching and are models of the presentation of truth. While they are designed to conceal the truth from His enemies, from those who were wilful, prejudiced and unbelieving, at the same time they afford an incentive to the earnest, sincere and serious seekers to search more diligently and appreciate more earnestly the truth when discovered. Hence the parables are like the kernel in the nut; the pearl in the shell; the gold in the rock; the diamonds in the soil to be mined and extracted by diligent and faithful and loving labor.

The 13th chapter of the gospel by Matthew gives us a seven-fold series, containing a complete and beautiful picture of the unfolding of His kingdom in the future history of the church and the world. There are seven parables grouped together. Seven pearls on a single thread. Four of them were spoken to the people at large; three of them only to the disciples. Notice the unity, natural order, and completeness of these seven parables. The series might be termed, "The Rise and Progress of the Kingdom of Heaven."

We have in the parable of the Sower; its beginnings.

In the Tares; its counterfeit.

In the mustard seed; its vast outward growth.

In the leaven; its universal transforming power.

In the hid treasure and Pearl; its supreme value.

In the draw net, its ultimate complete separation from all evil.

Its Rise and Progress.

Standing at this point in time and reading history we can see how perfectly accurate was the prophesy of the rise and progress of the kingdom in these parabolic teachings of Christ. He was the sower who went forth to sow the seed of christianity. The seed was faithfully sown but it fell on hard soil, on stony ground, on pre-occupied territory and much of it was utterly lost; nevertheless, enough of it took root to produce a harvest that has been carried over the earth multiplying year after year, thirty, sixty and a hundred fold.

Its Counterfeits.

History also bears witness to the crop of tares, counterfeit wheat, mingled with the wheat, the heresies and corruptions, and counterfeit religions, that have appeared all through the ages, often bearing so much resemblance to the true as to be indistinguishable by men, deceiving the very elect; Satan's substitute for the truth.

Its Outward Growth.

The mustard seed with its rapid and luxuriant growth, springing up from most unpromising beginnings to produce an overshadowing tree, is an interesting figure of the rapidly with which christianity developed in the first christian centuries until it has indeed become a vast ecclesiastical system overspreading the earth, giving shade and shelter to millions of its inhabitants.

Its Internal Development.

The leaven gives us the interior view of things. Just as the mustard seed shows the outward development of christianity, the leaven revealed how that spirit works inwardly among men. Quietly, without observation or noise, the transforming power of truth is steadily working its way through all the mass of mankind and will not cease its efforts till the whole is leavened. As it operates in the individual so it operates in the mass.

Its Hidden Values.

The treasure and the pearl teach the same lesson. This is the picture of the Saviour of men discovering the hidden and holy ones in the field of the world, purchasing them with a price that cost Him all He possessed, and buying for Himself, not only the treasures for His crown, but the field itself in which they were located. "And they shall be mine, saith the Lord of Hosts, in that day when I make up my jewels."

Its Final Separation.

The draw net, as would be supposed, represents the final separation between the two contrasted elements in the Kingdom of Heaven. The end of the age, the close of the dispensation, is prefigured when the division shall be clearly established between him that serveth God and him that serveth Him not. Men have nothing to do with that, the final separation is on the line of character and is only done under divine supervision.

Such are the apparent teachings of the parables of the kingdom. They are pictures in which, it is absolutely necessary to get the correct view point. Let us be careful that we do not try to put into the canvas what the great artist never intended. The one truth set forth in each scene stands out clear as noonday; let us beware that we do not seek to elevate the shadowy outlines of the painting into the foreground, and make what is merely incidental the overmastering idea.

FRENZIED FINANCE.

What a Kansas Man Alleges He Saw Pulled Off.

Here is an incident that a Chanute man tells as having occurred in a certain Kansas town. He was in the ticket office and watched the proceedings. A man came up to the window and asked for a ticket to Kansas City, inquiring the price.

"Two twenty-five," said the agent. The man dug down into a well-worn pocketbook and fished out a bill. It was a bank-note for \$2. It was also all the money he had.

"How soon does this train go?" he inquired.

"In fifteen minutes," replied the agent.

The man hurried away. Soon he was back with three silver dollars, with which he bought a ticket.

"Pardon my curiosity," said the ticket seller, "but how did you get that money? It isn't loan, for I see you have disposed of the two-dollar bill."

"That's all right," said the man. "No, I didn't borrow. I went to a pawnshop and soaked the bill for \$1.50. Then as I started back here I met an old acquaintance, to whom I sold the pawn ticket for \$1.50. I then had \$3 and he has the pawn ticket for which the two-dollar bill stands as security."

Still Time.

A long-haired man walking along the street met a little boy, who asked him the time.

"Ten minutes to nine," said the man.

"Well," said the boy, "at nine o'clock get your hair cut." And he took to his heels and ran, the aggrieved one after him.

Turning the corner, the man ran into a policeman, nearly knocking him over.

"What's up?" said the policeman.

The man, very much out of breath, said: "You see that young urchin running along there? He asked me the time, and I told him 'Ten minutes to nine,' and he said, 'At nine o'clock get your hair cut.'"

"Well," said the policeman, "what are you running for? You've got eight minutes yet."

