

How Condensed Milk is Made.

The manufacture of condensed milk is thus described in the Scientific American: When the milk is brought into the factory it is carefully strained, placed in cans or pails, which are put into a tank of water kept hot by steam coils. When hot it is transferred to large steam heated open vessels and quickly brought to a boil. This preliminary heating and boiling has for its object the expulsion of the gasses of the milk, which would cause it to foam in the vacuum pan, and, also to add to the keeping quality of the milk by destroying the mould germs. A second straining follows, after which the milk is transferred to a vacuum pan, where a temperature below 160° Fahr. it boils and is rapidly concentrated to any degree desired. The vacuum pan employed is a close vessel of copper, egg-shaped, about six feet high and four and one-half feet in diameter. It is heated by steam coils within, and by a steam jacket without—inclosing the lower portion. In one side of the dome is a small window through which gas illuminates the interior, while on the opposite side is an eyeglass through which the condition of the contents may be observed. The pan is also provided with a vacuum gauge and test sticks.

Much of the milk used in cities is simply concentrated without any addition of sugar. The process of concentration is continued in the vacuum pan until one gallon of the milk has been reduced to a quart or a little less than a quart—one volume of condensed milk corresponding to about four and three-tenths volumes of milk. Condensed milk intended to be preserved for any length of time has an addition of pure cane sugar made to it during the boiling, and usually put up in sealed cans. This sugared or "preserved" milk, when properly prepared, will keep for many years.

Discoveries Made by Accident.

Not a few discoveries in the arts and sciences have been made or suggested by accident. The use of the pendulum, suggested by the vibrating of a chandelier in a cathedral; the power of steam, intimated by the oscillating of the lid of the tea-kettle; the utility of coal gas for light, experimented upon by an ordinary tobacco pipe of white clay; the magnifying properties of the lens, stumbled upon by an optician's apprentice, while holding spectacle glasses between his finger, are instances in proof of the fact. Galvanism was discovered by accident. Professor Galvani, of Bologna, in Italy, gave his name to the operation, but his wife is considered as actually entitled to the credit of the discovery. She being in bad health some frogs were ordered for her. As they lay upon the table, she noticed that their limbs became strongly convulsed when near the electrical conductor. She called her husband's attention to the fact; he instituted a series of experiments, and in 1779 the galvanic battery was invented.

Eleven years later, with that discovery for his basis, Professor Alessandro Volta, also an Italian, announced his discovery of the "voltaic pile." The discovery of glass-making was effected by seeing the sand vitrified upon which a fire had been kindled. The making of plate glass was suggested by the fact of a workman happening to break a crucible filled with melted glass. The fluid ran under one of the flagstones with which the floor was paved. On raising the stone to recover the glass, it was found in the form of a plate, such as could not be produced by the ordinary process of blowing.

How to Keep Your Friend.

In the first place don't be too exacting. If your friend doesn't come to see you as often as you wish, or if she is dilatory about answering your letters, don't make up your mind at once that she has grown cold or indifferent, and above all don't overwhelm her with reproaches. Rest assured that there is no more certain way of killing friendship than by exactions and upbraidings. It is quite possible that your friend may have other duties and engagements whose performance employs the very time you would claim, and instead of being neglected you are only waiting your turn. Perhaps she comes to you in her rare intervals of leisure to be rested and cheered and helped by your affection and sympathy. But is she likely to find cheer or comfort in your society if you meet her with doubts and coldness, or with a sense of injury, and insist upon a full account of how she has spent her time, and whether she could not possibly have come before? In nine cases out of ten she will go away feeling that she is injured by what you consider affection, and that your friendship is a trouble rather than a help.

The Luxury of Home.

Travel is pleasant. The change of air and the change of scene are beneficial alike to body and mind. It is pleasant to meet so many agreeable people, and it is delightful to look upon the varying and often beautiful scenery. Travel is instructive. It suggests new ideas, gives one a knowledge of the world to be acquired in no other way. But, after all, there is nothing so pleasant and so enjoyable as the independence and the luxury of one's own home at last. Travel is pleasant, "home is delightful."

Farm and Garden.

Canada Thistles.

The following we clip from from our American exchanges; it may be found useful to some of our farmer friends:—

We passed on to the southern extremity of the field.

"You see this large, irregular patch, differing from the surrounding land. That was a patch of well-established Canada thistles. There is not a single thistle now."

"How did you get rid of them?"

"Plowed up the land in the fall and let it lie until middle of May, then plowed every 20 days until October. The next spring I waited till June to see if any started. There were a few. Then plowed once a month through the season. Not a thistle since. Yonder was another patch. Not one now. The same treatment was given it with the same result. You see the pests don't yet have a chance to breathe. I plowed as often as said, because it seemed as often as was necessary. There is nothing arbitrary as to the number of days; all that is necessary is to keep them under."

How to tell a Good and Poor Farmer.

