

AGRICULTURAL.

Preparing for Spring.

CARE OF LIVE STOCK.

Caring for live stock is the first duty of most farmers at this season, it being important to keep domestic animals in such good health that they will enter spring in a thrifty condition. There should be no neglect in either stable, stall, or yard; and those who have failed to keep their animals clean, warm, and well fed will need to take special pains to carry them through the winter.

Liberal feeding, warmth, and good care are essential factors in wintering stock. Provide ample protection from inclement weather and good conveniences for feeding and watering.

Horses need daily exercise, and blanketing when left standing in the cold. Steady work in winter will not injure a horse, provided he be well fed, groomed, and kept from undue exposure. When confined in close, warm stables, horses become tender and subject to colds, etc.; hence the necessity of ventilation.

Cows due to come in early should have good shelter and a diet of dry hay, with a little bran, but no heating food (like corn or meal) for a few weeks before calving. As the calves are dropped select the best heifers for raising. All lice infested animals should be rubbed over with a mixture of equal parts of sweet oil and kerosene.

Sheep need an abundant supply of wholesome food plenty of pure air, a dry yard, and comfortable sleeping quarters. Provide warm stables for ewes near lambing time and give them roots rather than grain. Remember that early lambs (as well as calves) are profitable, and see that none are lost or stunted for lack of timely care.

Swine profits depend largely upon breeding and feeding—so see that both these factors are right. Care well for breeding sows and give them space for exercise. See that store pigs are well housed and fed; light and frequent meals best secure thrifty growth.

Poultry pays best when given the best attention. Look well after the fowls now, for eggs and broilers will soon bring good prices. If you wish an abundant supply of eggs, keep the hens in warm, dry coops, give them plenty of both green and dry food, lime, gravel, and pure water.

SEEDS AND FERTILIZERS.

Good seeds are essential requisites to successful farming and gardening, as our fertilizers in most localities, and both ought to be obtained or arranged for this month. The aim should be to procure the very best of seeds—pure in quality, genuine as to variety and adapted to soil and climate. When seed is procured from a distance it is advisable to select carefully from the lists of reputable dealers. If a change in variety is desired make it cautiously, giving preference to well tested and approved kinds over highly lauded but uncertain novelties.

A good fertilizer is often needed to make even the best of seeds produce well, and those wanting other than stable or barnyard manure should now arrange for a supply; or, what will be cheaper, purchase the materials and mix them according to some reliable formula—thus being sure of genuine fertilizer, and avoiding any deception on the part of manufacturers or dealers. It is needless to add that February is usually a favorable season for hauling muck, plaster, etc., or to urge that the matter should receive the attention of all soil cultivators who require such factors of fertility.

FARM HANDS.

The birthing of farm help for the season is now in order and merits thoughtful attention. The aim should be to secure not only industrious and skillful men, but such as are of good habits, and known to be trustworthy. This rare combination of qualities may be difficult to find, but should be sought. Whether he needs one or several men, the farmer who has a family cannot be too particular as to the moral character of whoever he employs. The better way is to ascertain fully as to the habits and antecedents of each man before engaging him, and hence it is well to commence looking for help early in the season. Some farmers never hire an assistant without an investigation, except in an emergency—such as being short handed in harvest—and hence usually retain help that is competent and trustworthy. Such a course is wise, and worthy of imitation by all desiring the services of men who are alike efficient and trustworthy.

TEAMS AND TOOLS.

Good teams and the most approved implements are essential factors in farming, and both should be provided before the busy season opens. No farmer worthy of the name will begin his spring work with weak, crooked teams or old style, shakily made machinery. Therefore let working animals be put in good condition for the heavy labor they will soon be required to perform, and all farm machinery be prepared for use when wanted. Now, also, is the time to purchase or engage such new tools and implements as may be needed. Farmers who give these matters timely attention will be likely to make progress in the right direction.

SHORT-STOP SUGGESTIONS.

