

Doubts, and How to Dispel Them

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TEXT—"I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life."
John 8:12



It is not strange that men are doubters. Sin has so blinded our moral vision that we do not see the truth as it is, but in a distorted fashion which makes it less attractive. The natural man receives not the things of the Spirit of God; for they are foolishness unto him; neither can he know them because they are spiritually discerned." (1 Cor. 2:14)

Furthermore, the truth as it is in Jesus carries with it condemnation for the sinner, and no one enjoys reproof or rebuke. As the lawyer, willing to justify himself, said: "Who is my neighbor?" so the natural heart questions the authority of the Bible, and even the existence of God, rather than confess its sin. Add to this the fact that the devil who first injected doubt into the mind of man, and who is rightly called by our Savior the father of lies, is ever seeking to prejudice the creature against the Creator, and it is not strange that all thinking people pass through a period of doubt as to the fundamentals of religion, and some are so completely blinded that they never come out of their spiritual darkness.

In dealing with doubters it is important to ascertain their real position. Some skeptics are mere triflers who are too indolent to grapple with the truth in a resolute way, and so find it easier to doubt and drift with the current of their natural inclinations. Others use their skepticism as a cover for an ungodly life. You can say to such when they question the inspiration of the Bible that one proof of its divine origin is the fact that it describes their condition so completely, and tells how they came into that condition. Naturally they will wish to see the passage, and you can show them II Corinthians 4:4: "If our Gospel be hid, it is hid to them that are lost, in whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them that believe not, lest the light of the glory of the Gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine upon them."

Remind them that to doubt the Bible does not alter the facts which it reveals, but it does subject them to the charge of making God a liar (I John 5:10), and it puts them under condemnation. "He that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten son of God. And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil" (John 3:18, 19).

It is said that a vessel once sighted an enemy just at sundown, and kept up a cannonade until the darkness put a stop to it. When the sun arose the next morning, they were chagrined to find that the supposed enemy was an immense rock, which still remained intact after many hours of bombardment. So in all ages men have been demolishing the Bible as the enemy of the human race, but the old Book still stands, silent, but solid as the Rock of Ages. For trifling skeptics John 8:21, 24 is very good as showing the consequences of unbelief, while John 5:40 discloses the origin of their skepticism. "Ye will not come to me that ye might have life."

There is another class of doubters who are really desirous of knowing the truth. As some one has expressed it, "He wishes there was a God to whom he could come as a child to his father, but he does not know whether there is or not, and he wants to know. He wishes he is not positive that he is anything more than an animated machine, and he seeks for evidence. He would be glad to believe that this unknown God has provided for this unknown soul some way by which it could know both its father and itself. He does not disbelieve in God or Christ, but he does not know, and he wants to know." For such people there are two paths to the light, the intellectual and the moral. The first begins with the known and argues its way to the unknown. The creation proves a creator. Intelligent and moral beings imply a creator capable of producing such. The scientific method results only in a high degree of probability, it is true, but then we act every day on just such probabilities, and we ought to act upon them in religion.

The other method starts with the distinction between right and wrong which we all know, and which no moral man can doubt. Into this world has come Jesus of Nazareth. He meets our ideals, he commends himself to our consciousness, he commands our will. If we take his life and follow it, his teachings and obey them, we will soon find our way into the light. "I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life" (John 8:12). If any man will do his will, he shall know of the doctrine, whether it be of God, or whether I speak of myself" (John 7:17).

Souls and Patience.

If we keep our souls in patience, if we hold fast to our faith and hope and love, the soft streams of healing power will flow into us and through us. We shall receive and give out the infinite good.—Charles G. Ames.

MAKED FOR THREE WEEKS

Starving Man Found on a Small Island in Lake Erie by a Fishing Party.

Middle Bass Island, Ohio.—That he was taken to Middle Sister Island, Lake Erie, and left there three weeks, by a man who said he owned the place and who left him food enough to last a week, at the expiration of which time he promised to be back, but failed to put in an appearance, is the story told by Henry Adair, fifty, who says he lives in Detroit, brought here by members of a fishing party who rescued him.

