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**Uncle Silas Says.**

Mother the gobbler we sent to sister Sue for her Thanksgiving dinner didn't lose his head, she told me when I saw her in town today. You remember we sent him in a rather tight box. Well, it was delivered while the family were at dinner. We hadn't sent word that we would send it, but I think they were anticipating such a present, as we often contribute something to their holiday feasts. Well, believing that the box contained a turkey, the hired girl had the expressman take it into the kitchen. After a few minutes there was a lively commotion in the box and an investigation followed. The lid was pried off and the head of the gobbler popped out. Of course, they were delighted with what they had hoped for, but how to kill it was a difficult problem, as no one was hard-hearted enough to take its life. However, it was taken out in the yard and there attempts were made to behead it, but each one failed. Will took a hatchet and aimed it at the long neck of the gobbler as it protruded upward a foot or so from between the slats of the box, but the blow fell far from its mark, because Will closed his eyes and turned his head away when he struck. Then the hired girl tried the hatchet, but the turkey ducked down into the coop just in time to avoid the thrust. Then she remembered having seen her aunt kill one but couldn't get the death twist. The third attempt also failed, as the obliging grocer's boy was not strong enough to hold the turkey and wield the hatchet at the same time. That ended the design on the gobbler's life, and at Sister Sue's suggestion, they decided unanimously to get the grocer to put it in shape for Christmas. That evening the grocer sent his boy after the turkey, and the boy took it out of the box to carry it, but the turkey was too strong for him, got away and came back to his old home. This morning when I went out to feed the cows I found our Thanksgiving present to Sister Sue pretty strutting around for his lucky escape from execution and his long journey. However, he'll go back again the day before Christmas minus his head and feathers, and in the meantime he may strut and brag to the other fowls of his brave fight for his life against the bloody barbarism of the city.

Uncle Bill, do you know old man Garland, who lives over on Fern Creek, near the Perkin's place. You say you don't know anything good of him? Ah-h! don't get a grouch at the poor old simp. He's more to be pitied than blamed for his queerness. He wouldn't have been so if his children had let him alone. When he got along in the 60s they persuaded him to quit work and rest the balance of his life. He hasn't done a lick of work in five years, and has changed from a strong energetic, intelligent man into a weak trembling, almost idiotic creature whom everybody avoids. I met him in town a few days ago and had to introduce myself to him, although he has known me for more than twenty years. I inquired about his health and he whined half an hour about his aches and pains. He said he was glad that November was so near its end. "I don't know why it is, and doctors can't explain it," he whined, "but just as sure as fate, I began on the first of the month to suffer from rheumatic twinges, and before the month is a week old have to get out this cane to help me move about. The pain grows with the moon, so that at its full I am unable to leave home; as the moon wanes the pain gradually subsides, and the latter part of the month finds me in pretty good shape, but the trouble will not be all over until about the 8th of December. No, the legs doesn't swell, but it gets as hot as pepper and makes me feel as if my clothing were on fire. One day an old codger told me of what he claimed would prove a sure remedy. Here is the receipt, just as I wrote it down," he said, vehemently. Then he took out his memorandum book and read: "Two large onions, three tableful of turpentine; chop the onions fine, mix with the turpentine, spread on a piece of red flannel; dip flannel into hot vinegar and apply on going to bed." "And to think I was donkey enough to try it is what gets me! I kept it around my knee until I thought it was drawing the marrow from the bones, and it was on, I judge, not more than an hour. I took the stuff off and spent the rest of the night in agony. I have always been a peace-loving man, but I believe if I could have had that man in the room with me that night there would have been a case for the coroner's jury. I hope to live long enough to find out why my trouble never comes except in November." Well,

withhold privilege must be one upheld by force, instead of resting, as this one is supposed to do so, on the solid foundation of mutual helpfulness and good will, "with equal rights for all, special privileges to none." If woman's position in family, school and church is recognized as of first importance to the welfare of the community at large, which nobody denies why is she denied equal power in the conduct of the government? Her authority in family, school and church is not indirect, but decidedly direct. She therein represents herself. When it comes to state she must step back and let her male relatives represent (?) her. Why?

