

NOTES FROM MEADOWBROOK FARM

By William Pitt



Salt the cows regularly.

Get ready to sow the hog pasture.

Sheep profits are sure and readily obtainable.

Keep the land free from weeds by burning the seed.

Dairy cows are being bought in Vermont and shipped to Iowa.

Borrowing is poor policy at all times. It never cements friendship.

Watch for and destroy all weeds that appear during late summer and fall.

Why, certainly the machinery should all be under shelter by this time.

Unfruitful orchards, as a rule, are so because the soil is deficient in plant food.

Thoroughbred stock not only pay their board, but lay up something for the "rainy day."

Winter rye, especially a little further south, make good early pasture in the hog lot.

Thoroughly clean and whitewash the hen house this month. The cleaner and whiter it is the better.

It won't pay to try to brace up an old tree that blew down during the heavy storm. Plant a new tree in its place.

Ring-worm on cattle may be cured, by washing once a day with a five per cent. solution of carbolic acid, until healed.

A cow should have at least six weeks' vacation between milking periods. If she is milked continually she will not last long.

The poultry industry has flourished as no other livestock industry, yet the value of poultry products is higher than it has been for years.

It is of supreme importance that the dairy stock should be handled gently. Wild and intractable animals are usually the result of harsh handling.

Where dry grains are extensively fed to fowls, they should have succulent food—melons, culled potatoes, beets and tomatoes will answer this purpose.

Twenty-eight years ago hogs reached the present level of prices. The cause then was scarcity due to a great epidemic of cholera which had swept over the west.

Good garden implements are essential for successful gardening. Much of the benefit and pleasure derived from work in the garden is missed by having poor tools. The best are the cheapest.

Where milo is grown for poultry it need not be threshed. Fowls eat it as readily from the head as when it is threshed. Milo has a crooked stem and it is sometimes convenient to hang the heads in the chicken house.

The flower garden may not be as profitable as the vegetable garden, but it will add cheer, comfort and contentment to the home. The rest and peace of mind afforded by strolls in the flower garden is not to be compared with money.

The condition of the bowels is the best indication of the fowl's health. When the droppings are more or less hard, a dark brown color, capped with white, we know the fowl is enjoying the best of health. But when they are yellow and watery, indigestion, if not liver troubles, are the cause.

There are various methods for ventilating poultry houses, but the best and simplest is to let the fresh air come in unobstructed except by a muslin screen. Remove the window sash and tuck on muslin in its place. Enough air will enter to keep the house dry and sanitary, but there will be no breeze, even in very stormy weather.

Many city horses with hoofs bound and cracked and otherwise injured, have been taken to a farm, their shoes pulled off and turned out to pasture and thoroughly cured within six months. In fact, the farmers around the large cities used to find in this class of animals a cheap supply, many of which turned out to be first-class horses, showing that all that was needed was rest on Mother Earth without their shoes.

The litter carrier is handy.

Make a seed bed for cantaloupes.

Have your seed ready to sow that hog pasture?

Imported breeds of hogs are improving the hog profits.

Sheep will eat brush but they will not get very fat on such a diet.

Young hogs can be fattened more profitably than those that are older.

Even the farmers are getting fond of burning the gasoline along the highway.

No fruit makes stronger appeal through outward beauty than the peach.

Plan not only to have a good early garden, but a good garden all through the season.

If the pigs are kept confined upon a hard floor they are apt to have crooked legs.

Duck eggs when over a week old should not be sold because they soon lose their fertility.

If your best mare is worth \$200 to some other farmer she is worth \$200 to you. Remember that.

A frequent change of feed will keep the cow's appetite keen and her production will depend upon what she eats.

It is not a good plan to change the quarters of pullets or hens while they are laying. It is very apt to check egg production.

At an average price of 15 cents per dozen a hen will have to lay five or six dozen eggs to pay for the feed she consumes in a year.

Ducks can be raised without water other than drinking water. The return on cost of feed and labor are much quicker than with broilers.

In selecting branches of geraniums for cuttings, choose the ones that break readily, because they will send out roots quicker from the broken surface.

"Peggy," the mother of five prize-winner hens, is said to be valued at \$1,000. She is a White Orpington, and scored 97 1/2 points out of a possible 100.

The incubator chick starts out in life under really more favorable conditions than the hen-hatched chick, for its surroundings are clean and free of lice and disease.

