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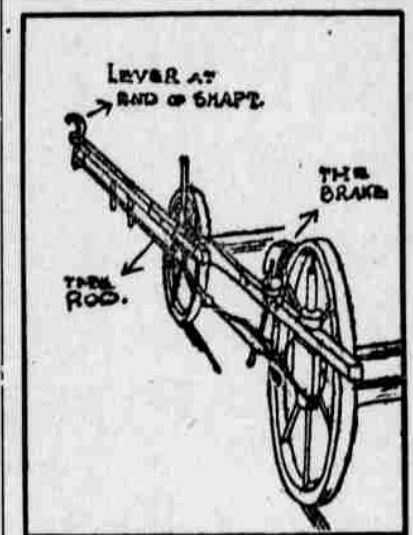
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Please Mention This Paper.



Automatic Wagon Brake.

A wagon brake which operates automatically has been recently patented by a Mississippi man. The ordinary arrangement of attaching a foot lever beneath the driver's seat, connecting with the brake, is entirely dispensed with. The driver is not required to handle the brake in any way, the simple halting of the horses only being necessary. As shown in the illustration, the brake is pivoted so as to come in contact with the rim of the rear wheel. On the extreme outer end of the shafts is a vertical pivoted lever, one end of which connects with a rod extending to the brake. The upper end of this lever is connected by a strap or chain to the harness on the horse. As shown,



THROWS A BRAKE AUTOMATICALLY.

the top of this lever is normally in advance of the lever end. Obviously a pulling pressure exerted by a backward movement of the horses in stopping will force the brake against the rear wheel. The driver in stopping his horses in this way automatically throws on the brake.

Cost of Hauling Crops.

The bureau of statistics recently sent out a special inquiry circular to ascertain the cost of hauling farm crops to shipping points, and the compiled results representing replies from nearly 2,000 counties in different parts of the United States indicate that the quantity of farm produce annually hauled amounts to 49,000,000 tons. The cost of hauling the same is estimated at approximately \$85,000,000, which is an average of 8½ cents per hundred-weight.

In general, the hauling cost is to a large extent dependent upon the value of the articles hauled, the more valuable products taken to market oftener and in smaller loads, and therefore at a greater cost. Corn, wheat, hay and potatoes are hauled at from 7 to 9 cents per 100 pounds; tobacco and hogs at 10 cents per 100 pounds; cotton, 16 cents, and wool, 44 cents.

Prey of the Sparrow Hawk.

The sparrow hawk almost invariably catches a flying bird for its meal, even striking down birds as large as the wood pigeon, though usually going no higher than a black bird. It does not exactly swoop like the larger hawks, yet it must have conditions of these of its own choosing. That is why the small birds usually mob it with impunity when they are numerous enough to bewilder it. Once, however, I saw a sparrow hawk that had been molested for some minutes by a perfect cloud of green finches, dart among them and secure a victim.

The other day I had one of these birds pointed out as the one which, a few days earlier, had come close to the house toward dusk and caught a bat on the wing. That, however, is a very unusual meal.—London News.

The Cow as a Machine.

As an illustration of the efficiency of a good cow, as a machine for the manufacture of milk and butter from grain, the record is given of a Holstein cow at the age of 8 years, which, during one year produced milk amounting to 18,573 pounds, or over nine tons of milk containing 620 pounds of butter. The net profit figured in maintaining such a cow is stated to be about \$156 per annum.

The Gill Strawberry.

Gill still heads the list as a first early strawberry of rare merit at the Ohio experiment station. Its small stocky plants fairly bubble over with business and berries. The berries run small at the close of the season, but not until after it has produced an astonishingly heavy burden of fruit of fair size and mild, pleasant, good, though not high, flavor.

Agriculture in France.

Agriculture gives employment to 7,800,000 persons in France, or one-fifth of the population.

For Stacking Wheat.

To stack wheat before threshing so that it will be dry when that time comes, is the desire of every farmer who raises that cereal. Mr. C. T. Pritchard, of Randolph, Clay county, Mo., has a system that he has used for a generation, and he never lost a bit of wheat by dampness in the stack. He has a great reputation in his home for this class of work, and he spends a large part of his time in showing others how to do it. He gives a description of his method as follows:

"To stack wheat or oats so stack will not take water. Commence the stack or rick any way you wish. But when you have the stack five or six feet high, just reverse the usual way of stacking, and do it from the center to the outer edge, instead of from the outer edge to the center. When you begin at the center to stack out, lay two or three bundles so as to keep the center highest, with a good slant toward the outer edge. If at any time the outer edge gets too high, stop before you get there, and go back to the center and commence again. Be sure to keep the center highest, with a good slant to the outside.

