



Small Fruits.

Frequently two crops may be had on the same plot during the year, such as early peas followed by late cabbage, or turnips may follow onions; but the soil should be rich and well supplied with manure or fertilizer. One advantage with a small garden is that during the dry season some of the crops can be watered by the use of the hose or sprinkler. Inexperienced persons should not expect complete success the first year, but there is nothing too difficult to learn, and the second year should prove satisfactory if the season does not become too dry. The principal small fruits are blackberries, strawberries and raspberries, but gooseberries, currants and grapes are also included. The most profitable fruits are those that receive attention during the entire year. The strawberry will thrive and bear well with little cultivation on some soils, and often receives no care after the plants have been set out, other than to run the cultivator down the rows once or twice, but it will pay well for any extra labor that may be applied, however. The largest berries are grown from plants in single stools, but the largest yields are obtained from the matted row system. The first essential is to get the young plants in the ground as soon as possible, so as to afford them an opportunity to grow and make headway before the dry season comes on. High winds and a dry soil will make quick work of young plants. The rows should be just wide enough apart to admit of the use of the horse hoe, and the ground should be kept very loose around the plants in order to guard against drought as much as possible.

Cultivating the Garden.

The majority of farmers give but little attention to gardening. They regard the spade, hoe and rake as implements which involve too much time and labor. If a farmer desires to grow a crop of any kind he prefers to do the work with a plow and cultivator, and in a wholesale manner. This repugnance to using the small tools, in order to grow a supply of vegetables, has been the cause of depriving hundreds of farmers of luxuries that would have cost but little if they had considered the value of the crops from a garden, and also the real cost compared with a crop of grain or potatoes. But there are, however, some farmers and their wives who know how a garden helps to make a farm enjoyable, and they are the ones who will now enjoy the work of planting the seeds of the many different kinds of vegetables, for there is no portion of farm life so agreeable as that of preparing the ground in the spring for the garden. There has been an advance in the system of gardening. While the hoe, rake and spade still hold a place in the list of garden tools, yet they have been superseded mainly by the single and double wheeled hoes and seed drills, which save time and labor and which can be used for doing good work.

Fruit Tree Planting.

For fruit tree planting, when the sub-soil is clay and apt to be waterlogged, not only should it be well drained first, but the bottoms of the holes in which the trees are planted should have placed in them some coarse rubble, to act as drainage also. Apart from such material helping to keep the roots out of the clay below, it serves also to keep them fairly dry and aerated, and that is very important for the future health of the trees. In making holes on such ground, throw out to fully three feet wide and twelve inches deep. Into each hole then put four inches of old brick and mortar material, or clinker, or other hard, coarse material, well trodden and leveled. Upon that put, if obtainable, pieces of turf, upside down, then three inches of soil, and plant the trees. In that way not only will the roots be kept near the surface and be healthy, but because the trees are on slight mounds, they can be fed each summer with a mulch of manure. Too much trouble can not be taken in planting trees on stiff soil, to keep the roots near the surface.

Economizing Garden Space.

If you have early peas, sow them in a block rather than in long drills. As soon as they are harvested, plant squash. Hubbard does well after early peas if water is ample. If sweet peas are grown, a row of onions may be grown on each side of the peas without detriment to either. The evergreen onion is particularly well adapted to this. On rich soil it matures long before the peas bloom and may be harvested. Late cabbage may be set in the rows of early onions and make their growth after the onion harvest.

Feeding Animals.

In the feeding of animals the farmer, by his knowledge of the difference between flesh-forming foods and those that form fat, is enabled to so combine the different foods as to provide for all their wants. Knowing that the "albuminoids" (nitrogenous foods) produce muscle (lean meat) and milk, he should, in order to allow for heat and fat "balance" the foods for the purpose of avoiding too much of the one kind and not enough of the other. On an average, the proportion of nitrogenous foods to the carbonaceous is as one to six (though the proportion may vary, according to circumstances), or, rather, he should add six times as much of the carbonaceous as he does of the nitrogenous. The conditions, however, affect the proportions, as less carbon is required in summer than in winter, hence during the warm season the nitrogen may be increased and the carbon diminished; but, if the weather is very cold, the proportion of carbonaceous matter, on the contrary, should be increased.

Predicting Frosts.

One of the most important fruits of the establishment of the Mount Rose weather observatory in the Sierra Nevada near Reno, Nev., at an elevation of 10,800 feet, is the discovery of a rule by which the appearance of frost in the Truckee and Carson valleys below may be predicted with positive assurance from twenty-four to thirty-six hours in advance.

