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The modern farmer and busy bee. Vol. 17, No. 4 April, 1906

St. Joseph, Missouri: Emerson Taylor Abbott, April, 1906

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VOL. XVII No.4.

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APRIL

AS YOU GO THROUGH LIFE

By ELLA WHEELER WILCOX

DON'T look for flaws as you go through
life.
And even when you find them.
It is wise and kind to be somewhat blind
And look for the virtue behind them.
For the cloudiest night has a hint of light
Somewhere in its shadows hiding:
It's better by far to hunt for a star
Than the spot on the sun abiding.

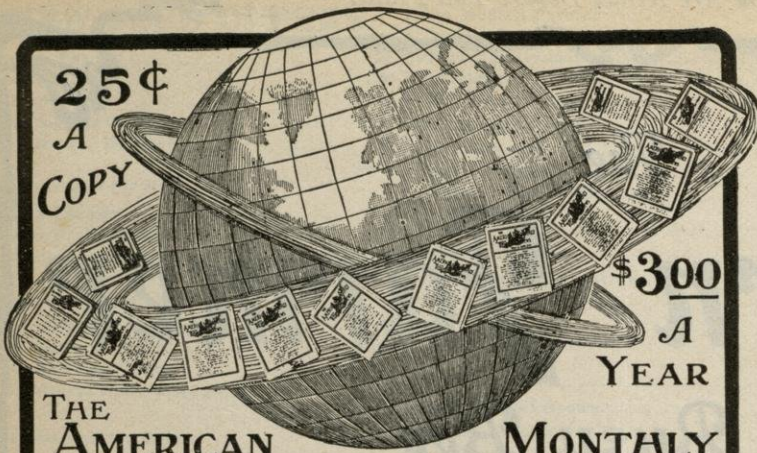
THE current of life runs ever away
To the bosom of God's great ocean—
Don't set your force 'gainst the river's
course,
And think to alter it's motion.
Don't waste a curse on the universe,
Remember, it lived before you;
Don't butt at a storm with your puny
form,
But bend and let it go o'er you.

THE world will never adjust itself
To suit your whims to the letter;
Some things must go wrong your
whole life long.
And the sooner you know it the better,
It is folly to fight with the Infinite,
And go under at last in the wrestle;
The wiser man shapes into God's plan
As water shapes into a vessel.
Chicago American.



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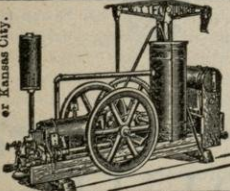
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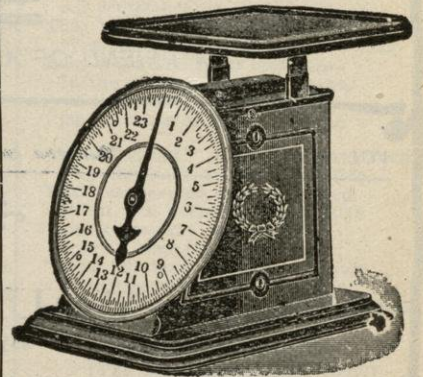
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PUBLISHED AT ST. JOSEPH, MO., THE 15TH OF EACH MONTH
307 North Third Street
Price, 50 cents a year.

EMERSON TAYLOR ABBOTT.....EDITOR AND PUBLISHER
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

N. J. SHEPHERD.....Poultry and Dairy
DEPARTMENT EDITORS

EMMA INGOLDSBY ABBOTT..... Home Department
E. J. WATERSTRIPE..... General Farm Department

Entered at the Postoffice at St. Joseph, Mo., as second class matter

ALL COMMUNICATIONS intended for publication must be written on one side of the sheet only, and must be accompanied by the name and the address of the writer.

REMITTANCES should be made by express or postoffice money order when it is possible. If these cannot be obtained, put the money in a letter and register it. When forced to send stamps, we prefer to have one-cent stamps, and they should be folded carefully, with paper between them, so they will not stick together.

If this paragraph is marked with a cross your time expires with the number marked. The paper will be stopped unless you send us 25 cents for renewal DO IT TO-DAY.

TROUT TIME

By T. Shelley Sutton

I'm tired of the dinging and donging,
I'm tired of the traffic and din,
The crowing and cramming and thronging,
The struggle and folly and sin;
The belt and the bell and the bustle,
The buzz and the clang and the roar—
'Tis a vain and a brain-racking tussle
That makes me disheartened and sore.

I want to get back to the mountains,
I want to get back to the wild,
To the brook and the fresh-flowing fountains
Where never a thought is defiled;
I want to live closer to Nature;
My soul of its struggles is sick;
There's a voice in the cataract calling—
I want to go fishin'—quick!

—Recreation.

EDITORIAL.

A first class farmer is very apt to be a good man. To succeed he must live close to nature, and a man who is on friendly terms with nature and lives in harmony with her laws can not go far astray.



It is better to be just an ordinary every day man than to be a repudiated Elijah. To be simply a good farmer, is better than to be a half dozen other things, and a farmer too, and fail at all of them.

It is not often that we are interested in anything that relates to rum but we are greatly interested in the passage of a bill which removes the tax from denaturized alcohol, which simply means so treated that it is not fit to drink. Pity it could not all be so treated! This alcohol is for use in the arts and sciences and can be sold very cheaply. The passage of this bill will be of great benefit to the farmers of the country in many ways and they should lend their influence in that direction if opportunity offers.



It is evident that the Russian revolutionist, Gorky, has misconceived the spirit of American liberty, or else we are rapidly drifting from our ancient moorings. One of his first acts after landing in America was to send a telegram of sympathy to two men in Nevada who are being held for trial for a heinous crime. The presumption is that there is some evidence against them, or else they would long since have had their liberty. Let this be as it may, it seems in very bad taste for this product of a tyrannical government to assume to meddle with our administration of law and justice. There is no record of his having sent any message of condolence to the banker, Bigelow, or the army officer, Burbank, both of whom are serving a term in the penitentiary at Leavenworth, yet, one act would have been about as becoming as the other. It would seem to be about time that we stop giving these revolutionists a free hand in this country. What is needed is not less liberty, but a little more sanity on the part of Americans. Then these foreigners will not get the idea that this is a country where men can do and say what they please in defiance of law and order. Let us go back to the days when patriotism meant obedience to law and a recognition of all the rights of all our fellow men, and not political claptrap to catch votes, or to inflame the populace that they may make a hero out of some would-be leader.



Occasionally some one writes us and says, "You may stop my paper, I am not a farmer or beekeeper." What of it? You need information just the same, and the kind of information found in our columns will be found good stock in trade in any kind of business. You have no notion, we presume, of ceasing to think, and that is just what we are making this little paper for, for live men and women who are not afraid to think, and see life as it really is, or should be. Why not enter into the spirit of our work, and aid us in reforming society in many

ways? Quacks can do you no good, heinous whisky ads can do you no good, "for men only" ads can do you no good, mining stock and oil stock ads can do you no good, cure all mediums, can do you no good, long disgusting dissertations about the ills of humanity can do you no good, page after page of puffs of advertisers are of no value to you, then why not take and read, and help support a paper that consigns to the waste basket all this disgusting brood of calamity howlers and home defilers, and preaches a clean healthy gospel of good cheer, of health, of hope, of right living, and of clean and sane thinking? Think it over now, and see if we are not doing a good work, and therefore, have a right to be. If you think we have not, let us die as far as you are concerned; there is no use to cumber the earth with useless things. There is not any too much room for the good things. If you do think we have a right to be, do you not feel that you can chip in a quarter for a cleaner manhood, for a purer and nobler womanhood, for right living, prosperous homes, and better farming? If so, do it now for fear you forget it, or get out of the notion. Send us your subscription to-day. We want you to come with us.



A man remarked in our presence the other day that labor had a right to organize to defend itself. Defend itself against what? Against the wicked trusts? What makes the trusts wicked? "Oh," says one, "they have combined to crush the common people." So you want the common people to combine and *crush* them. You want to fight fire with fire. If a man curses you go him one better and curse him harder. This is the gospel of brutality and greed, of selfishness and narrowness, and it is just as *low* and *mean* in one class as in the other. The best defense we know for labor is an *ability to do things*, to do them accurately, with neatness and dispatch. Capital unemployed is of no value, and, therefore, it is always on the look out for the people who can do things without a boss. If a man is content to be an underling in his line he should not whine because others take him at his word. If he is a living, moving force, a daily demonstration of his fitness to rise and lead, like a Lincoln or a Garfield, he will not long remain at the foot of the ladder, capital or no capital, combination or no combination. To be always prating about combining to beat the *other fellow* is to acknowledge one's self a *weakling*, who is not able to stand alone. Man may be his "brother's keeper," but the fellow who

waits for some one else to boost him up the ladder of human achievement is sure to get left. It is all right to help the sick, the weak, the lame, the halt and blind, but even these cannot go to heaven by proxy. Jesus said, "What shall it profit a man if he gain the whole world and lose his own soul." Not other people's souls, you will notice, but his *own*. Human life was intended to be a *single handed* struggle of *individuals*. Men do not come into the world in droves, or in litters, but as *individuals*, and we must go out *alone*. Our life will be what *we* make it. It is the doer of deeds that fills the full stature of manhood or womanhood, and not the loud mouthed reformer who is always telling other people how to run their business.