"This way is just about the same as one shock on top of the other, only more slant to the bundles.

"There is no slip or slide. It is fast and easy, and sure keeps the stack dry. If you are stacking the usual way, and the stack should begin to slip, just go to the center and work out, and see how quickly you stop the slipping. Mix it up a little—work from the center part of the time. Try it."

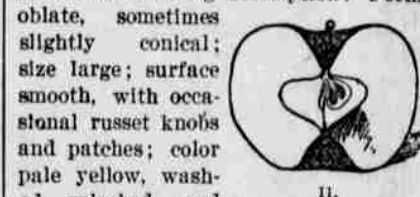
The Egg and the Chick.

That immutable law of physics that matter cannot be annihilated, or, vice versa, created out of nothing, appears to have some doubters even in this day of general education. The old query, which weighs the most, the egg or the chicken that is hatched from the egg, is a very good example of this lack of faith. To settle the matter for the hundredth time, experiments were recently undertaken at one of the agricultural stations engaged in poultry studies. It was found that a fertile egg during the process of incubation lost a little over 20 per cent in weight, while the chick hatched from such an egg weighed 30 per cent less than the egg before incubation. A sterile egg receiving similar treatment lost not quite 16 per cent in weight.

The Carson Apple.

The original tree of the Carson apple was obtained from an apple seedling nursery in Ohio, owned by a family named Carson. Its excellent record for productivity, beauty and quality in northern Ohio for half a century renders it worthy of experimental planting throughout the lake region and the New England States, both for the home orchard and as a commercial variety.

In commending this variety William A. Taylor, bureau of plant industry, gives the following description: Form oblate, sometimes slightly conical; size large; surface smooth, with occasional russet knobs and patches; color pale yellow, washed and splashed with bright crimson; dots rather large, conspicuous and protruding; cavity medium, regular, deep, russeted; stem of medium length and rather slender; basin very large, deep, abrupt, furrowed and sometimes russeted; calyx segments converging; eye large, closed; skin thin, tough; flesh yellowish, with satiny luster when fresh cut; texture fine, tender, juicy; core small, broad, oval, clasping, nearly closed; seeds few, plump, medium brown; flavor subacid, pleasant; quality very good. Season November to March in northern Ohio. Tree vigorous and upright in habit, very productive.



A Word for Farm Groves.
The uses of farm groves are numerous. They add to the beauty of the landscape by breaking the monotony of the prairie, furnishing wood for various uses and for fuel, so we need not be dependent upon the coal trust. They shelter our premises from the cold northern blasts during winter, and in summer, when the thermometer is playing about the 100 degree mark, we linger in their cooling shade with a feeling of thankfulness.

Peaches and Plums.

The peach will not thrive on low ground, but prefers an elevated situation always; plums prefer a stiff, damp soil to a light one. Therefore, plum stocks are often used for an orchard of peaches where the latter are to be planted in low ground.

New Treatment for Lice.

Two hens, badly infested, were dipped in a bath of boiled elder flowers, twigs and leaves, the elder concoction being mixed with some soft soap. In both instances all the lice were killed and the plumage in nowise damaged.

CONTAGIOUS BLOOD POISON NO LIMIT TO ITS POWERS FOR EVIL

Contagious Blood Poison has brought more suffering, misery and humiliation into the world than all other diseases combined; there is hardly any limit to its powers for evil. It is the blackest and vilest of all disorders, wrecking the lives of those unfortunate enough to contract it and often being transmitted to innocent offspring, a blighting legacy of suffering and shame. So highly contagious is the trouble that innocent persons may contract it by using the same table ware, toilet articles or clothing of one in whose blood the treacherous virus has taken root. Not only is it a powerful poison but a very deceptive one. Only those who have learned by bitter experience know by the little sore or ulcer, which usually makes its appearance first, of the suffering which is to follow. It comes in the form of ulcerated mouth and throat, unsightly copper colored spots, swollen glands in the groin, falling hair, offensive sores and ulcers on the body, and in severe cases the finger nails drop off, the bones become diseased, the nervous system is shattered and the sufferer becomes an object of pity to his fellow man. Especially is the treacherous nature of Contagious Blood Poison, shown when the infected person endeavors to combat the poison with mercury and potash. These minerals will drive away all outward symptoms of the troubles for a while, and the victim is deceived into the belief that he is cured. When, however, the treatment is left off he finds that the poison has only been driven deeper into the blood and the disease reappears, and usually in worse form because these strong minerals have not only failed to remove the virus from the blood but have weakened the entire system because of their destructive action. S. S. S. is the only real and certain cure for Contagious Blood Poison. It is made of a combination of healing blood-purifying roots, herbs and barks, the best in Nature's great laboratory of forest and field. We offer a reward of \$1,000 for proof that S. S. S. contains a particle of mineral in any form. S. S. S. goes down to the very bottom of the trouble and by cleansing the blood of every particle of the virus and adding rich, healthful qualities to this vital fluid, forever cures this powerful disorder. So thoroughly does S. S. S. cleanse the circulation that no signs of the disease are ever seen again, and offspring is protected.

