

**\* AGRICULTURAL \***

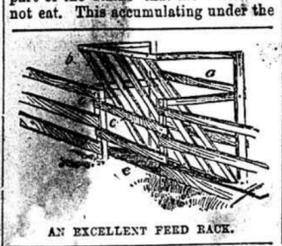
hatching, they are contented with that.

In this way some strains of pure-bred fowl may have been so kept and managed that they produce a less number of eggs in a year than they would under better conditions, and as the chickens inherit the propensities of the parent and the grand parents they deteriorate in productiveness, as much as a herd of dairy cattle would if kept in such a way that they were not up to their standard in milk production.

But because certain strains under this management do not produce many eggs, it does not disprove the statement with which we began. Place the pure-bred hens and chickens under the care of a good feeder, and in three generations they can be made to produce more eggs than can be produced by any cross-bred or scrub-bred fowl. By selection of eggs from the best layers among them, this can be brought about, and the poultry keeper who expects to grow chickens next spring should begin this winter to feed his hens for egg production, and should watch them to see which do save eggs from for hatching. We have never attained the twenty dozen a year mark, and never expect to, for we cannot devote our time to the poultry yard, but we believe it is possible and desirable and it can be done without losing any of the fancy points called for by the poultry standard, though it might take a longer time if we tried to combine the fancy points and the egg production at the same time than it would be if we only selected the best layers without regard to the markings, as it would limit our number to select from.

**A Rack For Feeding Corn Fodder.**  
Feeding unshredded corn fodder is hard work, on account of the difficulty of handling. There is also a greater part of the stalks that the cattle will not eat. This accumulating under the

tom. The waists have yokes of the white mull, finely tucked, and elbow sleeves of the Liberty satin. The collars are of white mull, tucked, and the bridemaids are to wear large white mull bows tied in front, with ruffled ends hanging well down on the skirts. The large hats the young girls will wear promise to be very effective. They will be of white mull, with a band of swan's-down around the crown, and one very full white mull rosette at the left side. Under the brim, resting on the hair, are pink roses of a very delicate shade. In their hands they will carry what are the latest novelties of the season—Liberty-satin muffs, of the same shade as the gowns, with long bows and ends of white mull. These muffs are to be imported from Paris, and when seen at this wedding, which will take place one of the most fashionable churches in town, will undoubtedly set a fashion for weddings to come. At another recent wedding the bridemaids carried parasols of cream-ruffled tulle, which were the gift of the bride to her chosen attendants.



AN EXCELLENT FEED RACK.

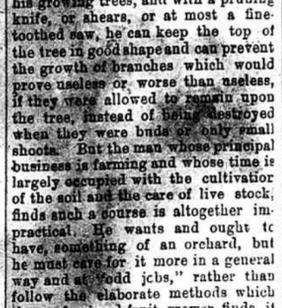
**Frequent Milking.**  
It has been well established by numerous experiments by scientists, that the longer time that elapses between milkings, the less solids will the cow secrete in her milk, says Hoard's Dairyman. Those who have made tests of cows for purposes of competition have also noticed that a cow will give considerable increase in solids, as well as in quantity of milk flow, if she is milked three times a day instead of twice.

The physiological laws, which influence and govern the flow of milk, should meet with much more study by cow owners than is done. We are too apt to go along in a careless and indifferent manner, forgetting that our success with the cow can be greatly increased or diminished thereby. Every man who milks a cow is dealing with one of the most complex and delicate machines in existence. He ought to be a sincere, earnest student of the wonderful varying forces which may affect that machine to his profit or loss.

**Planting Farm Work.**  
The farmer should decide upon the fields he intends to cultivate next season long before the time comes for putting the seed in the ground, and should try to decide what crops he will put upon them. In making his decision, he should consider not only the adaptation of the soil to the crop, but how the work upon the various crops can be so planned that he will not have too many irons in the fire. We know something about it, for we have been there and have had to plow up a fair-looking crop while growing, because it was so weedy as not to be worth hoeing, as we had been busy on another field. But the best plans may be changed sometimes when one has to do with anything so fickle as the New England weather. Even insects may force a change, as we were once forced to change an onion bed into a squash field, because the onion maggot had appeared in such numbers that we saw the crop would be a failure. We admire perseverance, but there is such a thing as being too obstinate, and striving against the inevitable. Give up when fairly beaten, and try to retrieve fortune in some other way.—American Cultivator.

