

NOTES FROM MEADOWBROOK FARM



The idle hoe tells the story of a weedy garden.

There is never an overproduction of choice fruit.

Milk twice a day and milk at regular times if you would obtain the best results from your herd.

Whether it is sunshine or rain, the good dairy cow is always busy turning a profit for her owner.

Chickens in the orchard pick up thousands of insects, worms, etc., which would prove injurious to the trees and fruit.

Starved land cannot grow good crops. Provide the elements which the crop needs and harvest day will be a day of rejoicing.

Don't let the work-day drag out to 14 and 16 hours. Ten hours of field work is enough and will accomplish as much in the long run as a longer day. Try it and see.

A few days of pasturing on the stubble fields after the grain is cut and out of the way will provide considerable good feed for the stock and will be a good thing for the field.

Tile are far to be preferred to the open ditch. They cost more, but they do the work of drainage more perfectly, and do not offer the chance for the soil to wash away as is the case with the open ditch.

Don't haul your hogs in tight box wagons. The loss of one hog by overhauling will more than pay for a panel rack for the wagon. Money is well-invested that provides greater comfort for the stock.

The fenced farm is the only one on which livestock can be kept and the rotation of crops followed, and as this method of farming is the only profitable one in the long run, it follows that the farm must be fenced to be handled properly.

Twenty per cent butter fat weighs 8.45 pounds to the gallon after all the air has settled from it, while the 40 per cent weighs only 8.22 pounds. When fresh from the separator the weight is less because of the air contained in the cream.

The Holstein breeders in their recent national meeting appointed a committee to secure a federal law for the inspection of cattle for tuberculosis and to do away with inspection by the states. There is no question that such a law would prove advantageous.

Prevent the soil washing on your farm. Many fine fields in some of the western states have been ruined by soil washing. Some are washed so badly that they can no longer be worked with modern farm machinery. Soils that have a good supply of humus are not subject to washing, as they have a greater water-holding capacity.

Unless the stock is fed an amount over and above that which is needed for body maintenance there will be no gain. A thousand-pound steer has been found by experiment to require daily 15 pounds of timothy hay, 12 pounds of clover hay and seven pounds of corn meal just to keep on an even keel. More must be fed if there is to be any gain.

An enterprising merchant in a western town has fitted up a rest room for the wives of farmers who drive to town and who sometimes have tedious waits for the husband to finish his business and his street-corner gossip. Furnished as it is with rockers and tables on which are magazines, fashion books, etc., it is growing in popularity, and is good advertising for the merchant. Here is a hint for merchants in other towns.

Be sure that the influence of the hired help upon your boys is not harmful. You are pressed for the need of help and you take in most anybody that will give you the needed assistance, and that person may be impure in thought and deed, he may be given to vile language and delight in telling the unclean story. Do not let your boy be thrown with such a person whole days at a time. Think of the corrupt seeds which may be sown in a boy's impressionable heart, and which are almost sure to bring forth fruits of misdeeds some day.

It seems at the present time that the graduates of the state agricultural schools of the country are finding no trouble in getting located. The young man who knows the science of good farming and how to apply it commands \$75 to \$100 a month, with his board and lodging, and lives easily, comfortably and wholesomely. The farmer, who can do so, should give his sons the education that will thus lift them to the heights of their occupation. Young men trained so that they can command such financial returns for their services to others can use their scientific training to still greater profit for themselves. The scientific farmer, who is worth \$100 or \$150 a month to another man, is worth \$200 to \$300 to himself if he applies science to his own soil.

Are the lice and mites harvesting your eggs for you?

Charcoal is appreciated by the duck. Provide it for them.

Better to plant a little in the garden and plant well than to half plant a great quantity of stuff.

A little fertilizer well placed will bring better returns than an unlimited quantity carelessly applied.

The community where the good dairy cow is in the majority is the community which is marked by contentment and prosperity.

Well-grown fruit or vegetables, well-marketed, bring a profit which the careless producer never realizes. It pays to do things right.

The draft horse is the one for the farmer to raise, because it can be done in harmony with the other interests of the farm and with the greatest profit.

Tuberculosis in cattle and scab in sheep is spread from the stock yards of the large cities by the feeders who purchase animals from the pens with out proper investigation.