Close up the winter's work at the end of February or early in March. "Gather in" your share of the ice crop. Plan and prepare for plowing and planting. Engage sober and trusty farm help. Dot down data of daily doings. Investigate new modes of culture. Raise no scrub animals this year. Look well after the lambs and calves. Use plenty of litter in stables and sheds. The mother-hen is the best incubator, unless you know how to run the other kind. "Get the best" seeds, plants, and trees. Have your obtained catalogues and selected what you need? Let amateurs try high-priced and highly praised novelties. Use no inferior seeds or fertilizers. In purchasing deal with principals rather than agents. Resolve to be a reading, thinking, progressive farmer. Get and study good rural text-books. Miss no meeting where agricultural topics are discussed. Much rural gospel may be heard at sessions of farmers' clubs and institutes. Don't be a chronic croucher, but work cheerfully and hopefully. Pluck wins while luck is unreliable.

Early Lambs.

Prior to this time the ewes should have been provided with dry airy sheds with abundance of exercise, and with a variety of plain coarse foods, interspersed with a minimum of grain. Having had such treatment as this they are now in a strong, lusty condition and on the eve of a successful lambing season. As this time approaches there should be provided in a separate building or in one end of the sheep shed a warm, comfortable room divided into several little pens four feet square or larger, in each one of which there should be room for one ewe and her lamb or lambs.

In this apartment the early lambing ewes should be placed a few days before they may have quite comfortable surroundings and a warm reception room for the little newcomers. Such quarters as these can be very cheaply

and easily made in any common barn or cattle shed by simply fitting out on the inside of the studding with any kind of old boards and filling the space thus made with chaff or sawdust. A few poles may be stretched across overhead with some straw or corn-stalks running upon them to aid in keeping the apartment warm. Care should be taken to see that on the southern or eastern side of the shed two or three good sized windows should be placed in order to let in plenty of warm sunlight.

This suggestion is for the benefit of those who may not be able or do not care to go to the expense of furnishing an expensive building with artificial heat for the lambing rooms. In fact the above described is about the only sort that is in use at present at Woodside, and it is found sufficiently warm and comfortable for any lambs that are dropped naturally strong. At times it may be found necessary to take some weakly lamb into the kitchen and warm it by the stove and stimulate it with a little toddy before placing it again with its dam.

In these quarters lambs should be allowed to remain until they are past a week old and have accumulated considerable flesh and strength. They can then be removed to another portion of the shed not quite so securely inclosed, and where they will receive more exercise. It is a very bad plan to keep these young lambs confined too closely on the start; they will take too much food in proportion to the amount of exercise, and it will develop the same unhealthy tendencies that are too noticeable among young pigs when too closely confined to the pens early in the spring.

A very convenient and effective way for inducing young lambs to take exercise when closely confined to the barns by inclement weather is to stick up two or three planks or boards, one end of the plank resting on the ground and the other on the top of the hay-rack or any convenient point of support so that the lambs can take a run up and down the planks. It will only be necessary to place the planks in the lamb's way and stand what they are for inside of twenty minutes.

Some Odd Notes.

"What makes 'off years' in fruit bearing?" asks a correspondent of the Vermont State Journal. "The trees are starved to death, that's more than half that makes 'off years,'" he answers.

The French have a system of fattening fowls that produces poultry superior in quality to that found, as a rule, in any other country. There is a practice of mixing with the ration certain spices and herbs that give a most delicious flavor to the flesh. That highly flavored foods impart some of their agreeable qualities to flesh is shown in the case of such of our own game birds as feed upon wild celery.

Many a wonderful cow passes her whole life without her owner knowing what prize she has, simply because he has never tested her capacity. Two cows with the same amount of feed may give the same amount of dairy product, when if you increase the feed, one will respond by an increased product, while the other will not. The one has reached her limit, while the other has not, and the carcass feeder will continually be throwing away his feed on a cow of small natural capacity. It is not necessary or perhaps profitable to feed continually to the highest limit of the cow, but each cow in the herd should be known by actual test.

An old very observant farmer once told me that he had a bushel of potatoes when the seed cost \$1 a bushel in the spring; that they would be very cheap in the autumn. He had found this to be practically true. When potatoes are very high-priced in the spring many get very enthusiastic about potatoes; an unusually large area is prepared, and prepared unusually well, and the price is given extra good cultivation; the result is that there is a very large crop, potatoes are very cheap, and the next spring no one wants to raise potatoes at such prices. Result: Few planted, a short crop, and high prices. These fluctuations are scarcely, if any, less marked in some other crops. If you had an unusually good yield of wheat this year, the result would be a fair price. The result was that many farmers were anxious to sow an unusually large area of wheat, and would have done so had not the drought prevented them. This, the chances are, was really fortunate; for if all the bread wheat had been put in wheat, a good yield would have been of course, but equally unprofitable. It was well that the drought enforced conservatism at wheat sowing time.

