

FARM HINTS.

Breed in May for fall pigs.

Don't get into the habit of trading horses.

The oiled collar wears itself and the horse's shoulder less.

A crust is a good thing on pie, but a bawling on a corn field.

If you have a rough pasture, fence it and turn in brood sows.

Teasing or tickling horses renders them vicious and irritable.

Be sure there are no lice on the colts when they are turned out to pasture.

Don't let too many chicks run together. Big flocks are prone to disease.

A stout buckskin string tied to some part of the harness often comes mighty handy.

Be sure that your cows are treated kindly and not hurried to and from the pasture.

The cows should be milked both clean and quickly, and at the same hour every day.

If the little colt does not get milk enough feed it milk with oat meal gruel in it.

The duck is the coming fowl. Post up on raising ducks and increase your bank account.

Clean, fresh water is indispensable for poultry. Don't let them suffer for it this summer.

Keep the hens well supplied with grit to keep them healthy and to produce firm-shelled eggs.

Instead of throwing stones at the scratching hen, mend the garden fence and keep your pets tame.

You can afford to pay a good price for a good bull. A poor one is a reckless extravagance as a gift.

The earlier the weed is killed the easier the task, the more effective the job and the less injury to the corn.

If there is no fishing in your neighborhood make some. It is a poor farm that won't support a fish pond.

The corn planted in ground in good condition will pass the corn planted two weeks earlier in cold, wet ground.

Corn put in cold, wet ground will make only a sickly plant, but the grass and weeds will make a good growth.

The folly of farming without fun is fully found when the boys begin to talk about enlisting—for a campaign of sin in town.

If corn and potatoes are not up, harrow promptly when the soil is dry enough after a heavy rain. There is money in it.

Attractive appearance often makes a market where none existed, and the appearance of things is usually in control of the producer.

A well that is not clean and so constructed as to keep out all contaminating leakage is misnamed. It should be known as a "sick."

Keep a sharp eye on the laying qualities of your hens, so that when the time comes to cull you can get rid of the unprofitable one.

If your horses or cows shrink from you in fear when you approach them it is evident that some one about the farm needs a lesson in kindness.

It takes lots of good service from a dog to pay for the fleas and foul smells he produces, and it's lucky for the dogs that so few of us cast up accounts.

A flower bed is not so contemptible as to be unworthy of a few minutes of a man's labor. It may afford as much pleasure in its way as a cornfield or a cow.

Keep a barrel of lime in the hen house, with a shingle stuck in it. Every few days then it is handy to scatter lime around where it will do the most good.

Time is not gained, but lost, by planting corn before the ground is well warmed, and the ground may be cold when the sun and even the air are quite warm.

The man who would get up a corner in the necessities of life and reap a fortune therefrom is no better than a thief, and ought to be sent to the penitentiary.

If you have all the plans laid out for your season's work it may be a good idea to let your wife take a kodak squint at them to see if they are practical or not.

If you have been breeding from pure bred sires, and have high bred grade stock, don't improve them further by introducing a new breed. That is the road to scrubdom.

Horses over twelve years old often suffer from toothache, which prevents mastication and causes poor condition. Every horse should be examined annually by a veterinary dentist. It pays.

I have found out that it pays to let the wife have her way in the garden, in the kitchen and in the home, and since I have come to think about it, it is equally as well to let her exert her influence almost anywhere.

The weeds are inclined to laugh when they see a cultivator coming into wet ground, for they know it will not hurt them much, and it will put the ground in bad condition—and that is good fortune for them.

It is a good plan to spend some time training the colts when the weather will not permit active field work. Colts should be taught from youth up to do what will be required of them when older, thus saving the breaking required of green horses.

The hen doesn't create eggs from nothing, though on some places it seems apparent that she does. She is simply a machine for turning out eggs from the raw material. If you supply a hen with the material she will do the transformation act.

It is easier to cultivate corn that is just coming up than it is to cultivate after the leaves have spread, and it is knowledge of this fact which enables the wide awake farmer to do with a harrow what the other fellow cannot do with a shovel plow—keep the field clean.

