

ON THE BLOOD-SOAKED SOIL OF MANCHURIA.



JAPANESE STORMING THE TRENCHES OF THE RUSSIANS UNDER GEN. STACKELBERG.

The accompanying illustration depicts a scene in the Russo-Japanese war, when the command under Gen. Stackelberg was dispatched to the south to make a diversion in favor of Port Arthur. After severe fighting the Russians were steadily pressed back by a Japanese force advancing on Hai-Cheng and came nearly being cut off before they rejoined Kuropatkin's command around Liao-tung. Our illustration, taken from the illustrated London News, shows the storming of the Russian trenches by the Japanese, and in it are depicted the full horrors of a war which has assumed the character of being among the bloodiest in history. An interesting feature of the picture is the administering of the right of the church by a priest of the Orthodox persuasion.

A POOR SEINFUL.

"Why, James-Perkins!" ejaculated Mrs. Perkins, as her husband entered the kitchen, dripping wet. "Where on earth have you been to, and what have you been doing?" The captain replied grimly that he had "been saving Hank," and then he began to collect a dry wardrobe. His wife, meanwhile, pursued her inquiries.

"Whatever do you mean?" she asked.

"Just what I say. Captain Hank was fool enough to fall off of Billy's wharf and like to drown himself. Me and Billy's been seining for him."

"Seining?"

"Yes'm, seining. And what's more, he was the poorest seinfu I ever pured up."

Mrs. Perkins made no further comment. The captain retired to an adjoining room and wiped the water from his hair and face and changed his clothes. Then he sat down before the stove to tell about it.

"Hank and Billy and me was a-setting in a row on the edge of Billy's wharf," he said, at last, "and Hank, as usual, set out to count up his money to make sure he hadn't lost any of it since he counted it last. He had as much as a dollar and a half in one hand, and his empty purse in the other, when crack went the railing, and Hank went over into the ocean."

"Why didn't you and Billy go in, too?" queried Mrs. Perkins.

"Well, me'n Billy didn't happen to be engaged in counting anything, so we grabbed the edge of the wharf and saved ourselves. Hank, he went down plumb to the bottom, and come up blowing like a porpoise."

"I saw right off he wasn't swimming any, and when he yells for help I mistrusts something was up, so I jumped in an' grabbed him. I got a good holt and brought him up to the splings on the end of the wharf."

"Catch a-holt," says I, "and me and Billy'll git you out in a minute."

"I can't catch a-holt," he says, spluttering out a lot of water.

"Why not?" says I.

"I got my hands full of money," he says.

"Well, that made me some disgusted, but Billy, he set on the wharf an' laughed till he like to bust."

"I'll get ye out, ye old shark," he says, and first thing I know there come a blight of his big seine over the edge of the wharf. I see the idea, and chucked the thing down under Hank. When we had him pured up I climb'd up on the wharf, and we put the line through the fall of Billy's davvies, and slung him up to the wharf."

"Was he grateful?" asked Mrs. Perkins.

"Well, yes, fer Hank, I reckon he was grateful. He opened his fist and see he had the dollar and half-dollar safe. Then he went up to the post-office and had Hiram split the half into two quarters. That was the smallest change Hiram had. Hank gave one of them to Billy and one to me."

"Yes'm, I took it. It ain't often Hank has them moments of generosity, and, as Billy says, to refuse to give him the chance to work one of 'em would be cruelty to animals."—Youth's Companion.

A General Misunderstanding.

A Boston entomologist, who has shown the toad to be one of the farm-

er's best friends, said recently, "The toad has been misunderstood in the past, as much misunderstood as a certain friend of mine who was taking a walking tour."

One night he put up at a small country hotel. The next morning, at breakfast, the landlord said to him:

"Did you enjoy the cornet-playing in the room next to yours last night?"

"Enjoy it!" my friend sneered. "I should think not. Why, I spent half the night pounding on the wall to make the man stop."

"It must have been a misunderstanding," said the landlord, sorrowfully. "The cornet-player told me that the person in the next room applauded him so heartily that he went over every piece he knew three times."

A \$1,400 STENOGRAPHER.

Miss Minnette Thompson, an Expert in Employ of the Government.

There's something typical about the case of Miss Minnette Thompson, "stenographer and typewriter," in the Interior Department, says a Washington correspondent. Her father was Prof. John E. Thompson, a pioneer in the educational movement in the District of Columbia. He was



MISS MINNETTE THOMPSON.

supervising principal of schools, and taught the boys while the late Mrs. E. D. E. N. Southworth, the novelist, taught the girls.

"Such a thing as that father could die we had never thought of," said Miss Thompson.

But he died fifteen years ago, and the aristocratic thoroughbred girl took up the fight, not for herself alone, but for mothers and sisters. First she taught school. Then the higher salaried position in the government service was secured for her.

