

PITH AND POINT.

If you want to make your enemies feel particularly sore be happy.—Aitchison Globe.

When everybody is convinced that honesty is the best policy the millennium will not be far away.—Puck.

Possibly married men think just as mean things about women as old bachelors do, but they're afraid to say them.—Chicago Daily News.

Personal independence sometimes excites temporary admiration, but it never proves a permanent attraction for glad hands.—Indianapolis News.

Father—"Miranda, isn't it about time for you to think of getting married?" Miranda—"Mercy, pa, I have been thinking about it ever since I was 13 years old."—Somerville Journal.

Dishonesty is going out of style. Hundreds of years ago the great criminals were the great heroes. Rob Roy, a thief, was the most popular man in Scotland at one time. But no modern thief is a hero.—Aitchison Globe.

Different—Markley—"No; I don't like Burroughs." Parkley—"Why, I understood you to say you thought a great deal of him." Markley—"No; I merely think of him a great deal. He owes me money."—Philadelphia Record.

Financially Foolish—"I, sir," said the Altruistic Author, "am writing for posterity." "The trouble about that is," said the Practical Publisher, "that you can't get any money out of the ancestors of your audience."—Baltimore American.

EARTHWORMS AND STONES.

Remarkable Effect of Subterranean Burrowings of the Squirrels Upon Large Boulders.

The following account is given by C. Davison, in Knowledge, of the sinking of large stones by earthworms and burrowings. Horace Darwin commenced an experiment 20 years ago. A circular stone about 18 inches in diameter and 2 1/2 inches thick and weighing about 41 pounds was laid upon the ground in a level field near Mr. Darwin's house at Down, which had probably been pasture for more than 50 years, and under a large Spanish chestnut tree. A hole was made through its center and was lined with a brass cylinder containing on the top three horizontal projecting pieces led into the upper surface of the stone. In each of these pieces a radial V-shaped groove was cut. To obtain a fixed point from which the displacements of the stone were to be measured, two rods, one of copper and the other of iron, and each .86 of an inch in diameter, were driven side by side into the ground to the depth of about 8 1/2 feet, and the ends were cut off so that they stood at first about three inches above the ground, or not quite an inch above the upper surface of the stone, which was placed with the rods projecting through the central hole. Movements of the stone were produced by other agencies than the burrowing of earth worms. Some, but an unknown, displacement may have been caused by the growth of the roots of the chestnut tree, under which the stone lay. But this, if it occurred, must have been far less than that due to frost and changes in the dampness of the ground. The stone, indeed, was found to be in a state of continual vertical oscillation. When the soil was damp from recent rain, one or two cans of water poured on the ground near the stone made it rise one-fiftieth of an inch in about seven hours. During a severe frost in the beginning of 1879, the stone rose three-tenths of an inch, and during the thaw which followed a slight frost a little later in the same year, it fell nearly one-tenth of an inch in less than five hours, even though the ground below was still hard.

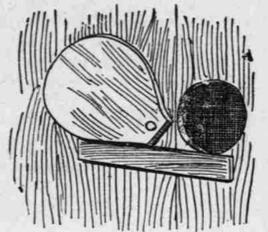


CHICKEN COOP DOOR.

So Simple in Construction That Any Farmer Handy with Tools Can Improve One.

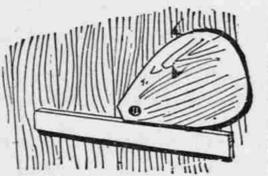
Experience is necessary in planning and making preparations for winter. It is not an easy matter for inexperienced people to conceive an idea of a good door for their chicken coops, and we give here a drawing of one that we found George Moore, of Maine, using, and which he said had given perfect satisfaction.

