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A railroad train in Spain recently made a run of twenty-five miles in a little over an hour, and, according to the New York Tribune, the papers are full of jubilant articles about the achievement.

A member of the Leeds (England) Chamber of Commerce introduced a resolution at a meeting of that body a fortnight ago that the government be asked to put the big, expensive navy to some good practical use, by utilizing the ships for commercial purposes. He suggested the carrying of the mails, or passengers, or any remunerative work, "so as to make the navy wholly or partially self-supporting."

United States Consul Lastremski, at Callao, Peru, who has been concerning himself with the problem of bettering the trade relations between the United States and the nine million people on the west coast of South America, ascribes to inadequate means of transportation the present small trade relations, and gives some remarkable figures to prove how great is the discrimination in favor of Europe and against the United States under the present system.

The cost of erecting an office building which shall comply with all the provisions of the Building laws in New York City is said to be about forty cents per cubic foot, while ten years ago it was estimated that the cost of erecting a large building was \$2 per cubic foot. A natural result of this reduction, brought about by a variety of causes, remarks the Sun, is that capitalists have decided upon investing more money than ever in big buildings, and plans for several have been drawn, each of which is to be twenty-four stories high.

Physicians in New York City are much interested in the case of a man who had a malignant tumor in his throat, involving the vocal cords, states the Boston Cultivator. To save the patient's life the doctor removed the larynx and entire vocal apparatus, inserting a metallic tube in its place. Nobody thought the patient would ever be able to speak, and he was considered lucky if the doctor's makeshift enabled him to continue to breathe. But when the wound healed speech returned and the man can talk in ordinary tones nearly as well as ever. He addressed a clinic of surgeons recently and told them about the operation. His only disability is an inability to shout, but we have all known people who would be greatly improved for such a chance as this.

Some one given to statistics has discovered that, whereas in 1858 there were only seventy lines of industrial activity open to women, now there are 500. If the next quarter of a century sees a proportionate expansion of woman's opportunities, the New York Mail and Express predicts there will be a demand for protective organizations for the men. Women are grasping creatures, there is no question of that, and while men might be induced to overlook the minor invasion of their wardrobe, as illustrated by the present mania for shirts, cravats, hats, etc., etc., of an unmistakably masculine cut, but it cannot be expected of them to sit still while the bread is taken out of their mouths, poor ladies. It is a woman, as some one in the Ladies' Home Journal informs us, who has hit upon a quite new and very lucrative line of business, one, we should think, which would pay quite as well in New York as in London, where it has had its rise. It is the business of indexing—indexing everything deserving that distinction. A bright young English woman, a Miss Bailey, is the first to open an indexer's office, and she is making such a financial success that she is already casting about for competent assistants. It is dry and wearing work, but women bread winners stop at nothing nowadays that is clean, honorable and "pays."

SWALLOWING ODD THINGS.

QUEER ARTICLES THAT HAVE GONE DOWN SOME THROATS.

A Little Girl Who Swallowed a Big Ball of Lead—A Watch in His Stomach.

The eight-year-old daughter of Wayman Ferris, a homestead-er in the Cimmaron Valley, writes a correspondent from Guthrie, Oklahoma, has just been rescued from what appeared to be certain death. She was playing with a lump of lead, out of which her brother proposed to make bullets, when, by some unaccountable impulse, she put it in her mouth. A second later she was seized by a vicious cow and swallowed the lump, which was as large as a medium-sized walnut. She suffered excruciating agony, and lay for an entire day without proper attendance. Then two physicians were summoned, and one of them regarded the case as hopeless. The other stated that there had been hundreds of worse cases cured, and after three or four days' treatment he succeeded in getting rid of the unnatural occupant of the stomach without an operation, which would have been impossible unless the child could have been removed to a hospital. The child was out playing within an hour of vomiting the lead, and does not appear to be suffering any inconvenience at all from the effects of the accident.

