

LADIES' COLUMN.

A WOMAN'S WISH.

Would I were lying in a field of clover,
 Of clover cool and soft, and soft and sweet,
 With dusky clouds in deep skies hanging over,
 And scented silence at my head and feet.

Oh! if I were sweet, where clover clumps
 are meetin'
 And daisies hiding, so to hide and rest;
 No sound except my own heart's sturdy beating,
 Racking itself to sleep within my breast.

That to lie there, filled with the deeper breathing
 That comes of listening to a wild bird's song!
 Our souls require at times this full unheating—
 All swords will rust if scabbard-kept too long.

And I am tired—so tired of rigid duty,
 So tired of all my tired hands find to do!
 O years, I faint for some of life's free beauty,
 As these beats with no straight string running through!

Oh, laugh, if laugh you will at my crude speech,
 But women sometimes die of such a greed,
 For the small joys held beyond their reach,
 And the assurance they have all they need!

—Mary Ashley Townsend.

What To Do After Burning Accidents Occur.

There are many simple remedies which, in case of burning accidents, can be applied before the physician comes. So much immediate and future suffering can be averted by the prompt use of some remedy, that everybody should have fixed in their minds some of the proper things to do. Slight burns, such as one often gets in the kitchen or laundry, can be relieved, and blistering prevented, by coating the burned part with oil, lard or butter, then covering with baking soda, and finally with a piece of linen. In a short time the pain will cease, and unless the burn is very deep, or the remedies applied too late, there will be no scars. Lime water is also good for burns.

Children are often scalded by falling into hot water left within their reach, or by overturning some hot liquid upon themselves. In a case of scalding it must be remembered that the clothes clinging to the body are saturated with the hot liquid, and that as long as they are allowed to remain in this condition the heat will be kept in and the burn become deeper. The first thing to do in a case of this kind is to pour cold water over the sufferer. This at once cools the clothing, which should afterward be taken off as gently and quickly as possible. Next pour sweet oil over the burns and cover them with soda, if you have it; if not, cover with soft linen cloths, and then wet with lime water. If there be no oil at hand, lard will do. The things at which to aim are, to cover the burn at once with some pure oily substance and then with soda or lime water, to take out the fire; to have the place covered with linen, which will not stick to the wound; and finally, to cover loosely from the air. Nothing is better for this purpose than a thin roll of cotton batting spread over the linen. Sometimes the cotton batting is saturated with oil and laid directly on the wound; but it is apt to cling to the flesh and cause much trouble and suffering. A fine quality of cotton batting may be obtained at the druggists.

In every house there should be a closet or drawer on the first floor where a few simple remedies are kept. Here is a list for burns: a roll of old linen, such as handkerchiefs, napkins, pieces of tablecloths, sheets and pillow cases; a roll of cotton batting, a bottle of sweet oil, with the stopper drawn and quickly put back, so that it can be quickly removed; a bottle of lime water, a box of powdered baking soda, a roll of soft darning-cotton, and a needle, thread, thimble and scissors. One may have no use for these things in many years; but the trouble of keeping them is trifling, and should there be any need of them the advantage of having them ready for use is beyond estimation.

To make lime water, put about half a pound of unslaked lime in an earthen bowl and pour over it three pints of boiling water. Stir with a stick, and put away in a cool place for eight or ten hours. At the end of that time pour off the clear lime water, letting the sediment remain in the bowl. Bottle the water and put the stopple in. But not so far that it cannot be easily drawn.

Pretty and novel effects are produced this season with the colored wash made on pique and deck. There are also many widths of cotton Hercules and numberless effective and inexpensive tubular and fancy braids, with mottled shell of pleat edges which are in pleasing form of trimming on chemises, French saphys, piques and French gingham.

All classes in China dress by imperial command, and when the Pekin Gazette announced that the emperor has put on his robes, but on a day prescribed by the governing system of centuries, the Chinese ladies likewise and turns over their robes, wearing their winter wraps.

FRILLS OF FASHION.

Colored silk laces are some of the new things seen on the pretty new gowns. They match exactly the materials with which they are used.

