

## Joker's Corner

## HIS FIRST ORDER.

A Manchester firm lately received from another Manchester firm this letter:

"Dear Sir—Today we have given your Mr. X. an order, thanks to his colossal impudence. Where did you find him?"

Mr. X. had only just started on the road, and this was an order from a firm that all his predecessors had canvassed in vain. The head of Mr. X.'s firm called him in and questioned him about the charge of "colossal impudence."

"Well," the young traveller explained, "you told me to adapt myself to all manner of circumstances, and behave to possible customers, in their own way. In this case the head didn't look up for three minutes after I went in, and then he said, 'Well, what blood-sucking firm do you represent?' I gave him your card and said, 'These heavy-eyed vampires,' and it seemed to tickle him."

## A PROFESSOR'S JOKE

Professor Richards, of Yale, enjoys a joke, and his pupils often come to him when they have heard a new one.

Such was the case when one of the students said to him:

"Professor, wouldn't you like a good receipt for catching rabbits?"

"Why, yes," replied the professor, "What is it?"

"Well, you crouch down behind a thick stone wall and make a noise like a turnip."

Quick as a flash replied: "Oh, a better way would be for you to go and sit quietly in a bed of cabbage heads and look natural."

## FINE OPENING FOR A YOUNG MAN.

"Yes," said Mrs. Malone, to the old friend who was picking up the threads of family history, "my Bobby, he's travelling with a circus now."

"Pretty hard work, isn't it?" inquired the interested caller.

"Never a bit of it," returned the proud mother of Bobby. "He's living a gentleman, he is—hands in his pockets, as ye might say—for it's a handsome salary he gets, and every blessed thing he has to do is to lay his head in the lion's mouth a matter of some two or three times a day or thereabouts!"

## MIGHT NEED IT.

Farmer—Here's a letter from some city folks answering our ad., Miranda. They want to know if there's a bath in the house. What'll I tell 'em? His wife—Tell 'em the truth. Tell 'em if they need a bath, they'd better take it afore they come—Boston Transcript.

## HOW TO WARD OFF ATTACK OF CATERPILLARS

Principal Cumming, of Truro, in response to the Halifax Civic Improvement League's question regarding the manner in dealing with the Tussock caterpillar moth, replies as follows:—

"In order to ward off an attack for next year, the picking of the caterpillars from now on and the picking of the clusters of eggs which can be easily seen during the winter time, will prove the most effective means. We sprayed the trees around the provincial building some ten days ago, using for this purpose some three or four pounds of arsenate of lead to forty gallons of water.

Makes lighter, whiter, better flavored bread—produces more loaves to barrel.

PURITY FLOUR

## FLOWERS IN HISTORY.

## Some Costly Bouquets and Floral Wreaths—Queen Victoria's Rose.

It is stated that over \$250,000 was paid to Covent Garden alone for flowers to be made into wreaths for Queen Victoria's funeral. It is safe to say that this large sum has been more than doubled in the purchase of King, for many of the wreaths—like that of the Sultan of Zanzibar, which was 14 feet by 7 feet and contained over 500 chosen orchids, and that of the Emperor of Japan, which measured 5 1/2 feet in diameter—cost considerably over \$500 apiece.

Flowers have played an important part in the world's history.

In the national insignia see what a place they take—the rose standing for England, the thistle representing Scotland, and the shamrock Ireland. For a flower the late Count de Chambord lost France. There came a "King Henry. But he must accept, with the sceptre and the gilded chair, the tri-colored flag. Another man would have taken the bauble and the seat, the crown and all its troubles; but Henri Cinq was not that sort of pretender. "Either I have the lilies and the white flag, or I reach an exile," he said, and with this he crushed all the hopes of the Bourbons.

It was with a white rose that Queen Victoria wooed and won Prince Albert. "I gave him a flower," she writes in her diary. "It was a white rose. As the monarch of a great country, she could receive no proposal from a prince of a small state, and till she gave him the rose he could not aspire to her hand. With what feelings he received it is told in the story of his life."

Flowers have played a great part in politics. There were the Wars of the Roses—red and white, and Lord Beaconsfield's flower, the primrose, has a million devotees to-day in England.

A light took place not many years ago over an artificial forget-me-not. A gentleman sent it to a damsel whom he knew, and it fell into the hands of the elder brother of the lady.

There was nothing in the letter that contained the flower to indicate why it was forwarded, not a word of all the epistles alluded to it, but the brother challenged the sender, and fired at the same moment, both fell dead, and to this day no one knows why the artificial forget-me-not was sent.

## The First Aviator.

Was Harold the last of the Saxon Kings, our first aviator? This is a point seriously maintained by ancient biographers of the Saxon King who perished in the Battle of Hastings.

