

TARNLETS RARE.

A short-tempered English sergeant was conducting a firing squad which missed the target in the most unaccountable manner at 600 yards. He repeated this maneuver at 800, and with equal success at 200. "We've got to do it," the sergeant spluttered at last, setting his teeth; "fix bayonets—we'll charge!"

Col. Henry Waterson recently told a story of an old negro down south who was informed that if he was bitten by a snake and drank a quart of whisky the snake would die and he would go unscathed. "Dar's only one trouble bout dat cure," the old man said; "I knows whar dere's plenty snakes, but whar's I gwine ter git de whisky?"

When Bishop Colman was appointed made a tour of his diocese and happened to stroll into a woodman's cottage. Asking the woman of the house if there were many Episcopalians around there, she replied: "Well, I don't know. They caught some wild thing here in the woods a couple of weeks ago, if that's what you mean, but I think my husband said it was a woodchuck."

An Odessa (Mo.) man found it necessary a few days ago to lay aside his good clothes and put on a dirty ragged suit and help clean up the machinery in his place of business. Then he went home, and as he entered the front gate he met a tramp coming out. The tramp mistook him for one of his kind, and said: "There's no use to go in there, pard, that's the meanest white woman living."

An Irish butler, newly engaged, requested his master to allow him some whisky. "There's nothing like it to clean the windows," said he. However, a few minutes later his master chanced to pass through the room, and to his surprise found the glass empty. "Why, Barney," he asked, "where's the whisky?" "Well, you see, sir," said Barney, not in the least put out, "it's this way: I drink the whisky and then I breathe on the glass."

WORTH REMEMBERING.

There are three entirely different kinds of ingredients used in making the three different varieties of baking powders on the market, viz: (1) Mineral-Acid or Alum, (2) Bone-Acid or Phosphate, and (3) Cream of Tartar made from grapes. It is important, from the standpoint of health, to know something about these ingredients, and which kind is used in your baking powder.

(1) **Mineral-Acid**, or Alum, is made from a kind of clay. This is mixed with diluted oil of vitriol and from this solution a product is obtained which is alum. Alum is cheap; costs about two cents a pound, and baking powder made with this Mineral-Acid sells from 10 to 25c. a pound.

(2) **Bone-Acid**, or Phosphate, is the basis of phosphate baking powders and the process is fully described in the patents issued to a large manufacturer of a phosphate powder. The U. S. Patent Office Report gives a full and exact description, but the following extract is enough: "Burned bones, after being ground, are put into freshly diluted oil of vitriol and with continual stirring and in the following proportion," etc.

From this Bone-Acid phosphate baking powders are made; such powders sell from 20 to 30 cents a pound.

(3) **Cream of Tartar** exists in all ripe grapes, and flows with the juice from the press in the manufacture of wine. After the wine is drawn off the tartar is scraped from the cask, boiled with water, and crystals of Cream of Tartar, white and very pure, separate and are collected. It differs in no respect from the form in which it originally existed in the grape. Cream of Tartar, then, while the most expensive, is the only ingredient that should be used in a baking powder to act upon the soda, as its wholesomeness is beyond question. Cream of Tartar baking powders sell at about 40 to 50 cents a pound.

Such are the facts, and every one should of the health of the family should remember this rule:—Baking powders selling from 10 to 25 cents a pound are made of Mineral-Acid; those selling from 20 to 30 cents of Bone-Acid; and those from 40 to 50 cents of Cream of Tartar made from grapes.

LIFE'S LOWER ORDERS.

A large turtle provides eight pounds of tortoise-shell.

Frogs and toads possess a remarkably keen sense of hearing.

The crocodile usually takes 80 seconds in which to turn completely round.

The horn of the rhinoceros is not attached to any bone of the head, but grows on the skin.

Silkworms fed on different leaves produce silks of varied colors; thus a diet of vines leaves produce a bright red, and lettuce an emerald green.

Rabbits have white tails so that the young may easily follow their mother in case of pursuit. The natural color of the tail is so much resembles the earth that this would otherwise be impossible.

The Present Rate Law. The duties of the present Interstate Commerce Commission are to correct all discriminations in railroad rates. If it finds that an unjust rate is in effect, the railroad is notified. If it deems it to be necessary, the Commission can bring suit in Court and if the Court decides in favor of the Commission's finding, the railroad must obey, or its officers may be brought up for contempt of court and summarily dealt with.