Members of the party, fishing in Lake Erie off Middle Sister Island, isolated near the Canadian line 17 miles from here, were attracted by the frantic waving of a shirt. Drawing closer, they discovered Adair. He was pale and emaciated. All he had left of his store of food was a few crusts of bread.

Adair told his rescuers he could not recall the name of the man who had put him on the island, taking him from Put-in-Bay in a rented power boat, as he had never met him until just a short time before he was accosted in Detroit and asked if he wanted employment. He said he was supposed to have been employed to look after the premises, although he found on arriving on the island there was practically nothing to look after.

WALDENSIAN CHURCH IN ROME

New Edifice in Eternal City Was Presented by Mrs. John S. Kennedy of New York.

Rome.—The Waldensian church has planted itself in the Eternal City, says the Literary Digest. In February a new church edifice, presented by Mrs. John S. Kennedy of New York was dedicated. Standing on the Piazza Cavour, it is called by the Record of Christian Work (May) "a noble stone structure, the finest Protestant edifice in Italy." Moreover:

"The decoration of the pulpit within includes paneled figures of Luther, Calvin, Savonarola and Arnold of Brescia. At the dedicatory services were present the representatives of the Waldensian church from all parts of Italy and of all the evangelical churches of Rome, together with many notables.—Professor Schiaparelli, Romolo Murri, Senators Bodio and Soulier, the minister of Holland, etc. Interesting was the prologue to Pastor Muston's address, when one considers the persecution to which the Scriptures were subjected in ancient times. Ascending to the pulpit, the great Bible in his hand, he said: "In the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit we place on the pulpit the book of truth. May it never be removed thence! Revelation of the



Rome's New "Church in the Valley"

thought and will of God, may it ever be guide and counselor of the masters of truth who from this place announce to the people the science of this life and of that which is to come! In the words of Paul, "All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness; that the man of God may be thoroughly furnished unto all good works."

BUILD BUNGALOWS AT PRISON

English Convicts of Improving Character to Have Two-Room Houses Erected for Them.

London.—At Camp Hill prison, several two-room bungalows are being built for the accommodation of prisoners whose characters are apparently improving under preventive detention. In each bungalow there will be a living room and a bed room. The new buildings will be surrounded by a high boundary wall, but the prisoners occupying them will have more license and privileges than before.

MANY REPTILES CROSS SEA

Liner Merion Brings Snakes, Toads, and Frogs—Go Without Food for Months.

Philadelphia.—More than 50 snakes, 50 dozen toads, and two and a half bushels of frogs arrived on the American liner Merion from Liverpool. None of the lot had eaten anything for a month, and apparently had slept all of the way across the Atlantic. When the hatches were opened, however, and sunshine penetrated the vessel's hold for the first time in two weeks there was every evidence of life, and all the reptiles seemed to want to get ashore at the same time.

Test of Normality.

Chicago.—"A little dog ran up the street. It had brown curly hair, short legs and a long tail." If you can repeat this after reading quickly you are normal, according to Dr. W. J. Hickson, head of the psychopathic laboratory recently established to aid the municipal court.

Grocer Gets \$10 Counterfeit Bill.

St. Louis.—When A. F. Fischer, a grocer, received a \$10 bill bearing a picture of Champ Clark where one of William McKinley should have been, he took it to a bank, where it was declared counterfeit.

Set Plants in Rows.

Arrange the garden planting so that all plants are set in rows like field

GOOD CARE AND FEEDING OF WORK TEAMS



Fine Work Teams—The Requisites for a Working Horse Are Good Size, Quick Action and Strength.

(By R. A. GALLIHER.)
Perhaps no subject is of more importance to the average farmer than the proper care and feeding of the teams that are relied upon to do the farm work; and as a rule, we do not believe that these horses receive the care and consideration that they should. A good horse used in commonsense manner, should live to an old age and be in condition to perform good work at all times.

The essential requisites for a working horse are good size, quick action and strength. A high-spirited animal or one of great value is not the most desirable animal for the farmer. What we need is a good walker, as much of the usefulness and efficiency depends upon that quality. This faculty is quite as much a matter of education as inherited qualities.

