

AGRICULTURAL NEWS  
THINGS PERTAINING TO THE  
FARM AND HOME.

Several Good Remedies Given to Prevent Smut in Wheat—How to Conquer an Angry Bull—Ammonia Cure for Lumpy Jaw.

To Prevent Smut in Wheat.  
The very best grain that can be had should be seeded. If the farm grain is not up to the standard, do not use it. Grain grown on strong limestone land has more vitality and will produce more to the acre. To prevent smut, the grain should be treated before drilling. The best preventive of smut is sulphate of copper or blue vitriol. Take one pound of the sulphate and dissolve it in eight gallons of water. After the vitriol is dissolved spread the grain to be treated upon the barn floor and sprinkle it well; then turn it with a long-handled shovel so that every grain is coated. The grain may then be dusted with dry air-slacked lime, and then drilled at once. Weak chamber eye is also equally effective; it should be fermented first. While it may not be advisable to take the trouble to coat every bushel of grain drilled, yet it will pay, and pay handsomely. The grain grown especially for seed should always be so treated. By so doing a better quality of grain can be raised that will have more vitality. The seed growers always coat their grain before drilling.—The American.

Curing an Ugly Bull.  
Frequently a bull, in a fit of temper, kills or cripples his keeper. This is more particularly true of dairy breeds. Now, I do not believe the bull is as much to blame as his owner. He has been kept in close confinement most of his life, with very little exercise or sunlight, and no pleasant company. His blood is in bad order as a consequence, and he is difficult to control. The beef bull is more phlegmatic and less liable to get unruly. I think that if the dairy cow's bull had been allowed the range of a small paddock and the company of a couple of sedate old cows, and perhaps, made do an hour's work each day, running a feed chopper or a churn, so as to wear out muscular tissue and maintain health and his preceptive power in full vigor, his blood would have been kept pure and his temper sweet.—Agriculturist.

Cure for Lumpy Jaw.  
As to the ammonia cure for lumpy jaw, we have only the assurance of a Mr. Wm. Metcalf, Grey County, Ontario, who writes the Farmers' Advocate as follows: "I have used it for years, and cured every case, no matter how bad. Just rub a little on lumps, or lumps, as sometimes there are several. They will disappear gradually in a short time. Sometimes, if very bad, I foment with pretty warm water, but not hot enough to scald. The ammonia has then more chance to penetrate, but I seldom do anything but rub a little on with my fingers out of a ten-cent bottle I keep in the stable for the purpose.

Waste of Sweet Corn Stalks.  
Usually on each stalk there are two or more ears, one fully ready for use as green corn, the other small and immature. To save the stalks, the first ear is cut. But in most cases the second, and always the third ear is too small to be profitably marketed. Whenever there is only one ear on a stalk it should at once be cut and fed to the cow or horse. It is worth more than that it ever will be again. We are not sure that this is not true, even when there are one or more nubbins left on the stalk. If fed to milch cows, ordinary fodder corn is very poor food. It needs to be supplemented, as this sweet corn fodder does, with a greater amount of nutrition, which is worth as much in increased milk yield as it is in a few nubbins of corn. Sweet corn fodder is more waste than any other. It is wasted in trying to save nubbins of corn worth more for feeding than they are for anything else.—Cultivator.

A Good Stable Floor.  
We may not be able to lay a cement floor, we may not be able to buy lumber, but, in most cases, we have some clay on the farm, and, if so, there is no excuse for not having a very fair stable floor. Dig out the top soil and fill in at least six inches of clay which has been worked thoroughly with water, and about one-sixth coal ashes, or fine gravel, and straw chopped to about half an inch in length, so as to form a tough, adhesive mass. The preliminary mixing can be done with a hoe, but the working proper should be done by tramping thoroughly, either by man or horse. Drive in little pegs to show the slope desired, and then ram it firmly with a large wooden rammer. Smooth it off, using a straight edge from peg to peg, and allow time to dry properly before using. Such a floor will stand a good deal of wear, and can be kept reasonably clean.—Grange Homes.