By comparing relative meteorological data for San Francisco and Reno at 6,200 feet elevation, and Mount Rose, 10,800 feet elevation, a constant correspondence is observed between fall in pressure and fall in temperature, enabling frost prognostications to be made with certainty. The station was established originally with the idea of gathering information which would be available in predicting the weather conditions for the districts farther east.

Sowing Corn for Fodder.

The silo has opened advantages to dairymen in other countries where corn does not mature. In England, where the conditions are unfavorable for the production of matured crops of corn, the farmers sow corn for fodder, store it in the silo, then grow a crop of turnips on the land, from which they took the fodder. The same system can be practiced in this country, but our farmers are content with one crop, and thus do not derive as much from the land as is possible to be obtained. The land in England is high, and farmers pay high rents, but they do not hesitate to use manures and fertilizers freely, securing large crops in return.

Lime for Fungus.

There is a fungus which sometimes attacks carrots and turnips, causing decay at the roots, or a misshapen growth, or a withering of the leaves. This may be prevented by a liberal sowing of air-slaked lime upon the soil, thirty or forty bushels per acre, and harrowing it in before the seed is sown, as the fungus lives in the soil. But it is usually better and cheaper to put the root crops on new land where this fungus has never appeared.

Gleanings.

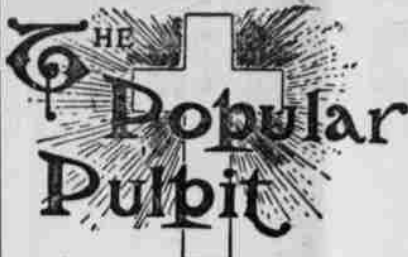
When farmers are busy in the spring they are liable to neglect many matters which should command their attention. Get the implements in readiness and sharpen the tools. The grindstone is a valuable adjunct to good farming, if thorough work is desired.

It is no easier to keep poultry than any other stock, as labor and proper management must be used to meet success. Less capital may be required with poultry, but it must be judiciously expended, or a loss can result as easily as from any other source. Experience is of more value than capital in poultry raising.

The food left over on the ground ferments and decomposes in a very short time on a warm day, and it therefore becomes one of the main sources of gapes in chickens and cholera in fowls. Filth in the summer season should never be allowed. It is well to do away with troughs entirely, feeding only whole grains and scattering the food as much as possible.

It is, perhaps, the proper system to water the animals at regular periods, especially horses; but animals differ, and may desire water at times when they do not receive it. To give all animals free access to water is not contrary to the natural law, as they are sometimes better judges of eating and drinking, so far as they are concerned, than their owners.

Ensilage should not cost the farmer over \$1 a ton, and fifty pounds a day is a large ration for a cow. This is forty rations per ton, at 2½ cents a ration, and hence will provide for one cow for forty days. There is no food that can be produced at a lower cost. The ensilage is not of itself a complete food, as the best results are derived when hay and grain are also allowed; but it cheapens the cost of the whole and provides succulent food in winter, when change occurs from grasses to the regular dry rations of that season.



TRUE SYMPATHY NEEDED.

By Rev. Percy T. Olton.

Rejoice with them that do rejoice; weep with them that weep.—Romans, xi, 18.

To interpret fully the command, "Love one another" is impossible unless we know the meaning of the word sympathy. The expression of our love for the children of men in deeds is comparatively easy; but to be able to enter into their feelings, to understand and appreciate the powers and influences that are molding the lives of those around us—that is the gift most to be coveted if we are to fulfill the divine command, and it is to be found only where sympathy dwells.

Humanity is made up of hearts and hearts need sympathy more than gold. As long as men feel and think and desire, so long will this rule stand. There are those who need both in equal measure. The hungry, the naked, the outcast, the oppressed, must be met with the outstretched hand in which there is the visible token of the sympathy that prompts the greeting.

But there are times when the empty hand alone is sufficient; times when the need of the body has been cared for and it is only the heart that is crying out for food and shelter; and methinks were we to search carefully we would find in this world of ours more hungry hearts than hungry stomachs.

A soul possessed of a passionate love for its fellow creatures, refusing to see only the weakness and folly of human nature, ever striving to break the bonds of the captives and to bring them to a consciousness of their pace and standing as children in the great family of mankind—such a soul knows the full measure of the word sympathy, that word which stands for a joy beyond expression and a pain beyond definition.

The area of contact with the life of the world depends upon the soul's power of sympathy. For the soul that has not developed this divine attribute the world is a very small, narrow place. Only among a limited number does it find a common ground and mutual interests. It is shut off from the rest of life as truly as if surrounded by walls of brick and mortar. Strive as it may, it cannot touch the life all around, nor receive from that life for the satisfying of its need.

