

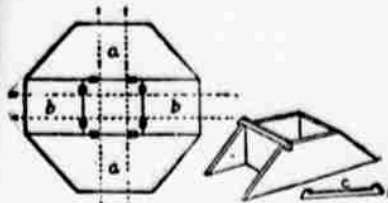
## LIVE STOCK



### A WOOL-TYING BOX.

Convenient Device Which Aids the Small Shipper in Marketing His Wool.

A very useful device for tying fleeces in a compact bundle is shown in illustration. It is made of one-inch boards hinged together on a central square piece. This is one foot square and the sides are three feet long at



HOW WOOL TYING BOX IS MADE.

the bottom and 14 inches at the top. The pieces b are cut one foot square.

To use the box, explains the Farm and Home, strings are laid across, as shown by dotted lines. Then the fleeces are placed upon the center piece and the edges folded in. The two sides, a, are drawn upright in position and then the two sides, b, are forced upward and in until they are perpendicular. The small clamp, c, may then be hooked over the sides to hold them solid. The fleeces may then be brought down into the box and the strings tied. It makes a compact bundle and leaves the wool even upon the outside.

### A GOOD COW.

Story of One Animal of Jersey Strain Who Paid Her Owner a Good Profit.

A dairyman who does not own many cows, and those good ones, recently gave the following figures concerning one of his cows, a pure-bred Jersey, to the Ohio Farmer.

Her first calf was dropped in 1897—a heifer—now a valued member of the herd. Her next calf came in 1898, with a successor each year up to the present, making nine calves in all. Three were females and six males. The heifers have been retained in the herd and the bulls sold at an average of \$50 each. Valuing the heifers at the same, the nine calves represent an earning of \$450. With her second calf she made a test of 280 pounds of milk in seven days, churning 14 pounds, four ounces of butter. Her average milk yield has been 7,500 pounds, sold to a creamery at an average of \$1.20 per 100 pounds, an aggregate for eight years of \$720. Adding the value of the calves to the amount received for milk, her gross earnings amount to \$1,080. These figures are very eloquent for the good special purpose cow, but were not given to me, nor do I record them, as anything extraordinary. An annual yield of 7,500 pounds of five per cent milk, while indicating a cow of great merit does not raise her above thousands of other good cows. She has broken no records but she has kept the faith. She has always had good care, good feed and plenty of it. She has been given a chance. She is a cow of robust constitution, a great feeder, a strong milker and a reliable breeder.

Her feed had been the ordinary feed of the herd. Pasture and molasses in summer, corn silage, mixed hay, corn meal, wheat bran and oil meal in winter. She has never been fed excessively, but has never gone hungry nor in any way known abuse.

### THE LIVE STOCK.

Poor fences make good jumpers. Clean cows result from proper stabling.

Feed, from the hand of the master, fattens.

The new stable should have several windows.

The cow holds her own in all kinds of times.

Anything irregular affects the percentage of butter fats.

If the horse has sore shoulders, it is a pretty sure sign that his collar does not fit him.

A new milker will at first get less milk from a cow than one to whom the animal is accustomed.

Culls and ewes that do not own or rear their lambs properly, may be turned off in the same way.

Old sheep should now be separated from the rest of the flock and given extra care. They can be improved in flesh and sent to market, where some return can be realized from them.—Farm Journal.

If you keep three or more cows it will pay you to have a cream separator. Before buying, send for the catalogue of all the makes you find advertised. It will pay you to investigate this question.

Every man that has a large number of hogs should endeavor to give them a good pasture. Too many breeders are contented with a hog pasture that is covered with native grasses only. Clovers and blue grass make a good pasture for swine.

### Science in Hog Raising.

The fact that we have been able to make money out of hogs even with the most unscientific methods of breeding and care is proof that under proper conditions the hog will make his owner rich. Scientific management means the care of swine to keep away disease, obtain early maturity and keep up the natural fecundity of the animals.

## IN PRISON AT CHIHUAHUA THREE MEN AWAIT DEATH

HURLBERT, MITCHELL AND HARLE  
UNDER SENTENCE FOR COLD-  
BLOODED MURDERS.