Farming a Good Business.  
Fifty-five years ago I was busily engaged on a farm; it seemed to me a hard life, and as soon as I was 21 years old I sought an easier one, but I cannot say that I found it. After working at different kinds of business for fourteen years (seven and one-half years being spent in Illinois and Missouri) I came back to my native place broken in health and fully persuaded that farming was not the hardest business one could choose. After my second experience of thirty-five years I still have the same opinion.

Farming as a reliable way of getting a living has not changed materially in fifty-five years, but the way to run a farm has changed. The trouble about farming is that you cannot induce the middle-aged man to make the changes that the times require, and the young man who lives on the home farm must, and will, do as his father used to do. The one easy thing to learn now is the eight or ten-hour system for a day. The much has changed as much as that of manufacturing. The hand spinning wheel has been set aside, and so, to a large extent, must the hand hoe and the hand scythe. The old four-pound lump of butter must be well made into eight half-pound prints; milk must be put into glass cans; all kinds of fruit must look just so and the cows must be groomed to look as tidy as a gentleman's horse, and so on to the

end of farm work. If a farmer will be up in fashion and up with the time he lives in, farming is as good business now as it was fifty years ago. A farmer might as well be out of the world as to be fifty years behind the times.—New England Farmer.

Stack Making.  
As a rule there are few good stack makers in the United States, as the abundant building material makes it easy to put up barns capable of holding all the grain and hay. But wherever grain growing increases largely, the grain in the straw, being only left in that condition for a few weeks, does not absolutely need barn room. A well-built stack answers every purpose, and, except labor used in making it, costs nothing. The only necessary rule is to always keep the middle of the stack full and to tramp it down well. If the sides are not tramped at all it will be better. The stack will settle with the grain in the best possible shape.

The Live Forever Plant.  
The following plan has proved effective in getting rid of live forever in at least one case. Fence off a small portion at a time and turn in hogs, which are very fond of the weed and will devour it greedily, rooting up the ground to get the little tubers. By permitting the hogs to till this soil thoroughly they will eradicate live forever, root and branch, in a more thorough and inexpensive manner than can be done in any other way. At least this is what a Connecticut farmer writes to the New England Homestead. Another farmer wrote as follows: "Turn hogs on the land in early spring, and they will clean up the roots completely, or salt if placed upon each plant will kill."

He Plows Deep.  
Mr. T. M. Brown, who resides in Elbert County, Georgia, on the line of the Southern Railway, is a successful farmer. Mr. Brown bought his farm about five years ago, and he aims to get big returns by deep plowing and the use of commercial fertilizers and farm-yard manure. Beginning on poor and worn-out land four years ago, that scarcely paid the cost of tillage, he has brought it up to that high state of fertility that enabled him to get last year forty-one bales of cotton on fifty acres and 5,000 bushels of corn on twenty-five acres, together with oats, peas and other provision crops in abundance.—Southern States.

Killing Weeds with Match.  
Small patches of Canada thistle and quack grass can be often best destroyed by using a match of almost any thing that will be so compact that the new shoots that come to the surface cannot work their way through it. Care should be taken to suppress quickly all shoots of the obnoxious growth that will appear outside the mulched area. So soon as the roots find they cannot grow through they will increase their growth on every side so as to avoid the mulch. If only a few or barely one or two spouts reach the surface they will keep life in the underground roots, and the work must all be done over again next year.

Farm Notes.  
While at pasture the young sheep should have access to salt. A flock will visit the salting place twice a day regularly. Salt is a good tonic and prevents indigestion, which produces destructive diarrhoea, all the worse when the weather is warm.

Prof. H. E. Van Deman says that a crop of clover or cow peas plowed under every two or three years in the orchard will stimulate growth sufficiently, and as it would take twenty loads of stable manure per acre to do the same, the former is the cheaper.

Smut does not pass from stalk to stalk in the cornfield, and there is no danger of contamination in this way. The infection takes place when the corn is young, the germinating spores entering the tenders part—the root, node and lowest joint—and after the disease is once in the plant no application will do the least good.

In regard to detasselling corn—that is, to break down the tassels or remove them, a practice which has been advocated as enabling the farmer to secure larger yields—experiments show that there is nothing gained by so doing while the labor required is an item of expense that is bestowed when the farmer can be growing green fodder or some other crop for cattle food.

