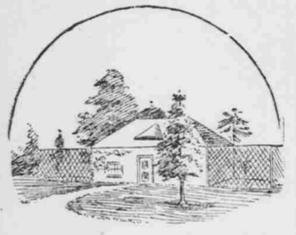




PIGEONS ON THE FARM.

How to Build a House and Yard Suited to Their Requirements in Every Detail.

Among the pets that make life especially attractive in the country stand first and foremost the dainty pigeons. As well try to "paint the lily" as to attempt to fashion a more bewitching creature than it is to be seen in this combination of grace and feathers.



PIGEON HOUSE AND YARD.

most desirable accompaniments to rural life.

Where pigeons are kept it is too often the practice to house them in some low loft under the eaves, where it is inconvenient to visit them and where the birds often suffer neglect.

This represents a small and inexpensive house built in attractive lines and thoroughly suited to the purpose for which it is intended.

Where pigeons are kept it is too often the practice to house them in some low loft under the eaves, where it is inconvenient to visit them and where the birds often suffer neglect.

POTATOES FOR SILAGE.

Prof. Henry, the Wisconsin Authority, is Inclined to Discourage Their Use.

Prof. W. A. Henry, of the Wisconsin agricultural college, makes the following interesting and practical comments on an article in Wisconsin Agriculturist, entitled "Ensiling Potatoes."

Dried Cobs for Kindling.

After corn cobs have thoroughly dried it is quite common to use them for kindling fires. But the cob alone is a very poor substitute for wood for this purpose, as it does not make a bright blaze, and the proportion of potash is so large that the ashes will soon destroy what flame might otherwise come from it.

The only objection to low headed trees is that they interfere with cultivation.

SCRUBS MUST GO.

No Stockman Who Sticks to Them Can Reasonably Expect to Make Both Ends Meet.

Scrub stock is not always bred that way. The best and bluest blood known to breeders may be made to bring forth progeny of the scrub order by carelessness on the part of the feeder.

The old saying that "well fed is half bred" is not merely a saying. It is founded on truth, and as a statement is quite exact. The veriest scrub may be made quite respectable by proper feeding, but it can never be made a purebred animal.

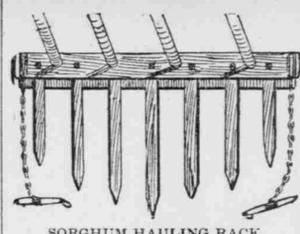
There is no excuse for scrub stock whether bred or made so by carelessness. Scrubby horses or cattle mark the owner as being at once non-progressive and ill-fitted for breeding or feeding.

Happily, the grade of bred scrubs is about past. Very few genuine "penny royal" steers are to be found now, and each year they become fewer. The scrub made so by lack of care and careless feeding is still too much in evidence.

HAULING SORGHUM.

A Kansas Farmer Describes a Contrivance for Drawing the Hay to the Stack.

We use a home-made implement for hauling it from the windrow to the stack. The name it goes by here is the go-devil. To make one, get three joists eight inches wide and 12 feet long; four scantlings 2x4; cut the 2x4 in different lengths from four to seven feet long; take seven of these pieces and sharpen one end so that they will pass under the hay and not catch in the ground.



SORGHUM HAULING RACK.

middle and the end ones. Then fit pieces from the eight-inch joist between the teeth as tight as possible; then lay the other joist on top of the teeth; bore holes through the upper and lower joist and the teeth; put good stout bolts through them and the teeth.

At the end, outside of the teeth, shove a collar round so that a chain can work loose on it and not slip off the end. Bore a few two-inch holes in the head and put in stakes to prevent the hay slipping off behind. Fasten a chain or rope ten feet long to each end; hitch a horse to each end; let a boy ride each horse; go to the end of the windrow; have a man to stand on the go-devil to manage it; start the horses along the windrow until you get a load, then draw it to the stack; turn the horses and pull it backwards until it is clear of the load.—D. M. Adams, in Ohio Farmer.

Handiness with Tools.

It is extremely important that every farmer train himself to handling tools of all kinds. If he has a forge with bellows and a toolhouse with turning lathe he can make extra whiffletrees, clevises and other articles that are apt to break when men and teams are busiest. Many of these can now be bought quite as cheaply as they can be hand made.

Selecting Pigs for Breeding.

Before disposing of the spring pigs make sure that you have selected enough of the best ones for breeding purposes the coming season. I know it is tempting sometimes to sell off the largest ones and think the smaller ones will come on all right with a little extra care, but it is not wise to do this every year.