It appears that the capacity to swallow objects of great size varies very much in different people. A burly New York policeman, who looked large enough to swallow almost anything with impunity, once detected a burglar in the act, and chased him vigorously for several blocks. Slipping on the edge of the curb, he fell heavily, became unconscious, and the burglar got away. The officer was taken in an ambulance to the nearest dispensary, where he was carefully examined. No external injuries could be found, but he died within two or three hours. An autopsy revealed the fact that when he fell he swallowed his false teeth, although he had kept his secret so well that no one suspected him of having any. That a lady should be able to swallow her artificial teeth and live quite a long time afterward, while a man of exceptional strength should be killed almost instantaneously by the same process, is one of those medical mysteries not easy to solve.

In another case a bartender had an altercation with a customer, who threw a glass at him and hit him in the mouth, knocking out three teeth, which, unfortunately, the bartender swallowed. He was not otherwise badly injured, but suffered pain almost incessantly after the occurrence, and after two years died from the effects of the peculiar accident.

In exact opposition to this is the case frequently quoted of a lunatic who swallowed a watch and never suffered in the slightest degree in consequence. The case, which is an authenticated one, took place in an Eastern asylum, where a lady had called upon her incarcerated husband. After trying various efforts to quiet him sufficiently to enable him to talk with comparative reason, she took her watch out of her waistband, and pointing to the face said that in two hours the man's time would be up and he could go home with her.

Without a moment's warning the mania snatched at the watch so violently that the chain broke. He immediately swallowed the watch and about two inches of chain. The shrieks of the lady brought the attendant in from the door, he fearing that the patient had become violent. When the actual facts were explained the doctors were hastily summoned, and the general opinion was that the asylum would soon be rid of a patient who had been a perpetual source of worry and annoyance for years. The watch was a small one, but it was more than an inch in diameter and more than a third of an inch thick, the situation being aggravated by the fact that it was an open-face watch and that the danger of the glass breaking and cutting the man's insides to pieces was obvious. No difficulty of any kind occurred, however, and after about three years the lunatic was reported cured and sent home. He lived for several years and finally died with typhoid fever. His physicians were very anxious to have a post-mortem examination with a view to locating the watch, but the friends of the deceased man objected, and the mystery, as well as the watch and section of chain, were buried with him.

It is comparatively common for children to swallow buttons, marbles and small coins, and, as a rule, the effects are not serious. Yet there are cases on record in which the swallowing of a shoe button, a comparatively small object without any sharp projections, has caused death. A conjurer who had gone through the process of apparently swallowing knives and billiard balls with impunity for some years, turned deathly pale on one occasion when performing before a small audience, and announced in a deep voice that he had actually swallowed the knife he had had in his hand a minute before. It was in reality a small dagger which fortunately he had swallowed handle first. Possibly the liberties he had taken with his throat for so many years had hardened it somewhat, for several days elapsed before he died. Nothing would induce him to have an operation performed, and until his death he suffered untold agony almost every time he moved his position suddenly.

On another occasion a conjurer was slipping billiard balls up his sleeve and pretending to swallow them, made a fatal error and allowed one of the ivory to roll down his throat. He could hardly be said to have swallowed it, because it stuck in his throat

and choked him almost instantly. A doctor who was summoned removed the ball in a few seconds and said that if he had been present when the accident happened he could have saved the patient.

Numerous cases are on record of people swallowing live objects, frogs, snails and other objectionable creeping things having been found within a human anatomy on certain occasions. In ancient times more than one woman was burned as a witch for no greater offense than having within her a frog or some other living object. No one has ever been known to admit having made a meal of a live snail or frog, or having swallowed it whole, and the opinion of the profession seems to be that in cases of this kind the creatures must have been swallowed when very small while drinking, and it is well known that animalcules are swallowed by the million, and especially by those who drink water which is both unfiltered and uniced. Fortunately, however, in an immense majority of instances the new quarters and diet do not agree with the animal or insect of life thus introduced into the system and speedy death follows. That there are exceptions to this rule is obviously the case.