M. Girard, a French gentleman, believes that with good cultivation and suitable manures all soils can be fitted for the cultivation of the potato, but he nevertheless lays considerable stress on the necessity of taking into account the natural fertility. On the preparation of the soil he sums up the question by saying that intensive cultivation of potatoes cannot be followed except by deep cultivation, and he recommended the soil to be worked to a depth of 14 inches at least. One foot between the plants is given as about the proper distance along the rows. Early planting is important.

The Strange Freak of a young Lady. Shortly before nine o'clock on Friday night Mr. Bridger, of the Great Western Railway Gloucester (Eng.) received a wire from Mr. Evanson, handed in at Shrewsbury, to the effect that his sister, the young lady who had been missing in a railway carriage near Gloucester, and dressed in a boy's suit, was safe. After a fruitless journey to Monmouth on Thursday night, Mr. Evanson, it seems, went on to Hereford, where, after inquiries, he discovered that she had slept there on Wednesday night. The landlady of the coffee tavern where she stayed was quite certain as to her identity, although the young lady was attired in boy's clothing, which the police have found had been purchased at Gloucester early on Wednesday afternoon, Miss Evanson remarking at the time that she required them for charity. She also visited a local hair-dresser and quite astonished the man by demanding that her hair should be cut short. On being remonstrated with, she replied that her hair was bad, and that a Reading lady had advised her to have her hair cut. After she had spent the night in Hereford, her brother ascertained that she had booked to Shrewsbury, evidently with the idea of reaching Liverpool. Since a child, it appears, she had been imbedded with the idea of going to sea, and some years ago she attended a similar freak to that which she has just practised.

The Wrong Class.

"Do I have to stick this stamp on myself?" asked a dude of the clerk at the Post Office.

"Oh, no," replied the clerk. "You couldn't go in the mail bags, and besides, that is a letter stamp, and you are not first-class male matter."

Mix blacking with soapuds for ordinary iron.

QUEER FACTS ABOUT RATS.

Their Wonderful Tails—Their Fine Judgment as to Every—Rats with Trumpets.

A rat's tail is a wonderful thing. The great naturalist, Cuvier, says that there are more muscles in this curious appendage than are to be found in that part of the human anatomy which is most admired for its ingenious structure—namely, the hand. To the rat, in fact, its tail serves as a sort of hand, by means of which, the animal is enabled to crawl along narrow ledges, using it to balance with or gain a hold. It is precisely like the tails of some monkeys. By means of it the little beast can jump up heights otherwise inaccessible, employing it as a projectile spring.

It has often been said that the glove-makers of Paris make use in their trade of the skins of rats that are caught in the sewers, but this has been denied. Certainly the material would not be strong enough successfully to counterfeit the kid, unless it were for thumb part only, which is generally of a thinner and different kind of leather from the rest.

Suggestion has been made that a trade might be opened with the Chinese for the skins of the rats which they eat. A thrifty Welshman at one time exhibited himself publicly in England attired in a costume composed from top to toe of rat skins, which he had spent three years and a half in collecting. The dress was made entirely by himself. It consisted of hat, neckerchief, coat, waistcoat, trousers, tippet, gaiters, and shoes. The number of rats required to complete the suit was 970. Most curious of the garments was the tippet, composed entirely of rat tails.

At one time a batch of several thousand rat skins was imported from France into England for manufacturing purposes, but they were found too small and too fine in texture to be of any use.

Dr. Buckland says that many of the elephants' tusks brought to London for the use of workers in ivory are observed to have their surfaces grooved into small furrows of unequal depth, as though cut out by a very sharp-edged instrument. This is done by rats, which are fond of the gelatine or animal glue in the substance. By preference those complete the suit or rats required to complete the suit was 970. Most curious of the garments was the tippet, composed entirely of rat tails.