**Single Sashes Double Glazed.**  
One of the ways in which poultry and other stock suffer is from the rapid radiation of heat from the windows at night. Double windows are sometimes used, but these are expensive, somewhat of a bother to put on and hard to keep clean.

The cut shows a single sash, double glazed, which a poultryman has recently described. The sash is made



SASH WITH DOUBLE GLASS.

so that the glass can be set on both sides of the wooden bars, leaving a half inch or more of space between. This gives a double window and the cost is said to be not more than twenty-five cents extra per sash for the glass and the labor of setting. Those who are providing windows for new or remodeled poultry houses will do well to experiment with this plan. The glazing must be tight and carefully done to keep out all dirt and dust from the inner surfaces of the glass.—New England Homestead.

**Practical Poultry Points.**  
The pure-bred hen will usually lay more eggs than any cross of the same breed, and many more than the scrub hen with a mixture of half a dozen different breeds in her make-up. If she does not it is the fault of the one who cares for her. Some breeders really know more about the markings of the feathers and shape of the comb than they do about feeding their poultry, and they care more about having these points just right than they do about the number of eggs they receive, says a writer in the Cultivator. If they can get eggs in the spring when they are wanted for

**NEW YORK FASHIONS.**  
Designs For Costumes That Have Become Popular in the Metropolis.

**New York City (Special).**—Some very simple but yet effective gowns for bridemaids are now being made for a wedding which is to take place later in the season. They are to be of that beautiful shade of pinkish lilac called ashes-of-roses. The material is Liberty satin. The skirts, which will have short trains, have three ruffles of white mull around the bot-



MULL AND SWAN'S-DOWN HAT.

**The Box-Plated Back.**  
The weight of your walking skirt will be sensibly increased by loading on to it a heavy box-plated back. Still, what will we not do to be fashionable? After all, it serves us right for choosing such heavy materials for our street gowns. If a single box pleat adds its weight, what do you think of the double or triple box pleat? All very stylish, and therefore desirable. The double and triple box pleat are far and away more graceful than the "single-ton."

**Elbow Protectors For Lace Sleeves.**  
Up-to-date lace sleeves may have elbow protectors. They may not be intended for that, but they will serve the purpose. A light cloth gown has long sleeves of lace, a piece of the cloth set in at wrist and shoulder, and another, broad at the outside seam, with points on either edge, the piece growing narrower inside the arm. It may not be to hide a sharp elbow, but it might be.

**Pretty Little Belts For Girls.**  
Pretty little belts are worn by girls tired of the plain little narrow belts. They are broad in front with two points above and below, sloping down on either side and passing around the waist in a narrow band, fastening in the back or at the side. These belts are of embroidery or some material to match the trimmings of the gown.

**One of the Season's Novelties.**  
Floral muffs are one of the season's novelties. An enormous and very lovely one is composed entirely of violets, and finished with great flopping frills of shaded mauve chiffon.

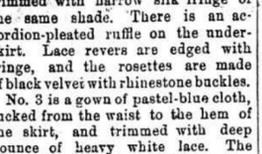
**Light Grays For Spring Wear.**  
Possibly the place of most importance as a spring tone may be given to gray, the lighter the better. Perle, argent, nickel and platine are the four foremost tints.

**A Handsome Combination.**  
Russian lace in heavy quality and Venetian laces are very much employed for trimming handsome cloth gowns in the pastel colors.

**Handsome Negligees For Midday.**  
Pretty little negligees are made of panne velvet, plain loose-fitting little jackets with lace trimmings.