TEN TRUTHS.

Easy tasks make idle men. Polly is a close friend of pride. Silver and gold—the sea and the sun. The surest thief takes the quickest aim.

To succeed be devoted, but not dependent. The smallest flowers have the sweetest smell.

Etternal dissatisfaction is the second law of nature. No laugh can be as roguish as the ripple of a stream.

The man who pleases himself most suits others best. Men wonder what they will do; women what others will think.

AGRICULTURAL HINTS

ROAD REPAIRING.

How the Road Problem Has Been Solved Successfully in One County in Indiana

There is a vast amount of money spent each year in maintaining the roads of the country. This money is too often spent with small consideration of the important question of how to get the most for the outlay. The time is sure to come when there will be a wiser plan for disbursing the millions that are so freely given by the people to improve their roadways.

In a certain county in Indiana the people were greatly surprised at the outcome of an experiment, or rather an innovation, writes C. M. Gluehr, in Farm and Fireside. It had always been the custom in the township to elect farmers to the office of road director, or supervisor. Notwithstanding there was an abundance of excellent gravel close at hand, the roads were in bad condition. So bad had they become that a number of places were actually impassable at a time when such a condition should not in any season have prevailed.

How the idea started is not known, but the word was passed around that a change was desired in the kind of man to be voted for. Farmers had always held the office, but the idea was presented that it would be fair to consider a member of some other class or profession as being eligible to the place. Consequently, after much planning, a physician with an experience of 30 years' practice was selected as the candidate for the place. He was elected, and at once assumed his new duties. He declared that

he never undertook a work that gave him so much pleasure and gratification. For 30 years he had been compelled to drive over the country roads night and day, summer and winter, and had had an opportunity of observing them in their worst and in their best aspects. He had involuntarily, and actually without intending to do so, studied the question of road-building and road-repairing. As he rode along, splashing through the mud or bumping over the stones, he formulated plans in his mind for remedying the evils of the present conditions as pertained to the roads of his vicinity.

When he was surprised by the proposal to run for the office of road director, or supervisor, he cheerfully arranged to supervise some of his business to put into effect some of his cherished schemes.

In the beginning his somewhat unique methods grated harshly on the nerves of those who had been in charge of the work—they were different, and suggested advancement and enlightenment; but as he progressed, and as the effect of his work was observed over every furrow of the roads under his charge, the sentiment changed to one of approval, and enthusiastic support was accorded him from everybody. In one short year he brought the roads up to a high state of perfection so much so that his methods were described at length and printed, to be copied by other directors who sought the best plans.

It had been the custom from the start to fill up a mud-hole. This new director sought a way to drain it. The idea was new, but surely sensible. He graded the road so that a crown appeared, slightly higher in the middle than at the sides. Ditches of depth and width to suit the requirements were made at the roadside. In this country it is the custom to drive one horse to buggies and carriages. This causes a track to wear in the middle of the road. When rain comes, this track becomes a ditch having no side-drains to carry the water off. To remedy this required the services of a man for several months until the middle of the road became hard and thoroughly packed. This man's duty was to look out for depressions in the middle of the road, and immediately fill them up. Again, the wheels had frequently made cuts or ruts, in which water gathered every time it rained or snowed. These became mud-puddles. Fresh gravel dropped in such places did not solve the question. At such points the roads were remade from the bottom up, and there were few places in which this condition reappeared.

All gravel hauled on the roads was screened at the pit through a coarse screen, which took out all the larger stones and boulders. There is nothing more troublesome than those loose boulders in a road way, and few things that cause so much damage to vehicles. Every foot of the roads under this man's charge was carefully scrutinized and raked over. All such loose stones were collected, and hauled to spots where a new road-bed was being constructed. No attempt was made to macadamize these roads—such expense was out of the question; nothing was attempted in the way of new material. Just common-sense plans were followed, and a diligent and conscientious application of every dollar and every hour of time to which the roads were entitled.

The physician had an automobile, and it is his boast that his machine can run as fast in the remote portions of his district as it can on roads contiguous to the towns. He is constantly going about over the roads in all parts of his district. He observes every portion with care, and should a place need repairing, he orders the work done at once, never waiting until the road at that spot becomes impassable or dangerous. This plan is more economical and satisfactory.

