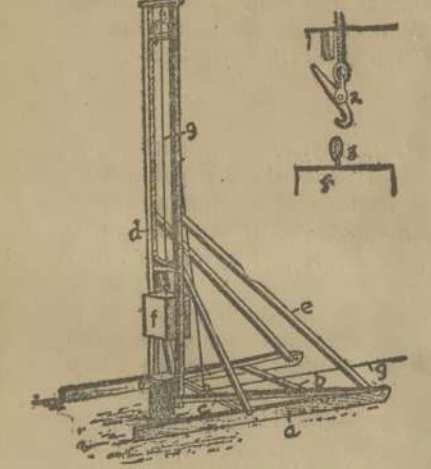




A Post Driver.
A homemade arrangement for driving piles or posts is shown in the sketch. I consider a post driver one of the most useful implements that I have on the farm, writes J. L. Macomber in Farm and Home. This device is of very simple construction, and aside from the few pieces of iron, pulleys and the rope, any farmer can make it at home.



The runners, a, are 9 ft. long, made of good solid oak 6x4 in. thick. The crosspieces, b, are of 4x4 oak, placed about 3 ft. apart. Firm braces, c, of 2x6 scantling, will strengthen the frame. The uprights, d, are 14 or 16 ft. long, as desired, of 4x4 oak. The braces, e, may be 2x4. For the weight, f, a wooden block may be used, which is either square or round. It should be about 18 inches in diameter and 2 1/2 ft. long, of solid oak or hickory. Some wood that will split readily is best. Grooves should be made in the side of the weight to take in the full width of the uprights. It is a good plan to bore an inch hole through the rear end of each runner, through which a peg may be driven to hold the device in position while the post is being driven.

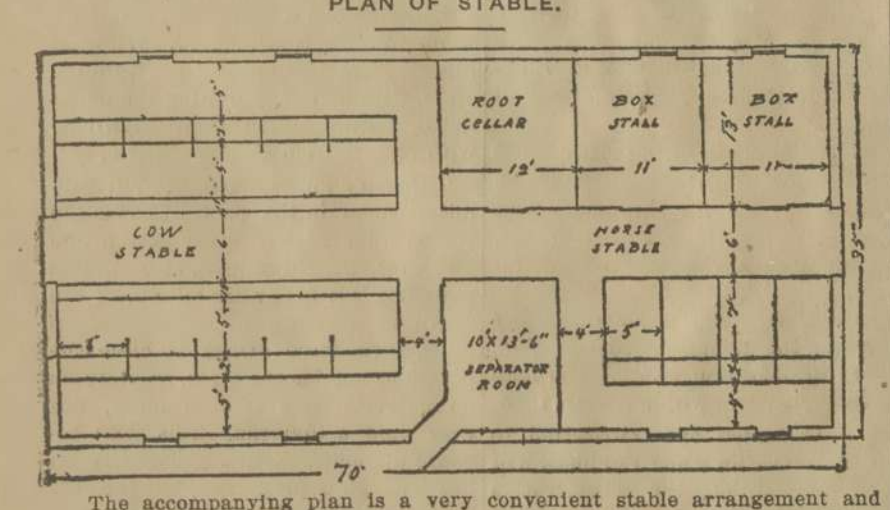
The working of this device is simple. The weight is drawn up by horses hitched to the end of a rope, and when it arrives at the top of the uprights it is released by the hook, f, striking the block, i, unhooking it from the ring, g, which is attached to the driver block. Four or five blows will usually drive a pointed post to the required depth. Two men and a team will drive one-half to three-quarters of a mile of posts in a day. The cost of such an implement is about \$5, and will pay for itself in a short time.

Swing for Loading Fodder.
There are a large number of contrivances made for loading shock fodder onto a wagon, some better than others. The illustration herewith shown is one that is in use in some localities where a good deal of fodder is cut up. The rear ladder is substituted with a stout post, well anchored to the rack, on top of which is a pole so adjusted as to be able to reach out to one side for the fodder and the other with proper



leverage. A rope or a chain attached to the short end of pole is thrown around the shock about half way up, and a fork handle thrust through above it so it will stay there and the whole shock is lifted on the rack.—Farm and Home.

