

NOTES FROM MEADOWBROOK FARM
By William Pitt



Give the horses frequent rests when hawking. It's hard work.

Keeping the pigs too long on a hard floor may result in crooked legs.

Be a good poultryman. He is the only one who makes the business pay.

Wheat bran wet up and fed as a mash is good for the horse, occasionally.

Charcoal will keep the chickens in good condition. It is good for the hogs, too.

Lay out the garden in as long lines as possible. You can then cultivate with the horse.

It's the man behind the hoe, not the man behind the gun which the nation needs most.

Because the farmer has to go low to get seed into the soil is no reason why he cannot aim high.

You always know where you can get a dollar of ready money when you have a busy flock of hens on the farm.

The supply of "hothouse" lambs never seems to be equal to the demands of the large cities for such meat.

A good way to mix horse and cow manure is to place the former in the drop behind the cows and let it take up the liquid manure.

A deep hole in an out-of-the-way spot is a good place to bury old tin cans and rubbish, and every farm should have such a place.

Sunflower seeds are fine for the poultry, especially in the fall, as they put the fowls through moulting in fine shape. Plant some this spring.

Put the bull in a treadmill for exercise and let him churn your butter and pump your water. Better for the bull and certainly an economical arrangement.

Keep the small flock well, rather than neglect the large flock. The chickens you can well handle will return a profit, while too large a number will not.

Be sure you are getting a fair profit from the small flock you possess before you let yourself get carried away with the idea that you can make a small fortune in the chicken business.

One way of making breachy cattle is to turn them into fields where the fence is weak. Once they learn that a fence can be gone through and they will always be looking for the chance to break out.

Try a year or two of clover on that land that has failed to give a good yield of grain. The clover makes the finest kind of a forage crop for the hogs, and when the land is put into grain again it will more than repay you for the rotation.

Except in rare cases, the farmer is not horseman enough to successfully raise and train carriage, saddle or racing horses. While they bring fancier prices than the drafters, there is not as much chance of raising a good horse of the former type as there is of raising the horse of the draft breed.

"Fix up, John, and look your best," is the slogan which marks a movement among farmers' wives to get their husbands to spruce up a bit. This is a commendable reform, but why should it not extend to the men folks who might raise the cry of away with the mother Hubbard and the dusting cap. But then we mistrust that the women would gladly wear better togs if John would put up the price.

Halter-break the colt from very infancy. The halter in all cases should be very strong, strong enough to doubly support the weight of the animal wearing it. The halter need not be on the colt at all times, for that would interfere with its freedom and exercise, which is one of the great essentials during the growing period of a horse, but it should be haltered, led and tied at regular and frequent intervals during the training period.

Farmers in the western section of the country will be interested to know that the government seed testing bureau has established a western office at the Nebraska agricultural station, Lincoln, Neb. This branch was started in order to give quicker reports on samples of seed in that section of the country, as the time required in sending samples by mail to Washington has frequently caused serious delay.

That there is occasional danger in silage is evident from the report of E. E. Woodruff, superintendent of the Southern Training School farm at Grayville, Tenn., who lost six young mares, a mare and three ponies in the space of four days from encephalitis, or ensilage poisoning. According to the veterinarian a list which grows on corn on low ground harbors a bacterium which hatches and propagates in the heat of the silo, and proves deadly to horses, though harmless to cattle.

Henry Ward Beecher once gave expression to the following sentiment on "Spring Work on the Farm," which is worth repeating at this time: "Seeds are sprouting, trees budding, flowers peeping out from warm hooks. Everything grows in springtime. Youth is springtime, habits are sprouting, dispositions are putting out their leaves, opinions are forming, prejudices are getting root. Now, take at least as good care of your children as you do of your farm. You break a colt, and break a steer, and break a heifer, and break the soil, and if you won't break your children, they will be very apt to break your heart and pocket."

Now a little extra lettuce for the chicks.

Never put ewes with lambs with the rest of the flock.

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The CITY of PALACES
CALCUTTA, THE EMBODIMENT OF THE INDIAN EMPIRE



A JAIN TEMPLE, CALCUTTA

Calcutta, the "City of Palaces," seems, in her function of metropolis, the embodiment of the Indian empire, even as Delhi seems to embody the India of ancient days. For Calcutta is a modern city, with all its tale of tramways, offices, stately buildings and handsome shops, together with its slums and backways, yet it is a green and tropic jungle.

A continental air, communicated perhaps by the tramways and green open spaces, places it apart from other Indian cities. It has an air of life, it is a town with streets—streets of shops, streets of houses; it is a place of crowded and busy animation; the Chowringhee, the Regent street of the metropolis of India, is a large, clean street with a fine frontage of buildings, shops, hotels and private houses.

From the Chowringhee it is no great distance to government houses, through ancient streets of fine shops, and we see the sentries at the gate, showing that the vicerey is there. A big white building, pillar fronted, with great approaches of stairway, imposing, but without special characteristic, is the metropolitan seat of government. It lies in fine grounds, green and cultivated, with flowers and trees, all with a sober air of restraint and polish and correctness.

The Chowringhee itself looks on the Maidan, the open meadow land which has been called "the lungs of Calcutta" where the air blows fresh and pure from the river, and where golf and push-ball are played. Through this Maidan, and looking upon by statues of men who have helped to make Calcutta, runs the Red road, the fashionable afternoon drive. Turning out of this at an acute angle one's carriage rolls into the Strand, the road beside the river where shipping always lies, reminding us of traffic with far distant lands. All lines are represented—the English P. and O.; the British India, plying not only homeward, but to Burma and the Straits; the French Messageries Maritimes; and sometimes sailing vessels lie there for weeks, with all their fairy-like rigging, waiting till the sails shall be spread and the "passers-by" float out on distant voyages.