The arrangement was so simple in construction that any farmer who



CHICKEN COOP DOOR OPEN.

understood the use of tools at all could attach it to a coop or box to be used for a coop with but little trouble. The door, or entrance, should be sawed out perfectly round; ten inches would be large enough, while the door or cover to the entrance should be one inch larger with one side extended so that the cover will be pear-shaped. The pointed side should have a quarter-inch hole bored through it, the door working on a bolt for a hinge. This style of hinge will not rust or break like the



CHICKEN COOP DOOR CLOSED.

ordinary hinge, and the door is not swinging open and shut, but remains where the poultryman leaves it. In a cold climate, where ice and snow will bother, four nails should be driven nearly out of sight on top of the cleat, on which the door may rest instead of flat down. This will prevent freezing down. Mr. Moore also uses two doors, one inside and one outside the coop, both revolving on the same bolt. It would be well for those wishing to make a cheap and convenient chicken coop door to try the one herein described.—E. F. Barry, in Ohio Farmer.

HELPING WEAK COLONIES.

How to Do Away with One of the Direct Causes of the So-Called Spring Dwindling.

When the fall flow of nectar is light the bees discontinue brood rearing early, and consequently go into winter quarters very light in number, and rather old to insure successful wintering. This is one of the direct causes of the so-called spring dwindling. It must be prevented by late brooding.

Those who leave their bees to starve in a poor season are not deserving of honey in a good one.

To obtain the best results from our bees they should be fed to stimulate brood rearing, so that our colonies will be very strong at the beginning of the season. To do this we must begin to feed as early as the weather will permit the bees to fly at least once a week. Some mild day soon after removing them from the cellar, all colonies should be closed on what combs they will cover with sufficient stores to last two or three weeks, placing the unoccupied combs in the outside of the following.

When feeding time arrives prepare your feed, either a poor grade of honey, maple sirup, or better still granulated sugar, which should be about the consistency of newly gathered honey. If sugar is used the proportion is equal parts of sugar and water. But I prefer to use honey, and to put it in the combs and feed while milk warm. Take the combs to be used, uncapping what honey they contain, and fill the empty portion with the sirup. Rest the comb over the tank in a slanting position with the top bar up and dip the sirup on it with a dipper having a perforated bottom. Place one comb next to the cluster once a week, removing the one given last.—Orange Judd Farmer.

The Hog Takes the Cake.

We believe the hog is justly entitled to the distinction which the name "mortgage lifter" confers upon him. If statistics were obtainable we have no doubt they would show that more farm debts have been paid with money received from sales of hogs than from any other source. We will remember when hogs were selling as low as three dollars per hundred, and many farmers know that they made some profit at that figure on their herds. The hog comes very near illustrating the statement that money grows. With proper management no farm product grows quicker into dollars than the always interesting "grunter."—National Rural.

Odors Arising from Manure.

When odors arise from the manure, fassous ammonia is escaping. This should not be allowed. Sprinkling the floors and gutters with dried muck, road dust, plaster or super-phosphate will help absorb the liquids and arrest and hold the gases. If the manure must be piled, frequent sprinklings over the top with some of these materials will arrest atmospheric losses

SELL NEAR AT HOME.

No Better Advice Can Be Given to Anyone Raising Fowls and Eggs for Money.

Sell your eggs and poultry near the home, and in the end better profits will be realized. It is astonishing how much the home markets are neglected in this respect. The summer hotels in the country and the winter hotels in the south frequently get all their supplies from some large city, even their poultry and eggs. I have asked a number of proprietors the reason for such an anomaly. I was astonished at the reply. In a few words they said that they could not rely on the home supply of eggs or poultry. They would be willing to pay a little more than the market rates for either, but the farmers had become so accustomed to sending their produce to the cities that they were slow in adopting any other course. They would some days bring in plenty of eggs, and then for a week nothing more would be heard of them. This irregularity could not be endured.

Yet, as another instance of just the opposite, there is an enterprising young woman who has a poultry farm not far from a summer resort. She has contracted to deliver ten dozen eggs a day through the summer season to the hotels at a uniform price of 25 cents a dozen. The eggs are all fresh, and she is to be relied upon. The hotels would take more from her and she is making efforts to enlarge her plant. She says she is making more money with her summer eggs than with her winter products. Her ambition is to enlarge her poultry farm so she can supply the hotels with spring broilers and tender chickens all through the summer season. Her income then will be entirely satisfactory.