It is a lamentable fact that some men would rather make (?) \$5 trading horses than to take proper care of their cows, pigs and chickens. It is better to make an honest dollar producing something that will contribute that much to the sum total of good things of this world than to make \$5 in some doubtful speculation, the chance for which may never occur again.

Do not set milk or cream in a cellar where potatoes or other vegetables are stored. Do not set a trap in your corn crib door; you might catch your neighbors' fingers in it. Do not set a hen in the horse trough, old Dobbins will eat the eggs. Do not sit still when important work needs to be done. It is well enough to set, and of vast importance to set everything properly.

Cattle often have rough brown spots on the skin, something like large warts. These should be touched or washed with carbolic acid, diluted about one-third. Two or three applications are usually all that is necessary, and then apply salted grease. These spots are caused by an insect which burrows under the skin. They will spread if the insect is not killed. It is mange.

Strawberry Shortcake—Mix thoroughly one pine bread flour, half teaspoon salt, two level teaspoons baking powder and one tablespoonful of sugar, and rub in one-fourth cup of butter. Beat one egg very light, add one scant cup milk (about seven-eighths) without mixing and stir this into the flour. Beat well and then spread the dough on two round shallow pans. Bake and when done split, butter and spread with fruit, sweetened and mashed.

The plow that will grow up bread, butter and contentment, is a good one whether it cuts fourteen or sixteen inches wide. To make a bad plow go well, the plowman should have happy thoughts and he will not abuse his team. Our thoughts influence our actions and actions speak louder than words. I have observed dogs that could tell when their masters were out of humor even if they said not a word, and I once owned a religious cow that would kick a profane hired man as fast as he could get up.

CARE OF FRESH COWS.

A very large proportion of the cows in the country are bred to calve in the spring, and with the late season good care will be needed for the prevention of the troubles so common at calving time. Especially will it be necessary to exercise care with the milk cows. No cold water nor any of a much lower temperature than blood heat, should be given for at least a week after calving. During this time at least, and often for a longer period, the cow is quite feverish and very thirsty. If allowed to drink water of the temperature of the atmosphere, all the heat of the body will be exhausted in raising the temperature of the water to that of the blood. This produces external chills, which, in turn, intensifies and protracts the fever. As long as the fever lasts, too, no grain should be fed, but, instead, only bran slops made with warm water, and nothing but laxative food should be given. Keep the udder milked clean, and be on the lookout for any tenderness of the teats. With milk cows the calf should be removed at least as soon as the milk becomes normal. Many do not allow it to suck more than once a day and some not at all, but instead milk and feed the colostrum, which it is necessary that the calf should have in order that the digestive apparatus may be regulated thereby.

NEW CURE FOR DRUNKENNESS.

Certain lectures are, as benedictines know to their cost, one of those amenities of life that might with advantage be dispensed with, says the Berlin correspondent of the London Daily Telegraph. And perhaps wives who live on the Rhine will henceforth avoid administering the cold water cure when their husbands return home in a state of intoxication.

The police court at Mayence has sentenced an old man of 61 to a year's imprisonment for the mode in which he resented his wife's ideas of applying a remedy against drunkenness. He returned home one night visibly in his cups, whereupon his wife gave him a very sharply worded curtain lecture. Not being one of those who are satisfied with inflicting stings by linguistic combinations alone, she added force to her scolding by pouring a bucket of icy cold water on his head. The man thereupon took up a loaded pistol and fired it point blank into his wife's face inflicting wounds in both eyes—one of which she has completely lost, the other being severely injured.

THE IDEAL HUSBAND.

(Mrs. Clark-Hardy, Red Cedar, Wis.)

With advancing years one's ideals are likely to become slightly modified. Experience teaches us that humanity must even be of the earth earthy ways and we are willing that it should be so, realizing that we ourselves, having so little of the angelic in our makeup, are much happier walking in close companionship with one who has his share of the faults and frailties of humanity, than we could possibly be with a being so perfect in his spiritual nature that he would never be able to make allowance for our own inherent depravity; and so, my ideal husband is intensely human, and ever will be until he attains to that sphere where they neither marry or are given in marriage.

But my ideal husband must be first and always a Christian gentleman. He must be clean, morally, mentally and physically, and love must be the dominant principle of his whole life. Love for his family and his home. I think that the Apostle Paul had an ideal husband in his mind's eye when he said "Husbands, love your wives even as Christ loved the church."