One of the most deplorable and disgusting things which has been inflicted on a long suffering people in a long time is the mal-odorous turn things have taken in Zion City, or the "Catholic Christian church" as Dowie calls it. If any one wants an illustration of the utter folly of the idea of a community of interests, here is one of the most striking that can possibly be produced. We have here, no doubt, a man of tremendous but crude force who professes to speak in the name of the Almighty, and who has gathered about him a marvelous following, and accumulated twenty millions or more, which is invested in vast industries, and yet this great leader is to-day denouncing his wife and son, and a larger part of his followers, and they are holding him up to the world as a liar, a thief, and a scoundrel of the worst type. Less communism and more old-fashioned virtue and individual honesty would seem better in this case, for, surely where there is so much smoke there must be some fire, and some body must be playing false. What will be the next so called co-operative bubble to burst? We might mention in this connection that a widely advertised co-operative store in Chicago went into bankruptcy the other day and left a lot of farmers to hold an empty sack. We were asked if we believed in co-operation by a certain advertising agency, as a preliminary step to placing an ad of these people with us, or at least that is what we took it to mean. As we wrote them that most of this co-operative business was a fake and only a scheme to secure some man a fat job, of course, we did not get any of the business. To be frank, we did not want it. We do not want our readers to give up their hard earned money and be left to hold an empty sack. Our advice to farm-

ers is to keep out of all these schemes, invest their money in land, pure bred live stock, live contented on what they have, and go it alone, and let the other fellow do the same.

P. S. You are under no obligations to take this advice. We have done our part and you can do as you please.



The ability to see with the eyes, hear with the ears, and arrange intelligently in the mind, the things about us which are worth while, and to shut out those which are of but little worth is one of the most valuable accomplishments known to men. There may be some people whose range of vision is so exceedingly narrow that but little worth seeing or remembering comes within its scope, but the trouble with most of us is not lack of opportunity to see and hear but lack of interest, and therefore, lack of ability to sift out and store away in our minds the good things which are presented to us each day. We read, if we read at all, in a sleepy half hearted, listless way, and see and hear like one who is deaf and blind. We often hear it remarked of some one that they never had any chance to learn, for they have never been more than 25 miles from home in their lives. It does not necessarily follow that they must go from home to learn. Why, there are wonders enough

in a ten acre potato patch to keep a man busy all his life learning them, if he has only learned how to see and hear and think properly. Education does not, or should not, mean committing to memory a lot of things found in books. A keen eye, a quick ear, an active brain that knows how to think, is worth more to any one than the contents of an armful of books committed to memory. We have seen men and women, too, who were walking encyclopaedias of ancient lore, of war, of historical events, of the stars of the heavens, of the long forgotten peoples of the earth, who could not tell the difference between an old fashioned sickle and a modern mowing machine, and who knew nothing about the wonders of a twenty foot square garden patch. If you are a father, or mother, begin now to teach your children to see and hear things, not the unusual things, but ordinary every day things, to think about them, and especially to report them correctly. Every man and woman should be a walking, living, seeing, hearing, thinking machine, and not an automaton run by mechanism, which has been wound up by some other hand. Do not try to be like your father, your grandfather, your mother, your grandmother, or some of your neighbors, but be like *yourself*, moulded and shaped by your own activity, born of the abundant life which pulsates within you.



The King Drag and Good Roads

By CLARENCE D. SKINNER, Ass't State Secretary Good Roads Ass'n Topeka.

The subject of *Good Roads* is just now receiving the proportion of attention it usually does in the winter time. Orators "orate," editors "edit," though there are but few "workers at work." If the villagers and farmers could be convinced that their muddy roads could be transformed into smooth, rounded pleasure drives within sixty days, they would be both willing and anxious to try the new Kansas-Missouri-Co-operative-Plan, (so called from the fact that a Missouri man applied the "King Drag" to public roads, later a Kansas man "coupled up" the drag with "Kansas co-operation" and "for two years carried on successful experiments,) which, when brought to the attention of the State Good Roads Association, was endorsed and pronounced to be the best and simplest system yet devised. The following is a description of the Neighborhood Plan or

"GOOD ROADS CLUBS"

as some call it.

Any public spirited farmer or villager may

circulate a paper of this character stating that all those persons living on a certain road or village street, would pay from 50 to 75 cents per quarter to have their roads kept in good order with a road drag just as the business men pay for sprinkling their business streets. When a fair proportion have signed, these parties will become an executive committee for the block or neighborhood, from whom they select a President, Secretary, Treasurer and a Drag Master; only the latter, however, receives a compensation (of about 25 cents per hour); he is expected to smooth a certain prescribed road extending from town to the farthest club member's farm, making a round trip with the King Drag once or twice over the road soon after each rain. This fills all the ruts and breaks down the clods, leaving it nearly, if not quite, equal to a \$2,000 macadam and at a cost of less than \$10 *per mile*. To meet this, each member subscribes and pays to the Secretary-Treasurer the amount decided up-

on, from which fund the drag is built and the "Drag Master" paid.

Expenses seldom exceed that rate per year, although it would be cheap at \$5 "per." The first club usually extends three or four miles from town. Those living beyond soon see the advantages of this systematic dragging of the natural road and form other clubs from three to

five miles farther, and so on until the whole section is covered with a net work of good, well drained, earth roads. This movement deserves the support of every commercial club, newspaper, physician, merchant and farmer in the state. It is "*up to you,*" reader, to start the movement in your section.



The Missouri Boy's Corn Growing Contest

By M. F. MILLER, Secretary Missouri Corn Growers' Asso.

The boys' corn growing contest, organized for the coming season by the Missouri Corn Growers' Association in co-operation with the State Board of Agriculture, and the State Agricultural College, promises to create a great deal of interest throughout the state. It is believed that a large number of boys will be interested in this proposition and as a consequence, the organizations behind the movement will spare no trouble to make it a success. The plan is as follows:

The young people will be divided into two classes, the young men's class, those over 15 years old and under 20; and the boys' class, those 15 years old and under. The amount of corn grown shall not be less than one-half acre in the young men's class, and not less than one-quarter acre in the boys' class, the contestants giving the corn the entire attention it receives in the matter of preparing the ground, planting, cultivating and harvesting. Boys are advised to secure some high yielding variety of good type, preferably a well bred corn, in their own communities, if possible, in order that it will be perfectly adapted to their conditions of soil and climate, but where this is not possible, the Agricultural College will send sufficient corn of a well bred type to plant from one quarter to one-half acre. It has been arranged to offer liberal prizes at the state corn show which is held in Columbia in January, for the best corn shown by boys in each of these classes, the amount of money devoted to these prizes aggregating something like \$200, the prizes running from \$20 down. There will be a sufficient number of prize's so that quite a large number of boys will be able to secure premiums. The State Fair Association is also interested in this matter, and will undoubtedly offer premiums in somewhat the same manner. The boys will be required to show 10 ears of their corn, either at

the State Corn show or farmers' institute near their homes. In the latter case the best samples will be sent on to the corn show to compete for these general prizes.

It will be seen that such a plan offers large opportunities for interesting the boys of our state in the matter of practical agriculture. The prizes are sufficiently large and numerous to offer plenty of inducements for the boys to enter the contest, and the plan is sufficiently comprehensive to include boys of all ages, working under all sorts of conditions.

The opportunities offered to the various communities for creating interest in better corn and for making better farmers of the boys are also evident. The local organizations and farmers' institutes can easily organize local corn growing contests among the boys by taking up the matter at once through the local papers and by arranging prizes to be awarded at the fall meeting. The difficulty in the various communities usually is to get someone to go ahead and push such an enterprize. One good live man in a locality is all that is needed to awaken sufficient interest to make this a feature of the farmers' institute or local corn show held next fall. It is hoped that every man who reads this article will feel it his duty to take up this matter in his own community.

The plan is also applicable to schools and the proposition is being taken up with as large a number of schools as possible. Where the terms do not close until May a corn growing contest can well be arranged by any wide awake teacher, which will add very much to the interest of the pupils in practical agriculture. Printed matter giving plans and suggestions for teachers is available, and will be sent on request.

All boys desiring to enter this contest should write for rules and directions to the Secretary, Columbia, Missouri.

Books=Periodicals

BY THE EDITOR.

We want this department to be of permanent value to our readers. We therefore, invite publishers to send us copies of books and Periodicals of special interest to farmers. They will receive careful attention in this department. Always mention THE MODERN FARMER when writing to publishers about any book or periodical mentioned here.

Her Garden

By Earlie Gardiner.

I'm spading up my garden,
I'm going to plant some seeds,
The kind that grow up flowers,
But I don't want any weeds.

For weeds, my papa tells me,
Are just an awful bother
So I'll plant mine all posies
And leave the weeds for father.

—Woman's Home Companion

The April Designer is full of the tidings of spring's approach, not only with dainty apparel for women and young folks, but with fiction, verse and illustrations particularly appropriate for the time of year.

It is the perpetual effort to attain the ideal that enlarges the whole life. The moment the ambition begins to wane or tends to become sordid or selfish, the individual begins to shrivel.—"Success Magazine."

They say that Iceland has one policeman, no jail, no intoxicating liquor, domestic or imported, and not one illiterate past the age of ten. A poor country; and yet what country is richer in the riches that do not have wings and fly away?—"With the Procession," in Everybody's Magazine.