### WERE GANG OF LIFE INSURANCE SWINDLERS

Killing of Their Victims a Part of the Scheme  
by Which They Had Made Large Sums—  
Had Another Victim Marked  
for Death.

Chihuahua, Mexico.—Through a skein of plot and counter plot, that, if evolved by a writer of fiction, would have been considered extravagant, the story runs of the crime of the three men, Hurlbert, Mitchell and Harle, now under sentence of death here.

The crime for which these three men are to die a murder, an incident of their series of carefully planned life insurance swindles.

The particular company victimized is one of the greatest in the world, and only carelessness on the part of the plotters resulting from over-confidence, saved it from a heavy loss.

Practically in its entirety the affair is as follows:

#### Commenced in 1902.

It was in the spring of 1902 that a life insurance company was called upon to pay two death claims in Chihuahua, the first on the life of Harry M. Mitchell for \$15,000 under a policy assigned to his sister, Helen Richardson, and the second on the life of James Devers for \$10,000 under a policy of which one Willis Meredith was the beneficiary. Mitchell had died on February 11 of that year, and Devers on March 23, and the agent in both cases had been C. T. Richardson, who had formerly been in the employ of the company at Chihuahua, but was now living in Dallas, Tex.

Now, life insurance agents in Chihuahua, Mexico, even those who subsequently move to a town like Dallas, do not, as a rule, support private teams, nor drive out in style with negro coachman and a footman or two. All these things were included in Richardson's establishment in Dallas, to the great amazement of a representative of the life insurance company, who went down from the El Paso office, where the check for the Devers policy had been forwarded, to

the Fort Worth office at the request of Meredith, and when it came back after collection through a Fort Worth bank it bore Meredith's indorsement for deposit. Inquiry at the bank in question developed that soon after the claim had been filed on Devers' death Meredith had called at the bank in company with Richardson, and had obtained there a loan of \$8,000 upon Richardson's assurance that the company had admitted the claim under the policy and was about to pay the money. This loan was paid in part in cash and in part by a draft on the Seaboard National bank, of New York, and it was this draft for \$7,000, together with its indorsement to Richardson, that forms the first link in the chain of evidence that was to connect him with the crime.

So the search led back to Chihuahua, and when more light was sought on the manner of the deaths of Harry Mitchell and Devers it was found that in the first case death had occurred in the house in which Richardson and his wife lived and within half an hour after Mitchell had talked with a friend in the street, apparently in perfect health. This was hardly consistent with the theory of spinal meningitis advanced by Dr. Harle, the physician signing the death certificate, who happened to be also the physician who had examined each applicant for insurance upon his admission to the company. In the case of Devers it appeared that death was due to dysentery, as might easily have occurred with a man of Devers' dissolute manner of living. Of Richardson nothing could be learned, except that he had appeared in Chihuahua in the summer of 1901, with his wife, Helen Richardson, as an American looking for business opportunities in Mexico, and had secured an appointment as

issued on the life of this unfortunate brother-in-law as security for some money he (Gray) had advanced, he might contemplate with more equanimity his relative's approaching end. Richardson thought he could fix it, and the brother-in-law was sent for from St. Louis.

Now, the convenient brother-in-law was about as much a relative of Gray's as Gray was himself a lumber merchant, but he was indeed suffering from consumption and diabetes and was so ill when Richardson wrote his \$50,000 policy that he had to be propped up in bed in order to sign it. Richardson announced that he had bribed a couple of doctors to sign the physical examination papers, and the sick brother-in-law was shipped back to St. Louis, whence he went out to Arizona a year later to die.

