



The Power of Money. Yes, "money makes the mare go." When properly applied. In building roads whereon with loads she can get right up and glide.

Newspapers and Good Roads. The newspapers published in the country towns are now doing the greatest amount of good in the matter of securing highway improvement. They are the preachers who reach the people, and they are reaching them in the right way.—L. A. W. Bulletin.

Should Need No Argument. For farmers who would be brought close to market, increase the value of their farms, add to the pleasure of living, save money on wear and tear of vehicles, be merciful to their beasts and keep the boys on the farm and not isolate them from the world and society by barriers of impassable highways, no good roads argument is necessary.

English as Road Builders. Englishmen visiting this country are surprised at the condition of our roads. Some of them even go so far as to say there is not a decent road in this country. Compared with English roads their assertion is in a great measure true. Every street there, county or city, long or short, which comes under the control of the authorities, is either paved, asphalted or macadamized. Smoothness, hardness, neatness and durability are its characteristics. While driving along through an English country an American is surprised to see gangs of men at work repairing what in America would be looked upon as an elegant piece of road. The least hollow is quickly filled, the least hump leveled, the first stone is carted away.

A Neglected Need. It is scarcely necessary to argue for the construction of good roads, says the New York Press, but at this time and in this part of the country an argument of great force presents itself to make such a measure one not only of expediency, but urgency. In a period of agricultural depression, due largely to the competition of the agricultural production of other Western States, it is of the soundest policy to adopt such public measures as will diminish the cost of agricultural production here. Almost the only measure which the State can take in this direction is to help the farmers to good roads. When we realize that the difference, according to the degree of excellence of the road, between one wagonload and ten, we see what a tremendous betterment of agricultural conditions is possible by the adoption of legislation of which the beneficence has already been proved.

An Eloquent Address. The subject of the protection of American missionaries in Turkey was under discussion in the United States Senate recently, and in the course of the debate, Mr. Frye, of Maine, delivered a brief speech which was so effective a piece of impromptu eloquence as to be worth every American's reading. Schoolboys might well adopt it as a declamation, and all readers, old and young alike, will find themselves stirred by its patriotic appeal. Let us hope that the United States may never fall behind England's example in protecting American citizens wherever they may be, or whoever may seek to outrage them. We subjoin an extract from Senator Frye's speech:

"Mr. President: I think that one of the grandest things in all the history of Great Britain is that she does protect her subjects everywhere, anywhere, and under all circumstances. I do not wonder that a British subject loves his country. This little incident, with which you are all familiar, is a marvelous illustration of the protection which Great Britain gives to her subjects: 'The King of Abyssinia took a British subject named Cameron, about twenty years ago, carried him up to the fortress of Magdala, on the heights of a rocky mountain, and put him into a dungeon, without cause assigned. It took six months for Great Britain to find that out. Then Great Britain demanded his immediate release. King Theodore refused the release.

"In less than ten days after that refusal was received 10,000 British soldiers, including 5,000 Sepoys, were on board ships of war, and were sailing down the coast. When they had disembarked, they were marched across that terrible country, a distance of 700 miles, under a burning sun, up the mountain, up to the very heights in front of the frowning dungeon; then gave battle, battered down the iron gates of the stone walls, reached down into the dungeon and lifted out of it that one British subject, King Theodore filling himself with his own pistol.

"Then they carried him down the mountain, across the land, put him on board a white-winged ship and sped him to his home in safety. That cost Great Britain \$25,000,000, and made Gen. Napier Lord Napier of Magdala. 'That was a great thing for a great country to do—a country that has an eye that can see all across the ocean, all across the land, away up to the mountain heights, and away down to the darksome dungeons, one subject of

hers out of 38,000,000 of people, and then has an arm strong enough and long enough to stretch across the same ocean, across the same lands, up the same mountain heights, down to the same dungeons, and then lift him out and carry him to his own country and friends.

"In God's name, who would not die for a country that will do that?"

German Pawnshops. There is a royal pawnshop in Berlin; there are state pawnshops, ducal pawnshops, county pawnshops, city or municipal pawnshops, and private pawnshops. The municipal and private pawnshops may both exist in the same town. The rate of interest was fixed by a law passed in 1881 at not more than 24 per cent. per annum on loans under 30 marks, and not over 12 per cent. on larger sums.

