

FOR BOYS AND GIRLS.

LETTER BOX.

Under this heading we will insert letters on subjects from boys and girls. The letters must be brief and written on one side of the paper. The name and address must be given, to appear with the letter. Address: "LONDON ADVERTISER, ADVERTISING OFFICE, LONDON, ONT."

CHILDERN, June 2.

DEAR AUNT PRUDENCE:
As I saw the other letters I thought I would write a short one. I am 12 years old and in the Fourth Book. I study history, geography, grammar, arithmetic and literature and a few other studies connected with the fourth class. I have one brother and one sister. I go to Sunday school twice every Sunday—to the Methodist and Presbyterian Sunday schools. My pa is a tinsmith, and is the superintendent of the Methodist Sunday school. I think I will close now. From your loving niece,
MINNIE M. FIDLOW.

[You certainly are very fond of Sunday school when you go twice on one Sunday.—AUNT PRUDENCE.]

DUNSMITHVILLE, Mich., May 13, 1891.
DEAR AUNT PRUDENCE:
It is now some time since I have written to you. I intended to write before this, but it seemed hard to get started. I can't tell you how glad I am for that little press, as you call it, for I was tired of the way most of my little cousins' letters read. I know what you are most interested in now, and I know you will be glad to hear of all of us going to school, then you are willing to leave us to the kind care of our teacher. Now, Aunt Prudence, I am going to tell you there are two things I am sorry for, one is, because you have grey hair, and the other is, because you are so old. Now, I hope your hair will come in thick and brown again, for that is the color I expect it used to be. My hair is kind of yellow, or, as my pa says, it is kind of delicate ginger. I must tell you our crops look good; our potatoes are just coming up and we have some early sweet corn up as high as my finger. Well, for fear you will be tired of my long letter, I will close. So good-bye, dear auntie. From
JULIA H. BRODIE.

[I am glad your crops are looking so well. Write me again.—AUNT PRUDENCE.]

DUNSMITHVILLE, Mich., May 13, 1891.
DEAR AUNT PRUDENCE:
I thought I would write to you too. My sister Julia has written different times, and my pa says I may write and be your niece too. I am not going to school these days for I am troubled with some sore throat. Sometimes I can't go to sleep it is so sore. Ma is busy at garden these days, and I have to mind the baby for her. Sometimes I get tired, but for all that I love him. There was a man offered me 10 cents for him, but we can't spare him. Well, I am 6 years old, and this is my first letter. I would like to see you. I will have to close now and go to rock my little brother. Good-bye. From
LILLIE E. BRODIE.

[So you would not let the little brother go for 10 cents? I will give you \$1 for him, if you are sure he does not need very much rocking.—AUNT PRUDENCE.]

CARIBBER, May 6, 1891.
DEAR AUNT PRUDENCE:
I saw your little children's letters in the ADVERTISER, and I thought I would write too. I am 15 years old and I am going to school yet. My little friend is going to school yet, and I thought I would write with her. I have five sisters and four brothers. One of my little sisters is not very well. We do not take the ADVERTISER, but we take the Toronto Mail and the Picardie. I live on the bank of River Thames, and they catch a lot of fish in the spring. Your niece,
HATTIE EVERINGHAM.

[I am glad to have you for a niece, Hattie. I hope your little sister will be well again.—AUNT PRUDENCE.]

TORONTO, JUNE 1, 1891.
DEAR AUNT PRUDENCE:
I am a boy 15 years old, and would like to be one of your nieces. As soon as the examinations are over I am going with some boy friends camping in Muskoka, where we can row, sail, swim and shoot all the way. I have ever been there. I took a prize for mathematics and another for literature last year at school, but do not know as yet whether I shall gain one this year. I have four brothers and two sisters. I hope you will have a pleasant summer. May I write again? From your loving nephew,
HUGH BROWN.

[It would give me pleasure to receive a second letter from you. Yes, I have spent two very enjoyable summers in Muskoka.—AUNT PRUDENCE.]