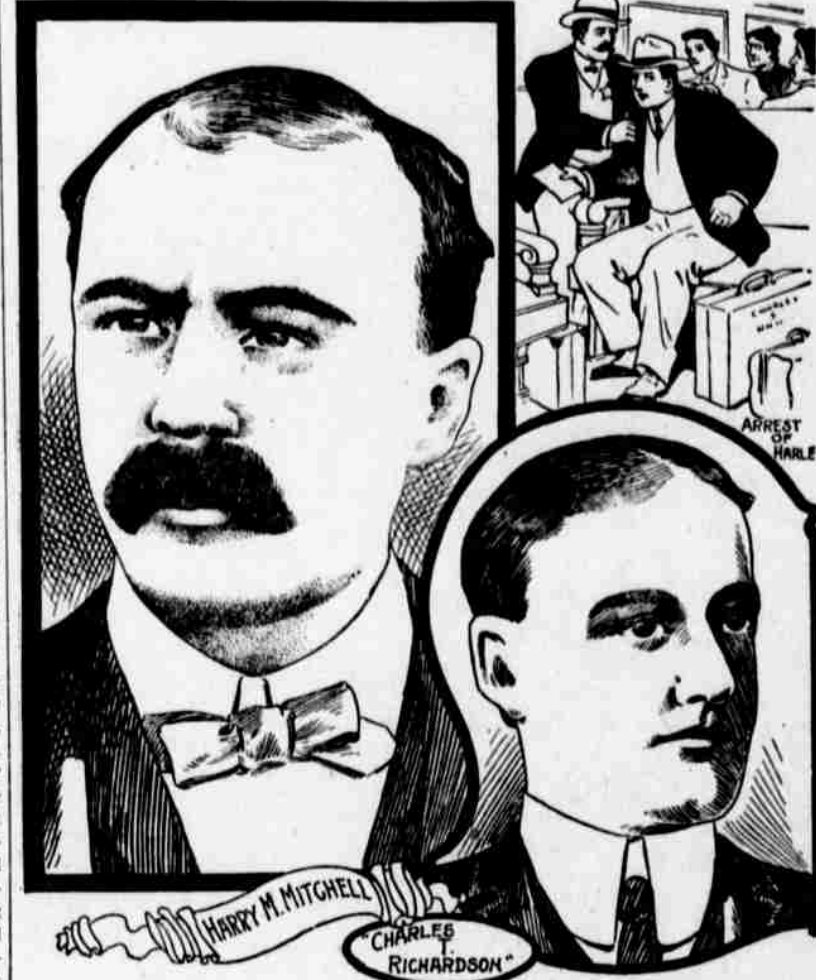
Dallas Made Headquarters. Greatly did Gray admire the skilled manipulation of the brother-in-law case by his friend Richardson. So when the latter suggested that there was plenty of easy money to be made by similar undertakings down in the border country where people are not watched too carefully, Gray fell in with the game at once, and the two went back to Dallas, where Gray's lumber office became shortly their

brother of Devers, William Meredith. Harle was not cross-examined, and he left the stand thinking he had "got away with the goods."

#### Confession from Harle.

At this point Bottoms from El Paso telegraphed Harle that he was coming to Chihuahua and wanted to see him. Harle thereupon started for El Paso, and Bottoms, when he was well on his way to the Mexican town, got a wire on his train that he would pass the train on which Harle was traveling in mid-route. Bottoms left his train at a convenient station and boarded the other. Then, as he did not know Harle, he sent a porter through the car with a Western Union telegraph envelope addressed to the doctor, and Harle tumbled into the trap. Bottoms, and a detective led Harle into the smoking compartment and started a quiz of the "third degree" order that wound up that night with a 50-page confession implicating Harle in the death of Devers, and telling enough of the circumstances of Harry Mitchell's death to indicate how his "suicide" had been arranged.

Harle said that Devers had been brought from Chihuahua from El Paso by Richardson in December of 1901, and that Richardson had said that he had explained to Devers that Devers



headquarters. Gray used to hear from Richardson how it wasn't really necessary to bribe a doctor in an insurance case, but simply to take a dummy before the medical man to pass the physical examination, and Richardson had just the dummy that filled the bill, a young fellow named Mason, once a miner in Chihuahua.

So the months went on, and it was in October of 1902. The Gray-Richardson-Mason combination was now in good running order, and it was planned that they should go to El Paso, where Mason would take out \$100,000 insurance in the name of Marshall D. Sanguinetti, an individual whom Richardson said he knew to be dying of consumption in Mexico. They were to make Gray the beneficiary of the policy, wait until Sanguinetti died, and then collect the \$100,000. But a hitch arose. Richardson remembered one day that his friend Sanguinetti, was a young man of middle age, whereas Mason was but a youngster of 23. Why not, then, have Gray take out the policy as Sanguinetti, making Mason the beneficiary, and then collect in the usual way?

