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ABOUT SMALL FARMS.

When They Continue to Be Profitable and When They Do Not.

Many have observed that the small farms—those containing forty acres or thereabouts—in the older-settled of the Western States have recently changed hands or are offered for sale. The owners desire to dispose of them so as to raise money to buy larger places in the West, where land is cheap, or to use in some business other than farming. They would not be likely to make such a statement to a prospective purchaser, but they have informed their neighbors that their small farms are unprofitable. To persons in their confidence they would state that their places pay less each succeeding year. By the exercise of diligence and economy they are able to make a living for themselves and their families, but they would be able to do this if they worked for wages. Taxes, insurance, repairs of buildings and fences, and the money paid out for implements, leave little to represent the profits derived from the capital invested in the place. By raising a variety of field, orchard and garden crops they find it comparatively easy to supply their families with food, but the difficulty is in obtaining money to meet other necessary expenses.

Franklin in "Poor Richard's Almanac" had much to say of the profits and delights of a little farm well tilled. When he wrote, however, farming operations were conducted very differently from what they are at present. There was then no agricultural machinery. The only implements operated by animals were the plow and harrow. Grain was sown and corn was planted by hand. The cultivation of crops was done by the aid of the hand hoe. All the small grains were harvested with the sickle and were thrashed out with the hand-flail. A farm of forty acres was as large as a man with the aid of a boy or two could manage. He could successfully compete in the raising of crops or the production of meat with the man who owned a thousand acres of land and hired most of the help to work it. At that time the farming region of the country was confined to the wooded section, and materials for fences and buildings were obtained in the forest without other expense than cutting and hauling, which were generally done in the winter, when there was little else to do. The small farms required proportionately more buildings and fences than the large ones, but both were erected without the expenditure of much money.

The general introduction of farm machinery revolutionized the production of grain and the cutting of grass to convert into hay. The owner of a small farm could not afford to buy all the machines needed to do his work, and found it difficult to obtain them for occasional use on his place. With hand tools he could not successfully compete with the large farmers who had machines for doing almost all kinds of work. He labored under disadvantages that were constantly increasing. Machines increased production, and, as a consequence, reduced prices. In the West the condition of small farmers became worse than in the East. On the prairies the farmer had to buy all the materials for erecting his buildings and fences, and had also to purchase his fuel. In the East he had wood to burn and lumber and stone for building barns, houses and fences. The larger the farm the less is the cost per acre for necessary buildings and fences. The smaller the farm the larger the proportion of land that is not productive in consequence of being too near a fence to plow.

It is generally believed that the little farms are better tilled than the large ones. But careful observation shows that such is not ordinarily the case. The small farm is generally managed in such a manner as to cause the soil to lose its fertility in a short time. Only a small proportion of the land is kept in grass or other crops that do not exhaust the soil. A system of rotation can not be carried out on a small place as well as on a large one. A small farm is not profitable for producing grain for the market. Neither can it be made profitable for dairy purposes. Not enough milk can be produced to make it an object to take it to a cheese or butter factory. If the milk is converted into butter at home the chances are that it will be of imperfect quality and must be disposed of at a low price. Few very small farms have good facilities for keeping milk or for making butter.

Small farms in the vicinity of large towns are more likely to be profitable than those located at a distance from them. A large town makes a good market for numerous little things for which there is no demand in the country. Raising poultry is profitable if fowls and eggs can be disposed of directly to consumers. Poultry keeping is seldom profitable if fowls and eggs have to be sent to a distant market and pass through the hands of several middlemen. If a small farm is located near a city or village money can be made in raising all kinds of vegetables and small fruits. Extra help for weeding and thinning garden vegetables and for picking small fruit can generally be obtained near a town, but it is difficult to procure it if one lives among large farmers. A small farmer who is near a town and visits it often for the purpose of selling produce can generally make arrangements for obtaining considerable manure at a nominal cost. Many people who keep a horse or cow are glad to have an opportunity to dispose of the manure to a party who will take it away at regular times. No such opportunities for obtaining manure, however, exist at a distance from a large town.—*Chicago Times.*

—A farmer in Maryland claims to have recently seen a flock of partridges paddle across a stream of water like so many ducks. In proof of his story he exhibits six of the partridges which he caught before they could leave the water.