In Berlin the pawnshop is a royal institution, and is allowed to make a profit. Its surplus goes to charitable purposes. At Hanau no interest is charged on loans up to 3 marks if the articles are redeemed within six days. At Hof, in Baden, people are allowed to raise money, giving as security of their wages two or three weeks ahead.

At Weimar and Hanau anonymous pawning is the rule. No names are asked and no address is given. Provision is made at Memel for merchants depositing goods in time of temporary embarrassment.

At Bautzen raw wood is received in pledge. At Bromberg military accoutrements are excluded from the articles which may be pawned. The pawnshop at Detmold will not receive articles in pawn from servants without the consent of their masters. At Altenberg and one or two other places no one is allowed to pawn articles of more than 200 marks' value without the consent of the town council.

Although private pawnbrokers exist alongside the municipal institutions in many towns the latter refuse to do business with the former. Second-hand dealers and pawnbrokers are especially prohibited from resorting to the municipal pawnshops.

A salutary regulation against dealing with pawn tickets is frequently enforced. The rate of interest fluctuates a great deal in Germany, and is highest for small sums loaned for short periods. The average is about 12 per cent., and on loans issued against securities 4 or 5 per cent.—Tit-Bits.

A Sagacious Terrier. A remarkable dog story is reported from Leicester. A Bible woman was in one of the wards—the accident ward—of the local infirmary recently, and was talking to one of the patients, when a terrier made its way to her with difficulty from near one of the adjoining beds, and appealingly held up one of its forepaws. She called the attention of one of the doctors to the animal, and it was then found that the limb was broken. The bones were set and a bed made up for the canine sufferer in the ward, due instruction being entered upon the patient's card as to its treatment and diet. The animal progressed favorably and became a general favorite with both the patients and officials, until a day or two ago, when it was claimed by its owner and taken away. How the terrier found its way to the infirmary is not known, but it entered the institution unobserved, and, curiously enough, was found in the accident ward.—Westminster Gazette.

Tired of the Quizzing. Before Whitelaw Reid became minister to France, he devoted a good deal of his time to the conduct of his paper, the Tribune. The copy editors who put up the headlines of stories of the day fell into the habit of making most of them interrogatives, as, for instance: "Was it Murder of Sullide?" or "Did She Kill Him for Love?" or "Will the President Sign It?" etc. The entire paper was specked with interrogation points. This thing had been going on for weeks, till one day a postal card arrived, addressed to Mr. Reid, and marked personal. It read as follows: "I'm getting awfully tired of your questions. Why don't you find out something? A great newspaper is supposed to know everything, and ought not to annoy its readers with needless inquiries. This morning you ask 'Will Mr. Platt Consent?' How the h— do I know?"

To Burn Dead Soldiers. A portable crematory for military purposes has been invented by a Polish engineer. It has the appearance of the army baking oven, but is much higher and heavier, and is drawn by eight horses. It is intended for the disposal of the bodies of soldiers killed in battle, so as to avoid the danger of epidemics from the burial of great numbers of men. Each German army corps, it is said, will be equipped with one.—New York Sun.

Style Has Not Changed. Mrs. Hossellus of Maryland, in the last century, writing (after Goldsmith) a description of her charming daughter Charlotte, slipped into it this bit of realism: "When dressed, still her head has a great deal of trash on; if her gown is pinned crooked, 'tis made in the fashion." Evidently madame had been sitting behind her daughter at the theater.

Handsome American Women. The congress of the Daughters of the American Revolution in Washington is said to have brought more fine-looking women to the national capital than any other convention of ladies held there for a long time.

"I have cured Bliggins of his horrible superstitious at last," the philanthropist exclaimed. "How did you manage it?" "I offered to lend him \$13."—Washington Star.

The devil is always offering a job to the idle mind.

### TOPICS OF THE TIMES.

#### A CHOICE SELECTION OF INTERESTING ITEMS.

Comments and Criticisms Based Upon the Mappenings of the Day—Historical and News Notes.