Such love as this will secure to the wife perfect confidence, perfect peace and perfect happiness and will be a safeguard to the husband in the hours of temptation, precluding all dishonor or unfaithfulness.

To my ideal husband home will be the dearest spot on earth, and the home circle the very best society, and he will remember that marriage is a yoke which must be borne equally by husband and wife, and as she has given up much that was dear to her heart, the home of her childhood, the tender, protecting care of her parents, and much of girlish pleasure to become his wife, and all for love's sweet sake, he, too, will gladly forego many of the pleasures, and the freedom of his bachelor days for the sweeter joys of domestic life. He realizes that the word husband signifies "house-band," the band which binds the home and family together, and he willingly gives them as much of his society as is possible, while he toils uncomplainingly that his loved ones may be maintained in comfort, and he finds in the love and appreciation of his family a fitting recompense for all his labor. His home is to him a safe anchorage from all the storms of life, and in its peaceful moorings he finds his greatest earthly happiness.

My ideal husband is kind and courteous to his family, and remembering that love is a wife's wages, he does not skimp in his pay. He remembers also that loving words and kind deeds are the flowers that make glad the heart of the living, while green grass on a well kept grave gives no joy to the pulseless heart that lies beneath. My ideal husband understands that, as his wife gives of her time for the making and maintaining of the home, even as he gives of his own for its support, she is justly entitled to share equally with him in the proceeds of their joint labor, and he never forgets that she is not only his wife, but an individual whose rights he is bound to respect and protect. In conclusion we will say the ideal husband is not so rare as some people suppose. There are plenty of them, as many a wife will testify, and may their number never grow less.

Is not this just such an ideal husband as one would expect our friend, Mrs. Hardy, to depict?

Mrs. Hunn portrays her ideal in rhyme, and really does it all in the very first verse, though the second and succeeding verses add touches to the picture which make it one not easily to be forgotten:

THE IDEAL HUSBAND.

(Mrs. F. J. Hunn, Arrington, Kan.)

My ideal husband
A man must be
Whom I can be proud of,
Whom I'll be proud of me.

With lots of affection
Not hidden away,
But convenient and ready
For use every day.

A constant companion,
My pleasures to share,
All my joys to increase
By his loving care.

He need not be handsome,
May even be plain,
But a dude or a fop
I will always disdain.

His breath must be free
From tobacco's vile smell,
And also the odor
Of strong drink as well.

In vulgar, bad language
He must not take part,
For the words of the lips
Proceed from the heart.

He must not seek pleasure
Where I cannot go,
Nor have sly companions
Whom I must not know.

Should he meet misfortune,
And troubles press sore,
My labors shall help drive
The wolf from our door.

Should sickness assail him,
Or accident maim,
I'll shoulder his burden
And carry the same.

Thus we'll double our joys
And our sorrows divide
As we travel through life
Walking side by side.

Then leaving this world
For a home up above
We'll dwell there forever
In joy, peace and love.

FRILLS OF FASHION.

Velvet cord neck chains strung with coral beads are one of the season's novelties.

The new moire silk woven with floral designs is as soft and pliable as oriental satin.

Very pretty are the costumes of silk-wash mohair, drap d'ete and crepe-ette, trimmed with shepherd's-crook silk in various new artistic color mixtures.

SANTA CLAUS POSTAL SERVICE.

Reindeer will be Brought From Siberia to Carry Klondike Mail.

There will be a new field for poetry and romance when the United States reindeer postal service is started in Alaska. What tales of journeys over mountains, river and glaciers to take to some lone miner or trader the news of home will be told by those who are drawn by the swift animals! What lives will be saved by the tidings of privation that will fly over the snow and ice and the quick return of succor.

From the frozen shores of the Arctic, far up where the whalers go in summer, to the shores of the North Pacific the swift, patient animals will make their track. Gold hunters, trappers, lumbermen will hear of stirring affairs of the world and of loved ones at home. The pony express gives way to the reindeer and the sledge.