Under ordinary circumstances it is judicious to use mares for working teams upon a farm. Except for a short time, the period of parturition and immediately after, they are fully as well adapted to farm work as geldings. They also possess the advantage of annually bringing colts, and in event

of their being incapacitated by accident or labor they may still be kept with profit as breeders.

Horses employed for farm work should not be pampered, but should be fed generously, so as to sustain vigor and good spirits.

A team ill fed, and consequently in poor condition and feeble, will not accomplish much real hard work, and it is a waste of labor to hire an expensive hand to drive such a team.

The harness, and particularly the collar, should be accurately adjusted to the horse. If the collar is either too tight or too loose it galls him and seriously affects his breathing.

The workhorses should be fed early in the morning, and they should have a liberal feeding. The comfort and rest of the team will be vastly promoted if the harness is entirely removed at noon while they are feeding. Rub them down carefully and cleanse from dust and sweat.

Allow them plenty of time for a good meal and partial digestion before they are put to work for the afternoon. It is poor policy to put them to work right after eating a hearty meal.

PRACTICAL HINTS FOR THE SHEPHERD

While Dipping the Sheep Just Dip the Lambs, Too—Keep All Good Breeding Ewes.

Do not let anyone deceive you by telling you that buck lambs will bring you as much money as wether lambs, for they will not do it.

Castrate all male lambs at eight days to two weeks of age, and any good operator will not lose one out of 100.

Dip all your sheep as soon as shearing is over. While you are at it just dip the lambs too, as the ticks will leave the shorn ewes for the woolly lambs.

Just as long as a ewe "holds her teeth" it will pay to keep her for a breeder, as ewes breed lambs up to quite an advanced age.

That old ewe might have brought \$2.50 last fall and the two lambs trotting at her side will bring \$5 or \$6 in July.

An old ewe or two may die during the winter, but you can lose one out of three and still make it pay to keep them at \$2 to \$3 per head.

The sheep get uneasy as soon as the hot weather comes on unless they get out on the ground. It is a good plan to let them out every day for a while. If the pastures are not high enough so that they can get all they want to eat, bring them down at night and give them a nice, bright look of hay and a little grain. The ewes need this if the lambs are to be kept growing.

If the coarse hay in the mangers is given to sheep they will nibble a great deal of it away.

The sheep is a dainty feeder and will not eat musty or unclean hay or fodder. Neither will sheep drink unclean water.

It is strange that some men will insist on raising a scrub ram when a thoroughbred costs so little in comparison to the improvement he will make in his flock.

Sheep will sometimes eat weeds, but it is generally because they have nothing better.

The reason why so many men fail in the sheep business is because they do not study it before they begin.

FENCE REVOLUTIONIZING HOG INDUSTRY



Pigs Find Money in Waste Land.

(By W. M. KELLY.)
The woven wire fence is revolutionizing the hog industry in the whole country, and when farmers learn to utilize every bit of waste land for pasture for their hogs the herds will be healthy and the cost of production will be decreased many dollars.

It won't do to allow the pigs to lie in the shade of the corn cribs or to allow them only a run of pasture. I

believe in feeding a little corn all the time that the pigs are running in the pasture.

The grass-grown pig does not appear so attractive with his working clothes on, but when he is well-developed and ready to be fattened he makes the pampered pet look like very little. He makes a fine appearance in society and is a credit to his owner and a feeder.

Hens and Incubators.

Comparing hens and incubators for hatching purposes, the hens are better than the incubators. They produce better chicks, which have more vitality and prove to be better individuals. Such chicks are more easily reared and have the same advantages that natural products always have over artificial products.

Unsuitable Crop.

Corn is not a suitable crop with which to follow alfalfa, unless there is an abundance of rain.

Leave a good wide turning row at each end of the garden so that no plants will be tramped down in turning the horse.

These turning rows may be seeded to grass and serve as clean, convenient walks. They may be trimmed with lawn mower and even look beautiful.—A. T. S.