Training Calves to Eat. The young calves should be encouraged, as soon as possible, to eat their grain dry, as it is thus moistened with the saliva, and is much more perfectly digested. Do not mix it with their milk or drink.

How to Get Good Cows. Every dairyman should rear his own herd. It is next to impossible to buy the best cows. Their owners know their value and will not part with them.

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EXPERIMENT IN FORESTRY.

How a Kentucky Timberland Owner Has Culled Again and Again and Still Has Timber to Sell.

An interesting example of the profitability of conservative forest management in this country is furnished by Dr. S. B. Caldwell, of Paducah, Ky., who has dealt in timberlands in the south-western part of the State for 53 years. "In 1871," says Dr. Caldwell, "I sold timber from a tract of land at one dollar an acre, the purchaser having the privilege of removing what he wanted and leaving what he did not want. He took the choice trees, but left a considerable amount standing. In 1870 I sold the timber from the same tract and got for it two dollars a tree. The purchaser removed an average of three trees per acre. In 1884 I sold the timber from the same tract for the third time, and got for it as much as I had received at the second sale."

Dr. Caldwell's experience in the woods taught him long ago the wisdom of conservative forest management. Thirty years ago when he came into possession of a tract of about 700 acres near Paducah, he sold a quantity of the timber for wagon stock. At that time forestry in this country was virtually unknown. Dr. Caldwell, however, was sufficiently foresighted to allow no trees to be cut except those which he selected. He went about in the woods and picked out trees whose tops and general appearance showed they had passed their period of greatest vigor, and trees which interfered with promising young growth. His forest has been culled a number of times in the past 30 years, but so wisely has the cutting been done that to-day the land will average from 10,000 to 15,000 board feet per acre. This was an experiment in forestry which has amply justified itself, and shows how a shrewd, far-sighted man may, even without technical advice, secure good returns from his woodland without impairing its productive value and while putting himself in position to profit by the steady rise which is taking place in timber values.

FREQUENT SPRAYINGS. Advice for the Orchardist Which Should Be Followed as He Begins the Fighting of Insect Pests.

The novice in spraying cannot afford to be so careless about his sprayings that he will miss the end for which he is working. Neither should he try to get along with the fewest possible number of sprayings. The best sprayers have indeed reduced the number to the minimum, but they are experienced men that have learned to make every spraying count for the most possible.

In many cases it has been found that so far as the orchard is concerned, four sprayings in spring give the greatest returns, while spraying every two weeks from the middle of April to the middle of August give the greatest proportion of perfect fruit, says the Farmers' Review. The additional sprayings cost more than the additional fruit is worth, as a general thing.

Taking all things into consideration, the method that will pay the best consists in spraying the trees as soon as the blossoms fall and then every two weeks till four sprayings have been given. The sprayings must be well done if they are to be of any value. Splishwork will not prove effective in preventing the ravages of insect and fungous pests. Leaving the work to the boys is never profitable. It requires mature judgment and thoroughness to do the work as it should be done.

AN ORCHARD STEP-LADDER. Device of a California Man Which Will Facilitate Fruit Picking and Pruning.

A California man has invented a device for a step-ladder especially designed for fruit-picking, pruning, and other operations about trees. Its salient feature consists of a third leg, which

is pivoted at the top and can be locked in a rigid position and extending into the tree will hold the step-ladder firmly. This third post or leg may be used in various positions, such as being folded down through small trees or thrust through branches of thick growing ones.

Dairy Facts. Indiana has a little over 400 creameries. Minnesota has a little over 800 creameries. The importation of Australasian butter into England doubled last year over the former year. Little profit should be expected from cows kept in uncomfortable quarters and fed on unbalanced rations. The few cows on every farm are the ones that produce the vast amount of butter and milk used by the American people. The average cow under the average conditions is a money loser. She does a little better under the best of conditions. The amount of butter manufactured in Minnesota last year increased about 8,000,000 pounds over the amount made the preceding year. The dairyman should be more exacting as to the quality of the cows he keeps. He is keeping too many scrubs at the present time. Pick out every calf that promises to make a good dairy cow and raise her. Such calves are worth more to the dairy than they are for veal.

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POINTS ON PASTRY.