A Guernsey cow produced in one year 14,571 pounds of milk and 955 pounds of butter fat. To produce this she ate 5,330 pounds of grain in addition to silage, hay and fodder.

Milo is a splendid poultry feed. It contains a large amount of carbohydrates and a small amount of protein. It should be fed with wheat bran or other foods rich in protein.

Butter to be graded as extra must have a quick, fine and fresh flavor. Its body must be good and uniform. The color must be good for the season when made, properly salted, neither gritty or flat.

In mixed breeding, or crossed-breeding, nothing is accomplished beyond the first cross. While a few good individuals are occasionally secured, the tendency is for the progeny to fall below rather than above the average.

One vigorous male to every ten hens is sufficient for good fertility in the average farm flock, and with the smaller breeds one vigorous male with 15 hens will answer. An excessively large number of males only entails needless expense.

The garden should be planted with a view to using tillage implements. Hand tools are slow and irksome, and should be dispensed with whenever possible. A trained horse and good one-horse cultivator will do more and better work in one hour than can be done with a hoe in a day.

If pasture has not been provided for the work animals and young stock on the farm, this should be provided for this spring. You will see the wisdom of this if you attempt to live on dry foods alone. When you provide vegetables for your table, do not forget the work animals.

For the orchardist to get the best results, his orchard should not be located more than six miles from the railroad or other transportation agency, for the double reason that to haul his product a greater distance lessens its market value and because the better the transportation facilities the more easily it is for him to market his product.

The same suggestions for the preparation of land for watermelons apply to cantaloupes, except that the distance for cantaloupes is usually five feet each way. Cantaloupes do not grow as vigorously as watermelons, and hence do not require as much space for the vines. They are, however, rank feeders and require a fertile soil and good cultivation. Much of the quality and flavor of the melon is lost if they are neglected. Cantaloupes mature sooner than watermelons, but should be planted about the same time.



SAVED HIGHLY PRIZED FLAG

Woman Narrates Interesting Tale of Experience During Civil War—Heard Lincoln Speak.

In the old world the women as well as the men of my family took honorable part in the great sieges of history. The first man in these colonies to declare publicly for separation from Great Britain was my uncle, a Presbyterian minister of Pennsylvania. He had to flee to the wilds of North Carolina because of his pamphlet, and there trained the men whose sons carried on the revolution long afterward. My great-grandfather, a colonel under Washington, was Lieutenant of Chester county, Pa., in the revolution, says a writer in Indianapolis News. Another great-grandfather fought in the same war and was at Valley Forge. His wife supported her ten children by her exquisite needlework in his absence, when the pay of a colonel hardly kept his horse. My grandfathers and uncles were at North Point—old defenders of Baltimore. During the war of '61-65 my mother and I gave our time, toil and pen freely to help the sick and wounded on the battlefield and field hospitals at the front.

We were a month each at Antietam, Chancellorsville, Gettysburg and with Gen. Milroy and Sigel in the valley; three months before Petersburg, being near when the mine was blown up; six months with Gen. Sheridan and among the wounded of Cedar Creek, spending months visiting out-of-the-way hospitals, reporting and supplying their needs. Our reward was in the heartfelt thanks of needy, dying men and the blessings of mothers, daughters and wives far away. At one time we carried nearly two thousand letters to a place within our lines, probably the last letters sent home by many, as an engagement occurred directly after. The general's chief of staff showed me an immense fort flag which the soldiers greatly prized, and the loss of which would dishearten them. "Whoever carries it," he said, "if taken would be a prisoner of war. Would you be willing to let it lie in the ambulance with you? I warn you of the risk." I had the tent for a few minutes to myself and wrapped the flag very tightly around my body, under my dress. For about 20 miles or more I rode thus, unable to move, and then gave it to the astonished provost marshal, in a place of safety.

I have the written thanks of President Lincoln who received us just before the battle of Gettysburg, when the doorkeeper said he saw none but members of his cabinet; Gen. Grant, who gave us a large pass to and from the armies in the field; Sheridan, Meade, Hooker, Wallace, Milroy, Schenck, Sigel, Butler, Burnside, Emory, etc., etc.; besides the strongest letters of thanks from soldiers. "To say that the labors of these ladies have been welcome," wrote Dr. H. W. Brock, after Cedar Creek.

