

THE MISSING NOTE.

By LESTER DILLON.

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There was a period in England when the crime of stealing or forging a banknote was punishable with death. At this time there lived in Devonshire Sir Bryan Trevelyn. His estate was large, and on it were many tenants. He had but one child, a daughter Gladys, who would inherit his property, and between her and Edgar Cornish, the son of a clergyman, had sprung up an ardent love. Sir Bryan opposed the match, having higher intentions for his daughter, but she was a girl of firm disposition and gave him reason to suppose that if he did not give his consent to the match she would make a trip with her lover to Gretna Green. Fearing this, he consented, and that his future son-in-law might learn to manage the estate Gladys would inherit he made him his secretary and accountant.

One day Sir Bryan and his secretary were receiving the rents. When the last tenant had gone the former, leaving a fifty pound banknote on his desk, left the room for a paper he needed. On his return the note was gone. He looked for it everywhere, assisted by his secretary, but it was not to be found.

Sir Bryan went to bed that night convinced that the man who was to be his son-in-law had stolen the note. Opposed to him before, he now became determined that a thief should not marry his daughter and inherit his property. However, the next morning he had a thorough search made of the room in which the note had disappeared. It was not found, and Sir Bryan, despite the pleadings of his wife and daughter, gave young Cornish over to the authorities, preferring against him a charge of theft.

The courts in those days were not the complicated affairs they are now. The accuser stood high in the county, and his word was a power. He told the magistrate his story. He and Cornish were in the room alone together. Sir Bryan went out for a few minutes, leaving the note on his desk. No one entered during his absence. On his return the note was missing. Since inanimate articles cannot remove themselves it must have been appropriated by the only living person present. It was not found on Cornish's person, but he was not searched till he was arrested. He had had ample time to dispose of it. There was no defense made, for there was nothing on which to base a defense. The crime was committed in midsummer, and since the courts were not given in those days to spending much time over the cases that came before them the trial was concluded and sentence passed before September. Cornish was sentenced to be hanged on the first Friday in October.

Naturally every one connected with the condemned was wrapped in gloom. The lovers who had anticipations of a happy union now had before them a separation by death. Lady Trevelyn shut herself up with her daughter and would have no communication with her husband, blaming him for the horror he had brought upon his family.

It was now too late to recall what he had done. The law must take its course. Preparations were being made for the execution, and the people, as was the custom in those days, were flocking in for the spectacle.

A few days before the expected tragedy a cold rain and fog, the first of autumn, swept over England. The baron, who sought to distract his thoughts by occupying himself with his accounts, sent for a sweep to take the soot out of the chimney of his office preparatory to building a fire on the hearth. While the sweep was at work Sir Bryan entered the room, sat down at his desk and busied himself with his papers. So preoccupied was he, rather with his somber thoughts than his work, that he did not hear any sound within or without. Suddenly he was recalled to his surroundings by a cough directly in front of him. Looking up, there stood a figure black as Erebus. It was the chimney sweep, whose extended hand held a small piece of paper so smudged with soot that its character could not be readily recognized. The baron mechanically took it and examined it. A sudden light came into his eye, a color into his cheek. It was the missing note. The sweep had found it in the chimney, where, carried by a draft of air when Sir Bryan had opened the door, it had remained ever since.

Like a cyclone of joy the baron swept through the house and stood beating on the door of the room where his wife and daughter had shut themselves in, crying: "The note! It is found! The boy is saved!" The door was flung open, and the old man rushed in brandishing the smudged note above his head. Then, when the situation was understood, Gladys fell into her father's arms in a faint.

Leaving her with her mother, the baron rushed to the house of the magistrate and before leaving had secured an order for the release of Edgar Cornish. The news spread, and when the released prisoner left the jail he was attended by a crowd of citizens. He had not proceeded far when he was met by Gladys Trevelyn, and their meeting was greeted by the shouts of the people.

Sir Bryan Trevelyn spent the rest of his life trying to atone for his fault. Had it not been for the sweeping of a chimney he would have caused the execution of an innocent man and blighted his daughter's life. As to the sweep, he swept no more. He was given the note he had found and lived for the rest of his life on the estate, enjoying a pension.

