

HOME AND THE FARM.

A DEPARTMENT MADE UP FOR OUR RURAL FRIENDS.

Instructions for setting out Raspberries, Blackberries, Currants, etc.—Also for Fall Planting—Having Grapes from Frost—Harvesting Potatoes—Large Crops of Fruit.

Small Fruits.
Early fall is an excellent time to set out small fruits and provide against the lack of them which we felt so keenly during the heated term. Raspberries, blackberries and currants are all deservedly popular and healthy food, and they possess the great merit of requiring very little cultivation.

Blackberries and raspberries may be grown on any soil except a very heavy clay or one that is liable to remain water-logged. They are generally propagated by cuttings and should be planted so as to allow the roots to grow before the ground freezes. It is considered beneficial to cut back the canes to within six inches of the ground after planting. The earth should be pressed firmly about them so that the soil and roots may come into close contact. Raspberries should be set about four feet apart, and blackberries six or seven. The red varieties of raspberries are not so hardy as the black or the blackberries. All, however, require to be heavily mulched with manure before winter. If manure is not accessible, an extra amount of earth should be placed about the plants, but it must be removed in the spring. Red raspberries will yield excellent crops for eight years, and fair ones for another longer. White blackberries last even longer. A raspberry bed may be formed in the fall with a little care, so as to give fruit the next year. This is accomplished by digging up plants with a quantity of earth about them and carefully resetting and watering them. The tops must then be shortened in and half the foliage removed from the canes, which should be left three feet in length.

Currants and gooseberries deserve to be much more extensively grown than they are at present. They are sure annual and abundant bearers, are grown with little trouble and require only to be kept free from weeds. Currants are propagated with the greatest ease from cuttings, which should be less than a foot in length when set. They should be inserted slanting, so that only the top bud is above ground. They will do well on a kind of soil, but, as a rule, the richer the soil and the better the cultivation the heavier the crop and the larger the berries. Plenty of moisture is required. The plants need renewing every six or eight years. Gooseberry cuttings also root easily, but many prefer layering. The gooseberry is a gross feeder and requires a rich, moist loam, but not too wet. They will not stand drought or crowding. A little shade is essential. When grown in the full sun the fruit is apt to mildew on the sunny side. The general cultivation is much the same as that of the currant, but more care is required. The English varieties are much finer than the native, but are also more liable to mildew. The disease can, however, be successfully kept in check by means of spray pumps and fungicides.

Large Crops Pay Best.
It rarely happens that a big crop is produced at a loss. The extra work required to secure a large yield per acre always pays better than does a like amount of labor spread over a wider area. There are limitations to the amount of fertility that can be profitably provided for each crop, as every farmer knows. Some need a different kind of fertilizing than do others. There are gross feeders and what we may call delicate feeders. Most garden vegetables are gross feeders. The soil cannot be made too rich for cabbage or celery or the large root crops. They all require liberal supplies of nitrogen. Corn also needs rich land. It is helped by coarse fermented manure because in the soil their decomposition furnishes heat, and this is all important to make corn grow. The same application of coarse stable manure to soil deficient in mineral plant food will injure wheat or other small grain, making the straw weak and liable to rust. But stable manure on land where there is plenty of potash and phosphate will often make a large crop by rendering the mineral fertility available. It is economy however, to apply the stable manure to corn, and let the second year's crop go to the wheat, oats or barley that follows it.

Having Grapes from Frost.
It almost always happens that after the first severe frost, every vine grape foliage, there often comes one or two weeks of fine, warm weather, when the vines that have been protected will ripen the fruit thoroughly. We have ripened the lons and the Catawba grapes, both of which need too long a season for ordinary ripening in the open air. By covering the vines with a sheet each night, removing it in the morning. This is a material help, even when there is no frost, for on clear nights there is always a heavy dew, which chills fruit and leaves. There is little or no opening of uncovered grapes at night. With a slight covering to keep off the dew the ripening process may go on all the twenty-four hours. Every one who has grown grapes beside a stream knows that the finest clusters ripen earliest to ripen are always found under wide awnings, where they have been protected from a cold wind.

