

Corner for the Juniors

HARVESTER WAS BOY'S IDEA

Suggested to Father Plan of Putting Large Scissors, Instead of Sickles, on Reaping Machine.

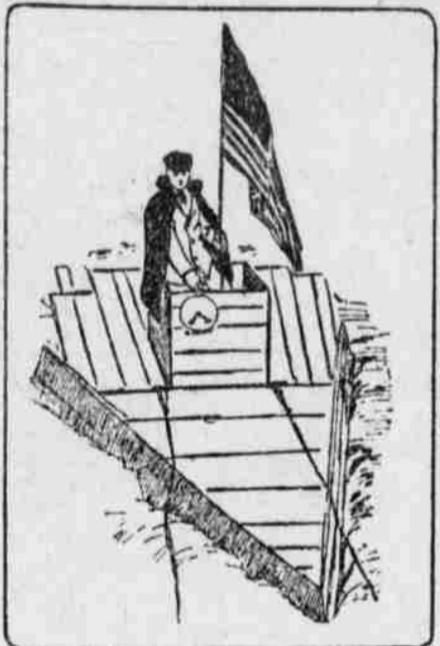
In 1830 Obed Hussey of Ohio was inventing a reaping machine, the first ever designed in this country. His chief difficulty was the cutting device, which was three large sickles, set in a frame and revolved so as to cut into the grain. It would not work satisfactorily. A young son, watching the experiments, asked his father why he did not use a lot of big scissors, with one handle fastened to one bar and the other handle to a sliding bar, thus opening and closing them. Hussey instantly adopted the idea, substituting for scissors the two saw-toothed blades which are in common use today on harvesters, the cutting action being quite similar to that of scissors.

From the boy's suggestion he perfected in one week a machine on which he had in vain exercised all his ingenuity for the preceding two years. The principle of that cutting device is the principle of all of the great harvesting machines, and its benefit to the farming industry of the entire world has been unsurpassed by any other invention for use on the farm.—George F. Stratton, in St. Nicholas.

MUCH FUN TO SHOVEL SNOW

Janitor of Kansas City Public School Creates Apparatus to Make Small Boy's Pastime Useful.

The yard of the Yaeger school at Nineteenth street and Indiana avenue is large and the walks extend nearly around the block, says the Kansas City Star. When covered with snow, to clean them off is a difficult job.



A Snowplow Operated by Boy Power.

So Bernard M. C. Walter, head janitor of the school, and his little helper, Sammy, built a snowplow to do the work. It may be hauled by a horse, but lacking such motive power, Walter hitched 12 youngsters to the contrivance and in half an hour had the sidewalks around the school and the school yard cleared off.

Four boys ride the plow to weight it down. It is fitted with iron runners. The question of taking turns was a difficult matter to solve and required severe commands of the principal.

WINTER PASTIME FOR BOYS

Velocipede Built on Sled Runners Affairs Much Amusement Where Snow and Ice Is Available.

Sled runners take the place of the two wheels on this velocipede so that it can travel on snow or ice. A spiked wheel with cranks on its shaft is mounted at one side of the front runner. The novel part of the driv-



Snow Velocipede.

ing mechanism is that the spiked wheel slides up and down in the fork so that it can be raised off the ground for coasting downhill.

Decadence.

An action being tried in an English court had to do with a dispute as to the quality and condition of a gas pipe that had been laid in the ground a number of years before.

"It is an old pipe," stated one of the witnesses, "and therefore out of condition."

The judge remarking dry that "people do not necessarily get out of condition by being old," the witness promptly replied, "They do, my lord, if buried in the ground."

In Dark Ways.

Why are fixed stars like wicked old men?

Because they sin till late (scintillate).

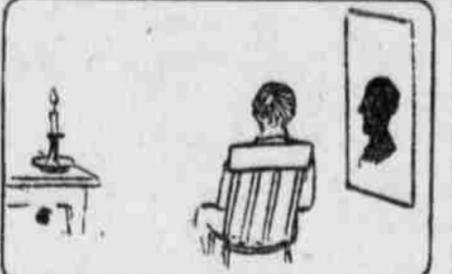
QUITE AMUSING GAME

"Detective's Note Book" Is Not Hard to Arrange.

Pastime Is Intended to Test One's Skill in Identification of Profiles of Villains for Whom Reward Is Offered.

Now that the fall and winter is coming on, the boys and girls will be looking for something in the way of indoor games to amuse their guests at their evening parties, and the boy or girl that can get up something new is always in demand.