The problem of Arctic transportation since the rush to the Klondike has caused much anxiety to the postoffice department, and has been finally solved only after an expenditure of much time and money by the choice of the domesticated reindeer as the only practicable and speedy method of distributing the Alaskan mail. Now, to carry out the plans the revenue cutter Thetis is being fitted out for a cruise along the Siberian coast to secure the swiftest of these animals from the Siberian herders. Lieutenant D. H. Jarvis, one of the most experienced of Arctic officers, will be in command.

The nearest market of the domesticated reindeer is on the east coast of Siberia, just across the Bering strait. Here the animals have been herded and trained by the nomadic tribes that roam up and down the coast, subsisting mainly on the products of the herds and bartering skins with the coast natives for tobacco, firearms, ammunition and other commodities. The Thetis will meet these tribes along the coast, purchase the best of the deer and transport them across to the Alaskan coast.

The present methods of transportation in Alaska are by dog trains, Indian packers and boats. By boat it is impossible to travel nine months of the year, and dog team travel is limited, slow and uncertain, as the greater part of the load has to be taken up by food for the animals. The history of every expedition that has penetrated into the country with Indians or dogs has been one of great suffering and hunger. Not only in carrying the mail will the reindeer be of service, but to explorers, miners, missionaries and settlers they will prove a sure means of transporting supplies and will greatly aid in exploration and development.

The reindeer possesses all the requisites for Arctic travel. They are swift, tractable and self-sustaining. The moss upon which they feed covers the whole of Northern Alaska and they reach it by burrowing through the snow with their deeply cloft hoofs. A swift reindeer can make 150 miles a day under favorable conditions, and twelve miles an hour is the fair average rate of speed drawing a load of 300 pounds. The average price of the reindeer is \$10.

In order to teach the Alaskan Eskimoes the art of handling the reindeer experienced Lapland and Siberian herders, with their families, have been employed by the government at a salary of \$27 per month and food. The government station is at Port Clarence. The reindeer, besides furnishing transportation, provides food, clothing, house, furniture, implements, weapons and harness to the natives, and to the white inhabitants reindeer clothing is the most serviceable.

The most remarkable reindeer trip on record, and one which undoubtedly influenced the postal authorities in choosing that animal, was made recently by W. J. Kjellman, superintendent of the station at Port Clarence. With two herders and a reindeer team he traveled 1,000 miles through a trackless country to the valley of the Kuskowim river, south of Yukon, to obtain mail. The deer at the end of the trip were in good condition, and after a few days for rest and feeding the return was made to Port Clarence without mishaps or lessening of speed.

The first of these animals were taken to Alaska in 1892, through a bill introduced by Senator Teller, appropriating \$15,000 to introduce into the territory reindeer for domestic purposes. They were to furnish a permanent supply of food for the 20,000 natives who were at that time on the verge of starvation. The revenue cutter Bear made several trips to the Siberian coast and took fifty reindeer to Port Clarence. Various other stations, with additional herds, have since been established.

A systematized reindeer mail express will be of great importance to the owners of whaling fleets, who have millions of dollars and 1,000 lives at stake. Such a service would have saved much anxiety last winter if it had given information that the icebound whaling fleet was in no peril.

To the half hundred missionaries in Northern and Central Alaska, as well as to the thousands of ice imprisoned seamen who yearly have to spend the dreary Arctic winter at Point Barrow this new service will be a boon. Only once a year has the curtain been lifted for them, upon the arrival of the steamer with provisions and mail. With the proposed reindeer service a monthly mail packet can be established.

A unique little candle has its own electric plant all to itself. The candle stick is of iron, with a compartment in the base into which can be fitted a small battery.

The battery is connected with the little bulb at the top of the opaque white glass candle. The incandescence light thus produced is just the proper size for the flame of a real candle, and the whole can be carried about the house with entire safety.

INSULTED A HOG.

\$20,000 Damages For Defamation of the Porker's Character.

George C. Council has begun a suit in the circuit court in Springfield, Ill., to recover \$20,000 from Charles A. Vigal because Vigal has said the hog that Council sold to a syndicate as a famous porker known as Kiever's Model was not Kiever's Model at all, but just a plain, every day "ringer." Now the term "ringer" as applied to swine does not mean merely a pig adorned with a ring in its nose to keep it from the unpleasant habit of rooting up young onion beds. The syndicate that bought the hog of Council calls it a "ringer" because, its members say, it is not the hog that Council claimed it was at all.