Most people do not know that the most powerful trust in the world is the Coal Trust, dominated at present by that remarkable personality, George Franklin Baer. The whole story of this alarming monopoly, its origin, history, and present power, is told for the first time in two notable articles by Hartley Davis on "The Coal Trust, the Labor Trust, and the People Who Pay." Read the first of these articles in the April Everybody's and see what you think about the probable future of this omnipotent commercial monster.

Much of the success with plants, trees (shrubs and bushes is due to proper handling when first received. When spring bedding plants arrive, take off the paper wrappers, and if packed in moss, put them, moss and all, in luke warm water for several hours, and then unwrap carefully, and plant at once, shading them for a day or two, according to the weather, and keeping well watered. Never allow air to get at the roots. When you get hard wood shrubs, trees or bushes heel them in in a shady location for a day or two, after un-

wrapping and loosening them slightly. Then, before digging them out, cut them back severely, in order to induce root growth, and plant where you desire them, digging them out only as planted, in order not to expose the roots to the air. Pack the soil well around the roots with the hands, and give a mulch of straw manure.—The Housekeeper.

Usually it is the shadow of money that brings the first partial eclipse to the honeymoon, and unless the problem is rightly handled the eclipse may become total. The modern wife cannot be always asking for money and retain either her happiness or her self-respect. The husband could not keep his business going if he did not have a pay day for his employes or if he was careless about settling his bills. He cannot expect to keep his house going without a financial arrangement that will give it regularity and security. It is passing strange that this matter should be a constant difficulty in millions of homes, but it is a hardship which wives are supposed to bear uncomplainingly. She is a wise woman who rebels early and secures her rights, for she will never be a successful wife until she has her part of the income without days of grace or discounts. This is important; it is vital. Unless it is made plain and duly fixed, all her other purposes and aspirations will be forever handicapped.—From the April Delineator.

The Review of Reviews says: "Important as the movement for the preservation of the scenic beauty of Niagara Falls, a more vital importance attaches to measures for the creation of forest reserves and the restoration of our timber areas in mountainous regions unsuited to agriculture. Just now there is pending in Congress a carefully prepared bill, the adoption of which would establish a great Appalachian forest reserve in North Carolina and adjacent states, and a splendid reserve in the White Mountains of New Hampshire. The bill as it stands has the approval of the American Forestry Association, and it was indorsed by the National Board of Trade, which met the other day at Washington. Intelligent men in the paper and pulp business and the lumber industry are now heartily in favor of national forest reserves and approve this particular bill. Its passage would require an appropriation of only three million dollars, and it

would be hard to discover any way in which public money could be so wisely expended. In due time the growth of timber would justify the cutting each year of a certain number of trees without harm to the forest, and the government would receive a fair return upon its investment, while the effect of the restored forests upon water-supply and climatic conditions, together with a host of incidental considerations, abundantly justify the advocates of this bill. We do not often propose to our readers that they should try to influence their own representatives in Congress in a particular measure by writing letters, but in this case we are inclined to suggest that those who believe in the advantages of an American national forest policy would do well to call the attention of their respective members of Congress to the desirability of supporting the bill for these Eastern reservations. We should like also to speak a timely word in behalf of the efforts of wise and patriotic people in California to preserve some of the marvelous groves of great trees that are among the most wonderful natural features of America, and that are endangered by the demand for red-wood lumber."

Maggie—Just think of the money some folks spends on medicine an' things to make 'em well."

Mickey—"An' just think of the money some folks spends on suppers an' things to make 'em sick."—Woman's Home Companion for January.

THE GIRL HE LEFT BEHIND.

(From "Success Magazine.")

There is a public library in Baltimore that has a regulation by which any member wanting a particular book which is not "in" can, by paying a small sum, secure the next turn; and, upon the book's coming in, the librarian sends him a notification.

In this connection an attache of the library tells of an amusing incident. A member desired a copy of a novel entitled "The Girl He Left Behind Him." The book not being in, he made the customary deposit, and in due course received a notification. This the member's wife received—to her alarm, at first, for it read as follows:

"Mr. Blank is informed that 'The Girl He Left Behind Him' is now in the library, and will be kept for him until Friday morning next."

The Farmer's Home

By Emma Ingoldsby Abbott.

A happy, prosperous home means a happy prosperous country

Hot lemonade taken at bedtime is a good remedy for a cold.

Use salt sparingly in bread making. Those who should know say that it interferes with the action of the yeast.

Sagging cane seats in chairs may be tightened by inverting the chair and wetting the cane thoroughly on the under side.

It is claimed that paint that is applied in the fall hardens better and has a better appearance than that put on in warm weather.

The best finish for a plastered wall in kitchen and dining room is paint, so says a painter. Apply three coats, giving time between for each coat to dry well. When the walls are dingy and need cleaning, do not wash, but put on two coats more. This will give a hard surface that will withstand many washings with soap and water, and it will be a long time before it will need any more paint. If the woodwork is not finished the natural color of the wood, it should be painted some color to harmonize with the color on the plaster, to give the best effect, but not the same color, as that would be monotonous.

As white goods are to be more popular than ever this summer, the following on shrinking linen, from the Drover's Journal, may be of interest to many:

"Linen shrinks very much in the washing and if one is getting a white linen dress it is advisable to wash before making. A mere wetting won't do. This would help some, but the surer way is to unfold the cloth and put in a boiler of clean, cold suds and bring to a boil. Ring, rinse through two waters, blue and very slightly starch. Keep goods pulled straight

and iron as well as you possibly can and the seamstress will not grumble because it has been washed.

This is not an easy task, but a good linen dress is worth all the bother, for if well shrunk before making it will not give you any trouble in the wash later and you know the white dress has to visit the tub often."

TOMATO ENTREE.

Stew a quart of canned tomatoes for fifteen minutes; add a pint of stale bread crumbs and a cupful of cold boiled onion or celery or a mixture of both; put in a buttered dish; cover thickly with fine bread crumbs and bake twenty minutes in a moderate oven.—The Housekeeper.

BAKED CAULIFLOWER.

You can use left-overs of cauliflower, or cabbage, most satisfactorily by putting them into a baking dish, covering them with white sauce and buttered crumbs and browning in an oven. If you are fond of cheese, add a generous sprinkle of that, grated, of course. Boiled onions are delicious treated in the same way, only without the cheese. Cold cauliflower, with mayonnaise, makes a delicious salad.—The Housekeeper.

GOOD ENOUGH FOR HOME FOLKS.

"The butter was so soft today that if we had had any company I should have had a fit—but it was good enough for home folks," was the remark of a young housekeeper on a recent warm day. It is a waste of energy to indulge in hysterics over so trivial a cause, but if one is going to have a fit over butter that is too soft, why not have it for home folks as well as for the chance acquaintance who might happen in? Is it because home folks suffer burnt bread and heavy cake in silence that

we let them pass without regret, while we are profuse in apologies to the guests who happen to find them on our tables? A housekeeper I knew once had two methods of cooking, one for home folks and one for company. When preparing for guests her bread was all that could be desired, her pie crust tender and flaky, and every article of food was well cooked and served. But if one chanced to go in unexpectedly, he would find her bread indifferently made, pie crust tough and meat carelessly fried. With her anything was good enough for home folks, but she must do her best for her guests. Now, the idea of treating our guests to the best we have and the best we can do for them is a fine one and the very acme of hospitality, but when one's own family must be kept on short rations that there may be a spread for strangers, this is not hospitality, but vain, unholy display. Those to whom we minister daily have a right to our best efforts every day. There should be no slovenly ways practiced with our own. They are more to us than the whole world beside, and the best we can do is none too good for them.

The fear of gossiping tongues is at the bottom of most of our extravagant displays. For some strange reason a woman will exert herself more to prevent Mrs. Grundy from saying slighting things about her than she will to please those of her own household, when at the bottom of her heart she does not care the weight of a straw about those whose tongues she fears, while the home folks have the deepest affection of her heart. When she can learn to rise above that silly fear of malicious gossip and treat it with the contempt it deserves, she will be satisfied with the approval of her own conscience, and be the happier for it.

* * *

The Farm in General

BY E. J. WATERSTRIFE

Replace that poor fence between you and neighbor A this spring. Good fences save lots of trouble and worry. Good fences are cheap.

Every farmer should sow some oats. They make too good a feed not to have on the farm, and what will take the place of them for the work horses and growing colts? Sow some oats.

Go slow at first when you begin working the land this spring, the horses are not used to work. Many a horse is hurt the first days of

spring, because the farmer gets in a hurry.

Get the manure hauled out on the land as soon as you can. Do not wait until fall, but let this year's crop get the good of it. If you wait until fall, you lose just one year's profit.

City people may say that country life is lonesome and etc., but if the truth were known there are more in the city who want to get out than there are in the country who want city life.

Do not let other people discourage you. There is money in all branches of farming if you go at it right. Of course all have their ups and downs and if we can figure to avoid these we gain that much.

Good reading is so cheap now that you cannot afford to be without it. If you have less than half a dozen good farm papers coming to your address you have not enough. Keep read up on your business, and study the market and save in your buying and selling.

What preparations are you making for the poultry this year? If the farmers would give a little more attention to the poultry yard, and if need be a little less to hogs he would have a better profit.

Spring is a good time to get a start in some good eggs. Try to have good poultry which pays the best. Know what you want then get it. A few good eggs will not cost much, and then you will be started right.

The rich farmer should practice economy as much as the poor man, but it is poor economy for the farmer to have money lying in the bank and his hay rotting in the field—all for that want of a barn.

