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POULTRY ON THE FARM.

How It Can Be Made a Never-Failing Source of Income.

Conducted with intelligence, poultry keeping on the farm becomes one of the most remunerative branches of farming. To the farmer the expense is trifling, and taking into consideration the fresh eggs and spring chickens furnished the table the year around, it is the keeper's fault if his fowls do not pay their way in these two items alone, and afford a handsome profit besides.

It is difficult to determine which is the most profitable breed for the farm. While the smaller breeds are the greater egg producers and the smaller consumers, many of them are useless for the table, the spring chickens bring an inferior price, and the fowls, when marketed, amount to very little. On the other hand, among the larger breeds, we find some excellent layers with carcasses weighing at maturity from six to ten pounds, while spring chickens from these breeds bring the highest price. The farmer who wishes to improve his flock of native hens, can do so in no better way than by crossing them with one of these large breeds. The least expensive way to do this is to order a sitting of eggs from some reliable breeder of pure-blooded fowls. Do not grudge the money expended for the sitting, but repeat the expenditure as often as every two years. If your neighbor has gone to the trouble and expense of improving his flock in this way, please do not ask him to exchange eggs with you.

Winter feeding should have egg-production for its object, and here is one of the tests of the successful poultry keeper. He does not fail to make his hens declare a dividend in the winter time. To insure this, there must be liberality and variety in feeding, with plenty to drink. Corn alone will not do it. There is hardly a farm or garden product of which fowls are not fond. Remember that with them "variety is the spice of life." Feed them as soon as they descend from their perches. Feed them at noon, when confined, and never omit the nightly ration of corn, as upon this slowly digested article of diet they largely depend for warmth through the night. He is a simple farmer who will shell his corn for his hens. Let them shell it themselves. They need exercise. The busier you can keep them, the better. One reason why fowls pluck each other's feathers and get into mischief generally, is because they are allowed to sit around and stand around with nothing to do.

Eggs are largely composed of water, therefore provide plenty of pure drink, and do not imagine that hens will not drink much. Just watch them. This matter of watering is of the greatest importance if we would have eggs in the winter, and yet it is a matter grossly overlooked, and about which people display great ignorance. Too much emphasis can not be given it. Fowls running at large through the summer need no feeding. They are the "scavengers of the farm" and will pick up their own living. Feed young chicks upon wet corn meal.

A warm house is the first requisite to success. It is the same with poultry on the farm as with other stock; warm quarters make less food needed. If you have no comfortable house, provide one. Fifty hens will pay for a fifty-dollar house in one year. Aim for warmth with thorough ventilation. Lath and plaster it, as there are then no hiding places for the lice. Do not put ventilation in the roof. Place it at the floor, where the heavy vitiated air settles, and make it capable of being closed during the day. Use a cement floor. It is easily cleaned, and rats can not penetrate through it. Disease is often the result of overcrowding, without proper attention to cleanliness, ventilation, drink and diet. Remedy this neglect and we remedy the disease. Since "an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure," let us give our fowls proper attention, and so not be obliged to resort to drugs.

To make the market give us the greatest prices, there must be winter eggs and early chickens. The greater our stock of these the greater our profit. Farmers lose money by waiting until the first cold weather and then rushing their poultry off to market. All stock which is not to be carried over should be marketed before autumn. There may be profit, but I fail to hear the poetry, in the noise of goose, turkey and duck. I prefer to preserve the quiet of my home from any such "confusion of tongues," believing, too, that if a farm is to be stocked with all the poultry it can carry, there is quite as much profit in a stock of hens alone.

Farmers can not pay mortgages or give a collegiate education to their children, etc., from their poultry income, but they do not know what they can do until they treat their fowls with intelligence and humanity, and keep an account of their income from this source. Women who would learn the pleasures of independence, can do so in no easier, and no more healthful way, than by taking into their own hands the management of the poultry on the farm."—*Jennie L. Bigelow, in Ohio Farmer.*

The Story of a Thankful Heart.

One of the noblest traits of human nature is the feeling in the heart which urges us to show gratitude for any favor or benefit we have received at the hands of another. Selfish and cold indeed is the the heart that will not award praise and give honor where honor is due. It is an old and a true saying that we should "praise the bridge that carries us safely over the stream." These noble motives evidently inspired the heart of the lady who writes the following in behalf of herself and her friend. It is a voluntary testimony of gratitude and of praise for the means through which a great blessing was conferred. For the benefit of other sufferers, we publish with pleasure this "Story of a thankful heart."

PALMYRA, N. J., April 19, 1887.