The secret of the power of some souls on the life of the world lies in the fact that in these souls there is found sympathy in overflowing measure. It is not genius, nor intellect, nor power, nor even beauty of form or speech, that draws mankind to the feet of these great souls. The world admires genius, it respects intellect, it obeys power, it finds joy in beauty, but it loves only love and only the love that is expressed in a tender, strong, passionate, all-embracing sympathy.

If we look for the center of attraction in the matchless life of Jesus Christ I think we will find it to be His boundless sympathy. It was not chiefly the wisdom of His teaching nor the glory of His character that made the common people flock to His side; it was that infinite compassion, that yearning love, that divine sympathy which drew them and which ever since has been drawing the tired, sin-sick world close to the heart of Jesus Christ.

Of the blessings which the Gospel of Christ has given to the world, sympathy stands among the chief and foremost. Before the advent of Christ men had not learned how to put together the letters that spell the word. It was Christ who taught "to rejoice with them that rejoice and to weep with them that weep." He smiled at the wedding feast at Cana of Galilee and He wept at the grave of Lazarus. He lived and loved and suffered because the world needed him, and He asks that those who call Him master shall do likewise, for sympathy is the only interpreter of the Gospel.

THE PURPOSE OF LIVING.

By Henry F. Cope.

Glorify God in your body—I. Cor. vi, 20.

The early question of the old creeds, "What is the chief end of man?" was conceived in a spirit more practical than academic. It was the voice of the constant inquiry as to the purpose of living. But the answer given by the creed lacks the assurance of a moral conviction; it fails to find any response in us. "To glorify God and to enjoy him forever" may be the portion of angels, but honest men have to confess that they have no great desire to be angels, yet.

The emphasis of the creed with that as its basis practically was on dying

rather than on living; it owed whatever grip it had on men to the promise it held, to those who were in the midst of the sordid round of tasks or the dull, heavy grind of poverty, of a felicitude that knew neither hunger, fear, nor pain; it offered a heaven forever to those who could endure a hell for a short time.

The logical consequence was to make dying the chief end of living. Who cannot remember being told to despise the present, to consider how brief it is, like a cloud before the dawn of the endless day? It was compared to the short waiting outside some door beyond which was warmth, cheer, and unending bliss. So that the pious soul thought of life only in terms of waiting, watching, enduring. Piety became positive only in prospect, negative in the present.

To say to a man, be patient with wrong and oppression to-day and you will be prospered to-morrow, is to teach him to compound a felony, to wink at the despoiling of the earth by the iniquitous for the consideration of a title to the riches of heaven. It is to lose sight of the fact that unless the life finds itself now it never will find itself, that to dwarf a soul to-day is to dwarf it forever.

The chief end of life will be found in life itself, now, present, in this world. The only way to make the most of the future is to make the most of ourselves in the present. If heaven be the land of unlimited happiness only hearts that have been enlarged, that have learned to know things that are high, to sympathize with things and thoughts having the breadth of eternity ever can comprehend its riches.

The menace of the old theology was that it postponed everything; it was the philosophy of procrastination. When it postponed the real purposes of life it put off the realization of its possibilities; it postponed the development of character.

Then, says the practical man, this means that we can ignore the future; we must make the most of the present; get all you can; keep all you get; the whole purpose of life is to make a good living, to enjoy yourself. This is the swing of the pendulum away from the old thought. The ideal of the present day is material advantage. The chief end of man is to make money. If once he was the slave of an unjust order, he now is the slave of an unworthy appetite.

Living only for wealth or for wages is not living at all. Who knows less of life than the slave of modern commercialism, the man who lifts his eyes no higher than the pay roll, or the ticker tape? It is better to be the victim of a delusion that gives some happiness, that gives some fortitude, and to live the simple life of the poor than to be the slave bound to the wheel of modern social greed and money madness.

Life itself is the object of living; the chief end of man is to become glorious as his ideal of God is glorious, to realize the highest that comes to him in the song of poet, the vision of seer, the hope of his own heart. The money, the acres, the resources are the tools for the development of life. This world is a workshop; it has failed utterly if it produces nothing but an array of machines and a heap of shavings; it must turn out the finished product of men.

Are you living thus for life, or are you living to do no more than make a living? We need to educate our children to set honor, truth, justice, a high life, before all things, to prize noble attainments so that they shall not be content with the lesser prizes of prosperity in things, so that whether we win or lose in the markets of the world we shall stand rich and glorious in manhood, finding the ends of life in the achievement of high character and finding in commerce but the servant of character.