Let Her Scratch.
The importance of exercise for poultry might well be placed subordinate only to good housing and feeding. But a writer in an agricultural monthly pertinently remarks that "scratching



The accompanying plan is a very convenient stable arrangement and economical of room. Rolling doors are shown on almost all the openings, but swing doors can be substituted if desired. Corrugated iron is recommended for the roof, as the wood covering to which roofing is attached may be only 1 1/2x3 inch strips spaced 20 to 24 inches on centers. About forty-one squares will cover roof and to give nicely proportioned building the rafters exclusive of projections should be the same length on both roofs and the slope of the lower should be 56 degrees from the horizontal, while that of the upper will be 34 degrees. To frame and inclose barn alone would cost about \$200.

to get a minute's peace from mites and other pests is not the right kind of exercise." The truth is obvious. Give the fowls plenty of encouragement to scratch for their grain feed by keeping a portion of each pen deeply bedded with leaves or straw. There is nothing like it for promoting thrift and contentment among a flock of fowls in the winter, and it is also a great aid toward getting fertile, hatchable eggs.

Small Farms.
The farm unit is gradually becoming smaller with the advance in the price of land. A well known real estate agent in a certain locality told us recently that he had ten times as many calls for 40 acres as for 160 acre farms. The small farm is the best farm, all things considered, and people are gradually coming to realize it and to look for small farms when purchasing. The farmer of to-day is beginning to learn that it is better to tramp over less ground and grow more to the acre. The taxes and fences on a large farm sometimes amount to more than the crops. There is great economy in all lines in the cultivation and management of a small farm. When the farmer knows that he has but a few acres to plant to corn, or any other crop he will use better seed, fertilize more heavily and cultivate better. If he grows seventy to eighty bushels to the acre, say on ten acres, he is much better off than the larger farmer who cultivates twice as much and gets only thirty to forty bushels of corn to the acre.—Chicago Weekly Inter Ocean.

Killing Weeds.
A great deal is heard about chemical weed destroyers and improved methods for eradicating weeds. Some of the improved methods are worthy of the means of destroying many of the weeds. Many of them, however, are not practical and should never be considered by the farmer.

Professor Beal of the Michigan station comes forward with an entirely new means of destroying weeds which, if followed, is certainly the most practical of all other methods, except the hoe. The professor says that where soils are reasonably rich as a result of the growth of legume, there are few weeds. Lands which have been in alfalfa or clover for a number of years have few weeds. For all weedy lands the professor suggests that the farmers seed the land down for either alfalfa or clover and to make sure that the seedling is sufficient to cover the ground. Keep the ground in legume for a number of years and the weeds will nearly all be destroyed. This sounds much more sensible than chemical destroyers.

Labor-Saving Log-Roller.
On every farm where there is timber of large size there ought to be a canthook, an implement shown in the picture from Farm World, for the purpose of moving heavy logs. It will save a tremendous amount of heavy lifting and one man with a canthook can do as much or even more than two without it. The handle should be about 5 feet long and the iron hook about 12 inches. Or if very large logs are to be used, 15 inches. The hook should work loosely on a bolt through the handle and the "business end" be slightly curved inward and always kept sharp.

Selecting Laying Hens.
Not enough importance is usually attached to the selection of laying hens. They must be properly cared for, if they are to lay well during both winter and summer. Houses must be kept sanitary and the fowls free from vermin. Care must be exercised to avoid their being chased by dogs or other animals, or unnecessarily frightened. Poultry houses must be well ventilated, and one or more windows should be opened every bright day, so that the house will not become warm during the day and grow cold again at night.

Dairying and Price of Land.
Dairying in Holland is the principal occupation. The land is worth from \$500 to \$1,000 an acre, yet the people pay their rents or interest on the investment by producing butter and cheese, which they place on the European market in successful competition with that produced in America on land of less than one-fifth the value. The secret is—efficient cows, excellent care, co-operation and superiority of butter and cheese.



Visitor—What have you in arctic literature? Librarian—Cook books and Pearyodicals.

Griggs—So Tom is married, eh? Briggs—Yes, for the present. He's married to an actress.—Boston Transcript.

"Did the ah—prisonah offer any—ah—resistance?" "Only a shilling, your wushup, and I wouldn't take it."—M. A. P.

Salesman—Shirt, sir. Will you have a negligee or a stiff bosom? Customer—Negligee, I guess. The doctor said I must avoid starchy things.

George—Do you think that I'm good enough for you, darling? Darling—No, George; but you're too good for any other girl.—Illustrated Bits.

She—History repeats itself, you know. He—Not always. You never heard of a man eloping more than once, did you?—Yonkers Statesman.

"Have you broken yourself of the habit of sleeping in church?" "Yes—entirely." "Congratulations! How did you do it?" "Quit going to church."—Cleveland Leader.