Never let the dead wood remain on the fruit trees. It not only provides hiding places for insect pests, but it opens the way to extending the decay into the heart of the tree.

An attachment for the corn cultivator which will replant the missing hills is said to be the invention of a handy Missourian. It fastens on the tongue of the cultivator and is worked from the seat by a string.

The farmer who leaves the machines standing in the fields where they were last used is following an expensive practice. It pays to have a tool house and after a machine is through use to clean, oil and house it.

Good pasturage and plenty of water is all that breeding stock need, but pigs which are to be marketed at six months must have plenty of grain to bring them up to the best marketable weight, about 200 pounds.

Generally speaking, the cow which has had her milk-producing capacity encouraged and developed will be very likely to transmit these traits to her progeny. Raise the heifers of your best cows and you will be on the road to improving your herd.

Don't dope yourself indiscriminately when you feel unwell. More people recover without the use of medicine than with its supposed aid. Give nature a chance and she will do more for you than all the self-prescribed medicine you can pour down your throat.

However fancy the breed of fowls may be, the front yard is no place for their yarding. Reserve the front of the house for green sward and foliage and flowers and relegate the chickens to the rear. However, keep the chicken yard and house as clean as they were on display.

A morning feeding about eight o'clock will act as an inducement to keep the fowls around the poultry house until after the egg-laying duty has been discharged for the day. Many an egg is lost by turning the hens out early in the morning and giving them the range of the farm.

A neat sign bearing the name of the farm placed near the road so that it can be read by passersby gives character to your place. People think as they pass that the place that has an individual name must amount to something. In picking a name let some characteristic of the place receive recognition.

No one would think for a minute that he had a right to invade a bit of woodland upon a farm and carry off firewood, and why should it be thought that the wild fruit growing in such a place is any the more public property? Anything growing upon a man's land is his property, and should not be disturbed or taken without his express permission.

How often does the henhouse need cleaning? As often as it gets dirty. And by dirty we do not mean simply reeking with accumulations of droppings and filthy scatchings. No, we never saw a henhouse yet which could be kept clean short of two cleanings a week. Be faithful during the warm weather or the lice and mites will get the upper hand.

Intensive farming and extensive farming sound a good deal alike, but they are vastly different. Intensive farming means that the farmer is making the small tract pay, while extensive farming too often means that the farmer is spreading himself over so much land that none of his work is well done and his margin of profit is smaller if not wholly eliminated. Farm little and well rather than much and poorly.

Cases of founder in horses can be treated successfully by the following method recommended by Dr. Adamson: Poultice the feet with warm bran mash put into bags and tied on. Change the poultices twice a day and continue poulticing for a week. Then mix two drams cantharides with one ounce of lard. Rub a little of this aromatic coronets with the fingers and let it remain on for 24 hours, then wash off and apply a little lard. Then turn the animal out to pasture for a month or two.

About the only cure for the hard milk is to sell her off and buy an easier milk. The ease with which the milk may be drawn from the udder is a natural characteristic of the individual, just as the ability to convert food into flesh is a characteristic. Some animals fatten much easier than others and there is no way to prevent them from converting the greater part of their food into flesh. The same is true of the characteristic in question. Some animals are harder to milk than others and we think there is no reliable method to overcome the difficulty.

For the Hostess

Mme. Merri's Valuable Suggestions for Entertainments—Stork Party Can Be Made a Dainty Affair—From Shakespeare.

Pretty Room for a Wee Maiden.

Perhaps this sketch does not come under the heading of our department, but I take it for granted it will be of interest to all mothers in search of ideas for dear wee daughters. This room in an apartment was so charmingly fitted up for the six-year old maiden that I simply cannot resist telling about it.

In the first place it is astonishing at what an early age children appreciate things being done for their special comfort and how they love their very own things. The sense of pride in ownership is developed long before most parents realize it.

Now for the room. The side walls are of plain cream, with a dado and frieze of riotous pink roses and green leaves. Over each window and door there is a trellis of roses, also around the small bureau. These were cut out and pasted on just as natural as life. The effect was lovely and only took a little time and patience. A white moulding joined side wall and ceiling. The pictures are all reproductions from the old masters, with enough childish subjects to interest the youthful occupant of this rose bower. The frames were all of plain black wood. All the furniture was in white enamel paint, and everything was half size to suit the comfort of Miss Six-Year-Old.