Every farmer has rats working in his corn, and during the year the rats eat as much corn as several hogs. This is a pest and we have it, we should have a continual warfare against them. Rats are sharp, and we have to scheme to catch them, but keep at it. Set the steel trap in a box of corn meal, if you have never tried it.

If you have some good butter or like farm produce, and you take it to town, do not run to the grocery store and ask them what they will give you for it "in trade." You will get a small price in this way, but if you have something good to sell go to some good man who is able to pay a good price, and you will find a better market. The man who is able is willing to pay a good price for a good article. Have your own price on it, and get it, you can do it.

SPRING CARE OF WORK HORSES.

The feed should contain a liberal supply of bran, oats or some protein food. This is necessary to keep the system in good condition, as a feverish condition should be avoided. The horse should have frequent exercise and when spring work commences it should be gradual. Much injury can be done by working the horses hard before they get toughened. Many sore shoulders are made by trying to do a full day's work when they are tender.

We always try to vary the work at this season. A few minutes at the wagon or sled before hitching to the plow puts them in better condition for work. Close attention should be given to the collars and hames, as ill-fitting ones may cause much trouble. Use the horse as you would like to be used, and much trouble may be avoided.

Wallace Jamison.

Brooksbury, Ind.

A class was reciting in a school the other day. "Who can give me," said the teacher, "a sentence in which the words 'bitter end' are used?" Up jumped a little girl excitedly. "I can, teacher. "The cat ran under the bureau, and the dog ran after her and bit her end."

Sunday School Teacher—Now, children, was Adam very happy in the Garden of Eden? Chorus of Pupils—Yessum! Teacher—And what great misfortune happened which ended his happiness? Chorus—The Lord made 'im a wife.

"Teacher," said Willie, who had been snapping his fingers in a vain effort to attract attention, "is it right to say 'I is'?"

"Of course not, Willie! You should know better than that. Always say 'I am.'"

Willie's written lesson that afternoon contained the following statement:

"I am the ninth letter of the alphabet."

Casey—"Ye're a har-rd worruker, Dooley. How many hods o' morther have yez carried up that laddher th' day?" Dooley—"Whist, man—I'm foolin' th' boss. I've carried this same hodful up an' down all day, an' he thinks I'm worrukin'!"

"Wimmen ain't got the sense men have."

"Think not?"

"Naw."

"Ever see a lot of wimmen hangin' over a bar blowin' in their week's pay?"



Warranted to give satisfaction.

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A safe, speedy and positive cure for

Curb, Splint, Sweeny, Capped Hock, Strained Tendons, Founder, Wind Puffs, and all lameness from Spavin, Ringbone and other bony tumors. Cures all skin diseases or Parasites, Thrush, Diphtheria. Removes all Bunches from Horses or Cattle.

As a **HUMAN REMEDY** for Rheumatism, Sprains, Sore Throat, etc., it is invaluable. Every bottle of **Caustic Balsam** sold is warranted to give satisfaction. Price **\$1.50** per bottle. Sold by druggists, or sent by express, charges paid, with full directions for its use. Send for descriptive circulars, testimonials, etc. Address **THE LAWRENCE-WILLIAMS COMPANY, Cleveland, Ohio**

Townsend & Wyatt
Dry Goods Company

WASH SHIRT-WAIST SUITS

A complete new line of Ladies' Wash Shirt-Waist Suits just received, in chambrays, lawns, organdies, linens, shrunk muslins, percales, etc. Special values for May.

Ladies' Shirt-Waist Suits of Fine White India Linon—Prettily trimmed waist of embroidery and lace, tucked founce on skirt, short sleeves; special price, **\$5.00**

White India Linon Suits with embroidered yoke and founce, at the special price of... **\$4.98 and \$7.50**

Ladies Plain White Shirt-waist Suit of shrunk muslin, tailor-made, extra values **\$2.98 and \$3.25**

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Stylish Organdie Suits, in exquisite flowered designs; blue, pink and lavender; daintily trimmed in Val. lace; short sleeves; special at \$6.00, \$10.00 and **\$10.50**

Ladies' Fine White Linen Shirt-Waist Suits, strictly tailor-made; astonishing values. at \$7.50, \$8 50, \$9.50, and **\$10.00**

5th and Felix Sts.

St. Joseph, Mo.

Farm Poultry

By N. J. Shepherd.

It pays to keep the very best.

Beef scraps are excellent for fattening.

With fowls grit takes the place of teeth.

Impure water will cause chicken cholera.

Never give young chickens water before feeding.

Good feeding always pays; poor feeding never does.

Do not attempt to keep too many varieties of poultry.

Whitewash thoroughly applied will rid the poultry house of lice.

Hard grains are not so good for ducklings as food that is cooked soft.

In a coop of mixed fowls a few good ones add nothing to the selling price.

When many geese are kept a separate pasture should be provided for them.

Get the chickens hatched early. Late hatched chickens are rarely profitable.

One of the best ways of feeding corn meal is to bake into bread and then crumble.

The freshest eggs are heaviest and when placed in water will sink to the bottom at once.

Grease closes the pores of egg shells, and in this way often prevents their hatching.

It is best to change the material in the nests occasionally in order to keep it from becoming foul.

Mark the chicks each year so that you can know their age and kill or sell them after the third year.

If properly fed, a duckling when ten weeks old will weigh four pounds, a chicken only half that much.

Ground bone can either be fed with soft food or alone, as fowls will eat it in any kind of food and relish it.

One advantage with the large breeds is that they are easily confined, and another is they will bring more on account of their weight.

No one breed combines the two qualities perfectly, the large layers being more or less defective in flesh, and the full breasted fowls being apt to lay fewer eggs.

If any of the hens are permitted to sit early, make the nests snug and warm, see that they have all of the whole corn they will eat every day. They should not be obliged to hunt for food.

A sudden change from one kind of grain to another will often stop hens from laying for a short time, as will a sudden change of any kind of food.

By a careful selection and breeding from the best layers of any breed of fowls the number of eggs laid in twelve months can be increased up to a certain limit.

Dry earth sprinkled liberally under the roosts cannot be too highly recommended. It acts as a deodorizer and preserves and increases the value of the manure.

In raising fowls for market, flesh is the first consideration. Select, therefore, a breed that will make the greatest growth in the shortest time and be of good quality.

Tarred paper is excellent for covering the inside of buildings. There is no doubt but that it prevents the accumulation of lice and parasites within the house; besides, the smell is healthy and counteracts bad odors.

POULTRY NOTES.

S. Minerva Boyce.

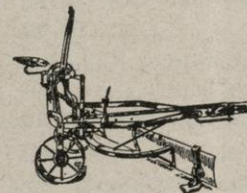
The large Bronze turkey and white guinea-fowl and Pekin duck are the most desirable breeds of their kind for the farmer to raise and seldom fail to bring good prices in market.

Rhode Island Reds are a good breed of hens, but for an all round hen I prefer the Plymouth Rock to any other breed. Their fine, large

EGG BARGAINS.

D. L. Laro, Wymore, Neb., breeds Buff Wyandottes and Single Comb White Leghorns that lay winter and summer.
Fifty Eggs, \$2.50. One Hundred \$4.

THE TWENTIETH CENTURY GRADER.



THE WHITE CITY GRADER CO., WHITE CITY, KANSAS

The only successful two horse road grader. Operated by one man. Every small town can afford one. Satisfaction guaranteed. For description and price mention this paper and address

red eggs are generally more uniform in size than most eggs from other breeds. They are good meated and sell well in market.

Geese are the most profitable of all fowls, and the least troublesome to raise. Plenty of water and grass from the nest up to two weeks of marketing, then fatten. They should then weigh from ten to twelve pounds each. Remember to have a pan of salted water for the goslings to drink from every morning to prevent polly-wog poisoning. Never bring them in out of the rain. The old geese will attend to that if allowed to have the whole care from the beginning.

A WEEKLY PAPER CLUB.

The Modern Farmer and Busy Bee
The Kansas City Weekly Journal
The Poultry Gazette
The Agricultural Epitomist
All one year only 50c.

You can add 15c. to any other club and include the Kansas City Weekly Journal one year.
Not Good After April 15th.

EGGS IN SEASON

Birds score from 92 to 93%. Silver laced Wyandotts, Single C. Buff and R. C. Brown Leghorns.

\$1.00 PER IS. MRS. K. M. KEIPER.

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For business and beauty, combining the best practical business qualities of all other breeds minus their defects. Easy to raise, hardy, vigorous, early maturers, persistent yearround layers, docile, beautiful eggs for hatching at right prices. Handsome illustrated circular faec. Sprague Poultry Farm, Maywood (near Chicago) Ills

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Published on the 5th of every month

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is a trappers paper. Its editor is a trapper. Its contributors are trappers. Its contents are of the trappers, by the trappers and for the trappers. All trappers will find much in each issue that will be of benefit to them.

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First Class English Department with thoroughly competent teacher in charge.
Well equipped Telegraph Department in charge of an experienced operator. Fall term begins Sept. 4th.
E. M. PLATT, Pres.

In the Season of Growth

By PETER M'ARTHUR

Copyright, 1905, by Peter McArthur

THEY had been introduced only a few minutes before and were wandering through the garden trying to make conversation. The beautiful weather had received full and careful attention, the condition of the lilac and rose bushes had been discussed, and then came silence. Both were beginning to feel awkward when Jack's eye lighted on a bulb lying partly hidden by a border. True to the instincts of a football player, he gave it a deft kick that sent it spinning along the gravel walk.