In the course of an article in The Windsor Magazine a writer recalls a tradition which cannot of course be either disputed or disproved to-day, but was of sufficient interest to be re-

lated even by the poet Milton, in his "History of the Anglo-Saxons," where the poet-historian says: "Harold was, in his youth, strangely aspiring had made and fitted wings to his hands and feet; with these on the top of a tower, spread out to gather air, he flew more than a furlong; but the wind being too high, came fluttering down, to the maiming of all his limbs, yet so conceited of his art, that he attributed the cause of his fall to the want of a tail, as birds have, which he forgot to make to his hinder end."

This story, though seeming otherwise too light in the midst of a sad narration, yet for the strangeness thereof, I thought worthy enough the placing."

An Extraordinary Shower.

Daniel O'Connell, the Irish agitator, once complained in the House of Commons of a report of a speech in a London newspaper, which, he said, put into his mouth opinions he had never expressed. He vowed that if the editor did not apologize he would move that he be brought to the bar on a breach of privilege. Next day the reporter of the speech waited upon O'Connell and gave a most remarkable explanation. He stated that during his walk from the House to his office in Fleet street the rain streamed into his pockets and obliterated the notes of his speech.

"I accept the explanation," said O'Connell good humoredly, "but let me say that it must have been a very extraordinary shower of rain, for the speech I delivered, but washed in another of an entirely different character."

Kangaroos.

Kangaroos use their hands very readily to hold food in and to put it to their mouths. As their fore legs are so short that they have to browse in a stooping position, they seem pleased when able to secure a large bunch of cabbage or other vegetable provender and to hold it in their hands to eat. Sometimes the young kangaroo, looking out of the pouch, catches one or two of the leaves which the old one drops, and the pair may be seen each nibbling at the salad held in their hands, one, so to speak, "one floor" above the other.

Survival of a Custom.

On gateposts you will frequently find a stone ball. Who would ever suppose that the balls on the gateposts were the heads of family enemies? It was once the custom to stick your enemy's gory head as a trophy on the gatepost. On the gates of towns were stuck the heads of traitorous persons. In old London, for instance, the bridge gate and Temple Bar were always decorated with ghastly relics of the kind, and the memory of the custom survives on the gateposts of modern suburban villas.

Church Becomes Theatre.

A number of workmen are transforming an old building in Prad street, Paddington, London, into a "luxurious cinematograph theatre," as the notice-board has it. The transformation is of somewhat unusual interest, notwithstanding the number of jettisoned chapels that have shared a similar fate. The building is the chapel where Dr. Clifford first commenced his ministrations.

Keep Minard's Liniment in the house

MINARD'S LINIMENT Cures Burns.

## EXERCISE CARE IN SELECTING BOAR.

The selection of the boar is very important, and it is the opinion of the writer that some farmers do not have as much success as they should and could have in raising hogs simply because they do not exercise the care necessary in selecting the male to be used in their herds.

The boar should be selected with greater care than the sows, for his influence equals the combined influence of all the sows of the herd. A pig of high quality will have a disastrous outcome. The one method raises the standard of the herd; the other invariably lowers it.

A boar with male characteristics strongly developed should be selected, preferably as a yearling or else as a pig that has been purchased at the same time as the sows and allowed to come to maturity before being used.

He should have a well erected neck and a strong muscular head. His shoulders should be developed according to his size. However, strong should be developed in the hindquarters, and development in the front of the body should be in proportion to the hindquarters.

The boar should be selected to correct any defects that may be common to the sows. For example, if the sows are rather coarse in bone and loosely built the boar should have high quality and fine bones, skin and hair. If

the sows tend toward overindulgence and delicacy the boar should be rather rangy and strong bodied.

The same indications of a good pork producing carcass that the sows require should be seen in the boar—a broad, straight, deeply fleshed back, much depth and length of sides and well developed hind quarters. The visible organs of the reproductive system should be well developed and clearly defined.

The boar should stand upon his toes, and there should not be the slightest indication of weakness in the pasterns of the young ones. In a matured boar (two or three years of age) that has seen and exercised it may be expected that he will be a little down on his pasterns, but a six or eight months old pig that does not carry himself on upright pasterns is not a safe animal to select for a herd boar.

Horse Notes.

The best customers want horses that have style, good appearance, that stand up, that are bright, sleek and attractive.

The door of the hayloft should be seed and dust tight. Horses are often injured by seeds and dirt falling into their ears and eyes.

There is no kind of animal breeding that will pay better than the breeding of horses, but horses that will sell, not dunglike or mischievous.

Boiling of food causes indigestion and consequently loss of health. Guard against irregular feeding. It tends to make horses hot and tired.

The hay usually given to horses to supplement the pasture is of very poor quality, either woody or moldy, and this results in a considerable loss.

Be Clean About the Dairy.

According to a successful dairyman, the presence of dirt in milk indicates careless and uncleanly methods in production and handling. Another common defect is off flavored milk, which may be due to a variety of causes, such as turning, fat, etc.; second, to feeding certain feeds to excess, as, for example, silage; third, to odors of silage or manure in the stable; fourth, to particles of manure and dirt getting into the milk, and, fifth, to not properly rinsing the bottles after using washing powders. Dairywomen, as a rule, have been quick to see these defects when pointed out and to appreciate the importance from a business standpoint of producing milk as nearly perfect as possible.