The curtains, bed draperies and dresser cover are of rose cretonne edged with torchon lace.

The best feature of this room is it can literally be washed—everything in it—for the rugs are pink and green colonial rugs, for which the mother saved the "rags."

A small desk is a source of great comfort; also a folding table.

A Stork Party.

The following is most interesting for Shakespearean enthusiasts:

My first is a good meat, with eggs a good dish; My second's allow, or permit, if you wish.

My first is so modest and bashful, withal; My second's a tuft of your hair, that is all.

My first is the city of Italy's pride; My second's a vowel, which you mustn't elide.

My first's a girl's name, to your wit put a file; My second and third describe her the while. If she's well bred, understand, and has style.

A name of one syllable here you will see. A villainous smile, devoid of all glee.

My first you take as a witness before heaven; My second some take when an inch they see. My third is a vowel, just one of seven.

My first it is money, of specie or gold; When "wee" is objective, my second be hold.

My first, you see, is the time of the year. When all the leaves and the birds disappear. My second's a metaphor applied to bread. Because it supports one's life, it is said.

Children have more need of models than of critics.—Joubert.

You may not be able to leave your children a great inheritance, but day by day you may be leaving coats for them, which they will wear through all eternity.—Cuvier.

What a privilege it is to be associated with little children. They hold the keys to the gate of heaven.

You cannot compromise with the tremendous natural business of motherhood.

An Ideal—Just to be good; to keep life pure from degrading elements; to make it constantly helpful in little ways to those who are touched by it; to keep one's spirit sweet and avoid all petty anger and irritability—that is an ideal as noble as it is difficult.—Griggs.

In the pure love of child and mother, Two human loves make one divine.

The most sublime pain that can be heard on earth is the lisping of a human soul from the lips of childhood.—Hugo.

True of heart tho' a trifle contrary, The child who comes in February.

Roses with their beautiful buds are the flowers that seem to belong especially to babies and young children. This little verse sent with a bunch of them will add the finishing touch to an always acceptable gift.

Along the path and the wall; But the roses that bloom in my baby's cheeks.

Are the sweetest roses of all.

Here is an old Scotch jingle that is dear to every mother's heart. It is very pretty when written in fancy lettering on cardboard, ornamented with cherubs, or baby faces, passe-partouted in white, and hung in the child's room. Underscore the day on which the little one first saw the light. Here are the lines:

The bairn that is born on the Sabbath day Is lucky and bonnie and blithe and gay. Monday's bairn is fair of face; Tuesday's bairn is full of grace; Wednesday's bairn need fear no foe; Thursday's bairn has far to go; Friday's bairn is loving and giving; Saturday's bairn must work for a living.

With the gift of a pair of scales, send this little rhyme:

How many pounds does baby weigh? Baby who came awhile ago; How many pounds from crowning curl To rony point of restless toe?

These lines sent with a pillow or slumber robe make the gift doubly attractive:

What is the road to Slumberland? And where does baby go? The road lies straight through mother's arms.

When the sun is sinking low.

Characters from Shakespeare.

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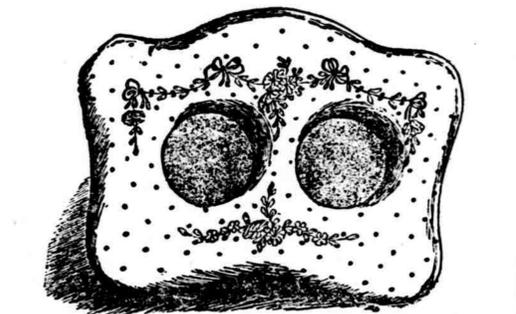
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MADAME MERRI.

PHOTOGRAPH FRAME



This offers a suggestion for making up a very pretty frame to hold two photographs. The foundation is the usual strong cardboard, with two circular holes cut in it. A softly rounded appearance is given by covering the card on the face with a thick layer of wadding, then stretching the silk over it and fixing it at back by seccotine.

A pretty soft green spotted silk was used for our model, the embroidery design of marguerites and festoons being worked with china ribbon, a delicate yellow being used for the flowers, pale blue for the bows, and an olive tint of green for the little leaves. The stalk line connecting the leaves is cording-stitch worked with silk.