"The gardener must have dropped it when he was planting the crocuses," said Betty, glad to hear her own voice again.

"Perhaps he just laid it aside there because he didn't want a hyacinth among them," Jack replied, picking up the bulb, and, then, being a true Omarian, he could not resist quoting:

"I sometimes think that never blows so red
The rose as where some buried Caesar bled;
That every hyacinth the garden wears
Dropped in her lap from some once lovely head."

"Well," said Betty, with a mischievous smile, "Donald's head may have been lovely once, but it must have been before he took to gardening. At present he is very bald, and the little fringe of hair he has left is decidedly red. His are hardly the "hyacinthine locks" Milton had in mind, and I doubt if Emerson would have recognized him as "The hyacinthine boy for whom Morn well might break and April bloom."

"You are fond of poetry. I see," said Jack when they had stopped laughing at her sally.

"Very," said Betty, "but you started us on the wrong tack if we are to do justice to that neglected little bulb. You should have recited Holmes' lines: "The spendthrift crocus, bursting through the mold,
Naked and shivering with his cup of gold."

"But I don't see how that applies to this hyacinth."

"Pardon me—to that crocus."

"But I took a high stand in botany

when I graduated. It was one of the optional studies on my course, and I ploughed four volumes in two weeks."

"Primroses by the river's brim
Dicotyledons were to him,
And they were nothing more,"

she quoted smilingly from a clever parody.

"That may be," he replied, "but though my knowledge of botany is entirely bookish I'll leave it to the practical and red haired Donald to prove that I am right. I'll wager a pair of gloves to a tie that this is a hyacinth. What do you say?"

"Simply that I wear five and a halves."

"Well, where can we find Donald?"

"This being his day off I can hardly say. But I'll tell you what will be better fun. Let us plant the bulb and see which it turns out to be?"

"That is a bargain. But will it be sure to get the attention necessary to make it grow?"

"I'll plant it and care for it myself."

"But I claim the right of superintending the work and examining the plant from time to time to make sure that my interest is being guarded."

"All right. If you will go up to the veranda and get the trowel that is ly-



SHE PULLED UP HER SLEEVES TO HER ELBOWS.

ing by the step I will find an empty spot in one of the beds in which to plant my crocus."

When Jack had performed his errand he found Betty kneeling on the border of one of the beds waiting for him. He gallantly offered to do the planting, but she scorned his assistance.

"Do you think," she cried, "that I would trust the planting of an innocent little bulb to a man whose knowledge of botany is at once academic and wrong? Never!"

She had taken off her cuffs and pulled up her sleeves to her elbows, and as Jack watched he had a chance to see how lithe and shapely were her wrists and hands. He could also see how naturally the sunlight glistened through her brown hair, and when she looked up at him with laughing eyes, after patting the soil into place over the bulb, he could see that they were of an unfathomable blue.

"You have done the planting," he exclaimed. "Now I should be permitted to do the watering."

"But a plant like this should be watered every evening," she protested.

"Or oftener," he pursued blandly.

"Oh, I couldn't think of letting a foolish little bet like this interfere with your business."

"You couldn't? Why, I propose to make the watering of this plant my chiefest business, and I shall not let anything else interfere with it."

"But you are a lawyer, I understand. What will you clients say?"

"To be a lawyer you must first catch your client," he commented whimsically and then added with well affected earnestness: "By the way, you haven't any troubles that I could straighten out for you, have you? I mean trouble of a legal nature."

"I have no troubles of any kind," she replied laughingly.

"Lucky girl, though it is unlucky for me. I don't know but I shall feel it my duty to make trouble of some kind for you."

"If you try you will perhaps find that I can make trouble too."

"I don't doubt it," he said banteringly and heaved a deep sigh. "When it comes to really making trouble commend me to good looking girls of eighteen or thereabout, especially in the springtime."

"Oh, you needn't be alarmed," she pouted.

"And I was just beginning to hope that I might be. Well, well, if you do have trouble of any kind that develops a legal aspect that does not require too profound a knowledge of the law, but at the same time demands lengthy consultations, I hope you will not forget me. My office hours are from 10 to 5, except when I am yachting, golfing or playing tennis."

"Do you do much yachting?"

"I usually spend Friday and Saturday of each week on board and take a couple of long cruises each season."

"Do you golf much?" she persisted, with growing mischief in her eyes.

"I make it a rule to play eighteen holes each Monday and Wednesday. It really takes a great deal of practice to keep oneself in form at golf," he explained unblushingly.

"And tennis?"

(CONCLUDED NEXT MONTH.)

Publisher's Department.

We are willing to do all we can to make the ads of our patrons attractive, but no free "readers" will be given to anyone.

We have no editorial opinions for sale at any price.

All advertising must be paid in advance when satisfactory references are not furnished, and then collections will be made monthly, and all bills are due as soon as a copy of the paper containing the ad is received. Send references when you send your ad and save time. We want them to protect our readers as well as ourselves. If you do not pay your bills promptly, we do not want your patronage.

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(Advertisements measured by agate line, 14 lines to the inch.)

Less than 14 lines, one inch, 10 cents per line each insertion. No ad taken for less than 25 cents.

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Reading notices charged 10 cents per count line, brevier. Advertisements classed as objectionable will be rejected. Special position charged at higher rate, owing to position.

The Gunnison Tunnel Project on the Uncompahgre Valley in Western Colorado.

This project has for its object the reclamation of about 150,000 acres of land in the Uncompahgre Valley in Southwestern Colorado. The normal flow of the Uncompahgre river, no streaks in it.

The beekeeping department is of the most interest to me."—A. Robertson.

Considerable of the land under this irrigation scheme is in private ownership but there are 35,000 acres government land, subject to homestead.

The principal crops that can be successfully raised are alfalfa, grain of all kinds and a great variety of fruits and vegetables. When the water supply is sufficient and the ground properly tilled, these products, particularly the fruits, are of the highest grade and the yield abundant and certain. Well watered orchard lands, in bearing, are easily worth \$500.00 per acre.

Narrow gauge branches of the Denver & Rio Grande Railroad traverse the entire length of the valley, practically none of the land being more than ten or twelve miles from a railroad station. An excellent market exists in the mining towns surrounding the valley, but the bulk of the crop raised, particularly fruit, is shipped east, where it commands fancy prices; the soil is excellent and the land is divided into farm units of 80 and 40 acres, the latter being in the vicinity of town sites.

We have just learned that the next meeting of the National will be held in San Antonio, Texas, November 8th to 10th. Good! Time is right, place is right, and now let us have a big meeting.

SATISFIED WITH HIS LOT.

Liberty, Pa., Jan. 20, 1906.

EDITOR MODERN FARMER: Find inclosed 25 cents as renewal to your paper. Among the eight papers we take we consider yours as one of the leading ones.

I am a 10-acre farmer; keep a horse, cow, a few pigs, 60 head poultry, chickens and geese. Poultry is more profitable with us than cows.

Good hens will give a profit of 75 cents to \$1 per head with reasonable care. I like to keep poultry tame. Can pick up some of my hens and pullets most any place I meet them. Have several that will sing if I come to the roost with a lantern and pet them.

I even enjoy the language of the geese and enjoy seeing them travel around and play in the water. We have no debts, have good buildings, also carry a fire insurance. Am a member of two fraternal and beneficial organizations with a five year endowment policy of \$250 each. Dues are \$4.25 per month. In case of sickness or accident can draw \$18 per week. All things considered, believe we enjoy life well as ordinary people.

AN OLD SUBSCRIBER.

A Special Club.

The Modern Farmer and Busy Bee	\$.50
The Breeder's Gazette (A great paper)	2 00
Gleanings in Bee Culture	1.00
The Agricultural Epitomis	.25
Poultry Gazette	.25
One Gold Filled collar button	.25
	<hr/> \$4.25

All for \$2.00

Cosmopolitan, Pearsons, or American Boy may be substituted for Gleanings, or any two of them for Breeder's Gazette.

WRAGG'S SELECT TREES

are quality trees. The name is a guarantee. It pays to plant select stock.

We Sell Direct and Pay the Freight. Guaranteeing lowest prices and the finest of everything in Trees, Shrubs, Roses, Evergreens, etc. Handsome catalogue Free. Write for it.

M. J. WRAGG NURSERY CO.
315 Good Block, Des Moines, Iowa.

A Bargain In Collies

... We have five of the ...

FINEST COLLIE

pups we have ever been able to offer. They are past three months old, from registered parents and are very finely marked. Three of them are white and two of them are sable and white. If you want a very fine collie, write at once.

Address,

St. Joseph Collie Kennels

% Modern Farmer, St. Joseph, Missouri.

Grand Island Route

THE TIME SAVING LINE
DOULLE DAILY SERVICE

with new 80-foot, Acetylene, Gas-Lighted Pullman Chair Cars, and Standard Pullman Buffet, Sleeping Cars, on night trains and Pullman High-Back Seat Coaches on day trains, between Kansas City and St. Joseph, Mo.; Hiawatha, Leneca, Marysville, Kans., Fairbury, Fairfield, Hastings and Grand Island, Neb. Connections made at Kansas City for all points East, South and West. At Grand Island direct connections are made with Union Pacific fast trains for California and the Pacific Northwest. Through Berth Tickets Sold.

S. M. ADSIT,
General Passenger Agent,
St. Joseph, Mo.

What a Great Convenience Is a Fountain Pen!

