

SHEBA

The bottle bobbed about with a sort of inviting joviality amidst the wavelets of the river. The sturdy young surveyor noted that a blob of red sealing wax held the cork and that a narrow red ribbon dangled from the neck. He saw that it contained a bit of folded paper and promptly shattered the glass on a rock. No water had reached the paper, on which he found these words, written in a handwriting that rambled between the skyscraper letters of a maiden and the cramped scrawl of a boy:

"I'm a jewel worth more than the diamond mines of King Solomon. Beneath the big red rock under the sycamore tree you will learn more."

"First time I ever knew Solomon was in the diamond business," commented the young fellow.

This rock juttied out among the lesser ones further along the river bank, and the surveyor was soon peering intently into a cavity worn beneath it by the frequently rising waters. The young man pulled out a gilded pasteboard box that once had held bonbons. A red ribbon was wound around it.

"More ribbon," commented the surveyor, as he raised the lid. Within was a small sheet of paper. It read: "The queen of Sheba was beautiful, and still Sheba is beautiful. Seek ye the cave of the woodchuck, where the rock and the bridge meet."

"Now, what the dickens is all this about, anyway?" queried the surveyor, with a show of eagerness. "At any rate, I know where the rock and the bridge meet. But I'm not sure of the cave of the woodchuck."

The woodchuck cave proved to be another cavity beneath a bulging boulder at the bridge, and in it he found another bonbon box with the inevitable red ribbon, and in the box this time the note read:

"Solomon could solve riddles—can you solve them, too? Come where the apple blossoms bloom in the orchard beyond the hill."

"Now, it's apple blossoms," commented the surveyor, becoming still more curious. "Well, there's the hill, but I'm not sure of the orchard." The hill was soon climbed, and in the vale below spread out a great glory of blooming apple trees. With elaborately assumed unconcern the young man descended to the orchard. The glint of a white dress flashed between the somber trunks of the low trees, and, hat in hand and heart unsettled, the surveyor walked heroically toward the white dress. Suddenly he paused and muttered excitedly: "It's Sheba, all right; only finer, I guess."

Then he bowed low to the white dress, above which a radiant face smiled, and he said: "I beg your pardon, but I'm just strolling through your orchard. I hope I'm not in the way."

"Why, you're quite welcome. These blossoms are beautiful, don't you think?"

"A fit bower for Queen Sheba, indeed."

"Sir!"

"Oh, I beg your pardon again. I meant to say, like you, that these blossoms are fine. So's the day; so's the diamonds; so's King Solomon."

The girl looked mystified and started for a moment, and then after gazing more intently at the young fellow's face, broke into a merry laugh and said: "Oh, aren't you one of the gentlemen fixing up things for the new railroad across my father's farm?"

Now, it's not in the nature of things, nor in the things of nature, for two handsome, buoyant young folks of the opposite sex to talk ravenly together without becoming well acquainted, and soon the surveyor and Sheba were on chatty terms. Indeed, then days later, time and time again, he called at the home of Farmer Handerson, and at last one evening after a memorable but triumphant interview with the farmer, he sat with Sheba and her solemn-faced brother on the big porch. And for the first time he asked: "Sheba, what was your romantic scheme in connection with the be-ribboned bottle, the diamond mines of Solomon, Queen Sheba and the cave of the woodchuck?"

"Why, indeed, I don't know what you mean—what you are talking about," replied Sheba, bewildered.

"I do," said the solemn-looking young brother, in solemn tones. "I do. I worked up that scheme all about my own sweetheart."

"And where is your sweetheart, dreamer?" asked the surveyor.

"She lives far up in those golden clouds," answered the solemn-faced brother.

Secret of an Empress' Beauty.

The German Empress is said by artists to possess the finest shoulders of any woman in Europe. She gives the credit to a soap manufactured exclusively for her. This soap has a deliciously refreshing odor, and the empress believes it is beneficial to the muscles while acting as a tonic to the cuticle of the face and neck. The empress uses peppermint as a dentifrice. New mown hay is her favorite handkerchief perfume, and once a day her rooms are sprayed with cologne. The empress powders her hair freely, as she naturally is not pleased by the promise of being prematurely gray. The chances are she would submit her hair to the peroxide bath, but the emperor will not permit it. Dyed hair is one of his pet aversions, although curiously enough he does not object to powder.