But even in ordinary towns and villages there are always plenty of families who are willing to buy their eggs fresh every few days from some near-by poultry farm. The prices obtained in this way will be far more remunerative than those paid in some distant city. In the summer time fifty 4c per cent. of the eggs shipped 50 miles or more are partially or wholly ruined by hot weather. The loss sustained in this way is enormous, and the farmers are the ones to endure it. By all means the remedy is to cultivate the nearby markets. Do not try to ship eggs to New York, Philadelphia or other large cities if you live in the west or south. There are nearer markets which will pay you better.—Annie C. Webster, in American Cultivator.

GLASS COVERED RUN.

Coop That Is Especially Designed for Chicks That Happen to Hatch in Cold Weather.

Herewith we illustrate a coop especially adapted to chicks that hatch when atmospheric conditions are such that it would not be advisable to permit them to run in the open air. It is supposed to be large enough only to shelter



GLASS-COVERED RUN.

ter a single brood. The glass adds so greatly to the heat in the run that the young chicks can use the run on quite cold days, and this usability increases as the chicks get older and cover themselves with feathers.—Farmers Review.

Washing and Working Butter.

After drawing off the buttermilk wash twice or until the wash water runs off clear. Then work in salt to suit the taste of your trade and set away for three or four hours, then rework and pack or stamp. The interval between salting and stamping allows the salt thoroughly to permeate the whole mass, and the second working also insures a uniform mixing of the salt as well as working out any excess of water. Never work butter when it is warm enough to be soft. There are two watchwords for the butter maker. They are cleanliness and uniformity, and are worth remembering if you are looking for trade and reputation.

Packing Honey for Market.

In packing comb honey for market it is to the producer's interest to face the cases honestly. The row of combs next to the glass should be a fair sample of the whole case. Do not sell your reputation while selling your honey, for you will probably have some honey to dispose of in the future. Try to build up a reputation by dealing honestly. If that and the honey are packed together in the same case, you may get the price for all light honey, but if the cases are opened you will surely get paid for all dark honey. The poor will depreciate the good, so pack each grade separate and face honestly.—F. G. Herman, in Orange Judd Farmer.

Rye Shoots Among the Wheat.

Some of the most valuable plants are weeds if grown where not desired. Where wheat is largely grown rye is one of the most detested weeds that appear in the field. It is very difficult to separate the wheat and rye grains, and rye is therefore likely to appear every year if the home-grown seed wheat is used. The rye shoots to seed ahead of wheat, however, and the heads can be cut off with a sickle, which should be done just before the wheat heads out. It is easier to use clean seed, however, and avoid working in the growing wheat.

Loss of Corn Fodder.

Corn fodder that is not cut down until the leaves are yellow and then left all winter in the field where the shocks are blown over and the fodder exposed to rains and frosts, is usually worth nothing, and instead of so doing it will be better to haul it to the barnyard and let the cattle pick it over before it loses value; but if the fodder is cut when somewhat green, and cared for, the farmer will find that it is as valuable as the grain. There is an annual enormous loss of fodder in this country which should not occur.

What She Thought of It.

Little Marjorie is by no means fond of going to church. She has to sit too still, and "the man" talks about things she cannot yet understand.

"What's it for, mamma?" she asked one day. "What do we go to church for?"

Mamma tried to tell her the reasons, and concluded by saying: "And when you can't understand what the minister means you must remember he is talking about good and beautiful things; and you must make up your mind to think of something good yourself."

That day Marjorie was very quiet in church and her mother praised her for it on the way home. "I did just as you told me," said the wee maid; "I thought of something good."

"What was it, dearie?"

"Apple pie!"—Cincinnati Enquirer.

England the Great Money Lender. A statistician estimates that England has \$550,000,000 invested in land and mortgage in countries abroad. She lends to foreign governments and municipalities an average of \$200,000,000 annually. She finances railways in India, Canada, the United States, Australia, South Africa and South America, her investments of this class aggregating \$2,100,000,000. English capital is invested in this country in water and gas companies, cattle and horse raising, breweries, flour mills, street railways, iron manufacturing and mining. In investments other than government loans and railroads it is estimated that the enormous sum of \$9,250,000,000 of England's money has been lent outside of the "tight little island."—Chicago Inter Ocean.

