

Thanksgiving Day Here and in Foreign Climes

By Mrs. Edward Dunroy-Reed



The Authoress

We elevate our chins, expand our chests and don our "come over on the Mayflower" expression when some one mentions the origin of Thanksgiving. Unobtrusively we lay claim to the honor of having the "only original" Thanksgiving day on the globe. Then along comes a long-haired historian with his array of facts and our pride receives a shock.

There is hardly a country in the world which does not give thanks for one reason or another. Some have better reasons than others, but they all claim to have sufficient excuse for being grateful to set aside one day each year.

Thanksgiving day was held long before the timber for the Mayflower or the Anne was planted. It had its origin in antiquity when the Romans and Greeks held a fast day in October which they dedicated to the goddess of agriculture and followed the day of fasting by one of feasting and royal frolicking, a day on which the chase and all sorts of rustic sports held sway.

Going even further back into the remote ages of—not our country, alas—but of the world, we find the early Egyptians setting aside a day for general thanksgiving and burning of incense and offering sacrifices to their divinity of the crops, the Goddess Isis.

For seven or eight days the Jewish "Feast of Tabernacles" was, centuries ago, held during the seventh month, which is November, and after the completion of Solomon's temple the people that year held a 14-day festival which was a time of thanksgiving, and during which time they gave thanks for the abundance of their land. Living in booths they decorated their entire homes with branches of the palm and of citron trees and then showed that it was for the yield of the season as well as for the completion of the temple that they were giving thanks.

Coming forward a century or two we find Thanksgiving day being held in England under the name of "Harvest Home." This day was usually early in November and it opened by a church service, which was followed by a day of gaiety and feasting. Thanks were given in the churches for the benefits of the season and then the "masses" flocked to the grounds of the "classes," to which they were all invited. Here squire and gentry entertained the peasantry with tree and essay dances in the barns, wrestling matches and feats of archery, for which prizes were given.

In the evening harvest songs were sung by the light of the moon, over the beer and ale, which flowed freely. A dinner, such as only the early English knew how to prepare, was served to these great crowds of thanksgivers, and the Harvest Home day ended in repletion both of appetite and merrymaking.

Before the Reformation a special day was set apart in England for giving thanks, and after the reformation the custom was continued with added fervor, but after all, it is not from our English ancestors, as we might suppose, that we received the inspiration for our first Thanksgiving day.

Neither did the idea originate with the Pilgrims themselves. They merely continued a custom which they had become familiar and of which their natures approved, when they were living with their Dutch cousins.

To digress just a little: It has been claimed by some investigators who stopped just a little short of the beginning in tracing backward that the first real Thanksgiving day of true American meaning was held by the Pilgrims of Monhegan, but as they were Episcopalians and gave thanks every week in their regular church ritual this must be blackballed and cast out of our calculation.

And now to return to the Pilgrims and the customs they absorbed while protected in Holland. The pious Dutch, before the Pilgrims flocked to their peaceful land, had set apart October 3 on which to give thanks for their harvest, but more especially for their deliverance from Spanish authority. The



day opened in this water-locked land with a great ringing of bells and over every shining doorsill there stepped into the crisp morning air the household's full number. Each Hans or Gretchen, clasping a silver-bound prayer book, walked sedately to the various places of worship and there, lifting up their sweet Holland voices, harsh, perhaps, in speech, but full and round in song, sent up musical praise for the freedom of their land and the good things of the earth.

Church over, the entire population for the nonce broke through their usual stolidness and there was a general scampering of young feet in game or dance and a clattering of older tongues in friendly gossip as neighbor visited neighbor or a father welcomed his large flock of grandchildren.

The great event of this Dutch Thanksgiving day was dinner, at which was served as central dish a queer stew of meat and vegetables which they called Spanish hodge-podge. For once in their practical lives the Hollanders became facetious, and over this hodge-podge they made merry and cracked jokes at their old-time enemy—Spain. The general "hash-like" appearance of the hodge-podge was supposed to represent the condition of the Spanish army when the Dutch had vanquished it. Even the children entered into the fun and kept their history fresh by gleefully slashing into a potato or a turnip and chucking as they swallowed the morsels, "This is General So-and-So—ah! Me eat him—so!"