POULTRY AND BEES

"EGG-A-DAY" LAYING HEN.

Experiments Show the Egg Yield May Be Greatly Increased by Scientific Selection.

By B. E. Larz.

Poultry raisers in the United States are greatly indebted to the thoroughness of the tests made at our experimental stations for a great many important improvements in every branch of the poultry industry.

These experimental farms have proved beyond doubt that by systematic feeding and scientific breeding of hens the latter can be made to greatly increase their number of eggs and also improve the richness and weight of the same, thereby raising their market value.

The gratifying success thus far attained by experiments in the way of increasing the egg-producing qualities of certain breeds of hens has made breeders hopeful of securing still greater achievements along the same line in the near future.

Perhaps to no state in the union is due a greater credit than to Maine



White Leghorns.

for the improvement and betterment generally in poultry raising.

Prof. George Q. Gowell, who died last summer, engaged in this interesting and profitable work and his discoveries influencing the hen's wonderful production of eggs are claiming earnest attention in every section of the country.

A summary of the results of a series of experiments shows that of some 2,000 hens placed under observation for longer or shorter periods about 20 had laid more than 200 eggs apiece in a year, while two hens, both of Plymouth Rock breed, and both marked according to standard regulations, have stood out so conspicuously for their performances that they may be counted among the most profitable fowls in this country, if not in the world.

The special pet of Prof. Gowell's heart, and the bird which has demonstrated the successfulness of his untiring efforts and discoveries to make hens produce a larger and better quality of eggs, yielded 251 eggs the first year. She would be regarded as of the egg type by those people who profess to tell the egg-yielding capacity of hens by their forms and markings.

A number of other hens yielded 240, 238 and 235 eggs each for the year, not one, however, producing less than 200.

Prof. Gowell's methods of selecting breeding stock for high egg production are to save the eggs from the hens of greatest egg yield and hatch chicks from those.

By so doing his experimental pens are now filled with pullets and cockerels the ancestors of which came from stock that had given 200 or more eggs in a year.

HOW TO BEGIN WITH BEES.

There Are Several Ways to Start, Such as Buying Hive from Neighbor, or with Nucleus.

I am reminded that some who would keep a few bees have none to start with and would welcome a little light in that direction. All right; but you would better be careful how you monkey with bees unless you want a life-time job, for, like photography, once a person gets a good start it is almost impossible to quit. There are several ways to start, such as buying a full hive from some one who advertises, or just buying a nucleus or two, which are little hives of bees just started. Or one might probably buy from a neighbor who had a few bees to spare. I would prefer to get them in movable frame hives, or, if in the old-fashioned kind, get them cheap and transfer comb bees and all into movable frames. At any rate, two or three will be enough for the beginner until he acquires experience.

Of course I know that they can be kept sometimes to a little advantage in boxes and kegs, but I would compare such a procedure to harrowing with a brushy sapling instead of using a good disk harrow. In fact, if you are going to keep bees in a box or keg, it is a waste of time to read up on any present-day methods, as the method will not permit of much examination or handling.—B. D. Thomas.

THE ONLOOKER

FELICITATING PA.



My pa says when he was a boy, W'y all he'd get was just one toy—A jumpin' jack, or pop-gun, when 'T uz Chris'-mas-time where he l'ves' then. He never looked for any more—He didn't 'spect a whole toy store!

My pa he says 'at in those days Folks did things dif'rent, anyways. He says he never got a stack O' candy—more 'n he could pack. Two sticks o' candy's all he got—An' he'd think that was a lot.

My pa he says when he's a child Folks didn't all try to go wild An' make their children think they'd got Enough to run their pas in debt. O' course, it wasn't from their pas. But always come from Santy Claus.

He tells me that I should be glad I don't have Chris'-mas like he had—He says there's lots he was denied But he learned to be satisfied. He never dreamed, he says, that boys Should have a whole room full of toys.

I tell my pa I'm awful sad About th' hard times that he had, But that he's re'ly lucky now—He's in our family, anyhow, An' that he shouldn't raise a fuss But be real glad he lives with us!



Breaking it Gently.

