

# REAL RURAL READING

## A DEPARTMENT FOR OUR LOCAL AGRICULTURISTS.

### Farmers Should Keep Accounts—How to Destroy Canada Thistles—Extra Large Horses Undesirable—Cure for Cut-Worms—Hints for the Cook.

#### Farm Accounts.

Farmers, as well as business men, should keep books to show them how they stand, says a correspondent of the Germantown Telegraph. May 1st is a good time to commence. At this time all the crops of the year are usually disposed of and there is no guess work about it. First make an inventory of your horses, cows, sheep, and other live stock; do this honestly, otherwise your books will be of no use. Then when you sell any stock of any kind for money place it in your total cash sales and also to the credit of each of the different kinds of stock; at the end of the year if your stock inventory agrees separately and together, as it did the year previous, you have made just what you received in money. If your stock is worth more place in total cash sale, if less deduct the amount from your total and you have what you really have made on all stock during the year. Do this with every crop, wheat, corn, oats, hay, etc. I usually set down the date sown or planted and when harvested, and everything connected with crops. Also have a page headed "Total Accounts," and here write all the little accounts that you owe, if you have any debts due you place them in your account book. Make a complete list of all notes given when due, rate of interest, etc. In short know what the farm is doing by you, and what you are doing by the farm. A common blank book, obtained at book stores at a cost of from 15 to 25 cents, is large enough for everything told here. When your year is over pay your book aside and get another one. One can get so accustomed to this that they can keep these books without any trouble whatever. It enables them to see whether they are gaining or losing money on any crop or stock, and what the net results of each year has been. In short, farming becomes more of a business, and less of guess work, than formerly was done. In conclusion will say that the aggregate net sales will be more than most farmers suppose and their expenses far less.

#### Fodder Corn.

Fodder corn, sown in drills three feet apart, or planted in hills, three feet apart one way and two feet the other way, should be a regular crop with every dairyman. If a dry season comes, when the pastures do not furnish feed enough, it can be cut and fed green, though right here we will say that it is much better to allow a day or a day and night of wilting before it is given to the cows, particularly if not quite grown when fed out. In cloudy or rainy weather it is better even when cut longer than that. The wilting not only takes out some of the water and renders it less liable to cause indigestion, but it brings about a chemical change in it that makes it more valuable for milk production. Probably the same increase in the solid matter of the milk would make it worth more for cheese making. Any that is not used green can be saved for the silo or cured by drying for the winter feeding, and it is good either way, and good for milk cows, working oxen or growing young stock. It may be that some of the lately introduced foreign crops are better than our corn fodder, but we shall continue to be very skeptical about them until experience has shown their results. We know that we can grow more fodder to the acre from corn than from any crop we have tried, and it will induce a larger flow of milk, and of milk that will be richer to eat and will make more butter than we ever could get from any other fodder, although good clover comes very near to it if cut just at the right time; but cut too early or too late the clover is not very good, while the corn fodder, whether sown expressly for that purpose, or stover from field corn or from the garden sweet corn, is good from the time it tassels out until the ears are formed and the kernel glazed.

#### Destroying Canada Thistles.

We have always had best success in killing the Canada thistles by waiting until the plant had got into blossom, and then when the top is full of sap allowing deeply, so as to get under all the roots possible. The green tops will decompose rapidly at this time, for it is during the hottest weather of the year. But it is too late for any crop excepting buckwheat or white turnips, and, in fact, this way of destroying thistles was usually made the occasion for a thorough summer fallow in preparation for winter wheat. By working after the first plowing wholly on the surface, and frequent use of the roller, a reasonably compact seed bed might be had. But to destroy thistles thus requires thorough cultivation of the surface at least twice a week, the object being to prevent a single green shoot of green thistles to appear. The part of the root attached to the top will usually rot with it, but however deep the plowing, more or less of the horizontal roots will lie beneath the plow point, and these will continue to send up shoots until nearly September. It is impossible to kill thistles by plowing on stony or stony ground, as in such places the plow will be thrown out, and the thistle roots cannot be turned up. In such case covering the tops with earth as fast as they appear, bruising the tops at the same time to prevent growth through the soil, will do the work. Where good crops are grown this covering of thistle tops with earth is

more effective than is cutting them off with cultivator or hoe.—Exchange.