ECLIPSE SPOILED A SALE.

Sun Refused to Shine on the Old Plantation When a Maine Yankee Called.

The last eclipse of the moon reminded a Virginian of a story.

"The civil war," he said, "did not end as I had hoped, and when it was over I found myself the owner of my father's plantation and half a hundred niggers who refused to acknowledge Mr. Lincoln's emancipation proclamation. But I had no money. I decided to sell out the old place and go into a new country.

If some of you care to look it up you will find in the files of a New York newspaper in 1865, I think, an advertisement of a southern plantation for sale at a bargain.

There was one happy idea in that advertisement—at least I thought so. It was that the plantation was one on which the sun never set. It was not an original idea, of course. I had often heard my father speak of the plantation in that way. He meant that every foot of it was under cultivation.

And it became known in our county and the region round about as the plantation on which the sun never set. In advertising it for sale I used the description, knowing that some one would recognize it and talk about it, and that is the secret of successful advertising.

"One day while I was sitting on the porch—we didn't call it veranda then—a stranger called. I very soon diagnosed him as a Yankee, and a Maine Yankee at that. He had come to look over the place, and the news spread among the niggers like goose pickings in a high wind.

After I had shown the prospective purchaser over a part of the plantation we returned to the porch, where he became my guest. A southern man never permitted a caller, stranger though he was, to leave his gate without setting out the decanter, and I offered the Maine Yankee the best I had.

"Oh, de good Lawd done die, and de sun gwine out and don't shine on de ole plantation no mo'!"

"I yelled and cursed until I finally got them quieted, and then my Yankee visitor called my attention to the heavens. The sun was eclipsed. The editor of our county newspaper had failed to advise us of the event, and I hadn't looked into my almanac lately. After the Yankee had left I went down in the nigger quarters to do a little more cussin' over the outbreak and to remind the niggers that above all things they must observe good order when strangers were around with a view of purchasing. The wife of the old preacher, and she always selected his texts and helped him in his work, fanned herself vigorously with her dress skirt as she exclaimed:

"Mass' Bevy,' she said, 'yo' pa allus say dat de sun allus shine on dis plantation, and you done say so yosef. An de sun allus did shine until dat abolitioner came down hyar and talk about buyin', and den de sun go out Mass' Bevy, in de hebbens dat de good Lawd moughty unpleased dat an abolitioner git de ole place.

"And with this explanation the other niggers fell to wailing again: 'Oh, de good Lawd done die, and de sun gwine out and don't shine on de ole plantation no mo'! I still own the old plantation."—N. Y. Sun.

Sensible Physical Exercise. I have always been much impressed with the facility with which the graduate of West Point or Annapolis does a variety of things in physical exercises—exercises some of which are perhaps not always characterized by the name of athletics, although useful not only in physical development, but as adjuncts through life. The man who can ride, and who can swim, and who can dance, and who can fence, and who can do other things such as are taught at West Point and Annapolis, has distinct accomplishments, the attainment of which has not only benefited him during the period of attainment, but the possession of which will continue to benefit him so long as he shall have the use of his physical powers.

I have long thought that the graduate of Harvard ought to possess physical accomplishments equivalent to, even if not identical with, those of his brothers at West Point and at Annapolis; and I am inclined to think that, unless he is a cripple or otherwise infirm physically, it is the duty of the university to see that he does possess such before it gives him his degree.—Harvard Graduates' Magazine.

Wronged. "You bust excuse by this evedig, Biss Billigad," said Mr. Addelethwaite, "if by speech is a little thick, for I have a terrible cold id by head."

"I see you have," Miss Milligan replied, "and that reminds me that you ought, by all means, to call on Sue Dallington while you are in your present condition."

"Why, so, Biss Billigad?" "She told me the other day that she was sure you had nothing in your head. Now, you can prove that she made a mistake."—Cleveland Leader.

A Matter of Alm. The Maid—Whose fault is it if women lead aimless existences? The Man—Woman's, of course. They ought to practice throwing.—N. Y. Journal.

A DIFFICULT CASE.

It Was One That the Best Skill of Physicians Could Not Cope With.

"Curious case! Curious case!" exclaimed a Detroit physician who is old enough to have encountered all sorts of experiences in a professional way.