The Joys of Childhood.

Johnny and Tommy, who are the noisiest children in Yorkville, were playing.

"Let's play on this doorstep," suggested Tommy.

"No," Jimmy said, "there isn't any fun in doing that. That's an empty house. Let's go down the street and play. I know where there's a newspaper man's house. He works all night and sleeps in the daytime."

And the pair of cherubs started off to the spot where the maker of thoughts for 70,000,000 ladies and gentlemen was trying to replenish his empty think tank by the balmy sleep process.—N. Y. World.

Life on a Torpedo Boat.

So injurious is life on a torpedo boat that a year's continuous service will mentally and physically incapacitate a man. This assertion is made on the authority of Lord Charles Beresford, but that the strain on anyone serving on these craft is very great is shown by the fact that to one month's service the British naval regulations allow one week off. Austria is endeavoring to mitigate the hardship of service on these boats, and life on one built for the Austrian navy, and tried on the Thames recently, was demonstrated to be pleasanter than on those of the English navy.—Chicago Tribune.

Antiseptic Gloves.

In these days of bacilli and microbes one is constantly in danger of their lives. To be handed change by a car conductor or a bundle of bills in a store is to be handed so many thousand germs of dirt and disease that equals the loss of a standard of a European commander. Some of the umbrellas are of prodigious dimensions, being no less than 25 feet in diameter, with ribs 12 feet 6 inches long.—Albany Argus.

Wasn't Guilty.

Inspector (examining class)—Who signed the Declaration? (No answer.) Inspector (still angry)—Who signed the Declaration? Come, come; somebody tell me. (Still no reply.) Inspector (very angrily)—Will no boy tell me who signed the Declaration? Small Boy in Rear (imagines that something is wrong)—Please, sir, it wasn't me, sir.—N. Y. World.

Where Umbrellas Are Valuable.

An African chief's umbrella is of greater importance than many people suppose. Apart from its enormous size, its loss in battle means the equals the loss of a standard of a European commander. Some of the umbrellas are of prodigious dimensions, being no less than 25 feet in diameter, with ribs 12 feet 6 inches long.—Albany Argus.

Plain Enough.

Mr. Beasley—I can't understand how the Malvins manage to live so well on his income.

Mr. Beasley—I can. I went up to his office to see him yesterday, and 27 men who were waiting in the hall cried out in chorus asking what firm I was collecting for.—Cleveland Leader.

Where Thunderstorms Are Frequent.

Java is said to be the region of the globe where it thunders oftenest, having thunderstorms 97 days in the year. After it are Sumatra, with 86 days; Hindustan, with 56; Borneo, with 54; the Gold coast, with 52, and Rio de Janeiro, with 51.—Detroit Free Press.

THE MARKETS.

Table listing market prices for various commodities like CATTLE, SHEEP, FLOUR, etc., with prices per unit.

Advertisement for California Fig Syrup Co. featuring an illustration of a man holding a large fig. Text includes 'The Sale Annually of Millions of Bottles' and 'To Get Its Beneficial Effect Buy the Genuine—Manufactured by the CALIFORNIA FIG SYRUP CO. San Francisco, Cal. Louisville, Ky. New York, N.Y. Price fifty cents per bottle.'

SPORTING SPECIALS.

Cleveland has signed a blacksmith named Lundborn as a pitcher. He throws a horseshoe curve.

All the wrestlers of the world propose to form a football team to play in 1904. Their strength will probably be in "fake" plays.

Miss Previous brought \$10,300 at the New York horse sale. It was the highest price ever paid for a yearling. She will be expensive property if she lives up to her name.

The attendance at the Harvard-Yale game was 34,000. About 20,000 people saw games in Chicago Thanksgiving day. They call football brutal, but they like it.

PHYSICIANS MUCH INTERESTED.