#### The Large Horse.

At most agricultural shows it is the largest horses that attract most attention from those who pride themselves on appreciating utility rather than "fancy" points. "See how large he is, and, of course, he must be strong in proportion to his size." This does not follow. The coarse-built animal has less compact bone and less highly developed muscle. There are places where such over-weighted animals have their value, but merely to carry their excess of fat and weight consumes far too much of their strength. Besides, these extra heavy horses cannot bear service on hard roads even at slow paces. For all-around work on the farm, including cultivating and road work, there has never been a better horse on this continent than the old Morgan strain. They are compact, and both muscle and bone are developed, so that their bulk is only a slight indication of possible strength. Merely to make efficient work horses a strain of the best trotting horse blood is no detriment.

#### Worked Too Much.

Dairy housewives tell a great deal about working butter, laying stress on what they consider an important part of the program. The fact is one weak point of dairy butter is that it is worked too much, says the National Stockman. As the buttermilk has not been washed out while the butter was in a granular state, it must be laboriously crushed out with a ladle. After this comes the salting with accompanying working, and by many housewives the latter is again worked after a few hours' rest. Of course this continued harsh treatment cannot help but make the product salty, a most undesirable quality.

#### Poisonous Cheese.

An exchange says that blue litmus paper enables one to determine whether a cheese is poisonous or not. It is applied to the freshly cut surface of a cheese, and if poisonous there is a change in the color of the paper to an intensely red appearance. If the cheese is dry, a part may be moistened with water, and the paper then applied. It may be stated, however, that this method is not an infallible one. One authority we have noticed states that there is only one sure test, and that is in eating the cheese. The one great drawback to this method is that the party may not live to ever make a second test.

#### Kitchen Recipes.

**GOOD ICE CREAM.**—Take two quarts of new milk, two cups of sugar, five eggs; make a custard. When cold, add one cup of cream and flavor to taste.

**GINGERBREAD.**—One cup of molasses; add teaspoonful of ginger or one teaspoonful of allspice, one cup of sour cream (not thick), one teaspoonful of soda, two cups of flour.

**FRENCH TOAST.**—Beat two eggs thoroughly and add to them two cups of sweet milk and a little salt. Dip slices of bread into this mixture and fry on a hot, buttered griddle.

**SWEET POTATO WAFFLES.**—Take two tablespoonfuls of mashed sweet potatoes, one spoon of butter, one of sugar, one pint of milk and four tablespoonfuls of wheat flour; mix all together and bake in waffle iron.

**WASHINGTON PIE.**—Three eggs, one cup of sugar, heaping cup of flour, tablespoonful of melted butter, small half cupful of milk, one teaspoonful of soda, two of cream tartar, pinch of salt. Bake in two deep tin pie pans.

**SUGAR COOKIES.**—Two eggs, one and one-half cups of sugar, one cup of butter. Beat together very light. Add one-half cup of milk, one teaspoonful of soda, two of cream tartar. Flour enough to roll out thin.

**BAKED APPLE PUDDING.**—Fill a pudding dish with apples, sweetened to taste; make a cream tartar dough crust; cover with a deep pie plate. Place on the back of the range, and bake for about an hour. Serve with sweet sauce.

**QUINCE DUMPLINGS.**—Pare and core your quinces, put them in a sauce pan with very little water, and as soon as they begin to get tender take them out. Make a paste of six ounces of butter to a pound of flour cover the fruit, tie them in dumpling cloths and boil them.

**RAISED GRAHAM BISCUITS.**—One pint of graham flour; one pint of wheat flour; teaspoonful of salt; teaspoonful of sugar; pint of warm milk quarter of a yeast-cake. Raise over night. In the morning, drop into gem pans and raise the same as biscuits before putting into the oven. Bake in a hot oven.