"Anything in the line of surgery?" asked the younger doctor who had been addressed. "No, no, no," said the older doctor, "maladies with which we have to deal. Very interesting young lady. Very interesting, indeed. Nervous organism entirely too sensitive, however, and apparently proof against the remedies prescribed in the books. Her trouble began after her engagement. She evaded my questions for some time, but at last admitted that she lay awake thinking how much she loved and adored her prospective husband. No amount of will power at her command could aid in her blissful meditations to make way for sleep, and my prescriptions were equally impotent. At last the case became so critical that I consulted with the students, and they induced the young man to make an enormous sacrifice by breaking the engagement."

"You are a marvel," said the younger man, admiringly. "I think that there are often cases in which common sense can supply defects in our progressive but incomplete science of medicine; but it is not always that a doctor has the requisite fund of common sense on which to draw. Your experience is not only exceptional but truly wonderful. I must make a note of it. Of course recovery was immediate?" "No," with hesitation. "The truth is, she now lies awake thinking how she hates him."—Detroit Free Press.

There is more Catarrh in this section of the country than all other diseases put together, and until the last few years was supposed to be incurable. For a great many years doctors pronounced it a local disease, and prescribed local remedies, and by constantly failing to cure with local treatment, pronounced it incurable. Science has proven Catarrh to be a constitutional disease, and therefore requires constitutional treatment. Hall's Catarrh Cure, manufactured by F. J. Cheney & Co., Toledo, Ohio, is the only constitutional cure on the market. It is taken internally in doses from 10 drops to a teaspoonful. It acts directly on the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. They offer one hundred dollars for any case it fails to cure. Send for circulars and testimonials. Address F. J. Cheney & Co., Toledo, O. Sold by Druggists, 75c. Hall's Family Pills are the best.

A woman thinks it is all right in her own case to marry a man younger than herself, but how she howls 20 years later when some woman older than her son wants to marry him!—Atchison Globe.

See! Bad sprain is cured. St. Jacobs Oil's magic worked it.

Philosophy with some men means the love of their own wisdom.—Ram's Horn.

St. Jacobs Oil cures Soreness. St. Jacobs Oil cures Stiffness.

Some people put on airs while others merely whistle them.—Chicago Daily News.

THE MARKETS.

Table with market prices for various goods like LIVE STOCK, GRAIN, FLOUR, etc. Columns include item names and prices.

Shall Porto Rico Be a State?

Our public men are trying to decide what action should be taken regarding the status of Porto Rico. We have never before had to deal with a similar condition where nearly a million people of a foreign tongue have been annexed.

Opinions of a Pessimist.

Polish may be laid upon wood to such a thickness as to obliterate the grain. The same thing may happen to a man.

A Woman's Smile.

"Strange what a little thing will turn the whole current of a man's life."

Oh That Delicious Coffee!

Costs but 1c per lb. to grow. Salzer has the seed. German Coffee Berry, pkg. 15c; Java Coffee pkg. 15c. Salzer's New American Chicory 15c. Cut this out and send 15c for any of above packages or send 30c and get all 3 pkgs. and great Catalogue free to JOHN A. SALZER SEED CO., La Crosse, Wis. [k.]

Injustice of Fate.

"A man can't do much without money." "No, and when he has money he doesn't need to do anything."—Cincinnati Enquirer.

To Cure a Cold in One Day

Take Laxative Bromo Quinine Tablets. All druggists refund money if it fails to cure. 25c.

The moth is not a society favorite, even if it does frequently appear in a dress suit.—Chicago Daily News.

Never mind a cane or crutch. St. Jacobs Oil will cure lame back.

The bootblack always begins at the foot.—Chicago Daily News.

"It's gone," he said, "10 years of rheumatism. St. Jacobs Oil did it."

The way to get over your troubles is to get under them.—Ram's Horn.

ASK everybody you know to save their tin tags for you. The Tin Tags taken from Horseshoe, "J. T.", Cross Bow, Good Luck—and Drummond Natural Leaf—will pay for any one or all of this list of desirable and useful things—and you have your good chewing-tobacco besides. Includes a list of 33 items like Alarm Clock, Carvers, Scissors, etc.

"DON'T PUT OFF TILL TO-MORROW THE DUTIES OF TO-DAY." BUY A CAKE OF SAPOLIO. Advertisement for Sapolio soap.

WINCHESTER GUN CATALOGUE FREE. Advertisement for Winchester repeating arms.

OLD SORES CURED. Advertisement for Allen's Ulcerine Salve.

Ayer's Hair Vigor. Advertisement for hair care product. Includes text: "What does it do? It causes the oil glands in the skin to become more active, making the hair soft and glossy, precisely as nature intended."