



It Welcomes Practical Progressive Ideas

FARM AND DAIRY

& RURAL HOME

The Recognized Exponent of Dairying in Canada



Trade increases the wealth and glory of a country; but its real strength and stamina are to be looked for among the cultivators of the land.—Lord Chatham

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Making Life Easier for the Greatest Woman in History

"WHO is the greatest woman in all history?" This question was answered by each of a gathering of 200 school teachers. The answer selected as the best should receive an enthusiastic reception from all of us who till the soil for a livelihood. It was:

"The wife of the farmer of moderate means who does her own cooking, washing, ironing, sewing, bringing up a family of boys and girls to be useful members of society and finds time for intellectual improvement—she is the greatest woman in all history."

The farmer's wife who accomplishes these feats—under average conditions—is certainly a great woman. She works with fewer conveniences than any other class of women in the community, and it is really wonderful what rural women have accomplished under almost distressing conditions. Perhaps the one greatest lack in the work-a-day life of our women folks has been a satisfactory water system. Some years ago I remember that Farm and Dairy canvassed a lot of its women readers as to the one household improvement they most desired. One maiden lady stated her preference as a model husband: Others desired a driving horse, a dumb waiter, a kitchen cabinet and so forth. The great majority, however, desired a running water system as the one thing lacking that might make house work a pleasure. Over in Missouri a still greater census was taken, covering hundreds of farmers' wives. They were asked to name its improvement that would aid them most, and 53 per cent. voted for a running water system. All of which is just a preliminary to a little story of our own experience.

Talking It Over.

It is some years now since I, a mere man, began to discuss moving back to the land with my wife. She was not enthusiastic. She knew too much about the country. She had been reared there. She remembered that at her own old home the water was carried from a spring that bubbled from the earth at the foot of the hill on which the house stood. It was beautifully clear, sparkling water, but it represented too much hard labor before it reached the house. There were other conveniences that made our city home seem very attractive in comparison with the farm home of which I dreamed at night and talked about by day. But the water supply evidently bulked most largely in her mind. In short, my good wife, while the best wife in the world, had no desire to also qualify as one of the world's greatest women as defined by the school teacher already mentioned. After much discussion, however, we did move to the farm. We have not yet been farming long enough nor is our bank account large enough to warrant us in installing all the conveniences that are possible in the city, but the greatest city convenience we already have—running water. I believe that this water system

By "A MERE MAN."

of ours, along with a perfectly satisfactory husband, of course, have done much to explain why my wife, when we had a chance to sell our farm a few days ago, objected even more strongly than I to accepting the offer of a city position in my old line of work that came along at the same



A Country Girl's Creed

"I AM glad I live in the country. I love its beauty and its spirit. I rejoice in the things I can do as a country girl for my home and my neighborhood.

"I believe I can share in the beauty around me, in the fragrance of the orchards in spring, in the bending wheat at harvest time, in the morning song of birds, and in the glow of the sunset on the far horizon. "I believe I can have a part in the courageous spirit of the country. This spirit has entered into the brook in our pasture. The stones placed in its way call forth its strength and add to its strength a song. It dwells in the tender plants as they burst the seed cases that imprison them and push through the dark earth to the light. With this courageous spirit I, too, can face the hard things of life with gladness.

"I believe there is much I can do in my country home. Through studying the best way to do my everyday work I can find joy in common tasks done well. Through loving comradeship I can help bring into my home the happiness and peace that are always so near us in God's out-of-door world. Through such a home I can help make real life to all who pass that way their highest ideal country life.

"I believe my love and loyalty for my country home should reach out in service to that larger home that we call our neighborhood. I would join with the people who live there in true friendliness. I would have all that I think and say and do help to unite country people near and far in the great Kingdom of Love for Neighbors which the Master came to establish—the Master who knew and cared for country ways and country folks."—Jessie Field.

time. She preferred to farm, she said—and said it very decidedly, too.

Our system is simplicity itself. It represents a minimum of outlay for the conveniences we enjoy. We started with the well. The well is a good one—a strong spring that shows signs of going dry only after the most prolonged drought. Recently, however, the wooden cribbing began to rot and pieces of rotten wood were pumped out with the water. Re-cribbing the well was out of the question; the expense would have been too great. We purchased large cement tile, the largest size that would fit inside the old cribbing and lowered them into the well, one on top of the other. The space between cribbing and tile we filled with clean gravel. An iron force pump, gotten for eight dollars at a wholesale supply house, forces the water to the house.

A New Place for the Water Barrel.

Our first plan was to have a galvanized supply tank in the attic. Such tanks, however, are expensive, and we are now getting equally good service from a big water barrel, the kind that are sold at farm sales for a few cents and can be bought from merchants, who have sold their original contents, for a dollar or two. This change in our plans saved us a few dollars that we invested in a portable bath-tub, a luxury we had decided to do without for another year or so. An overflow pipe runs to a stock watering trough in the barnyard. All the water pumped for the stock, therefore, goes through the tank in the house, keeping the household supply fresh and cold at all times. All of our piping is galvanized. Were we doing it over again we would save expense by having galvanized pipe only to the house and iron pipe to the barn. Galvanized piping is advisable in the first instance, as water running through a rusty pipe is apt to stain fine clothes in the washing.

Our home is of bungalow type, and the tank is, therefore, in the second story of the house. We placed it directly over the kitchen and immediately above the place where the hot water boiler was to stand beside the kitchen stove. The kitchen sink is just a couple of feet from the water boiler. This arrangement is most economical of pipe. The boiler, of course, is connected with a hot water front in our kitchen range. In the sink is hot and cold water on tap. Had the water in our well been excessively hard we would have installed a cistern in the basement and pumped the water into the tank in the attic, using rain water instead of well water in our running system.

City Conveniences in a Country Home.

In a little room just off the kitchen we have our bathroom. Its fittings consist of a portable bath-tub, white enameled, and a chemical closet. The flush closet, ordinarily found in the city home, consumes more water than all other con-