For Your Stomach's Sake.  
Persons who are not eating better, use salutarin, pearlash, baking powder, soap suds, alum, and heaven knows what else, to "raise" their bread and sweeten their sour dough. Here are a few facts about it from an exchange: "Wood is burned to ashes; the ashes are leached; lye is the result. Lye is evaporated by boiling, black salts is the residue. The salts are purified by fire and yield potash. The potash is then, by a certain process, changed to pearlash. Pearlash is put in sacks over a distillery mash tub, where fermentation evolves carbonic acid gas; the pearlash absorbs it, becomes solid, and is whiter, heavier and drier than the pearlash was, and it is now salutarin! How much salts of lye and carbonic acid gas a human stomach can bear and be healthy is a question for a salutarin eater. Potash will eat the hands. Some salutarin will not harm the stomach. Such a statement looks like a lye. Salutarin and other alkalies will neutralize acids, and if exactly the right proportions are used the residue may be inert and perhaps comparatively harmless. But often the right proportions are not used and alkali is left to eat the coats of the stomach. But if the right proportions are used there is still left in the system a quantity of hard, unyielding, insoluble matter, which is likely to clog the machinery, stiffen the joints and derange the whole system. Better keep the stuff outside, and eat good sweet 'unleavened bread."

Careless.  
"Yes," said the editor of the picture paper, "he is a very good artist. I have only one fault to find with him."  
"What is that?"  
"His style is getting monotonous. He drew two portraits of the same woman, and he made them both look alike."

Why We Are Tired.  
The fatigue felt after exertion is now usually attributed to the presence, in the muscles and blood, of the chemical products that result from action.

BOOK REVIEWS

The title of Mrs. Cragle's new novel is "The School for Saints."

The American Monthly Review of Reviews is the new title of the periodical edited by Albert Shaw. In course of time it will doubtless come to be known more briefly as the American Monthly.

John Kendrick Bangs is now vice-president of the Yonkers Board of Education and to the duties of this office he devotes a large part of the time left from his writing and from golf, in which he is an enthusiast.

The most northern paper in the world is printed at Godthaab, in Greenland, and is called Laeastof. It is a missionary sheet, made for the Eskimos, and has been the means of teaching many of them to read the Danish language.

The third and last volume of the new London edition of Burns' works has been completed by W. E. Henley and his collaborator, Mr. Henderson. Included in it will be an essay on the genius of the poet by Mr. Henley.

A new element has been introduced into the problem of the origin of our cats by the discovery in Brazil of a tortoiseshell wildcat, of which the late Prof. Cope had the only known specimen. This animal will be described from Prof. Cope's specimen in Appleton's Popular Science Monthly, by William H. Ballou.

Four O'Clock has a new fund of light, short stories, after the graceful model of those of its editor, Charles Fletcher Scott. The art work, from the poster on the cover to the tiny pasted-up all pieces is remarkably good. Gibben never made a more graceful and effective picture than the one by McCutcheon entitled "And Then Broke Down." The magazine shows many signs of prosperity, and if its founders do not make the foolish mistake of changing its character in imitation of something else, they have every chance of holding permanently the wide patronage due to the novelty of their enterprise.

Jim the Penman.  
A few months ago a Chicago man who has written a play called upon a New York manager at a Chicago hotel and sent up his card. The theatrical man received him very graciously, and the Chicagoan said he had a play which he would like to have the Gothamite consider.

"Sit right down and read it to me now," said the manager. This was done, and at the conclusion of the hearing the New Yorker said that he could not see enough in the play to warrant him in producing it.

The Chicago man expressed his thanks for the courtesy of a hearing, and added that he was somewhat surprised to find a New York manager so easily accessible.

"Well," said the Gothamite, "I make it a point always to dip into every play which comes along, sufficiently to learn its possibilities at least. I had an experience once which taught me a lesson. I was in London one summer on business, and as I was about ready to return a theatrical broker handed me the manuscript of a play and asked me to place it for him if possible in America. He said I might have the American rights for \$500 and he would give me 10 per cent commission for placing it.

"I threw the manuscript into a trunk, and when I reached New York handed it to a well-known manager and asked him to look into it. He soon reported that the piece was 'absolutely worthless.' Of course I gave the matter no further thought. I took the manuscript back across the water; next summer and surrendered it.

