A CHOICE SELECTION OF INTER-ESTING ITEMS.

Comments and Critteisms Based Upon the Happenings of the Day -Historical and News Notes. Also a "chain of banks" is not

stronger than its weakest link. Ten months' ocean fares amount to \$100,000,000. That is what comes from

travel on the high seas. A poet was recently indicted in St. Louis However, most poets will continue to escape punishment.

have adopted the direct primary up

but the indications are that before long on the diabolo victims.

A Connecticut man went crazy because he was not permitted to vote. He no doubt has the sympathy of a large number of London suffragettes.

In addition to the weight of his sixty-six years King Edward is burdened now with the responsibility of having to own and look after a \$750,000 diamond. California has shipped more than

Few of them have been purchased by heirenses who desire to ignore the pleas of titled foreigners. How does it happen that Mark Twain to able to go on unblushingly admit-

8,500 carloads of jemons east this year.

ting that he is the author of the jumping frog story and yet escaping the tharge of being a nature faker? According to estimates made by Gen. Booth only one sin in eighty is found out. We can hardly believe that the

promulgation of such statements is

likely to discourage the sinners. But even if the whole country goes prohibition, Aunt Carrie Nation's occupation will not be gone. Carrie hates the wicked cigar and vile cigarette as

A Pennsylvania indy 90 years of age has just discovered that she can recite a poem which she committed to memory seventy-six years ago. We are glad to assure our readers that it is not "Curtew Shall Not Ring Tonight."

ardently as she detests the rum flend.

During the recent panic a New York woman walted in the line of anxious depositors for fourteen hours, only to learn, upon reaching the teller's window, that her account was overdawn \$23. For once in her life words must have failed her.

Tramps are likely to do more walking and less riding in the future if the plans of the ratiroad companies are successful. The Pennsylvania Company has begun to organize a special police force to drive all tramps from its track and its trains. If it succeeds, the life of a tramp will lose one of its attractions.

New York University has opened a night college which offers regular academic courses and is empowered to cor fer ordinary degrees. At first sight this seems to belong with the night court, the "day-and-night" bank, and other enterprises which keep New York awake twenty-four hours a day. Yet it is not a startling innovation, after all, for night schools have long been established in American cities, there are several institutions which give evening instruction in law, medicine and engineering, and much hard studying has always been done by the light of midnight oil.

Five new steamships are now building for a European company that maintains a passenger and freight service round the world. The new steamships will be five bundred feet long, and will contain commodious staterooms for the accommodation of passengers during the two hundred and forty days of the trip. The route followed starts at Antwerp, thence to Singapore, China and Japan by way of the Suez Canal. From Japan the steamships go to Honolulu. enter Puget Sound on the Pacific coast of America, thence sail south to San Francisco, and onward through the Strait of Magelian, up the eastern coast of South America to Montevideo, and back to Antwerp, after stopping at some British ports. The company has been running ships on this route for two years so successfully that it feels warranted in putting the five new ships in the service. For those who have the time, a round-trip voyage would afford an admirable way for seeing the world, you? or a large part of the water on it.

A perfect housekeeper may not be a real homemaker. Her kitchen and bedrooms may be spotless and her dinners fit for an epicure; but if she never has an hour for reading, or leisure to play with her children or to talk with her husband, she is a failure as wife and mother. Somewhere between perfection and slovenliness there lies a golden mean. To reach it a housewife must learn to turn off work, and to distinguish between the kind of work which may be slighted and the kind which must be done with literal thoroughness. "An all-day washing makes a half-day ironing!" used to be the motto of a wise woman, who preferred clothes free from grime and streak to carefully fluted frills and starching that would stand alone. There are houses where the fetish of thoroughness demands a daily sacrifice, just as there are other houses where the dragon of laziness and disorder devours both comfort and affection. An old colored "mammy," for years the chief dependence of a Southern family, had a genius for getting work done. Nobody ever knew exactly how or when her miracles were wrought; but the house was clean and the mests were toothsome, and

TOPICS OF THE TIMES. her to put the guest chamber in order for a distinguished visitor. She came downstairs very soon, with the smiling sasurance, "Dat room am plumb clean, Miss Gertrude!" "So quickly?" inquired Miss Gertrude. "Did you dust it, aunty! I don't see your duster." "Law now, Miss Gertrude, don't you bodder yo'self bout Aunt Car'line. I done dust dat room wid a paa'm-leaf fan!" There spoke a resourceful housekeeper.