Padewski is coming back again in November, 1897. After the \$10,000 he left, probably.

It is claimed that the rubber trust's profits last year were more than \$3,000,000, but perhaps this is stretching the truth a little.

Outlaw Bill West, who escaped from the Topeka jail the other night, has not yet been found. Why don't the officers look out West?

Perhaps it is possible to photograph love. Many a man who has experimented with it has obtained a negative without much trouble.

Peary says he can reach the north pole for \$200,000. He can save money, perhaps, by waiting a few months; Nansen may bring it home.

A scientist declares that bicycle riding takes away the taste for whiskey. The next bicyclist who is caught in Kentucky probably will be lynched.

We regret to say that "Chicago's lady burglar," who has been discussed at length in the Eastern papers, proves to be only a woman burglar after all.

A German scientist says he can photograph love. Henceforth branch of promise suits will have to be submitted to a photographer instead of to a jury.

The battleship Massachusetts has just won a large bonus for the Cramps. Money undoubtedly is one of the best things in the world to relieve the Cramps.

Mrs. Rorer, the cooking school expert, has been delivering a course of lectures in Harlem on "How to Make Pies." We advise the goats to emigrate before it is too late.

A New York paper says that "a policeman worth \$875,000" died in that city the other day. There must be some mistake about that; no policeman is worth so much, although he may have it.

"Brethren," remarked Bishop Carpenter, of Ripon, England, the other day in a sermon, "I beg of you to take your heart in your hand and look it straight in the face." We would like to see that performance.

It may surprise certain esteemed contemporaries to learn that divorcees are no longer offered on Chicago bargain counters. But the town offers extraordinary facilities for getting married while you wait.

An Iowa judge has decided that when a footpad draws a revolver on you at night, sticks it under your nose and holds you up, he cannot be charged with carrying a concealed weapon. Technically that may be right, but practically it is decidedly unpleasant.

The arrival of 1,548 Italian immigrants by one steamer is an indication of an excess to which the business of feeling from military service to the land of liberty is carried. This one ship load is only a small portion of the arrivals for the month. Thoughtful people may well be concerned with the wonder what all these people will do. It is not far to see that their first effort will be to get employment. Not being skilled artisans, their attention must be turned to common labor, where the ranks are already full to overflowing, and where grim poverty is already pursuing the unfortunate.

The opening of the national exposition of electrical appliances in New York marks the beginning of another chapter in the nineteenth-century story of the Arabian Nights. The revolutions in the study of electricity and in the application of its forces have been more numerous and more profoundly interesting in recent years than ever before. In the hands of such men as Tesla and Edison the mysterious energy has been made to do new things and perform feats not hitherto conceived. At the New York exposition the people witness the movement of machinery operated by the power of Niagara Falls, conveyed over an ordinary telegraph wire 452 miles long. Thanks to Tesla's recent inventions, the feat of carrying electrical power at long distances and for commercial purposes seems now to be feasible. The time may come when a factory in St. Louis, say, may be operated by electricity generated in Chicago and transmitted over a wire, just as ordinary telegraph messages are sent. It is impossible to contemplate these feats without an increased wonder at the forward strides of nineteenth-century invention. Chauncey M. Depew's message, sent through the world over a single circuit, tells the story of a planet which is steadily growing smaller as the means of girdling it with lines of communication increase.

The enthusiastic wheelman in an ugly sweater and indifferent knee trousers may not be prepossessing, but he means something as a finger board. One hundred years ago our ancestors trotted about in knickerbockers with fancy hose and ornate silver buckles on their shoes. At the present rate delegates to the national conventions in 1900 will be stamping low shoes on the extremities of knickerbockered legs with as much easy naturalness as if men had never worn trousers which had to be rolled

