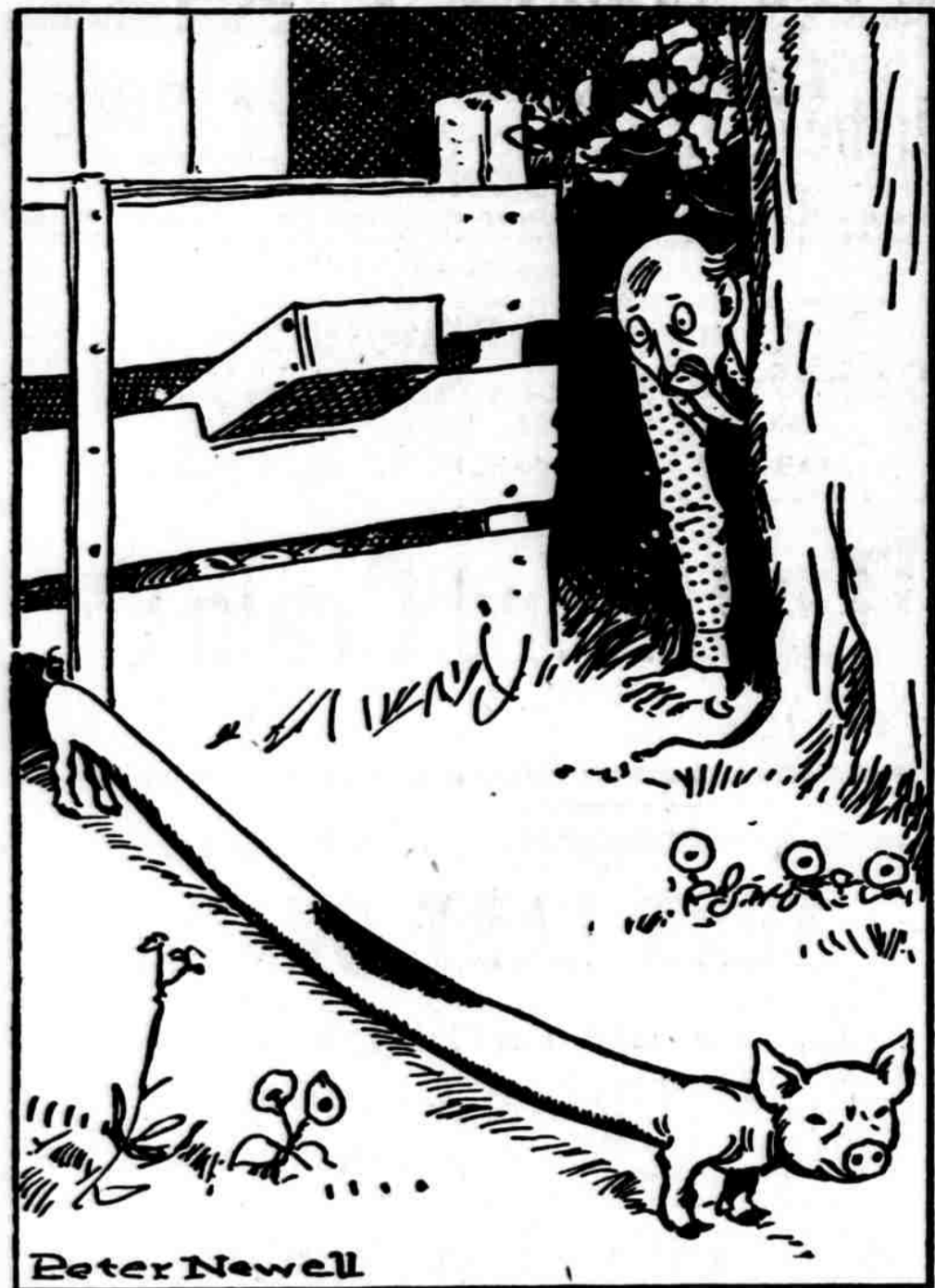


# BETZVILLE TALES

Rickshaw Phipps and Bedelia

By Ellis Parker Butler  
Author of "Pigs is Pigs" Etc.  
ILLUSTRATED BY PETER NEWELL



Peter Newell

When Bedelia Emerged She Was at Least Ten Feet Long.

