

Competition

The Dawn of Peace.
Put off, put off your mail, O kings,
And best your hands to dance,
Your hands must turn a surer grasp,
Your hearts a better trust.

Oh, bend back the lance's point,
And break the helmet bar,
And cease to be a war of wind,
But not the note of war.

Upon the grassy mountain paths
The glittering hoys increase—
They come! They come! How fair their
feet!
They come who publish peace.

Lincoln in War Times

Why the Great President Was So Often at War Department

Surprise is often expressed by intelligent people that so large a proportion of President Lincoln's most important telegrams and some of his letters are dated from the war department instead of the executive mansion, and none of them from the navy, treasury or other administrative bureaus. This is generally deemed a very singular fact, and from it writers have plausibly drawn the conclusion that Lincoln personally liked the secretary of war better than any of the cabinet officers.

While this indeed appears to have been true, it does not necessarily follow. He certainly held Mr. Seward in high regard, yet he seldom went to the state department.

In the circumstances it was not at all singular. The explanation is easy. War was the business of that time, and Lincoln's eyes were always bent to the army, especially when great military events were impending. He habitually haunted the adjacent war

Under the Prison Floor

Daring Attempt at Escape Foiled in Nick of Time

One of the hitherto unwritten stories of the civil war is that of the military prison on the Dry Tortugas, near Florida. It was used to confine soldiers sentenced by court martial, and was guarded toward the close of the war by a detachment under Capt. W. R. Prentice, who relates in McClure's Magazine some of his experiences at this lonely post.

One day twenty-four uniforms were stolen by the prisoners from the quartermaster's storeroom. It was understood what such a theft meant—that twenty-four of the most desperate characters among the prisoners, disguised as soldiers, expected to pass the guard some dark night, seize a schooner and escape.

The plan looked very feasible. For days a quiet but careful search was carried on. No clue could be obtained. The guard at the postera was doubled. At last I took into my confidence a prisoner whose term had

Fought on Oil Field

Bloody Civil War Battle Raged Around the Derrick

Operations will shortly begin in a new field of the Kentucky oil belt. Capt. S. D. Bottom, who owns the noted Perryville battlefield, ten miles west of Louisville, has decided to open a certain part of the battlefield for the boring of wells on the field, which is claimed to be rich in surface indications.

Here in 1863, a well was drilled to the depth of 500 feet by New York parties, who leased many thousand acres in West Kentucky to the army.

On the morning preceding the bloody conflict between the forces of Buell and Bragg, the expert drillers, who were boarding with Col. Samuel Bottom, father of Capt. S. D. Bottom, an usual scene took place. During the day the soldiers of the north and south met, and by 4 o'clock in the afternoon the soil around the prospective well was soaked

Dust Saved Washington City.
"Did I ever tell you how clouds of dust once saved Washington City from what many people believe would have been a certain capture at the hands of the Confederates?" asked a member of the old Veterans' Reserve Corps, which was on duty at Fort Stevens during the war, to a crowd of companions in a downtown hotel the other day. No one in the neighborhood had heard the story, and so the veteran continued:

"It was when the army of Northern Virginia was just outside the capital city. You may remember that Gen. Early, who was in command of the particular division of the Confederate forces, in writing to refute statements published in Northern papers to the effect that he could easily have marched into Washington, said: 'I knew the defenses were weak when I arrived, but my march had been a halt was absolutely necessary, and the next morning I knew by clouds of dust that reinforcements had arrived.'"

"That dust, gentlemen, was raised by a few men, namely, the men of the 6th, 7th, and 8th regiments of the Veteran Reserve Corps. The temporary commander of this company, a stout man of medium height, whose name or rank I did not learn, because he wore no blouse or insignia, placed the men in line of the rear of the fort between Fort Stevens and Fort Stocum. After making a short speech, in which he urged every man to do his best, he directed us to march down some distance on the grass plot between the two forts. Once there, he told us to break ranks and march about, returning in the middle of the main road and kicking up all the dust we possibly could. We doubled on the line, marching down on the grass and coming back in the dusty road. It was a dry season, and all the horses were soled shoes. We made the dust fly, I tell you, and it is no wonder Gen. Early thought reinforcements by the thousands had come to the relief of the handful on duty at the forts."—Washington Star.