"There is more money in it than in teaching," she said, "but the nervous strain is incomparably greater. A stenographer is kept incessantly on edge; her nerves are stretched to the utmost; the workday is long and there is no recreation. You may have been told that the Washington departments are full of drones. It is not true. There is no more faithful, loyal, hard-working and conscientious individual in the world than the government clerk. Of course, there are those who do not want to work and who shirk. But you find them in private offices and in stores. You can't exterminate the breed."

Miss Thompson is now earning \$1,400 per annum. She is considered

among the most expert of the stenographers in the department and is particularly valuable because she has mastered the technical details of the service, which no newcomer, however expert as a shorthand writer, could hope to understand.

HIGH PITCH IS DOOMED.

Musicians in General Pleased with Coming Universal Change.

Musicians in general, and singers especially, will welcome the news that the use of a concert or high pitch is on the decline, and that international or low pitch will soon be the only one to be used either for concert, band, orchestra or singing. The fact that this change is taking place is shown more than in anything else, in the manufacture of wind instruments. All of the large manufacturers are now making low pitch instruments extensively. There is hardly a house in the country that is not pushing them, and the time is not far distant when all orchestras and bands will be using international-pitched instruments. The American Federation of Musicians is taking the matter up and urging the adoption of the new idea, which will greatly benefit many.

The reasons for the change are many, the principal one being that the music produced is of a much richer quality and harmony is more exquisite when produced in these instruments. It is well known that the lower registers of the clarinet, flute, violin, cornet and in fact nearly every concert instrument, are much more pleasing to the ear than the higher ones, and that the harmony is richer. Even the piano has a sweeter tone when tuned to international pitch. For these reasons the adoption of the low pitch is to be hoped for, as it will make all orchestras and band music of a finer quality.

But the instruments will not be the only ones that will be helped by the change. Singers will find it much more beneficial than the others as it will give them a chance to sing without crowding their voices to the top limit. For some time past opera companies have been using a pitch between concert and international for the purpose of relieving their singers, and the adoption of the low pitch will be another step which will benefit them greatly.

From a Safe Distance.

The conveniences of modern science render it possible to communicate disagreeable news with safety to the sender. The New York Sun tells the story of a nine-year-old boy whose mother thought that he was entirely lacking in guile. Perhaps his father was not so sure of it.

One day the boy was practising the "McGinnity curve," when the ball went through a large pane of colored glass in the library. His mother discovered it, and asked, in her sternest voice, "Who did that?"

"I did, but I didn't mean to do it. The ball slipped."

"Well, what do you suppose your father will say when he knows it?"

"He knows it now. I told him."

"You told him? Do you mean that when you saw what you had done you went right down to his office and told him?"

"No, I didn't go to the office. I called him up on the telephone."

We have just one thing to ask of Saint Peter: That he let us pick out a few we don't want around when our record is read.

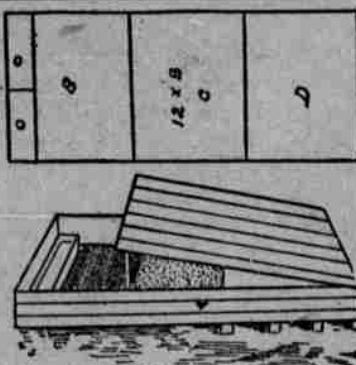
FARMS AND FARMERS



Cheap Double Hog Pen.

The pen here described is not an expensive one to construct, yet it answers the purpose of a pen costing several times as much built on other plans. This pen may be of logs with poles for the floor or to be built of sawed lumber, as one desires. While the pen may be of any dimensions desired, a length of sixteen or eighteen feet will be the most economical. The plan here described provides for a pen twenty-four feet long and eight feet wide, thus giving one, when divided, two pens, each eight by twelve feet. Or, it may be arranged, as shown in the cut, into three compartments for each pen. One a room with board floors for a feeding room.

One with earth floor for a general living room and one with board floor to be used as a sleeping room. At the end of the feeding room the troughs are made which may be partitioned off or not as one thinks best. The plan of arrangement with the general living room in the middle, between the feeding room and the sleeping room,

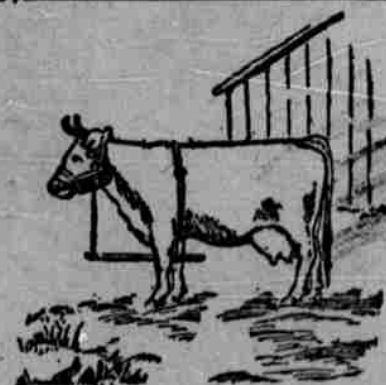


GOOD WINTER HOG PEN.

enables the hogs to have considerable exercise, and with such a room with an earth floor they will not be likely to soil the beds of the sleeping room. In the illustration A.O. indicate the troughs, B the feeding floor, C the earth floor and D the sleeping room. The complete pen is shown at the bottom of the cut.—Indianapolis News.

