

Queer Ideas About Shoes.

In Norfolk, whenever servants are going after new situations, a shoe is thrown after them, with the wish that they may succeed in what they are going about.

As an emblem of good luck and prosperity, an old shoe in most places thrown with much enthusiasm at a bride couple. Various explanations, however, have been assigned for this popular custom.

In some parts of Kent the manner of shoe-throwing is somewhat curious. It appears that after the departure of the bride and bridegroom the single ladies are drawn up in one row, and the bachelors in another.

The bride and bridegroom also strew dill and salt in their shoes as a protection against witchcraft. Among the Peruvians it was formerly customary when a man wished to marry, to go to the lady's house, when, with her father's consent, he put on her foot a particular kind of shoe, in which he led her to his home.

Many arguments are still gathered from shoes. Thus, in Dorsetshire and other parts, girls use their shoes as a means of divining who their future husbands are to be.

Among the various charms in which the shoe has been found highly efficacious, may be mentioned one practised in the north of England, where the peasantry to cure cramp, are in the habit of laying their shoes across to avert it.

Mr. Latham in her "West Sussex Superstitions," published in the Folk Lore Record (p. 39), tells us of an old woman who was at a complete loss to understand why her rheumatism "was so uncommon bad, for she had put her shoes in the form of a cross every night by the side of her bed, ever since she felt the first twinge."

Scott, too, in his "Discovery of Witchcraft," tells us how "he that receiveth a mischance will consider whether he put not on his shirt the wrong side outward, or his left shoe on his right foot."

Curious to say, the shoe has even entered into the superstitions associated with death. According to an Aryan tradition, the greater part of the way from the land of the living to that of death is through morasses and vast moors overgrown with furze and thorns.

The Salvation Army in England publishes an official paper called the War Cry.

More Help on the Farm.

The fact that thousands of farmers are troubled at the end of the season to find money to pay hired help is not conclusive proof that they have hired too much. One fact in farming is never conclusive of anything. It needs to be compared with many others before we can begin to decide what it means.

The farm is really a workshop. Its gains are less than those of other manufacturing industries, because it is exposed to fewer risks of loss. The farm requires more careful management; but the principles necessary for success are the same as in other vocations.

There are on every farm many odd jobs left undone from year to year for lack of money or lack of help, the doing of which would give more profit than all the ordinary farm work done in a year.

It requires a good deal of executive ability to manage a large farm, and direct a large force of laborers; and it is the lack of this which causes so much disappointment in farming.

Watch Out for Dry Murrain.

The danger to which cattle are subject when first taken from green feed and turned into a field of cornstalks dying from dry murrain should not be lost sight of, as the present severe weather is the most favorable possible to produce death from such cause.

POOR MAN'S SOUP.—Put one ounce of butter into a saucepan with three large onions shred fine, and fry them a pale brown color, add half a tablespoonful of flour, stir for a few minutes, but do not allow the mixture to darken; then add one quart of common stock, previously flavored with carrots, turnips, celery, leeks, and parsley boiled in it; stir until the soup boils, and season it to taste with pepper and salt.

WINTER PROTECTION.—Many plants are killed by too much protection. For example, strawberries are hardy, and the covering of straw, marsh hay, etc., that is recommended for them is not so much to shield from cold as to prevent frequent freezing and thawing of the soil.

RICE PANCAKES.—Mix together one and a half pints of boiled rice, one and a half pints of flour, half a teaspoonful of oil, one teaspoonful of sweet milk, one teaspoonful of soda, salt, three eggs and butter the size of a walnut.

HOME AND FARM.

VALUABLE animals too often suffer from neglect, because they are earning nothing during the winter season. The usefulness of a horse in the hurry of spring work, and his capability for work as he increases in age, depend largely upon his care and feeding during the winter months.

AMBER PUDDING.—Five eggs, two whites left out, half a pound lump sugar pounded fine, not quite half pound of butter melted and mixed with the sugar, then the eggs mixed in, and a little candied peel, and flavored according to taste. Make a paste, line a pudding-dish with it, pour the mixture in, and cover with paste. When baked, turn it out in a glass dish, strew over with sugar and eat cold.

THE HIDDEN MOUNTAIN.—Beat the whites and yolks of six eggs separately, then mix them and beat well again, adding a few thin slices of citron, quarter-pint of cream, and sufficient sugar to sweeten it. When the mixture is well beaten, put it into a buttered pan and fry as you would a pancake. Cover it with any kind of jam, and garnish with slices of citron. This is served cold, and makes a very pretty supper dish.

WHEN stock suffers from absence of proper protection against the wintry blast, there can be no profit in its keeping. Good butter can not be produced in winter, when the cows are kept in cold barns. The best food must be given, Indian meal, linseed meal, cottonseed meal, shorts, or early-cut hay of the best description; and with a plentiful supply of roots; yet no glut-edge butter can be obtained from those cattle stabled where the thermometer registers a temperature of between zero and the freezing point.

