

OCEAN ISLANDS FOR SALE

PACIFIC PEARLS WITH
GOOD WILL AND FIXTURES
THROWN ON THE MARKET—
OPPORTUNITIES TO GET INTO
THE "KING BUSINESS"

There is nothing so fascinating to the man in whom there lingers something of the romantic aspirations acquired by an early perusal of "Robinson Crusoe" as the possession of an island. To be, like Alexander Selkirk, "monarch of all he surveys" has its attractions to the person who longs for some old-time adventure. Already there are several "Island Monarchs" in the world, who find the life not only delightful but even profitable, and others now have a similar opportunity to become emperors on a small scale.

Three islands, which are "in the market," are Melville Island, a satellite of Australia, lying about twenty miles northeast of Port Darwin; Washington Island, lying in the Pacific a few degrees north of the Equator, and Lundy Island, which is in the Bristol Channel. Fanning Island, which is near Washington, has just been sold in London to a man named Greig.

If one desires rest and quiet, he would probably choose to make himself king of either Fanning or Washington Island, but he would have to take his subjects with him, for, apart from some officials and some imported South Sea Islanders on Fanning Island, the two isles are uninhabited. If, on the other hand, the aspirant for kingship wants real adventure, Melville Island will probably fill the bill. There the new "king" will find a hardy race of savage blacks and a land overrun with big game, including 10,000 buffalo. The strenuous life is the only one that has a foothold there, and an energetic conqueror can find "something doing" every minute.

Although Fanning and Washington Islands were discovered by Captain Edmund Fanning, an American sailor,

they are British possessions. Unless the demand for coral necklaces becomes more insistent than it has been for a hundred years or so, the islands will have little value so far as their natural production is concerned, so whether the Union Jack or the Stars and Stripes float over these micronesian is a matter of no serious importance. It must be admitted, however, that they have some strategic value, for they lie almost on the course of steamships from Hawaii to New Zealand, and Fanning Island is at present a station of one of the "all-British" cables.

This fact has caused some heartburnings among patriots in Australia and Great Britain. They have sounded an alarm. They have written to their newspapers, and have described the sale as "amazing." At this stage, the High Commissioner of the Western Pacific relieved all the agitated minds by declaring the purchaser of the islands must hold them subject to the rights of the British Crown and the territorial rights of the Pacific Cable Board.

Fanning Island, the most important of the Fanning group, which also includes Palmyra, Washington and Christmas Islands, was discovered by Captain Fanning in 1798. The same year he saw Washington Island for the first time, and named it for the American general and patriot. Christmas Island, the most southerly and easterly of the group, was discovered by the English navigator, Captain Cook. Fanning and Washington Islands were afterward occupied by Gregg and

Signall, two adventurers, who claimed possession by occupation. At the time of the laying of the British Pacific cable an agreement was reached between the British and American governments by which the former acquired the sovereignty.

The Fanning group is of coral foundation, being the caps of peaks of a submarine range of mountains, having a general direction of from northwest to southeast. Fanning Island is really composed of three islands grouped around a lagoon. Its general shape is that of an oyster. English Harbor is at the western end of the southernmost island. Here is located the cable station and the settlement. Melville Island has an area of more than 7,000 square miles. At its greatest breadth it is about 110 miles across, and its greatest length is about the same.

Anticosti Island, at the mouth of the St. Lawrence River, which was purchased for \$125,000 by M. Henri Menier, the "chocolate king," a few years ago, is about half the size of Melville Island. M. Menier soon found that he was not "king" in his island, for the British government interfered when he attempted to raise the French flag and give the impression that it was the territory of the French Republic. It remains, however, that as owner of the island he has sufficient power to govern it very much as he chooses.

Although the proprietor of Anticosti has already spent almost \$5,000,000 on his improvements, it is admitted he has a bargain. The lobster fisheries are considered of great value; the enormous forests of spruce trees are alone worth the money, and in addition to this he has a fine game preserve, which, with a party of friends, he visits every year.—Montreal Star.



Dangerous Corn Pest.

The cornstalk borer has infested various parts of the county for many years, but has not done great damage in most parts of the corn belt. It has begun to appear in Iowa and Kansas in the last two or three years.

It is a large, white, brown-spotted caterpillar which bores into a stalk of young corn. When fully grown it burrows down into the tap-root, and in the spring transforms to a pupa, from which the adult soon emerges and lays its eggs on the young corn near the axils.

The young larvae hatching from them bore into the stalk and upward through the pith. When fully grown they bore outwards to the surface, making a hole, from which the moth escapes and transforms to pupa in the burrow. This insect is two-brooded, the second brood feeding on the old stalks, generally between the second joint and the ground, and becoming full grown about harvest time, when they go into winter quarters.

