

## SUCCESS.

'Tis the coward who quits to misfortune,  
'Tis the knave who changes each day,  
'Tis the fool who wins half the battle,  
Then throws all his chances away.

There is little in life but labor,  
Add to-morrow may find that a dream;  
Success is the bride of Endeavor,  
And luck—but a meteor's gleam.

The time to succeed is when others,  
Discouraged, show traces of tire;  
The battle is fought in the homestretch—  
And won—'twixt the flag and the wire.  
—J. C. Moore.

## Lack of Working Capital

Comparing farming with other lines of business, we cannot help concluding that scarcity of working capital is one of its greatest drawbacks. To be sure, farming, better than perhaps any other business, can "manage along" on a small bank account or credit alone, but, considering everything, it would be much better for all concerned could the average farmer have more cash back of his enterprise. As it is, the growing crop is an asset upon which it is not difficult to realize cash for immediate necessities. Flour, for instance, is often bought with other summer supplies on the basis of payment when the "oats are threshed" or other crops marketed. The possibility of thus maintaining life on credit has assisted pioneer farmers wonderfully in the past, but it is full time to get the business upon a sounder basis—to make the chattel mortgage a stranger rather than an ever-present guest at the family board. Hand-to-mouth methods may have been necessary when the country was opening up, when men had their strong hands and the sweat of their brow as capital, when cash was a scarce commodity and barter a common convenience in country communities. In such times farmers were solely dependent upon the season and its crop productions. Should crops fail distress was rife. The mortgage maintained the level of the "party of the second" part, and the level it kept him down to was a low one. Should crops luxuriate and prices prove better than usual, money accrued that settled the mortgage and left something over; and here began what is still at this day a menace to sound business methods of farm management. We refer to the greed for more land. The moment a few hundred dollars accumulated the money was paid down on another "forty" or "eighty" or "quarter section," and another mortgage signed. From that date on the worker had to struggle with his usual chattel mortgage and the new one on fresh land; and the second state of the man was worse than the first. Both mortgages indicated effort and necessitated heart-rending labor; but this method of doing business kept the farmer "land poor" and purse poor also. It left him without a cent for implements, and those required could only be obtained by giving another chattel mortgage. It meant that no hired help could be used outdoors or in the house; and the farmer and his wife toiled unceasingly and early broke down their constitutions. It meant, too, that the children had to work and "do chores" when they should have been at school, and so it starved their minds, often stunted their bodies or overstrained them—but!—it paid for the forty or eighty or quarter section; and when one mortgage was settled made it possible to contract a new debt—for more land or necessary implements that might have been bought on a better and less life-racking basis. Without a sufficiency of working capital the farm cannot be properly operated to the best advantage. If every cent earned is needed to satisfy mortgages, interest and principal payments on new land, the farm in hand suffers accordingly. It can be worked but partially; it cannot be properly stocked; advantage cannot be taken of the rise in market prices; labor

cannot be hired when most required; implements can be bought only on the principle of "one at a time." In short, Given a cash balance at all times, poverty keeps everything dragging miserably and makes the owner of the place a miserable drudge himself, and the farmer is at least happy in mind, able to hold or sell at the right time, able to put the right amount of labor onto each acre and do it with the most suitable and modern implements. He has cash with which to change his stock from time to time, head his herd with pure-bred sires, and wait until he gets a profitable price for his surplus animals. It means a well-kept farm, a happy, educated, well-clothed family, a Christian's, rather than a dog's life, and a better heritage for the children, although there may be less land for each to inherit. Land is not everything, nor worldly possessions the chief object in life. Heart and brain and soul should have the first thought, the most care and a sound habitation. These must be part of the working capital of every man and every farmer and their welfare are of vital importance. Drudgery without cash capital means starvation of all the better attributes of man. It inclines to keep down the farmer and his farm.