HER SOLDIERS ARE SHORTER

But Austria Takes More Care in Selecting Healthy Men for the Army.

Vienna, Austria.—The new recruiting law of the "Austro-Hungarian" forces stipulates a height of at least five feet for men to be enlisted in the ordinary rank and file of the territorial forces or of the navy, while for those men who will work in the workshops or arsenals or in the offices as clerks, the minimum height will be one inch less than five feet. Furthermore, the new requirements pay increased attention to the antecedents of the men, especially the mental history, and a history of previous epileptic attacks or mental instability will make the man ineligible for the service. In the last year, when, owing to the uncertainty of the political situation, preparations for war included the recruiting of large numbers of men from apparently underfed districts, it was noted that persons otherwise quite healthy did not reach the height limit. These would be lost if the old law should continue in force.

"At any rate," says the Vienna correspondent of the Journal of the American Medical Association, "even with the new law the supply of men capable for service is but sparsely drawn on, not even one per cent of the population of 50,000,000 being under arms in time of peace, while for war about four per cent are available."

GULLS IN THE SCILLY ISLES

Great Black-Back Species Breed in Large Quantities on Islands—Largest of the Tribe.

London.—The photograph of the great black-back gull was taken in the Scilly Isles, where these gulls breed in large quantities. They are biggest of the gull tribe. When stretched out the wings measure quite six feet from tip to tip; they are magnificent birds to look at. They are very savage with the other birds. I have seen them kill puffsins in one second; this they do by standing over their nesting holes and catching them as they come out, and then make a meal of them, says writer to Country Life. One day I saw two of them having a tremendous fight in the air. Getting nearer I found one had got a young gull about a week old, which it was trying to fly away with, but was attacked, I suppose, by the parent bird. It finally was made to drop it, but as the little thing seemed to be badly hurt I killed it. I have also seen them kill many young

thrushes and blackbirds, etc., fully fledged, which they swallowed whole. Their beaks are tremendously strong. We have a tame one which is very vicious, particularly in the spring. One day it pecked me on the arm and broke the skin, even through a very thick coat, so no wonder the poor birds are killed in a second. Full-grown rabbits are also killed by them.

Ever try smoked mutton hams? They are cured just as easily as pig hams and are good eating.

If sheep and lambs are fed grain together, the lambs will fare pretty slim. Have a hole in the fence near the barn through which the lambs can slip and get away from the old sheep. Have a good trough out there for the grain you feed the little fellows and they will get their share and grow like weeds.

Make it a rule to see the sheep and lambs every day. Count to see that nothing has happened to them. If one is sick or otherwise in trouble, get it out of the flock where you can give it a little extra care.

HEN LAYS VERY COMPLEX EGG

Her Owner Bombarded With Puzzling Conundrums by His Acquaintances.



Black-Back Gull.

Anaconda, Mont.—John H. Cole of 212 West Third street reports the prize egg of the season, laid by one of his hens. At first appearances this seemed to be only a very large egg. It measured 1 1/2 inches around from end to end, and 8 inches in girth.

On breaking it, Mr. Cole found another large egg just inside the shell. More curious than all, however, was that, on breaking the second egg, a third one was found inside of it. Not overcurious himself, Mr. Cole has not broken the third egg. The last egg is of ordinary size and apparently perfectly formed.

"What would have happened if you had set the egg?" and "Doesn't this disprove the statement that a hen can't lay more than one egg a day?" These are some of the questions asked Mr. Cole.

"Movies" City Attorney's Aid.

San Diego.—City Attorney Cosgrove, who is preparing an ordinance against freak dancing, exaggerated costumes and kissing at dances, will use motion pictures to uphold his stand when the measure is introduced in the city council.

Baseball Diamonds for Co-eds.

Champaign, Ill.—Two baseball diamonds for the exclusive use of University of Illinois co-eds are to be laid out on the recently-acquired athletic field.

Considers Divorce Sign of Progress.

Chicago.—Municipal Judge Gemmill, in an article published here, declared that he considers divorce a sign of progress and of the elevation of women and the home.

Thought Burglar Was Husband.