The expression "going the wrong way," is applied to water or other fluid which is diverted to the lungs by sudden laughter or coughing while drinking. This unpleasant sensation is frequently a source of danger, and on a recent occasion in New York while a child was being given a dose of castor oil, it struggled so violently that a fit of violent coughing was produced, the castor oil went the wrong way and the child's life could not be saved.

Only one romance in connection with swallowing was told by the young physician. This was in the case of two families who lived in New Jersey and were distantly connected. For two generations a feud amounting almost to a vendetta had been in progress and no member of one family ever spoke to a member of the other as they passed by. On one occasion, while making dinner of a large bone fish, a young lady in one of the families swallowed a good-sized bone, which stuck in her throat, and soon had her in a very dangerous condition.

One of the neighbors, who was sitting at the table, and who was not aware of the feud between the two branches of the family, rushed out and called in a distant cousin of the young lady who he knew to be a medical student. The young man promptly responded to the call and by the adoption of practical remedies, not even remotely connected with either medicine or surgery, soon got the obstruction out of the way and had the young lady restored to health. Her parents were so grateful that they lost sight of the vendetta and asked the young man to call again, which he did repeatedly, finally falling in love with the fair patient, and putting a stop to the family feud by aid of a marriage license and a very hilarious wedding party. The age of heraldry is well-nigh past or the young couple would certainly have adopted a fishbone as their crest. —St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

WISE WORDS.

The possibilities in a case do not prove it.

Instruction is but an incidental part of education.

To educate is to unfold, and to instruct is to enfold.

A breakfast-table or a long voyage for close acquaintance.

Most men are willing to die for their country of old age.

Once your friend does you an ill turn he will never forgive you.

Inherited wealth does not necessarily render a man despicable.

Loosen your grip on others sometimes, but never upon yourself.

Most women nowadays are fair just in proportion as they are false.

Longing for the future has its pendent in regret for the past.

Imagination is what makes a butterfly of the grub called observation.

No one knows the right way so well as one who has once been misled.

Sometimes genius may be bound or barred for a time, but she will out.

To enjoy one's work is no less necessary than to enjoy the definite result of it.

Emergencies occasion substitutes, and nature is the first adept in the art of substitution.

It must be an unusual and peculiar case which can require a person to so far forgive and forget an injury as to place himself in a position to invite a repetition of the offense.

A Dangerous Disease.

Dr. Ellis, superintendent of the Insane Asylum at Singapore, India, has made a curious report on the peculiar form of insanity which causes the patient to run amok. Remarking that fright, grief, brooding over real or imaginary wrongs, the sight of blood and especially that of the patient himself, and a peculiar state of nervous prostration, have been noted as the exciting causes. Dr. Ellis raises the question as to how far a man can be held responsible for his actions when in such a state. He says that there is intense muscular spasm and unconscious prostration of homicidal mania, during which paroxysm the affected individual will rush through the most crowded streets, stabbing right and left at all coming in his way; after such a demonstration, his duration of which may be from a few hours only to a few days, the patient cannot remember anything that took place during the attack, his usual explanation being that his head was gibbly and that all subjects appeared red or black. —New Orleans Picayune.

NEWS & NOTES FOR WOMEN

Turn down collars are a new feature of capes.

There are in the United States 30,000 women.

The tinkling, jingling chateleaines are coming back again.

Less severe than the English shapes are the French sailor hats.

Women gardeners are in great demand in England and Germany.

The latest fad in underclothing is white silk garments, trimmed with black lace.

In Astoria, L. I., many of the largest hot houses are controlled and managed by women.

Deer Isle, Me., has women for town stewards, assessors of taxes and superintendents of schools.

"Ouida" dislikes intensely to shake hands, a salutation she pronounces to be of all forms the most vulgar.

The origin of the bustle is not known, but it was worn by French ladies of fashion as early as 1598.

Some late fashion notes are to the effect that the long reign of wool for street costumes is waning in favor of silk.

Greyhounds, roosters, lizards and tortoises are made in gem jewelry for the women who like those pin designs.

