

NOTES FROM MEADOWBROOK FARM



Mares bred in November will drop their colts the following October.

What a great debt the world owes the farmer for the many good things he produces.

Never keep more hens than you can accommodate comfortably, because they never do well when crowded.

The sale of saddle horses in New York city has been 20 per cent. more during the present year than it was last.

Give fruit trees plenty of light and root feeding room. There is always more danger of setting trees too close together than too far apart.

It may be necessary to have several pens and follow a system of line breeding so that there may not be too much inbreeding or loose breeding.

Coaxing a little loveliness into what have been waste places is a modern mission, which is expected to have an influence in extending the reaction toward country life.

Hay farming is sometimes called mining the land because it is supposed to gradually remove and exhaust the fertility of the farm in the same way that mining removes the ore supplies.

One of the most common methods of blanching is by means of boards placed on edge along each side of the row of celery. This method is also in general use for blanching large fields of early celery.

A horse that has been worked 12 to 15 hours during the day is entitled to a good feed. Twelve quarts of oats, divided into three meals, and from eight to ten pounds of hay, given at night, make a good ration.

The apple maggot is one of the greatest menaces to the apple culture and is one of the most difficult pests to eradicate. It inhabits the interior of the fruit and to destroy it means the destruction of the apple itself.

If hens are made comfortable in every way and have only the growing of a normal crop of feathers, and are fed liberally with nutritious protein feeds, they will come through the moulting period in good condition and will be ready in a short time to lay eggs for the high market.

An experiment with milking machines by the Nebraska experiment station shows that the majority of cows yield their milk as freely and fully when milked with a machine as when milked by hand, but with some individual animals the use of the machine is not entirely successful.

Fall is a good time to give the farm a general overhauling. Especial attention should be given to hauling and repairing. The roads are good and the fields solid where the hauling must be done. It is a better time than spring to fix up the fences, as the ground is not wet. Building of sheds and general repairing is best done when the material and ground are dry.

Clover in wheat or oat stubble intended for hay next year should not be too heavily pastured this fall. Cutting over the field once or twice with the mowing machine will give the young plants a better chance to light and air, and the weeds and stubble mowed off will help form a mulch for holding moisture during the dry weather and keep the plants from freezing in cold weather.

It is not an easy matter to cure cowpea hay, the vines, being so large and so full of sap, cure slowly, and with unfavorable weather the hay is apt to damage badly, if not spoiled before it is cured enough to stack or put in the mow. The difficulty of harvesting and curing cowpea hay, its tendency to become woody and the lower yield per acre, make this crop far less valuable than alfalfa where alfalfa can be successfully grown.

Following the feeding of rye before other soiling crops mature, an unused pasture should be kept in reserve and the cows turned on when the grass in the early pasture is eaten short. If a field of the farm is in winter wheat and another field in oats, and these fields are sown in clover in early spring and the wheat and oats removed as soon as possible after harvest these fields may be used as dairy pastures for a short time to good effect, while the other pastures are recuperating.

From early in the fall until the first of the year when the severe weather sets in, a fairly good storage house for the farm can be found in any tight building that is provided with proper ventilation. Fruits and vegetables can be stored in such a building and be kept in good condition for many weeks with proper care. The manner in which this can be done is to place the vegetables and fruits in the building, keeping the doors and windows closed during the day and open them at night. By opening the doors and windows at night the place becomes chilled and the warm air is kept out during the day time when the doors and windows are closed.

Ducks need green food, as well as other poultry.

Market your eggs at least once a week; oftener if possible.

Develop the digestive apparatus of the pig and then crowd in the feed and put on the fat.

Sheep should be given salt every day. Once a week is not sufficient. They will not eat too much.

An apple or a peach may do well in Texas or California, but 500 miles distant—or even 100—it may not be desirable.

At the time for hogging down corn the soil usually is comparatively dry, hence little or no damage is done from the pasturing.

To promote animal growth requires food, and the shedding of hair or feathers takes place sooner on a fat animal than on a poor animal.

In going into winter quarters, be sure that every ewe is in the best condition. If any are below standard nurse and feed them up at once.

If a boy is often told that he is not learning his sward, he is more than likely to reach that conclusion himself and his training will be made on that line.