Killed, 5,000; injured, 76,286. That is the record of the American railroads knots in Saturn's rings. Perhaps they record of casualties solely for passen must tell Guy so that very day. Seated the number of killed over the preceding self by saying: It is an awful thing to contemplate. year was 775, or more than 18 per cent. just embarked in." The increase in the number of injured some papers will print daily statistics | was 9,577, or over 14 per cent. It is a slow and painful process to secure the rated just a little. adoption of devices for the protection because the railroads resist progress in avoid the expense. The interstate commerce commission brings the case increase in casualties due to coupling not married, if you are ever going to be?" and uncoupling cars and to accidents sengers due to collisions and derailments. In the latter case the large total of 1905 was exceeded for the year under consideration by 17 per cent. The Lucy forward as an argument. provement due only to strenuous efforts on the part of the government. The moral is clear. If the government will and could not tell what prompted him to take up a broader scale the problem answer: of forcing the roads to protect their results may be secured, but probably in self the trouble. If my wife needs eduno other way.

#### LUNCHEON FOR AN ANGLER.

Room Draped with Pish Net in Which Were Imitation Fish.

A novel luncheon to celebrate the A novel luncheon to celebrate the watched him closely, he made up his birthday of a well-known man devoted mind that he did care for Maddy Clyde, to fishing was a few days ago given and this confirmed him in his plan of edu him by his wife, says the New York cating her for him. Times. To begin with the celling and draped with fish net in which were scending, and very forgiving, the early caught imitation fish, crabs and lob- day he began to view Guy Remington in sters

The center of the table was a small real fish swimming about in it, and plan, and the open opposition of Mrs. across the pond was a bridge, the whole Noah. being a miniature reproduction of a pond and bridge on the country estate worthy asked. "She liked Maddy Clyde, of the man for whom the affair was to be sure, but it wasn't for him to de-

the table was suspended a centerpiece a duty he owed her, at any rate, to tell of greens. "With many happy returns her about it, and if she said 'twas right, of the day" done on it in red flowers. why, go it."

In the corner of a room was a lifepipe in his mouth.

a big basket was passed around from which each guest fished a prize tied was fake clams, each containing a asked if Lucy feared aught from his assodainty prize gift.

The place cards were picture-paper girls, each fishing, and at the other end of the string each held was a tiny duck.

# Only a Fence Between.

A very dignified and self-respecting proker was touring through the country when a punctured tire compelled him to wait while his chauffeur repaired the He strolled along the country road for a short distance and found a

"That is pretty yellow corn you are msking."

And the ind replied, "Yes, we planted sllow corn."

You won't have but a half crop, will she kept on to Alkenside.

And to which the boy said, "No, we lanted this piece on shares."

This tart reply provoked the self-im portant man and said testily, "Why, ou're not far from a fool, are you?" And to which the boy replied, "No. here is only a fence between us,"-Judge's Library.

## Not a Man's Work.

Moonlight and springtime moods all o the contrary, the fact remains that marriage is not a man's work, but one of his dearest delusions, from which he parts begrudgingly. Moreover, it is not even necessary to him in the accomolishment of those things which are his work. It is generally no more than his dream of prolonging through years a humanly improbable condition. Happiness as a busband and father has always been his scarcely whispered prayer, his dearest secret hope, toward which all his idealism yearns. That umerous other and very potent modves enter into men's hearts is not in the least overlooked. It is only claimed that to the average man his future marriage is little more than a very beautiful dream.-Anna A. Rogers in Atlantic.

Good news travels; not so rapidly as bad news of course, but still it "Aunt Car'line" wess always happy and travels. Do a good thing, and the peoleisurely. One day ber mistress sent ple will hear of it in time.