#### Gray Marked for Murder.

Gray was not overanxious to make his death a possible source of profit to Richardson and Mason, but he consented to be Sanguinetti for the purposes of the policy, and to own Mason as David Sanguinetti, his son and heir. After various introductions the policy was made out and the deal closed—apparently. What introduced a new element into it that Richardson and his friend Mason had not counted on was the fact that Harry Bottoms and a couple of detectives had been keeping in nightly touch with Gray and incidentally had been doing a little work on the side, listening to conversations between Richardson and Mason when Gray wasn't around. It was in one of these conversations that Richardson gleefully remarked that Gray had been the easiest thing imaginable to use Sanguinetti case, and added:

"We won't do a thing to him when we get him over the border."

Bottoms and his men decided that matters had gone far enough. They laid their information before the district attorney of El Paso county, and warrants were issued for all three, including Gray, for it was inexpedient just then to have an exposure of the part which the lumberman-detective had played in the case. Gray, however, was soon released, and the next step was a charge filed in the City of Chihuahua accusing Richardson and Mason of the murders of Mitchell and Devers. In the preliminary hearing Dr. Harle was called as a witness, and testified that Mitchell did die of strychnine poisoning instead of spinal meningitis, but that Richardson had told him that the case was one of suicide, and wanted to have things hushed up. Devers, Harle still declared, died of dysentery. Harle said that he had been called in to attend him by a half-

was to be used in swindling one Willis Meredith out of a lot of money. For this purpose Devers was to pose as the half-brother of Meredith, and also to take out a life insurance policy in his half-brother's favor. But Devers never signed any papers in this connection; that was all arranged between Harle and Richardson, so that when Willis Meredith, who turned out to be Mason, arrived on the night of Harry Mitchell's funeral with a woman who posed as his wife, it was necessary only that the final preparation should be made to put Devers out of the way before collecting both of the policies. These were easily arranged. The bogus Meredith and Devers went to live together. On February 23 Harle was called to see Devers, who appeared to be suffering from acute dysentery. Harle gave him some medicine to ease his pain, but shortly after he died.

In his confession Harle said he knew Devers was being poisoned, and supposed that bichloride of mercury was given him in whisky. Harle filled out a fake burial certificate and the other papers necessary to collect on the policy, after which Richardson, and Mason, who had now become William Mitchell, took it to the El Paso agency and eventually raised the \$8,000, of which we have heard, at the bank at Fort Worth. Harle, of course, was immediately arrested, and eventually came to trial with the other men.

#### Hurlbert's Criminal Record.

But in the meantime photographs of the trio had been distributed through the usual police channels throughout the country, and when they reached Rochester, N. Y., the photograph of Richardson was recognized as that of Lester E. Hurlbert, a lawyer, who had jumped that city in May, 1901, after the exposure of an extensive divorce mill which he had operated in the cities of Rochester and Buffalo. William Mitchell, or Willis Meredith, or Mason, as he was variously known, turned out to be the brother of Harry Mitchell, who was killed in Chihuahua in order that the gang might collect on his \$15,000 policy. Mrs. Richardson was identified as the wife of Hurlbert, and investigation in Rochester developed the fact that she was the sister of the Mitchell boys. William Mitchell's trail, indeed, was followed even to Hot Springs, Ark., where the "wealthy lumberman" Gray had his brother-in-law insured, for "Mason" was the engaging young man who had himself examined by the Hot Springs doctor as John J. Evans.

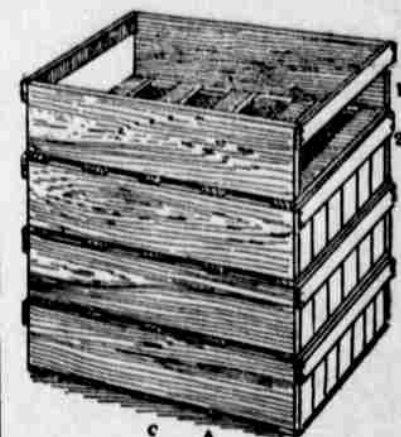
The trial of the three men had been reported in part in the papers throughout the country, and it served only to develop the facts in the remarkable case which have been very simply narrated above. The verdict of guilty quickly followed the presentation of the facts to the jury, and it remained at length necessary only for the executioners to carry out the sentence of the court.