Wintering Raspberries.
The best time to set out raspberries is in the fall. They should be planted so as to allow the roots to grow before the ground freezes. It is considered beneficial to cut back the canes to within six inches of the ground after planting. The earth should be pressed firmly about them so that the soil and roots may come into close contact. Raspberries should be set about four feet apart, and blackberries six or seven. The red varieties of raspberries are not so hardy as the black or the blackberries. All, however, require to be heavily mulched with manure before winter. If manure is not accessible, an extra amount of earth should be placed about the plants, but it must be removed in the spring. Red raspberries will yield excellent crops for eight years, and fair ones for another longer. White blackberries last even longer. A raspberry bed may be formed in the fall with a little care, so as to give fruit the next year. This is accomplished by digging up plants with a quantity of earth about them and carefully resetting and watering them. The tops must then be shortened in and half the foliage removed from the canes, which should be left three feet in length.

keeping qualities they should be stored in a dark room above ground, protected from freezing weather. When they should be removed to the cellar, or stored in pits, the cellar being preferable if entirely frost proof. Before early potatoes in a cellar before cold weather should be avoided, any shelter above ground being preferable. By this plan decayed or partly decayed tubers can be thrown out when removing to the cellar. They may also be piled in larger quantities than they were earlier in the season. The short potato crop this season should insure good prices. Hence it is well to look very closely after every detail of the harvest. In gathering, the small unmarketable ones should be saved as the chances are that they will have a good market value at planting time.

Comparative Hardiness of Swine.
Swine have very little hair as compared with other domestic animals. They are exposed in our American climate to hot summers and generally to colder winters than in Europe, though the last few years European winters have been more severe than our own have been. The somewhat coarse-boned breeds, like Poland China and Berkshire are therefore preferred by Western breeders, while for those who want to provide comfortable shelter for the hogs, a cross of these with the Essex or small Yorkshire will be more profitable. There are many who like a white hog best, and for such we know nothing better than the Chesire, which is the only breed originating in this country without crossing with other stock, and therefore liable to frequent variations from the usual type.

On the Fall Feed.
In some localities farmers sow oats or barley on their corn and potato grounds, to be fed down in the fall. It is a good practice, and the feed thus procured will in most cases be worth more than the cost of seed and the work of harrowing it in. After a very dry summer, as we have had, the soil is full of available nitrogen. When fall rains come this makes any plant grow vigorously. Both oats and barley will continue to grow after light frosts, and until the soil freezes. The fertility they thus draw from the soil will be washed away and lost if it is left naked through the winter, and will protect the fertility from washing. We have known both rye and wheat to make some growth in warm, wet weather in winter.

Unpopularity of the Mulberry Tree.
It is a curious fact that no insect but the silkworm will willingly eat the leaves of the mulberry tree. In seasons when the grasshopper or the army worm abounds, every other tree and plant may be stripped of its foliage by the devourers, but the mulberry tree will escape to the last. Kansas locusts will eat ever the greenest leaves, and when all the rest is gone, with wry mouths will then take the mulberry leaves. It seems to be the one food specially designed by nature for the support of the silk worm.

Carbolic Acid for Foot Rot.
A German bee-keeper reports on the success in the care of foot rot with carbolic acid. As generally employed, he acid is a failure, being too weak if diluted and driving out the bees if full strength. The experimenter used full strength tea-spoonful mixed with as much tar, put under frames in a little box, open enough to allow evaporation, but be tight. It should be used every three months.

Notes.
A TOMATO raised this season by Samuel Ulrich of Marion, Ia., weighed 14 pounds and measured 19 inches around.

Light putty for green house work is made of 20 per cent white lead, with pure linseed oil and whiting. Apply with a putty bulb.

A CAR load of Oregon fruits received in the East consisted of Bartlett pears, silver, Italian, German, and Hungarian pears and egg-plums.

WHERE can you get a better picture to hang over your desk than an accurate map of your farm, with the fields numbered and correctly measured?

PROF. ROBERTS of Cornell, says the great difficulty with farming is too much or too little moisture, and too little cultivation, thus indicating the necessity of drainage.

M. A. W. FORD, says of alfalfa "It is down further an come up faster than common clover. The quality of the hay is good, but it is hard to cure. I get three crops the year following the planting."

