

FARMERS' CORNER

Cheating in Weight.

The latest fraud to fleece farmers is the scale shrinker, which has been sold in vast numbers throughout the West. The appliance is made of hardened steel. The end introduced has a raised portion or lug on one side, which has a tendency when introduced to lengthen the beam so as to cause it to weigh less than it should. Careful tests with the device have produced the following results: (1) Scale balanced properly at 1,000 pounds with shrinker attached, 800 pounds; (2) four hogs weighed 1,310 pounds, and with shrinker 1,270, an average shrinkage of ten pounds to each hog; (3) twelve hogs weighed 4,545 pounds and with shrinker 4,405, an average shrinkage of 140 pounds to each hog. In the illustration Fig. 1 shows the appliance, which is V-shaped and made of hardened steel; the end introduced has a raised portion, or, in other words, a lug on one side, which has a tendency when introduced to lengthen the beam so as to cause it to weigh less than it should weigh. Fig. 2 shows another section of the shrinker. Fig. 3 is a handle made so as to fit over the top of the scale beam, and is used to tip the scale beam so that one hand pressed on the rod connected with the lever on the



SHRINKING DEVICE.

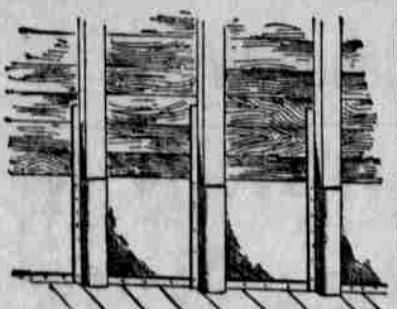
scale raises the loop connected with the beam so as to allow a space to insert the shrinker in the diamond-shaped knife, or bearing, on each side of the scale holding the rod. Fig. 4 shows the handle in place, with the hand pressing on the rod in order to raise the ring, which fits on the diamond-shaped lug on the scale beam, showing the shrinker as being put into the aperture.

Owning vs. Renting Land.

A great many farmers, when age obliges them to retire from the active management of their farms, dislike very much to sell the place where so many years of their life have been spent. To this cause we attribute their attempts to rent their farms, thinking that they can thus have something to say about how the farm should be managed. But all these rented farms soon run down, and though the owner may get his rent it is at the expense of a constant depreciation of property. Selling the farm outright, and taking a mortgage on it for security, is much safer. Few men who own a farm will be satisfied to see it depreciate. Besides, the mortgage on farm property bears a higher rate of interest than the farmer could make by any other way of investing his money.—American Cultivator.

Making Buildings Warm.

Thousands of farm buildings are cold in winter, for the want of some such protection as that suggested in the illustration, which is from the Orange Judd Farmer. Along the inside wall,



METHOD OF PASTERING PAPER.

curving out around the studding, is stretched strong, resin-sized building paper. It is snugly fastened to the walls with laths, as shown, the second course of paper lapping over the first, and the edges held by horizontal strips of lath, as at the bottom. Such a method of making old walls tight is very inexpensive, and the result is altogether excellent. One cannot put paper under old shingles and clapboards, but he can sheath the inside in this manner, and can do it so easily as to make the further inlet of cold air perfectly inexcusable.

Green Bone for Hens.

The feed of sliced bone for hens is much more than so much grit in the gizzard to enable them to digest their food. It is itself food of the very best sort to make eggs, furnishing the gelatine for the egg and lime for the shell. Dried, cooked or burned bones are not nearly so good, as the gelatine has been expelled from the bone, and its lime is also in less soluble condition than while it is in the green state. But a hen's gizzard is equal to the task of grinding up almost anything. A diet of green bone and whole wheat is probably the best of all for egg production.

Planning an Income.

At the commencement of each season every farmer should calculate and plan to make his farm yield him a certain and definite income. There is something almost magical in having an object in view. Estimate the yield from the wheat, corn and hay, and the re-

turns from the cows, sheep, hogs and poultry; then put down opposite to these the taxes, the insurance, wages, feed and repair bills; by knowing exactly what sum is needed each month, a pretty fair estimate may be had and the income can be planned accordingly.

