



### THE TIN SWORD.

Once upon a time, two swords hung on the wall of a real soldier's room. One was a large sword and had been in a real war. The other was a little tin sword which the real soldier played with when he was a little boy.

When he hung the big sword on the wall after he came home from the war, he said: "You are much larger than this little fellow beside you, but you have never killed Indians, and he has."

Although he laughed when he said it, the little tin sword felt itself of great importance, and it did not mind in the least the size of the big sword which was many times as large as it was.

That night, when the house was still and dark, and the only light in the room was from the dying embers on the hearth, the little sword said to the big sword: "Is it true that you never killed an Indian?"

"I have never killed anyone," answered the big sword with dignity.

"What is the use of being a sword?" asked the little one, "if you never have killed anyone. Why, I have killed so many Indians that I cannot remember how many."

"I have been in battles, too," continued the little sword, "and cut down the enemy, and once a dog was a bear and I killed him, too."

"How could a dog be a bear?" asked the big sword, taking notice of the little sword for the first time when it was not asked a direct question.

"Because the little boy said it was," replied the little sword. "And once a cat was a tiger, and we went tiger hunting, too."

"How about the Indians?" asked the big sword; "were they real or play Indians?"

"Real, of course," answered the little sword; "everything was real that we did. The Indians wore long trousers with feathers in the side of the legs and a band of long feathers sticking up around their heads. You should have heard them shout and give the war cry."

"Was there any blood shed?" asked the big sword, beginning to understand what the little sword was talking about better than it did itself.

"What is that?" asked the little sword.

"If you had ever been in real battles you would not ask?" replied the big sword.

"But you have never killed anyone and I have," said the little sword; "I do not see why you should say I have never been in a real battle when you have never done anything worth telling of yourself."

"There is a great deal to be done in a battle besides killing," replied the big sword. "I led the men who did the fighting and directed them. The general held me high above his head, so that all the soldiers who were following would know where to go and what to do, and I saw the enemy falling all around me. But I do not like to talk about these things. Everything is peaceful now, and I am glad there is no red mark upon my shining blade."

"I guess if you had done such deeds as I have," said the little tin sword, "still sure that he was the hero, 'you would want to tell all about them.'"

"My dear little tin sword," said the big sword, "you do not seem to understand that you are not a real sword at all, but just a toy sword. The Indians you killed were little boys dressed in Indian costumes and played at being killed."

"Your battles were all make-believe, and the little boy who carried you has grown up and is a real soldier now. But don't you mind," said the big sword, "as the tin sword began to rattle uneasily on the wall, 'you were the first sword he carried and you were the one that taught him to honor his country, so you have a great deal for which to be thankful.'"

"We will divide honors. You were the first and I hope I am the last sword he will ever be called upon to carry for his country."

The little tin sword grew quiet and the last ember on the hearth grew black. The room was dark, all was still, and the little tin sword was asleep.

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### A SPELLING MATCH.

Ten little children standing in a line, "F-u-l-l-y, fully," then there were nine.

Nine puzzled faces, fearful of their fate, "C-l-i-f-f-y, silly," then there were eight.

Eight pairs of blue eyes, bright as stars of heaven, "B-u-s-y, busy," then there were seven.

Seven grave heads nodding, in an awful fix, "L-a-d-y, lady," then there were six.

Six eager darlings, determined each to strive, "D-u-t-y, duty," then there were five.

Five hearts so anxious, beating more and more, "S-c-h-o-l-a-r, scholar," then there were four.

Four mouths like rosebuds on a rose tree, "M-e-r-r-y, merry," then there were three.

Three pairs of pink ears, listening keen and true, "O-n-l-y, only," then there were two.

One head of yellow hair, bright in the sun, "H-e-r-o, hero," and the spelling match was won!

—New Orleans Picayune.

### ENCOURAGE BOYS AND GIRLS

Progress of Club Work in Pennsylvania Is of Special Interest—Many Clubs Formed.

In view of the support which has been given the movement in recent years information lately secured by



Corn Raised by Pennsylvania Club Boy.

the agricultural extension department of the Pennsylvania State college on the progress of club work among the boys and girls of Pennsylvania is of special interest. The statistics are as follows:

Twenty-eight counties have reported a total of 841 corn clubs, 39 potato clubs, 44 garden clubs, 187 live stock clubs and 664 miscellaneous clubs. Definite figures on the number of domestic science clubs are lacking, but it is known that such clubs are well represented. The total number of members in agricultural and domestic science clubs reported in the state is 5,290. Ages of club members range from eight to twenty-one years.