**Bird Slaughter Costs Billion a Year.**

Destruction of birds, according to a statement made last week by Col. G. O. Shields, president of the League of American Sportsmen, costs the United States a billion dollars a year. "Cotton growers," he said, "lose \$100,000,000 a year by the boll weevil. Why? Because the quails, the prairie chickens, the meadow larks and other birds, which were formerly there in millions have been swept away by thoughtless men and boys."

The chinch bug costs wheat growers another \$100,000,000, he said, and the Hessian fly \$200,000,000. "It takes more than 24,000 chinch bugs to weigh an ounce and nearly 50,000 Hessian flies to weigh the same," he continued. "A quail killed by an expert in Ohio had in its crop 1200 chinch bugs; another killed in a Kansas wheat field had 2000 Hessian flies."

Col. Shields added that potato growers pay \$17,000,000 a year for spraying poisons, and remarked that a quail slain in Pennsylvania had 27 potato bugs in its crop. He said that Mrs. Margaret M. Nice of the faculty of the Massachusetts State University after long study, estimated that quail destroys 75,000 bugs and 6,000,000 weed seeds annually.

**Motor Mail Routes.**

Motorization of the rural free delivery system in the United States has been started with more than 250 automobile routes established between July and October 15, and 250 others are to be put into operation by December 1, is the announcement of the Post Office Department. Better service for less money to the public and better positions financially and otherwise for the carriers, are the reasons upon which the department based the motored mail route policy.

The routes to be in operation by December 1, will be: Fourteen in Alabama, 4 in Arkansas, 29 in California, 3 in Colorado, 20 in Delaware, 22 in the District of Columbia, 22 in Florida, 127 in Georgia, 3 in Illinois, 14 in Indiana, 40 in Iowa, 3 in Kansas, 3 in Kentucky, 1 in Louisiana, 3 in

Maryland, 3 in Mississippi, 1 in Nebraska, 156 in Oklahoma, 1 in Oregon, 16 in Pennsylvania and 59 in Texas. Postmaster General Burleson states that these automobiles will improve the farmer's mail and express facilities. He says time schedules are better and weather doesn't affect automobiles so much, and that an automobile can do fifty to sixty miles a day regular schedule. He is going to pay these automobile carriers \$1800 a year and make them supply their own cars and uniforms, and will adopt a regular style of automobile and uniform. Carriers on wagon routes get only \$1200. There is a carrier in Kansas using an automobile on a thirty mile route who has been getting \$1200 and who is going to get \$1800, and he says the raise will more than meet his expenses, even when a good many miles have been added to his route.

**Latest Anthrax Epidemic.**

"Anthrax is more or less common in human beings," said Dr. Joseph L. Eickhorn, chief of the division of pathology, bureau of animal industry, Department of Agriculture, "in the south particularly it is extremely common, especially among the negroes. It is a disease which, originating in cattle, sheep, horses or hogs, is transmitted in various ways to humans. Original infection is followed by characteristic manifestations of the disease within two to seven days. The indications are fever, gradual weakening, pronounced swellings especially of the neck and throat and then death by asphyxiation."

"This division has been working for several months in the effort to perfect a serum for the treatment of anthrax and only recently the work progressed to a point where it was felt advisable to make public announcement. A serum has been in use for many years in Europe, but it has been more of an antitoxin or preventive. The serum we are using is both preventative and curative. It is prepared by injecting into a sound and healthy horse small doses of the anthrax bacilli, that have been weakened, but not killed, by subjecting them to high temperatures. Such doses the administered four times at intervals of several days, then the horse is given minute quantities of the active and virulent bacilli. The dose is gradually increased until the animal is able to withstand immense doses, and then our serum is prepared from the horse's blood."

"A peculiarity of anthrax is the fact that the spores of the bacilli are able to survive in full virulence for twenty to twenty-five years. They are, in fact, the most persistent and resistant of all bacilli."

All persons handling hides, horse hair, wool, goat hair and goat skins should give immediate attention to even the slightest skin abrasion through which they might become affected.

**O. A. C.**  
**FARMERS' AND HOME-MAKERS' WEEK**  
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