A Burned Child—

Richard A. Ballinger, Secretary of the Interior, tells of his first law case which he had at Kankakee, Ill. "I had hung out my shingle a good while before any client arrived," he said. "Finally, one came. He was a weak, meek being whom three determined women had wedded in rapid succession, and he was being tried for bigamy. As all of the wives appeared against him we lost the case, and he got a term of two years, but this did not seem to worry him—in fact, he seemed anxious for more. He was taken to the penitentiary, and just before his term ended I got a letter from him. 'Do you think,' the bigamist asked anxiously, 'it will be safe for me to come out?'"

SOUNDS LIKE HAY.



Simpson—Jones just told me that he buys his cigars by the box.
Sampson—Don't you believe it, he buys them by the bale.

The Fishy Doctor and the Babe!

The old physician is an enthusiastic angler in every sense of the term. While on his way home from a fishing trip he received an emergency call. The proud newly made father was impatient to have the child weighed, but couldn't find the steelyards; so the physician had to use the pocket scales with which he weighed his fish. "Great Scott, doctor!" exclaimed the father as he saw the pointer go up. "Thirty-seven and a half pounds!"

Anything But That.

"You're a liar, and a thief, and a scoundrel!"
"Anything else?"
"I can't think of anything else right now."
"Thanks, I was afraid you were going to say I was stupid."

It Had a Pull.

The nerves of the victim in the chair were working overtime.
"Excuse me, sir," said the alleged tonsorial artist, "but you'd better keep still. Aren't you afraid I'll cut you?"
"Not with that razor," gasped the nervous victim.

He Was Not Missed.

Friend—Now, my dear woman, don't you feel the loss of a man about the house?
Widow—Not with the kitchen stove smoking the way it does.

Economical Cut.

Butcher—Will you take a porterhouse?
Mrs. Newwed—No, nothing quite so large; give me a porterfat.

SIR CASPAR CLARKE.
Illness Causes Resignation of Director of Metropolitan Museum.



New York, June 28.—The rumors abroad of late that Sir Caspar Purdon Clarke, whose ill health has kept him in England for more than a year, would resign the directorship of the Metropolitan Museum of Art, have been confirmed by Lawyer Robert W. De Forest, who is vice president and secretary of the museum.

J. Pierpont Morgan, president of the museum, came to the June meeting of the museum trustees shortly after he arrived from Europe on last Friday and laid before the board a letter of resignation from Sir Purdon which Mr. Morgan has received from him just before leaving London.

The board after discussing the letter of resignation voted to accept it.

When Dreams Came True.

An English magazine records two dream stories. In one a lady, having lost an important key while walking in a wood near her house in Ireland, dreamed that she saw it lying at the foot of a certain tree. Next day she found it there. She supposed her eye must have seen it after it dropped, though her conscious mind had not instantly noted it.

Just the same was the theory of a barrister who went out late at night to post his letters and upon undressing missed a check for a large amount received during the day. He dreamed he saw it curled round an area railing not far from his door, woke up, dressed, went out and found it exactly as he had dreamed. The mind registers at times what it does not instantly report.

Spain's Young King.
King Alfonso, to judge from his weak, narrow face and the silly fall of his lower lip as shown in all his pictures, indicating an example of mild adenoid idioocy, seems to be one whose brain has been arrested by enlarged tonsils and glands in the back part of the throat and head. He is just as little responsible for what is happening in Spain as any young show-off dude one might pick up anywhere in upper Broadway. Cervantes prefigured poor Don Quixote and Sancho Panza as the personification of Spain and her people; her nobles, like the Don of high, silly, girly-girly ideals, but with utterly rotten judgments; her common people, like Sancho, of good sense and thrift, but misled by those higher up. Spain, like the United States, has always dangerously vibrated to outside influences.

Kinematograph—Kinetoscope.
The kinematograph, or cinematograph, was invented by Thomas A. Edison, combining electricity with photography, by means of which the movements of the actors in a scene at the theatre (accompanied by their voices and music) are produced upon a screen. The kinematograph was described by Mr. Edison at New York in May, 1891. The kinetoscope was invented by Mr. Edison for the continuous photography of objects in motion. The first series of photographs were of the strong man Sandow.

A Forspite Party.
The following has been received by the Plain Speaker from Lattimer: "Please put this in the Plain speaker paper their is a girl from Lattimer by the name ——— ho held a forspite Pardy last saturday night again a yong fellow who would not married her But the yong fellow married another girl and so she held the Pardy so she would get a fellow to married her. But she got stoung alot. don't forget Please."—Harleton Plain Speaker.

Money and Happiness.
The late Charles Pratt said to Dr. Cuyler some years ago: "The greatest humberg in the world is the idea that money can make a man happy. I never had any satisfaction with mine until I began to do good with it!" —The Watchman.

Standard Time in Peru.
Peru is the first of the South American republics to adopt a world time standard. The 75th meridian west of Greenwich has been chosen. This, which is the basis of our Eastern standard time, runs through the middle of the republic only a few minutes of longitude east of Lima. Hereafter all timepieces in Peru will coincide with those in the eastern United States. There are said to be few countries more favorably situated geographically than Peru for the use of a standard meridian.

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