

# NOTES FROM MEADOWBROOK FARM

By William Pitt



Milch cows need plenty of fresh water.

Cut the black knots out of the plum trees. Don't forget.

The gasoline engine is helping to keep the boy on the farm.

When scouring give the pigs a good dose of common baking soda.

A poorly nourished, stunted two-year-old filly should not be bred.

An excellent feed for yearling sheep is equal parts corn, rye and buckwheat.

The first step in keeping disease away from hogs is to keep filth away from them.

A horse that is perpetually stepping around while being harnessed is only half broken.

Get the incubator at work on the broiler crop as early as possible, delay means loss.

A bark disease, imported from Japan, has killed thousands of New York chestnut trees.

Provide a clean, dry bed and never allow a horse to lie on bare boards or stand on wet manure.

Young animals require a certain amount of warmth, but this must not be at the expense of fresh air.

Never give musty feed to fowls or chicks, especially the latter. Put it in the oven and parch it before feeding.

The pullets which are poor layers the first winter never amount to very much, and are not worth keeping over.

The popularity of the show ring is educating the masses to quality, and nothing but the best will justify the breeding enterprise.

There is no more pitiable sight than a mare and foal standing in the open with their coats turned the wrong way and shivering with cold.

Are there any water sprouts on those old trees? If so, get after them. You just can't afford to have water sprouts living off of bearing trees.

If the apples in the cellar are not keeping well the trouble may be too warm a temperature. The cellar should be kept just above freezing for apples.

A place should be petitioned off from the main part of the barn, where ewes that are expected to drop their lambs may be separated from the rest of the flock.

Kindness is a good thing to mix with the ration. It may not possess much food value, but it pays every time. Don't ask the stock to live on kindness alone, though.

The old trees bearing valuable varieties of fruits are very hard to replace and it takes many years to produce a young, bearing orchard that will properly take its place.

The ordinary farm bull does not receive the care that he deserves. Remember that he is half the herd and often more, and that good care will pay, and pay well, in dollars and cents.

Do not neglect work that may be done now with sleighs, such as harvesting the ice crop, getting up the summer's wood, etc. It is much easier and cheaper to do such work on runners than on wheels.

In order to secure uniformity in the fat contents of the cream skim at running the separator smoothly and at a speed as set out by the makers, the milk being separated at a temperature of 90 to 100 degrees.

Try and be one that has fed a combined ration of roughage, grain and roots with plenty of water and you will have no worry about the ewes. The summer's work and the feed is largely wasted if the ewes lamb poorly.

The well fed hog is usually contented.

Out-of-season flowers can be forced by treatment with ether.

In setting out trees remember it is useless to plant dead roots.

Don't leave a horse heated by driving to stand exposed in a cold wind.

Never sell the best stock. You always need that kind in your business.

When the calf is taken from the cow he must, of course, be taught to drink.

Keep the poultry yards clean. Don't have anything about that can breed disease.

Read the nursery and seed catalogues and get in your order for trees and plants now.

The breeder of to-day who succeeds must be a breeder, a feeder and an all-around stock man.

Feed the brood sow protein feeds as much as possible, and avoid feeds rich in fat-forming elements.

One cock to ten hens is sufficient, and these should be separated until the breeding season begins.

Never allow two or more cocks to remain in the same inclosure with the hens during the winter.

Provide a plank or cement feeding floor for the hogs. Keep it clean; it's the hogs' table, you know.

Try shaving some young sweet corn, or even field corn, for the young chicks and see how they will go for it.

Keep ground charcoal before the poultry at all times. It is good for indigestion and corrects sour crop.

Don't feed good food to poor layers and then grumble because there is no profit in the poultry business.

If it is possible to make a good cow from a poor calf the extra cost will be more than the calf was worth at the beginning.

The loss of condition at weaning time may be greatly reduced if the pigs have been accustomed to supplementary foods.

Most of the milk used in Siam is imported in condensed form, few of the natives keeping cows or goats or using their milk.

Look the spray pump over. Get all the parts in working order during the winter so as to be ready for active work early in the spring.

If you want lambs for fattening early a thoroughbred sire of one of the coarse wool breeds used on Merino ewes will produce excellent ones.

Pumpkins will keep fine in a corner of the cellar near the furnace. If there is no furnace in the cellar a better place for them is a warm closet near the fire.

Plant fruit trees on the uncultivated spots along the fence lines and in the fields. The investment is good—adds both to beauty of farm and to the value of it.

It is the poorest sort of economy to milk a cow up to within a short time that she is due to calve. Give her 60 days' rest and she will more than make up for lost time.

The fight against mites and insect pests must be kept up till the last one has been driven out. Your birds cannot do well so long as they are afflicted with these enemies.