Nelsonville, N. Y.—Mrs. Lawrence M. Travin thought a burglar was her husband and asked him to bring her purse downstairs. The burglar got the purse with \$42 and fled.

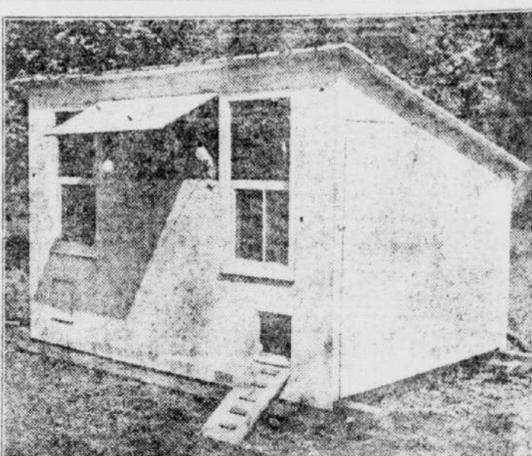
Man Grows Third Set of Teeth.

Waco, Tex.—M. B. Hancock, eighty-one, has grown a third set of teeth. A dentist discovered that three teeth, which were causing Hancock pain, were being replaced by new ones.

Soft-Meated Birds.

The only way to secure soft-meated birds is to keep them growing "from hatch to hatchet."

COLONY HOUSES FOR POULTRY ARE HANDY



Colony House Used at Government Farm at Beltsville, Md.

(By J. W. KELLER, Copyright, 1914)

After the brooder, before the laying house, what then? The colony house is the answer. Chicks are generally ready to leave the brooder at about six weeks of age—that is, when fully feathered. They are then able to take care of themselves during the daytime, and, except on cold, rainy days, the question of artificial heat is not vital.

There are several types of colony houses, but all should have the following features: Perfectly dry, freedom from drafts, well ventilated, easy to clean and move (this latter should be done every season), and, lastly, they should be attractive, but inexpensive.

Don't crowd the chicks in the colony house. Remember, they will be almost grown before they are moved again. Have perches removable, and do not allow the chicks to roost until their bones have hardened up considerably, or they may have crooked breast bones. When roosts are given, have them at least two inches wide.

For small flocks suitable colony houses may be made from large store boxes by covering the top and three sides with tar paper, the other side being made of cellar window wire extending six inches down from the top, which should ordinarily be left uncovered, but there should be a curtain to drop over it in bad weather. The balance of the side should be hinged so it can be thrown open during the day, admitting sunshine and fresh air.

The "A" shaped colony house is not so easily cleaned as some of the others.

Most colony houses average about 6 by 8 feet in size, with shed roof and a large wire covered window with curtain in front. This type should be built on skids, so that they can be easily dragged to new ground with the aid of a horse, and, if tightly built, houses of this sort can be used for layers and also breeders in the winter by the addition of nests, hoppers, etc.

A word about placing the house. Choose well drained ground that is covered with a heavy, sweet sod. An old orchard is almost ideal, as the trees furnish shade during the hot summer days. Clean away any brush piles or thickets which might harbor vermin, and if the same ground must be used year after year, plow it down each fall and sow with some suitable crop which will afford green pasture for the growing birds.

START IN POULTRY BUSINESS

Select Good Foundation Stock and Erect Comfortable Buildings—Fowls Need Free Range.

A few things to remember in starting, if a living is to be the objective point in keeping poultry, are: Select a good location, as to ground conditions, markets, etc. Choose good foundation stock. Build well, though this need not be expensive; but poorly constructed buildings are a loss in the long run, and false economy. Start slowly and work up gradually. Have enough cash on hand to carry the poultry operation for at least two years. Don't purchase a place with too small acreage. At least five acres should be purchased, although many successful poultry plants are operated on three. It takes more care to keep the land in condition. Free range for growing stock is essential in the long run. Rather have too much room than too little. Study carefully the incubator and brooding systems. This is one of the main items in the business. Study the poultry situation at least a year before commencing. Visit the leading poultry operations that have been in the business for at least five or six years. One can learn a good deal by visiting the successful poultry keepers, and will be less liable to make mistakes in poultry house construction. Carefully entering the business in a safe and sane way will do much toward the success of the venture.