The Roman hyacinth and the polyanthus or cluster varieties of narcissus are among the very quickest and easiest of bulbs for forcing, either in water or in earth.

Both for the house and for garden use there are a number of small bulbs not generally well known that are worth looking up if one cares for a little experimental trial.

The moulting period for chickens is at hand. During this period we may not expect many eggs, for the vitality of the hens is heavily drawn upon for the growth of a new crop of feathers.

Shell-pink Italian hyacinths, surrounding a yellow crown imperial, will make a lovely filling for a small lawn bed. The Italian hyacinths are very similar to Roman ones, but bloom rather later.

There is little cause for complaint in regard to prices for cattle that are well fitted for the market this year. The man who markets the low-priced stock is the one who is reaping his deceits in low prices.

In dairying there are some natural unfavorable conditions that can never be fully overcome. However, most of them can be modified to a marked degree, and fairly good results be obtained in the face of them.

Alsike clover makes very fine hay when properly cured, but it cannot be depended upon for a second crop. It is not quite so good a soil improver as red clover, but it sticks longer and grows in more acid soil.

A brood sow should be fed a variety, such as bran, roots, etc. Corn is fattening and should not be fed in large quantities. It promotes neither growth of the sow nor pigs. Some green vegetable food should be given in winter.

When pastures are short, all domestic animals suffer for feed, and if they are expected to keep up in good flesh, health and vitality they must be supplied with sufficient nourishing feed to meet all their vital needs. When pastures are short supplementary feeds must be supplied.

The pig may not use its tail for switching away the flies, and it may require some feed to make the tail grow, but any sensible person knows that giving a pig a variety of good feeds has more to do with its fattening and growing than the cutting off of the tail or the slitting of its ears.

Fall planting is strongly recommended for such important perennials as peonies, German and Japan iris, and for many lilies. The German iris is one of the best plants for colonizing, holding its own finely, and admirably suited to adorn the margins of a little stream or pond.

Get after apple tree borers this fall. Dig them out of their burrows. It is an easy matter to find their location by the residue from their work. When found it can be dug out with a sharp knife, or killed with a small wire—the wire being inserted and forced upon the insect where it is working. Do not injure the bark more than is necessary in cutting out the pest.

Roup in fowls is a germ disease and hence infectious. When it makes its appearance in your flock separate the affected birds from the well ones as soon as possible. The symptoms of roup are a slight cold, sneezing, watering of the eyes, and a wheezing at night. Disinfect the quarters immediately in which the well birds stay to prevent the disease from spreading. Bathe the head, nostrils and throat of the sick birds with coal oil.

If there is no other trash on the farm for filling wash places in the fields straw manure from the stables is excellent. The straw will fill the places and catch and hold all of the soil that washes into them. The manure in the straw will help to make the ground more productive when it is again cultivated. Never plow in a gully with fresh dirt without some trash or brushy filling to hold it and catch more.

Nitrogen must be maintained by legume crops and the best legume for the corn belt is clover. The clover crop should be left on the ground. If removed, not much, if any, nitrogen is added to the soil. If the crop is removed and fed to average live stock and the manure given average care and hauled back to the field, the loss is nearly one-half of the plant food and three-fourths of the organic matter. If a good crop of clover is left on the ground once every three or four years, only the seeds being removed, it will supply sufficient nitrogen for quite large grain crops.

VOYAGE of L'ABBE CHAPPE to CALIFORNIA to OBSERVE the TRANSIT of VENUS IN 1769



Editor's Note.—This account of a seventeenth century scientific expedition was published in the *Auburn (Ill.) Citizen*, March 18, 1888, as an item of local interest, there living at that place at that time many descendants of Pauly, the engineer—the Polesys, Parkses, Fosters, and other families being represented in the list. The original manuscript in French was in the possession of John Pauley of Kansas, who was at the time of the publication visiting his Illinois kinsmen. This account is particularly interesting at this time, as it describes the conditions prevailing on the coast of California, in 1769, an event fittingly celebrated by the Golden Gate City.

The malady described by Pauly, which decimated the ranks of the French expedition, occurred at the same time as several other writers mention a very severe prevalence of scurvy in California, and was probably the same.