up when it rained. The bicycle is to bring about this atavism in dress. A few years ago the bicycle rider tied his trouser legs to his ankles with pieces of twine and pedaled away. Somebody invented a steel trouser-clip and he used that. Still his legs were cumbersome. Then somebody more daring than the rest exposed his calves to the public gaze and the thing was done. At first the bicycle costume was associated with riding for pleasure. One day some practical man of business rode to his office in his bicycle suit, and worked all day in that garb. Hundreds of riders are now doing it, subjecting \$6.50 suits to the wear and tear which once told on \$45 suits. And so the custom spreads. Knickerbockers, on these fine spring evenings, find their way in to drawing-rooms of society—informally, perhaps, but nevertheless, they are recognized. How long, then, before the wheelman rides to an entertainment in a regulation dress suit amputated at the knees? The knickerbocker seems certain to spread to all classes and conditions of men. Why shouldn't it? Artistically considered, it was always a thing of beauty, while from a more material point of view it never lagged at the knees. Death to the sweater, but long life to the revived knee breeches of our great grandfathers.

Some sympathy seems to be expressed by a contemporary for the French exhibitors at the World's Fair, who lost \$70,000 worth of their goods by fire in January, 1894, for which they have not yet been compensated. It was unfortunate that French exhibitors or anybody else should lose anything possessing value, but the intimation that these exhibitors had in any way claim upon the United States or upon the World's Columbian Exposition for indemnification for their losses is not warranted. The French exhibitors appealed to Congress. Very properly Congress has taken no action in the premises since the facts were ascertained. The exhibitors sued the Columbian Exposition, but no progress has been made in the suit and it is infinitely to the credit of Mr. Higginbotham and others responsible for the defense of the suit that they resisted popular and ignorant clamor in the premises and saved the resources of the exposition from a raid which could not be justified. Weaker men might have been swayed by the passing sentiment. There are lots of people always ready to cry out for what they describe as high-minded and honorable settlement when nothing toward the settlement is taken from their own pockets. That the French exhibitors lost their goods was deplorable, but neither the government of the United States nor the Columbian Exposition was in any way responsible to those exhibitors who remained upon the ground months after the exposition closed, suiting their own convenience and nobody else's.

Dogs as Church-Goers. The principal disturbers of worship in the colonial meeting-house were dogs, says William Root Bliss in "Side Glances from the Colonial Meeting-House." They seem to have been regular attendants at the Sunday services, and of necessity were placed under discipline. At New London (1692) one of the duties of the sexton was "to order youth in the meeting-house and beat out dogs." At Charlestown (1696) a man was hired at four pounds a year "to ring the bell to meetings and to keep out dogs in meeting time." At Dedham (1674) a man was paid eight shillings a year "for keeping dogs out in meeting time and shutting the door."

Andover did not object to dogs, but made them pay for the privilege of coming to meeting. The law of this town (1672) said, "Whatsoever dogs shall be in the meeting-house on the Sabbath day the owner thereof shall pay sixpence for every time."

The dog law of Redding (1662) was peculiar. It ran thus: "Every dog that comes to the meeting, either of Lord's day or lecture day, except it be their dogs that pay for a dog-whipper, the owner of those dogs shall pay sixpence for every time they come to the meeting that doth not pay the dog-whipper."

Twenty-six men wrote their names, or made their marks, in the Redding records, agreeing to "pay the dog-whipper" to whip other people's dogs out of meeting, while their dogs remained and were recognized as members of the congregation in regular standing.

Effect of Use. Mr. James Payn, in his "Gleanings of Memory," gives a bit of personal experience illustrative of the truism that "use almost can change the stamp of nature."

During the thirty-five years he has served as editor, reader, and writer of stories and novels, the question has often been put to him, "How do you manage when you are ill or out of spirits to write in the same unmistakably cheerful strain as usual?" Mr. Payn answers:

"I have often wondered myself, but without consciousness of the difficulty thus suggested. In times of trouble of many kinds, of severe physical ailments, of domestic bereavement, and even with death under the very roof, my pen, when I found myself at my desk, has turned to ordinary matters with perfect facility, and treated them in its habitual airy manner."

"It may not be a good manner (Mr. Payn's forte is humor), but it has been my own, and misery itself has no power to make it sad. I write these very lines in the acutest pain from rheumatic gout in my gnarled fingers."

Mrs. Nix—"I hope you are not afraid of work." Wreny Willie (uneasily)—"I ain't exactly afraid, mum; but I al ways feel fidgety when dere's any thing like dat around."—Truth.