Last Wednesday Rickshaw Phipps, who has been living in the old boat house on the river two miles south of Betzville, came up to town to see Dr. Tropp, and the doctor sent him back home with two quarts of nerve restorer and a box of small yellow pills that taste like all-get-out. When seen by a reporter of the Betzville Times, Rickshaw was standing on the corner by the Betzville hotel, with tears running down his face and something that looked like 200 feet of yellow garden hose wrapped around an old horse. It was evident that Rickshaw was a nervous wreck, and that he had recently been under a terrible strain.

Rickshaw said that nothing he had ever undergone in his life had so upset him as what happened last Wednesday night. It seems that about a year ago Rickshaw found a brand new litter of pigs in his piegan, and thought nothing of it, except that he was lucky to have such a large clean litter; but suddenly he noticed that one of the baby pigs was cleaner and handsomer than the others, and seemed to avoid the society of its brothers and sisters.

He said he thought little of it, however, and might have forgotten it, but that when he went back to his houseboat he happened to look down, and there was the little clean pig at his feet. The way that little pig rubbed against his legs showed him at once that it was a case of love at first sight, and the pig would sit and look at Rickshaw with love and admiration in its eyes, seeking to tell Rickshaw as best it could that it thought he was about the wisest and handsomest and best man in the whole wide world.

It touched Rickshaw to the heart, but he said he felt that he should not show any favoritism, so he put the little pig back in the pen. The next day the same thing happened. The minute he got back to the houseboat, there was the little pig, rubbing affectionately against his ankles. So, just to show the little creature there was no hard feelings, he named it Bedelia, but, in order to show Bedelia that certain rules must be observed, he took the little pig back to the pen. Very well, but when he got back to the houseboat, there was Bedelia!

Rickshaw said he was puzzled, but he went back to the pen, and there, in one corner, was a little round hole no bigger around than his fist, and that was where Bedelia had squeezed out. He said he would have filled up the hole then and there, but he knew how fast little pigs grow, and he felt that by the next day Bedelia would probably be too big to squeeze through that hole, anyway, so he let it be. But the next day Bedelia was out again. Out, and snuggling up to Rickshaw, and making sheep's eyes at him.

By the end of the week Rickshaw felt that Bedelia must be a stunted pig, for no ordinary pig of her age could have got out of that hole, and about then was when he noticed something peculiar about Bedelia. She looked more like a dachshund than any well-shaped pig; long and thin and low were her general characteristics. Rickshaw thought about it awhile, and then he took Bedelia and locked her in the boat house and left her there for a week, and she grew and grew, and then he took her and locked her in the pen again, and hid behind a tree and watched. For awhile she looked mournfully at the locked gate and then tears ran down

her face, and then she summoned all her love for Rickshaw, and all her resolution, and made a bolt for the hole in the pen. She was about twice as large around as the hole was, but she stuck her head into the hole and pulled and pushed and wriggled and squirmed! Rickshaw said he would never have believed it if he hadn't seen it with his own eyes, but that pig actually squeezed through that little hole! Of course the effort permanently elongated the pig. When Bedelia emerged she was at least ten feet long, and not over 12 inches in circumference; but she was happy.

Rickshaw said that after that he saw that Bedelia had a love that would overcome all obstacles, and he hadn't the heart to close the hole in the pen, and as the days and months went by, and Bedelia grew and grew, she naturally had to have her growth in relation to the size of that hole, and Rickshaw fed her so well that she became one of the heaviest weight pigs he had ever seen, but the weight had to run to length because Bedelia couldn't be any bigger around than that hole in the pen. The result was that the first thing Rickshaw knew, Bedelia was 40 feet long, and had a waist and chest measure of exactly 12 inches. She was so long that she could put her head on his knee in the boat-house, while her tail was wagging with joy in the pen, 40 feet up the river bank.