Curiously enough the trade, while giving this much recognition to the rats' work, has not experienced in catching them. They can be taught many tricks. Among other things it is possible to make them learn how to beg, to jump through a hoop, to drag a little cart in harness, and to carry sticks or money.

Rats have never found favor as a delicacy for the table in Europe or in this country, but in many lands they are relished as an article of diet. The negro slaves in Jamaica, for instance, regard them as a dainty, their masters not providing them with any other meat. Their method of cooking them is to roast some rodents was to impale each one on a long wooden skewer, after cleaning the animal and cutting off the tail, turning it briskly round over the fire until the hair was all scorched off. Then it was scraped until it was free from fur, and finally the end of the skewer was stuck in the rat's mouth, and toward the fire until it was toasted dry and crisp, thus being made ready for the meal.

Rats may commonly be seen for sale in the markets of any Chinese town, split and pressed under a heavy weight, so as to look somewhat like dried fish. In this shape the pickled Oriental buys them, soaks them in water, and then boils, roasts, or fries them.

When the French zouaves were first in Africa a new sort of rat made its appearance there. It was called the "trumpet rat," having a long proboscis. The sale of a specimen by one of the soldiers to an enthusiastic naturalist gave rise to an action at law. The plaintiff claimed the rat as his property. The defendant pleaded that it was a trumpet rat. The judge, however, decided in favor of the plaintiff in court.

"This Zouave," he exclaimed me out of 100 francs. He knows that I am much interested in natural sciences. I have collected a few fossils, of shells, of rare animals, of curious plants. One day he called upon me and said: 'Sir, I have a kind of animal which has never been mentioned by any naturalist. It is a trumpet rat, and has a trunk like an elephant's. It is alive and well; if you wish to see it you have only to come to my house.'

"I was very anxious to behold this strange animal. We arrived at his house, and he showed me in a cage an enormous rat, very lively and in good condition, which really had on its nose a slender excrement more than an inch in length. The excrement was covered with hair like the body of the animal, with vertebrae in it, and most extraordinary thing larger at the mouth than at the base—the contrary to what it ought to be in the usual course of things. To convince myself that it was not a dupe and a mystification I stuck a pin into the animal. The animal cried out, and a drop of blood came from the pin. The experiment was conclusive. It was really a trumpet, forming part of the rat.

"I was amazed. I asked this man if he would sell his rat. He said yes, and I paid 50 francs for it. My friends and servants all admired it, and I was enchanted. My rat was a male, some one said to me that I ought to procure a female. I asked the man if he could procure me a female and he said he had two. I saw them and bought one of them 50 francs. Some months after the female had young. I looked at them and they had no trumpets. I said to myself, 'they will sprout.' I waited one month, two months, six months. Every day I looked at the noses of the rats, but the trumpets never appeared.

"In a house where I go frequently I made the acquaintance of an officer who had served a long time in Africa. I told him about my trumpet rats, and he laughed as though his sides would split. When he was calm again he told me that the trumpet was not a freak of nature, but an invention due to the leisure moments of the zouaves. This is how they make them.

"You take two rats and fasten their paws to a board, the nose of one close to the tail of the other. Then with a penknife or a lancet you make an incision into the nose of the rat which is hindmost and graft the tail of the first into the nose; you tie firmly the muscles of the tail and you leave the two rats in this position for forty-eight hours. At the end of that time the union has taken place and the rats are grown together; then you cut off the tail of the rat which is in the front to the required length and let them go, but still keep the other fastened to the board, with his head loose, and give him something to eat. At the end of a fortnight the wound is perfectly healed, and the eye of the curious investigator would not see a trace of the grafting.

This is the way the zouaves make rats with trumpets.

On the part of the defendant it was urged that he had certainly made up the rat as stated, but he affirmed that he had not sold them to the plaintiff as having been "born" with trumpets. Verdict for the zouave.

Rats cause great annoyance on board of ships. Dr. Kane said that if asked what, after darkness, cold, and scurvy, were the three besetting curses of his arctic sojourn, he would say rats, rats, rats. Nevertheless, when in distress for other food, he was very glad to eat the pests. He writes:

"Through the long winter nights Hans used to beguile his lonely hours by shooting rats with bow and arrow. The repugnance of my associates to share with me this table luxury gave me frequent advantage of fresh meat, which contributed no doubt to my comparative immunity from scurvy."

