

## \* The Farm. \*

### Contrast of Poultry Houses

It is interesting and suggestive as one rides along the road to notice the variety of buildings used for the accommodation of hens. Some lean against another building, apparently and really unable to support themselves. Others are shabby affairs, erected in a hurry; others still are better built, but very small, and yet others are put up as well as dwelling-houses and nicely painted. Strange as it may seem, a majority seem to forget the essentials of a profitable poultry-house. It is warmth, light and room that hens turn into ready cash in winter. These may be secured without excessive outlay. Many poultry-houses have large windows facing the south; with enough glass to make the room too light at day and cold at night. Most of them are much longer than wide, and if one will take the pains to figure he will find that the cost is greater compared to the floor space than in a square building.

A poor man's poultry-house would be something like this: Plenty of ground space, no more height than is necessary for the convenience of the attendant, light enough, but not too much; warmth secured by the use of building paper or some filling between the walls of the house. The outside appearance does not figure in the production of eggs. Of course, I would not put up a poultry-house in a shabby manner. It should be symmetrically and durably constructed. If the owner becomes able, he may erect houses that compare with his other buildings, but to erect costly houses at the start for his hens is like hitching the horse where he will have to push instead of pull. Comparatively few of us can afford to keep poultry for pleasure. The pleasure, with most of us, is inseparable from the profits, therefore we work for the latter. An expensive poultry-house always indicates that the owner is not making profits a first consideration. A plain exterior to the house will not worry the hen half so much as blasts of zero wind finding their way between the boards. Plenty of food adapted to her needs as an egg-producer, and millstones to grind it, seeing she has no teeth, will keep her in a laying condition longer than cornice and paint on the outside. Often the birds of finest plumage and reddest comb are found in the plainest houses. These are indications which point toward a well-filled egg basket.—(C. M. D.)

### Cold Barns and Ice-water for Dairy Cows.

The investigation made by the Kansas Experiment Station of the creamery business of the Meriden Creamery revealed the fact that there was one man who sheltered his cows in winter with two wire fences, another with a wood lot, and still other men by windbreaks. Out of eighty-two patrons there were eighteen, or 22 per cent, who compelled their cows to drink ice-water from a creek or pond in winter.

When we stop to think that the dairy cow, unlike the steer, has a thin hide, with little or no fat beneath the skin and a poor surface circulation, we can understand one of the reasons why the yield of some herds is so low. The dairy cow is a very sensitive animal, and when she is forced to keep up animal heat and to stand shivering while taking her fill of ice-water she certainly cannot be expected to make a very good showing at the milk-pail.

Few people realize the loss sustained from cold barns. In an experiment carried on in England it was found that with a herd of thirty cows the profit was £3, or about \$15 a week more when the temperature of the barn was kept at 63 degrees than when at 52 degrees. At this rate it would not take long for a herd of good dairy cows to pay for a barn. The barn should be tight enough so that the animal heat of the cows will always keep the manure from freezing.—(D. H. Otis in National Rural.)

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#### Dirt in the Dairy.

We are very scientific in these days, and talk of bacteria, bacilli, micrococcus, Pas-

teurizing, sterilizing, etc., and there is danger that we shall forget that scientific dirt is just as bad as the common variety. Dirt under a Latin name is just as dirty as it is in English, and requires just as much soap and hot water, scrubbing brush and elbow grease as the old variety that our fathers used to wrestle with before the days of washing powders and concentrated lye.

We need no special sterilizers or Pasteurizers to keep the milk cans clean; leave all these complicated machines to the scientific fellows, and go at the cans and dairy vessels in the old-fashioned way, as if bacteria and bacilli had never been heard of; use plenty of water, soda, sunshine and fresh air. Have your milk vessels clean first, and think of bacteria afterward. If your butter or cream is off flavor, nine times out of ten the trouble is that your stable, cow or dairy is dirty, just plain dirt that doesn't need a microscope and a chemist to find it; only a thorough cleaning and the trouble will vanish. The tenth time you may need the help of the expert, but don't ask for it till you have got rid of the common dirt; then you may look for the scientific variety.—(Hoard's Dairy-man.)