What the Farm Garden Should Be.

The garden should never contain less than half an acre, and better be two acres. A garden of this size can easily be worked with a horse, saving much hand labor, which is required in smaller plots. If more is grown than required for home use it can usually be disposed of at some near-by market, or to some neighbor who will not have a garden. Or the area can be devoted to potatoes, or roots for stock can be increased. Being near the house, it is of easy access, and the farmer can spend many half hours working his garden, when he would not think of going to the field for that length of time.

The garden should contain all the small fruits, such as berries, currants, etc. Plant these in single rows, and far enough apart so that they can be easily cultivated. The space between can be devoted to some vegetable, which will compel working around the shrub. If the market gardener, upon lands ranging in price from \$300 to \$1,000 per acre, can upon half a dozen acres sell more dollars' worth of produce than are sold off many large farms, why may not the farmer grow in his own garden articles for food that will take the place of much of the more expensive commodities bought in town? The garden can not be had without labor, but with less, considering the amount produced, than is required for general farm crops. Two and sometimes three crops can be grown upon the same ground in one season. With the addition of a few hotbed sash the garden can be made to produce fresh vegetables for the table all the year round.

Clover and Timothy Seed.

Clover and timothy seed should be sown early. Sow on a light snow, or when the ground is slightly frozen, about the middle of the month. Sow fifteen pounds, or one peck, of cloverseed to the acre. Thick seeding will prevent weed growth. On barren hill-sides and on fields that have had little animal manure cloverseed will fall to germinate, owing to a lack of plant food. Spread a thin coat of stable manure over the land after the seed is sown. If manure cannot be had, spread a thin coat of straw, and sow 250 pounds of kainit and 200 pounds of bone phosphate to the acre. The chemical manures will furnish the plant food, and the straw will afford a covering for the young seed.

A Shovel for Bedding.

Where leaves, chaff and sawdust are used for bedding, a very large, light shovel is needed for handling them expeditiously and neatly. Such an implement is shown in the accompanying illustration. It can easily be made in the home workshop, using half-inch pine boards for the sides and bottom and 1 1/2-inch spruce for the back, into which the handle is fitted. Bedding for several animals can then be taken up at one shovelful.

Barb-Wire Cuts.

The following is said to have been proved an excellent treatment for barb-wire cuts: Wash the cut thoroughly with castile soap, using tepid water; after washing, spray the wound well with a weak solution of carbolic acid, and then dust over it all the fresh, air-dried lime that will adhere. This treatment should be given every day. No wrapping or covering is needed. The same treatment would doubtless be good in cases where horses get their pasterns burned or cut with a stake rope.

The Summer's Firewood.

Firewood for the summer should be hauled to the woodshed and piled up under cover. When the days are wet and too disagreeable for outside work the wood can be sawed, split and piled, ready for summer use. The brush from trimming the trees in the orchard and the corn-cobs, if dry, make excellent kindling-wood, and these should always be gathered and placed handy for the kitchen fire.

Early Pigs and Lambs.

Unless a farmer has a warm basement barn it is not worth while for him to have either lambs or pigs much before the last of March. Even with sufficient warmth there is not enough sunlight before March for young pigs. They will almost inevitably be kept back in their growth, and probably will not be any heavier at hog-killing time than pigs farrowed a month later.

Keep Horses' Mangers Clean.

Much dust and soiled food is apt to accumulate in the horse's manger, and as he is all the time breathing over it the manger quickly becomes so offensive that much food is wasted. Much of this feed will, however, be eaten by cattle, as they will eat freely after horses. The horse has a more delicate taste than any other farm animal except a sheep.

Potato Peelings.

In almost all farmhouses after potatoes are peeled for cooking the usual but wasteful way is to throw them in the small barrel for the pigs. They are very little good for pigs, but if cooked and mixed with wheat bran or fine middlings they make an excellent feed for hens.

Cranberry Pie.