CARE OF MILK.

Keep at a Low Temperature and Little Exposure as Possible.

An authority writes as follows: When nature instituted milk as a food she provided the manner of supplying it in such a way that it should not be exposed to external contamination. Human ingenuity has imitated the method, and when the scientist wants to secure milk in its natural state he inserts a sterilized glass tube into the teat and draws milk into a sterilized bottle.

The point of interest to the dairy farmer in this is that milk taken from a cow in this manner will usually keep fresh and sweet at room temperature for a long time if protected from later contamination. From the above one can lay down all the necessary rules for the proper handling of his product, and they may be summed up in this advice:

Do not expose milk more than is absolutely necessary. Manifestly some exposure will take place. We not only cannot do as the scientist does, but our object is not to produce sterile milk, but a marketable article that will retain its original properties for a limited period of time. In order to do this we must imitate so far as we can the method of the scientist, and the closer we attain to it the better will be the product. Even when the milk has been exposed there remains a simple and powerful corrective in keeping milk at a low temperature.

The secret of milk preservation lies in these two rules: As little exposure as possible and keeping it at a low



UTILITY AND BEAUTY.

temperature. It should be classed as a piece of good fortune that a food product of such value and widespread use can be maintained by the observance of so few and so simple precautions. If every producer can conduct his business with the knowledge and understanding that the cause of the physical and chemical changes in milk, and consequently its depreciation in value, is the result of exposure to bacterial dirt he will be forewarned and forearmed and much better qualified to work intelligently.

Exposure to bacterial dirt is occasioned by putting milk into unclean vessels, by keeping it uncovered near unclean persons or unclean animals and leaving it uncovered in unclean places. Some exposure must occur in the ordinary routine. So much is granted. But this exposure can be made as slight and as harmless and as short as possible. That is to say, milk in its passage from the cow to the consumer should enter a small number of vessels, the fewer the better. The surface it touches in these vessels should be reduced as much as can be, and the openings in these vessels should be as small as the purpose will allow. Covers should be provided.

Necessary exposure is limited to drawing milk from a clean cow with clean hands into a clean pail in a clean barn. It means straining in a clean room into a clean receiving can. Short exposure means milking quickly, straining quickly, filling vessels quickly and covering them immediately. The exposure which has resulted can be offset by cooling the milk and maintaining it at a low temperature.

The cooling of milk should be done within one hour and, if possible, immediately after being drawn from the cow. Making all due allowance for the action of the bacterial substance in milk, this is the safest procedure. This quick and continued cooling is absolutely essential for milk destined for the cities, because, as a rule, it is twelve to thirty-six hours old when delivered.

Notes of the Hog Lot.

Feed the pigs all they will eat up clean three times a day.

The hard coal ashes can be dumped into the hogpen to good advantage.

The amount of pork produced from the droppings increases with the age of the cattle.

The wise feeding of corn to the hogs will give you better profits by extra rapid growth.

The smell from the hogpen indicates pretty accurately the lack of thrift of the farmer.

Hogs like to root because it's the nature of the beast. They're built that way. Why not give them the chance?

The sow pigs should be gone over and selections made for future breeders. Pick only the biggest and most thrifty looking.

Forage Crops.

One of the greatest wastes in the feeding of hogs is the use of corn. Corn alone is not a good feed, because it is not a balanced ration. No hog grower can afford not to grow plenty of forage crops.

Nourishing Feed.

Good, nourishing feed is a necessity for the farm animals, and dry beds are essential to their well being.

Let Up on the Feed.

With the lightning of the work lighten up on the feed ration for the horse.

FOR THE HOUSEWIFE

Removing Stains.

To remove mildew take one tablespoonful of chloride of lime and one tablespoonful of soda to one pint of warm water. Dissolve and strain. Soak the clothes in this solution for half an hour or until the stains disappear, then rinse well in cold water. The above is also good for grass and ink stains.