**In Beautiful Broadcloth.**  
Here is an illustration of one of the cleverest dresses in that delightful new shade, which is a softly pinkish chocolate. Broadcloth is the material, and the skirt is stitched down to below the knees in double tucks. The extra fullness is very becoming at the

**Three Striking Costumes.**  
Three stylish new costumes are shown in the large illustration, taken from Harper's Bazar. This publica-



FIGURED SILK GOWN. LIGHT GRAY CLOTH. GOWN OF PASTEL-BLUE.

tion seems to be more and more the true mirror of a fashion.

No. 1 is a figured silk gown, with waist cut square and trimmed with a broad collar of guipure lace and rosettes of black chiffon.

No. 2 is of light gray cloth with over-skirt out in Vandyke points, and trimmed with narrow silk fringe of the same shade. There is an accordion-pleated ruffle on the under-skirt. Lace revers are edged with fringe, and the rosettes are made of black velvet with rhinestone buckles.

No. 3 is a gown of pastel-blue cloth, tucked from the waist to the hem of the skirt, and trimmed with deep flounce of heavy white lace. The bolero jacket is of lace and there is a chiffon rosette at the left side.

**Long Skirts Are Fashionable.**  
Long skirts in the street, longer skirts in the house, and it pleases every one but the woman of economical mind. There is a sweep to the train of extra length which gives a pleasant sensation to a woman of presence; she likes the feeling of the swing of the skirts. The dressmaker can get better effects with the long skirt; it allows up the material to better advantage, and as it takes more of it, there is a satisfaction to manufacturing.

But that is not all. A woman who wears a long skirt requires less making, if any, than a shorter one, for it has a certain dignity of its own, and a certain material and is kept in place by being trimmed.

**Laces and Ribbons.**  
Collars are growing higher and higher. One of the new stocks is of white silk, tucked, and hemstitched, and has two wide elephant's ears ends standing up at the back. Others are cut with points which almost cut off the unhappy wearer's ears. A new feature of the silk stock is the tab-like ends that hang on either side. These are bead-embroidered, or edged with lace to match the stock, and they are not very pretty. Still, they are the latest.

**Household Hint.**  
If there is one thing on which the housewife prides herself, it is that of having her laundering done nicely, so that the wearing apparel may be the admiration of all. The washing is a small matter, anyone almost can do that, but to have the lines present that flexible and glossy appearance after being ironed requires a fine quality of starch.

J. C. Hubinger's new laundry starch, "Red Cross" and "Hubinger's Best" brands are his latest inventions and the finest starch ever placed on the market; not a new starch made by a new manufacturer, but a new starch by the leading and only manufacturer of fine laundry starch in the United States.

His new method of introducing this starch with the Endless Chain Starch Book enables you to get one large 10c. package of "Red Cross" starch, one large 10c. package of "Hubinger's Best" starch, with the premiums, two beautiful Shakespeare panels, or one Twentieth Century Girl calendar, all for 5c. Ask your grocer.

**A Poor Bicycle.**  
"Pa, my rubber tire has to be fixed."  
"Now, Sammy, what have you been doing to your wheel this time?"  
"Well, Pa, it's no account; I jes' rode it through three bonfires, an' it went 'n' busted."

**Magnificent Service to the Winter Resorts South.**  
The New York and Florida Limited, finest train in the world, operated daily, except Sunday, between New York and St. Augustine, leaves New York at 12:40 P. M., composed of Pullman dining, compartment, drawing room, sleeping, library and observation cars, New York to St. Augustine, also carrying Pullman drawing room, sleeping cars, New York to Port Tampa, Aiken and Augusta. Connections made at Tampa for Brunswick, Waycross for Thomasville, Ga., and Port Tampa for Key West and Havana. The New York and Florida Express leaves New York daily, 8:30 A. M., Pullman dining room sleeping cars, New York to Jacksonville and Augusta, connections for Brunswick and Thomasville; dining, compartment, drawing room, sleeping cars, Jacksonville to Miami Beach, Miami and Nassau. Pullman drawing rooms, sleeping cars, New York to Savannah, Jacksonville and Miami, connections for Key West and Havana; also for points on Plant System west coast of Florida; dining car service. Particulars, sleeping car reservations, etc., of Alex. S. Thwait, Eastern Pass. Agt., 371 Broadway, New York.

No fewer than 112 families of injurious insects vex farmers.