The best way to keep honey from candying, says a writer, is to seal it in tight jars, the same as fruit. This is the way that the bees do, and it is the only safe way. It should be thoroughly heated before putting up.

CHEESE, in its first stages, it is said, can be quickly relieved by copious applications of hot water-hot as the hands can stand. Vaseline is a first-class application for sore teats sometimes the teats get badly scratched by brans or by barbs on wire fences.

PROF. L. P. ROBERTS, writing to the "Rural New Yorker" from California, says "All trees are inclined to overbear. It is the American story over again. Too much. Too much! When will the time come when an overbearing will not be even present in the principal food products, so that a country and thrifty may take the place of a careless, ignorant squandering?"

When a man gives up a marriage engagement, he says the woman is not a member of his church, the real fact is that he is in love with another woman.

A LANDLUBBER SURPRISE.

Shipboard of British Tonnage in Clearing a Battle Ship for Action.

To watch a ship's crew in the most exciting moment of clearing for action is to realize the value of discipline in its most perfect development—the result of the constant practice that gives faultless precision. It is the habit of capable captains to assemble their crews at general quarters many times during the peace maneuvers, in order that they may grow accustomed to their duties, and go about them without confusion, whether the alarm comes in broad daylight or in the darkness of night. Such, indeed, is the ordinary routine of a battle-ship, and on it her safety may at any moment depend if there should be a war, in steam tactics as in action. Whenever bugles sound the call and the boat-swain's mate's pipe shrill echoes, the men, wherever they may be, whether on watch or asleep in hammocks, assemble at their allotted posts with marvelous celerity. There is a momentary tramping of feet between decks, a rattle of arms, and then silence so profound that any word of command can be distinctly heard fore and aft along the deck even of such a ship as the *Hepulsa*.

At the words "Clear for a lion" there is a commotion which a landman might mistake for a panic as a blue rush from point to point. A bugle never wags when an order is given, but does everything at the double. Everyone knows his station, and goes to it by the quickest and shortest way. With a rapidity that seems wonderful, companions on ladders, with their ponderous gangways, are unshipped and stowed away; railings around the low decks fore and aft are lowered; the ventilating cowles and chimney stacks disappear, to be replaced by covers flush with the deck; hatches are battened down, water-tight doors closed, and tackle rigged for hoisting ammunition from the magazines. Between decks everywhere something of the same kind is being done as quickly and quietly, and then the men stand to their guns. When the bugles sound for firing to commence the great barbettes turntables revolve slowly, trained by unseen power, and the quick firing guns in maindeck batteries are worked with surprising celerity by detachments of royal marine artillery.

At a prize shooting recently a detachment fired six shots in three minutes from one of the repeater guns, scoring nine direct hits and planting all the other seven shots close to the target that they would have ridden the hull of a very small ship. The seventeenth round was in this gun when the "cease fire" sounded, so that one gunner, who was loading, must have lifted 1,700 pounds in three minutes. This incident gives a vivid idea of the work that would have to be done in action by crews of these quick-firing guns, as well as of the smartness with which the "Blue Marines" set about their task. Fire discipline will be a potent factor in future battle at sea, and there can be no better means of acquiring it than by general exercise as one has seen at general quarters during the maneuvers.—London Daily News.

IMPURITIES IN FOOD.

They Are Not as Common as Many Persons May Suppose.