### CORN RAISING COST.

#### STATISTICS GATHERED BY A KANSAS OFFICIAL.

The Different Methods of Growing Corn and the Comparative Cost in Each—The Value of Land and the Crops.

Figures on All Details. Kansas is one of the great corn States. Statistics show that the average annual yield for all the thirty-four years, had seasons and good, since 1861, has been 27 bushels per acre for the entire State, ranging in different years from 9 to 48 1/2 bushels. The product for twenty-five years ending with 1885 has had an annual home value averaging more than \$31,000,000, and a total value in that time exceeding \$770,000,000. Secretary Coburn, in a report of the State Board of Agriculture, presents a detailed statement showing from sixty-eight long-time extensive growers in forty-five counties which last year produced 140,000,000 bushels, giving from their experience "on such a basis as others can safely accept" each principal item of cost in growing and cribbing an acre of corn, estimating the yield at 40 bushels. About two-thirds of those reporting prefer planting with listers and others use the better known check-row method, after the land has been plowed and harrowed.

The statements of all the growers summed up, averaged and itemized show as follows for each acre of corn:

Seed	7
Planting (with lister, or check-row planter, including cost of previous plowing and harrowing)	77
Cultivating	1 03
Husking and putting in crib	1 18
Wear and tear and interest on cost of tools	25
Rent of land (or interest on its value)	2 41
Total cost	\$5 71
Cost per bushel	14 1/4
Av. value corn land per acre	29 25

The condensed showing made by the forty-three growers who plant with listers, or have found that method preferable, is thus:

Seed	7
Planting	44
Cultivating	1 06
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Total cost	\$5 42
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Statements of cost where the land is plowed, well harrowed, and planted with the ordinary check-row machine, summarize for each item as below:

Seed	7
Planting	1 03
Harrowing	24
Planting	25
Cultivating	98
Husking and putting in crib	1 18
Wear and tear and interest on cost of tools	30
Rent of land (or interest on its value)	2 35
Total cost	\$6 40
Cost per bushel	16

Commenting on these figures, Secretary Coburn says: "In none of these calculations has there been any allowance for the value of the cornstalks, which, ordinarily, under the best management, should offset the cost of harvesting the grain, and under proper conditions should have a forage value much in excess of such cost. Taking these into every estimate, as should rightly be done, the showing of cost per bushel would be very sensibly diminished. In the results of this investigation it will likewise be noted that the rental of those Kansas corn lands, or the interest figured by their owners on the investment represented, averages more than 8 1/2 per cent., or a net rate higher than the capitalist, general banker or money lender dreams of realizing."

Why Potatoes Stain. Those who cut potatoes for seed know how very quickly the juice of the potato will stain the hands and rust the knives employed in doing the work. The reason for this is that the potato contains a large proportion of potash in its juice. So soon as this is exposed to air it unites with the oxygen and forms rust on metal and stains on the hands or other parts of the body exposed to it. There is a still larger proportion of potash in potato leaves and stems, which should be saved for manure, but should not be used where potatoes are to be grown within a year or two, as they may keep the germs of blight and rot in the soil.

Uneven Distribution of Fertilizers. There is a double and even triple loss from uneven distribution of mineral fertilizers, which is pretty sure to happen if they are in bad condition for drilling. The grain crop on the missed spaces will be poorer, and what grain it grows will be light and of inferior quality. Besides this, the clover growth the following years will be less where the fertilizer did not reach. This shows the great importance of having a good drill and of keeping it in first-class condition. This is difficult to do where fertilizers are used, as the corrosive acids used in dissolving the phosphate will very quickly corrode any metal with which they come in contact. All phosphate drills should, therefore, be thoroughly cleaned every time after they have been used. Above all, they should be kept as dry as possible. A drill left out of doors through the rains soon becomes so rusty that the loss from its use is greater than is the cost of a new drill. Still we have known fertilizers and drills managed with care to do good service after ten to twelve years of use, and in that time

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had distributed hundreds of tons of fertilizer, which was used both on spring grain and winter wheat. It is quite common in many neighborhoods to hire the use of fertilizer drills, but if extra care is not taken to prevent injury from rust the money the drill earns in this way will not repay the loss to the owner.—American Cultivator.