"How much does it cost to get married?" asked the eager youth. "That depends entirely on how long you live," replied the sad-looking man.—Philadelphia Record.

"The railroads are discharging all men with gray hair." "Most of the married men will be safe." "How so?" "The majority of them are bald."—Houston Post.

"Am I really and truly your first and only love?" queried the dear girl. "No," answered the truthful drug clerk, "but you are something just as good."—Chicago Daily News.

"Why it is that novels are so much more popular with the women than with the men?" "In a novel the fellow invariably asks the girl to be his wife."—Chicago Record-Herald.

Club Waiter (fishing)—I dreamed last night, sir, that you gave me a five-dollar bill. Stingy Member—Indeed, James! That's a little high for a tip; but—er—you may keep it.—Boston Transcript.

"Talk about your realism, this show looks awful natural to me." "How now?" "Six months have elapsed since the play started and the housemaid hasn't done any housework yet."—Louisville Courier-Journal.

Suburbs—It is simply great to wake up in the morning and hear the leaves whispering outside of your window. Cityman—It is all right to hear the leaves whisper, but I never could stand hearing the grass mown.

"Now, Willie," said the teacher, "if eggs were 60 cents a dozen and your mother had 20 cents, how many eggs would you have for breakfast?" "No eggs," answered Willie. "We'd have mush."—Washington (D. C.) Herald.

Tommy—What did you think of the play "Julius Caesar" last night? Billy Oh, it was a fake. "Why so?" "Cause when they killed Julius Caesar and the curtain went down, he comes out and bows to the audience. He wasn't dead at all!"

"I must warn you, dearest," he said, "that after we are married, you will very likely find me inclined to be arbitrary and dictatorial in my manner." "No matter," she replied cheerfully. "I won't pay the slightest attention to what you say."

Miss (hurryingly frantically)—Mary, what time is it now? Maid—Half past two, mum. Miss—Oh, I thought it was later—I still have twenty minutes to catch the steamer. Maid—Yes, mum. I knew ye'd be rushed, so I set the clock back thirty minutes to give ye more time.—Puck.

"You simply cannot trust anybody!" declares the lady. "My maid, whom I had the utmost confidence in, left me suddenly and took with her my beautiful pearl brooch." "That is too bad," sympathizes the friend. "Which one was it?" "That very pretty one I smuggled through last spring."—Life.

"Pshaw!" exclaimed Miss Yerner, impatiently, "I'm sure we will miss the opening number. We've waited a good many minutes for that mother of mine." "Hours, I should say," Mr. Sloman retorted rather crossly. "Ours? Oh, George!" she cried, and laid her blushing cheek upon his shirt front.—Catholic Standard.

"Little boy," asks the well-meaning reformer, "is that your mamma over yonder with the beautiful set of furs?" "Yes, sir," answers the bright lad. "Well, do you know what poor animal it is that had to suffer in order that your mamma might have the furs with which she adorns herself so proudly?" "Yes, sir—my papa."

"Please help a blind man," said a fellow with green goggles. "I always help the blind," said one of two young men, and he stopped and took out a five-dollar bill; "can you get a quarter out of this?" "I guess so," said the blind man, counting out four dollars and seventy-five cents. "Well, John," said the benevolent young man's companion, as they walked on, "you're a bigger fool than I took you to be." "Am I?" said John. "Yes, you are; that fellow's no more blind than I am. How could he tell that was a five-dollar bill?" "Blamed if I know," said John, innocently; "but he must be mighty near-sighted not to see that it was a counterfeit."—Chicago News.

PUPILS TO EAT OWN COOKING

New Rule Expected to Make Work for New Jersey Physicians.
Schoolgirls taking up the course of domestic science at the Carrol Robbins school will be compelled to eat what they cook hereafter, because of the belief of the instructors that this will force the scholars to exercise more care and pay more attention to instructions, a Trenton (N. J.) correspondent of the New York Evening Telegram says.

Just what the result will be is a question. It is claimed that some scholars who study domestic science only take the course as a pastime and make all sorts of uneatable things just to pass the time away. It is feared that the new ruling will provide more work for local physicians and the hospitals.

The course is compulsory at this particular school. Heretofore the pupils were only compelled to taste their own cooking and then make a report of the value. Now, if a scholar makes six biscuits she will have to eat them all or suffer a penalty to be fixed later.

Some good-sized schoolboys have suffered as a result of pranks played on them by the girls in the domestic science department.

"Eat this biscuit, aJmes; I just made it in school," was responsible for a boy scholar's, who thought this girl was the "only, only," having to spend a week in a local hospital.