# AIKENSIDE

CHAPTER XII. the persons killed or injured at railroad glad that across the sea there was a crossings, nor those trespassing on Lucy Atherstone. How he wished that equipment or right of way. It is the she was there now as Mrs. Guy, and he gers and for trainmen actually on duty in Guy's library, the opportunity soon ocon or about trains. The increase in curred, Guy approaching the subject him-

"Guess, Hal, what wild project I have

"I know without guessing; Maddy told me," and the doctor's eyebrows were ele-

"And so you don't approve?" was Guy's of the lives of passengers and trainmen, next remark, to which the doctor replied: "Why, yes; it's a grand thing for this direction at every point. It costs providing you know enough to teach her; money to save lives, and they prefer to but, Guy, this is a confounded gossiping neighborhood, and felks will talk, afraid. She's too handsome, Guy, for merce commission brings the case Madam Grundy to let alone. If Lucy against the railroads home in a couple were only here, it would be different. of sentences. It compares the small Why, in the name of wonder, are you two

the heavy increase of accidents to pas-the heavy increase of accidents to pas-der. "I did not suppose you had got as it may have on me teaching a sweet-faced little girl how to conjugate amo; and to cover up your own interest, you bring comparative protection to railroad men doctor, I am doing it for you. I imagine on the lines noted is, the commission you fancy her, as well you may. She'll says, "undoubtedly due in large meas- make a splendid woman, but she needs ure to improvement in the maintenance educating, of course, and I am going to and care of automatic couplers," an im- do it. You ought to thank me, instead of looking so like a thundercloud," and

Guy laughed merrily.

The doctor was ashamed of his mood,

"I am obliged to you, Guy; but, as far passengers from unnecessary accidents as I am concerned, you may spare yourcating, I can do it myself."

Guy was puzzled. Could it be that, after all, he was deceived, and the doctor did not care for Maddy? It might be, and he hastened to change the conversation to another topic than Maddy Clyde. The doctor stayed to dinner, and as Guy

Magnanimous Guy! He felt himself walls of the large dining room were very good, very generous, very condethe light of a martyr, said martyrdom consisting in the scornful toss of the head pend filled with real water that had with which Agnes had listened to his

"Was he beside himself, or what?" this mean himself by turning her schoolmas-Fish net was also arranged over the rest of the table and ropes instead of ribbons in the decorations, and above with a girl as pretty as Maddy? It was the table was suspended a centerpiece.

Two enormous lobsters—artificial, of This was the drift of Mrs. Nonh's recourse—were also suspended from the marks, and as Guy depended much on what was her duty, or think how much ceiling and apparently held the center- her judgment, he decided to write to Lucy happiness her presence might give her might piece, while from each corner of the to see if she had the slightest objections grandparents, or how much she might table a rope went up to meet the green to his teaching Maddy Clyde. Accordplece and on each coil of rope at the ingly, he wrote that very night, telling table corner was a real crab-a boiled her frankly all he knew concerning Maddy Clyde, and narrating the circumstances under which he first had met her, being careful also to repeat what he knew would size, but not alike, fisherman with a have weight with an English girl like Lucy, to wit, that though poor, The souvenirs were little silver ducks father and grandfather Clyde had been with pincushion backs and before ad- gentlemen, the one a clergyman, the other journing to the sun parlor for coffee a sea captain. Then he told of her desire for learning, and his plan to teach her himself, of what the doctor and Mrs. Nosh had said about it, and his final deto the end of a small rope. These were termination to consult her. Then he de ears of corn, potatoes, apples and other scribed Maddy herself, feeling a strange fruit and vegetables filled with candles, thrill as he told how pure, how innocent, and during the luncheon one course how artless and beautiful she was, and