Three cups of cranberries, stewed, with one and one half cups of sugar, and strained. Like pie plate with paste; put in cranberry jam, wash the edges, lay three narrow bars across; fasten at edge; then three more across, forming diamond-shaped spaces; wash with egg; bake in quick oven until paste is cooked.



Oh, brave and wise and steadfast soul,
Whose nation decks thy tomb to-day!
So long as this vast globe shall roll
Thy praises shall not pass away.
And we, whose fathers felt thy hand,
Before whose blade they broke and fled,
Will honor, with thy native land,
The noble memory of the dead!

For more than fame, or patriot pride—
Before all things desired and fair—
Is freedom! Stand thou there beside
Her beauty in that native air
Thy lightning cleared, that we might see
The tranquil splendors of her eyes
Smile down on all thy race to be,
And its unrivaled destinies!

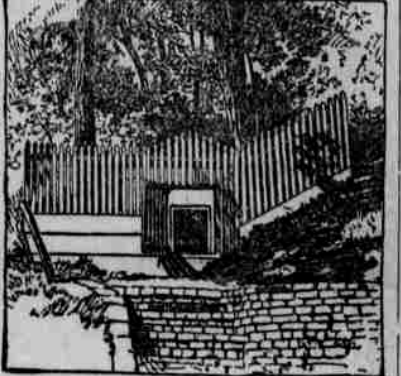
Men spread the feast and pour the wine
In memory of thy stainless name,
And honors ever shall be thine—
Enduring love and deathless fame!
But though thy glory through the spheres
Were carved and spoken, harped and sung,
Thy ghost would not disdain to hear
One tribute from an English tongue.

GEORGE WASHINGTON'S DEATH.

Centenary to be Observed by What Was Called a "Mock Funeral."

On that December day, nearly a century ago, when the body of Gen. George Washington was laid away in the vault at Mount Vernon, "mock funerals" were held in many towns and cities east of the Alleghenies. Our great-grandparents were in their infancy in those far-away days, and many of them saw these "mock funerals," which were conducted, of course, with all solemnity. From these sights of childhood springs the conviction in the minds of centenarians here and there that they were witnesses of the real funeral. Such is the trustfulness of old age in memories of times long ago!

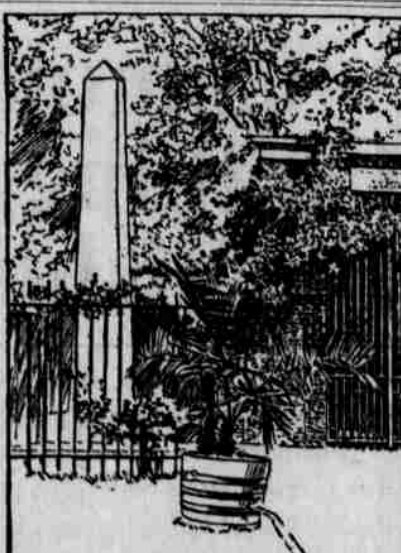
Ninety-nine years of national life have



WASHINGTON'S FIRST TOMB.

passed since then, and America has given far more attention to anniversary celebrations of that happier event—the birth of its first President—than to the yearly recurrence of the day of the funeral.

This year, however, the centennial of that day will take place, and the observance at Mount Vernon will be on Dec. 14, the anniversary of the day of the death, instead of on the 18th, which was the date of the funeral. It is intended, nevertheless, that the observance shall take the form of a duplication of the funeral services, going over the same ground as in 1770. So elaborate are the contemplated ceremonies that already plans are being put into shape for the great event. As Gen. Washington was a Mason, the services over his body were conducted, in part at least, by the Masons, and so the anniversary services will be under the direction of the Grand Lodge of Virginia, Free and Accepted Masons. The Grand Lodge will meet in Alex-



TOMB HOLDING WASHINGTON'S BODY SINCE 1831.

and, escorted by Lodge No. 4 of Fredericksburg, in which Washington received his first degree; Washington Lodge No. 22 of Alexandria, of which he was the first master, and Federal Lodge of Washington and representatives of every Grand Lodge in America will go to Mount Vernon and there repeat the services of Dec. 18, 1790. It is expected that President McKinley, himself a Mason, will make an address, and after the ceremonies a banquet will be given in Washington.