HOME AND FARM.

—Try to prevent disease.

—How about permanent farm improvements?

—A good farmer, who takes no paper, may become better when he employs means to cultivate his mind, and he may find, also, a good farm paper the best investment he can possibly make.

—Even-woven unbleached cotton makes very good sheets for winter use, as it is warmer than the bleached sheeting, and by summer will have become white. It is especially desirable for children's beds.

Veal Collops: Cut meat from the lean part of veal into pieces the size of an oyster. Have a seasoning of salt, pepper and a little mace mixed, rub some over each piece, dip in egg, then into cracker crumbs, and fry like oysters.—*Detroit Free Press.*

—Two proprietors of grain elevators in Colorado store potatoes for farmers, taking them as they are dug and delivering them when they are wanted to put on board cars. They usually charge two cents per hundred pounds for each month's storage.—*Troy Times.*

—Into a solution of gum arabic stir plaster of paris until the mixture assumes the consistency of cream; apply with a brush to the broken edges of china and join together. In three days the article can not be broken in the same place.—*Farmer and Manufacturer.*

Cup Pudding: Break an egg in a coffee-cup and beat thoroughly, then add one tablespoonful of flour and a pinch of salt; pour on milk till the cup is nearly full, then beat again and place in oven and bake twenty minutes. Eat while it is hot, with a sauce made with the whites of eggs and sugar beaten together till stiff.—*Boston Budget.*

—Bee-keeping can be followed in all parts of this land of ours—North, South, East and West. In nearly all localities bees will do well. There is scarcely any locality in which they will not pay their way. In the country and in the village there is little probability of overstocking for years to come. In case a locality becomes overstocked, some bee-keepers must remove to unoccupied territory.—*St. Louis Republican.*

—Fancy baskets for the sitting-room or sleeping-room can be made from the small ten-pound grape baskets, which are so common in every city. For toilet use, remove the basket handle, cover the entire basket with bright-colored cambric; over the outside place a deep border of lace; line the inside with shirred tulle or wash blonde; tiny tassels or bows of ribbons will give a finish to the sides. For sitting-room use, retain the basket-handle and trim with colored lace or silk, with pompons or ostrich tips on the side.—*Indianapolis Journal.*

—Kentucky Rolls.—Put three quarts of flour in a large pan, scald one quart of buttermilk, add one cup of lard, and pour over the flour; beat well; then add one cup of milk-warm water and one cup of yeast. Set in a warm place over night. In the morning mix in one teaspoonful of salt, one tablespoonful of sugar, and flour to make a stiff dough. Let rise twice—kneading thoroughly—then cut in long rolls, put in pans, and bake when light. This dough, if set in a cool place, will keep a week, and will be found very convenient for breakfast.—*Toledo Blade.*

—The flesh of different examples of the same animals varies not only from breed or descent, as from age, but also from variety of feeding and exercise. That of the young animals is soft and gelatinous, the fibers being small, weak and much interspersed with a substance termed, from its loose appearance, cellular tissue. This tissue exhibits in the spaces between the muscles small masses of delicate fat. The greater bulk of the latter is situated immediately beneath the skin, and produces that beautiful rotundity so much admired in children. As the animal advances in age the fibers become firmer.—*Troy Times.*

HORSES IN WINTER.

Duties Which Every Farmer Owes His Most Faithful Friends.

The horse is the most noble animal on the farm, and his welfare needs studying by the farmer so that his wants may be fully understood; and when any thing goes wrong that the remedy may be applied at once. I do not believe in continually pouring medicine down his throat, however, any more than down his master's. Nature and rest will often effect cures if given the chance. Good care and judicious feeding should be given if one desires good-looking and healthy animals.