Gastritis of an acute nature was the record made by the attending physicians. Numerous cases of indigestion have been reported among the boys because of some of the "eatables" turned out by the girls.

One boy recently admitted to several chums that he almost died while eating a mince pie forced on him by one of the girls, but boasted he was willing to "die for her."

LEGAL INFORMATION

The Louisiana Code provides that if a donee has attempted to take the life of the donor, or if he has been guilty toward him of cruel treatment, crimes or grievous injuries, the gift will be considered revoked. In Grandchamp v. Administrator of Succession of Billis, 49 Southern Reporter, 998, it appeared that Billis had conveyed property to his wife, who later had conveyed it to him. The conjugal association seems to have been stormy, concluding in the assassination of Billis of his wife while she was fleeing from his house and his suicide on the same night. The wife's heirs contended that ingratitude sufficient to annul the reconveyance by the wife had been demonstrated by the husband. The Louisiana Supreme Court held that the death of the donee extinguished the action, because the revocation is a penalty which can be pronounced only against the guilty. Even when the donee dies immediately upon the commission of the offense, this rule applies. The law having made no exception, the courts can make none. It was not intended to visit the sins of the donee upon the heirs at law.

To the merciless broadsides of unconstitutionality, the Federal Employers' Liability Act, created to decrease the number of railroad fatalities, succumbed in Hoxie v. New York, N. H. & H. R. Co., 73 Atlantic Reporter, 754. The Connecticut Supreme Court of Errors criticised as impolitic and violative of the long-accepted common law the provision allowing employees to recover for injuries received through the negligence of fellow servants. The prohibition against railroads exempting themselves from liability for negligence by contract with their employees was deemed violative of the fifth amendment of the Federal Constitution, prohibiting the deprivation of liberty and property without due process of law, in that it denied the parties the right to contract. Arbitrarily making railroads while engaged in interstate commerce liable to employees for injuries was considered invalid, except as a regulation of interstate commerce, it not being sufficient that it remotely affected such commerce if that result was secured by invading the settled limits of the sovereignty of the States as to their own internal police. The section providing for the distribution of the fund recovered in an action for death was assailed thus: If the damages recoverable are to be treated as representing the estate left by the decedent, it is for the State of his domicile to regulate the distribution thereof, and, if the damages are treated as a fund created by the act, Congress may not bring into existence a new duty of executors or administrators to collect and a new duty of masters to pay what the decedent never owned.

Left No Traces.

Mr. Smith ordered chicken broth at the Fatted cafe and after testing it he called the waiter and said: "Will you kindly tell me how you make this chicken soup?" "Jes' take de bollin' hot watah and run de chicken fru, mistah."

"Well, Rastus, I think this chicken must have had its rubbers on."—Boston Courier.

Preparatory.

Redd—The college men will soon begin preparations for next season's football.

Greene—Why, they don't play football until the fall.

"I know it; but they must begin to let their hair grow pretty soon."—Yonkers Statesman

APPENDICITIS AND GOUT IN VOGUE 6000 YEARS AGO.

If the world was created 6,000 years ago and the story of the expulsion from Eden is not a myth, confirmatory evidence of that fact will be found by old-line Bible people in some of the things recently unearthed in Nubia. From very recent research it has been established that disease entered the world in the form of gout and tuberculosis not less than 6,000 years ago—either entered it at that time or had been there for an indeterminate time previously.

Nearly sixty centuries have rolled away since the Nubians lived in the Valley of the Nile and were victims of the intestinal concretions which seem to be the cause of appendicitis. Fortunately for archaeological science, the diggers took with them an anatomist or two, who knew a thing or so about their business, and turned over to their inspection the bodies that were unearthed from this ancient civilization which has been lying buried under the wash and sands of the Nile from a time which merges into the vanishing point of history. In these excavations were found evidences of a civilization from a date preceding the earliest known dynasties of Egyptian kings down to the Byzantine age. These people seem to have lived undisturbed in the possession of their fertile fields and their well-built towns, probably under the protection of the kings of Egypt. In fact, a careful examination of their heads and faces showed that they were in reality Egyptians themselves. They did not belong to the aristocracy, but were rather the humble tillers of the soil—the farmers of that prehistoric time. They had a knowledge of copper, but they had not yet progressed sufficiently far in the metallic arts—in the period previous to say 1800 B. C.—to use that metal for instruments. The only utility they could find for copper was its use as ornaments for the person. For this purpose it was manufactured and sold

extensively. For tools the Nubians of that date used stone, and very good and sharp-cutting tools they made of it, too. Flint lance-heads and flint knives were found in abundance, but no trace of a copper tool was in evidence for some centuries.