Singularly exaggerated ideas concerning the adulteration of food are very generally held, according to Dr. H. W. Wiley, chemist of the United States Department of Agriculture. Sand, for instance, is not sold with sugar—at least in the United States. The granulated and lump sugars in the market are almost absolutely pure powdered sugar sometimes, though rarely, contains a little flour or starch, and low grades of sugars are impure chiefly through the molasses and water they are made to absorb in manufacture. Not as good a report can be given of syrups. There is very little pure maple syrup, most of what is sold as such being a mixture of glucose or cane syrups with a small proportion of the product of the maple, while in an imitation actually protected by a patent, the maple flavor is given by an extract of hickory bark. Lard and honey are largely adulterated with glucose. Of comb honey, however, only that in bottles and jars is impure; the old-fashioned adulterated honey being proven to be erroneous. A ground coffee is so largely adulterated with chicory, peas, beans, etc., that it is rarely found pure, and even the unground berry is imitated. Tea is rarely mixed with foreign leaves, but frequently has its weight increased by the addition of salts of iron and copper—materials quite prejudicial to health. Cocoa and chocolate are largely adulterated with starch and sugar, and products claimed to be greatly improved as to digestibility may have little of the virtues of the original cocoa bean left in them. A danger in canned goods is the use of adulterated tin, which may contain as high as 12 per cent of lead, the organic salts formed by the corrosion of the lead being always poisonous. The common practice of coloring canned peas with copper is very objectionable. The use of preservatives, such as salicylic acid, is not without risk, while an occasional source of danger is the development of nitrogenous bodies called ptomaines in preserved meats. The above are illustrations, which, though had enough, are insignificant in comparison with the startling reports that have been published. Much the greater part of foods we eat is pure and wholesome.

Notes.
A TOMATO raised this season by Samuel Ulrich of Marion, Ia., weighed 14 pounds and measured 19 inches around.

Light putty for green house work is made of 20 per cent white lead, with pure linseed oil and whiting. Apply with a putty bulb.

A CAR load of Oregon fruits received in the East consisted of Bartlett pears, silver, Italian, German, and Hungarian pears and egg-plums.

WHERE can you get a better picture to hang over your desk than an accurate map of your farm, with the fields numbered and correctly measured?

PROF. ROBERTS of Cornell, says the great difficulty with farming is too much or too little moisture, and too little cultivation, thus indicating the necessity of drainage.

M. A. W. FORD, says of alfalfa "It is down further an come up faster than common clover. The quality of the hay is good, but it is hard to cure. I get three crops the year following the planting."

The best way to keep honey from candying, says a writer, is to seal it in tight jars, the same as fruit. This is the way that the bees do, and it is the only safe way. It should be thoroughly heated before putting up.

CHEESE, in its first stages, it is said, can be quickly relieved by copious applications of hot water-hot as the hands can stand. Vaseline is a first-class application for sore teats sometimes the teats get badly scratched by brans or by barbs on wire fences.

PROF. L. P. ROBERTS, writing to the "Rural New Yorker" from California, says "All trees are inclined to overbear. It is the American story over again. Too much. Too much! When will the time come when an overbearing will not be even present in the principal food products, so that a country and thrifty may take the place of a careless, ignorant squandering?"

new corporation called the Utah Company. This new company is to operate coal mines, a railroad, a bathing beach, and pleasure resort at the Great Salt Lake, and build, equip and operate telegraph and telephone lines. This is purely a church scheme, in which Gentiles have no part, and is like the Zion Co-operative Company, to be managed to add to the wealth of the church.—Springfield Republican.

The Menace in Africa.
That the forces of Islam involved in the widespread ramifications of the Senoussi sect menace the existence of French authority in North Africa it would be exaggeration to allege that they even threaten its security to a serious extent may not perhaps be the case; but that they oppose a barrier to a French annexation of the great tracts intervening between Senegal and Algeria there can be no question.

A false move on the part of the Paris Government, of the executive in Algiers or Tunis, or even of some subordinate official of the southern provinces of the French possessions, might of a sudden arouse the fanaticism of the dwellers beyond the outposts, and the news of it would spread like wildfire over the Sahara and the Sudan. The Mohammed el Mahdi might think his time was come, might proclaim religious war, and might bring into play the vast resources placed at his command by the strange organization that bears his name. Senoussi has shown no taste for strife. The Mahdi is not to be a man of war.

But it is the unexpected which always happens in these lands, and the sheikh may find some day circumstances too strong for him. That these people when they muster under the banner of Islam for fight are formidable the insurrection in the Sudan has served to show.—Blackwood's Magazine.

Fan for the Boys.