If you keep guineas, turkeys and chickens, build separate houses and yards for them. If you confine all three varieties in one yard during the winter it will prove disastrous.

Bees won't thrive in a cellar where there are mice or any disturbing influence. It is well to partition bees off to themselves where it is quiet, plenty of ventilation and little light.

The common method of cleansing wool produces great quantities of foul liquors, containing valuable substances that can be recovered profitably. Among these are wool grease and crude petroleum.

Silos should be relatively deep. This not only means that the ensilage settles and thereby excludes air, but it is also favorable to the plan of peeling off a coating of at least two inches daily. If this much ensilage is not removed, especially in the warmer weather, it is very apt to spoil, and where the silo is very large compared with the size of the herd, it may be that as much ensilage as this will not be required and, therefore, some spoiling is apt to result on the surface.

## GREAT LOVE STORIES OF HISTORY

By ALBERT PAYSON TERHUNE

### NELSON AND LADY HAMILTON

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A little one-armed man and a woman as wicked as she was beautiful—the naval hero of England and an ex-chambermaid—are the hero and heroine of this story.

The man was Horatio Nelson; the woman, Lady Hamilton. Nelson was the younger son of an English clergyman. He had, as a boy, a craving for the sea; received an appointment as midshipman, and by sheer genius rose to the ranks of admiral. He was also created a viscount in the British peerage, and was the nation's idol. Lady Hamilton began life as a domestic servant. Her name was Emma Harte. Tiring of the duties of chambermaid, she became waitress in a tavern. Later, after a rather doubtful career, she attracted the notice of old Sir William Hamilton, British ambassador at the court of Naples, and married him.

Nelson could not withstand a pretty face. He had a long line of innocent but ardent love affairs. As a mere youth he fell in love with a Quebec girl and was with difficulty persuaded not to marry her. Next he

proposed to a Miss Andrews in the west Indies. The match was broken off, and he became enamored of Mrs. Monray, a dashing widow.

"If it were not for her," he wrote to a friend, "I believe I should hang myself."

But Mrs. Monray left the West Indies, and Nelson transferred his affections to another widow, Mrs. Nisbet. To win the favor of this second widow this national hero used to play "sea fights" under the dining room table with her children. In March, 1787, he and Mrs. Nisbet were married. Nelson was at that time 29. Until he was 40 their wedded life was happy. Then trouble set in.

While Nelson was in command of the Mediterranean, after he thrashed Napoleon's fleet at the battle of the Nile, he met Lady Hamilton. Her husband begged leave to introduce to her "a little man who cannot boast of being handsome, but such a man as will one day astonish the world." Nelson had never seen so beautiful or clever a woman. He looked upon her with a sort of reverent admiration. When she used her influence at the Naples court in behalf of the British fleet he felt bound to her by unbreakable ties of gratitude. Her influence over the simple, impulsive admiral grew to be boundless.

There was a revolt that ousted the Neapolitan king and queen from their court. Nelson took them under his protection and they were restored to the throne. Admiral Caraccioli of the revolutionist fleet was Nelson's friend. Caraccioli chanced to be Lady Hamilton's enemy. She is credited with persuading Nelson to forget that Caraccioli had been promised a free pardon for his share in the revolt, and to consent to the unfortunate man's execution. This is the blackest stain on all Nelson's record. A woman's wiles had for once made him forget honor, friendship and fairness.

As time went on Nelson's infatuation for Lady Hamilton grew to be the scandal of Europe. The Admiral's faithful wife endured it for years, then told Nelson he must once and forever choose between Lady Hamilton and herself. He did so. As a result Lady Nelson left their house, and only once again did she set eyes on her husband. She was not clever. She had no weapons with which to cope with the charms of her more beautiful

rival. So Lady Hamilton won the strange duel of wits, and Nelson was henceforth her devoted slave. The deserted wife (according to a story told by her grandchild) used secretly to kiss Nelson's miniature portrait, and spend hours gazing on it, even when she was a very old woman.

Nelson was ever goaded on to fresh and warlike enterprises by Lady Hamilton. She urged him to offer the government his services on important

campaigns, instead of wasting time ashore with her.

Whether she really was ambitious to increase his fame or merely wanted him out of the way for a time cannot be known. In any case, Nelson regarded her zeal as proof of her love for him and warmly praised her for it.

On October 22, 1805, Nelson met and overcame the largest French fleet in an immortal sea fight off the Cape of Trafalgar. But in the battle he received a death wound. His last thoughts and message are said to have been for the woman he adored.