The next period ranges from 2800 B. C. to 1800 B. C., during which copper was discovered to be highly useful as a cutting metal and was manufactured accordingly. This was also the period of greatest change in the bodily characters of these people. The anatomists who made the examinations declared that a new type of man had been imported among the people of the lower Nile and had mixed his blood with that of the people he found there before him. The secret of the perfect preservation of bodies for sixty centuries lies in the fact that the people, probably not able to afford the methods of embalming that were practiced by the "swell" Egyptians, just took their dead and thoroughly salted the bodies.

One disease which seemed to have been prevalent to an extraordinary degree was rheumatic gout. Thousands of these people had suffered from gout and from rheumatism. Graves were found containing fifteen or twenty bodies, all members of the same family, and several generations of the same family. The anatomists were thereby enabled to trace peculiar anatomical resemblances from father to son, as well as evidences of transmitted disease.

That this marvelous method of preserving the dead is not practicable generally to day is due to the fact that one of the essentials of the success of the method is the peculiarly dry atmosphere of Egypt and the unlimited quantities of perfectly dry sand in which to bury the bodies after they have been treated with the salt or the solution of salt which the ancient Nubians used.

REVIVAL OF CHINA PAINTING.



A FASCINATING OCCUPATION FOR GIRLS.

There is a distinct revival in china painting among young girls in the east, and in addition to becoming expert in the art it is considered quite an essential part of the training to make a study of the best examples of old china to be found in museums and elsewhere, and from them gather inspiration for the decoration of modern pieces.

In every department of art or industrial training nowadays the "home" idea is made prominent. Girls are learning domestic economy and domestic science, and everywhere the predominant thought is the fitting of girls for the domestic side of life, and it may be because of this wave of fireside sentiment that the decoration of table ware is so deservedly popular.

To quote one of the leading instructors, "There is, to my mind," said she, "nothing more closely allied to domestic life than the hand decorating of china. It gives a girl a love for beautiful things for the home table and opens her eyes to the nicety of table appointments, and we all know that a well appointed table is usually the index to a successfully managed household."

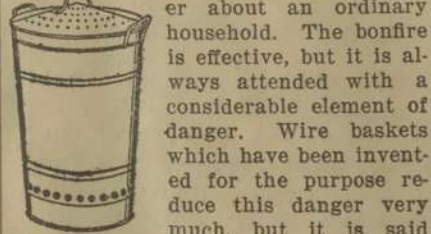
"To make collections of any sort is an admirable thing, but the collecting of rare china for girls is particularly so, for it not only gives the collector a special interest in life, but she can never afterward pass by a bit of fine china, porcelain or pottery but she will glean enjoyment from it."

"The entire outfit, colors, brushes, oils and palette knives can be purchased for between \$3.00 and \$4.00, perhaps more, perhaps less. A course of ten lessons should make the average girl quite independent of a teacher, except, of course, when it came to some new and vexing problem; then she would doubtless require the advice of an instructor. In this art, as others, there is a great difference in girls, for some are quick with their hands while others are clumsy."

RUBBISH BURNER.

Flames, Hot Ashes or Sparks Cannot Escape from it While in Use.

There seems to be some urgent demand for a means of consuming the accumulation of paper boxes and similar material which gather about an ordinary household. The bonfire is effective, but it is always attended with a considerable element of danger. Wire baskets which have been invented for the purpose reduce this danger very much, but it is said



for the newest device for this purpose, which is made of sheet metal and entirely inclosed, that sparks and flames cannot escape, and consequently no damage can be done from its use.

Title of "Esquire."

Esquire dated back to the days when the Greeks and Romans were in the heyday of their existence. The armor bearers who served as attendants of

the knights by way of bodyguard were called esquires. Later, in England the king created esquires by placing collars about their necks and bestowing upon them pairs of silver spurs. The title has never lapsed in that country. There are now legally esquires by heritage, by creation, or by virtue of the holding of some office.

In this country the title has come into general use simply by courtesy, but it must be admitted that it is a very flimsy excuse for its adoption. In England there is a disposition to use it as applying to men not engaged in trade.

Spartan Self Denial.

When Mr. D., known to be miserly, but not believed to be a miser, was approached delicately for a contribution to the organ fund, he shook his head courteously, but with an air of finality.

"Charity," he said, "is a pleasure one must do without."

To a man who does his business by means of checks, a \$20 bill looks like a lot of money.