Mexican War Veterans.
The heroes of Texas of over half a century ago are gathered in Fort Worth in their annual reunion. They are the veterans of the Mexican war, and there are but few of them left in the elastic step and the straight breast form. The greater number are bent with age, and the heads of the majority are as white as snow. There are about sixty of them. The youngest is 72 years of age (several being this aged, and the oldest has passed the eighty-fifth milestone). It is a grand and glorious little band of patriotic men, who were the fighters for Texas

Doubtful Dairy

Renovated Butter.
Renovated butter is now a subject of national importance, though it has not been placed under as rigid rules as has oleomargarine. The license that must be paid by the manufacturer of renovated butter is but \$50 per year, and nothing at all is required of the retailer. The license, however, is subject to regulations that make it impossible for the manufacturer of butter and the renovation of butter to be carried on in the same place. Thus a renovated butter establishment must be entirely separated from anything else. It must be made under the same roof, the part of the establishment in which butter is renovated must be separated from the other by a dead wall, a wall having no openings of any kind. No doors are allowed to connect the renovated butter butter with the rest of the establishment. The manufacturer of renovated butter is compelled to give a bond of \$5,000 guaranteeing that he will comply with the laws in the management of his factory. Moreover every package of butter that goes out of the factory must bear a notice to the effect that the manufacturer has complied with the laws in the management of his factory. This notice must be stamped with the words "Renovated Butter," and if the butter is made in a factory which is not a license is granted. Every package of renovated butter must bear a revenue stamp. In the top of every package of renovated butter must be impressed the words "Renovated Butter," and if the butter is made in a factory which is not a license is granted. Every package of renovated butter must bear a revenue stamp. In the top of every package of renovated butter must be impressed the words "Renovated Butter," and if the butter is made in a factory which is not a license is granted. Every package of renovated butter must bear a revenue stamp.

Natural Winter Layers.
In choosing fowls for winter laying one must be governed a good deal by the origin of the breeds. Thus it is not to be expected that birds of the Mediterranean class or those deriving their origin from India would prove as good layers in the far north as birds that originate in regions north. The Mediterranean classes are without doubt good layers, but for the coldest weather in any Wisconsin we would expect to have the best result from the offspring of such breeds as those that have been kept in North China for a long time. These birds have thus been hardened in their ancestry. The breed characteristics will crop out often even in the laying qualities of the birds. This is in direct accord with the experience of the farmers of this country. Some years ago the Farmers' Journal carried an inquiry as to what fowls had been found to be the best winter layers. A large number of answers were received, and the majority of the replies favored the Black Langshan. The Black Langshans are from north China, a region where the mercury falls down sometimes to a temperature below zero. For summer layers we would select some breed from tropical or semi-tropical regions, such as the Leghorns and the games, but for winter layers we would select always birds that have originated in colder climates.

Balanced Rations for Chickens.
Rhode Island Experiment Station: One mixture of the suggestion of the poultryman for the chicks from one to six weeks old: Mix four parts cracked oats, one of fine cracked wheat, two of rolled oats, one-half of millet seed, one-half of broken rice, and two of fine snags. For the first two weeks we have added one pint of millet seed leaving out a part of the snags. For the first three weeks we have added one-half pint of millet seed, one-half of broken rice, and one of snags. For chicks kept in the colony system give for grain, three parts wheat and four of cracked corn. Also give the following mash three times per week, and daily after ten weeks: Mix one part ground corn, one of ground oats, and one of brown shorts.

To Feed the Meat Crops.
To feed the meat crops we made the seed feed into a mash with boiling water, mix the same with molasses, and covered the mass until it was well steamed. This mash seems to hasten the growth of the chicks.

The Bronze Turkey.
The bronze turkey is at the present time without a rival. The large size and hardiness are not equalled by any other of this order. There is no doubt in the two respects mentioned they will never be excelled, as the fanciers that are handling them will doubtless continue to improve them, and will do that in a way that is important with reference to improvement of the breeds. The bronze variety was introduced by crossing the wild turkey cock upon the domestic turkey hen, and the produce was afterward improved by careful selection and breeding.