THE observation of the transit of Venus on the 2d of June, 1769, was an object of interest to all the learned. The Royal Academy of Sciences proposed to the king, Louis XV., to make the necessary outlay to send to California for this purpose. The late M. L'Abbe Chappe undertook this voyage with a courage worthy of his zeal for the progress of science. I was selected to accompany him and we set sail for Mexico in the month of September, 1769.

After a perilous voyage of about 3,000 leagues, we arrived in Mexico on Easter day, 1769. Time was passing; we stopped but eight days to refresh ourselves. The viceroy procured us mules and provisions, and we undertook to perform by land a part of the remainder of our travels, which was about 300 leagues. Amid lofty mountains, dreadful precipices and arid deserts, we encountered new dangers every day. We fell from fear a thousand times. We were also oppressed by the excessive heat, which left us hardly strength enough to drag ourselves. A thousand insects of every species gave us no rest by day or night, and we had constantly to be on our guard against the very ferocious beasts with which the country is covered. Moreover, we lacked the necessities of life, for the provisions that we got in Mexico had been spoiled by the heat. We were obliged to live on wild cattle and whatever fruits we could find here and there. We made our halts near some river or spring, that we might slake the burning thirst with which we were constantly consumed; to find one it was often necessary to march a whole day's journey.

Arrived in the evening in some valley, or on the side of some hill, we endeavor to take upon the ground (et la belle etoille), the repose which our cruel fatigue rendered so necessary. When scarcely asleep we were often aroused by a storm, and then by the impetuous torrents that came down upon us from the heights of the mountains. Many a dark night we had to save ourselves and our equipage, fearful at every step of tumbling down some of the precipices.

After running a thousand risks we arrived at last at the port of San Blas, on the Pacific ocean; thence we embarked for California on a brigantine which the viceroy of Mexico had prepared. The Pacific ocean, although very tranquil, is not the less dangerous on account of the (vigies) with which it is filled.

The great calm which prevailed at that time caused us to despair of arriving in time to accomplish the object of our voyage. After six weeks' sailing, during which we made but 150 leagues, on the greatest breadth of the sea, the shortness of the time caused us to risk a hazardous exploit. The part of California near which we found ourselves was the port of San Jose—so dangerous that no one had ever landed there. The access to it is guarded by the incessant waves that break impetuously against the rocks.

The Spanish astronomers who were of our company wished to wait for a favorable wind to land at Cape St. Lucas, which was distant but ten leagues. The landing there is indeed less dangerous, but we did not follow their advice because we were pressed to arrive at the place of our destination; we resolved to attempt to disembark at the first land we should discover.

While these gentlemen were yet deliberating, four Indian sailors and myself let down the long boat; we took with us half of the instruments. I

agreed with the Abbe Chappe that if we perished he might find other means to land elsewhere with the rest, which would be sufficient for making his observations. I embarked then in the long boat with my four sailors, steering directly for the coast; the nearer we approached it the more we were sensible of the difficulty of landing.

We were constantly thrown back by the accumulated waves, and our boat threatened all the while to ship water. When on the point of losing courage, one of the sailors discovered, at a distance, the mouth of an unknown river. This discovery animated us; we reached the coast by this mouth but with great difficulty. I sent back the long boat for the Abbe Chappe and the Spanish astronomers, who arrived safely enough.

Arrived on the peninsula the twenty-first of May, 1769, 13 days before the epoch of the transit of Venus. We found no (zelle a pouvoir nous mettre a labri), the inclemency of the weather. The savages that repaired to us said that a contagion was prevailing in this country which ravaged it completely. The interpreter who translated this added that they said that in order to withdraw ourselves from the influence of this terrible malady, it was necessary to remove some hundred or more leagues farther to the north.

The means of undertaking this new journey, broken down with fatigue as we were; we had neither horses nor carriers to transport our baggage; it was impossible to march on foot, and we shrank from a journey through a desert. All these reasons decided us to occupy ourselves with no business but that which had brought us.

We labored to construct an observatory, which was ready the twenty-eighth day of May, six days before the epoch when we would have need of it. We made our observations on the third of June, with the greatest exactness.