Well, the Puritans heartily approved of the early religious services of the morning and their healthy appetites could not fail to appreciate the Spanish hodge-podge, however much they may have disapproved of the sentiment which flavored it, so they entered most heartily into the Dutch Thanksgiving of October 3. In 1623 these Pilgrims held October 3 as a day of Thanksgiving in the New World, and here we have our first true American Thanksgiving day.

This day has passed through many vicissitudes since that date. There is not a festival on the almanac, fixed or movable, which has had the struggle for existence that our November holiday has endured.

From 1623 until 1630 Thanksgiving day was held in America in various months, some of the Pilgrims keeping to October 3 and other colonists holding a different day by order of the governor.

In 1630 the people of Massachusetts were suffering for food and clothing and Gov. Winthrop hired the good ship Lyon to return to England for supplies. For many days the vessel lay stranded off the Isle of Shoals, but finally put out. Winter came on apace, and nothing was heard of the ship. The colonists were nearly disheartened when, on February 22, 1631, the Lyon was sighted, and the governor ordered that the day be given over to feasting and thanksgiving. This is the first written record of a Thanksgiving day in Boston; it can still be found in the Colonial Records of Massachusetts. It is an interesting fact that this first Boston Thanksgiving was held on what is now one of our most patriotic holidays, Washington's birthday.

The first record of a joint celebration of Thanksgiving day is given in the Colonial Records of 1632, when Gov. Winthrop of Massachusetts bay, asked the governor of Plymouth colony to join him in is-

uing a proclamation of a public Thanksgiving day. The invitation was accepted, and in November, 1632, Plymouth colony and Massachusetts Bay colony celebrated Thanksgiving day together in a manner pretty much the same as their descendants of to-day, in religious service and feasting and funmaking. The one noticeable omission was the great football game which marks the day in our generation.

From 1632 until 1677 the New England records show that 22 different dates were set apart by the various governors as days for public thanksgiving, and that with the exception of the two colonies mentioned no two held the day on the same date. The celebrations, however, were held in October or November.

In 1677, as other denominations had crept into Plymouth colony, over which the Puritan church had no ruling, the governor decided that it would be well to have the power of fixing public holidays, "whether for feasting, praying or funmaking," vested in civic authority. Accordingly in that year the first printed Thanksgiving day proclamation was printed. Thanksgiving day proclamation was printed, setting November 25 as the festival.

The law reads: "That it be in the power of the governor and assistants to command solemn dates of humiliation by fasting, etc., and also, thanksgiving as occasion shall be offered."

This shows that the law called for only "occasional" Thanksgiving days and so the holiday was buffeted about hither and yon, from October to November, according to the pleasure of the rulers of the colonies and there never was any feeling of certainty as to the holiday.

That it was held annually without break in Plymouth and Massachusetts Bay colony from its inception until 1689, with the exception of the year when King Phillip's war interrupted, there are records to show. In this colony the church and government alternated in arranging the date of celebration.

GEORGIE ON THANKSGIVING

Thanksgivin' day comes once a year because the Pilgrim band
Was thankful that they had the sense to leave their native land
And come across the sea to find a stern and rock-bound shore
Where they would never haft to bow to bosses enny more,
Where thieves would not break in and steal and trusts would never try
To gobble everything and let the little dealer die.

We celebrate Thanksgivin' day because the Pilgrims came
In search of freedom where they knew that they would find the same,
Where men would be as brothers, where the strong would aid the weak,
Where libburty would raise her flag on every crag and peak,
Where billionaires would never dare to cheat for profits' sake
Or break the laws that other men were not allowed to break.

We celebrate because the hopes hoped by that Pilgrim band
Have all come true, because there's not an evil in our land,
Because we have no wealthy rogues to plan and plot and scheme
To make the libburty we claim a vain and empty dream,
Because our magnates go to church and teach in Sunday schools,
And everywhere from sea to sea the Christian spirit rules.