Lady Hamilton, after Nelson's death, quickly squandered her small fortune. She was cast into prison for debt. On her release she went to France to drag out a hand-to-mouth existence, dying at Calais in 1815. The greatest painters in Europe had for many years vied with one another for the privilege of painting her portrait. Many of these portraits are still in existence, keeping fresh the memory of a beauty that stained the life of an otherwise honorable, heroic man.

How Nations Feed Their Soldiers.

That an army travels on its stomach has come to be accepted as the last word in practical military preparation. Accordingly, where hitherto the stocking of the commissariat was a question more of quantity than quality, such views no longer obtain. The dietary scales are now subjected to the most rigid experimental scrutiny. The following statement shows that the soldier on the march is fed neither too much nor too little—the fare meets his needs, no more:

The Japanese dietary scale is the most frugal. It consists of meat, 7.05 ounces; vegetables, 5.29 ounces; rice, 5.64 ounces; biscuit, 20 ounces; tea, 0.71 ounce. Great Britain's soldier gets in one day: Meat, 1 1/4 pounds; bread, 1 1/4 pounds; tea, five-eighths ounce; ham, one-fourth pound; sugar, two ounces; salt and pepper, 1.38 ounces; vegetables, one-half pound; rum, one-fourth gill. The French soldier on march gets per day: Meat, 8.40 ounces; bread, 35.30 ounces; vegetables, 2.12 ounces; sugar, 0.70 ounce; coffee, 0.60 ounce; salt, 0.50 ounce.—Leslie's Weekly.

Pet Mispronunciations.

"Have you ever noticed," asked the teacher in English, "that a great many well-educated people persistently pronounce at least one word incorrectly? I know a college man who for some mysterious reason always says 'timodity' for 'timidity,' and he drags this oddity into almost every sentence he speaks. Mrs. Smith's pet word is 'prejudice,' while Mrs. Jones can't help saying 'guitantic.' Just listen to them, and you'll hear the same people repeating over and over such mistakes as 'predefiction,' 'circutuous,' 'cupo'a,' etc. Some one must have called their attention to it, I suppose, but they have grown attached to their way of pronouncing, and don't like to change."

## Queensland's Water Trees

Wise Provision of Nature That is One of the Curiosities of the Region.

One of the curiosities in natural history in the colony of Queensland is the provision by nature of a supply of water in the roots of certain trees. On these roots the aborigines formerly depended for their water for several months of the year.

There are several kinds of trees in Queensland from which water can be obtained, including three species of eucalyptus, and the kurralong. The eucalypti consists of a gum, which is the largest of the back country trees, a box and mallee. The first named is the most preferred, as yielding the greatest quantity. This tree resembles the red gum in appearance, the leaves being a little narrower and of a silvery color. It grows chiefly on sandy or light loamy soil and throws out numerous lateral roots at a depth of about nine inches from the surface of the ground. The position of

these roots was ascertained by the blacks by repeatedly jabbing the points of a spear or sharpened stick in the soft earth at a distance of about six or eight feet from the trunk of the tree. The soil was then removed with a wooden shovel for some 20 feet or more and the root cut off at either end. This was then cut up into lengths of about 18 inches, the bark knocked off and the lengths stood on end in some receptacle to contain water. In many cases the blacks used a bag made of the entire skin of the male wallaby. As soon as all these pieces were placed on end the operator, beginning with the first placed, put the end in his mouth, and by a vigorous puff expelled the remaining water. The size of the roots chosen was, with the bark on, about the thickness of a man's wrist. The larger ones being more woody and less porous, contain little or no water. The water is beautifully clear, cool, and free from any unpleasant taste or smell.

## REALLY FUNNY.

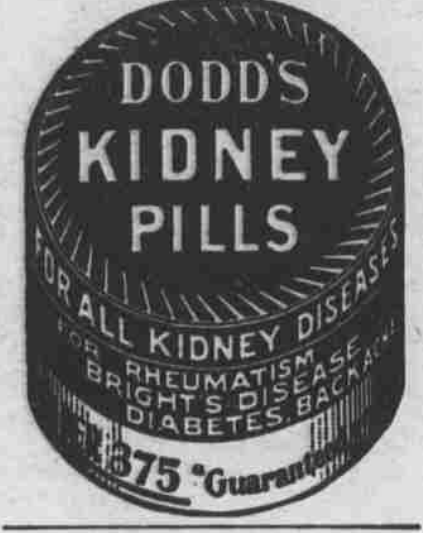


"Here's de funnest joke I ever seen in a paper!"

"Wot?"

"De weather man predicts warm and clear fer to-day."

Neglected.  
"That child gets everything it wants."  
"And still it never gets what it really needs."  
"You surprise me!"  
"It needs a spanking."



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