Any person who will send The Kansas City Journal, Kansas City, Mo., **Four Dollars** to pay for the Daily and Sunday Journal **one year**, will be mailed as a **present** a beautiful Fountain Pen; fine rubber handle, 14 karet gold point, fully warrantable. Address

The Kansas City Journal,
Kansas City, Missouri.

This offer expires July 1, 1906.

VIRGINIA HOMES

Our section Emporia, Greenville county, Virginia is the section that raises more kinds of products successfully, than any other section in the U. S. You can learn all about lands, soil, water, climate, products, mode of cultivation, prices, markets etc. by sending 10c. for 3 months subscription to the

Va. Farmer, Box 404, Emporia, Va

The Bees Work Free

Learn how to make them earn money for you. Read *Gleanings in Bee Culture* (6 months' trial 25c.) It will show you how easily, how quickly, you can learn to handle bees; how to get the honey fastest.

6 Mos. 25c.

GLEANINGS IN BEE CULTURE

is edited by experts. Experienced contributors make its articles authoritative. 20,000 bee-keepers read it because they make money following its teachings. You can do the same. Late copy is yours. Just write for it. Read it. Then send 25c for 6 months' trial. Do it now. A. I. Root Company, Pubs., Medina, O.

Farm Beekeeping By the Editor.

The next meeting of the National will be held in Texas, some time in October. The place and exact date has not yet been announced, but will be later. We desire to say now, however, that Texas is sure to give the National a royal welcome.

Mr. Marks, the gentleman who was so zealous for the welfare of the National Beekeepers' Association, a few years ago, that he served a term as director without getting votes enough to elect him, and made two trips half way across the continent to fight the editor of the MODERN FARMER at the annual meeting, is now advising the beekeepers of New York to keep out of the National Association because it is run by a clique. Wonder when he first made this discovery? A few of the New York beekeepers may be influenced by this sort of twaddle, but the rank and file of them are entirely too intelligent to be influenced by such clap-trap as is found in the annual address of the president at the meeting of the New York Beekeepers' Association. While this gentleman was running things to suit himself, the National was all right but now that the membership has turned down his methods of doing things it is all wrong, to hear him tell the story. Time may yet vindicate some of the men who helped found the National and have stood by it ever since, whenever it was conducted in the interest of right and justice. You can generally trust the common people to right most wrongs.

Those who lost their bees in modern hives should look after the empty combs at once. All of the dead bees should be brushed off of them and the hives thoroughly cleaned out in order to guard against moths. The combs should be put back in the hives and the hives closed up and set in a dark room until they are needed. Or better, the combs may all be taken out and hung in a dark room where they will not touch each other. Very convenient racks for this purpose may be made of building lath. These combs are valuable and those who have lost a part of their bees can soon build up again by feeding their bees liberally and then dividing the colonies, using the old combs to make new swarms. If any of the colonies are weak, but have a good queen, it will pay to feed them as one can soon have a strong colony from a few bees in the spring, if they have an active young queen. Some say that it does not pay to fool with these weak colonies, but this is not our experience. We have built up colonies that did not have more than a pint of bees in the spring and got a good swarm and fifty pounds of comb honey from them, which

would seem to pay for looking after them. If the swarm is hived on empty combs where the bees have died they will do much better and build up very quickly.

One of Dr. Miller's straws in Gleanings says, "Dr. E. F. Phillips calls attention to some things which make it seem that the span of life of a worker in the busy season is hardly up to the orthodox 'six weeks.' Dr. Dzierzon says, "I made a great many artificial swarms from pure German bees with a pure Italian queen. In six weeks there was not

a single German bee left." It is not supposable that each bee lived exactly the same number of days; and no bee lived beyond the six weeks, was not the average span of life less than six weeks? Moreover, v-Buttel-Reepen says, "in rich forage the bee lives often only two or three weeks." Dr. Phillips is no doubt doing some excellent work in the interest of beekeepers, much better work than ever has been done before at Washington, but let us not overdo the thing in bestowing praise upon him. There is nothing new in

THE BEST BEE GOODS IN THE WORLD
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the above statement. A lot of us have known for years that bees wore themselves out during the working season, and that the length of their lives is regulated largely by the amount of work they do. Some of them only live a very short time but others live even beyond the regulation time of "six weeks," as every one may know who has ever introduced an Italian queen to a colony of Blacks. They may not live any longer than that in Germany, but we are sure that some of them do in Missouri. Perhaps we have lazy bees out here. We rise to say that we hope that there will not be too many things discovered which are not so. Blunders are made sometimes even at Washington, but we have learned that it is not always popular to say so. Dr. Phillips, however, is not making very many of them.

We have received a great many letters in the last two months from those who have just begun to keep bees or who intend to begin this season. We want to say to all such that it is not best to expect too much the first season. If they are intending to buy bees, now is the best time to get them. It is better to have a few strong colonies than a lot of weak ones, for it takes considerable experience to build bees up rapidly. Therefore, our advice is to buy one or two strong colonies even though you pay a little more for them. Get them as near home as you can, provided they are not too near. If they are too near you will lose a lot of bees when you move them, as they will return to the old stand. The bees should be moved during the early part of fruit bloom. In addition to the bees get a good bee book. No more, however, if you are a beginner. More will only confuse you so you will not know what to do. Read your book carefully, and then read our notes each month, carefully, and then study the bees and there will be no trouble about your making a success of it. Of course, the bees will sting you, now and then, as there would be no fun or profit in the bee business if they had no stingers. However, there is not as much to a bee sting as some people think, and most people learn to not think about the sting at all. After you are stung a few times you will not notice the pain like you did the first time. Beginners should not be trying new experiments, or think they are called upon to invent a new hive the first season and reform the industry. Time enough for this when you really know something about the bee business and bees. Select a good hive and do not introduce any other, no difference what people say about it being better than the one you have. It is also wise to select some one author and follow his instructions and methods for a season or two until you learn the business and bees' habits. Then you can follow your own or other peoples ideas as you think

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best. If you listen to everybody at the start before you know much at first hand you will simply become confused, and will not know what to do, or how to do it. Do not think as we have said many times before that you need to buy everything you see advertised. Things are made to sell in the bee business the same as they are in any other business, and of course, the maker is all the time hunting a market to sell his goods, but the beginner who buys some of these things gets sold himself. A good plan is to start out with the idea that the bees must pay their own way, and you for your trouble, after the first season, if not from the start. If you do this you will probably not spend any money foolishly.

CARING FOR POOR COLONIES.

By J. L. Young.

A neighbor asked me, "what is the matter with a colony of my bees? There are plenty of them around the entrance, at all times, yet they never appear to work at all!"

I got into his buggy and went to his apiary. I requested him to light the smoker, so that we could take a look at them, but before we look I will tell you what I expect to find. Those bees around the entrance are all there are in the hive. But puff a little smoke in at the opening, take off the cover and look down among the combs. You see that there are but few bees. There is plenty of honey, which we will lift out into a clean hive, and remove to a place where it will be safe from robbers. The colony has been a long time queenless, put in a division board and leave them one comb of honey for humanity's sake. Formerly I gave such colonies combs containing eggs, Larva, and young brood, with the following result: When I opened the hive, next time, I would discover that the eggs had disappeared and no queen cells had been started. If I gave them another comb a like result would follow. These fresh eggs would not have tempted the workers, if there had been nurses to care for the young larvae. When a number of young bees had emerged from the cells to care for the eggs, queen cells would be built. Much brood was wasted and I concluded that more bees would be present at swarming time if the brood had been allowed to mature in the colony where it belonged, besides the time and work spent in moving it.

We went to another hive, which is full and running over with bees. We know by experience, it has a queen and plenty of stores. If we tried to save the other hive, we would have to take brood from this one. It seldom pays to rob Peter to pay Paul. All the money there is in bee keeping is from just such colonies, and the more you have of them the better. If the strong one had divided its bees and stores with the weak one, there would have been two colonies but no increase from either. If

the owner estimates his wealth by the number of colonies, he might feel rich, but what will the harvest be? Now we will examine the comb of the weak colony. Look at it, note the peculiar appearance of the brood, scattered here and there, are cells built up high in the worker comb. A bee is coming out of a cell and it is a drone. A drone laying queen is one that has never mated. She may lay the same as one that has, but all of her bees will be drones. When a colony has been queenless for a long time, some of these workers will develop and lay eggs, which also produce drones. There is very little difference in these two kinds of drone layers. A drone laying queen can be discovered and removed, as she looks like a queen. The laying workers are more difficult to manage, as they look just like other workers, and there may be one or many of them in a hive. If a queen is introduced, she will be destroyed. A queen cell will be accepted, allowed to mature, and the young queen will not be molested, until she has mated and commenced to lay, when the laying workers will frequently destroy her. Where there is only a few worker bees, the best thing to do is to break up the colony and give the combs to the first swarm that issues. Now, here is another hive, and once in a great while a bee enters loaded with pollen. On opening one side, many dead bees appear, between the comb. The combs have no honey in them, and I should judge that during a cold spell the colony was divided, as there seems to be a little sealed honey where the live ones are. Lift out the comb containing the brood and bees into a clean hive, as there are too few bees to carry out the dead bees and other

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trash. As this hive contains a fine Italian queen, I would build it up by giving it a frame of sealed brood from that black colony over there, under that plum tree. In a week or ten days I would give it another comb of sealed brood and continue this practice until it is built up as strong as any in the yard. In this way you will keep the black colony from swarming and will have a strong colony of Italians."