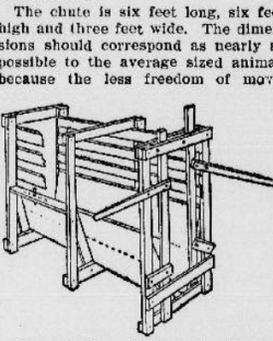
We keep Thanksgivin' day because the man who does his best
To be an honest citizen is honored by the rest;
He may not have a share of stock or own a foot of land,
But all our wealthy senators are glad to shake his hand
And hear his plea and guard his rights with all the jellus care
They ever give the interests of any millionaire.

We keep the good old day because no idle rich ignore
The pressing needs of those where Want is scratching at the door,
Because we have such freedom as the Pilgrims wished to claim,
Because we never are oppressed and never spotted with shame,
Because we've frightened Greed away and raised our standard high
And kept the faith for which our sires were not afraid to die.

LIVE STOCK

SERVICEABLE DEHORNING BOX.
It Will Make the Task a Comparative-ly Easy One.

In spite of the advantages of polled cattle, many breeds having horns continue to be raised. When the precaution is not taken to stop the growth of horn or remove it while the animal is yet a calf, a much more severe and difficult operation remains to be performed. The securing of the animal for the dehorning is accomplished by methods ranging from the awkward and often injurious practice of throwing and tying, to that where a most elaborately constructed chute is used. For the man who is looking for a convenient and simple chute for his own use, one constructed in the following manner will serve his purpose very satisfactorily.



General Plan of Dehorning Box.

The floor is narrowed to 12 inches, with tight, slanting sides up to a height of three feet. Each jaw of the trap is separated by a lever, and may be secured at any place by iron pins in holes bored in the upper front cross-pieces of the frame.

No door at the entrance is needed. When the animal enters, a stout stick is thrust behind him into the cleats on one side of the chute, and used to force him into the proper position and then fastened by dropping a pin into the nearest hole in the specially arranged piece on the other side. Such an arrangement practically does away with all body struggle.

Such a chute, with the front as little obstructed as possible, makes it easier to induce an animal to enter than if otherwise. What head movement it is necessary to subdue after the trap is closed is best accomplished by tying the head down to a ring or other convenient fastening placed at the proper distance.

CARE OF YOUNG STOCK.

Neglect Will Cost You Dearly—Shelter and Feed Well.

The perfection and value of the mature animal depend largely upon the normal, unchecked growth of the young up to maturity. A colt that has once been starved and stunted will never make a large, valuable horse, and a calf that has been so treated will never make a valuable cow. They must grow from birth to maturity without check.

During winter calves and colts need dry, warm stalls with enough feed to keep them growing and in good flesh, even a little fat on them will do no harm. Let them out for exercise in good weather, but shelter them well at night. The better the shelter the more good their feed will do.

Some people allow their colts and calves to remain out in all kinds of winter weather with a straw stack for shelter and straw for an exclusive diet, says the Journal of Agriculture. They come out in the spring skin-poor, and require nearly the whole summer to make up the loss of flesh. That does not pay. A young animal that is worth keeping is worth keeping right.

The calf or colt in a warm, well-bedded stall with corn stover or timothy hay and some clover or alfalfa hay and a small daily feed of grain will grow right through the winter and come out in the spring in full vigor for more rapid gains on cheap pasture in summer. Every 100 pounds of extra flesh on the finished horse is worth ten to fifteen dollars, which is a good price for even concentrated feeds.

The farmer who has the reputation of keeping nothing but fat animals will have the beaten path made to his door by eager buyers.

LIVE STOCK NOTES.

Warm mutton tallow will heat wounds on stock more quickly than turpentine.

Kicking cows and those which jump fences should be sold to the butcher.

To fatten lambs feed them on barley, alfalfa, root crops and field peas.

Sheep should not be confined in a field inclosed with a barbed-wire fence.

The high price of feed is likely to lead to a low price of farm animals, to be followed in turn by high prices due to decrease in number of animals.

Study the feeding problem; careless feeding is now dangerous from the view-point of profits.

The good steer is to-day the animal that makes his gain fast on little feed. Good stock is one of the factors of a successful agriculture.

EXCELLENT WEATHER AND MAGNIFICENT CROPS

REPORTS FROM WESTERN CANADA ARE VERY ENCOURAGING.

