

BY JES' LAUGHIN'.

W's curious what a sight o' good a little thing will do; How ye kin stop the fiercest storm when it begins ter brew, An' take the sting from whut commenced to rankle when 'twas spoke, By keepin' still an' treatin' it as if it wuz a joke.

Folks sometimes fail to note the possibilities that lie in the way yer mouth is curvin' an' the twinkle in yer eye; It ain't so much whut's said that hurts ez what ye think lies hid; It ain't so much the doin' ez the way a thing is did.

—Selected.

YOUNG ATHERLEY'S LUCK.

THE morning sun lay warm and clear after the rain of the night before, and young Atherley, as his horse leped easily along the wide range, sang aloud for very joy of light-heartedness.

The train was in, and Atherley hurried around the corner, then halted suddenly, dazzled by the vision which confronted him. On the lower steps of a car near the middle of the train stood a girl, her fair hair blowing in the wind, her hands full of pink roses, her eyes gazing straight into his.

Practical thought forced a way, and his first act was to take account of stock.

"Jim will take the horse back," he reasoned. "It's all right. Luckily, I have just about enough for my ticket to New York."

At the next stop he sneaked forward to the smoking car and sat down to think things over.

There were three or four other men in the car, the younger ones chatting together, and another, rather older, reading in a corner.

"So you really just jumped on the train and came," asked the older man at length, when Billy had grown aware of his talk and moved away.

"That's what I told those fellows. But I don't mind telling you the truth. It was—it was on account of a girl," he said, haltingly.

"A girl! How so?" "I saw her on the car step," confessed Atherley. "And—and I liked her."

"I wonder if you have seen her?" he added, eagerly. "She had on some kind of a blue skirt, with a white waist, and carried some roses. They called her 'Marion.'"

"Marion!" he exclaimed, "why, that's my daughter," unthinkingly. Then he stopped, rather annoyed.

"It was to say that I wasn't coming home," he explained. "I will telegraph from Chicago. Now if you are ready."

"Your daughter!" he cried. "Really your daughter, oh, I say, what luck! That will save me an awful lot of time and trouble."

EMPEROR OF JAPAN.



EMPEROR MUTSHUHITO.

The Emperor of Japan, to whose genius is accredited the most remarkable victories achieved by his forces over the Russians, has come to the front as one of the famous rulers of the world.

TELEPHONE ON THE CONGO.

Impossible to Talk During Middle of the Day in Rainy Season.

The telegraph and telephone lines of the Belgium Congo region show how some peculiarities both in the construction of the lines and their operation, owing to the climate and the character of the country.

Where the line runs through the forests the wires are placed as much as possible upon trees and in other cases upon iron poles, says the Scientific American.

The other brilliant objects of the line, such as the insulators, are also painted black.

Besides the telegraph offices of Leopoldville, Kwamouth and Coquhatville, there are nine telephone offices and six cabins.

The first hours after sunset are the best for telephoning, and it is possible to telephone direct from Matada to Kwamouth, or 380 miles.

After 10 o'clock a. m. the heat makes it impossible to use the telephone, especially in the rainy season.

The greatest enemies of the telephone lines are the wild animals. In the rainy season atmospheric discharges often strike the wires, therefore the lines need to be constantly inspected and repaired.

Resort in a Desert.

A remarkable hotel is in the Sahara desert. From the windows on two sides nothing but pathless sand is to be seen.

If some men didn't have money women would have no excuse for marrying them.



Plan for Chicken-House.

A Texas woman in Farm and Ranch describes a chicken house for the benefit of any who may wish a clean, convenient one.

It is built of 1x12 boards, well slatted on three sides; the front has a stripped or latticed door in one corner, this to insure plenty of ventilation; the roosts are swinging poles, sus-



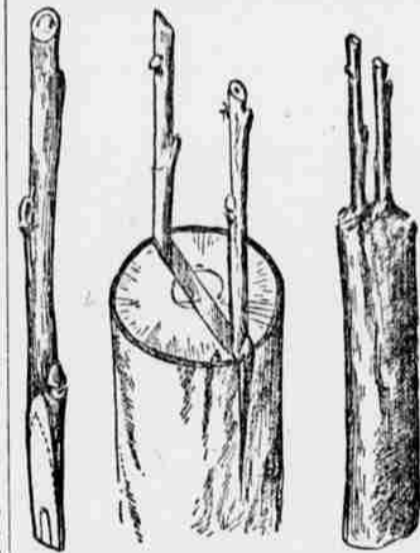
CONVENIENT CHICKEN HOUSE.

Small tin cans are tacked on the roost, the walls and near the nests; in them is kept mothline balls; they keep out all vermin.

Varities of grafting are many, but cleft grafting represents the method commonly in use for the grafting of orchard trees where the old top is to be removed during the course of a few years and a new one is to be grown in its place.

Cleft Grafting.

operation of cleft grafting appears clearly in the illustration.



CLEFT GRAFT SCION—CLEFT GRAFTING—A WAXED STUB.

Hogs in the Orchard.

In regard to the hogs skinning the orchard trees, if you put a dozen or two of hogs on an acre of land, very likely they will skin the trees, or a flock of sheep would also.

Sheep Shearings.

When breeding to improve ewes should be two years old when bred.

Under ordinary conditions the manure from sheep should pay for the labor of caring for them.

A good foot rot medicine must be somewhat caustic, in liquid form and cheap enough to use freely.

Sheep should be charged with the value of the food consumed and what the pasturage is worth.

Radishes are usually ready for use in six weeks from sowing.

Cold frames are useful for forwarding lettuce and cabbage in spring or early summer.

To secure the best returns in feeding have the sheep as even as possible. If the best profit is realized, not only the wool, but the mutton and the lamb, must contribute their part.

It will pay, if you intend to sell your sheep at public sale, to have some one grade them up in even lots.

Don't let any one top your sheep. Better improve your sheep until people will want to buy the tail end of the flock.

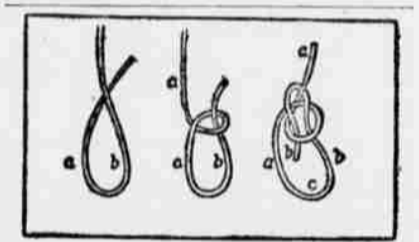
Teaching a Horse to Stand.

As soon as the colt is fairly gentle and has been ridden a few times, throw the reins down, and with a strong but soft rope hobble his front legs. Fasten a rope twenty feet long to one front leg and the other to a stout post or stake.

After a while it will only be necessary to wrap the reins around the horse's front legs, and later simply dropping the reins to the ground will be sufficient.

Useful Bowline. The bow and knot is one of the most useful knots we have, and one which comparatively few can tie.

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HOW TO TIE THE KNOTS.

ure. Now carry b around and under a, passing it down through the loop as in the final figure. It is impossible for this knot to slip when properly tied. It is useful in all sorts of emergencies.

Is United States Losing Ground?

Dr. Saunders, director of experimental farms in Canada, is authority for the statement that there were produced in the Dominion last year about 80,000,000 bushels of wheat.

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The usual custom with good sheep farmers is to go carefully over their flocks each year, and reject and send to the butcher all the aged ewes, yearling ewes, ewe lambs and rams that are not of the desired quality.

Culling the Flock.

Value of Inferior Wheat. Damaged wheat, shrunken, shiveled wheat and screenings are all good for feeding purposes.

Gathered in the Garden.

Probably no other small fruit will give more weight of crop for the space it occupies than the currant.

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