Let the additional acres go. Endeavor to develop to the utmost the farm in hand, no matter how small it may be. Towards this end store surplus cash for the farm and family's requirements on a "rainy day." Concentrate effort that the farm may produce a thousandfold rather than a miserable modicum of its possibilities. In so doing, live rather than exist, and remember that the children—the human souls—are the most important and precious crop upon every farm. For every talent an account will have to be rendered some day, some time, somewhere. Let us make the most of our opportunities manfully, faithfully—but not greedily and to the starvation of body, heart and soul.

Work for a working capital and, once attained, guard it well. Its possession opens up all manner of possibilities on the farm and insures comfort, confidence and competency.—Farmer's Review.

### Wash Face Upwards.

Our grandmothers used to date the period of their lost girlhood by the first wrinkle, but the woman has to be seen nowadays who would have the courage to say that with her first wrinkle comes old age. She would tell you she is proud of that little faint line.

But, as a rule, ill health is answerable for those disagreeable little lines, and, indeed, when they are many in number, they are disfiguring.

Many are the methods that have been tried to make the skin smooth and fair again.

A number of these methods are good, but as no two skins are alike, each requires a different treatment.

There is a good deal in the way you wash your face. Instead of washing it downwards, as ninety-nine out of every hundred, do, it should be washed upwards, and gentle friction given to the parts most likely to wrinkle.

Spraying the face with soft hot water at night is good.

The best plan of all is to nourish the body with good, wholesome food, which will, in its turn, nourish the skin and fill out the face in the parts where wrinkles generally come. Face powder only deepens the wrinkles.

### Cut Worms on Roses.

I would advise the use of bran, soaked in arsenic water. Bank this about the base of the plant. Cut worms will eat the bran on their way to the bush. Some persons slice potatoes thinly, and sprinkle the slices with arsenic, and scatter them about the bushes. Lime and ashes, dug into the soil about your roses, will have a tendency to drive worms out of the soil.—Home and Flowers.

Don't worry. Do the best you can, and let hope conquer care.—E. W. Wilcox.

## THE ODD CORNER

### The Gypsy Wind.

The gypsy wind goes down the night;  
I hear him lift his wander-call;  
And to the old divine delight  
Am I a thrall.

It's out, my heart, beneath the stars  
Along the hill-ways dim and deep!  
Let those who will, behind dull bars,  
Commune with sleep!

For me the freedom of the sky,  
The violet castnesses that seem  
Packed with a sense of mystery  
And brooding dream!

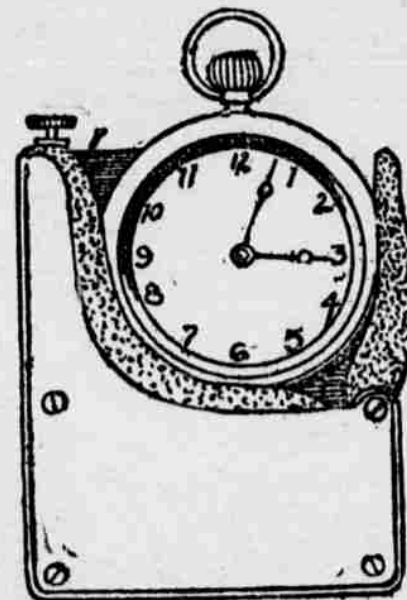
For me the low solitudes  
The treetops whisper each to each;  
The silences wherein intrudes  
No mortal speech!

For me far subtler fragrances  
Than the magician morn transmutes;  
And minstrelries and melodies  
From fairy lutes!

My cares—the harrying brood take flight;  
My woes—they lose their galling sting;  
When I, with the hale wind of night,  
Go gypsying.  
—Clinton Scollard in the Century.