I believe that I can tell a good farmer by his barnyard. If I see it full of pieces of boards and rails, the wagon standing unsheltered in one corner, and the reaper under a tree in the other, the fence corners stowed with the plows nicely frescoed with mud, and harrow in the middle of the lot keeping company with the barn door, I know that farmer is not making money, complains of hard times and that if he is not careful he will soon be compelled to "out west" where the soil is rich and "they give a poor man a chance." That glance at his barn yard is enough, yet if I should go over his farm I should find more witnesses to testify to his being a poor farmer. If I should go to the house I would find the gate between the door-yard and barn-yard off its hinges, the front gate (?) a smooth rail on top of the rail-fence in front, no grass in the yard but plenty of pigs and weeds, and the house sadly in need of a coat of paint. Going out over the farm I would find the hogs in the corn field, the cattle breaking over the rotten fence, not a sign of clover pasture on the farm, and every field innocent of manure. In fact, cattle and grain will be about as scarce as clover and manure, and the only thing of value on the farm is the mortgage. Perhaps the very next barn-yard that I come to presents a very different appearance. I notice that the barn, though it may be small and even destitute of paint, is close, warm and neat, and with the sheds, affords shelter for all the stock and farm machinery. The yard is destitute of rubbish, and though the fence surrounding it may be only a Virginia rail-fence it is good and strong and as neat as such a fence can possibly be. The door-yard is clean and green, except the walks and they are clean, the gates hung on stout hinges and the house well covered with paint. Going over the farm I find it well fenced, stocked, clovered and manured, and if there is a mortgage on the farm I am it will not remain long, for where's a will there's a way. It does not take any extra facilities to tell good from poor farming, and I am sure every reader can do so.

Blasphemy.

ACCIDENT.—Martin Farrow, son of T. Farrow, M. P., was accidentally thrown from a horse which he was riding from the pasture field, and had his arm broken at the wrist. Under the treatment of Dr. Hutchinson, the arm is coming all right again.

OBITUARY.—One by one the old pioneers of this county are passing away, and soon the link between the past and the present will be gone. On Thursday morning last Mr. James Messer, Sr., of Morrisbank, peacefully passed away. Deceased had been in fair health till a few weeks ago, when he began to give way to disease and old age. Mr. Messer was born in Berwickshire, Scotland, in the year 1801, and was consequently 80 years of age. Emigrating from his native land, he, with his wife and six of a family, came to Canada, and settled at Morrisbank, where he continuously resided for 27 years. One son died shortly after their arrival here, and another, the late John Messer, died about eighteen months ago. The remaining four still reside here, viz: W. Messer, mer, chant; Jas. Messer, Morrisbank; Mrs. Geo. Aitchison and the widow of the late John Thynne. Mr. Messer, although in politics a reformer, took very little interest in matters political, and cast but one vote in Canada. He was a consistent member of the Presbyterian Church, and always attended in his place while able to do so.

An artesian well struck at Comber threw up a column of water nearly fifty feet in height. So much gas escaped with the water that a man passing with a lantern set, in a blaze.

The Ottawa mill hand named Beatty, who was struck on the head by a falling plank while working in the yard of J. R. Booth's mill on Wednesday, died Friday night from the injuries received.

"The curricula is reported to be making dreadful havoc among the plum trees in this section."—Petroleum Advertiser. Yes friend Richard, and the curricula have also been making dreadful havoc among the candidates for examination at the different schools and colleges this summer.

COUNTRY SCHOOL HOUSES.—The following from a contemporary hits off the custom prevailing in some sections in the matter of school accommodations:—

"It seems to be the fate of country school houses that they shall not only be painted a glaring and unsightly white, and be allowed to grow a sickly gray, but that they shall be erected in wretched waste places. Light may be desirable, but it seems to be hard on children that when the school house might have a background of woods it is built on some barren, unshaded spot, where in summer the sun beats upon it piteously, and no huge tree at "play spell" affords protection. The trustees, usually because they are economical in school matters or because they have no idea of comfort or picturesqueness, manage to select some bare, open meadow, or a stretch of useless sand waste. Anything they think is good enough for a school house. How much influence the wretchedness has on the souls of the children is incalculable."

"No," said Mrs. Goodington, casting her eyes over her specs to the silhouette of her lamented Daniel, "I can't say as I like to see a man too stout, but just a little inclined to portulancy, you know."

Fred Vokes recently saved an overturned canoeist from drowning at Lake George. After sinking the second time, the drowning man clung so tenaciously that Vokes stunned him with a blow from his fist and brought him to shore. The canoeist now threatens Vokes for assault and battery.

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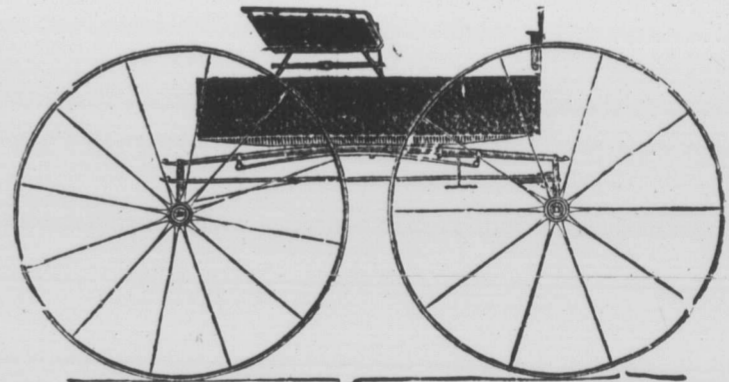
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