The newest traveling costumes of summer-weight cloth are trimmed with linen appliques, edged with a very narrow finish of Cluny, or are merely corded.

Toile d'acier, the new open-meshed veiling, made up over Liberty silk or peau de sole, forms one of the smartest, most attractive and at the same time comfortable of the semi-dress tolets of the summer.

Transparent materials continue to hold a very prominent place among summer "dress" tolets. Costly and beautiful gowns of India muslin, Italian crepe, mousseline brillante, barege grenadine, etamine, silk mull, crepe royal, crepe de Chine and Watteau gauze are all greatly in evidence.

Mohair, gipsy cloth, cologne and the English serge that retains its fine color and silky finish through storm and strongest beach or mountain sunshine, have been the favorite fabrics this season in preparing utility costumes for vacation wear. Separate skirts have also been made of the same materials in circular, three, five and seven-gored styles.

In the present rage for unrelieved white tolets of elegant fabric and decoration these gowns are being chosen for bridesmaids at midsummer weddings, but after viewing bridal processions of late, where this "huesless hue" was worn by bride and bridesmaids, it seems advisable to select delicate tints that contrast with the bride's gown. Where six, eight or ten bridesmaids assist the lack of color is apt to prove monotonous.

Next to plaits, tucking and insertion bands, cording is perhaps the most fashionable feature of dress trimming for this summer gowns. Vests and yokes of India silk, Liberty satin, chiffon, mull and tafeta are shirred crosswise on fine cords in groups of three or five, and bodies of transparent material are corded horizontally to form gimples and sleeves, or vertically the entire length of the waist, with an inch space between the cords.

The prettiest of summer frocks are of point d'esprit. There is something so essentially dainty about them and the dots on the nets in some way suggest a light, frothy "summerness" that is particularly charming. They need to be made up very simply with a few ruffles on the skirt, a figu effect or drapery around the bodice edged with ruffles, and these, if desired, edged with narrow white satin ribbon. The sleeves of some of these point d'esprit gowns are shirred around the arm the full length.

The stores are crowded with an enormous variety of shirt waists. It is difficult to predict, but it seems as if a white season is being inaugurated. Thin materials in these white shirt waists are the rule. Lawns, organdies, batistes, silk-striped goods make this year's waists really artistic creations. Yokes are seen rarely and the shoulder seam is directly on the shoulder as in dress waists. A new collar has made its appearance; it is cut with high rounded points under the ears, and closes at the back. On thin waists this collar may be made of linen, or of the material, but all are stiff. There are many turn down collars—that is, collars turned down over a high, soft band. Collars are also in many instances soft with turned back edges. Sleeves are smaller than ever, and there is very little fullness in the slightly biased fronts. A dainty fancy is to wear a narrow black velvet tie around the collar of white waists. The waistband must then be also of black velvet ribbon about three inches in width.

TALK ABOUT WOMEN.

The head of the postal department at Gibraltar is a woman.

Elizabeth Cady Stanton does not approve of the recommendation made by several New York magistrates that wife-beaters should be punished by flogging. She says: "The real cure for wife-beating is to be found, not in disciplining an occasional brute, but in teaching men to respect women."

Those New York shop girls to whom Mrs. Emma A. Schley bequeathed \$5,000 each merely because they were courteous to her while selling goods to her, are living proof that politeness pays. The testator, whose estate amounted to \$5,000,000, did not even know the first names of some of these lucky girls.

It is stated upon authority that there are only ten Japanese women in New York City, and one of these is Miss Shizuo Naruse of Kobe, who will shortly return to her native town and establish a hospital there. Miss Naruse was one of twenty young women nurses who received diplomas recently at the New York hospital.

Miss Frances E. Bennett, senior partner in the management of the Ogonts School for young women, has retired and will travel for a year in Egypt. Miss Bennett is prominent in literary circles. She is president of the Brownings Society. She is a charter member of the New Century club and belongs to the Contemporary club. She has lectured extensively on Egypt, the bible, Chaucer, Browning and other themes.

Among the graduates from Yale this year was Miss Selchi Yamaguchi of Tokio, Japan, who won the degree of bachelor of arts. The dark little woman received her diploma bareheaded and in her native costume, her black hair lying smooth and shiny, fastened by a colossal stickpin, while her shawl and broad sash, slung gracefully about her plump little figure, made her look like some small "Yin Yum" just out of school.