Open work embroidered ecru batiste, lined with white or colored silks, is used for full vests in black silk gowns.

Cotton grenadines are exceedingly dressy. Like the silk and wool fabrics, they are lined, and with charming effect.

Mrs. Fleming, the assistant of Professor Pickering at Harvard observatory, has recently discovered four new variable stars.

Hair cloth and alpaca skirts made with three ruffles up the back and a steel in the bottom are prophetic of the crinoline scare.

Yachting dresses are made of cream white or blue serge, with red sailor collars, cuffs and panel trimmed with gilt braid and buttons.

Moire ribbons in delicate colors and chine patterns are in use for trimming black dresses and giving a touch of color to black crepon gowns.

The health of Miss Florence Nightingale has been steadily failing since the death of her brother-in-law, Sir Harry Verney, with whom she made her home.

In New Orleans one of the finest orchestras is composed entirely of women, and the leader and her corps of well trained musicians are seen at every entertainment of note in that gay city.

The height of elegance in garniture is realized by the association of lace and jet. One choice trimming of this kind presents a succession of fans made of jet beads and cabochons and edged with box plaited point d'esprit lace.

It has been decided that the deaconesses of the Methodist Church shall wear black gowns, with gathered or pleated skirts, bishop sleeves, round waists, turn down collars and white cuffs. They may "friz" their hair if they desire to do so.

A new dress material is called "Vonetian," and is to take the place of cashmere; and a silk check called "Scotch lamas" is very soft and fine in texture. Tiny checks are becoming very popular for walking dresses, bicycling costumes, etc.

Married women are being deposed from service in the public schools of the Australian colony of Victoria. Under a new law when a woman marries she must resign her place. The main design of the change is to give advantage to single women.

Six weeks ago a young girl, who lives in Poughkeepsie, N. Y., applied a bleaching preparation to her hair, and since then she has been confined to her bed with threatened congestion of the brain. Her hair and the skin on her head have both come off.

Black stockings, either in silk, lisle thread or balbriggan, remain in favor. Tan colored are the only rivals, which are often chosen to go with tan suede slippers. With evening toilets, stockings match the slippers, which are of satin, moire or material of dress.

A most dainty fan for a young lady is of white mother-of-pearl, each stick wreathed with tiny pink roses and enriched with gilding. The ornamentation is interrupted by an inch-wide band of vellum, gracefully painted with wreaths of flowers. Above this the sticks are again seen and are richly gilded. The leaf is of white silk, and has soft, green medallions surrounded by silver spangles.

Miss Julie R. Jenney, a daughter of Colonel E. S. Jenney, one of the best known lawyers of Central New York, has been admitted to the bar at the general term in Syracuse. Miss Jenney was a member of a class of twelve law students, all young men except herself, who were examined at the same time. The examiners say that she was splendidly successful and predict for her a brilliant career.

The capability of Miss Wilkinson, who is the successful landscape-gardener of the Metropolitan Public Garden Association of London, has suggested to American women a new vocation that may in time be opened to them, a vocation both healthful and delightful. As a step towards it it is proposed by a number of people in Philadelphia that six young women having a taste for an out-of-door life study forestry under a specialist.

HOUSEHOLD AFFAIRS.

DON'T NEGLECT THE DISH CLOTHS.

No articles in kitchen use are so likely to be neglected and abused as the dish cloths and dish towels. Put a teaspoonful of ammonia into the water in which these cloths are, or should be, washed every day. Rub soap on the towels; put them in the wash and then rub them out; rinse; dry out doors. Dish cloths and towels need never look gray and dingy—a perpetual discomfort to all housekeepers.—New York World.

TO CLEANSE SILK FABRICS.

For every quart of water needed, pare, wash and grate one large potato. Put the potatoes into cold water and let them stand two days without stirring, then carefully pour off the clear liquor into a vessel of a convenient size in which to wash the silk.