> clation with her. "If you do," he wrote, "you have but to say so, and though I am committed, I call consumption. I don't believe those will extricate myself in some way, rather than wound you in the slightest degree." It would be some time ere an answer to this letter could be received, and until such time Guy could not honorably hear Maddy's lessons as he had agreed to do. But Maddy was not suspicious, and ac- Paris. It will be just the thing for you cepting his trivial excuse, waited patiently, while he, too, waited for the letter,

wondering what it would contain. At last the answer came, and it was red-headed, jumper-attired farmer boy Maddy who brought it to Guy. She had husking corn in a field by the side of been home that day, and on her return the road and, thinking to jolly him a had ridden by the office as Guy had requested her to do. She saw the letter ore a foreign postmark, also that it was n the delicate handwriting of some female, but the sight did not affect her in Maddy's heart was far too heavy that day to care for a trifle, and so, The broker, a trifle nettled, then said, placing the letter carefully in her basket,

The letter was decidedly Lucy-ish in all that pertained to her "dearest darling." precious Guy," but when she came to Maddy Clyde, her true, womanly maure spoke; and Guy, while reading it, felt how good she was. Of course he might teach Maddy Clyde all he wished to teach her, and it made Lucy love him better to know that he was willing to do to help him; they would open a school for all the poor, but she did not know when cough had come earlier that season than ter in Naples, and they were going before long. Then followed a few more lines sacred to the lover's eye, lines which told low pure was the love which sweet Lucy Atherstone bors for Guy Remington, who, her hand confidingly upon his arm, while as he read, felt his heart beat with a throb of pain, for Lucy spoke to him now his. for the first time of what might possibly ed hall.

"I've dreamed about it nights," she began said. "I've thought about it days, and tried so hard to be reconciled; to feel that if God will have it so, I am willing to I never think of that bill except when die before you have ever called me your little wife, or I have ever called you husband. know, and I am sure of going there, I duce your sickness, consequently if I made hink, but oh, dear Guy, a life with you looks so very sweet that sometimes your ittle Lucy shrinks from the dark grave which would hide her forever from you. hastily interrupted him, and while her Guy, you once said you never prayed, and eyes flashed with pride, exclaimed: ask God to make me well, and maybe He I'd do it!"

for your I. Do, Gos, please do pray is the record of the American railroads for the year ending June 30 last as for the year ending June 30 last as compiled by the interstate commerce that one of Guy's habits should offer to that one of Guy's habits should offer to the persons killed or injured at railroad that he was glad, too, and doubly the persons killed or injured at railroad glad that across the sea there was a constitute those trospassing on those trospassing on those trospassing on the sea there was a constitute that across the sea there was a constitute that the might like the might be said that the might like that she might live, beseching the Father to send upon him any calamity save this one—Luce Gay felt betone—Lucy must be spared. It was something ter for having prayed. It would please to tell Lucy, something that would please to tell Lucy, something that well was her well, and though his heart yet was very sad, a part of the last was lifted, and he could think of Last now without the hitten the bitter pain her letter first had cost him. Was there nothing that would save her, nobody

him. Was there nothing that would save her, nobody who could care her? Her disease was not hereditary: surely it might be made to yield: had English physicians no skill, would not an American do better? It was possible, and if that mother of Lucy's would let her come where doctors knew something, she might get well; but she wouldn't; she was determined that no husband should be burdened with an ailling wife, and so if the dened with an ailing wife, and so if the Why, in the name of wonder, are you two not married, if you are ever going to be?" why. Mahomet must go to the mountain, "Jeglous, as I live!" and Guy's hand ame down playfully on the doctor's shoulto men on the tops of freight cars with ame down playfully on the doctor's shoulthe heavy increase of accidents to pasder. "I did not suppose you had got as most skillful man I ever knew, I'll send
for as that. You are afraid of the effect him to England; send him to the Atherstones; he shall go to Naples with them as their family physician; he can cure Lucy; I'll speak to him the very next time he comes here"; and with another bur-den lifted from his mind, Guy began to

wonder where Maddy was. He knew she had returned, for Flora had said she brought the letter, and he was about going out, in hopes of finding her and Jessie, when he heard her in the hall, as she answered some question of Mrs. Noah's; stepping to the door, he asked her to come in. Then he told her that the time had come when he could give those promised lessons, asking if she would commence to-morrow, after she was through with Jessie, and what she

would prefer to take up first.