**BLACKBERRY PUDDING.**—Make a crust by wetting two cups of wheat-meal and one cup of fine corn meal, with boiled rice enough to make a paste that can be rolled out one-third of an inch thick. Mix about one quart of blackberries with half a cup of wheat meal and pour them into the rolled out crust, draw the latter over them and pinch together; then sew the whole in a cloth and steam for one hour and a half. Let it cool for a few minutes, then dish with a spoon, trim with sugar and serve warm.

**SCRAMBLED OMELET.**—To make scrambled omelet a tablespoonful of milk is put into a saucepan, adding a quarter of a teaspoon of butter and a tiny pinch of salt. Beat one egg just enough to break the yolk, pour it into the hot milk and stir until it begins to stiffen, scraping it from the bottom. It should be taken from the fire in a liquid state and poured over a square of hot toast. Jellies, preserves or fresh fruits, may be spread on plain omelets or ore folding, and then garnished with the whole fruit. The preserves may be put up unsweetened.

# You want the Best

Royal Baking Powder never disappoints; never makes sour, soggy or husky food; never spoils good materials; never leaves lumps of alkali in the biscuit or cake; while all these things do happen with the best of cooks who cling to the old-fashioned methods, or who use other baking powders.

If you want the best food, Royal Baking Powder is indispensable.

Chicago Tribune: "You think you know your pocketbook in Yalberly's store? Then you can right back there, you careless boy, and inquire for it." "There's no hurry, mamma. It'll be right where it fell. Yalberly doesn't advertise."

West Point, Ga., can boast of the youngest telegraph operator in the union. Little Euphria, the five-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. E. N. Dawn has been about the telegraph office a great deal with her mother, and has, with surprising readiness and accuracy, picked up the Morse alphabet.

#### Food Opportunities Wasted.

A unique opportunity for eating an extinct monster was lost when the Siberian mammoth was discovered incased in ice—the first instance, we suppose, of frozen meat on record. But in the matter of flesh the old proverb, "Of no man's meat is another man's poison," still holds good. We are glad to avail ourselves of the fruits and vegetables of distant countries, but we cannot bring ourselves to eat their meat any more than they can be induced sometimes to eat ours.

We eat eels; but cannot be induced to touch snakes; shrimps, but not spiders. Other people—Brahmins and New Englanders—are said to enjoy spiders, and we have heard of a German—a scientist he German, of course—who spread them on his bread like butter, but the taste is not a European one any more than a taste for caterpillars, cockchafers, ants and wire-worms, all of which are eaten in different parts of the globe.—London Spectator.

#### A Grand Marine Phenomenon.

A beautiful marine phenomenon in the shape of an electrical storm is recorded by the Sanderland steamer Fulwell on her voyage from Bremen to Baltimore. The electrical display occurred after dark. The most peculiar part of the occurrence was that while the lightning flashed a water gale was blowing furiously, and the sea was running very high. The storm lasted about two hours, and the captain states that it was the most remarkable he ever witnessed. The ship at times seemed to blaze fore and aft, and while no damage was done, it was several times thought that she had been struck. The very beauty of the scene was awful. The blackness of the night was converted into unsurpassed brilliancy. Even the ocean seemed ablaze, and the waves as they dashed upon one another resembled tongues of fire.—Lightning.

#### A Woman Who Likes to Work.

There is a woman in Fairfield who "does" 13 washings every week, ironing all at all. At the same time she carefully looks after her own household and works out nearly all of the time helping to clean house. Every morning she arises at daybreak and performs the washtub chorus. Then, when the clothes have been hung out, she looks after the breakfast, puts on her hat and starts out for a day of housecleaning. Back home at night and the clothes up on the line a dry and ready to be ironed in the evening. This woman proudly boasts that she never was tired in her life.—Leaiston Journal.