FARM NEWS NOTES.

When To Feed Cattle.

The questions that are asked us during the course of the year cover almost every phase of farming and live stock growing. Readers wish to know about all kinds of crops and grasses, their cultivation and management, their uses and value, the enemies that assail them etc. They want to know all about the breeding, feeding, cure and marketing of every species of stock, their diseases, parasites and all that pertains to them. No inquiries that are made, however, find us so utterly helpless as "When will be the best time to ship?" a question that is very frequently asked with a view of learning when prices will be highest. It is a question that admits of no specific answer unless one possessed the gift of prophecy. One might have an opinion of his own on which he would be willing to act, and yet be utterly unwilling to take the responsibility of advising another to act upon it. The best that can be said is that when general financial and commercial conditions seem to be fairly stable, the time to ship cattle is when they are ready; if these conditions threaten to change for the worse, it may be desirable to get them off at the earliest period when it can be done without loss, or if everything is on the up-grade there may be some delay in the reasonable hope that stock will go up, too, and thus increase profit. Still, no one can foresee market conditions very far in advance, because so many factors affect them, all of which would have to be foreseen. "It is the unexpected that happens," is a maxim that is constantly proving its own truthfulness in the course of events, and an unforeseen event may easily upset the most carefully made calculations. When it does it is little consolation for one to say, "Who could have foreseen that such and such an event would have occurred."

Cattle should go to market when they are ready. Very rarely is there anything made by keeping them longer. From that time on they are kept at a loss and may even deteriorate, and it would require an unusual rise in prices to make the loss good. So much is this the case that it makes against the very common practice of "feeding a carload," which in other respects has much in its favor. Put twenty head of cattle in a feed lot and they will be likely to take on flesh quite unevenly. Three or four of the best will be fit to go considerably earlier than three or four of the poorest. If one waits he loses on the tops; if he ships early he loses on the uneven shipment. Whoever one can do so he should feed a considerable number, "skimming the cream as it rises," so to speak, as large feeders do, and replacing the earlier drafts with fresh feeding stock. Of course this is impracticable with many small feeders. They means, their land, their limited feed supply and their lack of facilities forbid it, but it should be the policy whenever possible and as much as possible.

A great many more cattle go forward too soon than too late. A common obstacle to the sale of cattle at high prices is their lack of finish. Many small feeders visit the market so rarely that they do not know what, from a market standpoint, constitutes finished cattle. To such an extent is this true that we have known instances where a farmer has shipped a lot of fat cattle to market and at the same time placed an order with his commission man for a lot of feeders, and when the latter were received by him he found in the lot two or three of the steers that he had a few days before sent to market as fat, so greatly had his idea of finish differed from the market idea. Premature shipping is especially liable to happen when feed is scarce and high.

The feeder should learn what constitutes fat cattle according to the market idea, and then when his stock has been brought as near that point as he thinks he can make them, they should be shipped. By pursuing any other course there will be loss twice where there is gain once.

Spraying With Arsenates.

A good deal of dissatisfaction has been expressed in many localities with the result of spraying with Paris green, for the destruction of biting insects, and much of it is because the drug used is so greatly adulterated that it produces little or no effect. Investigations to find a more reliable preparation which shall always be of constant strength have led to the discovery that arsenate of soda is even more efficient than Paris green and is at the same time much cheaper. It can be made by the orchardist and the process is quite simple. To each pound of white arsenic add four pounds of sal soda and one gallon of water, and boil for fifteen minutes. Put it in a tightly corked jug, marked "poison" and set it away for use as a stock solution. Each gallon of such solution will cost about twenty cents, and is equal to two pounds of Paris green. When it is desired to use it take of this stock solution one quart for each half pound of Paris green that would be used if one were going to spray with that drug.

Add 100 gallons of water to the quart and three pounds of lime, and it will kill biting insects without injury to the foliage wherever Paris green could be used under the same circumstances. If it is to be added to Bordeaux mixture no lime need be used, as the Bordeaux mixture already contains a sufficient quantity of lime to prevent damage to the foliage.