The German emperor will be interested in the investigation which the Cornish Higher Education authority is about to hold into the reported success of the "divining rod" in locating mineral deposits. He himself has become convinced, by submitting certain German "diviners" to critical tests in his presence, that not only water, but metals also, can be discovered beneath the ground, and he recently sent to German Southwest Africa a "diviner," whose sensitive rod indicated more than 100 places where borings brought copious supplies of water to the surface. In a test carried out in Berlin the emperor hid several metal objects in the ground, all of which were discovered by the sudden bending downward of the rod when the "diviner" (in this instance Prince von Carolath) stood over them.—Dundee Advertiser.

DICKENS' Eloquent Appeal

Oh! if those who rule the destinies of nations would but remember this—if they would but think how hard it is for the very poor to have engendered in their hearts that love of home from which all domestic virtues spring, when they live in dense and squalid masses where social decency is lost, or rather never found—if they would but turn aside from the wide thoroughfares and great houses, and strive to improve the wretched dwellings in byways, where only poverty may walk—many low roofs would point more truly to the sky than the loftiest steeple that now rears proudly up from the midst of guilt, and crime, and horrible disease, to mock them by its contrast.—Charles Dickens.

A Very Dry Country

The landlord of a village hotel in a prohibition county in Indiana is very deaf.

The other day a drummer who was at the hotel walked up to the desk where the landlord was standing and asked: "Landlord, can you sell me a stamp?"

The landlord weighed the matter thoughtfully. Then he replied: "No, sir. I'd like to help you, but the darned drays is watchin' me so I can't do it out."—Philadelphia Saturday Evening Post.

"Wrapped the Flag Very Tightly Around My Body."

"would be cold indeed; they have been simply indispensable to the comfort and welfare of the wounded in the Sheridan Field hospital. By their untiring exertions, the sufferings of the wounded in this hospital have been greatly relieved, and the dying made to rejoice in their ministrations of mercy." I was not 20 when the war broke out. I have not had a day of health since. Exposure to heavy rains, riding in springless wagons, over the country, not always roads, and a very severe fall, which has left my back morbidly sensitive, these and other hardships have wrecked my life. Conditions in our country are widely different from what they were in the revolution, and in the war of '61 to '65. From the many graves in national cemeteries a voice would come, if such a thing were possible, calling on our rulers to "make this a government indeed of the people, for the people and by the people."

DESTROYS LOCAL UNIFORMITY

Educators of State Are Aroused Over Provisions of Yount Bill.

Columbus, O.—State School Commissioner Zeller and almost every rural school superintendent in the state are active against the Yount bill, providing for partial state uniformity of school books. The Yount bill has passed the Senate and is before the House. This measure aims to give a state commission power to select text books for all the rural schools of Ohio. At the outset, the bill included cities, but the city school people raised such a row over it that they were eliminated.

"It's unfair to the rural schools to have uniformity foisted upon them," says Commissioner Zeller. "Almost every rural school in Ohio has its course of study arranged in conformity with the city school in closest proximity. This makes the schools practically one system. The Yount bill would destroy the local uniformity now existing, and throw rural school affairs into chaos. It would involve a complete change of text books in all the rural schools of the state."

Representative Gibbs, of Lorain county, says the bill has the backing of the book trust and for that reason, if no other, should be defeated. Chairman Shankland of the House committee on Common Schools is against the bill and suggests that people interested in the country schools should protest to their representatives against the Yount bill.

The Old-Fashioned Woman

"What caused your sudden blowing in?" asked a veteran in Shade Land of a woman who arrived the other day. The woman gave a sigh that blew over a tombstone as she replied: "I am an old-fashioned woman, and I did my work in a kitchen with a six-hole range, a big sink, three long tables, two pantries and a dishpan large enough to wash a turkey. In two days ago I went to visit my daughter in a big city and found her cooking for her family in a chafing dish, doing her dishes in a washbowl and keeping them stored in the lower part of the washstand. When I saw her get the bread out of a big bowl on the piano, called a jardiniere, and reach for the butter out of the window, I felt a cold chill come over me, and then she 'made soup' by opening a tin can and pouring out a mess to which she added water from the wash pitcher. I knew no more." Then the old-fashioned woman gave such a sniff of disgust that it blew all the Shades over into the next county.—Acheson Globe.