"Ob, Mr. Remington," and Maddy be gan to cry, "I am afraid I cannot stay! They need me at home, or may. Grandpa said so and I don't want to go, though I know it's wicked not to. Oh, dear! dear!" Here Maddy broke down entirely, sobbing so convulsively that Guy became slarmed, and wondered what he ought

to do to quiet her. Controlling her voice as well as she was able, Maddy told him bow the physician at the asylum had written that as Uncle Joseph would in all human probability never be perfectly sane, and as a change of scene would do him good, Mr. Markham had better try taking him a while that having been spoken with upon the subject, he seemed as anxious as a little child, even crying when the night came around, and he was not at home, as he expressed it. "They have kept him so long," Maddy said, "that grandpa thought it his duty to relieve them, though he can't well afford it, and so he's coming next week, and grandma will need some one to help, and I must go. I know it's wrong, but I do not want to go, try as I

It was a glomy prospect to exchange Aikenside for the humble home where poverty had in abode, and it was not very strange that Maddy should shrink from it at first. She did not stop to ask cheer and amuse the weak imbecile, her uncle. She was but human, and so, when Guy began to devise ways of preventing her going, she listened, while the pain at her heart grew less as her faith in Guy grew stronger. He would drive down with her to morrow, he said, and see what could be done.

As Guy had half expected, the doctor came around that evening, and inviting him into his private room, Guy proceeded at once to unfold his scheme, asking him first :

'How much he probably received a year for his services as physician." The doctor could not tell at once, but after a little thought, made an estimate, and then inquired why Guy had asked the

question. "Because, doe, I have a project on foot Lucy Atherstone is dying with what they old fogies understand her disease, and it you will go over to England and under take her cure, I'll give you just double what you'll get by remaining here. They are going to Naples for the winter, and, undoubtedly, will spend some time in Lucy and her mother will be glad of your services when they know I sent you. Lucy likes you now. Will you go? You can trust Maddy to me, I'll take good care that she is worthy of you when you come

bacele " At the mention of Maddy's name doctor's brow darkened. He was sure that Gny meant kindly, but it grated on his feelings to be thus joked about what he knew was a storn reality. Guy's project appeared to him at first a most insane ne, but as he continued to enlarge upon it, and the advantage it would be to the loctor to travel in the Old World, a feeling of enthusiasm was kindled in his own breast; a desire to visit Naples and France, and the places he had dreamed of as a boy, but never hoped to see, Guy's plan began to look more feasible, and possibly he might have yielded but for one thought, and that a thought of Maddy Clyde. He would not leave her alone better to know that he was willing to do with Guy, even though Guy was true to such things. She wished she was there Lucy as steel. He would stay; he would to help him; they would one, watch, and in time he would win the young girl waiting now for him in the mamma would let her come. That pain hall below, waiting now for mid in her side was not any better, and her blushes of shame and tears of regret how cough had come could be the come. she had meant to pay him with her very The physician had advised a win- first wages, but now Uncle Joseph was coming home, and he must wait a little

longer. "Would be, could be be so good?" and unmindful of Guy's presence Maddy laid her soft eyes looked beseechingly into Guy left them together in the light-Sitting down on the sofa, and making Maddy sit beside him, the doctor

"Maddy, you know I mean what I say, at least to you, and when I tell you that you speak of it, you will believe me. know your grandfather's circumstances. Heaven is better than earth, I and I know, too, that I did much to inone out at all, it would be a very small one."

He did not get any further, for Maddy it made me feel so badly, but you will when you get this, won't you? You will say t will not! I'd be a hired girl before

It troubled the doctor to see Maddy so disturbed about dollars and cents to know that poverty was pressing its iron band upon her young heart; and only behand upon her young heart; and only because she was so young did he refrain from offering her then and there a resting place from the ills of life in his sheltering love. But she was not prepared, and he should only defeat his object by his rashness, so he restrained himself, though he did pass his arm partly around ther waist as he said to her:

her waist as he said to her: "I tell you. Maddy, honestly, that when want that bill liquidated I'll ask you. I certainly will, and I'll let you pay it, too. Does that satisfy you?" Yes, Maddy was satisfied, and after a

little the doctor continued :

"B, the way, Maddy, I have of going to Europe for a few months, or a year or more. You know it does a physician good to study a while in Paris. What do you think of it? Shall I go?"