The contagion made new progress every day; a general sorrow reigned in all this part of California; we were not long without participating in it in a distressing manner. This dreadful malady came upon us six or seven days after the observation. We were wholly without succor; we could not be useful to one another, because we were attacked almost all at once.

The little medicine that we had brought from France was useless, from want of knowing how to apply it.

Nevertheless, the abbe, all sick as he was, continued his observations all the time. After observing an eclipse of the moon, he at last yielded to his faintness, the delirium of his disease left him but little time to examine himself; he died the first of August, 1769. We were all dying (I and the companions of our voyage), when I had the sorrow to close his eyelids.

Our situation and our want of strength induced us in this case to bury him without much ceremony. I devoted some moments to regret for the loss I had suffered, and in the height of a disease from which I did not expect to recover, I took the precaution to collect all the papers relating to the

object of the voyage. I placed them in a casket with an address to the viceroy of Mexico. I earnestly begged some Indian chiefs who were about me to make this casket safe in case we should all die, and to transmit it to the vessel which ought to arrive in the month of September to take us. My intention in this was to secure to my country this valuable depot. I remained in my condition of sickness, pain and wretchedness until the twenty-ninth of September.

At last the captain of the vessel arrived, he had landed at the island of Ceravello, which is situated some 20 leagues from San Jose. My joy was so much the greater in seeing him that he pressed me to quit the fearful place where M. L'Abbe Chappe and all the rest had died. We were carried to Ceravello. I forgot to say that this cruel contagion had taken from us the chaplain and nearly all the persons that formed our little company.

Although sick and oppressed with grief, I was compelled to undertake the perilous route which I had followed in coming, sometimes upon mules, sometimes upon the backs of the Indians, when it was necessary to cross the streams. With all this trouble, I reached Mexico the twenty-third day of November, 1769.

There I was received by monsieur the marquis de Croix, the viceroy of that country, with a compassion worthy of that good patriot. He had had the kindness to send to meet me a carriage and his physician. Arrived at the capital of Mexico, and having paid my respects to the viceroy I was lodged by his orders at the expense of the city.

When I left Mexico the marquis de Croix recommended me cordially to the commander of the Spanish fleet, in which I embarked. We landed at Cadix the twenty-first of July, 1770. The court was at the Escurial. I had myself taken thither, and presented myself to the marquis d'Osuna, then French ambassador in Spain. He received me with marks of kindness and consideration, and gave orders to show me whatever they have to show strangers in this royal house.

He caused me to dispatch in advance of the party, the strictest orders through the minister of customs, that at no pass on my route must be searched either myself or the chests in which were the observations which I bore.

I did not arrive in Paris till the fifth of the following December. I sent to the Academy the observations that we made in California. This society expressed the greatest satisfaction with my zeal and my services. They presented me to the king, and to all his ministers. They solicited for me a recommendation of my labors. His majesty, Louis XV. granted me a small pension of 800*l*.

The government is too equitable to leave me in want in the flower of my age, afflicted with the evils which I have incurred for the service, and indispensably obliged to have a servant to lead me. I hope, then, from his justice and from his goodness, that he will grant me an increase of the pension sufficient to enable me to accomplish with decency the rest of my public career.

HELD TO STRICT ACCOUNTING

Chinese Police Officials Are Expected to Be Urgent in Preventing and Punishing Crime.

In lemon-colored silk a Chinese diplomat on an Atlantic City pier talked about Chinese laws.

"Some of our laws, you know, are very stimulating," he said. "For example, Chi owed money to a money lender. Chi would not pay, and the

money lender hanged himself on Chi's doorstep. Chi was condemned to death. You see, he was really responsible for the money lender's death.

"A son able to support his parents is imprisoned for life if he won't do so. A son unable to support them is imprisoned for three years, as we hold—and quite rightly—that there must be something wrong with a young man who can't support his parents.

"Our police are excellent, thanks to the stimulus of our law. When a crime is committed a sleuth is put upon the case and given, say 30 days, to land the criminal. If the sleuth fails, he himself pays the penalty of the crime, less two degrees. Thus, if the Sigeol murder had occurred in China, a police official would now be undergoing life imprisonment. That, too, is a just and stimulating law. For if the police can neither prevent nor punish such a crime as the Sigeol murder, then they should be them-

selves punished for their rank incapacity."