The electric fans used so generally in offices, have suggested many little novelties in the way of decoration. The most universal fan is to fasten long streamers of gay-colored paper to the machine and let it fly out in the breeze. The effect is very pretty, and has a soothing influence on the heated brain of the man who drops in and takes an easy chair for a few minutes before going out again under the hot sun. Many private houses now have the fans, and some of the youngsters have utilized the cool breeze they produce to fly miniature kites and fly miniature windmills. One ingenious youth whose mother has an electric fan standing on the mantel-piece of the dining room, set his wits to work, and after thinking awhile went out and bought a Chinese bird kite, some bamboo and different colored tissue paper, and began operations. He constructed a number of small kites in the shape of birds, bats, and butterflies. These he attached by threads to different objects in the room, so that they floated on the current of air stirred up by the rapidly revolving fan of the electric machine. The effect is most pleasing, and at all times while the machinery is in motion the little kites dart around and over the dinner table like things of life.

An Ambitious Chicken.
"An obstreperous chicken succeeded in calling out our fire department not long since," said Henry F. Swangate, of Savannah, Ga., at the Lincoln. "It was a male bird of the game persuasion, and had acquired the very bad habit of flying away from home and mounting to an extraordinary height for a domesticated bird. On one occasion, when chased by some boys, it got badly scared, and flying up rapidly, struck some wires, and got tangled up in them hopelessly. By some means or other it shook or disarranged a wire which notified the department of a fire, and every effort was made to get promptly to the scene of the supposed outbreak."

"No fire being discovered, it was evident a false alarm had been turned in, but the continued struggle of the rooster sent in further alarms and caused a general demoralization of the electric service. When the cause of the disturbance was finally located the bird was nearly dead and its handsome appearance had entirely vanished. This, I believe, the first case on record of a chicken up-till electric service in this way, but the bird, although quite a small one, succeeded in doing the work quite effectively."—St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

Upholding Dignity.

The best cooks of the Princess Farnese and Este met one day in a fruit market at Rome in front of a fruiterer's stall, on which, very early for the season, a beautiful melon was offered for sale. One of the cooks immediately offered five francs for it; the other promptly offered ten; alternate bids of twenty, thirty, forty, etc., followed by rapid succession, until at last the Prince Farnese's cook had the melon knocked down to him for 20 francs. The crowd of bystanders indulged in uproarious hilarity when the cook received his melon for everybody expected that he would be taken sharply to task by his master. Quite the reverse, however, happened. Prince Farnese's cook, who had bought the melon was highly commended, and received a present into the bargain for keeping up his master's reputation while on the other hand the Prince of Este soundly rated his cook and dismissed him for failing by the practice of false economy, to uphold his master's dignity.

Notes.
A TOMATO raised this season by Samuel Ulrich of Marion, Ia., weighed 14 pounds and measured 19 inches around.

Light putty for green house work is made of 20 per cent white lead, with pure linseed oil and whiting. Apply with a putty bulb.

A CAR load of Oregon fruits received in the East consisted of Bartlett pears, silver, Italian, German, and Hungarian pears and egg-plums.

WHERE can you get a better picture to hang over your desk than an accurate map of your farm, with the fields numbered and correctly measured?

PROF. ROBERTS of Cornell, says the great difficulty with farming is too much or too little moisture, and too little cultivation, thus indicating the necessity of drainage.

M. A. W. FORD, says of alfalfa "It is down further an come up faster than common clover. The quality of the hay is good, but it is hard to cure. I get three crops the year following the planting."

The best way to keep honey from candying, says a writer, is to seal it in tight jars, the same as fruit. This is the way that the bees do, and it is the only safe way. It should be thoroughly heated before putting up.

CHEESE, in its first stages, it is said, can be quickly relieved by copious applications of hot water-hot as the hands can stand. Vaseline is a first-class application for sore teats sometimes the teats get badly scratched by brans or by barbs on wire fences.

PROF. L. P. ROBERTS, writing to the "Rural New Yorker" from California, says "All trees are inclined to overbear. It is the American story over again. Too much. Too much! When will the time come when an overbearing will not be even present in the principal food products, so that a country and thrifty may take the place of a careless, ignorant squandering?"

WASHING THE TALES.

A Ten-Dollar Note in the Mint Where It Could Not Be Found.