This American Delicacy Not Easily Made and Requires Attention Be Paid to Certain Fixed Rules.

In making pastry there are several points to be attended to, apart from the actual making of it. Be careful that everything you use is particularly clean and dry. I need not say how clear your hands and nails should be. All the utensils used should be perfectly free from dust and dirt, and the things required for pastry kept entirely for that purpose.

Make pastry in a cool atmosphere and on a cool surface. A marble slab is better than a board for the purpose. Mix your paste lightly with the tips of your fingers, and not the palms of your hands. Also make it quickly. The less you handle it and the quicker you make it the better it will be.

The flour should be of the best quality and perfectly dry; if in the least damp the paste made from it will certainly be heavy.

The proportion of fat to flour may vary from half its weight to equal weight. If less than half the weight be used, baking powder must be added, but such pastry soon becomes hard, and must be eaten on the first day, preferably before it has cooled.

The quantity of water depends on the quality of the flour, but beware of making pastry too moist, for it will assuredly be heavy.

If baking powder be used, get the pastry into the oven as quickly as possible, but with a liberal supply of fat it improves with being set aside for an hour or so.

In pastry-making the quality to be desired is lightness, and this depends on the amount of air in the paste before and the expansion of the air after it is put in the oven. The best pastry is that which contains the greatest quantity of the coldest air before it is baked.

Always pass the flour through the sieve to get air into it, and always use cold or very cold water in mixing. Pastry should be rolled lightly; it should not be turned over, or thrown about, and the rolling pin should often be lifted.

The difference between flaky pastry and short pastry is that in one there are thin layers of air and pastry alternating, and in the other the air fills small cavities all over the pastry.

Eggs are used to increase the tenacity of the paste, and so hold more air. Take care that the oven is hot, or your pastry will spoil; however nicely you may have made it. When baking also take care that your pastry does not burn and when you take it out of the oven allow it to cool in the kitchen. If you were to put it in a cold place while the steam is coming from it, the cold would suddenly condense the steam, and make the paste heavy.

SOME HOUSEHOLD HINTS. Concerning Various Departments of the Home Where a Word of Help Now and Then is Needed.

Every housekeeper who uses kerosene lamps knows how much better light the new burner and new wick give than the old ones. The reason is that the former has become clogged with dust and soot, and the latter with the impurities of the oil. Boil the burners in strong Pearline soap or use washing soda instead, put in a new wick and see what a difference it will make with the quality of the light. A brightly burning lamp is so much more cheerful than a dull, dirty one.

A housekeeping magazine says more depends on the mixing and baking of rich fruit cake than on anything else. The cake should be mixed the day before it is to be baked, and put on ice to keep. Have the oven well heated when you begin to bake it, and be careful about replenishing it. If the oven becomes too hot, put a pan of cold water in it. Five hours in a moderate oven are required to bake a large cake to the proper ripeness.

It is said that carrots, boiled very tender, mashed, put through a sieve and treated exactly like pumpkin, make a better pumpkin pie than pumpkin itself.

A most delicious fritter is made by chopping cold chicken meat, seasoning it with celery salt and mixing in the ordinary fritter batter. Fry by spoonfuls in deep fat.

A laundress recommends enclosing knitted or crocheted articles that are to be washed in a bag during the whole process of washing and rinsing, saying this prevents the stretching of the yarn, which gives the article the objectionable "stringy" appearance.

Best for the Mother. You can not serve your family better than by resting yourself. An over-tired mother can not make sunshine in the house. Try to take even half an hour of complete rest some time during the afternoon, says Woman's Life. It will often be hard to get away, but make a duty of it, and you will accomplish it, if you were ill the children would have to get on without you; let them do it while you are keeping well for their sakes. Think over the things that can best be undone, and leave some of them while you sleep. Rest is much cheaper and more agreeable than a doctor's bill, and if you do not have one you will surely have the other.

To Do Up Colored Muslins. To make colored muslins look like new boil one quart of wheat bran in six quarts of water for half an hour. Strain through cloth, and when cool wash the dress in this, using neither soap nor starch. Rinse lightly in clear water, with a little ox gall has been added. If colors are to be set, a tablespoonful of the gall is the usual amount. If there is no danger of fading, a teaspoonful is enough. When nearly dry, iron. This preparation of bran both cleanses and stiffens the fabric.