When corn was seriously infested last year and the stalks left standing a second infestation may be expected this year unless the farmer has raked and burned, a method which we have always suggested when the cornstalks were known to harbor any kind of insect pests. Corn is too good to be without its full supply of enemies, which attack it from the very time it is planted in the ground until it is in the full ear.

Value of Dairy Products.

There were 12,147,304,550 pounds of milk and 588,180,471 pounds of cream used in 1904 in the manufacture of 551,278,141 pounds of butter, 313,685,290 pounds of cheese and 303,485,182 pounds of condensed milk. These figures are part of the census of manufactures for 1905. The total cost of the materials used in the industry was \$142,920,277, while the value of the products was \$168,182,780, an increase of the former of 31.3 per cent, and of the latter of 28.6 per cent. The number of establishments dropped from 9,242 to 8,026, while the capital increased 30 per cent to \$47,255,556. There were 3,507 salaried officials and clerks and 17,557 engaged in the manufacture of these articles. These received salaries and wages amounting to \$9,780,036.

Arranging Large Kettle.

This illustration gives a plan to set up a kettle in butchering time which is much better than the old way with posts and pole. Take one and one-half



HOW TO SET THE KETTLE

inch old wagon tire to the blacksmith shop and get a ring made the size of your kettle, with three legs welded to it, and you can move your kettle any place where wanted, and nothing is in your way to go around it.

Tape Worm in Turkeys.

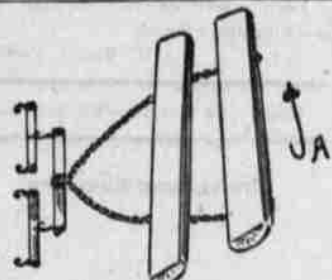
The presence of the tapeworm may be recognized through the indolent, drowsy spirits of turkeys infested by it; a careful examination of voidings will reveal its presence, as those infested will pass small portions of the worm. Powdered male fern is an effective remedy, and may be administered in doses of from thirty grains to one dram of the powder; or of the liquid extract, fifteen to thirty drops. This should be administered morning and evening before feeding; the minimum dose to the younger, increasing the dose as they grow older. Oil of turpentine is an excellent remedy against worms of all kinds which inhabit the digestive organs of poultry. A common remedy for the removal of worms from fowls is one drop of kerosene oil night and morning. This should not be administered to the very young, but may be used with impunity after they are a few weeks old.

Silage for Beef Animals.

The Virginia Experiment Station has just issued a bulletin on feeding silage to beef animals. It concludes that silage after all will enable the feeders to maintain their animals at a lower cost and to secure greater gains than they have heretofore obtained; that animals to be fed for immediate slaughter can safely receive silage as the sole roughness. Animals so fed will kill out a high per cent of dressed meat, will help ship well, and will show a superior finish to animals fed on dry, coarse roughness.

Clod Masher, Leveler and Drag.

This clod masher, leveler and drag can also be used for mashing down cornstalks and weeds. Cut off a log about twelve inches in diameter that will split straight through the middle nicely, take off the bark from both pieces, that will leave one flat side and one rounding side to each piece; get some old half-inch rod irons, six pieces about fifteen inches long, have taps on one end and hook about two inches long, bent on the other end; bore two auger holes in each piece a foot from each end; put the hooks with taps through holes. Get two pieces of old log chains, with three links each, which will fasten the two pieces of timber together. Bore two more holes in one of the pieces about two feet from each end, and take one long trace chain and fasten to doubletree. Letter A shows shape of the rods. If you want to



GOOD FIELD CONTRIVANCE.

make it heavier, drop a pole on the chains between the logs. This will make as fine a drag, clod crusher, land leveler, stalk and weed knocker as you would wish to use.

Cheap Fuel Alcohol.

Denatured alcohol will probably become another great product of the southern states. It is claimed that cottonseed oil machinery is perfectly adapted to making industrial alcohol from the potato. If this is successfully proven, the many cottonseed oil mills of the south, which are idle each summer season for lack of material, will be able to operate all the time and keep their employees together. Furthermore, being already equipped with the machinery, they will, no doubt, be able to manufacture the alcohol very cheaply. Farmers would also be benefited by the immense demand for potatoes that would result. In Cuba alcohol is produced and sold from twelve to fifteen cents a gallon, and it is said to make an excellent fuel for running engines. It produces no soot or disagreeable odors. When the law recently passed by congress to denaturize alcohol in the United States becomes operative it is expected greatly to increase the use of the article both for fuel and other purposes.

The Way to Make Hens Moul.

One of the achievements of modern poultry keeping is that of forcing a hen to doff her old coat, and grow a new one before the time when she would do so naturally. Many hens shed their feathers so late in the season, naturally, that cold weather overtakes them before they get new suits, consequently they seldom begin laying before spring. If the moult can be hastened so that a new coat of feathers is grown and the laying can be started before cold weather, the prospect is good for a supply of eggs during fall and winter.