Good Gunnery at Sea.

If our navy's gunners can shoot little targets so full of holes nobody is able to see the exact score they can shoot up an enemy's big battleships so thoroughly that nobody can tell or many care to know which guns won the victory. The target practice of the Virginia capes should make every American proud of our ships and of the men in them.

ANOTHER WOMAN CURED

By Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound

Gardiner, Maine.—"I have been a great sufferer from organic troubles and a severe female weakness. The doctor said I would have to go to the hospital for an operation, but I could not bear to think of it. I decided to try Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound and Sanative Wash—and was entirely cured after three months' use of them."—Mrs. S. A. WILLIAMS, E. P. D. No. 14, Box 39, Gardiner, Me.

No woman should submit to a surgical operation, which may mean death, until she has given Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound, made exclusively from roots and herbs, a fair trial. This famous medicine for women has for thirty years proved to be the most valuable tonic and renewer of the female organism. Women residing in almost every city and town in the United States are willing to testify to the wonderful virtues of Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound. It cures female ill, and creates radiant, buoyant female health. If you are ill, for your own sake as well as those you love, give it a trial.

Send a farmer's appeal, Lynn, Mass., invites all sick women to write her for advice. Her advice is free, and always helpful.



POOR BOY.

"Dear me! Why do you cry so bitterly?"

"I'm cryin' 'cause I'm so wicked dat I'm goin' ter play hooky, instead of goin' ter school, boo hoo!"

The Soft Answer.

At a dinner in Bar Harbor a Boston woman praised the wit of the late Edward Everett Hale.

"Walking on the outskirts of Boston one day," she said, "he and I inadvertently entered a field that had a 'No Trespassing' sign nailed to a tree.

"Seeing a farmer appear, he called out to her: 'Trespassers in this field are prosecuted,' he said in a grim tone.

"Dr. Hale smiled blandly.

"'But we are not trespassers, my good man,' he said.

"'What are you then?' asked the amazed farmer.

"'We're Unitarians,' said Dr. Hale."

—Washington Star.

Expensive Silence.

Little four-year-old Alice was lying on the floor whining and crying steadily one afternoon until, her father's patience exhausted, he called out to her: "Oh, stop, Alice, and I'll give you a penny."

Alice stopped only long enough to answer: "I can't stop for less than a nickel! Boo-hoo! Boo-hoo!"

Tuberculosis Among Soldiers.

For 1,000 active troops in the armies of the great world powers, the following figures show the percentage of cases of pulmonary tuberculosis: United States, 4.72; Great Britain and colonies, 2.4; France, 5.3; Germany, 1.5; Austria, 1.0, and Russia, 2.7.

A French Scholar.

As William bent over her fair face he whispered: "Darling, if I should ask you in French if I might kiss you, what would you answer?"

She, calling up her scanty knowledge of the French language, exclaimed, "Billet doux."—Tit-Bits.

A Ready Explanation.

"What is the reason you were so late in discovering the north pole?"

"Well," answered the explorer, "you see they have such long nights in the arctic regions that I overslept."

A Banker's Nerve.

Broken by Coffee and Restored by Postum.

A banker needs perfect control of the nerves, and a clear, quick, accurate brain. A prominent banker of Chattanooga tells how he keeps himself in condition:

"Up to 17 years of age I was not allowed to drink coffee, but as soon as I got out in the world I began to use it and grew very fond of it. For some years I noticed no bad effects from its use, but in time it began to affect me unfavorably. My hands trembled, the muscles of my face twitched, my mental processes seemed slow and in other ways my system got out of order. These conditions grew so bad at last that I had to give up coffee altogether.

"My attention having been drawn to Postum, I began its use on leaving off the coffee, and it gives me pleasure to testify to its value. I find it a delicious beverage; like it just as well as I did coffee, and during the years that I have used Postum I have been free from the distressing symptoms that accompanied the use of coffee. The nervousness has entirely disappeared, and I am as steady of hand as a boy of 25, though I am more than 92 years old. I owe all this to Postum.

"There's a Reason." Read the little book, "The Road to Wellville," in pkgs. Grocers sell.

Ever read the above letter? A new one appears from time to time. They are genuine, true, and full of human interest.