"But a year or two later the author of that play produced it in London and made a hit. The very New York manager who had indorsed it as 'absolutely worthless' secured the American rights by cable, and for many years paid thousands of dollars for the right to present 'Jim the Penman' in this country—a play which was offered to me outright for \$500 and which I never even read. Since then I've been reading plays."—Chicago Times-Herald.

Do You Want Seeds?  
Get them at headquarters. Early in the fall the best is always the cheapest. Send for cat. catalogue. 201 and 203 Front St., Portland, Or.

Will & Finck Co., 518-520 Market St., San Francisco, Cal.

Biggest Gun Casting.  
A 16-inch gun casting was made at the Bethlehem Iron Works on August 12. It is intended for the tube of a 16-inch gun now being built for the government, and is 19 feet 6 inches long, octagonal in shape and 74 inches in diameter. More than 100 tons of metal were used in the casting, the first and the largest of its kind ever made in this country.

Do We Need Big Muscles?  
By no means. Persons of herculean build frequently suffer from nervous prostration, and unless they have the ability to digest and sleep well, and to perform a reasonable amount of daily physical and mental labor without unnatural fatigue, it is better for them to have a course of Hostetter's Stomach Bitters enabled the enfeebled dyspeptic to resume the allotted activity of every day life, as well as to part dispense without discomfort in his enjoyments, that is such a preciously useful medicine.

Vaccination has just been introduced into Afghanistan by the advice of Miss Hamilton, an English physician, who is in attendance upon the Ameer.

There is more catarrh in this section of the country than in any other. It is common, and until the last few years was supposed to be incurable. For a number of years Dr. J. C. Kenney has announced a local disease, and prescribed local remedies, and by constantly failing to cure by local treatment, pronounced it incurable. Science has proven catarrh to be a constitutional disease, and therefore requires constitutional treatment. Hall's Catarrh Cure, manufactured by F. J. Cheney & Co., Toledo, O., is the only constitutional cure on the market. It is taken internally in doses from 10 drops to a teaspoonful, and acts directly on the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. They offer one hundred dollars for any case it fails to cure. Sent for circulars. Address, F. J. CHENEY & CO., Toledo, O.

The ancients knew how to cheat. Loaded dice have been found in the ruins of Herculaneum.

I believe my prompt use of Piso's Cure prevented lung consumption.—Mrs. Lucy Wallace, Marquette, Kans., Dec. 12, '95.

Lincoln county, Kentucky, has a new-found cave rivaling Mammoth cave in size and novelty.

Young Girls.  
Their Conduct and Health Often Mystifies Their Mothers.

Young girls often feel, and consequently act, very strangely. They shed tears without apparent cause, are restless, nervous, and at times hysterical. They seem self-absorbed, and heedless of things going on around them. They complain of pain in lower parts of body, flashes of heat in head, cold feet, etc.

Young girls are not free from incipient womb troubles. Mothers should see to it that Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound is promptly taken; all druggists have it.

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A Lost Opportunity.  
The Story of How a Fortune Got Away from a Man.

A little group of men were talking the other evening in the gloaming time, when people seem to think more about what they might have been than they do at any other hour of the day, and the subject was lost opportunities.

"I hate to refer to the matter at all," remarked the colonel, who fought through the late war at the head of a Michigan regiment, "because it only makes me renew my contempt for myself, but I've had chances in the Northwest to put myself in the millionaire list that nobody but a confirmed yep would think of neglecting. After the war I was a 'land-looker,' as they are called, and I knew the whole country from Detroit clear through to the far corner of Minnesota, and right where there are big buildings and beautiful city squares to-day I could have bought land at any price I might name. One man wanted me to buy, in Duluth, a few lots at \$50 apiece, and I laughed at him. They are worth \$5 a square foot to-day and upwards. I picked up one piece of land at Agate Harbor for a hundred dollars and sold it for a thousand; that is worth \$50,000 now, and I wouldn't give a man \$250 for a tract that is worth as many thousands this very minute.

"But those are small potatoes and few in a hill to the biggest piece of lost opportunity I was ever guilty of."

"Ordinarily it was a very tractable and reliable instrument, but here for some reason it acted strangely, or rather refused to act at all, and I could hardly get any sense out of it. I kept going ahead, however, and for ten miles my trouble continued. Then it was over, and I never was quite so glad of anything as when that compass began to work again, and I did not have to lay my course by sun."