**\$100 Reward.**  
The readers of this paper will be pleased to learn that there is at least one disease that science has been able to cure in all its stages, and that is Catarrh. Hall's Catarrh Cure is the only positive cure known to the medical fraternity. Catarrh being a constitutional disease, requires a constitutional treatment. Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally, acting directly on the blood and mucous surfaces of the system, thereby destroying the foundation of the disease, and giving the patient strength by building up the constitution and assisting nature in doing its work. The proprietors have so much to say in curing this disease that they offer One Hundred Dollars for any case that it fails to cure. Send for list of testimonials, etc., of Alex. S. Thwait, Eastern Pass. Agt., 371 Broadway, New York.

Sold by Druggists, 75c.  
Hall's Family Pills are the best.  
Because of the telephone net in Berlin, Germany, costs \$45 a year.

**How Are Your Kidneys?**  
The Noble's Blisters will cure all Bladder, Rheumatism, Gout, Strain, Stiffness, etc., etc., or R. F. Noble, 100 N. 3rd St., Philadelphia, Pa.

The meat of a sheep killed by a dog lately poisoned a Kalamazoo (Mich.) girl.

**A Clever Broadcloth Gown.**  
bronze enamel clasps, with gold and silver shading. The stock and V are composed of soft, narrow folds of the cream chiffon.

**Sure of Himself.**  
Most men are quite convinced that in a moment of sudden danger, such as has lately demoralized some friend, they should be perfectly cool and deliberate. Some would be, but that this is not true of all, the following incident bears witness.

There is in Chicago a business man who, above all things, prides himself on being level-headed. He makes it a point never to "go off at half-cock," under any circumstances. His office is in the top story of a rather tall building, and when, one afternoon, the alarm of "fire" was given, he felt instantly and naturally quite uncomfortable.

His first thought was that the office books must be carefully locked up in the safe, but just then a number of people rushed through the entry past his door, and the methodical man had a confused impression of having sought in vain for the books for a very long time.

The smoke was rising slowly through the elevator well as he dashed into the hall and down the stairs. At the foot he met his partner.

"Where are the books?"  
"I looked everywhere for them," said the methodical man, "but they weren't to be found."  
They went back to his private office, and there the books were lying open on his desk. Strangely enough, the methodical man never fully understood how it happened.

**Natural Gas Utilized by Tramps.**  
Two years ago a well was drilled on the Hays farm in search of oil. The well was put down by some Eastern company. Situated in a secluded place along a little creek, very few people ever knew that the well had been drilled. What was found in the well will never be known, for, as soon as it was completed, it was immediately filled up with rock and dirt. Lately, however, gas has begun to issue from the well, and now it comes forth in considerable quantities. It is not far from a little station on the Santa Fe Railroad, and this winter the tramps have taken possession of the place. They have piled rocks around the well and turned a part of an oil stove over it, on which they cook. They have put up a shanty, and in the centre of the room their stove heated it with natural gas. The advantage of natural gas has made the place a favorite rendezvous for tramps for miles around, and they have quite a colony there.—Topeka (Kan.) State Journal.

**The Coat Didn't Fit.**  
In the days when Johannesburg was a mining camp, so the tale goes, Oom Paul on one occasion was riding through in a very ordinary suit of clothes. He unsaddled by a wagon belonging to a German, who, not recognizing him, began to hold forth on the reforms he would make if he were ruler of the State. Suddenly Mr. Kruger took off his coat, and, holding it toward the German, who was a little man, said: "Friend, put it on." "But," replied the latter, "it is too big." "Just so," said the President with a grim smile. "I'm Paul Kruger, and it is not too big for me."

A crane having a span of 158 feet has just been installed in the erecting shop of a certain locomotive works. It will lift a 195,000 pound locomotive forty feet in the air, carry it 336 feet, and set it down again in three minutes and thirty-six seconds.

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Cheap washing soaps and powders, too, With alkali are strong; The dire destruction which they do Is sure to show ere long. But Ivory Soap will never hurt The fabric, howe'er tender; It makes short work of stain and dirt, But no work for the mender.

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