The washing is done by dipping the silk up and down in the water; if there are spots draw the silk smoothly through the fingers, but do not rub it or allow it to wrinkle. Hang the silk over a line and let it drip nearly dry; then lay it flat on the table, and with a cloth wipe it first on one side and then on the other. If it must be pressed place it between flannel and use a moderately hot iron. Ribbon can be nicely smoothed by winding it around a large round roller of smooth wood covered with several thicknesses of cloth.

If you have new dress silk that is not to be made up for months, by all means get a large smooth piece of round wood to roll it on. Straight breadths of old silk are kept best if rolled in this way.—New York Dispatch.

MARKING CLOTHES.

A number of people shirk the very simple task of marking their clothes legibly and permanently, and this, too, at a time when almost everybody's things are sent to a professional wash, to be mixed up with heaps owned by strangers. Yet writing one's name on a collar or handkerchief is almost as simple as scribbling it on paper. A very little patience is required, and a fine should be close at hand to fix the ink indelibly. Printed tapes and letters to be sewn on are well enough in their way, but not much protection against an article being stolen, as they can be picked off by anybody. A name conspicuously inked on the material is a better safeguard.

With new brands of marking ink it is necessary to pay some slight attention to the directions issued with each bottle, so as not to write with a steel pen when a quill is demanded, nor to use heat when none is required, nor to mix liquids wrongly when two happen to be given. If a woman shrieks out that two dozen fine new handkerchiefs and a whole batch of table napkins have dropped into holes where she printed her name she has evidently treated her chemicals by the opposite plan to that advised. However successful you may be yourself, never recommend your own favorite make of marking ink to anybody, for fear the process should be conducted the wrong way and you receive the blame. Even among our nearest and dearest friends there are some who insist on blundering over very simple work, and it is best for them to learn wisdom from their own exploits.—New York Advertiser.

RECIPES.

Escalloped Tomatoes—Put a layer of tomatoes in an earthen dish; then one of bread crumbs, with a little sugar, butter, pepper and salt; another of tomatoes, another of bread, until the dish is full. Bake three-quarters of an hour.

Asparagus Omelet—A nice breakfast dish is asparagus with eggs. Boil two pounds of the vegetable, cut off the tender tops and lay them on a buttered pie dish, seasoning with pepper and salt, and two tablespoonfuls of melted butter. Beat four eggs just enough to break the yolks and pour over the asparagus. Bake eight minutes in a good oven. Serve with slices of tender broiled ham.

Corn Muffins—Two cups of corn meal, sifted with a teaspoonful of salt, one and a half cups of rice, one teaspoonful (not heaping) of lard, enough boiling water to scald it all and leave it thick, two eggs well beaten, one-half teaspoonful saleratus, enough sour milk to make a rather thin batter. Grease your gem pans slightly with lard (we use the Southern muffin rings and like them better) and bake as you bake corn dodgers. And you will have some royal muffins.

Duchess Soup—This soup is one of Mrs. Rorer's and is a very good one. Put a quart of milk over the fire in a double boiler, with a blade of mace and slices each of carrot and onion; rub together two tablespoonfuls each of butter and flour and when the milk boils remove the vegetables and stir in this roux; add three heaping tablespoonfuls of cheese, take from the fire and add the beaten yolks of three eggs. Season to taste and serve at once. A change is made by using chicken or veal stock instead of milk, or half of each.

Fried Hasty Pudding—Put one quart of water on to boil. Mix one pint of corn meal, one heaping tablespoonful of flour and one teaspoonful of salt with one pint of milk. Stir this gradually into the boiling water and boil three-quarters of an hour, stirring often. Fill a bread pan with cold water and let it stand a few minutes. Throw out the water and pour in the mush. When cold turn out on a platter, cut in slices three-quarters of an inch thick, roll them in flour and brown each side in hot fat in a frying pan. Or roll the slices in crumbs, dip in egg, roll in crumbs, and fry in deep fat.



SELECTING SEEDS.