Gentlemen—I feel that I want to say a few words in regard to what your S. S. S. has done for me. I was taken sick in February with congestion of the lungs. After I could be up again I had no strength; I was so weak that it seemed I could not hold out much longer. The medicine I was taking did not do me any good. I quit it and commenced taking S. S. S., and I must say I never felt better in my life. I have gained in strength and have a good appetite, and I owe it all to six bottles of S. S. S. I shall keep on taking it.

I have recommended it to a lady who has been in poor health for years, and it has done wonders for her. She will not be without it, and has thrown all other medicines away. We both feel that we want to recommend Swift's Specific to all our friends.

MRS. H. GRAY.

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MARK TWAIN'S COURTSHIP.

How the Famous Humorist Won His Bride and Her Anxious Father, Too.

Mark Twain is in New York almost every week. He is very much at home in the city, but he never stops twice at the same hotel; that is, not twice consecutively. This is because he likes variety. It has nothing to do with the bill or his methods of payment. Mark is all right, though every now and then some old crony from the West who hasn't struck pay-dirt since '49, will turn up with a queer story about the great humorist and his days of impecuniosity. Little do these detractors know that Mark was called upon suddenly one day to furnish Californian testimonials to his good character, and that he passed through the ordeal in a fashion that should silence all carping criticism.

As every one knows, Mr. Clemens first met his beautiful wife while on the famous voyage of the Quaker City, and he pursued his acquaintance after their return so closely that at last the young lady's papa one day called the ardent and devoted Mark into his private study and said, after some preamble:

"Mr. Clemens, I have something to say to you which bears upon a subject of grave importance, at least to me and mine. You have been coming here for some time and your manners leave no doubt in my mind as to your object. Now, my daughter's welfare is very dear to me, and before I can admit you to her society on the footing of a suitor to her hand I would like to know something more than I do about you, your antecedents, etc. Stop a minute! You must remember that a man may be a 'good fellow' and a pleasant companion on a voyage and all that, but when it is a question as grave as this a wise father tries to take every precaution before allowing his daughter's affections to become engaged, and I ask of you, as a gentleman, that you shall give me the names of some of your friends in California to whom I may write and make such inquiries as I deem necessary, that is, if you still desire our friendship."

It was now Mark Twain's turn.

"Sir," said he, bowing profoundly, as became a young man who respects his hoped-for father-in-law, "your sentiments are in every way correct. I approve of them myself, and hasten to add that you have not been mistaken in my sentiments towards your daughter, who, I may tell you candidly, seems to me to be the most perfect of her sex, and I honor your solicitation for her welfare. I am not only perfectly willing to give you reference but am only too glad to have an opportunity to do so, which my natural modesty would have prevented me from offering. Therefore, permit me to give you the names of a few of my friends. I will write them down. First is Lieutenant General John McComb, Alexander Badlam, General Lander and Colonel W. H. L. Barnes. They will all lie for me just as I would for them under like circumstances."

This conclusion broke the old man all up, and he never asked more reference nor wrote to those gentlemen. Those who know this quartette will appreciate the joke.

A few weeks before Mark Twain started away on the trip mentioned above he was standing on Montgomery street, leaning up against a lamp-post, and he held a cigar-box under one arm. Mrs. Captain Edward Poole, a very beautiful woman, and as bright and as witty as beautiful, came along and held out her hand, saying: "Why, Mark, where are you going in such a hurry?" "I'm m-o-o-v-ing," drawled Mark, at the same time opening the cigar-box, disclosing a pair of blue socks, a pipe and two paper collars.—*N. Y. Cor. Philadelphia Press.*

QUEER COUNTRY THIS.

Carl Dunder Jumps on the Wrong Man and Becomes Sick All Over.

"Sergeant, vhas some warrant oudt to arrest me?" softly inquired Carl Dunder, as he tip-toed into the Woodbridge street station house.

"Not that I know of—why?" replied Sergeant Bendal.

"Vhell, two or three days ago a strange man comes in my place. Vhas I Carl Dunder? I vhas. All right. Mr. Dunder I vhas of the Board of Health, und I like to look in your cellar for dead rats und cholera. Dot seems all right to me, und so I light der candle und he goes doun. He vhas gone a long time, und when he comes oop he says dot cellar vhas all right. He vhas in New York, Chicago, Toledo und odder places, und he neafer see sooch a clean place."

"Some swindler, of course."

"Vhell, in der afternoons anodder mans vhalks in on me. Vhas I Carl Dunder? I vhas. All right. Mr. Dunder, vhas dot sewer in your cellar all right? If he vhasn't, dot sewer-gas fills der whole place und you vhas taken to der bone-yard. Dot seems all right, and I let him go down. He vhas gone a good while, und when he comes oop he says he vhas in Buffalo, Cincinnati, Syracuse und Baltimore, und he neafer see sooch a sewer peforo."