CHRISTIAN ISLAND, May 27, 1891.
DEAR AUNT PRUDENCE:
I take the liberty of addressing you as though I am a girl, as you would like to have me as one of your many nieces. Though I am an Indian girl, yet I am certain you will not object to that. I am 14 years of age. I go to school and study reading, arithmetic, geography, grammar, history, English language, writing and drawing. The school is supported by the Methodist Society and taught by an Indian. I just came home a few weeks ago from visiting my friends at Cape Croker. Christian Island is situated on Georgian Bay. I am afraid I am taking too much space in the letter box. I will write again. I hope to see my letter in print. I am a member of the White Badge.
EVA C. ESKIMAU.

[I spent a summer once very near Cape Croker, but never actually there. I am delighted with your letter, which is better written and better spelled than many of those of English nieces.—AUNT PRUDENCE.]

The great lung healer is found in excellent medicine sold as Bickel's Anti-Consumptive Syrup. It soothes and diminishes the sensibility of the membrane of the throat and air passages and is a sovereign remedy for all coughs, colds, hoarseness, pain or soreness in the chest, bronchitis, etc. It has cured many when supposed to be far advanced in consumption.

Anxious Mamma—Little Dick is upstairs, crying with the toothache. Practical Papa—Take him around to the dentist's. It has cured many when supposed to be far advanced in consumption.

According to the law a widow is entitled to her third, but the men are generally shy after she has buried her second.

Children Cry for Pitcher's Castoria.

THE HORSEMAN.

Stringent legislation against "ringers" has been enacted in Michigan.

If horses are kept inside the stable should be kept clean, cool and comfortable.

A horse driven by an Indiana man took fright at an umbrella the other day, reared and suddenly fell dead.

Five hundred and fifty-six mares have produced two or more trotters each with records of 2:30 or better.

Out of seventeen horses in Budd Dobbie's stable at Terra Haute, seven have recorded below 2:20 and four more are recorded in 2:25 or better.

The English horse See Song made a savage attack on Scholastic in the royal stables at Epsom, and the stewards have ordered that in future the horse shall be muzzled when running in public.

C. J. Hamlin, of Buffalo, has written Secretary Callahan of the Jamestown Driving Park, that Belle Hamlin will trot against time at the Jamestown, N. Y., races, June 17, and that Belle and Justina will trot in double harness on June 24.

A novel way of shoeing has been tried this year upon the chestnut gelding, Golden Rod, 2:19, by Alconce, with apparently good results. He has been very rough-gaited, and to remedy this defect every shoe was made of different weight, under the influence of which his gait is very level.

In Denver the other day E. M. Falls brought suit against George Ross-Lewis for \$800. He charges that the defendant undertook to winter some horses and colts for him in 1890. The care was so bad, he alleges, that a valuable mare with foal died of starvation and other horses were reduced in value by the scarcity of food.

The celebrated 20,000 trotting stallion Tom Rogers, 2:20, was burned to death at the Woodlawn Stock Farm, near Cincinnati. The barn was struck by lightning and was totally destroyed. Before aid could be rendered the horse was burned to death. Tom Rogers was the property of Mrs. Kate Burgher. She was offered \$15,000 for the animal a short time ago, but refused it.

According to frequent reports from American race tracks, the millennium of honesty in the "hoss business" does not seem to have arrived yet. Years ago Oliver Wendell Holmes, with an eye on the then present and a prophetic glance at the future, wrote:

"When a horse is for sale
Shall put his mettle to the proof
Without a lie for every nail
That holds the iron to the hoof."

"I'll then let Cummings blaze away,
And Miller's saints blow up the glo
But when you see that bloody day
Then order your ascension robe."

In a steeplechase on the Morphetville course on April 18 the Duke of Devonshire's meeting Alfred Reed was riding a horse called Ennle. He jumped with him, but the horse blundered, ultimately rolled over, got one foot entangled in Messenger's rein and tore the head part of the bridle, which let the bit fall out of his mouth. Reed never hesitated to keep him in the race, but he bit against his chest, went a mile and a half over six more fences and finished a splendid second.