The card for the back is, of course, cut without the holes; it is covered with bookbinder's paper, and is fixed to the upper edge and sides by mucilage, leaving a space underneath through which the photos may be passed. A support of thick card about an inch wide may be fixed to the back, or two little rings fixed by a loop of ribbon to the top of back if the frame is intended to be hung on the wall.



Many summer gowns have the slightly low Dutch neck.

Shell necklaces from Honolulu are considered very stunning.

Russian suits continue in popularity for small boys.

Graduated striped borders are very stylish.

Satin stripes are clever on anything from mull to cloth.

For coat costumes the plaited skirt shows the stripes around the feet.

In dresses stripes are used in any way that one's taste may dictate.

Some low-cut shoes are bordered with narrow bands of contrasting leather.

Dress goods are very much bordered, the choicest weaves as well as the simplest lawns.

Black silk stockings and patent leather pumps are to be much worn with dressy costumes.

A novelty in hosiery is a pair of black silk stockings inset with a pair of Chantilly lace butterflies.

Every one who embroiders knows that it is absolutely impossible to embroider initials without placing the article to be embroidered on the embroidery rings. When the initial or monogram is in the corner of a napkin, tablecloth or luncheon cloth, it is difficult to stretch the narrow margin over the rings and make it snug and tight enough.

Where two pieces are to be embroidered bring the pieces end to end and whip them over and over, and then place them in the embroidery rings. The article can be held in a firm position and the work can be done more easily and quickly.

Upward line of tracks have been laid, and the tram routes have been divided into 11 sections, over which the passenger is entitled to travel—the first class fare for one section being only 2½ cents. Each car is divided into two compartments, not on a color basis, but rated according to fares paid.

How Alaska Indians Fish.

I saw Indians on the Chitcar river fishing day and night. The fisherman walked along the bank carrying a pole on the end of which was a barbed steel hook.

Toasting the hook end of the pole into the stream he turned it so that the elbow rested on the bottom. Then he gently drew the pole back and forth, and when he felt a fish strike the shaft he knew that a salmon was probably crossing over the pole, so he gave it a quick jerk, drove the hook into the fish's side and hauled it up on the bank.

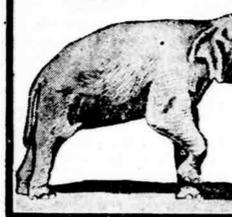
This is called snagging salmon.—Correspondence Forest and Stream.

AFRICA'S STRONGHOLD

BIG GAME THERE TEMPTS PROWESS OF ROOSEVELT THE HUNTER.



A BIG KILL



It seems to be generally accepted as a definite plan of President Roosevelt with the close of his term of office next March he will go to Africa to try his sportsman's skill upon the big game of the Dark continent. Having conquered all the known varieties of wild animals in America, our strenuous president would search out the biggest game to be found in the world, and try his luck with lions, tigers, elephants, rhinoceroses, etc. Time was when Sir George Gore came to the Rocky mountains to get the "ultimate thriller" in the way of a hunting expedition. Now our western country has lost all its prestige, with its stupid bobcats and inoffensive coyotes, since it is conceded that the most wary hunter is he who can shoot a prairie dog without knocking it over into its own impregnable hole in the ground.

A prairie dog is such a trophy as once the ferocious grizzly was thought to be. And, besides, the president has exhausted all the possibilities of his own hunting grounds.

Unless something not now anticipated transpires on his political or personal horizon, President Roosevelt will set sail the first of April next for the north coast of Africa, thence to make a trip of something over 4,000 miles, partly by boat, partly by the Cape to Cairo railroad, the rest of the way on foot, on horseback and any other way possible. It is his intention to take his son Kermit with him, and he may also be accompanied by several famous hunters; but it is distinctly understood that there are to be no newspaper men and no camera fiends. If anything now unforeseen should arise to prevent the consummation of this plan next April, it will be carried out at a later date. The president has his heart set on hunting big game in central Africa, and nothing but the unlooked-for failure of his great vitality will ultimately deter him from gratifying this ambition.