The doctor had become quite necessary to Maddy's happiness. He it was to whom she confided all her little troubles, and to lose him would be a terrible loss, and so she answered that if it would be much better for him she supposed he ought to go, though she should miss him sadly and be so lonely without him.

"Would you, Maddy? Are you in earn est? Would you be the lonelier for my being gone?" the doctor asked, eagerly. With her usual truthfulness, Maddy replied: "Of course I should:" and when, after the conference was ended, the doc tor stood for a moment talking with Guy, ere bidding him good-night, he said: "I think I shall not accept your European proposition. Somebody else must cure

The next day, as Guy had proposed, he rode down to Honedale, taking Maddy with him, and offered so many reasons why she should not be called home that the old people began to relent, particu-larly as they haw how Maddy's heart was set on the lessons Guy was going to give her. She might never have a like opportunity, the young man said, and as a good education would put her in the way of helping them when they were older and needed her more, it was their duty to leave her with them. He knew they objected to her receiving three dollars a week, but he should pay it just the same, and if they chose they might, with a part of it, hire a little girl to do the work which Maddy would do were she at

Maddy was very happy after it was settled, and chatted gayly with her grandnother, while Guy went out with her grandfather, who wished to speak with him alone.

"Young man," he said, "you have takes deep interest in me and mine since irst came to know you, and I thank you for it all. I have nothing to give in return except my prayers, and those you have every day; you and that doctor. I pray for you two just as I do for Maddy, comehow you three come in together You're uncommon good to Maddy. "Tain't everyone like you who would offer and assist on learning her."

Grandpa felt relieved when he had said all this to Guy. On their return to the house grandpa showed Guy the bedroom intended for Uncle Joseph, and Guy, as he glanced at the furniture, thought witha himself how he would send down from Aikenside some of the unused articles piled away in the garret when he refurnished his house. He was becoming greatly interested in the Markhams, caring othing for the remarks his interest might excite among the neighbors, some of whom watched Maddy half curiously as in the stylish carriage, beside its stylish owner, she rode back to Aikenside in the

(To be continued.)

### \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\* HE KNEW HUMAN NATURE. \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

When Davy Crockett was on his way from his Tennessee home to Texas to fight for the new republic, he rode overand with some chance friends from Little Rock to Fulton. One day they were startled by hearing the high notes of a distant violin playing a rollicking blight-resistant melon has not yet maair. Putting spurs to their horses, the men hastened toward the sound, and soon observed several others running through the fields in the same direction. At last they came over the crest of a ridge, in view of the river, and beheld the fiddler seated in the middle of the flood, in an almost submerged buggy, playing as fast as he could shake the bow.

"Hello, there! Turn back!" shouted the men who came through the field. "I can't," replied the fiddler.

"But you've missed the ford. You'll

drown!" "I've known that for half an hour." "What are you going to do?"

"Sit here till you chaps come out and turn my horse the right way." The horse was with difficulty keeping his footing and seemed about to be swept away. One of the men who had been attracted by the fiddling waded out, and by a precarious way reached the borse's head and led him round to the ford and back to the bank, the passenger fiddling all the way and wind-

ing up with a merry jig. "What do you mean by sitting out there fiddling in the face of death? demanded Crockett of the rescued

stranger. "Well, colonel," said the fiddler," I am a student of human nature. When I found I had missed the ford and will be the sire of all the chicks hatchneeded help, I set out to get it. I might have shouted myself hoarse, and ity in color and general characteristics no one out here would have paid the instead of having chicks of all sizes slightest attention to me. But there shapes and colors and not of character isn't a man west of the Mississippi who istic merit. The hens not in company wouldn't come running at the sound of a fiddle in the woods."

"And he was right," said Davy, "for there we were, the lot of us, our horses all of a lather, for running to satisfy our curiosity about that squeaking fiddle in this out-of-the-way place."