The Denver mint has furnished the public many mild surprises during the past eighteen months, says the Denver Republican. It has shown, partially, the increased production of gold in the state and has grown, in a comparative short time, from an obscure branch of the general business of the Government to a place of general importance to the entire country. From a few thousand dollars monthly the purchase of gold at the mint has grown to a half million a month. With this vast increase of business has grown a demand for a coinage mint, and so strong is this demand that it can scarcely be denied by the Government.

In the quiet routine work of the mint there has been gradually accumulating an item of wealth that even the employees failed to realize until a short time ago.

It has been the custom to make quarterly house cleanings of the assaying and refining departments. At such times the operating rooms were carefully swept and all of the machinery dusted. The dirt and dust thus collected has been washed and the tailings thrown into a bin back of the mint building where for years they have been accumulating.

At each quarterly cleaning a snog sum, generally about \$100 in gold dust, would be washed out and saved. Only a few pounds of tailings would be left in the pans to be dumped into the open bin, but during the years this stuff gradually accumulated, until it now amounts to about four tons.

A few weeks ago Assayer Puckett went out to the bin of "tailings" with a pan, which he filled and began "washing." The result was a surprise, so large was the quantity of gold he washed out. Without further delay Mr. Puckett hired an expert and started him to work washing out the tailings. Mr. Puckett also had had some old melting pots that had been thrown out ground up and washed, and the result was that from the scrap pile over \$1,000 in gold has been panned by one man in thirty-eight days.

These tailings, after second washing, have also been saved, and Mr. Puckett says he has refused an offer of \$1,000 from one of the smelters for them. He expects to receive at least \$2,000 for them.

In arranging for the improvements to be made at the mint, Mr. Puckett concluded to have the chimney of the furnace swept. In doing this fifty-seven pounds of soot was secured. This soot was sold at 50 per cent to one of the smelters, and the smelter authorities claim to have made a good profit on their purchase.

The gold purchases at the mint for the past twenty days of this month have amounted to over \$100,000. The largest purchase of any previous month in the history of the mint was a little less than \$100,000. Assayer Puckett says that at the least reasonable calculation the purchases for this month will exceed \$100,000.

Fashions in Dolls' Eyes.

Who would think of such a thing as a queen deciding the color of the dolls' eyes within her kingdom? Such a thing has been done, not by royal edict, however, but simply by having Her Majesty's own eyes set the fashion.

When Victoria became Queen of England more than fifty years ago, she was fair and young, with very blue eyes, whereupon blue eyes became all the fashion, and all the loyal doll makers of her kingdom began sending blue-eyed dolls from their factories.

In Italy and Spain, where all the great beauties have olive skins, and dark handsome eyes, a blond doll is not a common sight. Japanese dolls have twinkling, beady black eyes set in their heads aslant, while the kindly dressed dolls from Singapore loom from their copper-colored face with a pair of narrow, coquettish black eyes, quite different in expression from either the Spanish or Chinese beauties.

The Mighty Dollar.

There are several theories, each plausible enough, of the origin of the American dollar mark. Some claim that it is a combination of "U. S." the initial of the United States; others that it is a modification of the figure 8, the dollar being formerly called a "piece of eight," again we are told that it is derived from a representation of the Pillars of Hercules, consisting of two needle-like towers or pillars connected with a scroll. The old Spanish coins so marked with the pillar device were frequently referred to as "pillar dollars." According to one writer the symbol of the dollar is a monogram of the letters "V. I. C." and "D." the dollar being originally a "thaler" coined in the valley of Saint Joachim, Hohem A, and known as a "Joachim thaler," and the monogram initials of the words "Valley Saint Joachim."

Divorce.

In consequence of mental malady, a Georgia lady convinced her duty to live apart from her husband, and, in order that he might apply for a divorce, forged documents which would give him cause. The husband knowing they were not true but thinking that to humor his wife would cure her malady, presented the papers to the legal authorities and a divorce was granted. The ex-husband immediately began to make love to his former wife again and proposed marriage in due form, but although she appeared happy in his company and would grow with him to the altar and like places, she absolutely refused his proffer of marriage and expressed a wish that he would wed a girl whom she named. Now the man is seeking to have the decree of divorce set aside.

A LIGHTNING BOLT FOR COON.

Coon and a Glass House If It Were a Very Glass.