Again he writes: "Our diet will be only a stock of meatbiscuit, to which I shall add for myself a few rats chopped up and frozen into tallow balls."

Bookkeeping for Farmers.

If a farmer wishes to keep books only sufficient to show which way he is annually drifting, he can do it with very little book-keeping. Just let him keep track of what he owes and what others owe him. At the opening of the year let him take an inventory of his possessions. Place these items of property with amount of cash on hand and all sums due him on one side of the page, and place all he owes on the other side. Strike a balance, and the difference will show how much he is worth. Let him do the same thing at the close of the year. A comparison of the two balance items will show how much he has lost or gained.

The yearly balance-sheet alone will give that much information, and its annual story is of the greatest importance to those concerned; yet it can not answer the question "Does farming pay?" with any satisfactory degree of accuracy. For instance, a man may run a business which does not fairly pay, and yet through great economy, over-exertion, and various sacrifices crowd himself a little ahead every year. On the other hand it very frequently occurs that the one with a well-paying business, through extravagant expenditures, outside losses, accidents, much sickness in family, or an accident, may lose all his property, and be left with a very small sum.

In order to determine just how well the farm pays one must keep a book of purely farm accounts. It may be done in a single book for that matter, but if must contain all the purchases and all the sales, whether cash or credit. Begin with the debtor page and write down the value of farm, stock, hay, grain, implements, etc. As the year advances place all the farm expenditures on this page. On the credit page place all the incomes from the farm during the year. At the close of the year take an inventory and place on the credit page the newly estimated value of farm, stock, implements, etc. Now subtract the expenses from the sums of these items, and the difference between the debit and credit columns will give a full and strictly reliable result showing the profit or loss for the year. Here will be a result for which the farm or its management must stand responsible.

It is an excellent plan to keep an account of household and miscellaneous expenditures, but I would keep such an account in a separate book—on different pages—and not mix them with the farm accounts. They can then tell their story, annually, or as often as you consult them, and their presence in the book will add much to its value.

Mr. Dunham says that the glass of beer and other foolish expenditures must go on the book, and I heartily agree with him. Only do not protest against their being placed among the farm items, there to cancel their cost value of pure, clean, God-given products from nature's bosom. Let the beer bill have its own column, by all means, and write the figures plain and clean. It alone might solve the problem for an occasional farmer and show wherein his farming apparently fails to pay.

The Necessity of Obedience. "When we refuse to obey a command we refuse to do what the Lord himself commands. We are to act rightly because Jesus commands us, and we love to do his pleasure; there can be no friendship without this. Oh for grace to serve the Lord with gladness. To close this first point, it appears that our Lord would have us obey him out of a friendly spirit. Obedience to Christ as if we were forced to do it under pain and penalties would be of no worth as a proof of friendship; every one can see that. He speaks not of slaves, but of friends; he would not have us perform duties from fear of punishment or love of reward; that which he can accept of his friends must be the fruit of love. His will must be our law because his person is our delight. Some professors need to be whipped to their duty; they must hear stirring sermons, attend exciting meetings, and live under pressure; but those who are Christ's friends need no spur but love. 'The love of Christ constraineth us.' When duty becomes delight and precepts are as sweet as promises, then are we Christ's friends, and not till then."—(Rev. Charles Spurgeon.)

Spends One day in Bed. A famous English beauty, Lady Londonderry, has a peculiar and successfully system for keeping her youthful freshness. Although she is perfectly well she lies in bed one day in ten, sleeping in the morning of this day of rest until she awakens naturally. After a hot bath and a light breakfast she goes back to bed and rests quietly in a darkened room until 6 o'clock, when she dresses in a peignoir, dines in her room, and sits about idly until 10 o'clock, when she goes to bed again. No social event is considered of sufficient importance to cause the lady to give up this periodical retirement from the hurry and excitement of modern living.

Equine Affection. A story of a remarkable instance of equine friendship comes from Portland. One of a pair of horses belonging to the horse-railroad company was sold, whereupon his mate, a blind horse, refused to be comforted, and so pine away that the general manager went to the new owner of the other steed and asked for a loan of the animal for a visit to the stable. As soon as this horse was put in his old stall the blind horse showed signs of great delight and at once began to recover his appetite and his health. The owner of the other horse, seeing the love of the blind one for his friend, bought him, too, and now drives down town with a span.