### Duck Culture for Profit.

As a practical industry, duck-raising pays. James Rankin, the oldest and one of the most extensive of duck raisers, says: "A duck can be made to pay more than a cow." Ducks are easily raised, are hardy and mature rapidly. While they are naturally aquatic, water is not necessary, except for drinking. A sandy or gravelly soil is best for them, and shelter is required in northern latitudes. These birds are heavy eaters, but they are instinctively foragers, and take on meat, in proportion to their supply of food, more profitably than land fowls. A low-roofed house, properly ventilated, with dry floor, on which the birds squat in clean litter; and an inclosure where freedom is not convenient, furnish the shelter and yard. A few choice ducks may be kept in a confined space with profit; but the business is now carried on in the East by men who rear thousands of ducklings for market. This phase can be but suggested in the limits of this page. If the reader has already turned his attention to the subject as a vocation, the correct way for him to ascertain the best methods of procedure is to visit the ranches in the East. He can there learn how the work is done by practical men. It is a very different matter than raising a flock for pleasure. The farmer in the West who does not raise thoroughbred ducks misses an opportunity to add materially to his income.—American Poultry Journal.

### Kerosene Emulsion.

Kerosene oil has a greater range of usefulness than any other insecticide. It is not a poison, but kills by contact. It is a very penetrating fluid and causes almost instant death. But since it kills plants as well as insects it cannot be used alone, but has to be used with some substance that dilutes it without impairing its value as an insecticide. A number of methods are known in which this may be done. One of the best is the "Hubbard formula," which is given below:

"Kerosene, two gallons, 67 per cent. Common soap, or whale-oil soap, one-half pound, 33 per cent. Water, one gallon."

Heat the solution of soap and add it boiling hot to the kerosene. Churn the mixture by means of a force pump and spray nozzle for five or ten minutes. The emulsion, if perfect, forms a cream which thickens on cooling, and should adhere without oiliness to the surface of glass. Dilute before using one part of the emulsion with nine parts of water. The above formula gives three gallons of emulsion and makes, when diluted, thirty gallons of wash. This emulsion is an excellent one when the water used is soft. There are several formulas.

Vegetable Matter as Moisture. The majority does not appreciate what vegetable matter in the soil does for us in the way of moisture in the time of drought. If one or two crops of vegetable matter are plowed under during the summer and fall, the succeeding crops are surer if the year is a dry one. We know that success in growing any plant depends much upon the amount of moisture in the ground.—Ex.

Horse Collars Should Fit. Upon the fitting of the collar depends much of the work done by a horse. While a collar may not cause sores, yet it may be very uncomfortable. The collar, and also the harness, should be made to fit the horse perfectly, and whenever the day's work is done the animal should be thoroughly examined in order to discover any ill effects from the use of the collar.

The Ben Davis Apple. The Ben Davis apple varies in appearance and in salability according to the locality in which it is grown. This fruit, when produced in Wisconsin and Iowa, is not so desirable on the market as when grown in Southern Missouri, Illinois and Indiana. It seems to require a longer season and more heat to grow it to perfection than some other varieties.

Farm Notes. Farmers cannot afford to experiment except incidentally on a small scale. The experiment stations were instituted to make a business of experimenting, and they are doing a good work.

The Ohio station has made several attempts to get a settling of crimson clover, but all have failed. It seems not able to germinate in the hot, dry August of Ohio nor to stand the severe winters there.

Every grain of wheat should produce forty fold. A bushel of seed, consequently, sown upon an acre of ground, should produce forty bushels, which shows that much of the seed used is either wasted or lost in the ground.

This is an excellent time to make the hills for tomato plants. Dig a hole two feet square and a foot deep. Fill it full of manure and dirt intimately. The manure will have decomposed and will be in excellent condition for plants, and a space of four feet square should be spaded with which the manure should be mixed.

Some dairymen declare that "sunshine has a good deal to do with the fullest flow of milk; also, with its quality." One man gives each cow of his herd an extra quart of meal night and morning in cloudy weather in order to satisfy his customers. This experience is a significant one and ought to be effective against dark stables.