## POULTRY AND BEES

### STORAGE CRATES.

Convenient Arrangement by Which Comb Honey Can Be Safely Kept in Small Space.

The engraving shows a pile of storage crates filled with sections except the top one, which is empty, the better to show the construction. The engraving is a little faulty in that the tops of the sections in the filled crate nearest the top do not show as they should, through the open bottoms of the empty crate. These crates are made of any cheap lumber, the only



THE STORAGE CRATE FOR COMB HONEY.

point where a mistake is likely to be made being the making of them of unseasoned lumber, so that the side pieces, when they shrink, are less than the height of the section. I pile these crates up, even when full of honey, as high as I can reach; and it is necessary that this weight should not come directly on the sections. In piling up sections that are to stay any length of time in the crates, always lay a piece of paper over each one, which makes it practically dust-proof, especially if the paper is long enough to extend down over the ends of the crates.

Pile your honey in a hot, dry place, cautions the editor of Gleanings in Bee Culture. If there is any suspicion of coolness or dampness about it, do not put the honey near the floor or in a corner. Have it at least a foot from the floor, and where the air can circulate freely all around it.

### EFFECTIVE DUST BATH.

Clean Dust Mixed with Fine Ashes and Sulphur Enjoyed by Hens.

As to mites, I do not believe that I have any in my houses, says a New Jersey poultryman. I use preventative remedies, spraying the houses and painting underside of roosts and roost rests with crude carbolic solution, also fumigating with sulphur and whitewashing, using the sulphur once a month and whitewashing about four times a year. The above I have found sufficient for my purpose. I believe the mites are very difficult to get rid of once they get a foothold in a house, and a house infested with them will need very thorough cleaning and spraying, being very particular to get the spray into all cracks and crevices. As to chicken lice, I keep the houses supplied with dust baths, using clean dust mixed with fine ashes and sulphur. When I had a small number of fowls, it was an easy matter to inspect each individual, and dust them with insect powder, but this involves entirely too much labor where a large number of fowls are kept; so now I rely on dust baths mixed as above. I am not aware that I have ever lost any poultry from lice or mites and believe if the above plan is faithfully followed the trouble will be reduced to a minimum.—Farmer's Review.

### GOOD SHELL MATERIAL.

Where Production of Eggs Is Large Much Lime Must Be Provided.

