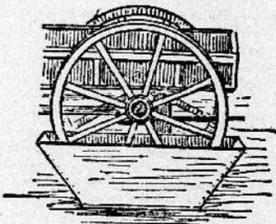


ROAD & FARM IMPROVEMENT.

WASHING FARM WAGONS.

A Simple Device Which Not Only Lessens Labor, But Does the Work More Thoroughly.

Anything tending to lessen labor and yet, withal, which will admit of its being performed just as well or better than if done bodily, by brute force, should always be recommended and approved of. There are, indeed, many things to which this golden rule applies, not the least important and



HOW TO WASH WAGONS.

beneficial of which is the device shown in the accompanying illustration for washing farm wagons; in fact, it is an economizer of time.

As can be seen, it consists simply of a narrow watertight box, which is slipped into position under the wheel after it has been "jacked" up. A pail of water is then poured in and the wheel revolved. Are not the results apparent? Ah! the dirt can thus be removed speedily and by far more readily than when a pail is used to hold the water. Let anyone try it and see.—Frederick O. Sibley, in N. Y. Tribunes.

HAY IN THE STACK.

How It Can Be Measured with a Degree of Accuracy Sufficient for Ordinary Purposes.

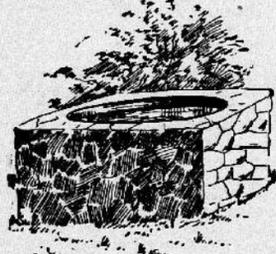
Several correspondents have written for a certain method of measuring hay in the stack. Here is one that is said to be quite correct, but who first formulated it we are unable to say: Measure the stack for length, width and the "over." To get the "over" throw a tape line over the stack at an average place, from ground to ground, drawing it tightly. Multiply the width by the over and divide this result by four; multiply result of division by the length for approximate cubical contents of stack. To reduce to tons: For hay that has stood in stack less than 20 days, divide cubical contents by 512; for more than 20 and less than 60 days, divide cubical contents by 422; for more than 60 days, divide cubical contents by 380. For instance, take a stack which measures 17 feet wide, 58 feet long and 36 feet over. Stack has stood 15 days. Multiply 17 by 36, equals 612. Divide 612 by 4, equals 153. Multiply 153 by length 58, equals 8,874, which gives the cubical contents in feet. Divide 8,874 by 512, equals 17.3 tons in stack.

In the bay the rule is to multiply the length, width and height of the bay, or the hay, together, and then divide the total by 350, the supposed number of cubic feet in a ton of good timothy after it is well settled. Thus a bay 20 feet long, 15 feet wide and 15 feet high would contain 12 tons and 1,750 pounds. Of course these measurements are only approximate, and the actual results will show slight variations either one way or the other. There is no rule that can be absolutely correct.—Washington Farmer.

NEAT WATERING PLACE.

An Ornament to a Roadside and a Convenience That Everybody Will Appreciate.

An old iron kettle, even if it has a hole in the bottom, can be utilized in the manner shown in the cut. A wall of rough stones is laid under it, using



ARTISTIC WATER TROUGH.

sand and cement mortar, and smoothly filling any break in the kettle with the cement. The water can be brought into the kettle in a pipe over the top or through a hole drilled in the side. Such a watering place is an ornament to a roadside, as well as a great convenience.—Orange Judd Farmer.

Prompt Action Is Needed.

Reports continue to come from England that butter merchants there are being prosecuted for retailing butter bought from America, said butter having in it a goodly percentage of fat not butter-fat. Does the United States government propose to stand still and see the same thing tried in our butter that made our cheese exports a failure? The manufacturers of adulterated butter for export are few, and while they are few is the time to suppress them altogether.—Farmers' Review.

SELF-IMPOSED TAXES.

Hills, Corners, Mud and Fences Cost the Farmers Hundreds of Millions Every Year.

Among the taxes which the farmers pay there are some that are unavoidable, and these it is useless to talk about. There are others which farmers impose upon themselves, which they hesitate to share with others, which they submit to without a protest, and even cling to when they are being removed. These taxes we cannot talk about too much. These are taxes, too, which bring no useful revenue, nor even support a tax gatherer; they are burdens as needless as the traditional stone which balanced the grist on the way to mill.

Through the failure of the government in the original surveys on the public lands to lay out a scientific system of roads, and divide the lands accordingly, farmers have been left to lay out the roads for themselves, and generally they have put them on farm lines, going over all the hills that come in their way. The result of this is the hill tax in hilly regions and what may be called the square corner tax on the prairies.