Northport, Mich., Dec. 9.—The medical men are just now eagerly discussing a most remarkable cure of a severe case of Kidney Disease in this county. Mr. Byron O. Leslie, of Northport, has for years been a victim of Kidney derangements with all the consequent pain and annoyance. He was gradually growing worse and as the disease advanced he became very despondent, often wondering if he would have to endure this suffering all his lifetime.

But at last he found a remedy that cured him in Dodd's Kidney Pills. He was much pleased, but did not say much about it lest the good effect he experienced would not last. Now, however, after months of continued good health he has concluded that he is permanently cured, and his announcement of this has caused a profound sensation among the physicians and the people who knew of his apparently hopeless condition.

The change from a job to a situation is not always appreciated by the incumbent; as, for instance, when a political job becomes an embarrassing situation.—Puck.

On Dec. 3rd and 17th the Norfolk & Western Ry. will sell round trip tickets from Cincinnati and Columbus to points in the occupied and Carolinas at greatly reduced rates.

For all information as to rates, address Allen Hall, D. P. A., 45 E. 4th St., Cincinnati.

To Suit the Case. Jake—Cora has an aquiline nose, hasn't she? Fake—How could I know? She always turns it up at me.—Harlem Life.

Travelers Call It Blessed. Of all the blessings that a railroad company can confer upon a long-suffering public, none is greater than smokeless coal. The Lackawanna Railroad burns it! for which all travelers call that road blessed. No smoke! no dust. Its policy will well inspire the gratitude and patronage of a grateful and appreciative public.—Outing.

Caution. Short—Do you believe that a fellow feeling makes us wondrous kind? Long—It all depends. What are you feeling for now?—Chicago Daily News.

Save the Cough and Works of the Cold. Laxative Bromo Quinine Tablets. Price 25c. Lack of sense is too often blamed on lack of confidence.—Aitchison Globe.

Half an hour is all the time required to dye with PUTNAM FADELESS DYES.

The less luck a man has the more he despises it.—Chicago Daily News.

FOR FREE SAMPLE OF OUR ELECTRO OZONIZED MEDICINE FOR THE CURE OF CANCER, TUMORS AND SKIN DISEASES. Write, J. C. FETTER, E. B., 1214 1/2 St. N. W., Wash., D. C.

DROPSY NEW DISCOVERY: gives quick relief and cures worst cases. Write, Dr. M. B. GREEN'S SON, Box 25, ATLANTA, GA.

CASTORIA For Infants and Children. Bears The Signature Of Chat. H. Fletcher. In Use For Over Thirty Years. The Kind You Have Always Bought.

Advertisement for W.L. Douglas shoes. Text includes 'W.L. DOUGLAS \$3.50 SHOES \$3.00' and 'UNION-MADE'. Features an illustration of a man's face and a shoe.

Advertisement for Tower's Fish Brand Pomme Slicker. Text includes 'KEEP YOUR SADDLE DRY! THE ORIGINAL TOWER'S FISH BRAND POMME SLICKER'.

Advertisement for Gun Powder. Text includes 'HAZARD' and 'GUN POWDER'.

Advertisement for Hazard. Text includes 'HAZARD' and 'READERS OF THIS PAPER'.

Advertisement for Sawyer's Slickers. Text includes 'Sawyer's Slickers' and 'The man who wears Sawyer's Slickers'.

Advertisement for Rain Cant. Text includes 'RAIN CANT' and 'the man who wears Sawyer's Slickers'.

Advertisement for The Contented Farmer. Text includes 'The Contented Farmer' and 'is the man who never has a failure in crops'.

Advertisement for Piles Anakesis. Text includes 'PILES ANAKESIS' and 'gives relief and positive cure'.

Advertisement for The Cook's Right Hand. Text includes 'The Cook's Right Hand' and 'Like an extra hand in the kitchen'.

Advertisement for Farm Western Canada. Text includes 'FARM WESTERN CANADA' and 'FREE'.

Advertisement for Piles Anakesis. Text includes 'PILES ANAKESIS' and 'gives relief and positive cure'.