This Country's Product of Gems.

Our chief gem productions in this country in 1905 were: Sapphires, $125,000; turquoise, $65,000; tourmalines, $50,000; peridots and crystal quartzes, $10,000 each; aquamarines, $6,000; kunsite, gold quartz chrysoprase, silicified wood and garnets, $5,000 each; smoky quartz and chlorastrolite, $3,000 each; amethyst, agate, pyrite, malachite and catimite, $2,000 each; moss agate, $1,500; beryl, rose quartz, amazon stone and arrow points, $1,000 each; topaz, utahlite and melite, $500 each; fossil coral, $250, and dumortierite in quartz, $100.

The Sorrows of Horses.

When the motor-car, with its goggled occupants, came round the corner, says a writer in Punch, the horses promptly stood on their hind legs.

"Shall I stop the engine?" the motorist asked obligingly.

"Never mind that, sir," said the driver of the dancing horses. "But if you gentlemen wouldn't mind just getting out and 'iding behind the car for a minute—the 'orses think it's a menagerie coming."

Trying to Make Amends.

Being unable to find a seat in the crowded car, the portly dame had gone into the smoking car and sat down near the door.

The man sitting next to her, absorbed in his newspaper, kept on smoking.

"I was foolish enough to suppose," she said, glowering at him, "that some of the men in here, at least, were gentlemen."

"Pardon me, madam," he answered, politely offering her his cigar case.

Pulse of the Press

Mrs. Eddy would confer a favor by letting the world know whether she still favors it with her presence.—Philadelphia Ledger.

There is some truth in what Gorky says about New York, but it is hardly worth diving into the slush to get it.—Philadelphia Ledger.

The Supreme Court of the United States seems to regard the President's reformed spelling as unconstitutional.—New York Evening Sun.

The average man knows so little about what he is voting for that it makes him crazy mad if he has to explain it.—New York Press.

The Utes scalped a sack of flour and took away the contents, but otherwise their warpath seems a veritable path of peace.—Philadelphia Ledger.

If there are any other railroads that Mr. Harriman wants, he will doubtless buy them from time to time. To date he has overlooked several.—Washington Times.

Some of the defeated Congressmen won't be as much missed by Congress as Congress will be missed by them, and we mention no names.—Philadelphia Press.

Behind the solicitude of Russia lest there be a war between this country and Japan stretches a smile that reaches from the Balkans to the Baltic.—New York Mail.

You need not be in a hurry to buy a ticket to Siberia by way of the tunnel under Behring Straits. Why should you want to go to Siberia, anyway?—Philadelphia Record.

Gorky calls New York a "greedy, engorged, loathsome stomach." His experience in getting away to Europe must have been something like Jonah's.—New York Tribune.

Russia's new Rurik is one of the most powerful cruisers in the world. It will be a valuable addition to the navy of the first nation to fight Russia.—New York American.

"Don't let me die like a dog," appealed Boni to his wife. And as the Gould family has always been fond of dogs, she saved their feelings.—Philadelphia North American.

A bank-wrecker with a two years' jail term to serve and a fine of $10,000 to pay is another good example of the Ohio idea of punishment for offenders higher up.—New York Wold.

Pittsburg, with its crop of murders and robberies increasing to a pass where it is likened to a frontier town, continues to make bids for recognition as a metropolis.—New York World.

The United States, says the Census Bureau, is worth $106,881,415,000. This news will grieve Mr. Rockefeller; it shows that there's quite a lot he hasn't acquired yet.—New York American.

New Hampshire, too, is getting tired of government by railroads. It will get to be, after a while, so that a railroad cannot do anything but carry freight and passengers.—Philadelphia Press.

Rosa Hahn was given a medal by the German Housewives' Society for having stayed at one place for 10 years. Mr. Carnegie's attention should also be drawn to this woman.—New York World.

If the work of the Panama canal be prosecuted in the future with the same activity as in the last two or three weeks, it is not impossible that this generation may witness its completion.—Philadelphia Record.

James Burton Reynolds, Assistant Secretary of the Treasury, who has on his hands a herd of four elephants seized for undervaluation, should be informed that there are well authorized cases of elephants that lived for 130 years in captivity.—New York Sun.

Chicago's criminal judges talk of keeping their courts open night as well as day. Well, justice is blind and should not discriminate against darkness. Besides, Chicago probably needs courts open all the time, at least as much as any other American city.—New York Tribune.

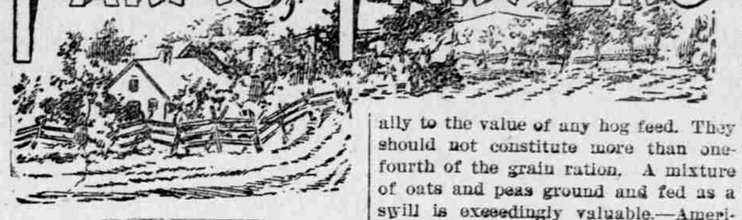
Was that sensational and circumstantial story about a Japanese spy sketching fortifications at Manila a sheer invention of some anti-Japanese propagandist? It looks like it, seeing that no such sketches were made, no such Japanese existed and there was no such arrest.—New York Tribune.