Every man that plants seeds, whether for the farm, the vegetable or flower garden, should select those that do the best in the locality where they are to be planted. Different soils require different varieties, and every farmer or gardener should select, after trial, the kinds that succeed best on his land. One of the best guides in this direction is to note the success of the varieties used on similar soils by neighbors; the State experiment station can also usually give good advice.—American Agriculturist.

CONTRACTS WITH HIRED MEN.

A contract with a farm laborer is not necessarily to be made in writing, but it is wise to make it so, in case of disputes that so often arise when the man suddenly makes up his mind to leave just at haying or harvest time. The safest way to make a contract to meet this frequent contingency is to scale the wages, giving the least the first month and increasing each month so that at the end the largest amount is paid. This may be arranged in this way: If the sum is \$20 a month and the time five months, the amounts may be \$16, \$18, \$20, \$22 and \$24. The average is \$20, and if the man leaves before the end of the term he forfeits the larger sums. In the contract everything agreed upon must be written down; it must be signed by both, one copy for each, and witnessed, both parties stating to the witness that they agree to the terms of the contract. This will avoid many disagreeable disputes and many changes that will otherwise occur. If the man leaves without due notice provided in the contract, he should forfeit the whole wages of the broken month, and the payments should be made on the 10th of the month following the work done. This gives some security against sudden leaving by the man.—New York Times.

CONTRACTED HOOPS IN MULES AND HORSES.

Contraction of the hoof in horses and mules can scarcely be called a disease, but merely the result of some injury to the parts, for it may occur from alternate soaking and drying the feet, from bad shoeing, and removing the frog, which supports the walls of the hoof. An animal that is severely foundered, followed by severe inflammation in the legs and feet, is almost certain to have contracted hoofs, unless given prompt attention in reducing the fever in the feet. Contraction, of course, implies a wasting away of the internal structure of the feet. Remove the shoes and then keep the mule standing in a puddle of wet clay for twelve hours a day, or wrap the front feet in rags and keep these constantly wet until the inflammation subsides, then apply hoof ointment to keep the horn soft. It may take two or three weeks of soaking in water half a day at a time to reduce the inflammation, but if kept up it can scarcely fail to remove the fever. Have the edges of the hoof smoothed off level and even, and then when the animal is in condition to do light work have your blacksmith put on a bar shoe to protect the heel and prevent cracking. For a hoof ointment use equal parts of sweet oil, pine tar and mutton tallow, and in warm weather add a little beeswax to make it harder. For the stiff cords of the leg rub them two or three times a day with the hand and apply almost any good liniment or simple spirits of camphor. Never attempt to work an animal while there is anything the matter with the feet.—New York Sun.

LIBERAL MANURING FOR CORN.

If any one has gained the impression from what has been heard from lecturers at institutes the past winter that corn can be successfully grown without a supply of plant food, applied or already in the soil, he has only got to try it to be convinced of the error. Corn, in common with all other plants, draws on a store of plant food out of which to make up its growth. If this supply is not within reach it refuses to grow, the same as any and all other plants. The idea, then, that it does not exhaust the soil, or draw upon manures that may be applied is an error.

It is true that through experiment in these later years it has been learned that in some way corn will make a crop with a less application of the one material—nitrogen—than formerly was supposed. In some way it supplies itself, and without the hand of the farmer, with at least a portion of this one important ingredient that is represented in the crop after grown. In many cases lands that have been manured with barn manures for a long series of years contain a surplus of this one ingredient, which the corn may draw upon possibly for several crops. And then again, there is evidence that goes to support the theory that the corn plant has the power to secure a measure, at least, of its needed nitrogen from the air. Whether it is the one or the other that is really the source of supply, the fact remains, all the same, that good crops of corn are being grown with a smaller application of nitrogen than was formerly deemed necessary.

But it is this one element only that can be spared or can be reduced in quantity in the growing of this crop. The phosphoric acid and the potash must be supplied in the full proportion called for. In manuring with barn manures the application must be liberal enough to meet the wants of the crop in these two elements or it will be a failure. If heavy crops are wanted the manuring must be liberal. Corn cannot make the crop without the full supply of plant food. No farmer, then, need conclude he can grow corn successfully with scanty applications of manure.—Maine Farmer.