Perfectly Harmless. The old bachelor was dining at the

home of a newly married friend. "Have a piece of this cake, Mr. Oldbach," said the fair bostess. "I made it myself." "Thank you," rejoined Oldbach, "but

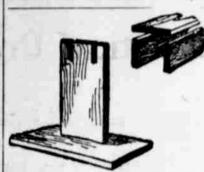
I-er-seldom eat cake." "Oh, you needn't be afraid of it, Oldbach," said the host. "I tried a

peice of it on a tramp this morning." Where He Failed. Mrs. Diggs-Yes, she is suing her

failure to provide. Mrs. Biggs-Doesn't she get enough

to ent? Mrs. Diggs-Oh, yes; but he falled to provide her with the diamond neck lace she wanted.

Board Drains a Substitute for Tile Drainage is a live subject with the farmers in the northwest, and many would be glad to do a great deal more of it if they were in a financial condition to do so. While tile drains are considered the best, board drains will give very good service for a number of years and will enable the farmer to raise better crops and thus provide himself with the means for buying



METHOD OF MAKING WOODEN DRAINS. tile later on. Board drains, especial

ly where the ground is so wet that they are kept constanly saturated with water, will last for years. Farmers living in the districts where timber is cheap will find that such drains will answer the purpose very well without much expense. Such drains have been known to last twenty or twenty-five years, at which time they seemed to be in just as good a state of preservation as on the day they were put in.

To make wooden drains it usually re quires two men, one to hold the boards in place and the other to nail them together. This method of making board drains can be improved upon by the use of a standard. This consists of an upright board three feet high, having



notches cut into it six inches apart, one inch wide and several inches deep to but on the clay loams the opposite rehold the boards firmly. The boards are suits were obtained. The experiments aid in the notches, when the top board can be quickly and evenly nailed on. Another method consists of two posts driven into the ground about three feet in which it grows. from the fence, with notched boards nailed across from each post to the fence. With such a rig as this troughs can be quickly and easily made by one man alone,-Exchange.

No Melon Is Blight Proof. There is much talk of blight-proof muskmelon varieties, and some are annually sent out with that claim, but it is safe to say that even a reasonably terialized. The quest is not by any means hopeless as individual plants vary to some extent in their power to resist infection, so that careful selection may eventually isolate a good variety that can be depended on to a greater extent than those we now have. The Colorado Experiment Station claims to be making headway in this direction, and keen private growers are on the lookout for resistant individuals.

Estimating Milk Yield.

In reckoning the milk yield of a cow common mistake is to figure on the basis of her yield during the first two or three months. Professor Gray, of the Canadian Experimental Farm at Ottawa, gives records of cows showing that the yield at first is very deceptive. One cow noted as a great milker started out to lead, and did so for about two months, but was finally next to the last in the whole herd, with only a small 2-year-old helfer behind her in yield. The only way to find out what a cow is really doing is to weigh the milk at frequent intervals throughout the season.

Managing Hens. A selected lot of one dozen hens will lay as many eggs as the average farmer will care to have hatched, and if the hens are mated to a pure-bred cock he ed on the farm, thus securing uniform with males will lay just as many eggs as if with them, and the eggs possess better keeping qualities than those that

are fertile. Consolidated Farms.

To make one large farm out of sever al small ones may prove a good disposition for cheap farm properties in localities. Large consolidated вотпе farms seem to be doing well in many instances and to have less trouble with the labor problem than do the smaller farms.-American Cultivator.

Russian Apples. In 1888, the Indiana State Experi-

ment Station set out from forty to fifty varieties of the Russian apples and one which has done especially well is the red queen. It is medium in size, end will be the top when opened. Fill somewhat conical, greenish yellow, with in with the same grade, shake often husband for divorce on the grounds of a bright red check in the sun. It is a and when near the top put in two more handsome apple, but like most of the layers with stems up, letting the last Russians, too acid for eating out of layer stand a full inch above the chims hand, but excellent for cooking purposes. The tree is a prolific bearer and slowly press into place, shaking the in Indiana the season is up to Christ- barrel in the meantime.-Farm Jourmas.