All would have been well, however, for Rickshaw had come to love Bedelia as Bedelia loved him, if the big flood had not come on last Wednesday night. Rickshaw had put Bedelia in the pen and had gone to bed in his boat-house, and was asleep when the cloud-burst came, about 2 a. m. The first thing he knew was the rocking of the boat-house, and he sprang to the deck to jump ashore, for if the houseboat ever broke loose and dashed itself over the dam he would have been drowned. But he was too late. Already the cable had parted, and Rickshaw gave himself up for lost, when, with a squeal, Bedelia made a leap and grabbed the main mast in her teeth. The current carried the boat on, but more slowly, and then Rickshaw noticed that Bedelia had not come entirely aboard—her tail was wrapped around one of the trees 20 feet up the bank.

The force of the current was terrific, but Bedelia held on. The strain on Bedelia was awful, but she held on. Eighty feet, 100 feet, 200 feet, the river bore the houseboat down stream, and then Bedelia's body refused to stretch any more. Would she break? But no! The houseboat swung slowly shoreward, touched the bank, and Rickshaw sprang ashore and tied to a tree. Then he gathered up Bedelia. Poor, faithful little pig—she was stretched into a length of 200 feet, and one inch through.

Rickshaw Phipps walked to town and borrowed a hose reel, and reeled the 200 feet of Bedelia on it, and as he did so she smiled lovingly at him. It was her last smile. On the road to town she lapsed into unconsciousness, and Dr. Tropp could do nothing for her. He said her constitution had been stretched out too long and thin.

Elemental.  
"My mamma says that rice is a better food than wheat."  
"Why is it?"  
"Because of the food elephants it contains."

### Milk From Beans.

The Japanese have discovered a cheap substitute for the milk cow in the form of a tiny bean. The juice, which is extracted by a special process from the bean, is said to be an excellent vegetable milk, the properties of which render it highly suitable for use in tropical countries. The preparation, according to the Java Times, is obtained from the soja bean, a member of the leguminous family of plants and a popular article of food among the poorer classes of Chinese

and Japanese. In making the vegetable milk the beans are first of all softened by soaking and boiled in water. The resultant liquor is exactly similar to cows' milk in appearance, but is entirely different in its composition.

### Wealth in Swedish Bogs.

The bogs of Sweden, it is now estimated, would yield 10,000 million tons of air-dried peat. Compared with present coal imports, this would supply the country with fuel for 1,500 years.

# ROYAL GHOSTS HAUNT FRENCH CHATEAU



WONDROUS CHENONCEAU HAUNTED CHATEAU

WOULD you give millions for a chateau besieged by royal ghosts, vainly haunting the scenes of their old loves and crimes?

The ghosts are dread French kings, from Francis I. to Charles IX., with beautiful but cruel Diane de Poitiers and Catherine de Medici, the terrible queen-mother. Even the unhappy Mary Stuart knew the lovely scene.

The scene is outside wondrous Chenonceau, said to be again for sale—unless already sold—in the division of the Terry estate.

If you can pay the millions, take the ghosts as an extra attraction. They cannot harm plain Americans. Here is a mystery. The ghosts cannot enter the chateau so long as plain, untitled folks live in it. The potent influence of its builder—an untitled business woman of the renaissance—will keep the royal robbers out in the park!

Go back a century. Claude Dupin, plain tax-farmer, purchased Chenonceau in great dilapidation for 300,000 francs in 1733 and spent 100,000 francs in restorations. Here the Dupins held a brilliant literary court, with Buffon, Voltaire and Rousseau; and the chateau went peacefully to their descendants from whom Wilson's daughter bought it.

For the strong business woman of old days, who built the unique palace: Catherine Briconnet descended from a small shopkeeper's family of Tours, fostered to greatness like so many other "little people"—Barthelemy, Pouchers Bohiers—by democratic Louis XI. Behold Catherine Briconnet, daughter of a banker who died archbishop, married to Thomas Bohier, a farmer, general, and rich enough to buy the marquis's seat.

While Thomas financed the armies of two kings Catherine left at home, built Chenonceau.

Catherine's husband, Bohier, died in the rout of the French army in Italy. Catherine died a year later. Francis I., finding his treasury emptied by the Italian wars, brought suit against all the crown's financiers. The object was not to judge, but to grind money.