VALUE OF STRAW ON THE FARM.

Straw is worth more to any farmer to use at home than it is to sell, writes E. R. Flint, of Michigan, to the American Agriculturist. The cost of baling is one dollar and a half per ton, besides boarding the four men and two teams of the pressers. Add to this one dollar per ton for hauling to market, and the amount reaches close to three dollars per ton. Good, bright wheat or oat straw sells at from three to four dollars a ton, seldom reaching the latter figure. Where the profit comes in is not clear, yet there are large numbers of farmers who sell all the straw they can possibly spare every year, actually depriving their stock of bedding to do so. Straw is not of great manurial value in itself, yet furnished freely to stock in the form of bedding, or where they can tread it into the litter of a barnyard, it adds greatly to the value of the manure by absorbing the liquids and holding the gases, to say nothing of the added comfort to man and beast obliged to travel over it. It is always a mark of an intelligent farmer to see well littered stables and a barnyard dry enough to be comfortable under foot. Can anything more uncomfortable for any animal be imagined than to be forced to occupy a stable where there is a week's accumulation of filth, unrelieved by the thick coating of straw which would, at least, make its bed dry, if not clean? Yet that is exactly the state of many a stable, and that too, perhaps, with a straw stack within a rod of it. I wish it were possible to impress upon the mind of every farmer the desirability of providing all his stock with a good thick bed of dry straw. No one should be guilty of robbing his animals of that comfort for the few paltry dollars that the straw brings.

But there is another point. On heavy soil nothing surpasses straw to lighten and loosen it. Spread the straw and plow it under, and if it does not plow under, scatter it in the furrow for the next furrow slice to cover. If this plan is followed it will not be many years before a change may be observed in the character of the soil; it will be more friable, as well as more fertile. It is a bad practice to burn the straw. The ashes may have some manurial value, but not much in proportion to the whole straw. The valuable nitrogen has been wafted away by the flames. It may be that on some farms the quantity of straw is so great that there is no other way of disposing of it, but burning is certainly the least desirable way of doing so. Give the cattle, horses or sheep access to a stack of straw through the winter, and there will be much of it left in the spring. Oat and barley straw make good feed for stock, given in connection with grain. When hay is high-priced, it would be wise to utilize a portion of the straw in this way.

Another profitable use for straw, in many instances, is in keeping out the cold from the stables. If there is a place where the wind whistles through or the snow sifts, nail boards to the inside of the studding, beginning at the bottom, and fill the space between that and the outside with straw. It is excellent for this purpose, and will soon pay for the expenditure in the improved condition of the stock. This is especially true of cows in milk. Nothing more quickly shrinks the flow of milk than cold.

In finding methods to dispose of surplus straw, do not forget the hog pen. No animal more enjoys a good dry bed than a hog, and there is no more perfect picture of content than a number of hogs comfortably nestled in a pile of straw. There is no reason why a hog should be regarded as partial to filth. If he could talk he would express himself in favor of clean food and dry quarters. True, he seeks relief from heat and flies in a mud hole when he can find no clean water, but if he had access to the straw stack he would show his appreciation of it. Feed the straw, work it into the manure pile, tread it under foot in the barnyard, plow it under ground, dispose of it as a mulch around trees, berry bushes or grape vines, but never sell straw off the farm. It is needed at home, and should be used there in some way.

FARM AND GARDEN NOTES.

Give the colts a good start and there will be little trouble about the finish. It would seem to be only a question of time when the Clydesdale and Shire breeds would unite.

The best grades of butter have no foreign market to sustain prices, hence the slump this year. The red raspberry is a good honey plant, and larger and better berries are the result of the visit of the bees.

It is folly to raise a scrub, when a grade which will bring double prices can be as easily bred, and as cheaply raised and fattened.

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