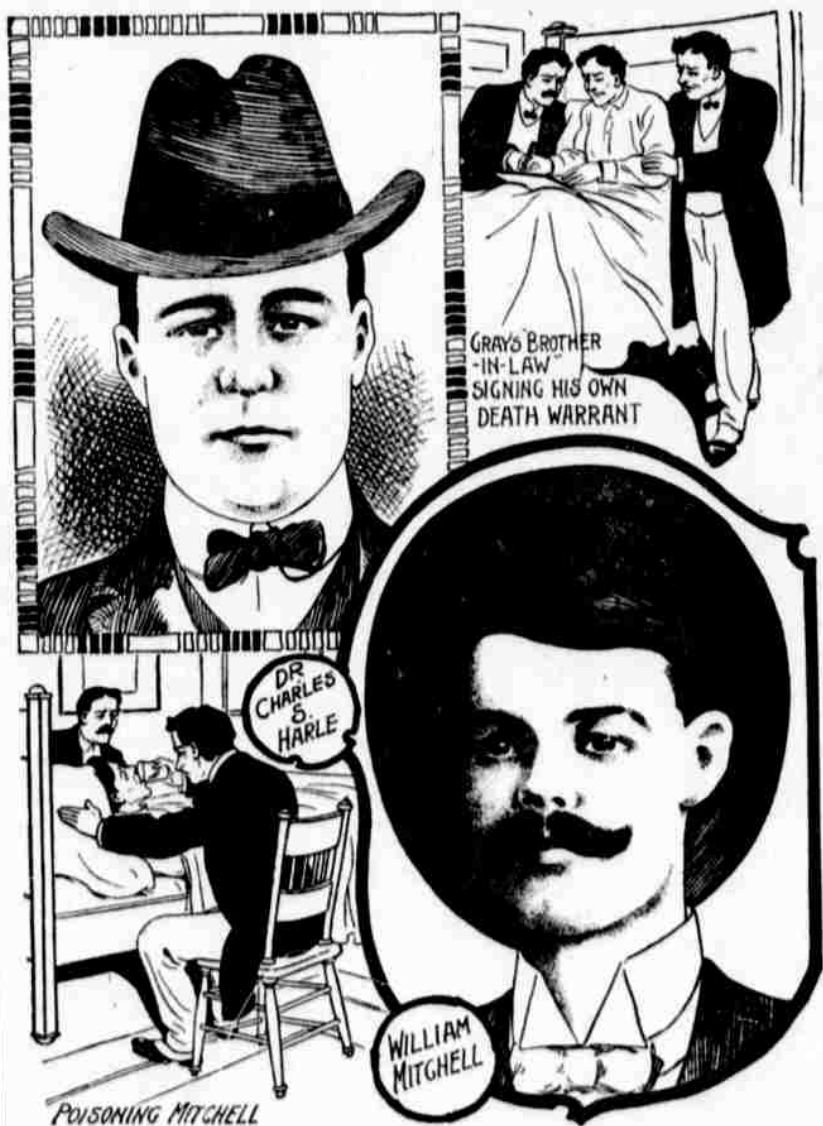
A great many of our people forget that the modern hen produces several times as many eggs as the ancient hen that was the progenitor of the one we now have. That hen laid 30 or 40 eggs a year and had no trouble to find the lime in the natural food. But it is a very different matter when a domestic fowl must produce good shell material out of her food for two hundred eggs during the year. The modern hen probably eats no more lime in her food; therefore the farmer that does not provide important supplies of lime will have trouble with his flock. The eggs will have thin shells, and there will be many soft shelled, eggs which will be a temptation to the poultry to begin egg eating. It is easy enough to furnish the material if one does not forget. The professional poultry man never forgets; but the farmer does, because poultry with him is merely a side issue.

### Curing Roup.

Several homemade remedies failed to cure the roup so I tried swabbing the chicken's throats with turpentine. I used a feather dipped in turpentine and followed it by giving a teaspoon of goose oil. Since then I have not lost a chicken.

### Sulphur for the Hens.

A little sulphur in the hens' feed occasionally is a benefit, but don't put it on the sitting hens or those that have chicks. It gets into the chicks' eyes it will make them blind.



POISONING MITCHELL

Look into the matter. These things were reported to the home office, and under the direction of Second Vice President Kingsley, Harry H. Bottoms, a lawyer of New York, and a detective, who may remain nameless, got busy on the case.

It was discovered that Devers had been in Chihuahua a few weeks before his death, and that nothing was known about him except that he was a hard drinker and of a type of social outcast common enough in that territory. This strengthened a theory that the very possession of a \$10,000 policy by such a man required some further explanation, let alone possible suspicious circumstances attending his death. So the investigators turned to the payment of the Devers policy at the El Paso office, after the company had unsuccessfully tried to have the check sent from New York intercepted in transit.

First Evidence Secured. It appeared that the check had been forwarded from the El Paso office to the Fort Worth office at the request of Meredith, and when it came back after collection through a Fort Worth bank it bore Meredith's indorsement for deposit. Inquiry at the bank in question developed that soon after the claim had been filed on Devers' death Meredith had called at the bank in company with Richardson, and had obtained there a loan of \$8,000 upon Richardson's assurance that the company had admitted the claim under the policy and was about to pay the money. This loan was paid in part in cash and in part by a draft on the Seaboard National bank, of New York, and it was this draft for \$7,000, together with its indorsement to Richardson, that forms the first link in the chain of evidence that was to connect him with the crime.

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GRAY'S BROTHER-IN-LAW SIGNING HIS OWN DEATH WARRANT



WILLIAM MITCHELL