It is with a view to lending aid in the advancement of this movement that the Pennsylvania School of Agriculture has designated an individual to direct this phase of extension work.

### MYSTIFYING CHEMICAL TRICK

Plain Blue Handkerchief Turns White When Warmed—Few Drops of Iodine Is Sufficient.

A plain blue handkerchief is shown to the audience. When the handkerchief is warmed it turns white and when heated resumes its former color.

Make a starch paste and add enough water to the paste to thin it. Then add sufficient tincture of iodine to color the liquid blue; a few drops will be enough. Dye a white handkerchief with this blue liquid and when the handkerchief is dry it is ready for the trick.

### RAISE A MOTORCYCLE STAND

Time and Trouble Saved by Use of Door Spring—Does Its Little Trick Automatically.

A motorcyclist may save the time and trouble of raising the stand when the machine is pushed off, by fastening one end of a door spring to the stand near the bottom, and the other end to a convenient place on the luggage carrier. While the machine is on the stand, the spring is stretched, but the removal of the weight releases it, and the stand is pulled back into place.

—Popular Science Monthly.

### Bliss of Ignorance.

There is a great deal of truth in the old saying that a man never knows how ignorant he is until a child begins to ask him questions.

"Papa," said little Ethel, aged four, "where does the daylight go when the dark comes?"

### Light and Strong.

The bones of all flying birds are hollow, thus combining the greatest strength with the least weight.

### MANURE IS BEST FERTILIZER

According to Data Secured by Experiment Stations Value Ranges From \$1 to \$7 Per Ton.

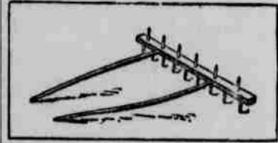
Data from the Nebraska experiment station obtained in co-operation with Nebraska farmers in several counties show that the average annual yields of corn from manured fields during three years were ten bushels greater than from adjoining fields which were not manured. The average annual yields from the unmanured fields were 26.81 bushels an acre and the yields from the manured fields were 36.76 bushels an acre. According to data from other experiment stations the lasting effect of farm manures is at least 20 years; that is to say, a farm may continue to obtain increased annual yields for several years after a good application of farm manure or the turning under of organic matter in some other form.

The increases in crop yields for a period of years at several of the best experiment stations were sufficient to give to the manure applied an agricultural value of from \$1 to \$7 a ton, depending upon the climatic conditions, rate of applications, kind of manure and crops manured.

### USEFUL DEVICE FOR GARDEN

Marker Enables Gardener to Make Rows Straight and Spaces Between at Uniform Distance.

A successful gardener makes his rows straight and the spaces between the rows uniform. It is not necessary to buy expensive equipment for small scale operations. Proper distancing can be had by using the homemade contrivance shown in the accompanying drawing. A 2 by 4 inch piece of wood, or even a lighter strip, is spaced as desired, and wooden plugs, sharpened to a dull point with the pocket knife, are inserted into holes made by the auger. The plugs on one side are set farther apart than on the other.



Easily Constructed Marker.

A series of holes may be made so that the plugs can be changed to give any desired distance between markings. Any kind of a handle is attached.—Orange Judd Farmer.

### PREPARING THE GARDEN SOIL

Of Far More Importance Than Most Gardeners Realize—Vegetable Matter Is Necessary.

The preparation of the garden soil is of far more importance than most gardeners realize. The vegetables must have a deep, mellow, friable soil to hold moisture and promote the life and development of soil organisms so important to a fertile soil.

The soil should be broken early and vegetation incorporated in time for it to decay. A large per cent of vegetable matter, usually in its final state of decomposition, called humus, is necessary. It may then be necessary to break, harrow and cross-harrow in order that a deep mulch may be had.

Barnyard manure is highly desirable where the soil is rather thin or close. The manure supplies both humus and plant food, and for that reason is economical. It is a waste product at the barn, but valuable to the gardener.

### CLEANLINESS IN A STABLE

Benefits of Cleaning Up Every Day Are Far in Excess of Labor Involved in So Doing.

The custom on many farms of cleaning the barns, especially the horse stables only once a week, ten days or two weeks is to be condemned.