Mr. Ariel Lathrop, brother-in-law of Senator Stanford, who for a number of years has had charge of that gentleman's interests, was traveling last week on his way east, where he will spend the summer. Not long ago there was considerable friction at Palo Alto between Marvin and Mr. Lathrop, the result being that the celebrated colt trainer handed in his resignation to Senator Stanford on that gentleman's return from Europe. The Senator investigated the matter and soon found that Marvin was in the right, the result being that Mr. Lathrop's authority at Palo Alto was made subordinate to that of the trainer.

Ariel Lathrop, brother-in-law to Governor Stanford, owner of the Palo Alto Farm, California, having seen Artell, Terro Haute, states that the horse was a revelation and never was he so surprised to his individuality. He expected after making due allowance for tales told by those with "fish to sell" to see a little jack-legged stallion with only a fair record in his favor. Instead he saw a grand specimen of the trotter in structure and muscular development. After taking a few measurements and viewing the stallion sufficiently long to fully take in his grandeur he said: "No wonder he trots and trots fast."

A book by Thomas Blundell, published in 1907, has been dug up by an English paper which gives some of the author's suggestions about horses. In his introduction he says he seems to have written in this enlightened age, they are little worse than some modern practices. Here is his way of curing a balky or nervous horse: "Let a footman stand behind you with a shrewd cat tied at the end of a pole, with her belly upward, so that her mouth and claws be at liberty. When your horse diths or goes backward let him thrust the cat between his thighs. . . . Let the footman and the standers-by threaten the horse with a terrible noise, and you shall see it shall make him go."

Also the shrill cry of a hedgehog, being straitened by the foot under the horse's tail, is a reminder of like force, which was proved by Master Vincentio Ruffino, a Neapolitan, who corrected by this means an old, restive horse of the king's." But Blundell did not think this was good every-day practice, for he says further: "The wales rehearsed are not to be commended; but only in time of need, and then with good discretion; for otherwise you should be amazed your horse and drive him to despair, for he shall never understand your means."

Please give notice to feed colts in addition to their mother's milk. They are very keen on a good pasture of clover and orchard grass. All feeds are available except skim-milk. I should like the best ration you can give as I do not object to a small extra cost.—H. K. Coolwell, Va. Fred Stewart replies as follows in Country Gentleman: H. K. must teach his colts to eat such food as will assist in growing the bone, muscle and tendons, and this is not done when one has sweet skim-milk in which to mix the extra food. Bran is one of the best foods to grow good muscle and sound, springy bones. If H. K. would have assisted in determining the best additional feed, he may induce his colts to eat a little bran

with a few oats mixed in, which is easily done if the colts are two or three months old. He will also eat a little flaxseed jelly, made by boiling flaxseed 15 or 20 minutes in eight times its bulk of water, to assist materially in the growth of the colts. When the colts learn to eat the flaxseed jelly it usually becomes fond of it. He might begin by taking a handful of bran and a handful of oats and mixing two tablespoonfuls of the flaxseed jelly with it and giving the colts to eat this once per day at first, and then after a week or ten days giving this amount twice a day. Perhaps it would be as well to teach the colts first, to take the bran and oats, then add the jelly. If this plan is skillfully carried out, increasing the food as the colts increase in size, K. will be much pleased with the even and rapid growth of his colts. The flaxseed jelly should not be omitted, as it will materially assist in keeping the digestive organs in a healthy condition, and in giving a fine development to the whole form.

VOICES OF THE PEOPLE.

A Substitute for Hay.

The continued dry weather of the present season has been of such a character as to create apprehension in the minds of the farmers in reference to food supplies for the coming winter. In some sections the spring grain has not come up regularly, and in nearly all localities there is likely to be a shortage in the hay crop. While the hay crop may be fairly good where local waters have fallen, in other sections where gravel subsoils come near the surface it will scarcely be worth harvesting. In view of this shortage in what is probably the most valuable crop of the country, every reasonable effort should be made to grow some substitute that will to some extent take the place of hay. There are only two or three ways left to us of meeting the difficulty now. It is too late to grow corn for the silo, or even for green feed in best form, although if put in at once it might yet answer for the latter purpose.