Oil-Cloth. When the pattern of an oilcloth covered floor was worn off it may be taken up, tamped over, receive two good coats of paint on the wrong side and be put down again. The paint must be allowed to dry thoroughly.

Bananas and Beefsteak. Bananas are very good with beefsteak. While the steak is in the broiler slice two bananas in rounds about half an inch thick. Fry them in a little butter and arrange over the beefsteak on a hot platter.

BUT WHERE'S THE MAN?

Even the Widower with Nine Children Was Not Immediately at Hand.

Thomas Hunter, the president of the New York normal college, was addressing a band of young women, according to the Kansas City Journal. "Young women," said Mr. Hunter, "make excellent teachers. I know young women whose genius in this work is as wonderful as the genius of a great painter. Such young women, of course, are rare. But good teachers, extremely good teachers, are not rare. Anyone can become a good teacher who likes the work."

"But if you dislike the work, turn to something else but teaching. We cannot succeed ever in what we hate. "Bad teachers, when we find them, are persons who dislike the work. They are like the young girl in the country town who said to one of her friends: "Yes, I am going to take up teaching. "The friend looked amazed. "You?" she exclaimed. "You? a school-teacher? Why, I'd rather marry a widower with nine children." "So would I," said the other. "But where is the widower?"

VERY EXCELLENT THING. The Up-to-Date Stenographer Is Not at a Loss for Authorities on Misspelled.

The stenographer who couldn't spell was called into the private office, reared the Brooklyn Eagle. "This is outrageous!" exclaimed the employer. "What's the matter?" asked the stenographer. "Half of these words are misspelled," said the employer. "But the stenographer was reacquainted. One day or so before she had been reading an article on spelling reform. "How do you know they are?" she asked. "Any dictionary will prove it," replied the employer.

"What's the use of relying on dictionaries?" said the stenographer. "We are in a period of great changes." Thereupon she brought out six different magazines that had articles on the different methods of simplifying English spelling and demonstrated to him without trouble that authorities could be produced for any old combination of letters that she cared to put together.

In the Spring. Lowndes, Mo., April 4th.—Mrs. H. C. Harty, of this place, says: "I was in very bad health. Every spring I would get so low that I was unable to do my own work. I seemed to be worse in the spring than any other time of the year. I was very weak and miserable and had much pain in my back and head. I saw Dodd's Kidney Pills advertised last spring and began treatment of them and they have certainly done me more good than anything I have ever used."

"I was all right last spring and felt better than I have for ten years. I was fifty years of age and am stronger to-day than I have been for many years and I give Dodd's Kidney Pills credit for the wonderful improvement. The statement of Mrs. Harty is only one of a great many where Dodd's Kidney Pills have proven themselves to be very best spring medicine. They are unsurpassed as a tonic and are the only medicine used in thousands of families."

Contentment comes neither by culture nor by wishing; it is a reconciliation with one's lot, growing out of an inward superiority to our surroundings.—J. K. McLean.

ITCHING SCALP HUMOUR. Suffered Tortures Until Cured by Cuticura—Scatched Day and Night.

"My scalp was covered with little pimples and I suffered tortures from the itching. I was scratching all day and night, and I could get no rest. I washed my head with hot water and Cuticura Soap and then applied the Cuticura Ointment as a dressing. One box of the ointment and one cake of Cuticura Soap cured me. Now my head is entirely clean and my hair is growing splendidly. I have used Cuticura Soap ever since, and shall never be without it. Signed: Ada C. Smith, 388 Grand St., Jersey City, N. J."

When a man is financially embarrassed he is apt to feel sorry that he has friends who only feel sorry for him.—Chicago Daily News.

Health Is Your Heritage. If you feel sick, depressed, irritated; if food disagrees with you; if you are constipated, or get the "stomach" something is wrong. There is no reason why you should not be restored to perfect health if you will write for a trial bottle of Vernal Palmerton, from Vernal Palmerton Berries which possess wonderful curative powers for all diseases of the Stomach, Liver, Kidneys, and Bladder. Thousands of sufferers have been permanently cured. Write for free sample, Verinal Remedy Co., Le Roy, N. Y. Sold by druggists.

Sometimes a man is despised for 20 or 30 years because he is so stingy, and then envied all the rest of his life because he is so rich.—Somerset Journal.