Write for our special book on Contagious Blood Poison, which fully explains the different stages of the trouble, and outlines a complete home treatment for all sufferers of this trouble. No charge is made for this book, and if you wish special medical advice about case or any of its symptoms, our physicians will be glad to furnish that, too, without charge.

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Some Natural History.

F. A. Whitney, of Meeteetse, Wyo., a rich rancher, is greatly interested in all charities that help children. In a recent visit to New York he told a story about a little slum urchin whom he had sent on a month's vacation into the country.

"The lad was so ignorant," he said, "that he thought we got mush from mushrooms and milk from the milk-wood. One morning a woman pointed to a horse in a field and said:

"Look at the horse, Jimmy."

"That's a cow," the boy contradicted.

"No," said the lady, "it's a horse."

"Tain't. It's a cow," said the boy.

"Horses has wagons to 'em."—New York Tribune.

Fooled a Wolf.

A boy 12 years old, the son of a pioneer in Montana, observed a wolf sneaking about one day last January. He took a sheep skin and spread it over a low bush in such a way that it resembled the live animal, and after a time the wolf made a dash for it.

He detected the fraud at once, and instead of galloping away with the pelt, which would have made a good dinner for him, he dropped it and sneaked off with his tail between his legs. He realized that he had been made the victim of a joke, and he felt the same as a boy who had been April fooled.

One Who Missed It.

"Did the man act afraid when he was lynched?"

"How do I know? I am one of the leading and most prominent citizens of this community, sir."

"That's what I thought, and the papers said that the most prominent citizens took part in the lynching."—Houston Post.

Mothers will find Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup the best remedy to use for their children during the teething period.

Ought to Know How.

The animal trainer having been taken suddenly ill, his wife reported for duty in his stead.

"Have you ever had any experience in this line?" asked the owner of the circus and menagerie, with some doubt.

"Not just exactly in this line," she said, "but my husband manages the beasts all right, doesn't he?"

"He certainly does."

"Well, you ought to see how easy I manage 'em."

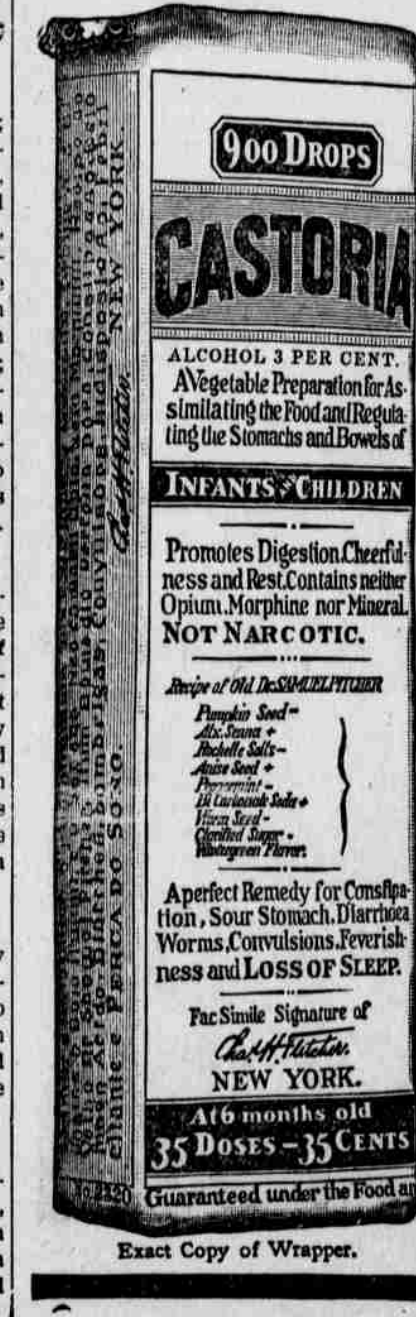
Convinced Him.

Police Justice—What is the charge against this man?

Officer—Loafin' in the park, y'r honor, an' refusin' to move on. He pretended to be asleep an' dreamin'. That's why I pinched 'im.

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