A PLAIN CHRISTMAS PUDDING.—One pound of flour, one pound of bread-crumbs, three-quarters of a pound of stoned raisins, three-quarters of a pound of currants, three-quarters of a pound of suet, three or four eggs, milk, two ounces of candied peel, one teaspoonful of powdered allspice, half a teaspoonful of salt. Let the suet be finely chopped, the raisins stoned, and the currants well washed, picked, and dried. Mix these with the other dry ingredients, and stir all well together; beat and strain the eggs to the pudding, stir these in, and add just sufficient milk to make it mix properly. Tie it up in a well-floured cloth, put it into boiling water, and boil for at least five hours. Serve with a sprig of holly placed in the middle of the pudding, and a little pounded sugar sprinkled over it, and also with a rich sauce.

Choking Cattle. Mr. J. L. DUDLEY inquires as to the causes of bloat and death in choking. Excessive bloating is not a constant result of choking. It occurs chiefly when the obstruction is lodged in that portion of the gullet which occupies the region of the neck or throat.

The fee of doctors is an item that very many persons are interested in just at present. We believe the schedule for visits is \$2.00, which would tax a man confined to his bed for a year, and in need of a daily visit, over \$1,000 a year for medical attendance alone! And one single bottle of Hoop Bitters taken in time would save the \$1,000 and all the year's sickness.—Foul.

Advantage of Heavy Plates. The soft bituminous coal used in the West is so destructive on all cast-iron that the heavy plates in the CHARTER OAK COOK STOVE will be appreciated by housekeepers as well as dealers. This advantage, with excellent draft, quick and uniform baking, make the CHARTER OAK the most desirable stove in the market.

A STITCH IN TIME.—A cough may be cured by Piso's Cure for Consumption in a few hours or days, while the dealer disease, which so often follows a cough will take weeks or months to overcome.

PAYSON'S INDELIBLE MARKING INK has a record of fifty years. Sample mailed for 30c. by F. H. Stoddard & Co., Northampton, Mass.

There will be cut this coming winter 110,000,000 feet of logs in the vicinity of Duluth. There will be some 1,500 men employed, and 250 to 300 teams.

"Is friendship true, we wish to you A merry Christmas day; Abundant wealth, vigorous health, And light in Wisdom's way."

THE MARKETS. NEW YORK, December 16, 1890. CATTLE—Native Steers..... \$7.50 @ 11.00 COTTON—Middling..... 11 1/4 FLOUR—Good to Choice..... 4.30 @ 5.00 WHEAT—No. 2 Spring..... 1.16 @ 1.17 CORN—No. 2..... .50 @ .51 OATS—Western Mixed..... .42 @ .44 PORK—Standard Mess..... 13.25 @ 13.30

[Cleveland (Ohio) Herald.] A Hammock's Wild Way. An Illinois exchange feels called to thus deliver itself: "His hammock swung loose at the sport of the wind, and tumbled the Hon J. S. Irwin on his head, and but for the application of St. Jacobs Oil, he might have gone 'where the woodpecker twines.' Even so, dear Beason, as many others have gone who, falling to use the Great German Remedy in time, for their rheumatism and other dangerous diseases, 'have paid the debt of Nature.' Rub it our motto.

What We Mate. We hate growing, no matter the source or cause, and recommend herewith the remedy. Use St. Jacobs Oil and laugh at pain. It will do the work every time.

Feet of Doctors. The fee of doctors is an item that very many persons are interested in just at present. We believe the schedule for visits is \$2.00, which would tax a man confined to his bed for a year, and in need of a daily visit, over \$1,000 a year for medical attendance alone! And one single bottle of Hoop Bitters taken in time would save the \$1,000 and all the year's sickness.—Foul.

After many years' trial, we are satisfied that the CHARTER OAK is the best Stove we ever used, and cheerfully testify that it is the best adapted to the wants of the general public of any stove in the market.

Says: "I have frequently purchased Durand's Rheumatic Remedy for friends suffering with rheumatism and in every instance it worked like magic." It will cure when everything else fails. Sold by all druggists. Write for 40-page pamphlet to R. K. Heppenstein, Druggist, Washington, D. C.

FRASER'S EYE WATER. Druggists sell it. 35c.

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WOMAN'S TRIUMPH! MRS. LYDIA E. PINKHAM, OF LYNN, MASS. THE POSITIVE CURE. For all those Painful Complaints and Weaknesses so common to our best female population.

LYDIA E. PINKHAM'S VEGETABLE COMPOUND. The Positive Cure. For all those Painful Complaints and Weaknesses so common to our best female population.

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