In five years the rich family of Bohier was ruined and Catherine's son, Antoine, was glad to humbly offer Francis I. his chateau of Chenonceau at a valuation of 90,000 livres as a quit claim. (It had cost his father 60,000 livres, or \$120,000 in our money. Some 40,000 livres remained of the king's claim. The Bohiers were sucked dry.)

Francis visited Chenonceau twice, an ill, melancholy man, and died a nasty death. But Diane de Poitiers had seen and liked the chateau of the waters.

Diane de Poitiers, celebrated in French history for her beauty, grace, crookedness, wickedness and unlimited influence over King Henri II., was married at 15 years to the hunch-backed Louis de Brey, grand seneschal of Normandy, who was 60. Two years later her father, implicated in a plot, was being led off to the Place de Greve, Paris, to have his head cut off, but youthful Diane was talking with the dauphin. The father was reprieved at the last moment, and Diane became a political figure.

On the death of Francis I., her first act was to have the dauphin become king, dispossess her old rival, Duchess d'Etampes, of all her property. Finally, by letters patent, Diane obtained "our chateau of Chenonceau."

Here is one of the crimes of Chenonceau. A young gentleman, La Chateignerie, knew too much about Diane. Another De Jarnac, married the sister of her old rival, Duchess d'Etampes.

"Ask De Jarnac how he dresses so well!" said Diane to La Chateignerie.



LA CHATEIGNERIE KISSING DIANE DE POITIERS

"My mother-in-law helps me out," explained the unsuspecting De Jarnac on which Diane caused the hateful whisper to go round: "Do you know what La Chateignerie craves says about De Jarnac and his mother-in-law?"

They fought with swords and daggers in the presence of the court. Like Iago. "Which one kills the other, I care nothing," thought Diane; but she felt safer when, to everybody's surprise, De Jarnac suddenly seemed to slip, fell to one knee, and hamstringing his superior adversary with a back pull of his sword. La Chateignerie bled to death. Today a "coup de Jarnac" means almost a foul; but the maneuver was perfectly regular, if new.

Here is another crime of Chenonceau. Diane, having finished the bridge-wing at a cost of 9,000 livres (\$16,000 to-day), built Italian gardens in the style of Passello de Mercoliano. The archbishop of Tours lent her a remarkable young gardener, Nicquet, to train up her fruit walks. Nicquet was handsome, distinguished, seductive, innocent; the court was at Blois; there was a passing escapade of a summer's afternoon or two; and then the handsome young gardener died of alleged cholera.

Of all Diane's crimes, this one stuck most. The victim was a servant; and the vengeful clan whispered the tale to their masters far and wide. Later, when Henri II. lay dying it became the pretext on which Tannanes offered the queen to go and cut off Diane's nose. Instead, the philosophical Catherine de Medici offered to spare the fallen beauty's mutilation—on condition that Diane should give her Chenonceau.

Catherine de Medici got Diane's clear title to Chenonceau by the ostensible trade of mortgaged Chaumont. (An American woman, Esther Alexander, legal French wife of Robert de Broglie, is, with him, co-heir apparent to the latter historic chateau at this moment.)

Her first great fete at Chenonceau was a triumphal entry for the new king, her son, Francis II. and his young wife, Mary Stuart. Arches, obelisks, columns, statues, fountains, antique altars, fireworks, music and 300 cannons made a wonderful effect. These were the happiest days of Mary Stuart.

A dowager duchess of Vendome dying without children in 1718—"killed," says Saint-Simon, "by abuse of strong liquors"—long abandoned and neglected Chenonceau passed by inheritance to the Prince de Conde, who sold it to the plain, untitled business man, Dupin.

A business man, an untitled middle-class man, at last again owned the fairy chateau of the water for which kings, queens and favorites committed crimes.

The ghosts of Chenonceau fled the interior.

Voltaire, visiting Dupin, saw Diane de Poitiers kissed by La Chateignerie in armor in a thicket by the river.

Grey, president of the republic, visiting the sister of his son-in-law, sat in the park at midnight watching He beheld a rabble of pale shades besieging the chateau. They could not enter.

STERLING HEILIG.