The march to the tomb will pass, of course, the old tomb in which Washington's body was buried, and in which it rested for more than thirty years, though the objective point of the procession will be the new tomb, where the coffin now is. In his will Washington stated that "the family vault at Mount Vernon requiring repairs, and being improperly situated, I desire that a new one, of brick, and upon a larger scale, may be built at the foot of what is called the Vineyard Inclosure, on the ground which is marked out, in which my remains and those of my deceased relatives (now in the old vault), and such others as may choose to be

entombed there, may be deposited." Notwithstanding his request, it was not until 1831 that the new tomb was built and Washington's body placed therein. And then the old vault was allowed to fall into a state of decay. In recent years it has been rebuilt from a drawing in the Congressional Library, and it is now surrounded by an iron fence, and is kept up with the same care as the new tomb. In 1837, when the marble sarcophagi in which the coffins of Washington and his wife rest were placed in the new tomb, the key of that tomb was thrown into the Potomac river.

At the request of Martha Washington a door was made to the old tomb at the time of the general's burial, instead of closing it with brick, as had been the custom at previous burials. The widow was sure that she would soon follow her husband. She lived only eighteen months after the death of Washington, keeping entirely, it is said, to her room on the third floor of the mansion, and upon her death, in 1801, her body was laid beside that of her husband in the old tomb. Washington was buried in a mahogany coffin, lined with lead, which was put in a case covered with black cloth.

WASHINGTON A RICH MAN.

Owned Thousands of Acres of Land and Stocks and Negroes.

When Washington died he was one of the richest men of his time. He owned lands and stock and negroes, and his estates amounted to thousands of acres. He had houses in Alexandria, Va., and property in Washington. He had valuable lands near the present site of Pittsburgh. He was throughout his life a money maker, and when he was a boy he got \$5 a day and upward for his surveying. He put his surplus money into lands, and an advertisement in a Baltimore paper of 1773 states that he had 20,000 acres of land for sale on the Ohio river. His will, which is now kept about twenty miles from Washington, in the safe of the old court house at Fairfax, Va., gives a detailed statement of every article he possessed down to the calves and sheep. His personal estate was then put down at \$532,000, and this included a vast amount of tobacco, large numbers of cattle, sheep and horses, nearly all of which he willed to his wife. This will is now kept in a wooden box, the top of which is covered with glass. It was torn in two some time ago by some careless sightseer, and since then no one has been allowed to handle it. The account books which are kept in the State Department show that Washington was very careful about keeping a record of his expenditures. He put down every-

Washington's Golden Words.

Intervenor is the love of liberty with every ligament of the heart. To perseverer is one's duty, to be silent is the best answer to calumny. Without virtue and without integrity, the finest talents and the most brilliant accomplishments can never gain respect or conciliate the esteem of the most valuable part of mankind. Promote as an object of primary importance, institutions for the general diffusion of knowledge. In proportion as the structure of a government gives force to public opinion, it is essential that public opinion should be enlightened. Observe good faith and justice toward

all nations; cultivate peace and harmony with all.

Let us warn you most solemnly against the baneful effects of the spirit of party. * * * It exists, under different shapes, in all governments, more or less stifled, controlled or repressed; but in those of the popular form it is seen in its greatest rankness, and is truly their worst enemy.

My first wish is to see this plague to mankind, war, banished from the earth, and the sons and daughters of this world employed in more pleasing and innocent amusements than in preparing implements and exercising them for the destruction of mankind.

Rather than quarrel about territory, let the poor, the needy, the oppressed, of the earth, and those who want land, resort to the fertile plains of our western country, the second land of promise, and there dwell in peace, fulfilling the first and great commandment.

A woman has no sympathy for another woman who has gone wrong, but often a man has sympathy for a wrong-doing fellow and will help him out.

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4:00 a. m. Tues. and Sat.	Willamette River. Portland to Corvallis & Way Landings.	4:30 p. m. Tues. Thur. and Sat.
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