On the range of eastern Montana, and among his brother-in-law of the rope, "Coontail" was no stranger. He rode his bucking pony and swung his rope with as much grace and assurance as any, and in the annual roping match, which, to the tenderfoot as well as the c-w-man who needed help for his round-up was of interest, he won his share of prizes. He had "headed off" and "yoned" a fleeing coon, and had been known to assert that he reckoned he could handle his stately majesty if he once got a fair chance with a rope and his roan pony.

His patronymic was known to but few. His non-de-plume—if that is the proper term for such an article—was derived from wearing in his hat the caudal appendage of the small plantigrade adopted as the special property of a political party, and by it he was known to every one on the range.

The steers fit for market had been "rounded up," "cut out" and driven to the railroad for shipment, and after two or three days of fun in town, Coontail and two or three of his companions, whose services were not required en route to Chicago, had started for home; a matter of three or four days ride. By the end of the second day, they had emptied the bottles with which they had supplied themselves for the journey, and with dry and cobwebby throats were seeking more. At a way-side store, near the crossing of Powder River, they endeavored to procure, with little success, their thirst, but the proprietor, acquainted with the real cause of the average cow-puncher when under the influence of "forty-rod," denied having any, and directed them to the next ranch, nearly a mile away, and across the stream; but not feeling very secure, as soon as they left, locked his door and betook himself to the shelter of a nearby "coulee." At the place to which they had been directed they were referred back to the first party, and informed that they had been tricked. It did not require much time to return, but they found the building closed and locked. Half a dozen shots around the staple holding the knob to the door shattered the wood to such an extent that a vigorous kick drove it open, and with a yell of triumph they took possession. The head of a keg, lying beneath the rude counter, presented a target, and at the same time, thoughts of a drink, if tapped.

A shot from a revolver tapped it. The pole-a-dirt roof leaped skyward; the logs composing the body of the building went hurtling over the prairie; cannon shot followed suit, propelled by twenty pounds of powder; and Coontail and his friends followed the goods. What was found of two filled with a small amount of "coon" was found, blackened and seared among the safe brush, thirty or more yards away. Finding that he still breathed, he was carried to the stream, and rough but kind hands were soon busy cleaning the dirt and smoke stains from his person. Or clothing he retained the sweat-band of his hat, and his boots. Half an hour later he regained consciousness, and gazing about him through his scorched eyes, he feebly wanted to know what had happened. Some one remarked upon his escape and dissipated appearance, and rising to a sitting posture, he asked for a mirror. One was found, and after a long survey of his features, his eyes, and his brow, he saw the narrow fringe protected by his hat-band, gone. He remarked: "I'm doggoned party, ain't it? That was a light'n' n' barber shop—hair cut, shampoo, a shave, an' all done in less'n a minit."—Free Press.

Offered a Substitute.
"One of the funniest instances I ever knew to occur in court," says a veteran official of Penobscot County, "happened years ago when Judge Ferhan presided in the court of common pleas. An old Irishman, a resident of Bangor, was an important witness in a case, and both he and the lawyer, who were trying to examine him, were having a hard time of it. The witness was very slack and frowsy in his personal appearance, and this heightened the effect of his blarney immensely. He perjured freely under the ordeal of examination and was evidently wisening it well over, when the door at the rear of the courtroom opened and in came a little sharp-eyed old Irish woman. The witness saw her and a look of intense relief spread over his features as he hurried out: 'There there is some of your dunn foolish questions, she kin take care of ye.'—Lewiston Journal.

A Laundryman Gave Up Business.

I took my laundry to a newly opened place on the West Side of Chicago, said G. L. Kramer. "It was a nice looking place and the proprietor, a very young man, confidently assured me that he had only opened a week before, and it was his first business venture. When I returned for my clothes I found an excited crowd. The laundry was closed, and the proprietor could not be found. We broke in the door finally, as they said he had been gone for two days. There was an immense pile of laundry clothes, but not a mark of any kind to identify them. The proprietor had forgotten this important feature, and when he viewed the great pile without any possibility of separating them, he had cut. After an hour's search I found my own linen, but I have never seen the laundryman since."—Chicagoan.

It is Only Time Some Men Make a Stand When They Cannot Run.