The result is usually accomplished by cutting off all meat and mash foods, putting the hens on short rations of grain for a week or so to stop the laying, then allow more liberty and feed a full ration high in protein. This loosens the old feathers, which drop off quickly and starts a rapid growth of the new. A liberal allowance of beef scrap is essential, and linseed meal is an advantage. Sunflower seeds are also good during the moult.

Dodder Alfalfa's Enemy.

The worst enemy to alfalfa is dodder, a yellow twining parasite that lives on alfalfa and clover and rapidly destroys them. The seeds are small and yellow and most of the alfalfa seeds from the West are infested with dodder. The New York station says that the dodder seeds can be removed by sifting the seed through a sieve having twenty meshes to the inch. Careful seedmen will sift the seeds, but farmers should be on their guard against common seeds that may be on the market.

Dead Secret.

Last time Consul General Wynne came over from London a fellow-passenger was a former Senator who was terribly seasick. He suffered for several days.

"One morning," said Wynne, "the Senator came out of his stateroom and ran into a lady who was coming along the passageway clad in the scantiest raiment. She screamed and sought a place of refuge.

"Don't be alarmed," the seasick statesman said. "Don't be alarmed, madam; I shall never live to tell of it."—New York World.

The average girl's nose suits her until she reaches the day when she must wear glasses, and finds that nose glasses will not stay on.

THE WIND.

I saw you, toss the kites on high
And blow the birds about the sky;
And all around I heard you pass,
Like ladies' skirts across the grass—
O wind, a-blowing all day long,
O wind, that sings so loud a song!

I saw the different things you did,
But always you yourself you hid.
I felt you push, I heard you call,
I could not see yourself at all—
O wind, a-blowing all day long,
O wind, that sings so loud a song!

O you that are so strong and cold,
O blower, are you young or old?
Are you a beast of field and tree,
Or just a stronger child than me?
O wind, a-blowing all day long,
O wind, that sings so loud a song!
—Robert Louis Stevenson.

THE ONLY WAY

Of course it was planned beforehand, he knew who would do it best, I'm sure, and perhaps if the girls had known what the prize was to be, they would have tried harder for it, although I think none of us would have gotten that one.

It came about this way: Ten of us girls have a sewing club and meet once a week. We do not accomplish much, Ned says, because we do too much gossiping, but then, Ned is horrid, anyway.

Right across the way young Dr. Thornton has his office, and on a warm day when the windows were open, he could hear everything we said, but we did not realize that until afterward. We were all slightly acquainted with him and were dying to know him better—he is awfully good-looking, you know, but all taken up with his work, which made him even more attractive to us.

One day we were busy as bees—if not with fingers, with our chattering—when the door opened, and in walked Dr. Thornton. He held a bundle in his hand, and after greeting us, he walked up to Maude, who is our president (although how he knew I didn't find out until later), and said: "Miss Williams, I have rather a peculiar request to make, but perhaps you will overlook its peculiarity, as you know I am a 'lone bachelor.' I am in an even more lonely state than usual, as my housekeeper is away, and there is no one to do my mending for me. This bundle contains ten pairs of socks which need mending most awfully (the girls looked scandalized), and it struck me to-day that possibly as yours was a sewing club, you would take pity on the 'lone bachelor' and each darn a pair for me, perhaps one pair each will not be too

much of a tax on you, and I shall not need them until next week."

Of course we could not refuse, for his loneliness and (apparent) helplessness appealed to us.

The doctor stayed long enough for us to feel that he was not so unapproachable as he had seemed. I remembered afterward that he never once looked toward Claire or spoke to her during his stay. Claire is our shy one, with the great brown eyes and dusky hair with a touch of sunshine in it—we call her our wood anemone—the most domestic of us all.

The doctor started to go, but turned back and said, as in after-thought, "I never thought about payment." We all protested, horrified at his wishing to pay for what we "considered a pleasure." "Well," said he, "since you refuse payment, I will let you do the work on one condition—that the one who darns her pair the neatest shall accept a prize, and will take whatever I offer for a prize—of whatever value." We agreed to this, and he said, laughing, "Will you consider this promise binding?" We promised solemnly that we would, laughing all the while, as we thought it all an excellent joke.

The next week when we met we compared our work, and Claire's mending,



PERSUADED CLAIRE TO ACCEPT THE PRIZE.

as we expected, was so daintily done that you could hardly tell where the darns were.

Then the doctor came in, and when we showed him the socks he declared Claire's the best, and said that the prize was not quite ready, but begged to be allowed to call on Miss Claire that evening to bestow it upon her. She reluctantly said that he might, and the doctor suggested a meeting next day, in order that we might (his eyes twinkling wickedly) see how we liked the prize. So next day we met, all eager to see what the mysterious prize was to be.

In about half an hour the door opened and the doctor and Claire came in