Cures Eczema, Itching Humors. Especially for old, chronic cases take Botanic Blood Balm. It gives a healthy blood supply to the affected parts, heals all the sores, eruptions, scabs, scales, stops the awful itching and burning of eczema, swellings, suppurating, watery sores, etc. Druggists, 8c. Sample free and prepaid by writing Blood Balm Co., Atlanta, Ga. Describe trouble and free medical advice sent in sealed letter.

If you are invited to a wedding, the cheapest thing to send is regrets.—N. Y. Times.

In a Pinch, Use Allen's Foot-Ease. Shake into your shoes Allen's Foot-Ease, a powder. It cures Corns, Bunions, Painful Smarting, Hot, Swollen Feet. At All Drugists and Shoe Stores, 25c. Sample FREE. Address A. S. Olmsted, Le Roy, N. Y.

Speaking of the smoke nuisance, how about the campaign cigar?—Chicago Chronicle.

CASTORIA For Infants and Children. Bears The Signature Of *Chas. H. Peabody* Over Thirty Years The Kind You Have Always Bought. **QUALITY IS OUR MOTTO!** **MERCANTILE** 10c. BEST BECAUSE YOU ARE NOT TALKING FOR YOUR BOARD. FINEST PAINTING. YANA TOMASSO, FLORENCE, FREE. QUALITY. YANA TOMASSO, FLORENCE. CIGARS. Sold every where. "45c" and "Agents" 5c. Cigars Are Leaders of the World. F. H. RICE & CO., LONDON.

ARE YOUR KIDNEYS WEAK? Thousands of Men and Women Have Kidney Trouble and Never Suspect It.

To Prove What the Great Kidney Remedy, Swamp-Root, Will Do for YOU, Every Reader of This Paper May Have a Sample Bottle Sent Absolutely Free by Mail.

It used to be considered that only urinary and bladder troubles were to be traced to the kidneys, but now modern science proves that nearly all diseases have their beginning in the disorder of these most important organs.

If you are sick or "feel badly," begin taking the great kidney remedy, Dr. Kilmer's Swamp-Root, because as soon as your kidneys begin to get better they will help all the other organs to health. A trial will convince anyone.

Didn't Know I Had Kidney Trouble I had tried so many remedies without their benefiting me that I was about discouraged but in a few days after taking your wonderful Swamp-Root I began to feel better.

I was out of health and run down generally; had no appetite, was dizzy and suffered with headache most of the time. I did not know that my kidneys were the cause of my trouble, but somehow felt they might be, and I began taking Swamp-Root, as above stated. There is such a pleasant taste to Swamp-Root, and it goes right to the spot and gives relief so quick. I was cured and am making me stronger and better in every way, and I cheerfully recommend it to all sufferers.

Mrs. A. L. WALKER, 334 East Linden St., Atlanta, Ga. Weak and unhealthy kidneys are responsible for many kinds of diseases, and if permitted to continue much suffering and fatal results are sure to follow. Kidney trouble irritates the nerves, makes you dizzy, restless, sleepless and irritable. Makes you pass water often during the day and obliges you to get up many times during the night. Unhealthy kidneys cause rheumatism, gravel, catarrh of the bladder, pain or dull ache in the back, joints and muscles; make your head ache and back ache, cause indigestion, stomach and liver trouble, you get a sallow, yellow complexion, make you feel as though you had heavy no strength; get weak and waste away.

The cure for these troubles is Dr. Kilmer's Swamp-Root, the world-famous kidney remedy. In taking Swamp-Root you afford natural help to Nature, for Swamp-Root is the most perfect healer and gentle act to the kidneys that is known to medical science.

How to Find Out If there is any doubt in your mind as to your condition, take from your urine on rising about four ounces, place it in a glass or bottle and let it stand twenty-four hours. If on examination it is milky or cloudy, if there is a brick-dust settling, or if small particles float about in it, your kidneys are in need of immediate attention.

EDITORIAL NOTICE.—So successful is Swamp-Root in promptly curing even the most distressing cases, that to Prove its wonderful merits you may have a sample bottle and a book of valuable information sent absolutely free by mail. The book contains many of the thousands upon thousands of testimonial letters received from men and women cured. The value and success of Swamp-Root is so well known that our readers are advised to send for a sample bottle.