CHINESE PUNISHMENTS.

The Criminal Gets Little Favor and His Trail is Not Delayed.

According to Chinese papers, the executioner's sword has been busy in the Flowery Kingdom lately in order to frighten would-be conspirators from engaging in the rebellion which has broken out against the reigning dynasty. A recent issue of the Ostasiatische Lloyd contains a vivid description of the manner of administering Chinese justice in the cases of political criminals.

Before the end of the present uprising many men, in all probability, will suffer death at the hands of the State, for daring to oppose the government of his Imperial Majesty.

"When a person," says the newspaper, "is taken prisoner, charged with treason or rebellious conduct, he is bound in chains and placed in what is called a prisoner's cage—'Tschin lung'—and carried to the office of the nearest district judge. During the transport his tortures depend in great part upon the will of the guards, as they may remove the chains, give him good and wholesome food, and allow him to sit down or lie down in his cage. In case the prisoner is disobedient, both hands and feet are loaded with chains, and he is allowed only sufficient food to keep him alive for future tortures.

It is seldom that any one who appears in a criminal court in such a cage is allowed to go free, although he is always treated in a fashion that inspires him with hope. As soon as he enters the gates of the court, the guards deliver him to the assessor of the judge before whom he is to be tried. They take him from the cage and conduct him to an inner hall containing a table, upon which are tempting viands and intoxicating drinks. The assistants invite him to eat, drink, and be merry, and command the waiters to do his every bidding. The invitation is accompanied by the gate-keeper's congratulations upon the man's safe arrival at his destination, as well as expressions of regard.

for his welfare. If the prisoner has hopes of future freedom he often eats a hearty meal, but if he has no such outlook he usually begs permission to rest awhile. After a few hours he is again approached by one of the assistants who received him upon his arrival. The assistant's lieutenant again place chains upon the prisoner and take him before the judge.

In time of peace no sentence of death can be executed without three trials or judicial examinations. The first is held before the district judge, the second before the prefect, and the third before the provincial judge or the Governor of the province to which the criminal belongs. As soon as the sentence of death has been pronounced for the third time by the third and highest judge the criminal is incarcerated and chained by the feet to the floor of the prison. Thus he remains to the day of his execution.

"The number of days, weeks, or months which intervene between the sentence and its execution depends upon the season. According to Chinese law criminals in time of peace can be executed only during the third month of autumn. If a man is sentenced to death in September he must be beheaded before Nov. 30; if in November, the execution is immediate, but if the sentence is made in December he remains in prison until the following autumn. In the days of rebellion or sedition, as at present, this law is inoperative, and the doomed man can be disposed of at once.

"When the day of execution arrives the judge visits the prisoner and orders his chains removed. An elaborate dinner is spread for him and he is invited to all that he wishes. This 'execution meal' has various significations. It is intended to prove that the headman is not unfriendly to the criminal, and is only the tool of the supreme power. It is also looked upon as a viaticum to facilitate the entrance of the spirit to the invisible world; and

LAST WORDS OF THE HEADSMAN to the criminal being: 'Eat until thou art satisfied, that thou mayst appear in hades as a shade well nourished.' The Chinese also believe that the meal prevents the reappearance of the dead in this world as a hungry spirit.

After the meal the hands of the criminal are fastened behind his back. Fastened to his back is also a light pole, eight or ten feet long, bearing a small white flag with the name of the doomed man and his crime in black or red colors. The end of the flag falls upon the criminal's head. Thus caparisoned he is led or carried in a basket to the place of execution, a large open field before the city walls, and as near the north gate as possible.

"As soon as the procession with the prisoner arrives at its destination the criminal is taken to the center of the field. Guards and assistants surround him and command him to fall upon his knees. The headman approaches the doomed man from behind, removes the flag, and strikes the fatal blow which severs the head from the body. The officers then disperse.