Short Meter Sermons.

Emptiness is not innocence.

Worship is independent of walls.

True religion is the root of all reform.

Triumph is a matter of simply trying again.

The heights never are scaled by the topology.

The overtime sermon makes the slothful saint.

You cannot fire the hearts of men by frozen sermons.

You lose sense as soon as you ignore all sentiment.

Polishing the head alone often paralyzes the heart.

The church that lifts the fallen never need fear failure.

The ear ready for slander makes the lips ready to slay.

The greatest shame of all is to feel none at things unworthy.

The pulpit often mistakes the thunder for the shower of blessing.

A man is not sound in life because he has much sound on his lips.

The church will not make a new world until it is willing to mix with the old one.



"He's perfectly wild over his new auto." "Huh! You should see him under it."—Milwaukee Sentinel.

The young man spoke bitterly: "Do you take me for a fool?" "Oh, George," she said, "this is so sudden."—Memphis Journal.

Mrs. Nurich, proudly—That clock on the stairs is more than two hundred years old. Mrs. Blueblood Cutting—Ah, of whom did you buy it?

First Millionaire—You were laid up in your house all last week, weren't you? Second Millionaire—Yes. "Sickness or investigation committee?"—Life.

Brown—Do you think the Panama Climate induces laziness? Town—Does it? Why I took some bees down there once and they got so lazy they wouldn't sting.

Hodge—What's old Scribbles doing? He looks poverty-stricken. Podge—He is writing a series of articles on "How to Get Rich Without Capital."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Mrs. Trust Magnate (newly rich)—I want one of them octopus-shaped rooms for the library. Cynical Architect—So appropriate, dear madam.—Baltimore American.

Burr—Do you think the end of the world will ever come? Dock—I thought it had this morning; my wife got her new hat home and there wasn't a thing wrong with it.

The Agent—If you have this machine, sir, you won't take anybody's dust. The Magnate—Then I don't want it. I'm out for everybody's dust.—Cleveland Leader.

Algernon—I—aw—have resolved to—aw—do something useful in the world, doncher know. Miss DeStyle—Indeed! Algernon—Yaws. I am—aw—learning to tie me own ties.—Chicago Daily News.

"What class of people do you think has been most benefited by the libraries you have founded?" "I'm not sure," answered Mr. Dustin Stax. "But I kind of suspect it's the architects."—Washington Star.

Teacher—If coal is \$5 per ton, how many tons could you get for \$20. Disturbing Element—Three tons, Teacher.—That's wrong. Disturbing Element—I know it is, but they will do it just the same.—Harvard Lampoon.

"I am a worthless thing!" exclaimed the rejected and dejected young man, despairingly. "Oh, no," replied the fair girl cheerfully. "Not worthless. Your skeleton alone would sell for twenty dollars."—Somerville Journal.

"That was an awful break Blmerly made last night after he had proposed to the rich Miss Antek and been accepted." "What was it?" "Just after she had accepted him he asked if she gave trading stamps."—Commercial Progress.

Surly Strong—Gin me a nickel, missus? Missus—I should think a big, strong man like you would be ashamed to ask for money. Surly Strong—I am, missus, but I ain't got der nerve to take it without askin'.—Philadelphia Record.

"Dubley bought a horse the other day ——" "Yes, and he was horribly stuck, wasn't he?" "Oh! you've seen the horse then?" "No, but he told me he was going to buy one from a friend who is in the business."—Philadelphia Press.

Bibliophile (aghast)—I beg your pardon, madam, but that book your little girl is playing with is an old and exceedingly rare first edition. Caller—Oh, that's all right, Mr. Vibbert. It will amuse her just as much as if it were nice and new.—Chicago Tribune.

"Did your bull terrier get a blue ribbon at the show?" "Yes." "I should think you would hang it up in a prominent place." "No, you see, this was a hair ribbon he snatched from a little girl, and we had to pay her father not to make any trouble."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

"Anything peculiar about these people that have just moved into the house next door to you, Mrs. Crossway?" "No; there's nothing unusual about them. They've borrowed a step-ladder and a tack-hammer, and turned their children loose in our back yard."—Chicago Tribune.

A Similarity.

"Did you ever try the stock market," asked the Eastern man.

"No," answered Bronco Bob. "But it's my guess that a deal in stocks is pretty much like a deal in faro. You want to fight shy unless you know the dealer."—Washington Star.

When a man says he will do a certain thing, "or know the reason why," he frequently learns the reason why.

Everyone feels free to steal an apple from a farmer's wagon.