

* This matter which this page contains is carefully selected from various sources, and we guarantee that, to any intelligent farmer or housewife, the contents of this single page, from week to week during the year, will be worth several times the subscription price of the paper.

THE MOTHER'S FIRST GRIEF.

She sits beside the cradle,
And her tears are streaming fast,
For she sees the present only,
While she thinks of all the past;
Of the days so full of gladness,
When her first-born's sweetening kiss
Thrilled her soul with such a rapture
That it knew no other bliss.
O, those happy, happy moments!
They but deepen her despair:
For she looks at the cradle,
And her baby is not there!
There are words of comfort spoken,
And the leaden clouds of grief
Wear the smiling bow of promise,
And she feels a sad relief;
But her weeping thoughts will wander,
Of the dark and silent chamber,
And of all that might have been.
For a little vacant garment,
Or a shining tress of hair,
Tells her heart its tale of anguish,
That her baby is not there!
She sits beside the cradle,
For her tears no longer flow,
And she sees a blessed vision,
And she feels a sad relief;
But her weeping thoughts will wander,
Of the dark and silent chamber,
And of all that might have been.
For a little vacant garment,
Or a shining tress of hair,
Tells her heart its tale of anguish,
That her baby is not there!

THE HOME.

The Things Money Cannot Buy.

A group of friends sat chatting as friends do who meet frequently. There was the gray-haired mother and widow, the lively society girl, the ambitious wife and the serene young mother—a curious yet interesting quartet, whose interests were widely different, whose lives were as different as they were separate. At length the talk took on a worldly turn. The elder woman proudly dwelt on the business success and shrewdness of some of her acquaintances, and the young lady dilated on her latest social advancement, and on her gowns and surroundings. Thus stimulated, the ambitious woman graphically pictured her aims, and told what her money had brought and should bring her to give that flavor to all her plans and hopes, without which everything would be flat and void. Quietly the young mother spoke, half unconsciously, as if to herself: "I am thankful for the things money cannot buy. There is a chance for me to have some of them. Better yet, there is a chance for every one to have them."

How much the happiness of individuals is made up of priceless things, unobtainable in the coin of the land, yet found quickly when the heart of the searcher honestly desires them! Many of these real treasures are qualities that morally and mentally ennobles, and are sometimes little valued, because they are so common and so easily obtained, and are so easily grasped; but they are genuine possessions, and won by heart-service. Who does not rejoice to have an honorable name—not necessarily a distinguished name, but a name that truly, pride in such an inheritance, which cannot be bought, is justifiable if with it there is mingled a feeling of humility and a desire to do one's own part to transmit the name as unimpaired as it has been bestowed. What makes home less dear and sweeter than all else, and treasured while life lasts? Not the tables and chairs, nor the delicacy of porcelain, or the esthetic beauty which the room achieves. True minister to the comfort, taste and artistic nature; but beyond these there is something which ministers to the heart and soul, glorifying plain surroundings and homely details—something illustrative to measure or weight, yet potent to guide, to comfort and to help. What is this but the sympathy, the trust, the spirit of sacrifice, the gentleness, the faith, the readiness to do and to bear, which, blended together, make the chain that binds us to our homes?

What beautiful prospect, what luxurious surroundings, what wonders of nature or art but lose their mysterious charm when viewed by eyes that see and not, or when shared with a cold, thankless heart? The power to enjoy, the power to appreciate, these are what render pleasures real and bring the joy into them. This cheerful recipient of pleasures, great or small, and extracting the honey of enjoyment from them, is not to be found at any store, yet it is another and large factor in true happiness.

Contentment, too, that balm against the ravages of worldly unrest, where can it be found, and what is its price? Not silver or gold, but patient striving with a thankful heart will bring it to the soul who desires it, and in its possession lurks charm to chase away all unhappiness, to still unwise longings, and to open the inner vision to the peaceful delights of the home, the friends, the advantages which may be ours. And so through all the phases of human happiness we may go, finding always that its true essence is something that must be gained without money and without price.—Harper's Bazar.

Mary and Her Dog.

Such a pretty story I read the other day about a little girl named Mary, who lives in Pennsylvania! In some way she fell and broke her arm and had to keep in bed for a long while. Her playmates came to see her, and often brought her beautiful flowers, of which she was very fond. There was something else, too, which Mary loved dearly, and that was her dog, whose name was Bob. He seemed to feel very sorry for his little mistress, and he noticed how happy the flowers always made her. So he thought he would give her a bouquet, too. A way he went into the yard, and plucked a mouthful of daisy leaves. Then he hurried back to Mary, put his forepaw on her bed, dropped the leaves, and wagged his tail, saying as plainly as any dog could, "Don't you think my flowers are pretty, too?"