Keeping the Best Hares.

Good, big drafts seem to attract the most attention, and yet the perfect draft horse is hard to find in the average rural community. Extra fine young horses are picked up at good prices by buyers who want such stuff, and the farmer gets along with less valuable animals. That is all right for geldings, but the best young mares ought to remain on the farm.

Selecting the Cow.

Points to selecting a cow: If you are buying a cow, look for a long udder, longiness of her body, very elastic, as this invariably means milk; a soft skin, large, rosy digestive organs, with broad ribs wide apart.

Ask for MINARD'S and take no other

## RATIONS FOR THE CALF.

Feeding the Youngsters Too Early May Prove Injurious.

It is well to leave the calf by itself for at least twelve hours and, in case the calf has run with its mother for several days, possibly twenty-four hours. Attempts to feed the calf earlier than this usually do the calf no good and may injure the feeder's temper. Such is the opinion of an authority on dairy matters. If the calf's muzzle is held in the milk and its mouth pried open once so that it tastes the milk it will drink without the feeder being obliged to place his hand in the milk and allow the calf to suck his finger.

The calf is unable to handle hay or grain until it is a week or ten days old. During this period it is not wise to try to feed skim milk. At first the whole milk should be fed three times a day—four pounds in the morning, two pounds at noon and four pounds at night at blood temperature.

In about a week or ten days the calf can be fed twice daily. During this time the allowance of whole milk can be gradually increased to about twenty pounds. This amount depends somewhat on its ability to handle increased quantities.

The stomach of the young calf is very delicate, and all changes should be made gradually. When about two weeks the calf, if it is vigorous, can be gradually changed to skim milk. During the first day decrease the amount of whole milk one pound and add one pound of skim milk, and so on each day until the change is complete. Previous to this the calf should have a little grain (corn or Kaffir corn meal or a little mixture of both) placed in its mouth immediately after drinking its milk. In this way it gets a taste of the grain and will soon go to the feed boxes and eat with a relish.

After the change to skim milk is complete the amount may be gradually increased as fast as the calf is able to consume it without scouring. Care must be taken not to increase too rapidly. The calf is a greedy animal and will appear more hungry after drinking its milk than before, and if given too much it will soon be on the sick list. The milk fed should be weighed or measured at each feeding. Our experience has been that a calf three to five weeks of age can be fed from ten to twelve pounds daily, from seven to eight weeks old fourteen to sixteen pounds, and when three to five months of age can be fed eighteen to twenty pounds of milk. The milk should always be fed warm and sweet.

FOR CHURNING RESULTS.

Close Attention Always Necessary to Realize the Best.

There can be no definite rule laid down as to the temperature at which the cream should be churned, as different creams require different temperatures. The fat is in the form of microscopic globules, and they must have a certain degree of softness at they are to unite.

When the cream enters the churn that is properly ripened and contains 20 to 30 per cent fat the temperature should be such that the cream will churn in thirty to forty-five minutes. This will give an exhaustive churning and leave the butter in a condition in which it can be easily handled without injuring the texture.

Before putting the cream in the churn the churn should be thoroughly scalded and as thoroughly chilled with cold water. The advantage of this is that it will freshen the churn and fill the pores in the wood, so that the cream and butter will not stick to it.

The outside temperature of the churning room should be as nearly as possible the same as the churning temperature. If it is warm the cream will warm up rapidly and the butter will likely be soft and will require more washing to remove the buttermilk.

It is useless to lower the cream rapidly to the churning point just before churning. It should be there at least two hours before churning. The reason for this is that fat is a slow conductor of the heat, and, although the cream has cooled and the thermometer reads the right temperature, the fat has not actually reached it, and the results would be the same as if churned at an actually higher degree.

THE HORSEMAN

Don't Whip or Jerk the Horse.

It is a shame to whip or jerk a skittish horse that has shied or been frightened by an unusual obstacle. Soothe him rather than try to unnerve him.

Wash For Horse Lice.

For lice on horses take half a pint of kerosene in two gallons of water and wash the horse with this twice, with an interval of two or three days between the applications.

Ruining a Spirited Animal.

A spirited horse who in the end he made slow and spiritless by constant nagging, twitching of lines, peevish urging and other wearing processes that fretted and drove him mad.

Excellence of Hay.

A colt or horse will live and develop on good hay alone, but he will thrive better upon a two-thirds ration of hay and the rest straw. A ration of oats given with these will be all the better.

Rolling Scorching Horses.

After a hard day's work in the field the horses will enjoy a few moments to roll in the yard about the straw pile. Your horses will scratch themselves more in five minutes by rolling than you can do with a currycomb in thirty minutes.

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