Future for Indian Woman

In speaking of the future of the Indian girl Miss Estelle Reel, who for 12 years was the superintendent of an Indian school, says that the Indian girl today who has received an education looks for a higher type of manhood in a husband than satisfied her mother. If she does not find her ideal, she is perfectly capable of earning her own living. She makes a superb nurse. Hospitals which have trained Indian girls are making a constant effort to enlist others of the race. She has infinite patience, forbearance, generally a magnificent physique and no trace of the "nerves" which so often cause a breakdown among over-civilized races. An Indian girl can go through the most trying surgical case with a stoical calm that is extraordinary. She never gets flurried, anxious or worried, and she obeys the physician as a soldier does his commander. In caring for cases of severe illness she seems to live on some strange reserve force and is a tender as well as a painstaking nurse.

The Miraculous Hazel Twig

The German emperor will be interested in the investigation which the Cornish Higher Education authority is about to hold into the reported success of the "divining rod" in locating mineral deposits. He himself has become convinced, by submitting certain German "diviners" to critical tests in his presence, that not only water, but metals also, can be discovered beneath the ground, and he recently sent to German Southwest Africa a "diviner," whose sensitive rod indicated more than 100 places where borings brought copious supplies of water to the surface. In a test carried out in Berlin the emperor hid several metal objects in the ground, all of which were discovered by the sudden bending downward of the rod when the "diviner" (in this instance Prince von Carolath) stood over them.—Dundee Advertiser.

BIRD THAT EATS MONKEYS

An Eagle in Philippines Which Simply Dotes on Them as Article of Food.

A story familiar to most of us in our youth told how an eagle once swooped down upon a baby monkey; but before it could rise with its prey the older monkeys, parents and grandparents, uncles and aunts, all the full grown members of the tribe, leaped upon the bird, and, holding it down, proceeded seriously to pluck it. They did their work conscientiously, leaving the eagle wing feathers enough to fly with, but otherwise an entirely naked bird.

What the story books never told us, however, was that the eagle, when released, fled to hide its nakedness in the woods of the far-off Philippines, since when it has had its fill of vengeance; for it has lived on nothing but monkeys. The bird is in the London zoological gardens.

Pitheophaga, the monkey-eating eagle, the first of its kind that has ever been in captivity, and it is a formidable looking thing, as it has to be, for even small monkeys cannot be easy prey.

"I would sooner collect live red devils than little monkeys," said Hans Breitman, it will be remembered, the "big-beamed German," who told Rudyard Kipling the terrible tale of "Bertram and Bimi."

It may be that some dim instinct of family sympathy with the monkeys makes the bird look to our eyes even more forbidding than it is, with its unneatlike shortness of wing, adapted to quick movement among tree branches, the ragged headdress of long, loose feathers on its crown, and above all its beak something more hooked than other eagles find necessary and so keen that when looked at from in front it is seen to be hardly thicker than a knife blade.

Eagles in general kill by the grip of their huge talons. But it is impossible to believe that the monkey-eating eagle uses also that pitiless beak for tearing and cutting the life out of its victims. And for what purpose does the bird wear those untidy feathers on its head? As some snakes have tails especially adapted to attract the attention of their victims so that they may be struck when off their guard, is it not a reasonable conjecture that these feathers serve a similar purpose and that the monkey when seized would, following its instinct, grip first for the waving plumes on the stooped head which stabbed at its vital parts?

The existence of the monkey-eating eagle has only been known to science for a few years. We had to wait until the American occupation of the Philippines, in fact, for the sequel to our nursery tale; so, whether by reason of its novelty or of the almost diabolical adaptation of its structure to its horrid way of life, the Pitheophaga is altogether the most interesting of the birds of prey now in Regent park, London.

Remarkable Day of Weddings

In this age of "records," the statistics of the weddings solemnized on a recent Sunday in Vienna deserve to be registered. No fewer than 1,000 couples were married and 230 silver weddings were celebrated in the 76 parish churches of the capital. In two churches the total was 70 each, and in many others the number surpassed 50. In order to prevent the unusual demand for their services from interfering with the regular celebration of mass, the clergy disposed of the candidates for wedlock in batches of ten and twenty at a time.

Dangerous Coal Dust

Recent experiments have proved conclusively that coal dust which has been ground to a state so fine that it will pass a 200-mesh sieve will explode from contact with either a naked flame or with the arc of an electric current.