It is asserted that he will go to Somaliland. A glance at the map is rather disconcerting when one attempts to satisfy his mind as to the exact location of Mr. Roosevelt's outing. There is so much territory that is occupied by Somali tribes under one protectorate or another, that a year and a half seems all too short to hunt all over this land. Later information has it that the hunt will be in Uganda.

In the era of Greek power it was universally believed that the Nile was without any visible source, that it had rushed inland and hidden its head in the earth when Phaethon, that impetuous son of Apollo, precipitated the sun down into the desert of Sahara. Now it is known, in a vague sort of way, that Father Nile has as many heads as an hydra, although they are not yet pretty successfully hidden.

It is to the vicinity of these enormous lakes that the president will go in order to put himself on record among the mighty Nimrods of history. It is generally conceded among hunters that a man has really not hunted at all until he has tried his hand in Africa, and it is the consensus of opinion among African hunters that the cream of the sport is to be had in Uganda.

The first of the journey, after landing at Cairo, will be made by boat and will be as far as Khartoum, in the heart of the Egyptian Sudan.

From that point south the Nile is a thoroughly navigable stream with regularly scheduled boats that make the

run of 1,200 miles to Albert N'yanza on the northern border of Uganda. At the southern end of this lake is the mouth of the Semlike river, which is the outlet for Albert Edward N'yanza, a shallow, brackish lake which lies almost wholly below the equator. Ruwenzori mountains on one side and the marshes on the other, the sportsman finds the incarnation of his wildest dream of an earthly "happy hunting ground." There is connection by river between Albert N'yanza and Victoria N'yanza, but the journey can not be made by boat because of the numerous rapids and the stupendous Murchison falls in the Somerset Nile.

Practically none of the equipment for the expedition will be taken from America, since they "do these things better" in Egypt, where they are accustomed to fitting out caravans for the wilderness. Experienced guides will be waiting at Cairo when the Mediterranean steamer arrives, and everything necessary for the next part of the journey will be prepared. At each point of especial interest or danger there will be native guides, prepared with the kind of paraphernalia necessary for the country to be invaded. Two American stenographers will form a part of the outfit, and to these the president will dictate his impressions and experiences while they are fresh in his mind. The "stenos" will be required to transcribe their notes—before they get cold—while the prospective author of the world's greatest book of travel and the chase is out gathering more impressions and having other experiences, to be dictated when the day's sport is over. Of course, Mr. Roosevelt will write a book. That goes without saying. He is far too wise a man to let such valuable material for "copy" go to waste, and yet he is not making this trip for the distinct purpose of gathering material for magazine articles. It is also not true, as has been asserted in the opposition press, that he is going for the purpose of securing genuine lion skins to be used as rugs on the floors of Sagamore Hill, since he was unable to make the pure food law cover the adulteration of lion hides. Indeed, his purpose is exactly as he gave expression to it when the trip was first contemplated. He is going to Africa to get away from civilization, to recover from seven years of desperately hard work and get his nerves into condition for the remainder of his life work. Mr. Roosevelt has no notion of putting up to the American people the question: "What shall we do with our ex-presidents?" He will settle that little matter of one ex-president's future for himself, in his own way and without advice or assistance from anybody. What his ultimate plans are he is not telling. They must involve something strenuous, since he deems it necessary to hunt lions in order to get into training.

So many queer things now happen every day that people have lost faith in miracles.

Street Railways in China.

The problem of train traffic in a Chinese city presents peculiar difficulties, in view of the crowded condition of the streets and the lack of familiarity of the people with time-saving devices generally. The construction of a new tramway system in Shanghai has been practically completed, although the current will be turned on at first only in sections where the inexperience of the Chinese drivers and conductors will be less likely to have had effects. Upward line of tracks have been laid, and the tram routes have been divided into 11 sections, over which the passenger is entitled to travel—the first class fare for one section being only 2½ cents. Each car is divided into two compartments, not on a color basis, but rated according to fares paid.

New York's Latest Bridge.

The steel piers of the new East river bridge, which is in the course of construction a short distance above the old Brooklyn bridge, are now a prominent object and excite the interest of all who cross the river by bridge or boat. This will be the fourth bridge to span the East river. Two are already completed, the Brooklyn and the Williamsburg bridges. A third, the Blackwell's island, is nearly finished, and it is expected that it will be turned over to the city by those who are constructing it by the first of January next.—Wall Street Journal.