"In cases where the beheaded man has committed no crime against the State his relatives can claim the body. As a rule, a shoemaker is present to sew the head to the body, and to prepare it for burial by the kindred. But this favor is never accorded to political criminals. The bodies of such men are thrown into a hole, or open grave, where they become the prey of birds and beasts. The heads are placed in baskets, and later spiked upon long poles. In that condition they are planted at the west or north gate of the city, to serve as warning to all men who think of rebelling against the mild rule of the 'Son of Heaven.'"

JUDGE WETMORE DEAD. One of the Brightest Legal Lights of the Dominion Called Away. ST. JOHN, N. B., March 10.—Judge Wetmore, of the Supreme Court, died this morning, aged 71. Before his appointment he was perhaps the foremost nisi prius lawyer in the province. Judge Wetmore was elected to the Legislature as an anti-confederate in 1865, and helped to overthrow the Maitland-Mitchell Government. He was one of the many members who soon changed their minds and accepted confederation. He was elected as a confederate in 1866, and after confederation became the first Premier and Attorney General of the province. He was called to the bench in 1870. Judge Wetmore's grandfather was one of the first judges of this province. His father, at the commencement of a brilliant career, was killed in a duel. His son was leader of the Provincial Opposition, and is now a judge in the North-west provinces.

Knew What She Wanted. Mrs. McGinty—"I want to buy some soap."

Gentlemanly Clerk—"Do you want it for toilet purposes?" "Oh, I want it to wash my face and hands with."

A Sensitive Point. Jack—How did Miss Fitz come to ask you to release her?

Harry—The last time I dined there her mother baked a delicious cream pie, and I asked her if she got it from a bakery.

HOW FALSE HAIR IS OBTAINED.

Much of It Comes from the Ash Barrels of Paris.

The best hair comes from France, where it is sold by the gramme at prices which vary according to quality and color. The most expensive false hair is the silver white variety, which is in great demand and very difficult to find. This is due to the fact that men grow bald in a majority of cases before their hair reaches the silver white stage, and women, whether bald or not, are not disposed to sell their white hair at any price. They need it themselves.

Still women growing bald must have white hair to match the scant allowance advancing age has left them. The chemists have taken the matter in hand and are able to produce by decoloration of hair of any color, a tolerable grade of white hair, which, however, has a bluish tint not at all approaching in beauty the silvery softness of hair which has been bleached by nature.

False hair of the ordinary shades is obtained in two ways. The better and more expensive kind is cut directly from the heads of peasant women, who sell their silken tresses sometimes for a mere song and sometimes for a fair price, according as they have learned wisdom. Every year the whole territory of France is traveled over by men whose business it is to persuade village maidens, their mothers and their aunts to part with their hair for financial considerations.

These men are known as "cutters" and there are at least 500 of them in the country, always going from house to house, from farm to farm and through all the villages in all the department, seeking subjects for their scissors. A good cutter averages from two to five heads of hair a day, and he pays from 25 to 100, for each. It is estimated that a single head of luxuriant growth weighs about a pound.

The false hair thus obtained—at the cost of the tears and regrets of many foolish maidens—is the first in the market, and sells for an exaggerated price, which puts it beyond the reach of the ordinary purchaser.

It is evident that the supply of genuine "cutting" hair is not sufficient to meet the demand for false hair. So the majority of this wavy merchandise is obtained—yes, ladies, I am exceedingly sorry, but it is the fact—from the rag pickers. These busy scavengers of ash heaps and garbage barrels collect every day in the city of Paris alone at least 100 pounds of hair, which some hundreds of thousands of women have cut out of their heads during the preceding twenty-four hours. The hair all mixed together and soiled, one would think, beyond redemption, is sold to hair cleaners at from \$2 to \$1.50 a pound, which shows simply that the fair sex in one city alone grows annually about 300,000 worth of hair, for which they afterwards pay—and it is the same hair, mind—considerably over 1,000,000.

The cleaning of this refuse hair is an operation which requires careful attention. After the hair has been freed from the dust and dirt and mud and other unpleasant things with which it has come in contact in gutters and alleys, it is rubbed in sawdust until it shines once more with its pristine gloss and then the process of sorting is begun. In the first place skilled hands fix the individual hairs in frames, with the roots all pointing the same way, and then they are arranged according to color. Finally a sufficient number of hairs of one color have been obtained—and it is the same hair, mind—considerably over 1,000,000.

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