New Canal on Mars

Prof. Lowell announces that he has discovered a new canal a thousand miles in length on Mars. The canal developed between May and September of last year.

THE MARKETS.

Table with market prices for various commodities like New York, Chicago, and other locations. Includes items like flour, wheat, and various meats.

The Important Problem

confronting anyone in need of a laxative is not a question of a single action only, but of permanently beneficial effects, which will follow proper efforts to live in a healthful way, with the assistance of Syrup of Figs and Elixir of Senna, whenever it is required, as it cleanses the system gently yet promptly, without irritation and will therefore always have the preference of all who wish the best of family laxatives.

The combination has the approval of physicians because it is known to be truly beneficial, and because it has given satisfaction to the millions of well-informed families who have used it for many years past.

To get its beneficial effects, always buy the genuine manufactured by the California Fig Syrup Co. only.

OPPORTUNITY TO DO GOOD

Combined Efforts on National Tuberculosis Sunday Will Have Excellent Results.

New York city had more arrests for violation of the anti-spitting ordinance in 1909 than any other city in the United States, having had 2,513, with 2,099 convictions, and \$1,936.80 collected in fines. Baltimore comes next with 214 arrests and an equal number of convictions. Pittsburg is third in rank, with St. Louis in fourth place. St. Louis, however, would have been in second place, if the sanitary police who enforce the law in that city had been at work in 1909. In 52 cities out of 80 the law was either not enforced at all or very poorly enforced. Of the remaining 28 cities, less than one-half of them contributed more than three-fourths of the arrests for spitting and of the fines collected. On account of the fact that National Tuberculosis Sunday will be observed on April 24, the National Association for the Study and Prevention of Tuberculosis is calling the attention of clergymen in all parts of the country to the advisability of bringing before their congregation the necessity for better enforcement of the anti-spitting laws.

The Response Mechanical

It is the custom in convents for the nuns to respond to a knock at the door with the words: "In the name of God," the phrase being equivalent in conventional parlance to our worldly "enter" or "come in." In a convent in one of the western cities not long since the mother superior had a never-to-be-forgotten experience as a result of this custom. Some one in the outer world called the convent telephone number by mistake. The mother superior, roused from her meditations, picked up the receiver and responded, mechanically: "In the name of God."

"Madam!" called an irate masculine voice at the other end of the wire, "there is no occasion for you to swear at me, even if I have made a mistake in the number. Profane language is prohibited over the telephone!"

His Way of Doing It

"I met young Faker on the street some time ago and he told me he was making money very fast." "He made it too fast." "How was that?" "Went to the penitentiary for counterfeiting."

Her Worry

Mrs. Hoyle—You seem unhappy. Mrs. Doyle—I am; I don't believe that if I were to die my husband would wear as deep mourning as he did for his first wife.

Remember that life is not a fulfillment of one's ideals, but an eternal compromise with them.

MISCHIEF MAKER

A Surprise in Brooklyn.

An adult's food that can save a baby proves itself to be nourishing and easily digested and good for big and little folks. A Brooklyn man says:

"When baby was about eleven months old he began to grow thin and pale. This was, at first, attributed to the heat and the fact that his teeth were coming, but, in reality, the poor little thing was starving, his mother's milk not being sufficient nourishment. "One day after he had cried bitterly for an hour, I suggested that my wife try him on Grape-Nuts. She soaked two teaspoonsful in a saucer with a little sugar and warm milk. This baby ate so ravenously that she fixed a second which he likewise finished.

"It was not many days before he forgot all about being nursed, and has since lived almost exclusively on Grape-Nuts. Today the boy is strong and robust, and as cute a mischief-maker as a thirteen months old baby is expected to be.

"We have put before him other foods, but he will have none of them, evidently preferring to stick to that which did him so much good—his old friend Grape-Nuts.

"Use this letter any way you wish, for my wife and I can never praise Grape-Nuts enough after the brightness it has brought to our household." Grape-Nuts is not made for a baby food, but experience with thousands of babies shows it to be among the best, if not entirely the best in use. Being a scientific preparation of Nature's grains, it is equally effective as a body and brain builder for grown-ups.

Read the little book, "The Road to Wellville," in pkgs. "There's a Reason." Ever read the above letter? A new one appears from time to time. They are genuine, true, and full of human interest.