#### An Unique Way to Secure One's Pay.

Tattling is still a favorite personal decoration with some of the natives of Samoa, though not so fashionable there as formerly. Those who practice the art have an effective way of securing their pay.

The color extends from the waist to the knees, no other part of the body being marked. In the small of the back the design shades off to a point which is never finished by the tattooer till his bill has been paid.

As the incomplete design is public evidence of the wearer's indebtedness the artist seldom has to wait long for his money.—Youth's Companion.

#### Charlemagne was fond of hunting.

### Sciatic Rheumatism

Mr. R. D. Wheeler the popular deputy sheriff at Winoski Falls, Vt., says: "I suffered terrible tortures for 10 years with sciatic rheumatism. I began taking Hood's Sarsaparilla. Since taking it I don't have around all night. If Hood's Sarsaparilla cost \$10 a bottle, I should continue using it." R. D. WHEELER, Winoski Falls, Vt. N. B. Be sure to get Hood's Sarsaparilla. HOOD'S PILLS act easily, yet promptly and efficiently, on the liver and bowels.



During a recent storm six persons at Oak Forest, Greene county Pa., found it necessary to climb a tree to escape from the rapidly rising water, and were compelled to endure the storm unprotected for several hours. Many animals were drowned in the neighborhood.

A case has developed in Pittsburgh where a child was held for debts.

The power to wag the ear is common among the West Indian half breeds and the Moya and other derivatives of Mexico and Central America, and many whites have the power who hardly realize the fact.

#### The Dream of a Smart Boy

"Pop," said young Philip Gratebar to his father, "I had a dream last night." "You don't mean it!" said Mr. Gratebar.

"Yes, I do," said Philip. "I dreamed I was going along the street, and I got awful thirsty, and I went into a drug store to get some soda water. The soda fountain there was the biggest one I ever saw, and the man tending it was a giant. He looked down on me and asked me what I'd have, and I said I'd like strawberry with ice cream in it."

"The giant set out on the counter a glass about two feet high and he put in it a lot of strawberry syrup, and then he took the cover off of an ice cream freezer that was pretty near as big as a barrel and scooped out about three platefuls of ice cream and put that in. Then he put the tumbler under the soda water spout and whirled the wheel around and the soda went sz-z-z-zt! sz-zt! and then the giant pushed the glass over in front of me, full, and with thick creamy foam running over the top, and I didn't touch it."

"What!" said Mr. Gratebar. "No," said Philip, "I didn't touch it. I felt in my pocket, and I found I hadn't got a cent." Mr. Gratebar understood. Then Philip went forth in search of a fountain, not of the fountain he had seen in his dream, but of one as nearly like it as he could find in actual life.—New York Sun.

The progress of science in medicine has produced nothing better for human ills than the celebrated Beecham's Pills.

#### How a Lawyer Lost a Client.

A demure little man who looked like a dried up pea pod entered one of the largest office buildings in Broadway the other day. He approached the big black mustached man dressed in a blue uniform with brass buttons and asked him if a certain person had an office there. The big fellow referred him to the elevator boy.

"Say, what is your business here anyway, may I inquire?" asked the little man in a squeaky voice, frowning.

"To throw people out!" came hoarsely and savagely from the depths of the blue uniform.

"You needn't throw me out. No, you needn't, I assure you. I will go out myself. I'm such a little fellow you could throw me clear across the street."

With this the little man bolted out with a "World's fair-flier" rapidity, and a lawyer on the top floor lost a client.—New York Press.

N. K. Brown's Essence Jamaica Ginger will cure dysentery. None better. Try it. 25 cents.

#### Worms in the Brain of a Bird.

April 7, 1890, two common bitterns were brought to me to be mounted. One of them was still alive, but did not seem to be just natural, seemed to lack what we might call bird intelligence and was smaller than the other and poor in flesh. This bird was given to one of my pupils in taxidermy, Miss Bernice Pike, to mount. When the head had been skinned and was ready to sever from the neck, which was done by cutting through the skull, the brain cavity was found to contain a mass of thread worms occupying about one-third of the brain cavity. These were seemingly like the ordinary gordius or hair snake, about the size of a gordius that is 3 inches long, and coiled in a mass in the upper posterior part of the brain and extending some down into the spinal canal.