Water in Butter.
The government is taking steps to regulate the amount of water that can be incorporated with butter—at least that that has been reworked and that is known as renovated butter. The government is not at all certain as to what percentage of water should be allowed, but the department having the matter in charge is inclined to fix 16 per cent as the outside limit of water allowable. This is its contention, and the government holds to the opinion that no better should contain in excess of 15 per cent of water. The water in the best made butter will run from 10 to 12 per cent and the experts believe that three per cent is an amount to leave. It is reported that 15 per cent is the limit in excess of 2 per cent were born in this country.

Well-behaved club waltzers. Frequently called to order.

Agriculture

Formation of Swamps.
John Gilford, in a book on Practical Forestry says: Vast areas of fertile and constant almost exclusively of the forests of the forest. Vegetable matter, in the form of humus, resulting from the decomposition of the litter on the forest floor, has formed in many places several feet in thickness. The acreage of swamps lands that have been formed in this way is immense. In addition to large tracts of swamps here and there, there are many miles of swamp or river forest along our southern rivers. The process of soil formation by the annual addition of vegetable matter may be seen to good advantage in the Dismal and Ocheetowoc swamps in Virginia. By digging through the vegetable accumulation of the Dismal swamp for several feet, one reaches sand containing shells. This indicates that the depression in which the swamp was formed was once an arm of the sea. It began, no doubt, with salt water, and the sea water, which could endure such conditions found a foothold and now it is covered with a dense forest growth of many species. Little by little the forest detritus has increased in thickness until now the swamp is a well-defined feature in the landscape.

Feeding Farm Horses.
Prof. C. W. Burkett of the New Hampshire experiment station has been conducting some experiments in the feeding of horses. The investigation included the amount of water consumed, the cost of feeding and the method of feeding. The trials extended over two years. The amount of water consumed was recorded in all the tests. Both the ration consumed and the amount of work performed influenced the quantity of water consumed. The effect of the method of feeding and the individuality of the horse has the most marked effect. In the present investigation the quantity of water varied from 25,895 pounds to 32,997 pounds per year. Following are the principles contained in the author's report:

Causes of Failure With Sugar Beets.
The raising of sugar beets is not an easy task, especially to the western farmer. The eastern farmer is accustomed to hoe crops and to giving intensive culture, but the western farmer has been in the habit for a generation past of raising crops that require little or no hoeing. At least till harvest time. For him to attempt to raise a crop of anything that requires constant attention and the keeping down of weeds is a little out of his line. Sugar beets demand a great deal of labor and prompt attention. The general farmer, as a rule, help is being waited for. Not only must the weeds be kept down, but the beets themselves must be thinned as soon as they reach the size demanding it. This is a task of good power, and without any feeding of a acre field or larger. Labor pays well when used in growing this crop, but it cannot be stinted. That such labor is difficult to get just when the beets need it most all farmers know. The best of summer and the rains make it difficult to get the beets growing rapidly, and it is at this time that the farmer is employed in other things about the farm. If there come several days of rains that make it difficult to get onto the land so much the worse for the laborer.

Benefit of Grinding Grain.
Twenty head of young grade calves were purchased by the Kansas Experiment station during April and May, 1901. The feed of these calves was gradually changed to skim milk, and that grain they would eat, composed of a mixture of whole and ground kafir corn. On June 19, these calves were divided into two lots, as nearly equal as possible, the lot to receive ground kafir corn weighing 1,570 pounds, or 157 pounds per calf, and the lot to receive whole kafir corn, weighing 1,577 pounds, or 157.7 pounds per head. Each lot was fed all the skim milk, grain and hay the calves would eat without scouring.

Old Seed Corn.
In a letter to the Farmers' Review J. S. Leavenworth county, Kansas, says: "Please say to those answering my inquiries about planting old seed corn that I feel gratified to them for their information, and that I planted 80 acres of old seed corn (raised in 1900) which had been kept in a good crib. I have a fair stand and it looks well. . . . The Farmers' Review, however, believes that it is a dangerous practice. While there is here and there a man successful in getting a good crop of corn from old seed, the more common experience is to get either a poor stand, an uneven stand or no stand at all. One cannot count on the chances on the corn crop. If the seed is poor, it is the loss of very much more than the seed. The cost of plowing the land is lost and the subsequent planting and working. Added to this is the rest of the land and the profit that might accrue from a good crop.