BEEES AND HORTICULTURE.

By E. Kretchmer, Council Bluffs, Ia.

I shall not attempt to write an essay on bee culture, as more complete information on that subject may be obtained from text books, but shall confine my remarks to their relation to horticulture and items not generally known, using only well-known information to explain my subject.

Nearly all flowers require fertilization through the medium of pollen from another flower of the same specie, which is accomplished in various natural ways, some by gravity in dropping from a higher elevation, some by the winds, blowing the pollen from one flower to another. But such fertilization is only incidental, always uncertain and imperfect.

An all-wise Creator placed nectar in nearly all flowers to entice the bees to them. He covered the body of the bees with a covering of fine hair and made their diet to consist of honey and pollen. To obtain this the bees visit the flowers to extract the nectar and whilst doing so a single bee visits sometimes as many as fifty flowers before obtaining a load to carry to the hive. At each visit to the fifty or less of different flowers, the flower pollen of the various flowers becomes entangled in their hairlike covering and in their effort to extract nectar from the next visited flower, a sufficient portion of the pollen obtained from a previously visited flower is dropped and fertilization is thus effected. This adherence of the pollen to the hairlike covering of the bee is sometimes so complete as to change, for the time being, the color of the bee. The writer has seen bees, by nature black or brown, return to their hive colored orange, yellow, white or a mixture of these colors, so thoroughly were they covered with pollen. Not only does a bee visit a flower once but hundreds may visit the same flower in a day and for numbers of days in succession and thus the most perfect fertilization is brought about.

In my earlier days when I was a horticulturist as well as an apiarian, I conducted many experiments and made many observations, and found that during the blooming of fruit trees should the weather be too cool to permit of the bees flying, an imperfect fruit crop was the result. Believing that the cool days and nights might be the cause of the imperfect fruit rather than the

absence of the bees, I investigated a little further in the succeeding years, when the weather was pleasant for the bees to visit the flowers, by covering certain parts of blooming trees with wire cloth or netting to exclude the bees yet permit the free access of all pollen carried by the winds, and every instance limbs and trees thus covered produced either no fruit or only a few small and imperfect specimens. After repeated experiments it is my candid opinion that without bees our fruit crop would be reduced fully ninety per cent.

Not only is this true of the fruit of the orchard but likewise with berries and vegetables. As an example let me cite the case of Senator Swick of Rocky Ford, Colo., who raises melons in fields miles in length. Years ago he was afraid of even the hum of the bee. His melons were raised in several separate fields, one of which was within the reach of the bees of neighbors with whom he had several stormy arguments, saying the bees carried away all the substance from the blossoms and crop failure would be the result. But to the surprise of all, the particular field yielded over two hundred per cent more and far better melons than any other field. Today he owns fifteen hundred colonies of bees, and during the trans-Mississippi exposition he remarked that he would keep those bees if he did not get a pound of honey, for no bees means no melons.

The idea that the bees carried away the substance from the flowers entered the head of the owner of an orchard near Friend, Neb., I believe, and to prevent it he sprayed during the blooming of the trees with Paris green, thus killing every bee that would alight on the blossoms. It was effectual in preventing the bees from carrying away the substance from the apple blossoms and it was just as effective in depriving him of a crop of apples whilst his neighbor had an abundance.

Permit me to explain that I am not opposed to spraying—on the contrary, I spray my fruit trees just before the buds open, and then wait until the blossoms fall. I thereby obtain all the benefits from spraying and the faithful service of the bees.

Of late the bees have been accused of being the common carrier to spread the pear blight, but Dr. Miller, of Illinois, who, it is alleged, is also an enthusiastic pear culturist, states that the pear trees in his orchard that did not bloom and numerous limbs covered with wire netting and not visited by the bees were affected to same extent as trees and limbs exposed to the bees. However, eager he was to think he had discovered a remedy to exclude the bees, he now says they have nothing to do with spreading pear blight.

Bees have been accused of damaging peaches and grapes. Let us investigate the matter before giving

full credit to the accusation. The tongue of a bee is as soft as a silk thread. Its mandibles are two soft smooth lips, so the bee is, therefore, physically disqualified to break the skin of a grape or peach. Wasps have mandibles with hard teeth-like segments to enable them to cut wood into pulp for their nests. These wasps cut the fruit, or the fruit is bruised by the wind striking it against limbs or trellises, or burst from being over-ripe. Then only have the bees a chance to sip the escaping juices, and thereby prevent fermentation and such rot as might be caused from this source.

I have repeatedly dipped well ripened Delaware grapes into honey and laid them out for the bees. They piled onto them by the thousands, each one eager to get what was to be had. They licked the outside of the grapes dry, fighting each other like mad to get the last vestige from between the grapes until compelled to go away unsatisfied. Yet at no time did they puncture a single berry.

The plodding farmer may be slow, but in the end, in his race with other lines of industry that seem to hold out brighter promises, he always seems to come out as did the patient tortoise in his race with the hare. The latest illustration of this comes from Colorado, a state which only a few years ago was dazzling the world with the riches of its gold and silver mines.

The annual reviews of Colorado's progress show that in 1905 the state produced the greatest amount of gold of any year in its history, a total of \$29,000,000. But in the same year, the grain and potatoes, hay and other produce from Colorado farms aggregated more than \$40,000,000 in value. Silver was higher in value than for several years, and the production of this metal in Colorado rose to \$11,000,000, but the combined products of the orchards and sugar beet patches beat the total of silver by \$1,500,000. Five million dollars worth of lead was marketed, which is just about equal to the value of the fat lambs shipped. The whole value of the product was \$43,000,000. The products of the farms aggregated more than \$70,000,000.

More money is being invested in agricultural products in Colorado than in the development of the mines. Reservoirs and canals originally planned for placer mining have been diverted to irrigation, and the next few years seem likely to see the area of highly productive farming lands in the state more than doubled. The "man with the hoe" seems to have secured a start over the man with the hammer and drill, which the latter will never be able to overcome, unless some very remarkable new discoveries of mines are made.

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The world is civilized just in so far as it has become religious and not one particle beyond.—Rev. Dr. Minot J. Savage, Unitarian, New York.

Educational Value of the Bible.

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Highest Happiness.

The man who has learned the secret of highest happiness is the man who finds joy in the sincere and honest labor of each day. Blessed are the honest hands of toil and happy the man who worships God in daily work.—Rev. N. W. Stroup, Methodist, Cleveland, O.

Real Values In Life.

Men are immortal only as they love God and serve him. The deep questionings of the soul are the real values in life. Men are lovingly remembered in proportion as they help answer these questions by a Christian life and by Christian deeds.—Rev. Dr. W. J. Williamson, Baptist, St. Louis.

Trust and Devotion.

The man who prays earnestly, trusts in God and loves him will manifest that love by devotion to his fellow men, and conversely the man who consecrates himself to his brother men will find the inspiration and motive for this service in the love of God.—Bishop Talbot, Episcopalian, Washington.

Greatness.

Social ascendancy, whether accompanied by wealth, intellect or power, does not create greatness. That consists merely in childlike simplicity, candor and docility, and only those who possess such qualities shall enter the kingdom of God.—Rev. H. O'Rourke, S. J., Roman Catholic, New York.

A Fullness of Blessing.

There is a coming morning when God will put into our hands a fullness of blessing, everything that our hearts have ever craved; our shattered hopes will then be all fulfilled; there will be nothing forever more save perfect happiness and completed glory.—Rev. Dr. C. M. Hawkins, Methodist, St. Louis.

In Heaven.

In this world we note the succession of time. In the other world we lose track of time. It is an eternity. Here we have a few intimate friends and gaze inertly at the rest of the world. Over there we shall be brought into closer relationship with men.—Rev. W. E. Bentley, Episcopalian, New York.

A Life to Be Lived.

Christianity does not consist in psalm singing or prayer saying or even in churchgoing; it is a life to be lived. He who would do what Christ would have him do for his neighbor in his conversion will work along his own individual lines, doing his neighbor all the good he can.—Rev. J. A. Jaynes, Disciple, Pittsburg.

Mightiest of Nations.

Those nations of today where there is the most of tender care, the most sympathy, pity, love, where the incompetent and the poor and the weak are best cared for, are the mightiest in battle if it comes to war, mightiest in finance, mightiest in manufacture, mightiest in all that goes to make up a strong national life.—Rev. Minot J. Savage, Unitarian, New York.

Bible In the Public Schools.

Intelligence and morality should go together to produce true citizenship, but instead of the Bible its enemies desire to put it out and let the dance take its place. Dancing has no part in the public schools. The buildings were not erected for such a purpose. We have no right to abuse the public confidence and misuse public funds in such a manner. As a strictly business proposition the dance has no place in our public school buildings. Things such as that affect our whole educational system. If any mistake is to be made let us make it on the side of right. The Bible has never done any harm; the dance has done much evil. We can make no mistake if we keep the one in and the other out of our public schools.—Rev. W. W. Bustard, Baptist, Boston.

Education Along Peace Lines.