The hog the members of the syndicate wanted to buy was a proud, aristocratic swine of the Poland China breed called Kiever's Model, and they paid \$5,100, said to be the highest price ever paid for a hog in the United States, for one they thought was Kiever's Model. But after they had the animal in their possession they claimed to have discovered it was, instead, only a low, common, base-born porker known as Columbia Wilkes, which they say would have been hard to dispose of at \$40. They refused to pay a matter of some \$1,000 on notes they had given Council when the hog was bought. Council sued on the notes. They had Council indicted by the grand jury.

There have been suits and cross suits. The litigation over the hog already has cost over \$10,000. The last time Council sued to recover on the notes the jury declared him in the right and gave him judgment. Now he has started after the men who said Kiever's Model was a plebeian hog in disguise and has begun by suing Vigal for \$20,000.

The story of Council, the syndicate, and the hog is a long one, but every child in Sangamon county knows it by heart. It began in 1897 at the State fair grounds in Springfield. Council decided to publicly auction off a famous hog he owned, known as Kiever's Model. The hog came of an ancient and highly respected race, and his fame was known the country through, so when he was put up on the block on September 5 he was sold to the highest bidder stockmen from all over the country were there, anxious to secure the prize.

The bidding rose higher and higher and finally Kiever's Model was sold to a syndicate for \$5,100. The syndicate was composed of James E. Snare of Wyoming and George A. Heyl and A. M. Caldwell of Washington. They escorted Kiever's Model home in triumph.

All was serene until Council's hired man whispered about the country a scurrilous secret. He was a Swede, named Arthur Thielander. He said his conscience troubled him so that he felt he must speak. He declared the big Poland China hog that went under the name of Kiever's Model was not Kiever's Model at all. The real Kiever's Model, he said, had died nearly a year before the auction sale of one of the pestilences peculiar to the hog race.

The hired man said he had been with Kiever's Model when it lay down and died, had been chief mourner at the funeral, and had acted as undertaker for the deceased porker. He related how at the dead of night by the sickly glare of a barn lantern, he had laid Kiever's Model in a grave. The next day, he said, Council built a straw stack over the grave and put a new, low born hog, Columbia Wilkes, in the place formerly occupied by Kiever's Model. This degraded hog was introduced around as Kiever's Model, so the hired man alleged, and finally sold as the original animal.

When the members of the syndicate heard the hired man's tale they were greatly exercised. They sent a man to exhume the remains under the straw stack on the Council farm. The grave was opened, but instead of finding the skeleton of one hog they found all that remained of two. Council had not denied the existence of hog bones under the straw stack, but said they were those of two hogs that had died of cholera, and he had buried them to prevent the disease from spreading. Neither of these hogs, he declared, was Kiever's Model, which he insisted he had sold to the syndicate.

The syndicate men, however, were not satisfied. They took the hired man over to see the hog they had bought and the hired man pointed his finger at it and said, like the hero of a melodrama, "I know you now. You are not the aristocratic Kiever's Model, but the base-born Columbia Wilkes."

So the syndicate men posted off to Springfield and put the hired man in the grand jury room, and the hired man told the grand jury his story and Council was indicted. The case came up for trial and the state's attorney was preparing to wage a vigorous prosecution against Council and the false Kiever's Model, when he received an affidavit from Thielander stating that he had sworn falsely before the grand jury and that the real Kiever's Model was alive and not mouldering in the jonesome grave under the haystack.

The state's attorney thought this settled the matter and dismissed the case, but it was not to end here. The syndicate members claimed Thielander had been bribed, a position in which they were enthusiastically sustained by the versatile Mr. Thielander himself during the trial of a suit which Council brought against the members of the syndicate to recover on the note. In the first trial the jury disagreed. In the second both sides brought experts from every part of the country to swear for the defendants that Kiever's Model was Columbia Wilkes in disguise, and for the plaintiff that Kiever's Model was the original.