The desire of the South to get a large share of the immigrants who are flocking to this country by the million is appreciated and reciprocated by the North. Nothing would please New York and New Jersey better than for half of those who now settle right here to go to the other side of Mason and Dixon's line.—New York Tribune.

The list of world's fair cities lengthens almost daily. Dublin was one of the latest additions. Now Seattle is placed upon it. One of these days Panama or Colon will be added, with a unique attraction.—New York Tribune.

Automobiles cannot be operated without good roads. And the clamor for good roads that will arise as soon as they come into general use will result in a system of highways in every State comparable to those of European countries.—New York American.

FARMS AND FARMERS

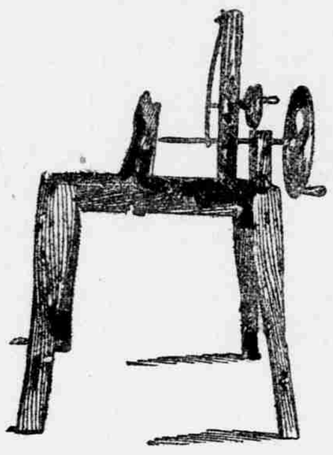


Home-Made Drill.

On our farm we have a shop for repairing machinery. It is an essential factor in farm management to be able to repair breakages and keep the machinery in good working condition, writes a contributor in Orange Judd Farmer.

The accompanying illustration shows a drill made to drill holes for repairing purposes. This machine will drill a hole through steel or wrought iron as quickly as a drill we have that cost several dollars. The main piece upon which the drill rests is a 4 by 4 2 feet 6 inches long mounted upon four legs made of oak 2 by 4 materials. The legs are worked down to two inches square at the bottom to secure neatness and make the drill as light as possible.

The main standard is a 2 by 4 two feet high mortised into the main 4 by 4. The stub standard is also a 2 by 4 eight inches high and mortised in the same 4 by 4 an inch from the end and two and a half inches from the main standard. The shaft to which the large wheel is attached is a three-quarter-inch bolt fifteen inches long. At the head a hole is drilled into the bolt, heated and then squared in order that the



HOME-MADE DRILL.

drill may be securely held. To feed the drill a steel spring sixteen inches long is bolted to the top of the main standard and attached to the drill bolt by a slot in the spring. The small wheel attached to a threaded bolt does the feeding. The piece upon which the pressure is put while drilling is a 4 by 4 mortised into the main 4 by 4 in the form of a sliding slot in order that any distance can be procured according to the size of the iron intended to be drilled. A bolt passes through this piece from underneath the 4 by 4. By loosening the bolt it can be moved to any required distance.

The General Purpose Farm Horse.

Very many of our farmers get the idea that all they have to do is to breed their nondescript mares to the leggy, coarse type of so called coach horses being peddled through the country to get the general purpose farm horse. I have seen hundreds of colts from this kind of breeding and must say that not 5 per cent of them are even fair specimens of the general purpose horse, while 50 per cent or more are failures from every point of view.

I have seen much better results where the coach stallion has been a finer and more compactly built one or where a hackney or American trotter of a compact, smooth, muscular type has been the sire. These observations have led me to the conclusion that this latter plan is the surest one to bring some measure of success in producing the general purpose farm horse.—Geo. McKerrow, Wisconsin.

The Mortgage Lifter.

The hog has been very properly called "the mortgage lifter." I have been raising and feeding hogs for market from my boyhood with some degree of success. To begin with it is important to have large, hardy, prolific sows. I find the Duroc Jersey to fill the bill exactly, but let every one have the breed that will raise the most pigs of the heaviest weight in the shortest time. Breed for early spring pigs and all within ten days or two weeks if possible to a thrifty, well developed boar (but never more than two a day to one boar), so as to have the pigs strong, hearty and near the same age.—S. V. Thornton before the Missouri Swine Breeders' Association.

Caring for Turkeys.

The young turkeys suffer more than do other fowls at this season of the year if they are not looked after and carefully fed. The supply of nature's food which so largely sustains them during the summer and early fall begins to dwindle and lessen with each coming day. The young turkeys and the old turkeys as well should be plentifully provided with a grain supply to guarantee their continued growth without being stunted or retarded when they should be growing every day.—Country Gentleman.

Oats for Hogs.

Oats may be a portion of a ration for hogs, but they are much more satisfactory if they are ground. Mixed with corn, oats and shorts, they add materially to the value of any hog feed. They should not constitute more than one-fourth of the grain ration. A mixture of oats and peas ground and fed as a swill is exceedingly valuable.—American Agriculturist.