EFFECT OF FEED ON FLAVOR

Hens Fed Nitrogenous Ration Produced Eggs of Disagreeable Taste and Small Yolk.

Some years ago the Cornell station, in the effect of nitrogenous vs. carbonaceous food for poultry, reported observations on the different rations on the flavor of eggs. One lot of fowls was fed a mixture of wheat, shorts, cottonseed meal and skim milk; another lot cracked corn and corn dough. The former ration contained much more nitrogen than the latter.

The hens fed corn laid fewer eggs than those fed the nitrogenous ration, but the eggs were larger. The eggs produced by the nitrogenous ration were of a disagreeable flavor and smell, had a small yolk, and did not keep well. The flesh of the poultry fed this ration, however, was darker, more succulent and tender than that of the fowls fed the carbonaceous ration.

TAKE CARE OF THE BROODER

Material Used for Floor Covering Should Be Changed Every Other Day—Prevent Crowding.

Brush out the brooders every other day, changing the material used in floor covering. This may be of bran, sand, sawdust or paper, but must be dry. Damp bedding induces disease every time.

When it is necessary to wash the brooder choose a warm, sunny day, so that the chicks will not need it, and it can be thoroughly dried before returning them at night. If these conditions cannot be complied with, a temporary brooder may be used for the day by means of a box and one or two jugs of hot water well wrapped in flannel, the latter serving the double purpose of holding in the heat and preventing a chick being crowded up and burnt.

Value of Sour Milk.

Sour milk has a slightly greater food value for hens than sweet milk, according to the Ontario (Can.) station. At any rate, it is easier in summer to have the milk sour regularly than to have it sweet, so by feeding sour milk the ill effects of changed conditions may be avoided.

For Vigorous Breeders.

Don't forget to hatch a few hen eggs under hens. They will make big, vigorous breeders when mature.

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POOR PRACTISE OF FARMERS

The mixing of incubator eggs with the fresh spring eggs leads the egg packers, who get their principal cold storage supply in the spring, to cut the price they pay the farmer, department of agriculture investigators find. The spring eggs designed for keeping for winter consumption must be absolutely good. Moreover, the egg packers in the spring do not candle eggs, but hold them three at a time in the hand and click them to discover any crack and then judge their freshness by their fresh powdery look on the shell. The mixture of infertile incubator eggs with fresh eggs interferes seriously with this clicking and forces the packer to candle the eggs. He then deducts this added expense from the price he offers to the producer. Eggs which have once been subjected to the heat of the incubator cannot be stored, even though frozen.

The farmer who sells incubator eggs to the dealer, therefore, is very liable to injure his own market for fresh eggs. When dealers find a percentage of low-grade incubator or other eggs in their fresh spring egg supply they lower the price for all eggs so that they will be certain that they have covered themselves against losses from this cause. The department's specialists advise farmers to use any infertile eggs they may take from their incubators for home consumption and to send only fresh eggs to market.

HOW TO TELL SEX IN GEESE

Male in Most Cases Is Larger Than Female—Never Look for Curled Feather in Tails.

(By N. A. BARTLETT.)
It is not an easy thing to tell the sex in geese.

When they are six or seven months old one can usually tell by observation the geese from the gander.

The call of the gander is long, loud and shrill, while that of the goose is merely an answer to it.

Never look for a curled feather in their tails or other outside marks for there are none.

The male is bolder and vicious and if cornered in some small place will show fight to protect his mate.

It is a good plan to divide the flock part on one side of the fence and part on the other when trying to distinguish the sex when you can distinguish most of the ganders by their calls.

The male in most cases grows larger than the female.

The female has a deeper body, slimmer neck and smaller head.

Cause of Failure. Why so many fail with poultry is because they fail to increase their accommodations in proportion to the increase in the flock. They fail to recognize the fact that large flocks are difficult to feed so that each individual may secure his allotted share; that various ailments have to be guarded against where large flocks are kept.

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