Over eighty witnesses were examined, and the jurors were as muddled as

they had been at the first trial, when Council won his suit by checkmating a move of the defence. The defence had exhibited to the jury the hog which they had bought as Kiever's Model, but which they said was Columbia Wilkes. Council went out to his farm and came back with a hog that he proved to the satisfaction of the jury was the original Columbia Wilkes. With Columbia accounted for, the jury decided that Kiever's Model could be none other than himself.

So the case was decided for Council and now he has begun suing the men who have insisted that Kiever's Model was Columbia Wilkes with another ring in his nose and his tail trimmed off. Meantime the hired man is silent and mysterious and is expected to come forward soon with a brand new sensation.

PLANS A BAND A-WHEEL.

Salvation Army Musicians will Now Mount Bikes and Pursue Scorchers.

In order not to be left behind in good works, and realizing that his satanic majesty utilizes all up-to-date methods, the Salvation Army officials have put a bicycle band in the field against the cohorts of sin, says the New York Journal. Adjutant Anderson, in the financial department in the Fourteenth street armory, is the leader of the bicycle band, and in a few days from fifteen to twenty members, including bass and snare drummers, will start out to carry their warfare into the midst of the bicyclists who spin up the boulevard to Grant's Tomb or down the bicycle path to Coney Island. Accompanying the band a wheel will be the bicycle squad connected with the armory headquarters, numbering between twenty and thirty wheels.

"We have had considerable difficulty," said Adjutant Anderson, "in handling the bass drum. You see, it is an unwieldy instrument and offers much surface to the wind. Aside from that it is a difficult instrument to manage in a crowded bicycle path with the scorchers and racers dodging in and out. Lieutenant Stimson, however, has about mastered the situation, and by an arrangement of heavy wires he has so adjusted the drum in front of the handle bar that he can steer his machine with one hand and pound away with the other.

"Then, again, you know, we all play more or less 'by ear,' so that we do not have to carry music with us. If we used notes the necessity of gazing at the music would distract our attention and render our career decidedly wobbly. Then our snare drummer, if he goes alone, will have to play with one hand, but we are trying to arrange a double wheel, which will give the drummer the use of both hands. All of the other instruments are so arranged that a one-hand manipulation will furnish all the music we are after. We expect to be ready in a few days to start this branch of the army out upon the war path and we expect good results."

All the army officials are exhibiting much interest in the bicycle musicians and while a number of the officers and "lassies" have already mastered the wheel, others are daily practicing, so that before the summer is over the bicycle squad will be greatly increased.

"We recognize the fact," said an officer, "that bicycling has taken a firm hold upon the people and that many have deserted the church service to speed away to the country on the Sabbath and holidays. The only way to reach those people is to go along with them. The only way to get near them is to utilize the bicycle and keep abreast of them as well as abreast of the times.

"The bicycle squad and band will wear no different uniform, but will carry a haversack upon their shoulders to contain their traps. The men will wear clasps on the bottom of their trousers, while our women will wear skirts slightly abbreviated. There will be no divided skirts—just the plain blue affair."

Potato Cure For Rheumatism.

Among the many curiosities pulled out of an Irishman's pocket one day in a vain search for a coin was a little black object that looked like a hard, round piece of agate. A friend expressed astonishment at the man's carrying such a thing in his pocket, and asked him why he did it.

"Why, man alive," Pat exclaimed, "that is not a stone, but just a potato, and, sure, I carry it with me to cure me rheumatism. I have two about me," said Pat, diving down in his other pocket and bringing forth the mate of the first curious looking potato, as Pat swore it was.

Upon investigation it was found that Pat had much method in his madness. Potatoes among old country people have been looked upon for many years as a preventive of rheumatism. Small, round, smooth potatoes are chosen, and are put in each pocket of the trousers. Soon the potatoes become black, but they never rot; they seem to be petrified, and it is claimed they take the poison of the disease out of the system. At any rate, the remedy is a simple one and well worth a trial.

"I gave that poor man \$1 a few days ago and told him to come around and let me know how he got along." "Oh, that was good of you! He was your bread cast upon the waters." "I suppose he was. Anyhow, he came back 'soaked.'"—Philadelphia Bulletin.

Dentist—Did you ever take gas before?

Farmer Haycede—Look here smarty, that joke's gone fur enough, b'gosh 'mighty! Reckon that concerned hotel clerk's bin tell's you about it, too.