Value of a Good Cow.

What are the cows worth that produce 400 pounds of butter per annum? Here I am going to make a statement and undertake to prove it correct, says a writer in Successful Farming. When a cow that produces 200 pounds of butter per annum at a food cost of $39 and a labor cost of $12.50 is worth $35, the cow that produces 400 pounds of butter annually is worth $400, and the owner can make net $16 more from her after paying interest on the $400 than he can from the cows that produce 200 pounds of butter. There is no more labor connected with the 400-pound cows than there is with the 200-pound cows. The price at which butter has been credited, namely, 20 cents a pound, is the net price from the creamery after the making has been paid for. In this herd the increased cost of feed for the 400-pound cows was more than offset by the increased amount of skim milk, so we have the 200 pounds increase of butter as net profit over the 200-pound cow. Two hundred pounds of butter at 20 cents is $40. We have $400 invested in these cows, which at 6 per cent interest is $24, which we will deduct from the $40, and we have left $16 to the credit of the 400-pound cow.

The Fall Plowing.

The question of fall plowing is a debatable one in the minds of most farmers. The practice seems to grow more common upon trial in some neighborhoods and to fall into almost total disfavor in other sections. Upon the rolling lands which are so common there is little question that it is justly condemned, if, indeed, it is good practice anywhere, says an exchange. Some loss of plant food from washing and blowing of the surface soil upon fall-plowed ground is inevitable, although its mechanical condition may be improved somewhat by the action of the frost upon the freshly plowed ground. Of course, the condition of the labor market affects the amount of fall plowing undertaken or accomplished to a very considerable degree, but independently of any and all of the factors mentioned, fall plowing may be expedient in some cases. The writer has done very little fall plowing during recent years, but this year the plow will be kept going as long as the weather will permit after the crops are all secured.

Best Not to Sell Early.

For years farmers have been growing sheep in a small way, and generally have sold their lambs when they weigh 60 to 70 pounds for from $2 to $2.50 each. Even at these prices one makes a nice profit out of his sheep. It has cost little to grow them and so he is well paid, but it is possible to do better. For several years Western lambs weighing from 50 to 60 pounds have sold at from $2 to $2.50, and after being fed sixty or ninety days, or up to 80 to 90 pounds, they sell for almost twice as much. As a rule the farmers who sell the young lambs have feed enough to finish them and get the additional price. Although this extra feed had to be bought at market prices there would be no loss, for feeders are buying both sheep and feed and making a profit. More profit is made from farm products when animals are properly finished, and lambs are in this class.

Hillside Farms.

The hill lands of Georgia are not permitted to wash away down the steep hillsides. Around such hills there are bands or terraces thrown up with great care to stop the downward rush of water, and thus the washing tendency is checked as soon as begun. These belts of firm sod land are most effective. They rise one above the other in steps of five or eight feet in vertical height. The rows bend around the hill, conforming strictly to these terraces. This is a most excellent system and one badly needed on many farms of the new southwest.—Exchange.

Profit in Apples.

With the passing years there seems to be a more imperative necessity for impressing the fact upon the apple growers that they must have a clearer conception of higher ideals. No matter how abundant or cheap the prices of apples may be in the market, there is always the unbounded assurance that first-class, fancy apples will bring the best of prices, and there is no danger whatever of overstocking the market with such fruit. Such a class of apples will often sell readily at $6 and $7 a barrel, when the poorer grades could hardly be given away.—Apple Specialist.

Kill Free Seed Distribution.

The free seed distribution by the government costs $242,000 a year, besides the cost of handling in the mails, which costs about as much more, or half a million dollars a year, total. This sum of money wisely used would teach farmers the correct plan to market and build the machine for marketing, which will compel a profitable price for every farm crop grown anywhere in the country. The machine once built will not cost the farmers anything directly to run it, but will pay great dividends every year.—Up-to-Date Farming.

Insinuating.

Sweet Singer—The heavy tragedian seems so gloomy to-day.

Comedian—Yes, it is his birthday.

Sweet Singer—His birthday? Why, I should think he would be in the best of spirits.

Comedian—Hardly. One of his friends sent him a cake with frost over the top and he is just about to start on an eastern tour.

More Information.

Mrs. Chugwater—Josiah, the doctor says Mr. McJones has pleuro-pneumonia. What is pleuro-pneumonia?

Mr. Chugwater—You know what pneumonia is, don't you? Well, pleuro is the same as plural. It means more than one. Pleuro-pneumonia is what you have when you've got it in both lungs. Why can't you think these things out for yourself once in a while?

Golden Glow.

"She was a long way from being beautiful when I knew her."

"Well, she's beautiful now, all right."

"Some relative must have died and left her a pot of money."—Houston Post.