A very good game which can be arranged without much trouble is called the detective's note book, and is supposed to test the skill in recognizing villains for whom a big reward is offered, if you have nothing to go by but a picture. The apparatus required



Making the Profile.

is a smooth board, some sheets of which paper, a sheet and a candle.

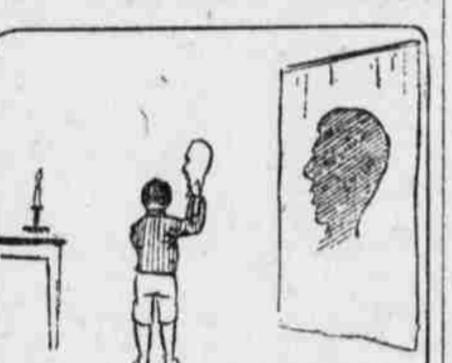
The board is hung upon the wall with a chair in front of it, but not too close. About ten feet away have a lighted candle, the other lights being put out. Ask a boy to sit in the chair, which should have a back high enough to hold his head steady, so that the shadow of his profile falls upon a sheet of paper tacked to the board.

Run around the outline of this profile quickly with a soft pencil. Put a number on it, and the boy's name. Ask another boy to take the chair while your assistant cuts out the profile you have just made. In a few minutes you will have half a dozen and you may stick in one or two fake profiles to add to the fun.

Now hang your sheet where the folding doors go, between two rooms if possible, and set your candle on a table in one room, while your guests take their places in the other. Each person should have a slip of paper to write down opposite the number you call out the name of the boy they think the profile belongs to, the numbers you have put on them being in order of course, but any number you please, such as 46 and 81.

Standing in the back room, about one-third of the way from the candle to the sheet, you can hold up a profile so that it throws a shadow, but the outline will be so big and look so curious that you will be astonished how hard it is for a person to guess it, even if it is that person's own profile.

The winner at this game is the one who gets the greatest number of correct guesses. If you have slipped in one or two profiles you will find that some one or other will be sure



Profile Finished.

they know the boy and will write his name opposite the number you call out.

It is better to confine the profiles to boys, because girls are too easily recognized by the way they do up their hair, and besides girls do not make good villains for detectives to guess.

"No mark-the-perfect-man" chest nuts on me if you please," warned the humorist. "Give me your authority."

"Fifty chapter of Matthew, verse the forty-first," said Mr. Warner, readily. It reads like this: "And whoever shall compel thee to go a mile, go with him, Twain."

Needless to say, Twain went with Dudley for that walk.

Washington's Death.

George Washington died the last hours of the day, the last day of the week, of the last month of the year, of the last year of the eighteenth century.

Bare Truth.
What is that which no one wishes to have, yet no one wishes to lose? A bald head.

Soleful.
Why is wit like a Chinese lady's foot?
Because brevity is the soul of it.

NOTES FROM MEADOWBROOK FARM

by William Pitt



Rape is a drouth resister.
Keep a record of the cows.
Deep plowing stores the rain.
Where is your farm machinery?
The dry pasture calls for a sowing crop.
Cover all raw cement work to prevent freezing.

Sunshine should have a large place in the ration of every hen.

The general agreement seems to be that a good hen is a healthy one.

Add to the capacity of the farm by adding to the strength of the soil.

A flower pot and its saucer makes a good, cheap drinking fountain for chicks.

Plenty of clean, fresh water is necessary if you want your pigs to do their best.

The asparagus may be mulched with manure before the ground is covered with snow.

Young sows that do well with their first litters may be considered good brood sows.

Grit and shells are cheap, nevertheless very important in the proper care of poultry.

A sheep allowed to fall off in condition will have a weakened constitution permanently.

The farmer who is most interested in his work is the one who usually accomplishes the most.

A light dose of Epsom salts now and then in the drinking water helps to keep the fowls in health.

Gradually increase the grain supply for the turkeys intended for market, and fatten them while on range.

Plenty of yellow corn, whole or cracked, will do a great deal toward fattening the Thanksgiving poultry.

The ewes should be kept on pasture until November, and then confined to clean sheds and fed oats, bran and oil meal.

Never plant young trees among old and diseased ones, because the worms and insects are almost certain to destroy them.

Fill coarse sacks with very dry chaff and bury them in those bins of damp grain. They will absorb a great deal of the moisture.

One of the great advantages of alfalfa as a hog pasture is the fact that it affords a fresh growth throughout the pasturing season.

Handle all fruit with care while picking, sorting and packing. The early apples are especially subject to finger prints and discolorations.

Turkeys for market should not be deprived of food for a longer period than twelve hours. They are killed by bleeding in the mouth and neck.