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#### What Mulch for Strawberries?

Wintering the strawberry field is especially hazardous with us in Colorado, because of the generally dry, open winter weather, with mostly bright sunny days and freezing nights. Mulching is a necessity, but we have no salt meadow hay or marsh grass. Wheat or oat straw is out of the question, on account of the seeds. We pile up stable manure, giving it a chance to heat, which pretty effectually destroys the seeds, and then spread it on after the ground freezes in December. Cow manure from the dairies is also frequently resorted to after being piled and partly rotted and dried. But spring generally reveals to us many spots and streaks of winter-killed plants, though the manure has been spread lightly or heavily, has been raked off early or late. Again the question comes up, does the manure contain substances injurious to the plants? Is cow manure poisonous, but horse manure safer? All we can be sure of is that the plants are killed, and that there is nothing but manure to mulch with. Can you clear the farmer's best friend, the manure pile, of so serious a suspicion?—(A. H. R., in Rural New-Yorker.)

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Mustard left mixed, with vinegar or anything else, soon dries, and acquires a mouldy flavor. To prevent this put a heaped tablespoonful of salt into a pint of boiling vinegar. Pour it over two heaping tablespoonfuls of grated horseradish. Let the vinegar stand twenty-four hours and then strain it off the horseradish, which can be covered with a little fresh cold vinegar and used on the table. Thicken the vinegar strained off with the best English mustard until it is of the proper thickness for use. The addition of a little caper, anchovy, tarragon, garlic or of celery vinegar to this mustard, or half a teaspoonful of onion juice, gives it a special flavor; a few mushrooms—about two or three—add another flavor. The Parisian chefs number as many as three dozen different flavored mustards. Many of these are prepared simply from a flavored vinegar, but others have variety of flavors.

### Veils are Ruinous to the Complexion.

Veils do more to ruin the complexion than any other thing. The skin needs the friction of the air. Constant covering interferes with the circulation and the healthy action of the pores. It heats the face, and keeps it covered with an oily moisture which catches the dust and dirt and gets into the pores. When the face is left exposed to the air the dust is blown off, the skin is kept dry and clean. It also stimulates the circulation of the blood and gives color to the cheeks.—April Ladies' Home Journal.

## The Monsoon Tea Co.

GUARANTEE every package of their teas to be pure, free from dust and healthful. "There are no teas as good as Monsoon Teas." 30, 40, 50 and 60 cents per pound.



### If We Only Understood.

"Could we but draw back the curtains  
That surround each other's lives,  
See the naked heart and spirit,  
Know what spur the action gives,  
Often we should find it better,  
Purer than we judge we should:  
We should love each other better  
If we only understood."

If we knew the cares and trials,  
Knew the efforts all in vain,  
And the bitter disappointments,  
Understood the loss and gain,  
Would the grim external roughness  
Seem, I wonder, just the same?  
Should we help where now we hinder?  
Should we pity where we blame?

Oh! we judge each other harshly,  
Knowing not life's hidden force,  
Knowing not the fount of action  
Is less turbid at its source;  
Seeing not amid the evils  
All the golden grains of good.  
Oh! we'd love each other better  
If we only understood."—Anon.

### The Span O' Life.

The Span O' Life. A tale of Louisburg and Quebec. By William McLennan and Miss J. N. McIlwraith, with twenty-nine illustrations by F. de Myrbach. (Published by the Copp, Clark Company, Limited. Price, paper, 75 cents; cloth, \$1.50.)

The "Span o' Life" has been spoken of as the most important Canadian historical romance since "The Seats of the Mighty." The principal charm of "The Seats of the Mighty" lies in the character studies, the "Span o' Life" glories in action, which cannot be confined by the walls of Louisburg and Quebec. Of the Canadians proper of that period we do not get the most favorable impression, but this was largely compensated by their gallant stand after the defeat on the Plains of Abraham. "Unoffended and undisturbed, they had stubbornly disputed every inch of ground when all others had given way. . . . They were not regulars; yet now in the hour of need they alone stood firm between the flying army and destruction."