Yes, all Calcutta joins to give an impression of world-wide intercourse, of connection with many lands, of cosmopolitan interests. The streets of the better houses are beautiful as a dream in the sunlight, with green foliage and flowering shrubs, purple bougainvillea and scarlet flame of the coral, peeping out between the houses. There are great squares with deep and silent tanks of water in the middle, with vivid green banks and trees around them. These streets are clean and open, but in older Calcutta there are squalid slums, and, as in most Indian cities, one is never far from a busy, or street of native houses.

The New Market, as the large bazaar is called, differs from many Eastern bazaars in being under government, and is therefore a clean and orderly place. All under cover, with its rows of little shops, it is certainly not as picturesque as most bazaars, though more cleanly and practical. Here one can buy anything, and cheaper than in European shops.

But amidst and through it all are many reminders of the past. Down on the walls of the little, narrow, box-like shops.

There are curio dealers, too, with Chinese and India silver and china, Sakuma and Japanese cloisonne, kimonos, fans and all sorts of eastern wonders. There are Chinese boot-makers, shrewd-looking men in blue coats and trousers, with an English felt hat above the long pigtail. They will make you a pair of shoes to measure, surprisingly clever and cheap. Many nations are here, both as buyers and sellers—Europeans, Americans, Eurasians, Chinese, Japanese and Malays, besides natives from all parts of India.

Modern life strikes one everywhere, not in the bazaar alone, but in the wide streets, where carriages, light carts and motors pass all day, where the scarlet-clad outriders, with lances erect, precede and follow the vicerey; in the busy streets where electric trams buzz past and the buyers go in a street of banks and offices in a tablet saying that here is the site of the Black Hole. And at a stately mansion in Chowringhee is another tablet telling that the father of Thomas Babington Macaulay once resided there.

Gay and smiling as the city looks, the visitor is constantly reminded of its age. Notable among such reminders is the old South Park Street cemetery, which lies among the modern streets behind Chowringhee, and on the brightest day its appearance would strike a chill. Enormous numbers of pyramids, obelisks and squares are crowded together in dismal congregation within its rails. Not a cross, scarcely a flower. All the structures are black with age, and no kind of moss or lichen drapes them. The kites and vultures perch on the tombs, and the crow stalks down the dismal paths. But here many of those who have made the history of Calcutta are buried, and here, too, over a century ago, Rose Aylmer, immortalized in English verse, was laid to rest.

But there are lives and customs in the city that speak of far remoter ages than the history of its conquerors. Let the visitor go and see the great bathing Ghat on the Hooghly, and he will witness a custom that has held good from time immemorial. The huge stairway to the river is thronged with hundreds of devotees, ready to bathe in the sacred waters, for "Mother Gunga" brings healing from sin. Another ancient custom in Calcutta is the use of the Burning Ghat. It is a gruesome sight, the slow and infelicitous burning of bodies which are left to float away on the sacred stream.

For though the white men with their strange ways have lived for centuries in their midst, though many of the young men of India are sent to England to be educated, and there take on a veneer of European culture, the native will always be as his forefathers have been for ages past.

In the bright modern city of Calcutta, bazaar and busy will remain as ever, the bathing and the burning ghats will go on, the slow bullock cart will wind about the streets, and the little naked brown babies will sprawl, and laugh, and run, as innocent of garments and learning as if the white man had never come amongst them.

EVELYN WILSON.

His Witty Answer.
A young man in a merchant's office was in the habit of parting his hair in the center. One of the older clerks, who was not very manly-looking and was very bald—only having two little growths exactly the same height above each ear—said to him rather severely one day, in the presence of others: "Why do you part your hair down the middle, like a woman?" "Oh," rejoined the young man, "I am not like some, who have to part their hair at the side; that others may know they are not women. And, besides," continued he with a scrutinizing look at the bald pate of his interrogator, "you part your hair in the middle yourself; only mine is a narrow parting and yours is a very wide one!"—London Tit-Bits.

Belle—What's call money?
Nell—I don't know unless it is the million kind that titled fortune-hunters whistle to, and it comes.—Baltimore American.

Round the Capital
Information and Gossip Picked Up Here and There in Washington.

Congress Likely to Linger Until June 1

WASHINGTON.—In spite of the fact that the speaker a few weeks ago selected May 16 as the probable closing day of this session, Republican leaders in the senate and house express the fear that adjournment cannot be reached before June 1. It is possible that "Uncle Joe" will bring to bear the pressure he knows so well how to use and clear the docket by the time of the original schedule. However the outlook for an early ending is not now promising.

The status of the annual appropriation bills is discouraging. Of the 14 big money bills, five remain to be reported to the house, while the others are in the various stages of the journey through the house and senate and conference.

The urgent deficiency bill, which was reported January 22, is the only one that has become a law, having been approved February 15. The Indian appropriation bill, which was reported January 27 in the house committee on Indian affairs, passed the house February 12 and passed the senate February 23 and was sent to conference March 4. The pensions appropriation bill was reported February 4 and passed the house March 17. It is now in the senate. The executive and judicial appropriation bill was reported February 11, passed the house February 17 and the senate March 21, and is now in conference.

The army bill passed the house February 20 and the postoffice bill March 13. The agricultural appropriation bill was approved by the house April 1, while the fortifications measure passed that body March 21. The District of Columbia appropriation bill was reported the other day, but will not be taken up for a couple of weeks. The diplomatic and consular bill, general deficiency, military academy, naval and sundry civil appropriation bills are in various stages of preparation previous to being reported.

Uncle Sam to Aid in Hunting Wolves

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Why Congressmen Criticised Pinchot

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Glorious Triumph for Tennessee Warrior

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