Our Farm Plants.
The value of the knowledge of our farm plants does not end with their production. It enters very largely into the disposition that is to be made of them. Our study and knowledge should follow the circle from production to consumption and final return to the soil. In other words our working knowledge must be a thorough one. In the crops we raise then, we do not know the limits of the possibilities of the plant and the soil and the soil may have food, moisture, and air, and that it may also be able to make the best possible use of the heat of the sun. The more nearly these conditions are supplied the more near will the plant be able to develop perfectly and the better satisfied will be the producer be with his efforts.—F. S. Johnston.

Shetland Ponies.
Real Shetland ponies, says Country Life in America, are scarcer than most persons imagine. At last accounts there were only a couple of thousand, roughly speaking, on their native islands, and they are rapidly being exported or sold by the admirers of other and larger breeds. There are comparatively few bred Shetlands in this country and many of the ponies offered for sale by dealers as such are really half-breeds or cross-breds.

Pretty for Lawn Borders.
The "crimson clover," used as a cultivator is charming for lawn borders or the rear sections of narrow lots. It may be successfully transplanted with careful attention, and will prove a revelation to many people. The blossoms are vivid crimson, long, pointed, and makes the prettiest of hedges.

Mimes suggest kisses.

EARLY AGRICULTURE

How English Lad Halted Path in Wilderness That Is Now Kentucky.
In London, England, some 200 years ago or less it was a custom among blackguards to steal lands and men. The thieves would tramp up some charge, carry their captives to court, get them convicted and ship and sell them as servants or slaves in the British colonies of America.

Stranded in the Desert.
Equipped Ship Rests on Sands Bordering the Colorado River.
There does not seem to be much use for a ship in the desert country of California which borders on the Colorado river, yet travelers in that region may see there a veritable ship of the desert. Far from any body of water capable of floating even a mudscrew, may be found a big stern wheel steamer, accustomed to ply up and down the river carrying passengers and freight. She has been lying there since last September, stranded high and dry on the sands a mile and a half from the stream's present course.

THE BRAIN THE ONLY ORGAN OF THE BODY THAT RESTS DURING SLEEP.
If the organs of the body cannot be said to sleep neither can the voluntary muscles. Witness the phenomena of sleep-walking, the postillions in stage coach days who slept in their seats, and the cavalrymen who do it today; infantry, however, has been known to sleep on forced marches; sentinels who walk their beats, carrying their guns in a fixed position while they sleep. For all we know, policemen may do it too. People who talk in their sleep are familiar to all of us. Experiments of the women and young men and children on 200 college students of both sexes show that 47 per cent of the men and 37 per cent of the women talked in their sleep.

A KENTUCKY SUMMER OUTFIT.
Senator Blackburn's Little Daughter Knew What He Required.
Have any of the warm days this summer recalled to the mind of Senator Blackburn of Kentucky the time when, twenty odd years ago, in the middle of June, to look after a small matter of patronage? His departure was so sudden, and the prospect of his staying more than a day or two away from home so remote, that he carried with him only a hat and a trunk. He had no other baggage than that which he had with him at the time of his arrival at the capital and he was obliged to telegraph back a request for a trunkful of summer clothing. His little daughter happened to be the only member of the family who was not in the dispatch respond promptly, she packed a trunk and shipped it, first slipping a note inside, as follows:

Be Exhibit at World's Fair.
Mayor Swink, of Rocky Ford, Colorado, who has perhaps the largest bee plant in America, is going to take his bees to the World's Fair, and they will work there from the time the exhibition opens until it closes. Mr. Swink is busy in his work as a beekeeper, and he has a number of bees at home. It is a great thing for him to have his bees at the World's Fair, and it is in that way that he will have a number of bees will work.

How English Lad Halted Path in Wilderness That Is Now Kentucky.
The Indians were Shawnees and they carried him to one of their towns and finally adopted him as a son and brother. Boone was also adopted. Boone escaped, while Sanders was so well satisfied that he stayed with his new people and finally married a Shawnee girl. The descendants of this Jewish lad of London and Shawnee girl of Ohio are listed in honor and prosperity to this day.

Perhaps some clouds have a silver lining, and I guess they'll keep on lining.

When he reached North Carolina.

When he reached North Carolina.