A great many farmers feed too much hay and too little grain, especially in winter. I know of one man who some years ago kept his horse eating hay nearly all of the time, and she was thin flesh. Nearly every time he went to the barn, if her hay was nearly gone he would put another forkful into the manger to make sure she had enough to eat. He fed but little grain, however. Finally he changed the programme somewhat, by feeding regularly three times a day and giving a little more grain, when the mare began to gain. A great many horses have been ruined, by improper feeding in the winter season.

On a great many farms there is but little work to be done in the winter season, so the horses are allowed to stand in the barn most all of the time, devouring great quantities of hay, and receiving but little care and exercise. This practice needs to be changed. Do not overfeed, and be sure that the horses receive proper exercise, even if you have to hitch them up for nothing else than to give your wife a pleasant sleigh-ride. No matter if it is every day, she will appreciate it. Have the horse well groomed every day, and twice a day, if used. After a day's work I make a practice of grooming mine even if it is quite late at night. I enjoy washing up and combing my hair when coming in, and my horses enjoy the same treatment. It is a duty we owe them.—*Cor. Farm and Home.*

Married Free of Charge.

A couple of negroes applied to a Richmond (Ky.) 'squire to be married. They had a license, but no money with which to pay the 'squire. He at first refused to unite them. They insisted they had no money. They begged hard and long, and proclaimed loudly their love for each other. The tender-hearted 'squire finally succumbed, and married them in the following manner: "William Martin, do you love this woman, and do you take her to be your lawful and wedded wife?" Answer: "Yes, boss." "Amanda Best, do you love this man, and do you take him to be your lawful and wedded husband?" Answer, by a grunt. "Then, by the authority vested in me by the laws of the State of Kentucky, I pronounce you husband and wife, and may the Lord bless you and keep you from freezing this winter, as you have nothing to live on but love." It took about twenty seconds.

Better Fight It Out.

A gentleman who had a little daughter of a very inquisitive turn of mind invited a friend to dine with him. It chanced that the friend had just been divorced from his wife, and little Annie, who had heard something about it, was curious to know more. "Why didn't you bring your wife with you, Mr. Todd?" asked Annie, when they were all seated at the table. The guest blushed and stammered, and said he hadn't any now. Then Annie, in spite of admonitory scowls from papa and mamma, continued; "What did you get divorced from her for?" "Well, Annie, don't you think it better," asked Mr. Todd, "when two people can't live happily together they should separate?" "No, I don't," answered the child. "I think it is better to fight it out; that's the way papa and mamma do."

A Ghastly Drinking Cup.

Only a few years since the skull of a suicide was used in Caithness as a drinking cup for the cure of epilepsy. Dr. Arthur Mitchell knows of a case in which the body of such a one was disinterred in order to obtain her skull for this purpose.

"Just Hear That Child Scream!"

said Mrs. Smith to her sister. Mrs. Davis, as the sound of a child's shrieks came across the garden from a neighbor's house. "What kind of a woman have you for a neighbor? Does she abuse her children?" "No, indeed," replied Mrs. Davis. "She is one of the most tender mothers in existence. But you see, she believes in the old-fashioned styles of doctoring. When a child needs physic, she fills a spoon with some nauseous dose, lays the little victim flat on her lap, holds his nose till he is forced to open his mouth for breath, when down goes the dreadful mess. Then come the yells." "No wonder," said Mrs. Smith. "Why doesn't she use Dr. Pierce's Pleasant Purgative Pellets? They are effective without being harsh, and are as easy to take as sugar plums. I always give them to my children." "And so do I," said Mrs. Davis.

A CASE of fine liquor has been known to develop into a case of delirium jams.—*Washington Critic.*

The Little Seed.

A little seed lay in the carter's path;
A little shoot bowed in the strong wind's wrath;
A little shrub grew, by its roots held fast;
Then a stout tree braved all the winter's blast.