## Lands Restored to People

More Than a Million Acres Unlawfully Inclosed, Again Made Public Domain.

The extent to which fraudulent entries of land has been carried is but suggested in the past 17 months' work of the special agents of the general and office, who have released from unlawful inclosure more than a million acres of public land, and have forced 94 convictions, leaving more than 1,000 cases set for hearing and trial before local land offices.

Added to these there are pending in the department of justice and in the United States courts more than 1,000 more; and before the special agents are 30,000 additional cases requiring investigation. To this must be added the obvious truth, that there are too many cases of successful fraud to every one that is detected.

Now that our national resources have largely passed into private hands, at the beginning of this twentieth century we have for the first

time taken stock of our resources and find that they are not inexhaustible. On the contrary, they are extremely limited as compared with the probable future needs of the nation.—Charles R. Van Hise in Collier's.

Fair Warning.  
"You are a likely looking chap," said the glib-tongued proprietor of the summer hotel, "and there are lots of pretty girls around here. Why not spend your time love-making?"

"I may," responded the young salesman on a vacation, "but there is just one thing I wish to impress upon your mind."  
"And what is that?"  
"I am not one of those chaps who would rather make love than eat."

Fish Eat Mosquito Larvae.  
There is no malaria in the Barbados, because of the absence of mosquitoes, which are eaten while still larvae by the beneficent profusion of little fish called "millions."

## NOTES FROM MEADOWBROOK FARM

By William Pitt



Powdered charcoal and coarse sand are good for ducks.

Lime is a purifier and makes an ideal wash for the coops, perches and nests.

Ensilage provides a good food to be used as a variety during the winter months.

Keep all of the late plants well cultivated, stirring the soil to the depth of only two or three inches.

The cattle market for this grassy steers has not been satisfactory for sometime and prices have been declining.

Heifers accustomed to the milking machine from the first do much better than old cows that have been milked by hand.

Some who grow sunflowers for chickens advocate gathering the heads and thrashing off the seed and storing it for winter use.

Corn stalks on the ground over winter will decay more quickly than where allowed to stand, and flat on the ground they will hold the soil from erosion on sloping or hilly land.

Save the painful process of dehorning by preventing the horns from growing upon the calves. This can be done by clipping the hair off the little knobs and applying a preventive.

In large gardens and on fine estates the fashion of the day runs to coloring—planting out broad masses of simple flowers where the carefully studied effect is intended to be in the so-called natural style.

In pruning raspberries first observe how many canes there are in the hill, and cut out all over three or four. The number of main canes should be governed by their size and the number and strength of their laterals.

There are few farmers who could not profitably keep a few sheep. The difficulties that stand in the way can be easily overcome, and it is well worth while to make the effort when one considers the benefits from sheep.

On one farm where pure bred poultry is the pride of the poultry-yard and where the heavy laying strain is the prime object greater layers can be produced and the flock can still be among the top notchers as pure breeds.

Many varieties, especially of the peach, have been brought from the south and have done well in the peach-growing sections of the north. Among these will readily be recalled Elberta, Thurber, Belle of Georgia and others. But quite as many of them have been disappointing.

Corn is too fattening to feed to the hens in any great quantity. It causes a large number of ailments, such as liver troubles and digestive derangements, resulting in loss and low egg yields. Gluten, meat, beef scraps, wheat bran and hulled oats should be fed regularly to promote health and egg production.

If at all possible, get the droving of pigs out on a field of clover or cowpeas. The hog by nature is a grazing animal, and it will make the most economical gains when allowed to forage for a part of its living. Hogging off peas and clover also has the advantage of fertilizing the land and spreading it evenly over the surface.

The earlier ground is plowed for fall wheat the better, as it allows more time for the soil to settle before seeding time. Soil in which wheat and all other grasses are sown must be worked down very fine and compact in order that a large per cent. of the seeds may germinate and the young plants make early and rapid growth. Extra time and labor spent in this way will be rewarded in next season's crop.