It is in the plot that the authors have excelled themselves. To be brief, the story is something like this: Hugh Maxwell, a young Highlander, is in hiding in London after the defeat at Culloden, when he falls in love with Margaret Nairn, an ardent sympathizer with the Jacobite cause, and ward of his godmother. Just when they are beginning to understand each other, he accidentally discovers that his wife, a tradesman's daughter, whom he had married when a mere boy, and long believed to be dead, is still living. On his wife's refusal to resume their old relations, he resolves to banish himself to Canada with the French army, in order that he and Margaret may the more easily forget each other. She, however, attributes to his poverty his failure to meet her advances, and so some years later upon coming heir to an estate, she follows him to the New World, taking with her Maxwell's wife as maid, without either of them having any idea of the other's identity. The complications which follow are neither few nor tame, especially when the presence of a young and beautiful lady alone in a French military colony must of necessity appear strange, and not the less so because she is an Englishwoman. Indeed it is doubtful if even Margaret's courage could have sustained her but for the memory of an old Irish of Maxwell's:

"The Span o' Life's nae long enough,  
Nor deep enough the sea,  
Nor braid enough this weary world,  
To part my Love frae me."

PORT MULGRAVE, June 5, 1897.

C. C. RICHARDS & CO.

DEAR SIRS.—MINARD'S LINIMENT is my remedy for colds, etc. It is the best liniment I have ever used.

MRS. JOSIAH HART.

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### Once Again Dodd's Kidney Pills Win a Glorious Victory.

Cured Mr. Frank P. Mills, of Zealand, N. B., of Lame Back Caused by Deranged Kidney—No Other Medicine Helped Him.

Zealand, N. B., May 8th.—The following statement is made public, by one of the best-known, and most highly respected residents of the place—Mr. Frank P. Mills. "I have been troubled, for a long time, with a Lame Back, and have in my endeavors to cure it, or secure life, tried every medicine I read of, or that was recommended to me. This cost money, and the sum I have spent in this way is too large to mention."

"I had been unable to obtain relief; my sufferings were terrible, and were steadily growing more severe. I had almost given up hope, but, on receiving one of the Dodd's Medicine Co.'s papers, 'Our Home and Fireside,' and reading of Dodd's Kidney Pills therein, I decided to make one more attempt. I bought a box of Dodd's Kidney Pills and began using them."

"A blessed change followed the first few doses. Now I have used the whole box and the lameness has disappeared from my back and all other pains have left me. I am entirely cured, and would recommend Dodd's Kidney Pills to all persons suffering as I did."

This statement speaks for itself. It forges one more link in that mighty chain of proof that shows Dodd's Kidney Pills to be the only cure for all Kidney Diseases.

Dodd's Kidney Pills are sold by all druggists at fifty cents a box, six boxes \$2.50, or sent, on receipt of price, by The Dodd's Medicine Co., Limited, Toronto, Ont.

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### A Well Known Toronto Traveller Cured of Catarrh After Eight Year's Suffering.

#### Japanese Catarrh Cure Cures.

Mr. R. E. Fleming, the well-known and popular Toronto representative of Messrs. Ewing & Sons, Cork Manufacturers, Montreal, writes: "I have been a constant sufferer from catarrh of a severe and most disagreeable type for eight years, which became worse each winter, in spite of the hundreds of dollars I spent with catarrh specialists and many remedies, which only afforded temporary relief. I tried Japanese Catarrh Cure about one year ago, and since completing this treatment have not felt the least symptoms of my former trouble. A few months ago I recommended it to a friend similarly affected, and he is now completely cured also. I can highly recommend it to any person troubled with this most annoying disease."

Japanese Catarrh Cure relieves cold in the head in one minute, and is absolutely guaranteed to cure any case of Catarrh of the Nose or Throat, or money will be refunded. Sold by all druggists. Price, 30 cents. A free sample will be sent to any person troubled with catarrh. Enclose 5-cent stamp. Address: The Griffiths & Macpherson Co., 121 Church St., Toronto.