The amount of hill tax I have estimated in one county in New Jersey, and found that needless hills double all the cost of hauling in the county, making practically a money tax of \$10,000 annually to the township. The people have paid this tax for 100 years, and yet they wonder why they are poor. In the prairie regions, for want of the diagonal roads which the government should have laid out, the farmer, to reach a point ten miles to the northwest, for instance, travels seven miles north and seven miles west, adding 40 per cent. to his distance, or, for the average of all travel, 20 per cent. This is the square corner tax.

The mud tax is probably about equal in total to the hill tax, and this, again, doubles the cost of all wagon transportation; yet many farmers are opposed to stone roads. However, the farmers themselves are doing away in many places with the enormous burden of the fence tax, and with it will go the snowdrift tax and the waste land on the roadside. They are slowly abandoning narrow tires and tracking wheels. Moreover, many of them begin to realize the enormity and absurdity of the hill, mud and square corner taxes, and we may yet hope in time to see in this country, as we do in France, beautiful hard roads everywhere, winding through farms, with crops growing close to the wagon tracks and the roads serving perfectly every purpose of public use and private convenience.

You ask how all this can be accomplished without a burden of taxation which will neutralize its benefits. I answer that it is all being done to-day in a hundred places in the United States, and there are farmers who acknowledge that they are getting rich in these hard times solely by reason of the improved roads which have been forced upon them, and are paying with perfect ease any additional tax they impose. These improved roads are being built in many ways and in various forms of construction, and every year's experience reduces the cost and brings about a basier providing of the necessary means.

It would be a very long story to go into the details in this direction, and I would not be prepared to say which is the best of the many methods of construction and of payment. Both need to be greatly varied to meet the conditions in the various states, and a careful study of local legislation is necessary; but the vital question is for the farmers themselves to settle generally whether they want good roads, and whether they will accept the help of those who are willing and anxious to join in paying the cost of road improvement. If they will take up the subject in all their organizations and appoint active working committees to visit the nearest accessible localities where good roads prevail, and to urge such legislation as will make them attainable everywhere, the work will soon reach a point where its own momentum will carry it forward.

The estimate of your able secretary that \$600,000,000 is wasted annually in this country through bad roads is supported by that of other statisticians, and from this it appears that the tax they impose takes one-quarter of the whole value of all farm products in the United States. To abolish this tax is a reform great enough to engage the best attention of this congress. It is a practical and practicable field for its energies. What the congress says on this subject will be listened to everywhere, while what it says on other subjects may fall on deaf ears.—Gen. Roy Stone, at Parkersburg, W. Va.

Growing of Forest Trees.

Those who desire to grow forest trees of any kind for shade or ornamental trees should remember that there is no better time to gather the seed than when it ripens upon the tree, and no better time for sowing it than that when it would be self sown by falling from the tree. That is, if the tree is a native of the place where it is to be grown. If from a warmer climate it may be necessary to start the seed under glass, and protect it in some way during a few of the first winters while it is small. At the Arnold Arboretum by this method they have acclimated and grown in this way some trees and shrubs that are not native here, and seldom found north of Mason and Dixon's line. The seeds from these plants are more hardy than those from southern plants and thus they can be made to endure our colder northern climate, and the northern limit of their growth is gradually being extended.—American Cultivator.

These Lucky Boston Girls.
"Miss Beet never gets nervous about the heat."
"But she's from Boston, you know."
"Yes, I fancied so. She scolded horribly when I said an initiative yesterday. But why does that save her from worrying over the heat?"
"She never knows how hot it really is."
"Explain."
"Why, when she takes the thermometer from the hook her hands are so cold that the mercury gets a chill and falls down in a comatose condition, and by the time she can bring her nearsighted spectacles to bear on the tube the freezing point is in sight. 'Fifty-three,' she said yesterday as she stared at the thermometer. 'Isn't it singular how the imagination will affect the human mind? Now, I don't—call that hot.' And it was actually 91 degrees in the shade!"—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Why She Was Pensive.
"You say," she murmured as she watched the moonlight on the sea, "that I am an angel?"
"Yes."
She was silent for a long time.
"Why so pensive?" he inquired slyly.
"I was wondering whether, some day, when the thermometer was up in the vicinity of a hundred, and the sea man forgot us and the cream is sour, and you have a headache because you have been working hard—I was wondering whether you'd call me an angel then. Don't answer right away," she added in that cold business-like tone that women are learning to assume. "Take your time and think it over."
—Washington Star.