An excellent mixture to keep worms and other parasitic affection from the hogs is as follows: Six bushels of corn charcoal, eight pounds of common salt, two quarts of air-slaked lime and a bushel of ashes. Thoroughly mix and then take one and one-quarter pounds of copperas, dissolve it in hot water and with an ordinary watering pot sprinkle the solution over the whole mass and again thoroughly mix. Place this solution in a self-feeder where the hogs can reach it at pleasure.

There is no difference in the whipping qualities of gravity and separator cream. When any difference is experienced it is due to other factors and not the method of getting the cream. Cream for whipping purposes should contain at least 20 per cent butter fat. The best results are obtained with cream containing 25 to 40 per cent butter fat. Pasteurized cream may be whipped as easily as un-pasteurized if it is thoroughly cooled and held at 35 to 45 degrees Fahrenheit for at least two hours before whipping. Cream should whip in from 30 to 60 seconds. When a longer time is required there is danger of some of the butter fat separating or churning.

The catch crop will prove a land-fattener.  
Do not ruin your horse by compelling him to pull too hard when young.

Crocus grown in grass dies down so easily that it does not interfere with the lawn.

Shippers of cattle that show any fitness for a fat stock market have no cause to complain.

A value in hogging down corn at maturity in the fall is the enriching of the soil with the droppings of the animals.

Select medium-sized, full ripe tomatoes for seed. No crooked or small-sized fruit should be taken if the best seed is wanted.

Sunflower seed is good poultry food, and a few rows of the plants near the poultry yards are also good for summer shade and protection.

To keep the boy on the farm, enlist his interest, give him something that he can call his own, and let him have the profits realized from his sale.

Do not keep either the young or old horses stabled for several days in succession, because they need daily exercise for bone and muscle development.

A Kansas farmer makes a practice of hogging down corn by the use of a portable fence, and last year made his corn thus fed net him 41 1-2 cents a bushel.

One man claims that for the cost of harvesting a 40-acre field of corn a hog-tight fence can be built around the field where a cattle fence, barbed wire, is already there.

Raw farm land should have a dressing of long manure plowed under in the fall, and a thick dressing of fine rotted manure spread broadcast in the spring and well harrowed in.

The custom of hogging down corn in the fall of the year has been practiced for a great many years on American farms, but it is only of recent years that farmers have come to know its definite value.

The value of humus is emphasized where an old barn, or house has been left standing in the middle of a field, as the crops are usually much superior to those on the surrounding portions of the field.

Feeding animals need exercise, but not so much as should be given breeding animals. It is best to promote the tendency toward laziness, allowing just enough exercise to maintain the health of the body.

If the pasture is short in the fall the lambs may be turned in the corn field to pasture. They will eat grass along the fence rows and the lower blades of the corn, but they will not injure the corn in the least.

Land intended for fruit or vegetable garden should have a heavy dressing of long stable manure spread evenly over the ground and deeply plowed under. This should be done in October, or before the fall rains set in.

Where there are bare spots in the lawn sod, sow a little new crop grass seed and rake it in. Before winter sets in a thick dressing of fine, sifted, rich manure should be spread over the grass; rotted manure is the best fertilizer.

In selecting stock to be bred for layers the male birds are quite as important. One must be careful that the males are descendants from prolific layers. The best layers are also obtained where the sires and grand-sires are also from stock noted for their exceptional laying.

The apple maggot is a larvae which hatches out into a moth during a period after the apple has fallen to the ground with a maggot contained within it. The presence of hogs in the orchard in sufficient numbers to consume the fruit as it falls means the extermination of the pest.

In the eastern half of the United States black rot has proven a serious drawback to grape culture. Humidity is favorable to this disease. More than 20 years ago spraying was introduced as a means of combating this and other fungus diseases of vines and fruit trees, and bordeaux mixture has been the standard fungicide from the first.

The age of farm abandonment is particularly at an end, for the farmer has solved the problem of how to make a living for himself and family, and at the same time accumulate a good bank account from the products of a small tract of land. New conditions require new methods, and this applies with greater force to farming than to any other form of productive industry.