Oil and truth will get the uppermost at last.

LITTLE VISITS

WITH UNCLE BY



If a city man has dyspepsia, he should go to the country, plant an acre of potatoes and make a solemn oath to keep the bugs off the vines or die in the patch. I bugged 7,618 last night and the gardener says if I don't hurry we won't have any new potatoes by the fourth of July.

Out in my home town a man of the name of Loper had been the town marshal for years. When a lad, I surprised my father, upon hearing that the town guardian had resigned, by asking him who was going to be the Loper now.

"What type of man is he?" asked Jones. "A miss print type," replied Bings, the printer. Bill Griffin asked this same question once and answered it by saying: "He's of the tintype sort."

The pride of holding petty office makes many a man a willing slave, a servant without thanks and a target for criticism and innuendo.

The man who dies on the field of action escapes a lingering death from idleness and hot biscuit.

The man whose word is as good as the bank may not have an open account in either place.

There can be no such word as fail to the man who refuses to sell his honor for success.

The toper brings a swallow.

Accommodating.

Bill Rieley allus tried 't please; So, when th' angry neighbors said: "Your cussed dog, he barkt at me," Bill put th' pesky dog 't bed. An' barkt, "Bow wow!" himself, in stead!

Hick'ry Holler Folks.

Ez. Hubbard rode eight miles in Chicago one day last week, for a nickel.

Bill Hinceley went 't sleep in one of them rush barber shops in N' York last week and got his chin waz tuk off along with his whiskers. Then th' cuss mancoored his hair an' put perfume on him, sez Bill's brindle pup, not recognizing th' smell, most of him up. Bill sez he don't care for this, but when his wife made him show the strawberry mark on his left leg before she would receive him twer bumsum, that wuz th' camel that busted th' straw-stack's back. Stay hum, Bill, that's our motto.

While th' boys wuz a singin' "Rocked in th' Cradle of th' Deep," at th' liv'ry stable last eventin', Hushie Dunkey up an' snapped one of them clawteeth diggers what th' clothin' store uses for hangin' up shirts in th' window, onto Hl. Johnson's ear! Hl. wuz so pesky mad about it that Hushie left town ruther than meet him, an' bruk up th' choir. Sumbody ought 't pass sum more of them little jokers around an' clean up th' village.

What this here place needs is a few first-class funerals. I ain't namin' no names, but a lot of folks hez lost their usefulness in this town, if they ever had any, and would oblige th' wheel o' progress by makin' sacrifices o' their carcasses before what th' church store uses for hangin' up shirts in th' window, onto Hl. Johnson's ear! Hl. wuz so pesky mad about it that Hushie left town ruther than meet him, an' bruk up th' choir. Sumbody ought 't pass sum more of them little jokers around an' clean up th' village.

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Sum of th' boys seen sum mighty interestin' shadders 'tother night on th' window curtain of a certain residence wherein dwells one of our most popular young ladies. Now we are wonderin' when th' wedding is comin' off. Ah there, Eddie!

Sim. Perkins wuz down 't Hinchville last Saturday night and bought hisself a brand new pair o' suspenders, so's he kin go sparkin' and be comfortable these hot nights.

Bud Smith's "Lady" has a hull kit and kaboodle o' pups which air attractin' considerable attention from th' girls in th' postoffice an' around Main street general. Every last gal is a teagin' Bill fer th' first pick an' he sez, seedin' that it is leap year, he goes with th' best pup. None o' th' girls haint tuk th' dog yet.

The Innocent.

And now for perfect days of June. When brides are on their honeymoon, And husbands round the honey hum Unmindful of the woe to come—

Ab, thoughtless Dandelion, thy life Will soon be filled with pains and strife, For thou must eat and praise her cake, Despite thy awful stomachache!

Byron Williams

Souvenir of Two Battlefields.

A cane has been presented to the governor of Virginia that is a souvenir of two battlefields. The cane is of hickory and was cut from the famous field of Chancellorsville, and the handle is a deer foot, the animal being killed in the Wilderness.

Comparative Riches.

He that is proud of riches is a fool. For if he be exalted above his neighbors because he hath more gold, how much inferior is he to a gold mine!—Jeremy Taylor.