A little cough started—'twas only light;
A little chill shivered the hours of night;
A little pain came and began to grow,
Then consumption laid all his brave strength low.

Be wise in time. Check the little cough, cure the little chill, dispell the little pain, ere the little ailment becomes the strong, unconquerable giant of disease. Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery, taken in time, is a remedy for these ills.

"SIR, every word you speak is a lie." "Right you are, my pretty miss."—*Fliegende Blatter.*

Fortune is Fickle,

Say the cavillers, but we have observed that she usually attends genuine merit. She has been the faithful handmaid of Hostetter's Stomach Bitters from an early epoch in its career. That is because the American and other enlightened people have perceived that it really eradicates fever and ague, kidney and bladder complaints, dyspepsia, constipation, debility and nervous troubles.

EVEN at $7,000 a year a Judge's life is full of trials.—*Drake's Magazine.*

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THE nearest of kin—the napkin. It's our bosom friend.—*Exchange.*

THE cleansing, antiseptic and healing qualities of Dr. Sage's Catarrh Remedy are unequalled.

MONEY is so tight now that some people haven't even any loose change.

NOT all men are brutes, but an old toper reminds us of a rye-noceros.—*Duluth Paragrapher.*

A DELICATE Delaware man refuses to have his mother-in-law live with him because she doesn't agree with him.—*Harper's Bazar.*

WHITE caps—the nurses'.—*Puck.*

IT was a lucky thing for Noah Webster that he didn't have a chance to employ a caligraph operator when he got up his spelling book.—*Merchant Traveler*

A WELL-WISHER is one who invests in oil territory.—*Texas Siftings.*

A MAN'S temper is one of the few things which improve by disuse.—*Boston Transcript.*

ONE dosen't like to be stared in the face, except, possibly, when it is victory that does it.—*Harper's Bazar.*

THE plea of the financially embarrassed swain is "Love me little, love me short."—*Merchant Traveler.*

WHEN is a U. S. bond like a tavern? When it is called in.—*Texas Siftings.*

A BOY "out at the elbows" was asked the cause, and replied: "I laughed in my sleeves until I burst them."

THE waves of old ocean are by no means ready to sleep when they put their white-caps on.—*N. O. Picayune.*

THE petrified body of a man was found in a well in Iowa the other day. He might be called a well-preserved man, anyhow.—*Texas Siftings.*

THE new umbrella has a match box in the handle. Many nice parasols are mere match-making devices themselves.—*Duluth Paragrapher.*

A NUMBER of compositors have been arrested in Vienna for being Anarchists. They were probably driven to it by editorials on political economy.—*Merchant Traveler.*

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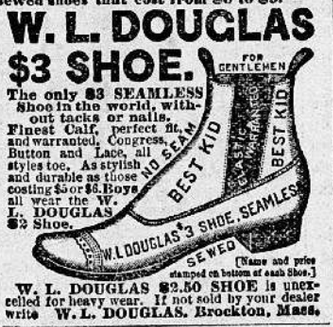

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SIGNS OF DISEASE.

COMMON SENSE AS APPLIED TO MEDICINE.

It is a well-known fact, and one that appeals to the judgment of every thinking person, that the physician who devotes his whole time to the study and investigation of a certain class of diseases, must become better qualified to treat such diseases than he who attempts to treat every ill to which flesh is heir, without giving special attention to any class of diseases. Men, in all ages of the world, who have become famous, have devoted their lives to some special branch of science, art, or literature.

By thorough organization, and subdividing the practice of medicine and surgery in this institution, every invalid is treated by a specialist—one who devotes his undivided attention to the particular class of diseases to which the case belongs. The advantage of this arrangement must be obvious. Medical science offers a vast field for investigation, and no physician can within the brief limits of a life-time, achieve the highest degree of success in the treatment of *every* malady incident to humanity.

OUR FIELD OF SUCCESS.

NASAL, THROAT AND LUNG DISEASES.