A correspondent writes the Winnipeg (Man.) Free Press: "The Fincher Creek district, (Southern Alberta), the original home of fall wheat, where it has been grown without failure, dry seasons and wet, for about 25 years, is excelling itself this year. The yield and quality are both phenomenal, as has been the weather for its harvesting. Forty bushels is a common yield, and many fields go up to 50, 60 and over, and most of it No. 1 Northern. Even last year, which was less favorable, similar yields were in some cases obtained, but owing to the season the quality was not so good. It is probably safe to say that the average yield from the Old Man's River to the boundary will be 47 or 48 bushels per acre, and mostly No. 1 Northern. One man has just made a net profit from his crop of \$19.55 per acre, or little less than the selling price of land. Land here is too cheap at present, when a crop or two will pay for it, and a failure almost unknown. Nor is the district dependent on wheat, all other crops do well, also stock and dairying, and there is a large market at the doors in the mining towns up the Crows Nest Pass, and in British Columbia, for the abundant hay of the district, and poultry, pork, and garden truck. Coal is near and cheap. Jim Hill has an eye on its advantages, and has invested here, and is bringing the Great Northern Railroad soon, when other lines will follow."

The wheat, oat and barley crop for other parts of Western Canada show splendid yields and will make the farmers of that country (and many of them are Americans) rich. The Canadian Government Agent for this district advises us that he will be pleased to give information to all who desire it about the new land regulations by which a settler may now secure 160 acres in addition to his 160 homestead acres, at \$3.00 an acre, and also how to reach these lands into which railways are being extended. It might be interesting to read what is said of that country by the Editor of the Marshall (Minn.) News-Messenger, who made a trip through portions of it in July, 1908. "Passing through more than three thousand miles of Western Canada's agricultural lands, touring the northern and southern farming belts of the Provinces of Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta, with numerous drives through the great grain fields, we were made to realize not only the magnificence of the crops, but the magnitude, in measures, of the vast territory opening, and to be opened to farming immigration. There are hundreds of thousands of farmers there, and millions of acres under cultivation, but there is room for millions more, and other millions of acreage available. We could see in Western Canada in soil, product, topography or climate, little that is different from Minnesota, and with meeting at every point many business men and farmers who went there from this state, it was difficult to realize one was beyond the boundary of the country."

Would Risk One More Bottle.

A Frenchman from the provinces who was paying a prolonged visit to Paris found his hair was leaving him at the top of his head, and took his barber to task about it. "You sold me two bottles of stuff to make the hair grow." "It is very strange it won't grow again," said the modern Figaro; "I can't understand it." "Look here!" said the countryman. "I don't mind drinking another bottle, but this must be the last!"—Philadelphia Inquirer.

SICK HEADACHE

CARTER'S LITTLE LIVER PILLS. Positively cured by these Little Pills. They also relieve Distress from Dyspepsia, Indigestion and Too Heartily Eating. A perfect remedy for Dizziness, Nausea, Drowsiness, Bad Taste in the Mouth, Coated Tongue, Pain in the Side, TORPID LIVER. They regulate the Bowels. Purely Vegetable. SMALL PILL. SMALL DOSE. SMALL PRICE.

CARTER'S LITTLE LIVER PILLS. Genuine Must Bear Fac-Simile Signature. *Beutelschlag* REFUSE SUBSTITUTES.

KNOWN SINCE 1836 AS RELIABLE (TRADE MARK)
PLANTEN'S C C OR BLACK CAPSULES
SUPERIOR FOR THE TREATMENT OF ALL THE DISEASES OF THE LIVER AND BOWELS.

PARKER'S HAIR BALM
Grows and beautifies the hair. Promotes a healthy scalp. Keeps the hair from falling out. Restores Gray Hair to its Youthful Color. Cleanses the scalp. Cures itching humors. Sold at 25¢ at Druggists.

TRISO'S
Beware of the Cough that hangs on persistently, breaking your night's rest and exhausting you with the violence of the paroxysms. A few doses of Triso's Cure will relieve you of any cough, no matter how far advanced or serious. It loosens and liquefies the phlegm, clears the clogged air passages and the cough disappears. At all druggists, 25 cts.

CURE