"He was another swindler."

"Vhell, dis morning the third man comes in. Vhas I Carl Dunder? I vhas. All right. Mr. Dunder, I vhas der Fire Commission. Maype your cellar vhas all right if you vhas cut off by fire, und maype she needs some fire-escapes. Please light dot candle und I shall see. He vhas gone twenty minutes, und when he comes oop he wipes off his shin mit his elbow. Dot put some ideas in my headt, but he says he vhas in Kansas City, Omaha, Milwaukee and St. Paul and he neafer saw a cellar fixed oop like mine. In case of fire he could shump out like a rabbit."

"What a greenhorn you are!"

"Vhell, maype I vhas. I go down cellar pooty quick to look aroundt, und I find dot dose fellers drink three bottles of my wine und shteal some more. Dot vhas a game on me, sergeant."

"Of course it was."

"Vhell, I made oop my mind dot der next feller pays for all. Shust after dinner he comes in. He vhas sweet und shmiling. Vhas I Carl Dunder? I vhas. All right. Mr. Dunder I like to go down cellar to see your ——"

"What?"

"Shust aboudt dot time I shump for him, und in two minutes he vhas pulverized. I make a mop of him, und I smash two tables mit his heels. He crawls out doors after awhile, und vhen he vhas gone half an hour my telephone rings. Hello! Vhas dis Carl Dunder? He vhas. Vhell, Mr. Dunder, you haf almost killed der mans we sent to read your gas meter und she vhill cost you fife hoonered dollar to settle."

"No! And you pounded the wrong man?"

"Vhell, how can I help it? One day a false expressman brings me a shtone in a package und collects eighty cents. Der next day anoddar man brings me a package, und after I lick him I find she vhas a bundle from der shtore. One man comes in und collects money to build a shurch. He vhas a shwindler, und I look oudt. I gif der next man some awful kicks, und he proofs dot he vhas a preacher. You see, it vhas all pecause nopody vhas like himself two times. Sergeant!"

"Well."

"I vhas going home und go to bedt. I vhas sock all oafer. If ten hoonered men come to shwindle me it vhas all right und I doan' say a word. If you ring oop my telephone to-night und I vhas hanged by der neck in de woodshed you can say dot I died because of seech a queer country."—*Detroit Free Press.*

A VICIOUS PRACTICE.

The Growth of Arsenic Eating in New York and Other American Cities.

The habit of arsenic eating is becoming more and more common among the young women of this city, and the physicians say that nothing too harsh can be uttered against this miserable practice. Arsenic preparations of all kinds are advertised, and various preparations of this deadly drug are daily sold for the alleged purpose of beautifying the complexion. They who use it are daily laying the foundation of a disease that will one day destroy some of their most vital organs. The actual object to be gained by arsenic eating is that clear, white, almost transparent skin which they so much admire, and which may mean an early death. Again, the results obtained by the use of arsenic show very plainly the hurtful nature of it. The exact state of affairs brought about by arsenic eating is a diminution of the strength of the blood; the capilary blood vessels are stopped from working; the ends of the blood vessels are killed; no blood is supplied to the skin, and the real reason for the white, transparent nature of the skin is that it is practically dead. If the result of arsenic eating is the highly transparent state of the skin, and if this can only result from the killing of blood vessels, the claim that there is no harm in the habit becomes an absurdity. Physicians throughout the city are up in arms against the use of the drug. One prominent doctor said: "I hope something will be done, and done soon, to stop this abominable traffic. If the destruction of the blood vessels was the only thing the arsenic eater succeeded in doing, it would be bad enough; but that is not all. The arsenic has a bad effect upon the kidneys, and is likely to bring on a disease which will end only in death. It has also a bad effect on the digestive organs, and soon destroys their action; the liver, too, is diseased by the poison, and the nerves become affected to such an extent that their control becomes impossible. It acts upon the system in such a way that the victim of the habit becomes lost to all sense of morality. The practice of arsenic eating is a vicious one that ought to be stopped immediately before any more harm is done."—*N. Y. Post.*

Don't Experiment.

You cannot afford to waste time in experimenting when your lungs are in danger. Consumption always seems, at first only a cold. Do not permit any dealer to impose upon you with some cheap imitation of Dr. King's New discovery for Consumption, Coughs and Colds, but be sure you get the genuine. Because he can make more profit he may tell you he has something just as good, or just the same. Dont be deceived, but insist upon getting Dr. King's New Discovery, which is guaranteed to give relief in all Throat Lung and Chest affections. Harry B. Garner, City Pharmacy. Large bottles $1.

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