Judging by the feel of the thing, the weather regulator must have been built in on the ground floor by the ice commission.

Feeding for the Dairy.

The subject of feeding is one to which the large majority of owners of cows can well afford to give considerable study. The Pennsylvania Experiment Station has been recently investigating the practices of dairymen in that state with regard to their methods of feeding cows. The results show that only about 25 per cent of those reporting are even attempting to compound rations with any reference to principles believed to constitute dairy feeding. As a rule they feed what they happen to have, and there's the end of it. It was found further that the largest rations fed contained about four times as much food as the smallest, making all allowance for difference in appetite, it seems quite impossible that one cow can advantageously eat four times as much as is sufficient for another cow. It is very probable therefore that some of the cows reported are overfed and some underfed. A notable fault in dairy feeding everywhere in this country is that of furnishing a ration containing too small a proportion of protein. The reason is of course the obvious one that the farm grown feeds are almost invariably carbonaceous and fattening, rather than nitrogenous and milk, muscle, and growth making. The result of this condition would, of course, be the feeding of a ration not rich in nitrogenous elements and quite deficient in carbonaceous ones. These latter are excellent meat making and fattening feed stuffs, but are not good feeds for milk production. The problem of the dairy feeder, therefore, for a considerable time to come, will be to find nitrogenous feeds that can be economically fed along with the more fattening grains. Some solve the problem for themselves by buying by-products, such as oil-meal, gluten meal, cotton seed meal, and other highly nitrogenous feeds. This, of course, is an expensive process, and while most dairymen find it pays, yet it would pay a good deal better if the same results could be reached with feed stuffs grown on the farm. Other dairymen are so situated that they can produce the same results with clover, alfalfa, soy beans, cow peas, Canadian field peas, and other leguminous plants rich in nitrogen. Every dairymen who is situated so that he grows his own feed largely, should try these legumes that are most likely to succeed in his locality, and endeavor to secure for himself one that he can grow and feed with greater economy than the feeding of purchased by-products permits.

Farm Accounts.

In looking over the agricultural schedules for the census that has been taken this month, it has occurred to us that it would be no bad idea if farmers were to qualify themselves to make up such a schedule for their own satisfaction every year, so far as their own products went. It is generally conceded that farmers, as a rule, fall short in keeping accounts, with the result that, except in the most general way, they do not know whether they are making money from year to year or losing it. If the farmer, taking the agricultural schedule as a guide, would prepare himself to fill it out once a year so as to include the whole year's production, he would have quite a satisfactory idea of one element of farm accounts, to which he need only add the cost of production to make a very satisfactory annual statement of his condition. In preparing to fill out for his own use such a schedule, however, it would be necessary to do something better than mere guessing. It would not do a great deal of good for one to say, for example, the cows produced four or five quarts of milk apiece for eight months, or that the hens laid fifty or sixty eggs on an average. In other words, a more or less exact account should be kept with the various products, and their quantity should not be left to mere guess work. The more exact the account kept was the more satisfactory it would be. No individual farmer would need anything like the number of heads under which production is distributed in the agricultural schedule, because no one person produces anywhere near all of them. The schedule, however, would be a stimulant to the memory and would prevent any of the products that are produced from being overlooked.

There is no need of a man living until he is 50 years old to blow in a shotgun that is not loaded, buying gold bricks, guzzling patent medicines, lighting fires with kerosene, skating on thin ice, trying to beat other men at their own games, endorsing friends' notes and thinking he knows it all. The school of experience is a good school, but it is rather expensive and one way to avoid the expense is to keep a close lookout for the experience of others, which can be done by observation. There is no use drowning in the same hole where another man drowned the day before if one will only keep out. There may be no use for growing crops that do not pay, simply because machinery is handy for that kind, or because it is customary to do so in that vicinity.

An eminent judge sat upon the bench one day hearing a case in which a boy about 10 years old was called as witness. One of the lawyers objected to the introduction of his testimony because he was too young to understand the nature of an oath. The judge looked at the lad kindly, and then called him to the bench. "My boy," he said with his most impressive judicial manner, "do you understand the meaning and the solemnity of an oath?" "Yeth sir," replied the lad, who heaped; "I added for you at the golf links last Thunday."