### Safety Watch Pocket.

Numerous and ingenious are the schemes which have been thought out by individuals to outwit the pick-pockets who rob them of their watches and pocketbooks, but the light-fingered gentry seem to find a way to ply their trade in spite of these hindrances, possibly owing to the failure of the public to make use of the safety appliances when they have been introduced by the inventors. Now an inventor comes forward with an idea. He is perfectly willing to have the thief get hold of the watch; in fact, his device will not be brought into operation at all until the watch has actually been removed from the pocket. But then it immediately begins to make up for lost time, as the watch is no sooner withdrawn than



the spring arm, which gripped one side of the timepiece, flies shut and starts a bell ringing with noise enough to be heard clearly in the immediate vicinity. The chances are ten to one that the thief has not had time to get the watch safely stored away before he has sprung the alarm and caused his capture with the goods in his possession.

### Bees as Weapons of Defense.

There are at least two recorded instances in which bees have been used as weapons of defense in war. When the Roman general Lucullus was warring against Mithridates, he sent a force against the city of Themiscyra. As they besieged the walls, the inhabitants threw down on them myriads of swarms of bees. These at once began an attack which resulted in the raising of the siege. These doughty little insects were also once used with equal success in England. Chester was besieged by the Danes and Norwegians, but its Saxon defenders threw down on them the beehives of the town, and the siege was soon raised.

### Clever Sparrows.

One of the prettiest sights as regards seamen's pets was afforded by six sparrows which were tamed and trained by an old bluejacket on board a coal barge. He had trained them

to such a degree that they would march in regular military order, "turning" and "wheeling" as desired by merely moving his hand. On each of their heads he had fastened a small piece of scarlet cloth, cut so as to form a cockscomb, which gave the birds a very saucy appearance as they went through their varied evolutions.

### Entire Family Married.

Records of unique marriages in Minneapolis were broken the other day, when three daughters and a son of Mr. and Mrs. Freund Krenz were married at the same time in the same church and by the same priest. Four brothers of the three brides acted as best men for their brothers and three brothers-in-law. The maids of honor and flower girls were all sisters or cousins of the brides.

### Mirror is a Freak.

Joseph Pichette of Springvale, Me., has a mirror which is becoming famous as a curiosity. Some two years ago a picture of a rose mysteriously developed itself on the surface and within a short time another flower began to develop itself. In fact the mirror seems fated to change in short order to a very handsome picture, without any reasonable explanation appearing.

### Has Ancient Silver Coin.

Elisha F. Spaulding, one of the oldest residents of Windsor, Va., has a silver piece coined in 1721, which has been in his possession ever since leaving home in his teens to start out in the world. It was given him by his mother, and had been held for many years previously in her family. The coin is in excellent state of preservation, being but very little worn.

### Own Carriages in Common.

A curious custom exists in Genoa. Many of the well-to-do people, as well as those in moderate circumstances, do not own either horses or carriages; they own only an interest in them. Four or five or half a dozen great families club together and buy a carriage and horses, then they arrange among themselves the days the different families will use it.

### Two Records to Be Proud Of.

Capt. David T. Closson of North Bayside, Me., took charge of his first schooner at the age of 17 and since then has served as captain of 34 different vessels. Capt. Closson has never lost a vessel or the life of a sailor. The captain has another record, of which he is still prouder. He has 11 children, all living, including three sets of twins.

### Has an Active Conscience.

Congressman Greene of Massachusetts has received from a lady in his district a letter accompanying the return of a lot of seeds he had sent to her. She says she did not believe in the distribution of seeds by the government and, therefore, could not accept his proffer.

### Ate Oranges on Wager.

Joseph Supernaw of Ludlow, Mass., on a wager ate sixteen good-sized naval oranges. Supernaw had eaten four oranges when the wager was made and disposed of the other twelve in exactly 20 minutes. His previous record in eating fruit has been twenty-eight bananas.

### Voice Carried Eighteen Miles.

Eighteen miles is the longest distance on record at which a man's voice has been heard. This occurred in the Grand Canyon, Colorado, where a man shouting the name "Bob!" at one end, his voice was plainly heard at the other end, which is eighteen miles away.

### Japanese "Smoking Tree."

In Japan is a tree called the "smoking tree," which has a little cloud resembling smoke hanging over its top-most branches. It is an emanation which the tree gives out under the effect of sunlight.