As near as I could say without removing them they occupied the subarachnoid space and had absorbed much of the cerebrum and the upper part of the cerebellum, the outlines of the arbor vitae being plainly visible. I have never seen anything like this in any other bird, nor have I seen any account of worms being found parasitic in the brain before.—G. H. French in Science.

Collector—Will you subscribe towards the decoration of the soldiers' graves? Mr. Trager—No, sir! The men whose graves I want to decorate ain't dead yet.

When you see a woman going along the street with her chin well up and her gaze above that of her fellow mortals, don't think she is haughty or exclusive. She is merely practicing the proper walking pose, which directs that the chin must be "raised above a horizontal line, as if looking at the top of a carriage."—New York Times.

A distinguished clergyman, speaking in a Washington church, likened a certain spiritual formula to "an infallible remedy for an incurable disease." It should be tested in the interest of science.

#### Effects of Pericious Bread.

The food of the country needs improvement. Something is being done in cookery, but the improvement must go back of this and deal with the materials, besides the inspection of meats and their feeding for market. Cereals, flour and vegetables need quite as much supervision to prevent the standard of health running down by overfines and wasting food.

It will be news to most readers that a food commission of able and scientific men is now organized and trying to gain recognition for its important work, which concerns every home and every child in the United States, but it will obtain the interest of European governments long before it gains the civility of our own.

The manner of breadmaking has been the subject of inquiry by a health commission in England for several years, the result being that travelers find themselves unable to eat the bread at the best American hotels with satisfaction. Leaving out the vexed question of coarse versus fine flour, all physicians agree that fermented breads eaten the same day they are baked are pericious. Yet the rule all over the country is to use bread raised to the last degree, not fully baked for fear of losing weight and eaten fresh as possible.

The result is indigestion, which lacks and weakens the nervous system; less of nutrition, which involves falling of hair, loss of teeth, weak sight, dull and sick complexions, bad tempers and tired brains. Further on this develops painful intestinal disorders, especially peritonitis and tumors of the abdomen, and shares much of the credit of Bright's disease and neuralgia. I doubt if one reader in a hundred will allow these facts or see their possibility. Eminent surgeons and microscopists know it.—Chirley Dare in New York Herald.

#### ARE YOU HAPPY?

The man or woman who is probably employed is generally happy. If you are not happy it may be because you have not found your proper work. We earnestly urge all well persons to write to E. J. Johnson & Co., Richmond, Va., and they can show you a work in which you can be happy and profitably employed.

#### A Case in Point.

"I don't believe in this chirography business," said Hawkins. "You can't tell any one's fortune by looking at his hands." "I don't know about that. Take Mrs. Newrick's hand, for instance. You can get an idea of her fortune by estimating the value of her diamond rings."—Exchange.

E. J. CHENEY & CO., Toledo, O., Proprietors of Hall's Catarrh Cure, offer \$100 reward for any case of catarrh that can not be cured by taking Hall's Catarrh Cure. Send for testimonials, free. Sold by Druggists, 75c.

Byron's household, according to Shelly, consisted, besides servants, of 10 horses, eight enormous dogs, three monkeys, five cats, an eagle, a crow and a falcon, and all except the horses went to and fro in the house at their pleasure.—St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

It is probable that what a million women say after daily trial is a mistake. They say Dobbin's Perfect Soap is the best soap ever made. Have your grocer order of his wholesaler. Try it. Only one.

Sister—I don't think that girl you are engaged to is very pretty. Brother—She is beautiful when she smiles. "Yes, but she won't smile much after marrying you."