The patient opens his eyes. His glance takes in the white walls and white furnishings of the hospital ward. He looks down and sees the bandages that swathe him from head to foot. A white-robed nurse appears beside his bed.

"Am I badly hurt?" he asks.

"Yes," she says, "but not fatally. When the automobile struck you it broke both arms, one leg, five ribs and your jaw, besides dislocating six fingers, knocking out three teeth and blacking both eyes. Will you give me the name of your folks, so I may inform them that you will be here for a couple of months?"

"Yes," he says, "but break it to them gently. Just say that I have had to come to a sanitarium, owing to my run-down condition."

Help Wanted.

A swain who would a wooing go, To court a girl named Bertha, Asked where she lived, said: "I don't know; I think the street is Goethe."

The car conductor smiled and said: "This plain you do not know the Right way to say that name; instead Of Goethe it is Goethe."

Noble Woman!

"I declare!" says the new acquaintance, shaking out her skirts and settling down on a good gossip on the front piazza of the summer hotel. "You simply cannot trust the men! I've never seen the man I would put any confidence in. They all drink and flirt, and carry on awfully. Why, I knew a—"

"You must live in rather a bad neighborhood at home," says the other lady, slowly. And the chat is ended.

Disappointing.

"My husband didn't get home until two o'clock this morning," remarks the lady with the weary eyes.

"Indeed!" exclaims the other lady, delightedly anticipating the narration of a family tiff. And what did he say in explanation?"

"Nothing. I came home with him. We had been to the theater and to a late supper afterward."

Made an Honest Effort, Anyway.

"Yes, Gibbles is a fellow who always believes in making an effort to do the task set before him, but there are times when that policy is absurd."

"Still, it is an admirable quality in a man."

"Yes, but the other day I saw him trying to open an oyster with a nut cracker."

Ready to Change.

"Are you making any good resolutions for 1910?" asks the friend.

"Just one—with regard to smoking," answers the man with the fidgety eyebrows.

"Smoking. Why, I thought you swore off tobacco last New Year."

"So I did. I'm going to begin smoking again."

Wilbur D. Nesbit

January 20 per cent off Sale

20 Per Cent DISCOUNT

on all Suits and Overcoats

10 percent off on all other Clothes

A Smile of Satisfaction

Goes with every Suit and Overcoat

We'll Help STRETCH Your DOLLARS

THE HOME OF THE

Hart, Schaffner & Marx CLOTHES

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Often The Kidneys Are Weakened by Over-Work.

Unhealthy Kidneys Make Impure Blood.

Weak and unhealthy kidneys are responsible for much sickness and suffering, therefore, if kidney trouble is permitted to continue, serious results are most likely to follow. Your other organs may need attention, but your kidneys must be taken care of first. Therefore, when your kidneys are weak or out of order, you can understand how quickly your entire body is affected and how every organ seems to fail to do its duty.

If you are sick or "feel badly," begin taking the great kidney remedy, Dr. Kilmer's Swamp-Root. A trial will convince you of its great merit.

The mild and immediate effect of Swamp-Root, the great kidney and bladder remedy, is soon realized. It stands the highest because its remarkable health restoring properties have been proven in thousands of the most distressing cases. If you need a medicine you should have the best.

Sold by druggists in fifty-cent and one-dollar sizes. You may have a sample bottle by mail free, also a pamphlet telling you how to find out if you have kidney or bladder trouble. Mention this paper when writing to Dr. Kilmer & Co., Binghamton, N. Y. Don't make any mistake, but remember the name, Swamp-Root, and don't let a dealer sell you something in place of Swamp-Root—if you do you will be disappointed.

Addition to Gypsy Lore.

According to a writer in the Journal of the Gypsy Lore Society, it was not in 1417 but in 1414 that Gypsies made their first appearance in western Europe.

CLASSIFIED LINERS.

WANTED.

WANTED—25 second hand Diamond framed bicycles. Don't sell your old frame to the junk man. I will give you 50 cents each for them. C. A. NORWOOD.

WANTED—A safe, sound, young farm horse, weight about 1200 pounds. Describe fully and name price. T. B. JACKSON, Phone 182 M.

FOR SALE.

FOR SALE—Cows, prices ranging from \$30 to \$50. Also want young calves for veal. JOHN HARRISON.

FOR SALE—Work horse for sale cheap. A. N. LANE, Route 4, Paw Paw.