"I knew before I finished what the matter was, but what did that iron under the ground that swerved my needle out of its course mean to me? Nothing. That's all. I was a plain, every-day chump. What I was after was timber, and the timber all along there was not of sufficient quality to justify my giving the land a second thought, and I didn't think of it, men and brethren," sighed the colonel again, "there I was walking over and standing on millions and millions of dollars, and I could have had all of it I wanted for the mere having sense enough to take it up, and I didn't have the sense."—Washington Star.

Evolution of the Color Sense.  
It has often been said that nations are developed like individuals, passing through the same successive stages of infancy, youth, maturity and old age.

The River Thames.  
If the plans now under way are carried out as anticipated, the great work of widening and deepening the River Thames will before long be an accomplished fact, and the commercial importance of that river thereby greatly increased.

World Make Good Senators.  
"Washington correspondents are as a rule men of fine education and training for their work," says Henry Waterson. "The Senate and the newspaper corps number about the same in membership. I'll wager that take them man for man the newspaper men would show, if necessary, that they are better informed, more active, more skillful, more competent in every way to deal with affairs of state than are the Senators. I think that if the Senators and the correspondents could change places the work of the Senate would be much better performed, fewer mistakes would be made and wiser legislation prevail and the country be better off. On the other hand, the Senators would make a poor flat of it if directed to write daily to the home papers the news of the day in the capital."

The Servant's True Position.  
"Charley," said young Mrs. Torikins, "when a man is elected to office does he become a servant of the people?"

"Yes, in the sense of something that I have always wondered about. I saw now why he is so often called a political boss."—Washington Star.

Mr. Grocer: there are thousands of people who want good tea (many don't drink tea now, because it has been either costly or bad) and here is Schilling's Best—good tea at a fair price.

Don't you want to sell lots of such tea, and money-back to it if your customers don't like it?  
A Schilling & Company San Francisco

AN OPEN LETTER TO MOTHERS.

WE ARE ASSERTING IN THE COURTS OUR RIGHT TO THE EXCLUSIVE USE OF THE WORD "CASTORIA," AND "PITCHER'S CASTORIA," AS OUR TRADE MARK.  
I, DR. SAMUEL PITCHER, of Hyannis, Massachusetts, was the originator of "PITCHER'S CASTORIA," the same that has borne and does now bear the fac-simile signature of *Chas. H. Fletcher* on every bottle of "PITCHER'S CASTORIA," which has been used in the homes of the mothers of America for over thirty years. LOOK CAREFULLY at the wrapper and see that it is the kind you have always bought and has the signature of *Chas. H. Fletcher* on the wrapper. No one has authority from me to use my name except The Centaur Company of which Chas. H. Fletcher is President. March 8, 1897.

Do Not Be Deceived.  
Do not endanger the life of your child by accepting a cheap substitute which some druggist may offer you (because he makes a few more pennies on it), the ingredients of which even he does not know.

"The Kind You Have Always Bought" BEARS THE FAC-SIMILE SIGNATURE OF *Chas. H. Fletcher*. Insist on Having The Kind That Never Failed You.

Walter Baker & Co.'s BREAKFAST COCOA. Absolutely Pure—Delicious—Nutritious. Costs Less than One Cent a Cup. DORCHESTER, MASS. WALTER BAKER & CO. Ltd.

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WHEAT. Make money by successful speculation in Chicago. WHEAT. Make money by successful speculation in Chicago. WHEAT. Make money by successful speculation in Chicago.

DRUNK. Full information gladly mailed free. N. P. N. U., No. 37, '97.

Gave His Father the Promotion.  
A case of a son's thoughtfulness and affection for a father has come to light in the navy department, at Washington. John Casson and his son, Schley Casson, are clerks in the office of Secretary Long at salaries until recently at \$1,300 each. The work of the young man attracted attention, and he was notified of a promotion, with \$1,400 salary. Young Casson refused to accept, saying that his father had been longer in the service and was more deserving. At the young man's request the promotion was transferred to the father.

A Georgia jury brought in this verdict the other day: "We find the defendant almost guilty."

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