For iron rust take one teaspoonful of oxalic acid to one gill of water. Soak till the stains disappear. Rinse well in cold water.

To remove machine oil wash the oil spots with cold water and soap before putting in hot water. Cold water takes the oil out, and hot water sets it so it will never come out.

Chicken Livers and Bacon.

Cleanse and separate each chicken liver into four pieces, sprinkle with a little pepper and wrap each slice in a thin piece of streaky bacon, fastening the end with a tiny skewer. They may then be grilled, fried or cooked in the oven, as may be preferred, sufficient time being allowed to make sure that the livers are cooked through. When done remove the little skewers and serve the rolls on a mound of hot boiled rice, which, to render the dish more savory, may be lightly sauted for a few minutes in the bacon fat.

Green Tomato Mincemeat.

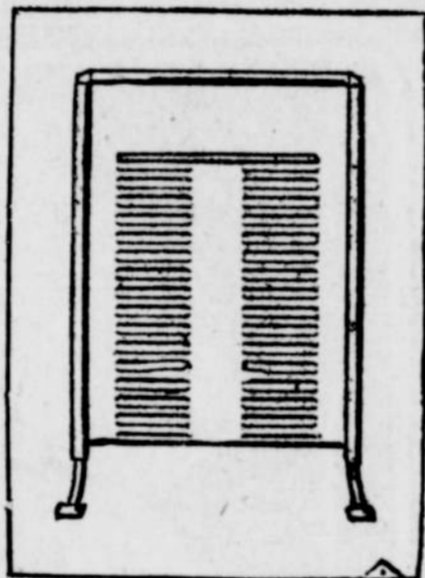
To one-half peck of green tomatoes add two pounds of sugar, one pound of raisins, one pound of currants, one tablespoonful of ground cinnamon, three-fourths of a tablespoonful of cloves, one-half cupful of vinegar, a pinch of salt, five sour apples and one-half cupful of beef suet. Put whole mass through meat chopper and boil about two hours. The suet can be omitted, but it won't be quite so rich without. This keeps all winter in stone crocks or glass jars.

Kitchen Apron.

A kitchen apron made of gum tissue bound with white tape is one of the most serviceable kinds. When soiled it can easily be washed and dried. It is also a useful apron to wear when giving the children their baths. The gum material can be purchased in sheet widths, and the pieces left are convenient for many other purposes.

All Metal Washboard.

An all metal washboard of an improved design has recently been invented by a New York man. The two primary advantages of the board are that it is very durable and that it has no cracks or corners where dirt may lodge. The device is made of one piece of metal bent around a rod which forms sides, top and legs. The scrub surfaces are formed by raising the



ONE PIECE WASHBOARD.

metal in a series of corrugations. Being all one piece of metal, it will be readily understood that the durability of such a board would be great. As another advantage of this metal washboard is the absence of rough corners or sharp edges.

Use For Old Hats.

Old felt hats make splendid inside soles for adults, and for house shoes for children they have no equal. They wear well, look pretty and are easily made. Rip old shoe for pattern, sew on machine, work eyelets with embroidery silk, bind, lace and tie with narrow ribbon. The cost is but a few cents.

Mending Gloves.

Take a buttonhole stitch round the edge of tear, no matter how ragged, deep enough so it will not pull out when sewed together, drawing the thread not too tight so it will give a little when put on the hand. It will not only be durable, but a neat mend hardly noticeable.

Buttermilk Salad.

To one pint of cold boiled potatoes sliced or cut in cubes add one cupful of stale bread also cut in cubes. Fry in pork or bacon drippings to a crisp brown, sprinkle liberally with salt and pour over all a pint of fresh sweet buttermilk. Serve immediately.

Russian Apples.

Wipe and core some large tart apples and arrange in a baking dish. Fill the center with mincemeat (without chopped apples) and bake in a moderate oven until the apples are tender. Cool and serve with a custard sauce.

Codfish Omelet.

Break into small pieces some leftover cod. Season with a little grated nutmeg and a little ground mace. Beat six eggs well and mix with other ingredients, forming it into a paste. Fry as an omelet and serve very hot.



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