"LOOK UP," and not down," if you're a suffering woman. Every one of the bodily troubles that come to women only has a guaranteed cure in Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription. That will bring you safe and certain help. It's a powerful general, as well as uterine, tonic and nerve, and it builds up and invigorates the entire female system. It regulates and promotes all the proper functions, improves digestion, enriches the blood, brings refreshing sleep, and restores health and strength. For ulcerations, displacements, bearing-down sensations, periodical pains, and all "female complaints" and weaknesses, "Favorite Prescription" is the only guaranteed remedy. If it ever fails to benefit or cure, you have your money back.

In every case of Catarrh that seems hopeless, you can depend upon Doctor Sage's Catarrh Remedy for a cure. Its proprietors are so sure of it that they'll pay \$500 cash for any incurable case. Sold by all druggists.

# Bile Beans

Positively cure Bilious Attacks, Constipation, Sick-Headache, etc. 25 cents per bottle, at Drug Stores. Write for sample dose, free.

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\$75.00 to \$250.00 can be made monthly working for B. F. JOHNSON & CO., Richmond, Va. N. B. U. No. 330-38 New York, N.Y.

SEND WRITING TO ADVERTISERS. If it ever fails to benefit or cure, you have your money back.

Take pretty colored pictures and place them on cardboard. Then with sharp scissors cut them all up and let the little ones put them together again. Paper soldiers are nice cut out, and paste wool at the back, so they will stand. My boys have had six companies on the floor, with a band in front.—Cor. New Recorder.

The flea plague in Earl township, Lancaster county Pennsylvania, broke out in John Snyder's house, and the insects were taken there in a hat. His daughter is a milliner. He spent \$700 to get rid of the fleas.

# "August Flower"

"One of my neighbors, Mr. John Gilbert, has been sick for a long time. All thought him past recovery. He was horribly emaciated from the inaction of his liver and kidneys. It is difficult to describe his appearance and the miserable state of his health at that time. Help from any source seemed impossible. He tried your August Flower and the effect upon him was magical. It restored him to perfect health to the great astonishment of his family and friends." John Quibell, Holt, Ont.



### KNOWLEDGE

Brings comfort and improvement and tends to personal enjoyment when rightly used. The many who live better than others and enjoy life more, with less expenditure, by more promptly adapting the world's best products to the needs of physical being, will attest the value to health of the pure liquid laxative principles embraced in the remedy, Syrup of Figs.

Its excellence is due to its presenting in the form most acceptable and pleasant to the taste, the refreshing and truly beneficial properties of a perfect laxative; effectually cleansing the system, dispelling colds, headaches and fevers and permanently curing constipation. It has given satisfaction to millions and met with the approval of the medical profession, because it acts on the Kidneys, Liver and Bowels without weakening them and it is perfectly free from every objectionable substance. Syrup of Figs is for sale by all druggists in 50c and \$1 bottles, but it is manufactured by the California Fig Syrup Co. only, whose name is printed on every package, also the name, Syrup of Figs, and being well informed, you will not accept any substitute if offered.

### HEED THE WARNING

Which nature is constantly giving in the shape of boils, pimples, eruptions, ulcers, etc. These show that the blood is contaminated, and some assistance must be given to relieve the trouble. It is the remedy to force out these poisons, and enable you to

### GET WELL.

"I have had for years a humor in my blood, which made me dread to shave, as small boils or pimples would break, thus causing the shaving to be a great annoyance. After taking three bottles my face is all clear and smooth as it should be—appetite splendid, sleep well, and feel like running a foot ball from the use of S. S. S." CHAS. HEATON, 73 Laurel St., Philadelphia. Treatise on blood and skin diseases mailed free. SWIFT SPECIFIC CO., Atlanta, Ga.

### LEWIS' 98% LYE

Powdered and Perfumed. (PATENTED.) The strongest and purest Lye made. Unlike other Lye, it being a fine powder and packed in a can with removal is lid, the contents are always ready for use. Will make the best perfumed Hard Soap in 30 minutes without boiling. It is the best for cleaning waste-pipes, disinfecting sinks, closets, washing bottles, painting trees, etc. PENNA. SALT MINE CO., Gen. Agts., Philadelphia, Pa.

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