The treatment of Diseases of the Air Passages and Lungs, such as **Chronic Nasal Catarrh, Laryngitis, Bronchitis, Asthma,** and **Consumption,** both through correspondence and at our institutions, constitutes an important specialty.

We publish three separate books on Nasal, Throat and Lung Diseases, which give much valuable information, viz: (1) A Treatise on Consumption, Laryngitis and Bronchitis; price, post-paid, ten cents. (2) A Treatise on Asthma, or Phthisic, giving new and successful treatment; price, post-paid, ten cents. (3) A Treatise on Chronic Nasal Catarrh; price, post-paid, two cents.

DISEASES OF DIGESTION.

Dyspepsia, "Liver Complaint," Obstinate Constipation, Chronic Diarrhea, Tape-worms, and kindred affections are among those chronic diseases in the successful treatment of which our specialists have attained great success. Many of the diseases affecting the liver and other organs contributing in their functions to the process of digestion, are very obscure, and are not infrequently mistaken by both laymen and physicians for other maladies, and treatment is employed directed to the removal of a disease which does not exist. Our Complete Treatise on Diseases of the Digestive Organs will be sent to any address on receipt of ten cents in postage stamps.

KIDNEY DISEASES.

BRIGHT'S DISEASE, DIABETES, and kindred maladies, have been very largely treated, and cures effected in thousands of cases which had been pronounced beyond hope. These diseases are readily diagnosticated, or determined, by chemical analysis of the urine, without a personal examination of patients, **who can, therefore, generally be successfully treated at their homes.** The study and practice of chemical analysis and microscopical examination of the urine in our consideration of cases, with reference to correct diagnosis, in which our institution long ago became famous, has naturally led to a very extensive practice in diseases of the urinary organs. Probably no other institution in the world has been so largely patronized by sufferers from this class of maladies as the old and world-famed World's Dispensary and Invalids' Hotel. Our specialists have acquired, through a vast and varied experience, great expertness in determining the *exact* nature of each case, and, hence, have been successful in *nicely* adapting their remedies for the cure of each individual case.

CAUTION.

These delicate diseases should be carefully treated by a specialist thoroughly familiar with them, and who is competent to ascertain the exact condition and stage of advancement which the disease has made (which can only be ascertained by a careful chemical and microscopical examination of the urine), for medicines which are curative in one stage or condition are known to do *positive injury* in others. We have never, therefore, attempted to put up anything for general sale through druggists, recommending to cure these diseases, although possessing very superior remedies, knowing full well from an extensive experience that the only safe and successful course is to carefully determine the disease and its progress in each case by a chemical and microscopical examination of the urine, and then adapt our medicines to the exact stage of the disease and condition of our patient.

WONDERFUL SUCCESS.

To this wise course of action we attribute the marvelous success attained by our specialists in that important and extensive Department of our institutions devoted exclusively to the treatment of diseases of the kidneys and bladder. The treatment of diseases of the urinary organs having constituted a leading branch of our practice at the Invalids' Hotel and Surgical Institute, and, being in constant receipt of numerous inquiries for a complete work on the nature and curability of these maladies, written in a style to be easily understood, we have published a large Illustrated Treatise on these diseases, which will be sent to any address on receipt of ten cents in postage stamps.

BLADDER DISEASES.

INFLAMMATION OF THE BLADDER, STONE IN THE BLADDER, Gravel, Enlarged Prostate Gland, Retention of Urine, and kindred affections, may be included among those in the cure of which our specialists have achieved extraordinary success. These are fully treated of in our illustrated pamphlet on Urinary Diseases. Sent by mail for ten cents in stamps.

STRICTURE.