Looked Like It.
"John, dear," said the bride, after they had got to keeping house, with a never-fading "spare room." "I believe all our friends think we are perfectly miserable."
"Why, my dear?" cried the astonished husband.
"Well, they seem to be carrying out the idea that 'misery loves company.'"—Philadelphia Bulletin.

Do Your Feet Ache and Burn?
Shake into your shoes, Allen's Foot-Ease, a powder for the feet. It makes tight or New Shoes Feel Easy. Cures Corns, Itching, Swollen, Hot, Callous, Smarting, Sore and Sweating Feet. All Druggists and Shoe Stores sell it. 25c. Sample sent FREE. Address, Allen S. Olmsted, Le Roy, N. Y.

Sometimes a man gains by losing.—Chicago Daily News.

Do not hope to get rid of fools; too many of them.—Acheson Globe.

"Spain is to have a new navy." "For how long?"—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Gratitude is the memory of the heart.—Massieu.

The only way you can get along with some people is by jollying them.—Washington (La.) Democrat.

The secret of some men's success lies in doing a thing first and talking about it a few days later.—Chicago Daily News.

"Is your new household help tidy?" "If anything, too much so. The other day I found her washing the faces of the goldfish in the aquarium."—Philadelphia Times.

Wilson—"They say Hinaught is a 'dead game sport.'" Hilton—"He is. He buys a lot of bears and bucks from the guides and tells the people down home that they are the trophies of his prowess."—Philadelphia Press.

Darkens His Life.—Askit—"Why does Writtem, the great author, wear such a look of constant fear?" Tellit—"He wrote the class song when he graduated, and his enemies are constantly threatening to make it public."—Hattmore American.

"Johnny," said the little fellow's mamma, "I want to give you a piece of cake, but I can't find the key to the pantry." "That's all right, mamma," replied bright little Johnny. "I know how to get in without a key." "That's all I want to know," she said, as she reached for the slipper.—Cleveland Evening News.

Cause and Effect.—"He's quite a prominent politician here, is he not?" inquired the visiting Briton. "Oh, no, he's a statesman!" replied the native. "Well, what's the difference?" "A statesman, my dear sir, is one who is in politics because he has money. A politician is one who has money because he is in politics."—Philadelphia Press.

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A Fortune to Be Given Away.
A noted philanthropist has decided to give away his fortune to charities and no doubt much good will be accomplished. There is another agency that has also accomplished much good, namely, Hostetter's Stomach Bitters, the medicine with fifty years of cures back of it. It promotes appetite, insures digestion, cures dyspepsia, regulates the liver and keeps the bowels regular, also prevents belching, heartburn or flatulency. Don't fail to try it, but be sure you get the genuine.

You have only to tell one person that a thing is free.—Acheson Globe.

Piso's Cure cannot be too highly spoken of as a cough cure.—J. W. O'Brien, 323 Third Ave., N., Minneapolis, Minn., Jan. 6, 1900.

Cant is the use of cool cinders in place of glowing coals.—Joseph Cook.

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The Oracle has spoken, and the learned judge decrees that Lion brand of Coffee with the populace agrees; its merit made it popular; it always satisfies; the Lion brand entitles every buyer to a prize. And the judge in Court announces that, upon September first, The newest Premium List can by the public be released.
A list so long and varied that it certainly will please The most exacting person when the articles he sees.
There'll be things to suit the ladies in a vast variety;
There'll be articles to suit the men for home society;
Gifts to suit the little girls, gifts to suit the boys, Ornamental, useful, and the kind that each enjoys.
But the List will be much better than it ever was before.
It will certainly surprise you when you look the contents o'er.
So be sure to ask your grocer when September first arrives,
Or you surely will regret it for the balance of your lives.
If your grocer should inform you that he hasn't got the List,
Write to us to send it to you, then your chance will not be missed.
Just a two-cent stamp inclosing, for the postage back to pay,
And depend upon our seeing that you get it right away.
But do not write beforehand; wait until the proper time.
The first of next September, often mentioned in my rhyme;
Then the List will be all ready for the public to peruse,
And the presents will be shown there, so that everyone can choose.

Just try a package of **LION COFFEE** and you will understand the reason of its popularity.
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