VESUVIUS LOST ITS CRATER.

The Brater of the Famous Volcano Has Disappeared.

The fiery crater of Vesuvius, which after erupting enormous masses of lava and scoriae for a month past, became quiescent all of a sudden. It was then observed that its tall conical crater had disappeared.

The discovery that the cone had disappeared created the liveliest interest among Neapolitan scientists, several of whom, together with a few from Rome, ventured the ascent for the purpose of scientific investigation.

Several theories have been propounded as to how the eruption of lava, ashes and stone ceased at a time when the output was strongest, and also with regard to the disappearance of the cone. The general belief is that the cessation of the pyrotechnic display was due to a subsidence, now looked upon as providential, of the internal incandescent mass.

Had it not been for this there might have been an eruption that would have destroyed Naples like that which buried Pompeii in 79 A. D.

Now that the mountain is again quiet the people of the villages of Portici and Resina, who had abandoned their homesteads in fear and fright, have returned, and are taking great interest in the scientific investigations. They are assisting the learned men by searching for stones ejected from the crater.

Vesuvius for weeks presented an impressive spectacle. Above the summit of the dark mountain white smoke could be seen making its way a thousand yards high.

Explosions were continually heard even at Naples. The mathematicians have been at work, and they have ascertained by laborious trigonometric calculations that masses of lava were hurled 15,000 feet, or three miles, high.

The convulsions shook the seismic observatory on the mountains, and the villagers were in a state of terror. They were afraid to stay in their houses; they did not like the eerie, weird rattling of the panes.

It is now known that the upper station of the funicular railway was burnt. Naturally there is a great rush of tourists to witness the pyrotechnic displays at close quarters, but ardent sightseers were doomed to disappointment, for the police were active, and rigorously prevented any one venturing beyond Cook's railway, near the observatory.

The scene was awe-inspiring at night-time, when the belchings were most frequent. Imagine the immense plain round the crater transformed into a fiery sea, illuminating with a red glare the neighboring villages, the heavens above and even the distant ocean, and emitting, rocket-like, myriads of brilliant sparks, and you have some sort of notion of what the spectacle was like.

ETIQUETTE OF ROYALTY.

How the Rulers of the Old World Are Compelled To Act.

If you were a mere monarch you would have to salute each person according to rules laid down painfully by men who have studied these things out for you and your brother monarchs.

Were you the emperor of Austria the only sign of your friendship that you could give to an ordinary mortal would be to bend your head slightly and smile faintly. You might give your hand to other sovereigns or to ministers or to particularly intimate friends, but ceremony prescribes that if you do such a rare thing you must merely lay your august fingers into their trembling palms and then withdraw them. If they act after the ceremony as if frostbitten, you have lived up to the traditions of the imperial house.

The czar is permitted to give his hand to rulers only. But he has a great comfort. It is not only his prerogative but his duty, according to court etiquette, to kiss his cousins, and as most of his cousins are females it is a duty that is the reverse of unpleasant. There was terrible trouble among the old ladies of the Russian court when President Fouré, of France, was on the way to make his visit to St. Petersburg. "He is a ruler," said one, "consequently our august master must shake him by the hand." "No," said others, shocked beyond measure. "No," his father was only a person in trade, and he himself only a tanner! Our czar cannot shake such a creature by the hand!"

So acute did this question become, his majesty finally received the president in private, and his form of greeting was kept secret.

Was the Answer Yes or No?

How they ever settled the question the Chicago matron never knew, for the tantalizing part of the story was that she never heard the answer, says the Chronicle.

She was walking along a South Side boulevard late in the afternoon, and she hurriedly passed a man and girl strolling onward in the more leisurely gait of mutual enjoyment she heard the former say to the girl:

"Well, it is certainly true, we have both got to live our lives out in this world some way or other. I have to live mine out, and you have to live yours. Now, what do you say to living them out together?"

And that was all the Chicago matron heard of the conversation of the interested strollers. Evidently the girl of the story was in a flutter of excitement, for no answer reached the alert ears of the hasty pedestrian, who wanted to turn around, but who was sure it would be mean to do so.