FOR SALE—40 acres good land, fair buildings, \$1,600, half cash. DOWNING & FLOOR.

FOR SALE—Plenty of good buckwheat bran at the Almshouse mill. E. H. MINER, Proprietor.

FOR SALE—Wood, at the heading factory. Phone 192. JOS. DEAL.

FOR SALE—Nice residence, fine neighborhood, modern improvements, easy terms. DOWNING & FLOOR.

LOST AND FOUND.

LOST—Brindle bull pup, white breast and legs, four months old, answers to the name of "Taffy." Will give \$5.00 reward for his return. W. J. BARNARD.

PIANO AND ORGAN LESSONS.

MRS. CLAUDE C. HARRISON, TEACHER, Elementary and advanced work. Studio 28 N. Kalamazoo street, Paw Paw.

AUCTIONEER.

THIRTY-FIVE years' experience. Terms reasonable and satisfaction guaranteed. Kibbie phone for dates. H. W. MCABE.

Those Cookies

Would not have that strong, disagreeable flavor, if you had used our

Bulk Molasses

We have the best Molasses in town. Send in the "little brown jug;" you won't need a "prescription" to have it filled here.

LINDSLEY'S

PHONE 179.

DIVORCE CASES PENDING.

The report of divorce cases for this county just completed by the county clerk shows the following:

No. cases pending Jan., 1909,	168
No. cases begun in 1909,	60
No. decrees granted in 1909,	32
No. cases withdrawn in 1909,	4
No. cases pending Dec. 31, 1909,	198

Quite a large proportion of the pending cases are old dead cases which have been on the calendar for years and which will never be revived. Some measure should be adopted by which these cases could be dropped from the records.

FARMERS' MUTUAL MEETING.

A meeting of the Farmers' Mutual Fire Insurance Co. was held at Shoensmith's hall last Tuesday. In the absence of President John Marshall the meeting was called to order by Vice President Milton Pugsley.

While the severe losses from lightning during the past year were a heavy drag on the company's finances, still the reports show that the company is holding its own and is out of debt.

D. C. Hodge and Isaac Moore were re-elected as directors.

WILL SELL AUTOMOBILES.

Howard Cooper has secured the agency for the E. M. F. "30" and Planers "20" automobiles for the coming season. His territory will be Van Buren county. Both machines have made splendid records, and with his experience of the past nine years Mr. Cooper should do well with the automobile business the coming year. He has a carload of machines on the way and will soon have a sample of both cars on display. Mr. Cooper's announcement, cuts of machines etc. will appear in The True Northstar next week.

Business Not All of Life.

Perpetual devotion to what a man calls his business is only to be sustained by perpetual neglect of many other things. And it is not by any means certain that a man's business is the most important thing he has to do.—Robert Louis Stevenson.

Something New in Sport.

A football match on roller skates has been played at the Ipswich (Eng.) palace rink.

Sterilizing Books.

A successful mechanical process for the sterilization of books has been recently devised in France, and a suggestion is being considered providing for the establishment of plants in different parts of the city for the regular treatment of the volumes used in the schools.

Sale or Mortgage of Real Estate.

State of Michigan, The Probate Court for the County of Van Buren.

At a session of said court, held at the probate office in the village of Paw Paw, in said county, on the 11th day of January, A. D. 1910.

Present, Hon. David Anderson, judge of probate.

In the matter of the estate of Lucy M. Bangs, deceased.

William Killefer, administrator of said estate, having filed in said court his petition praying for license to sell the interest of said estate in certain real estate therein described:

It is ordered that the 7th day of February, A. D. 1910, at ten o'clock in the forenoon, at said probate office, be and is hereby appointed for hearing said petition, and that all persons interested in said estate appear before said court, at said time and place, to show why a license to sell the interest of said real estate should not be granted.

It is further ordered, that public notice thereof be given by publication of a copy of this order for three successive weeks previous to said day of hearing in The True Northstar, a newspaper printed and circulated in said county.

DAVID ANDERSON, Judge of Probate.

It takes time

to acquire business training and experience, but no qualities are more vital to success. This is particularly true in transacting the business of other person

The Union Trust Company offers you the ripe results of more than eighteen years of valuable training in this special field.

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