Three things may yet be done which will prove helpful if rains come. Our clover meadows may be cut early, and we can grow millet and rape. If clover meadows are cut early we have still a chance of a second crop, which may be cut for silage or for hay. The first crop, of course, can only be done where the common red clover is grown.

Millet furnishes an excellent substitute for hay, as may be seen from the very well known, and it may be sown any time this month. It will furnish from one to three tons of fodder, as valuable ton for ton for feeding purposes as good hay when it is cut at the right time and properly cured. It is an excellent food for milk cows. There are several varieties, as common millet, Hungarian millet, German millet, Italian golden millet, and the Golden Wonder millet. The common millet and Hungarian grass are best known in this country, and are probably as good as any, although the Golden Wonder millet is well spoken of in the United States.

Millet will grow on a great variety of soils, it is best adapted to heavy clay and rich loams. It is least adapted to light sands and gravels. It will not germinate well in lumpy soils. As it is a shallow feeding plant, thorough pulverization of the soil is necessary in preparing a seed bed. It should be cut when fully headed out and cured after the methods adopted in curing clover. If cured by the sunlight while it is green and the mow left in the color faded, and its feeding value is much impaired. It should therefore be cut in the rack after it has become thoroughly ripened. It becomes woody and its feeding value is much impaired. It is a plant that flourishes best in warm weather and is easily injured by frost. It is best sown in the spring, and is best sown on up to the end of June, and even later to cut for green fodder. It has not been much used for this purpose in this country, but has proved of much service in preparing fodder in autumn in the New England States.

These dry seasons which keep coming occasionally remind us of the importance of growing a variety of crops. Those who have a good crop of rye to cut as a substitute for hay need not have so much concern. On this farm we have 40 acres of rye. We have been looking it since about the first of the month for the stock, and have some twenty acres of it standing in the shock to be used as winter fodder. The remaining portion will be put in the silo. The ground on which it grows is now being plowed for rape. We have thus secured a crop which, this year, is more valuable acre for acre than hay. We expect to get a crop of rape, as in the case of more value for feeding than the rye, will thoroughly clean the ground at the same time, and it will be left in a good condition for growing corn the following year.

Of course, many of our farmers know all about the subjects of which this letter treats, but sometimes there is no harm in being reminded of what we already know. Yours, etc.,
THOS. SHAW,
Ontario Agricultural College, Guelph, June 16, 1891.

Ministers' Assessments.
To the Editor of the ADVERTISER:
Permit me to call attention to a manifest injustice in the recent assessment of ministers' salaries in this city, in accordance with an act passed by the Ontario Legislature. Ministers are now taxed as any other men, both for their salaries and the houses in which they live. But the assessors of London in carrying out this law for the first time have done so very unequally and unjustly. The following salaries will amount to \$200; he is assessed for \$1,000 and a free house, the yearly rental of which is about \$200; he is assessed on income for \$1,000, and therefore pays taxes only on \$800. The other minister receives from his congregation a salary of \$1,200, out of which he pays his own taxes, and, as he is assessed \$200, he is assessed for \$1,200 and pays taxes on the entire sum. In other words, the latter has precisely the same income as the former, but is required to pay twice as much in income taxes.

I understand, too, that in every case where the congregation provides a house—sometimes furnished—for their ministers

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S. B. ALLAN

DEAR SIR—

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Mrs. B. MITCHELL.

the assessors have not considered the estimated annual rental as a part of his income, and that on the other hand it has been so regarded in every case where the minister pays his own rent. It is confessedly in the power of the assessors to add the house rent. Since they have not done so the only remaining reasons are that they are incapable, or indolent, or purposely partial. I am most willing to pay my full share towards the revenue of the city, but I am not willing to do so while others of whom the majority have larger salaries than I am permitted to escape from paying their just dues by the fiction that a certain part of their income does not pass through their hands.

MINISTER.

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