Healthy fowls do not need tonics. The best of tonics can only aid in restoring thrift and this is not necessary in well regulated poultry plants.

No dairyman should be satisfied with cows that produce much less than 300 pounds of butter fat per year. Use the Babcock test and dispose of the poor stock.

Confinement and a corn ration alone spoil more brood sows and sires than all other mistakes combined. Far too many farmers feed all their hogs together.

Separated milk is very good for the hogs, shoats or pigs when fed plentifully, and the weak, scrawny scrub soon becomes a beauty to behold and a pleasure to own.

Do not attempt to winter more pullets and hens than you have house room for. Each bird should have at least four square feet of floor space, five would be better.

The sheep stables should have frequent cleaning. When the manure is allowed to remain too long, it gives off ammonia and other foul gases which injure the sheep.

There is a good market for all kinds of feathers. Pick fowls dry and sort feathers, the coarse from the fine. They can easily be preserved until enough are collected to take to market.

Next year's crop depends upon the seed that is saved this year and now is the time to begin to save the seed. This will give you an opportunity to select only the choicest and you can grade it several times.

If you haven't already bought your males for the coming year it is about time that you had better begin to think seriously about it. By buying off. These leaves will make the best selection than if you wait until the last moment.

Varieties of strawberries vary considerably in their soil requirements, some being particularly adapted to certain localities and there meeting with great success, while in neighboring sections these same varieties are not held in high esteem.

GOOD YOUNG HORSES ALWAYS IN DEMAND



A Virginia Thoroughbred.

There is a great tendency on the part of many to neglect the colts on the farm during the winter, says a Minnesota bulletin. It too often happens that there is apparent shortage of feed, and the result is that colts are slighted. One way of ruling a young colt is to have his growth stunted during the first year or two. Most of the colts on the farm get a good start the first six months of their lives, from the fact that they are allowed to suckle the dam during that time. Early fall provides them with good pasture, and possibly they have been receiving some oats or shared a part of the feed of the mare. Such treatment puts them in good shape for the winter, but liberal feeding must be kept up if a strong, well-developed and matured horse is expected.

The colt's system requires a considerable amount of bone and muscle-building material, and this can only be had by feeding nitrogenous feeds, such as oats, a little bran, oil meal; and, if obtainable, some clover hay.

The feeding of corn, so often practiced, is not desirable for the growing colt, but had better be confined to the matured horses. Access to the straw pile will not hurt a growing colt, but it should not be compelled to rely on the straw pile for a livelihood.

The question is often asked: Why do we find so many promising colts at the county fairs during the fall, and such poor yearlings? The foregoing statement is in part explanatory of such conditions of affairs.

One of the best forms of investment on the farm is the liberal feeding of a livelihood.

It needs to be kept in mind that the alfalfa is a roughage.

The alfalfa requires less work and less expense to handle than a grain crop.

And the alfalfa will improve the soil while the eat crop will reduce its productive power.

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The best results in breeding come from well-matured ancestry.

Growing young pigs can be truthfully termed detail work. The man who is a good pig grower must like the work and be willing to look after the many details that demand attention, and it will pay and pay big returns.

Some think that the breeding and growing of hogs is a crowded occupation; but there is always room for the best breeders and the best feeders at the top, even though the business is crowded by the average class of swine growers.

No hog farm equipment is complete without a good dipping vat, and it should be used frequently during the summer and early fall.

There is no one thing that will do more to maintain health in the herd than the judicious use of the dipping vat.

It is far better to underfeed than to overfeed the sow after she has farrowed, but she must be fed sufficient to keep her quiet.

It is better for the sow if the yards are so arranged that she can go a few rods for her feed and drink.

Stock that is raised for breeding purposes and stock that is raised for market must be treated differently.

If we feed for pork there is a lack of bone, muscle and constitution in our breeding stock.

Darkness always deteriorates the general health of the herd and makes it possible to have corners and other places where filth accumulates. Light,

Age for Breeding.
There is not much gain in breeding a heifer before she is eighteen months old, but there is considerable risk.

Food for Cows.
After a cow becomes fresh in milk the first feed to give her is a warm bran mash. This, besides being strengthening, is of a general benefit.

It is a good idea to cut down the meal ration on the cows, beginning some four weeks before calving and at that time increase the amount of bran. Cornmeal makes animal heat, but bran is cooling to the system.

Thorough Preparation.

The better the preparation of the soil the less seed will be required.

Many failures in seed are not due to so much lack of vitality in the seed as to the unfavorable condition of the ground.

Thorough preparation not only saves seed, but lessens the work of cultivation.