It takes but a very few minutes to clean the horse stable each day, and the benefits received from so doing are far in excess of the labor involved.

Not only do the animals have cleaner, healthier and more comfortable quarters, thus minimizing the likelihood of disease, but there is an actual saving in bedding and in time used in making the horse presentable by use of the currycomb and brush.

An up-to-date litter carrier is a fast time and labor saver and a stable thus equipped is much more likely to be kept clean.

### MANY QUALITIES OF ONIONS

Several Ways in Which to Cook as Food—Stand Drought Well—Plant Sets Liberally.

Every garden should have an abundance of onions. There are many ways in which onions can be used as foods. For seasoning soups, hash, dressing, etc., nothing can take the place of onions.

They stand considerable drought, tolerate wet weather and will often produce when hedged in by weeds.

Onions keep well and by storing them in the cellar or the barn one may have onions all the year. Plant onion sets liberally this year.

### Pullets for Next Winter.

Figure out about how many pullets you want to carry through next winter, then set at least six, better eight, times that number of eggs. Hatch early and as near together as possible.

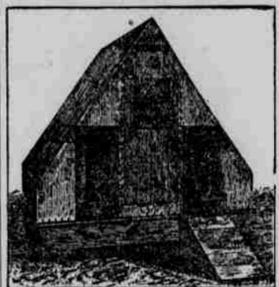
### GASOLINE IS FAVORED

Higher Temperature Can Be Secured Without Forcing Heater.

Time Is Also Saved by Having One Brooder House Serve for 200 Chicks Instead of Fifty—"A" Type of House Is Used.

The principal advantages in using gasoline rather than kerosene are to secure a higher temperature when needed without forcing the heater and so save time by having one brooder house serve for 200 chicks instead of 50. The system herein described involves broods of 200. It is not suitable for those who have only small hatches.

The "A" type form of house is used and is constructed as follows: The "A" type of house is 8 feet square, inside floor measure, has 12-inch side walls and is 6 feet 6 inches from top of floor to top of ridge board. The subframing is made and both floors



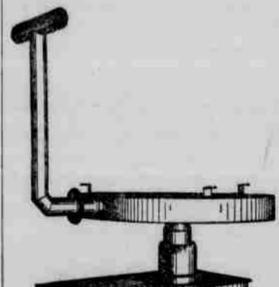
"A" Type of Colony Brooder House.

laid before the upper part of the building is put together. The sills are set out first. They are made of 2x12 inch stock and are cut 8 feet long, with a bevel at each end to form runners or shoes upon which to draw the house about when desired.

An opening of 8 3/4 inches by 12 3-16 inches is cut in the rear runner to admit the burner box. The top of this opening is 1 1/2 inches from the top of the runner and has a 1/2-inch slit sawed into the runner horizontally from the two upper corners for the purpose of admitting the flange, or projection, of the upper edge of the burner box. A piece is cut from the runner directly over the center of this opening to admit the collar which is on top of the burner box. The piece is sawed out on a miter so that it can be replaced and secured by a single screw. The opening made by removing this piece is 5 inches in the clear.

The floor joists, four in number, are made of 2x4-inch stock, cut 8 feet long, and are fitted into the runners with a half joint. This gives a strong subframe that is not likely to get out of square when drawn over uneven ground. After fitting the joists into the runners and securely nailing with 20d. nails, the work is leveled, squared, and tied by means of a 1-inch board nailed diagonally across the joists.

The support for the burner box is then put in. It is made of three pieces of 2x4 spiked to the rear runner and to the two center joists. It is placed flush with the top of the joists and



Gasoline Heater Used in Brooder House.

runner so that the flooring can be nailed to it. The inside dimensions, 12 1/2 x 34 1/2 inches, are such as to allow the flange of the burner box to slide in easily. The flange rests on 1/2 x 1-inch strips, which are nailed 1 9-16 inches below the top of the 2x4's forming the support. This leaves a space of 1 1/4 inches between the top of the burner box and the floor of the house, which prevents the floor from becoming too warm and serves as a chamber in which to warm the fresh air that is admitted for ventilating the hover.

The cool fresh air is taken from beneath the house through four 1-inch holes bored in the 2x4 supports. It is warmed by passing over the metal top of the burner box and as it expands is forced upward around the stem and down upon the chicks.