STRICTURES AND URINARY FISTULÆ.—Hundreds of cases of the worst form of strictures, many of them greatly aggravated by the careless use of instruments in the hands of inexperienced physicians and surgeons, causing false passages, urinary fistulæ, and other complications, annually consult us for relief and cure. That no case of this class is too difficult for the skill of our specialists is proved by cures reported in our illustrated treatise on these maladies, to which we refer with pride. To intrust this class of cases to physicians of small experience is a dangerous proceeding. Many a man has been ruined for life by so doing, while thousands annually lose their lives through unskillful treatment. Send particulars of your case and ten cents in stamps for a large, illustrated treatise containing many testimonials.

NERVOUS DISEASES.

Epileptic Convulsions, or Fits, Paralysis, or Palsy, Locomotor Ataxia, St. Vitus's Dance, Insomnia, or inability to sleep, and threatened insanity, **Nervous Debility,** arising from overstudy, excesses, and other causes, and every variety of nervous affection, are treated by our specialists for these diseases with unusual success. See numerous cases reported in our different illustrated pamphlets on nervous diseases, any one of which will be sent for ten cents in postage stamps when request for them is accompanied with a statement of a case or consultation, so that we may know which one of our Treatises to send.

DISEASES OF WOMEN.

We have a special Department, thoroughly organized and devoted *exclusively* to the treatment of Diseases of Women. Every case receives the suiting of specialists, whether by letter or in person, given the most careful and considerate attention. Important cases (and we get those which have not already baffled the skill of the home physicians) have the benefit of a full Council, of skilled specialists. Rooms for ladies in the Invalids' Hotel are very private. Send ten cents in stamps for our large Complete Treatise on Diseases of Women, illustrated with numerous wood-cuts and colored plates (160 pages).

RADICAL CURE OF RUPTURE.

HERNIA (Breach), or **RUPTURE,** no matter of how long standing, or of what size, is promptly and **permanently cured** by our specialists, **without the knife and without dependence upon trusses.** Abundant references. Send ten cents for Illustrated Treatise.

PILES, FISTULÆ and other diseases affecting the lower bowels, are treated with wonderful success. The worst cases of pile tumors are permanently cured in fifteen to twenty days. Send ten cents for Illustrated Treatise.

DELICATE DISEASES.

Organic weakness, nervous debility, premature decline of the manly powers, involuntary vital losses, impaired memory, mental anxiety, absence of will-power, melancholy, weak back, and kindred affections, are speedily, thoroughly and permanently cured.

To those acquainted with our institutions, it is hardly necessary to say that the Invalids' Hotel and Surgical Institute, with the branch establishment located at No. 3 New Oxford Street, London, England, have, for many years enjoyed the distinction of being the most largely patronized and widely celebrated institutions in the world for the treatment and cure of those affections which arise from youthful indiscretion and pernicious, solitary practices.

We, many years ago, established a special Department for the treatment of these diseases, under the management of some of the most skillful physicians and surgeons on our Staff, in order that all who apply to us might receive all the advantages of a full Council of the most experienced specialists.

WE OFFER NO APOLOGY.

We offer no apology for devoting so much attention to this neglected class of diseases, believing no condition of humanity is too wretched to merit the sympathy and best services of the noble profession to which we belong. Many who suffer from these terrible diseases contract them innocently. Why any medical man, intent on doing good and alleviating suffering, should shun such cases, we cannot imagine. Why any one should consider it otherwise than most honorable to cure the worst cases of these diseases, we cannot understand; and yet of all the other maladies which afflict mankind there is probably none about which physicians in general practice know so little. We shall, therefore, continue, as heretofore, to treat with our best consideration, sympathy, and skill, all applicants who are suffering from any of these delicate diseases.

CURED AT HOME. Most of these cases can be treated when at a distance just as well as if here in person.

A Complete Treatise (136 pages) on these diseases sent *sealed, in plain envelope, secure from observation,* on receipt of only ten cents, in stamps, for postage.

SURGICAL PRACTICE.

Hundreds of the most difficult operations known to modern surgery are annually performed in the most skillful manner, by our Surgeon-specialists. Large Stones are safely removed from the Bladder, by cutting, washing and pumping them out, thus avoiding the great danger of c