Dip or wash the animals with a 1 or

2 per cent water solution of a tar disinfectant, such as kerso. A convenient way to apply the remedy in the larger animals is with a spray pump, and in sheep and hogs by dipping. Whatever method is used, the cout and skin must be thoroughly wet with the solution. After treating the herd, the stables, sheds or sleeping quarters should be sprayed with about a 2 per cent water solution of the disinfectant, or whitewash may be used lustend. This is necessary in order to prevent reinfecting the herd from the surroundings. If there is much litter around the yards It is advisable to move the herd to other corrals. Tar disinfectants in 1 or 2 per cent solutions do not destroy the eggs or nits, hence it is necessary to treat the animal again in ten days or two weeks. Stockmen sometimes ask if the feeding of suiphur to lousy animals will not drive away or destroy the lice. The feeding of small doses of sulphur will do no harm, nor will it help in getting rid of the lice, and it cannot be considered a remedy for this class of disorders when used in this way. Sulphur by effective however, when used externally, and the addition of four ounces to every gallon of the tar disinfectant solution used greatly increases the effectiveness of the remedy.-Field and Farm.

Feeding Wild Animals.

Raising alfaifa to furnish winter feed for wild animals is proving a great succeas in the Yellowstone National Park. One hundred tons of fine hay have been harvested in the government field near the Gardiner such and stacked near the soldiers' quarters. Three years ago a deer was seldom seen in the vicinity of Mammoth Hot Springs and as an experiment a few bales of alfalfa hay were scattered near the parade ground. The next day a dozen blacktall deer made their appearance, the number steadtly increasing and now comprises over 100. The animals quickly lost all fear of human beings and are not even startled by the firing of the evening gun within 100 yards of them, but show much more interest in the lowering of the flag from the staff in the middle of their feeding ground.

Testing Fertilizers.

The fertilizer tests at the New York Experiment Station showed no gain in using phosphates or chemicals where plenty of manure was mixed with the soil. On sandy loams the manure lightened it up too much, and the commercial fertilizer proved most efficient, seemed to indicate that lettuce cares less for the form or source of food than about the texture of the soil

A Barrel Header. A barrel header, such as the store. sell, is a handy implement to own. But if there are only a few apples to be

barreled, it may not pay to buy a press. One can be rigged very quickly by using a plank or scantling with one end under a stud reaching to the shed plate and

emporarily nailed in place. The barrel to be headed forms the fulcrum. Be careful, says Farm Journal, not to press the apples too hard.

Grass Eggs.

When a hen is made sick eating too reely of grass she lays what are known as "grass eggs." Grass eggs are poor stuff; they have an unpleasant flavor and the yolk wabbles around in a weak and watery white, and is green and dull in color. The term is one applied by candlers, who discover while testing that there is a pale, greenish bue to the eggs, and that they are not at all of the bright, fresh color that we find in

healthy eggs. Weights of Geese.

The American Standard classifies the weights of geese as follows: Toulouse and Embden, adult gander, 25 pounds; young gander, 20 pounds; adult goose, 23 pounds; young goose, 18 pounds; African adult gander, 20 pounds; young gander, 16 pounds; adult goose, 18 pounds; young goose, 14 pounds; China and Canada, adult gander, 16 pounds; young gander, 12 pounds; adult goose, 14 pounds; young goose, 10 pounds,

Alfalfa Meal for Cows.

The Vermont Experiment Station has tested this product when fed to dairy cows and finds that it produces within 3 per cent as much milk and 6 per cent as much butter as wheat bran. Where alfalfa can be grown there is but little use for "store feed." In the Eastern market, however, alfalfa meal is sold for \$27 per ton, a higher price than is paid for bran.

Pruning Fruit Trees.

In trimming trees it should be remempered that the wound made by cutting off a limb close to the trunk of a tree will soon heal over, while the wound made by cutting off the limb two or three inches from the trunk lends to decay and sometimes causes the ultimate loss of the tree itself.-Fancy Fruit.

How to Pack Apples.

Two layers of fruit should be placed in the bottom of a barrel with stems down and as close together as possible. These will form the facing, for this of the barrel. Now put on the lid and