So she doesn't know yet what the answer was and she feels as defrauded of her rightful pleasure as if the last page of her novel had been blown away by the wind.

CHARITY SPOILS THEM.

Report of General Davis Concerning the Porto Ricans.

Washington, D. C.—(Special.)—The war department has received an interesting report from General Davis, commanding our forces in Porto Rico, concerning the great hurricane which swept over the island last August, and the conditions resulting from the efforts of the United States to maintain the islanders through their consequent poverty and suffering. Referring to the food issued by the government to the natives, General Davis says:

"The natives have become imbued with the belief that the United States is to supply food, rebuild their houses and give them all the necessities of life for an indefinite period. It seems impossible to make them understand that the aid was only intended to tide them over and enable them to recover from the great disaster. They seem indisposed to replant their crops, and when January 1, 1900, had arrived (the date which General Davis had fixed for discontinuing food issues) the evidence of suffering was so great that I was forced to recommend its continuance. The amount of food issued, however, was reduced as far as was compatible with actual need and \$750,000 was appropriated for work, that a large number of laborers might be thus employed and effective aid rendered. An aggregate of 100,000 rations daily is now being issued, however. Should all applications be considered favorably the issues would amount to nearly half a million rations each day at a cost of \$25,000.

"These issues are pauperizing the people and instilling in their minds the idea that they have only to refuse work to be supported by the government. In the opinion of Governor Allen relief supplies should not be sent to Porto Rico in the future, and supplies should be furnished no longer to the larger and more prosperous planters, but should be given only to the smaller planters, and to these for only a short time longer."

General Davis recommends action according to these views and accordingly the secretary of war has directed him to cease the distribution of rations in Porto Rico on July 15 and to give early notice of this intention, so that all citizens may understand the necessity of making other arrangements than now exist."

MADE BY LINCOLN.

An Ox Yoke Presented to the University of Illinois.

A recent rearrangement of relics in the Agricultural Museum of the University of Illinois brought to light an old ox yoke made by Abraham Lincoln, and presented to the university in the early seventies. By order of President Draper the yoke was enclosed in a glass-topped case, made of boards from the old Lincoln home at Springfield.

It is known that the gift was presented to the board of trustees between 1870 and 1872, but all knowledge of the donor, save that he was a member of the body, has been lost. Along with him has gone the certificate vouching for the authenticity of the gift, and the letter containing an account of its manufacture.

Prof. T. J. Burrill, who was a member of the board which received the relic, says the yoke was made by Lincoln when he was on a farm near Deatur. For several years it was in service about the Lincoln homestead. Finally it passed into the hands of a member of the board of trustees of the university, and he presented it to the institution.

The yoke is made of black walnut, and shows evidence of hard usage. The workmanship is rough, the iron parts being especially crude, indicating that they were made at a country blacksmith shop.

During recent years a constant endeavor has been put forth to discover the identity of the person making the gift. Efforts have been in vain, however, the solution being no nearer than it was when inquiries were first started. With few exceptions all of the twenty-four members of the board who held office under the old laws are dead. The university authorities have about given up hope of ever discovering the history of the relic. Its authenticity, however, has never been questioned.

Game of Living Whist.

A game for summer resorts, and one which, if properly managed, can be turned into a profitable amusement, is living whist.

Fifty-two persons are chosen for the pack, each one to represent a card. The women wear insignia upon their gowns, and the men wear cards sandwich fashion, with hure hearts, spades, diamonds or clubs painted upon them.

The women should all be hearts and diamonds, the men spades and clubs.

The game may be given in a series of tableaux. First, the whole pack comes on the scene, trooping in together to music. Then there is the semblance of a shuffle, each card, of course, to know his or her place and turn.

When a trick is made the cards should join hands, the winner leading off the captives, music playing all the while.

With music, lights and dainty dresses which need not be expensive, this game can be turned into an ideal kermess for charity.

The Standard Oil company has advanced the wages of its employees who work by the day 10 per cent. This advance affects about 25,000 men. It came as a surprise to the men, owing to the fact that oil has been on the decline for some time.