The insulating box is made of 3/4-inch matched pine flooring and is supported at the rear by resting on the strip at the bottom of the runner and in front by hooks and eyes, such as are used for screen doors, to the support.

### Breaking a Stallion.

Several precautions must be observed when breaking a stallion. First, the man must be a thorough horseman and second, he must remember that while the horse is big he is usually soft and cannot stand a great amount of hard work until he becomes accustomed to it.

### RESENT INTRUSION OF MAN

Wild Elephants Greatly Retard Work of Missionaries in Central African Region.

The strongest opponents to the advance of civilization in west Central Africa, says Bishop Lambuth, the Methodist missionary, are the wild elephants. They break down fences, trample gardens, pull up trees and even telegraph poles, for no other apparent reason than because they object to anything strange in their familiar haunts. One savage monster nearly wrecked a small steam launch belonging to the mission on the upper reaches of the Congo.

The boat, with three white men, including the bishop, and a crew of five negroes, had tied up on the edge of a deep forest in a quiet bend of the river. A stout plank was laid as gangway from the bow to the bank, and the crew worked until nightfall cutting and piling firewood for the boat's furnace; then they came on deck for their evening meal. The three white men were already at dinner, when a fearful yell from the natives brought them out of the cabin to see a large elephant viciously attacking the woodpile. The blacks shouted and threw missiles, and two of the more venturesome even went ashore with firebrands snatched out of the cook stove to drive the monster away. But he paid no attention to them until he had demolished the woodpile, when he whipped one man with his trunk heels over head into the river, and chased the other back into the boat.

Thundering loudly, with red gullet open, tusks flashing and trunk flailing the air, he planted both tremendous forefeet on the gangplank. It bent until it cracked under his weight, but held stoutly, although the whole boat careened, and seemed ready to capsize.

In another moment the elephant had crossed the plank, and was astride it with hindfeet on the shore and forefeet on the boat. There he stood, afraid to advance or retreat, a gigantic image of baffled rage. In his fury he began stamping with those great forefeet, and the boat rocked crazily back and forth.

What might have happened if the monster had come aboard with all his frenzied weight can only be imagined; for the captain by this time had fetched the only rifle on board and, risking all on one shot, had thrust the muzzle almost into the gaping mouth and pulled the trigger.

Fortunately, the bullet lodged in the base of the brain. The elephant tumbled to his knees and into the water next the bank, his bulk thrusting the boat aside so suddenly that it snapped the bowlines and sent the men staggering to the gunwale.

At the next government trading post the captain had two splendid tusks to show as the result of his cool daring; but to his astonishment, he was arrested for shooting the elephant without a license. It was with great difficulty that the government official was convinced that the animal had been shot in self-defense. Even then he confiscated the ivory.—Youth's Companion.

### Dressing for the Party.

On the trolley the other day there were two winsome damsels hanging to straps and entertaining each other in sparkling conversation about what they were going to wear at some function that was soon to happen, according to a writer in the Ohio State Journal. They told of their shoes, their stockings, their lingerie, the skirts, the bodices, the neckwear, their hats, their gloves and every item of their garb and the material thereof, and their conversation seemed almost a symphony in velvets, silks, jewels, that one could imagine them entering the drawing room in pink, tulle and lowered voiles, the objects of the admiring gaze of all the company.

We would have given a \$5 bank note if we could have caught that conversation on a dictagraph. By the way, why don't the record people get a couple of these fascinating damsels together and have them tell what they are going to wear to a party? It would be very interesting talk, as one might imagine, if he had seen that whole car using their auricles in every sort of fashion to catch the mellifluous accents of those gentle maidens telling what they were going to wear.

### Snake in Search of Modern Eve.

A decorator at a millinery shop at Atlantic and Kentucky avenues, Atlantic City, N. J., reached into a drawer behind the counter while waiting on a customer. She felt something grasp her arm, then she faintly, coiled around her arm was a snake six feet long.

The woman shopper screamed and ran for the street. The clerks and other patrons followed. The police arrived on a hurry call, and found the snake still curled around the girl's arm. They took it to headquarters.

How the snake got in the store was solved tonight when members of a high-school fraternity tried to claim it. They explained they had two of the reptiles for initiation. Both escaped from the fraternity rooms above the store. The other snake has not been found.