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Cowpeas make an excellent soiling crop. They should not be planted until the soil and weather are warm. When available for feed they fill a place in a well-planned system of soiling and furnish an abundance of succulent green feed. When used alone the cowpeas do not make an exceptionally good quality of ensilage, due to the large amount of water in the green vines, that keeps poorly and is not relished by the stock. When combined with corn in the proportion of about three-fourths corn to one-fourth cowpeas, it makes a very good silage that keeps well and is liked by the stock. It makes a well-balanced ration.

## FAMOUS DOCTOR'S PRESCRIPTION.



### HARD UP FOR A CASE



Cop-Nar then, out of it! Mixed bathing ain't allowed!—Ally Sloper.

### PUBLIC LAND DRAWING

Lamar, Colo.—The price fixed by the Colorado State Board of Land Commissioners for land and water rights, under the Two Buttes Carey act project, Southeast of Lamar which will be allotted by public drawing October 21st, is \$35.50 per acre. Only \$5.25 per acre has to be paid at time of making entry. The settlers being permitted eleven years' time to complete the payments. Any adult citizen of the United States may file on 40, 80, 120, or 160 acres. Final proof may be made at the end of 30 days' residence. The soil on this tract is a sandy loam of great depth and fertility. The altitude is 4,100 feet. The growing season 150 to 150 days, and the climate ideal. A new townsite has been established and a town lot sale will be held on October twenty-second. Both the land drawing and the town lot sale will be held at the new townsite of Two Buttes, which is reached by the Denver, Pueblo and Santa Fe R. R. to Lamar, Colorado, from which point transportation will be provided at reasonable rates.

### And There Are Others.

The cook had been called away to a sick sister, and so the newly wed mistress of the house undertook with the aid of the maid, to get the Sunday luncheon. The little maid, who had been struggling in the kitchen with a coffee mill that would not work, confessed that she had forgotten to wash the lettuce.

"Well, never mind, Pearl. Go on with the coffee and I'll do it," said the considerate mistress. "Where do they keep the soap?"

The extraordinary popularity of fine white goods must assert your modest choice of starch a matter of great importance. DeLancey Starch, being free from all injurious chemicals, is the only one which is safe to use on fine fabrics. Its great strength as a stiffener makes half the usual quantity of Starch necessary, with the result of perfect finish, equal to that when the goods were new.

### Reaching Life's Goal.

If you want to be somebody in this world, you must assert your individuality and assert it in the right direction, so that it may lead to a goal of honor for yourself and be an example for others. Find out what you ought to do, say to yourself: "I must do it," then sign right away with "I will do it," and keep at it until it is done.

### A Rare Good Thing.

"Am using Allen's Foot-Ease, and can truly say I would not have been without it so long. Had I known the relief it would give my aching feet, I think it a rare good thing for anyone having sore or tired feet."—Mrs. M. H. H. Providence, R. I. Sold by all Druggists, 25c. Ask for day.

Many a young man starts in to work fired with a noble ambition—to reach the ambition exorbitant and he gets fired.

### Clung to Melancholy Mood.

"One peculiarity of melancholia," said the specialist, "is that the victim of it actually enjoys the despondency and often doesn't want to be cured. I once told a young woman who had this disease that she must be careful of her digestion and eat nothing fried. After that she tried to eat only fried food. Not only did she insist on having her potatoes and meat fried, but didn't want to eat bread unless it had been fried in a lot of grease."

### Home of the Wild Bee.

A wild bees' home, as we all know, serves the purpose of a storehouse as well as of a place for the young to grow and develop. The entrance used by the bees is often very small, but always leads into a large room. The wax for their honey and brood cells is the only thing in the least like furniture which they require. The firmer and more bare the walls and floors, the better for them.—St. Nicholas.

### Bought by King George in 1771.

The old house standing on the corner of Batavia and Roosevelt streets, New York, one of the best buildings left intact as a relic of colonial times, is about to be torn down to make way for an apartment house. The house, a bit altered, has been standing since the middle of the eighteenth century. It is one of the landmarks of the Fourth ward. In the year 1771 King George III. bought the house and property for the sum of \$75. The deed of sale, with the signature of the king attached, is now in the possession of the present owner, Thomas Farrell, of 72 West One Hundred and Thirty-seventh street. An option on the property has been given for about \$100,000.—Exchange.