Instead of teaching so many the art of war, a course of education for the rising generation along lines of peace and of the evils of war, except in extreme cases, might be more profitable as a branch of study in our schools and colleges. As much as we honor the sword of our president which he bore in the battle for his country we honor still more the pen which Roosevelt wielded for the sake of peace between warring nations, for surely the latter was just as brave and patriotic an act as the former, and for it our worthy president will be remembered long after his charge at San Juan hill will have been forgotten. The greatest war of all to be waged is that against evil. War against all kinds of dishonesties, grafting, deceit, wickedness in high places, vice, crime and the like, these are things against which we may all rightly and most vigorously war with might and soul. Satan is marshaling his forces, and mighty are his armies, at the head of which he ad-

vances. The church of God needs, therefore, to be awake to its duty and every soldier of the cross to be assigned to duty and be trustworthy to the place lest vantage grounds be surrendered to the enemy. We must be true to our colors and faithful to our trust, and with God and the right we are sure of victory. "Hold the fort!" is the Lord's cry. By his grace we will.—Rev. Dr. L. M. Zimmerman, Lutheran, Baltimore.



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The How Page.



HOW TO INSPECT HORSES.

Details to Be Looked Into Before Purchasing.

A writer in the *Outing Magazine* gives the following advice on how to inspect a horse before purchasing:

Never have a horse brought out or up or down to you, but go to his stall and investigate for yourself certain details which, once you know them, require no special acumen to decide upon or to be aware of.

For instance, is there grain in the manger and the hour of feeding some time past? He may be a bad feeder, nervous, delicate—well to call the veterinarian's attention to this point. Is the straw under his fore feet unusually trampled or broken? May be one of those irritable, nervous "weavers" (horses which constantly sway from side to side), which are generally also bad feeders and poor property. Are the stall posts or sides battered or kicked? He may be a kicker (by day or night, spoiling his own rest and that of other horses). Does he tear or eat his blanket? Is he tied in any special way or simply and as other horses are? Is he gentle to approach and to handle—no nipping, kicking or pulling back on the halter? Does he stand square on both fore feet or rest one or both alternately? Does he back quietly from the stall, picking up each hind leg without sudden spasmodic jerking? And when he turns in the gangway does he do so smoothly, or does he flinch (in front) as if the boards were not even or his feet hurt him more or less? Are his eyes staring and expressionless, his ears always forward? These are indications of defective vision.

Once out of the stall, notice that he submits quietly to being wiped over and betrays no resentment while harnessing, at accepting the bit, bridle, crupper, etc., and decorously permitting all necessary alterations and attentions. Accept no departure from absolute docility of deportment, for be sure that if the animal betrays either excitability, nervousness or vice in the dealer's hands he will be far worse with you, for you know you don't know, and he will know you don't know, and those combinations spell trouble. In the same way see him led out and put to the vehicle to which he is to be driven, noting each stage of the process, viewing him always with the icy critical eye of the individual who does not (yet) own him. Excuse nothing and make no allowances for less. If he makes a move you don't fancy, say so frankly and look further. There are plenty of horses.

How to Prepare Toast.

Bread for toasting should not be new, says the *London Mail*. If it is two or three days old it is best for the purpose. Cut it about a third of an inch thick, and see that the fire is clear or the toast will be smoked and dried. Move it backward and forward until the bread is nicely colored, then turn it and toast the other side. Serve it as soon as possible after it is done or it will become tough. Never let it lie flat or the steam from it will prevent it from being crisp. Dry toast should be more gradually made than buttered toast, as its great beauty consists in its crispness, and this cannot be attained unless the process is slow and the bread is allowed gradually to color. For buttered toast cut as many nice even slices as are required, rather more than a quarter of an inch in thickness, and toast them before a very bright fire without allowing the bread to thicken, which spoils the appearance and flavor of the toast. Do not scrape the butter on, but spread it lightly over. Trim off the crust and ragged edges and send the toast quickly to the table.

How to Do Several Useful Things.

The resistance of glass jars that refuse to open can be overcome by setting them top downward in an inch of water, says the *Christian Worker*. Salt on the fingers when cleaning meat, fowls and fish will prevent the hands from slipping. If new tinware is rubbed over with fresh lard and thoroughly heated in the oven before using it will never rust. A poultice of rotten apples is a remedy for frosted feet. Put the poultice on in the evening and let it remain overnight. The same remedy is excellent for bunions. Soiled furs can be easily cleaned with hot cornmeal. The meal should be used very hot and rubbed thoroughly into the fur with the hands. It will collect all accumulations of dust and grease. If much soiled allow the meal to remain in the fur overnight. It can be whipped out with a light switch, leaving the fur light and fluffy.

How to Stretch Lace Curtains.

In stretching lace curtains on a stretcher or on the floor always pin on the wide border and then draw the curtains down and fasten on the outside edge. In stretching this way you allow that part of the curtains—namely, the narrow border, where the least sun and dirt strikes them, which is the ruin of all curtains—to bear the strain of stretching. Curtains done up in this way can be used much longer. When curtains begin to show small holes, get

a very fine net, moisten the curtain slightly after it has been stretched, place the net over the holes and press with a medium hot iron. If done neatly it will look far better than if sewed together. Of course it is always advisable to get the net as much like the body of the curtain as possible.

How to Keep Your Hands Pretty.

You can't have nice looking hands by caring for them by spasms. First, last and every time keep them clean. Have a box of oatmeal and after scrubbing the hands dip them into the oatmeal. Rub them till the meal is dry and falls off, leaving them soft and white. At night wash your hands thoroughly, dry them carefully and rub some vaseline well into the backs of the hands.



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DAIRY NOTES.

By N. J. Shepherd.

No after feeding of any kind of food, no matter how rich it may be, or abundant, can change the character of the milk beyond giving more of the same kind; and to do this there is a large waste of undigested and unappropriated food that she could not use.

A cow which is an excessive milker and which converts her food principally into the milk forming tissues will do this to the neglect of flesh forming; but if proper digestion continues and the milk flow is stopped, her food must necessarily go to the formation of flesh.

If the churning is continued until the butter is gathered in lumps and is largely mingled with the buttermilk, all of the working and washing which can be done cannot wholly get rid of this sour milk, when it is so intimately enclosed among the particles of butter.

When brine salting, there is no use in waiting for the butter to absorb the brine when it is put into the churn; if you are ready to print or pack it, give the churn a few turns, draw off the brine, and the butter will be as salty as if it were allowed to remain in the brine an hour.

If the cows are fed cottonseed meal in moderate quantities, the milk will be good and the butter will not lack in flavor or texture. If, however, too much is given, it will injure, if it does not, in fact, ruin, the butter. It is a concentrated food and must be used with some degree of caution.

The dairy cow requires about five times as much in fat formers and heat producers—carbon—as she does in nerve, muscle and force formers. When these different elements are present in this proportion and a cow is fed up to her full digestion, the produce of this cow may be taken as her individuality, or normal production.

Rotation of crops is a practice which must come to every farm. It benefits the different crops raised, and it benefits the soil. It helps to eradicate the weed and other pests. It adds to the soil humus. It makes it better for the farmer as he has more time, for rotation calls for different crops and more feed will be raised on the farm.

You can set your milk in deep cans, in shallow pans, or crocks, or pots, or you can use the cream separator, and if the conditions are favorable, and the after processes are conducted rightly, you can make gilt-edged butter. But the question of expense comes in here, and the system which will give the most profit, save the most time and money, should be adopted.

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GEMS OF POETRY

At the Wharf.

I hear the pulleys creak, the hawsers strain,
The strident outcries of the stevedores,
The boatswain's piping, and I dream of shores
Beyond the long plunge of the mighty main.
Soon yon leviathan will dare again
The weltering deep with wealth of precious stores—
Man and his handicraft. Already pours
From the dark funnel smoke of darker stain.

The great screws churn the channel. In
the wind
Flags are a-flutter, kerchiefs, hats and
hands
Wave, and up leaps a little burst of
cheers;
Hope wings before, and hope reigns high
behind,
Save in the stricken heart of one who
stands
Silent, alone and cannot see for tears.
—Clinton Scollard in Smart Set.

Tired of the Noise of the City.

I'm tired of the noise of the city,
Its tumult and care and deceit;
I long for the peace of the meadows,
Where flowers bloom fragrant and sweet,
How vain is the smile of the many,
How empty the laugh of the throng!
I long to commune with great nature
And list once again to her song.

How worthless the glare of the tinsel,
How empty the bubble of show,
How senseless the studied expressions
That flatterers are wont to bestow!
While nature deals with us so nobly,
Without the veneerings of art,
The welcome she gives us is honest;
She speaks to each one from her heart.

What is there in pomp and in power
So many possess to abuse?
The one stirs the envy of pygmies;
The other, let him who will choose.
I fly from the city's great clamor,
Where men use deception to please,
And lay my head down on the hillside
To rest and to dream 'neath the trees.
—Thomas F. Porter in Boston Globe.

A Sea Creed.

I have seen the worst of the world, and I
care no more
For chances and changes, for perils afloat
and ashore.
God is over them all—spirit more calm
than fate;
My times upon him wait.

In the uttermost parts of the sea there the
corals grow,
And the wealth of its oozy floor no divers
know.
When the laboring ship strains on through
an ocean of weed
Our captain takes good heed.

But better heed takes he who steers with-
out chart the storm,
Who hath bidden the north blow cold and
the south breathe warm,
That though he splinters the ship on the
coral marge
He hath her crew in charge.

From the peril of fire and flow, from the
reef and rock,
He hath gathered them man by man—a
weary flock.
He will bring them home to the haven
where they would be,
Over a Jasper sea.
—Nora Chesson in Black and White.

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