To Cure Sucking Cows.

There are many plans for breaking self-sucking cows of the habit, but some of them are complex, while with others the animal soon learns how to get the better of any device which is attached to her. There is one appliance, however, which seems to work to perfection, and it is made and applied in the following manner: The usual halter is placed on the head of the cow and a ring is fastened in it just under her neck. Then a strap or a strong rope is placed about her body just behind her forelegs. From this strap or rope another strap is run, having at the end a crupper such as is used on horses. This is placed in the proper position under her tail. Then a pole is secured sufficiently long to reach nearly to the middle of her body to a joint just beneath the ring fastened in the halter. A hole is bored in either end of the pole and it is tied



CURE FOR SUCKING COW.

at one end to the ring in the halter, and at the other end to the strap or rope about her body. The strap from the back to the tail prevents any slipping of the middle strap and the appliance is absolutely secure, making it impossible for the cow to reach her udder with her mouth. The illustration clearly shows the idea.

Poultry Pickings.

Mix the corn well with skim milk. Old plaster furnishes good lime material.

When a chick frequently picks itself it is lousy.

Late hatched pullets will rarely lay until spring.

Hardiness is the first of all qualities to seek in a breed.

In raising broilers for market earliness is quite an item.

Boil and mash potatoes and mix with milk before feeding.

Feeding broken oil cake to fowls twice a week will often promote laying when other foods fail to give good results.

Food should be varied sufficiently to keep the chicks with a good appetite.

Poultry will bring in the quickest returns of anything usually raised on a farm.

The larger the number of fowls kept the smaller the expense proportionately.

Geese require less grain and less expensive buildings than any other variety of poultry.

The incubator will hatch as many fertile eggs as the hen at a much less cost of labor and trouble.

A variety of food will not cost any more than one article all the time, but it pays a good deal better.

If too many hens are allowed to run with one cock there is always a risk of some of the eggs proving unfertile.

The production of feathers in either young or old fowls will be materially assisted by a liberal supply of bone and shell.

The foods required for growth and egg production are somewhat similar, inasmuch as each requires gluten and nitrogen.

A New Farm School.

The Farragut School is a model rural school built by the people of the tenth district of Knox County, Tennessee,

with the help of the General Education Board, which has contributed \$5,000 toward the establishment of the school. The purpose is to make it an educational center for the community;

not only for the children, but for the grown people as well. The board of trustees has just completed a building which has cost about \$3,500. The school has 12½ acres of land. On this will be built a home for the principal of the school, with garden, barn, etc.

This will be as nearly as possible an ideal country home, a model home for the community. Two or three acres will be planted in shrubbery, or laid out in walks, drives, etc. The remainder will be divided into plots for fruits, berries and the crops best suited to this community. This is not for the purpose of experiment, but for the purpose of demonstrating what has and can be done with the various crops.

In addition to this there will be shop work and such other things as boys and girls in the country should know.

Flavor and Color of Eggs.

The effect of different feeding stuffs on the color of the egg yolks and on the flavor of the eggs was also studied, not less than eight different kinds of grains being fed, as well as scrap beef. In many cases flavoring matters such as celery oil, sassafras oil, etc., were also mixed with the food.

Green food was given in the form of mangolds and sugar beet, which the fowls readily ate. Quite contrary to expectations, the flavor of the eggs was not noticeably affected by any of the rations or flavoring materials employed.

The different rations, however, very clearly affected the color of the yolks. When the ration consisted of wheat, oats, or white corn, either fed alone or in combination with each other, the yolks were so light colored that the eggs would be quite unsuitable for any high class or fancy trade.

On the other hand, the feeding of yellow corn gave the yolks that rich yellow color so much desired for the best markets.

Wheat After Corn.

One of the most serious objections to following corn with wheat is that the corn shock rows are difficult to seed, and if not seeded they grow up to weeds the following summer. The best way of avoiding this is to go through the field and cut the two rows of corn where the shock rows are to be. Go across the field, cutting one row at a time, laying the bunches over in the standing corn, opposite where the shock should stand. Cut the other row, and lay opposite the bundles left in cutting the first row.

After cutting out these rows and one or two at the ends to keep from being broken down, follow with the harrow and drill. Then pass through the field and set up the corn by using a horse, or by setting the two bundles together and tying, spreading the butts of the stalks to make shock more stable. If properly done there will be no trouble with shocks falling down. The cutting can then be finished and the rest of the field seeded, and that with little or no loss of time.

To Kill Cabbage Worms.

Mr. Brammer, of South Dakota, says: When you see signs of worms put on your wash boiler with a pall of soft water in it. Shave a half bar of soap into the water in the boiler and add three tablespoonfuls of kerosene. Let it boil thoroughly till the soap is fully dissolved and the oil fully incorporated into the mixture, and then fill the boiler with soft water. Fill your sprinkler and sprinkle the cabbage and perhaps you will not have to go over them again.