### Fewer Deaths From Tuberculosis.

The tuberculosis death rate of New York, Philadelphia and Boston combined has declined from 280.6 per 100,000 of population in 1882 to 164.6 in 1914. The 1914 death rate was, therefore, only 43.2 per cent of that of 1882, or, to put it the other way, the death rate of 1882 had by 1914 fallen 56.8 per cent.

### WHERE WAS HOG-BITE?

MATTER SEEMED TO CALL FOR SOME EXPLANATION.

Bitter Complaint That "Moonshine" Had Been Tamped With Reflect-ed Somewhat on Public-Spirit-ed Watcher on Duty.

Moonshine whisky was being made by someone somewhere in the neighborhood of Twin Fork creek of the Cumberland mountains in Kentucky, but there was no more definite knowledge than that—someone somewhere in the neighborhood of Twin Fork. It was exceedingly good whisky, too. None of your amber-colored "store" liquor which has been aged in charred barrels until it has changed color. It was what the mountaineer calls "man's whisky," white in color, as clear as spring water. And, according to mountain standards, it was old. The man who discovered the first jug of it tasted it, and that night, telling of it in the Twin Fork store, he announced: "An' she's old, boys; she's downright plum old; I reckon that liquor was made at least a month ago."

The first jug had been found in a hollow tree. Then the jug was empty and beneath it was a bright silver dollar. The finder did not disturb either jug or money. Returning the next morning, he found the jug, but there was no money beneath it, and the jug itself, instead of being empty, was half filled with liquor. Half an hour later, on investigation, the jug had disappeared.

Twin Fork is in a "dry" county, and there was a good deal of excitement. The hollow tree was watched day and night by a man stationed in the crotch of a big elm, but nothing happened. Then a half-gallon bottle was found in a cluster of bushes two miles farther down Twin Forks. Beneath it was half a dollar in small change, pennies, nickels and dimes. It was when a third jug was discovered in some bushes half-way up a mountainside that "Hog-bite" Taylor came out and announced his willingness to aid in apprehending the moonshiner. Previously "Hog-bite" had been declaring himself in favor of a little moonshining. The home-made liquor, he declared, was better and purer than the stuff bought from mail-order houses, and half again as cheap. Why should a man be compelled to order by mail and then wait several days for an inferior article?

"Hog-bite's" proposal was simple. He would, without pay, go out and watch the newly discovered hiding place and see if he could not catch the moonshiner in the act of filling the jug. So that he would not have to neglect his post for supper, "Hog-bite" took along a package of chicken sandwiches and a jug of clear, cold water. He would not have to leave the vicinity of the jug for even a drink. He was to report next morning. Morning came and no "Hog-bite." Nine o'clock—ten o'clock—eleven o'clock.

Somebody went out to investigate. He found neither jug nor "Hog-bite." Stuck on a twig of a tree, however was a note, printed with lead pencil it read:

"I don't object to nobody bein' left to watch my jug of liquor. But I object like — to the man what left to watch it drinking half of it and filling it up with water."

### Perils of the Air.

According to early report, two of the aeroplanes performing advance scout duty for our troops in Mexico have disappeared. This did not imply that they met destruction, for they were later discovered with their aviators uninjured.

It is true, however, that the dangers attendant upon this new form of military service have not been overestimated. In the British house of commons the statement was made last week that the record of casualties in the aerial fighting force, so far as tabulated, showed the loss of 402 killed, wounded and missing.

Most of the fatalities occurred in active combat, and this is attributed to the superiority of the German machines in capacity and equipment. But of the total more than 100 had simply disappeared, flown out of sight and never returned—"missing." The perils of the air are less furiously destructive than those of the battlefield, but they have the thrill and the chill of mystery.

### Women Used in Garrisons.

Women are now being employed in garrisons in France in the place of soldiers of the auxiliary service. The experiment, just begun at the headquarters of the Thirty-sixth infantry at Caen, has proved so successful that the minister of war has suggested that the commanders of other garrisons use the services of women wherever it is possible. Thus the drafts of the 1888 military class will be limited, which will permit professional men to continue to attend to their regular duties and will give employment to the widows, mothers and sisters of soldiers killed.

All the women used in the garrisons are to be classified under the direction of various chiefs of the service and will be placed according to their qualifications.

### Many Drug Victims.

It is estimated that there are in the United States 250,000 slaves of morphine, cocaine and other drugs, and that they consume annually \$5,500,000 worth of drugs.