"I've Got Orders Not to Go."

"I've got orders, positive orders, not to go there—orders that I dare not disobey," said a young man who was being tempted to enter a smoking and gambling saloon. "Come, don't be so womanish; come along like a man," shouted the youths. "No, I can't break orders," said John. "What special orders have you got?" "Come show 'em to us if you can," showed us your orders." John took out a neat wallet from his pocket and pulled out a neatly folded paper. "It is here," he said, unfolding the paper, and showing it to the boys. They looked at one of them read aloud: "Enter not into the path of the wicked, and go not into the way of sinners. Avoid it, pass not by it, turn from it and pass away." "Now," said John, "you see my orders forbid me going with you; they are God's orders, and by His help I don't mean to break them."—Religious Telegraph.

A Temperance Tale.

A mouse fell into a beer vat, poor thing, and a cat passing by, who was the struggling little creature. The mouse said to the cat: "Help me out of my difficulty." "If I do, I shall eat you," said the cat. "Very well," replied the mouse; "I would rather be eaten by a decent cat than drowned in such a horrible mess of stuff as this." It was a sensible cat, and said: "Certainly shall eat you, and you must promise me on your word of honor that I may do so." "Very well, I will give you the promise." So the cat fished the mouse out, and, trusting to the promise, she dropped it for an instant. The mouse darted away and crept into a hole in the corner, where the cat could not get at him. "But didn't you promise me I might eat you?" said the cat. "I did," replied the mouse; "but didn't you know that when I made that promise I was in liquor?" And how many promises made in liquor have been broken!—Selected.

Hot Milk.

A great deal has been said about the tonic powers of hot water, taken before breakfast. Some people have undoubtedly been benefited by it, and others have imagined that they were, which is very much the same thing, for imagination goes a long way toward making and keeping us well. Of the stimulating and tonic powers of a glass of hot milk, however, there can be little or no doubt. The best authorities tell us that milk, taken as hot as it can be drunk, is not only stimulating, but is the most wholesome beverage that a person who is very much exhausted with a long day's shopping or hard housework can take. An authority on this subject says that, instead of drinking milk, we should "eat it"—that is, that we should take it in small sips. The reason for this is that milk, when it comes in contact with the acid of the gastric juice, forms a curd in the stomach. Where the milk is swallowed in a large quantity it forms a large curd, which is much more difficult to digest than the tiny curds which come when the milk is taken in small quantities.

Sandy, the Dog of the Crimen.

One of the most celebrated dogs that ever lived was Sandy, a dog that was trained by the Crimen War and was decorated by the government for his valuable services. Sandy was the property of a young French lieutenant. His mother was a savage English bulldog, and his father was a very intelligent Scotch terrier. And Sandy combined all of the best qualities of both his parents. Before he was seven years old, he had been in a great many battles, and was specially useful in obtaining food from other camps and in guarding his master's tent from the natives. Once, in the thickest of the battle, he darted forward to his master's rescue, and received a terrible bayonet wound, that caused him to go on three legs for a long time and from which he never recovered. Sandy greatly distinguished himself on two or three occasions by rushing into the most fearful seas and rescuing men from capsize vessels. Sandy lived to a ripe old age, and, although times of peace were restored long before his death, he never forgot his army training, and to the last he would drag himself out, crippled and old, to march proudly at the head of his regiment on holiday occasions.—N. Y. Ledger.

Helpful Hints.

TOMATO SOUP without stock is also tasty and nutritious. Put the tomatoes from a quart can into a saucepan with a pint of water, into which put a small onion cut fine, a sprig of parsley, and a bay leaf. Let all stew fifteen minutes, then put through a sieve; return to the saucepan and put on the fire to boil. Rub together one tablespoonful of butter and two of flour, and then stir into the boiling soup until smooth and then add salt, pepper, and one or two teaspoonfuls of sugar to taste.

GRUEL FOR SOUP is made similar to bean soup. A quart of peas are boiled twenty minutes, started in cold water; they are then drained and pressed through a colander, and in a quart of water are put over the fire. A tablespoonful of butter and one of flour are rubbed together until smooth, and then stirred into the boiling soup, and the seasoning of pepper and salt is added last. The yolks of two eggs may be beaten till very light and put into the soup, and the hot soup poured over. If canned peas are used, they need no cooking before being put through the colander.

Mrs. ROSS gives in her recipe book a vegetable soup without meat, and it is worth trying. The vegetables are one each of carrot, sweet potato, turnip, parsnip, white potato, onion, root of celery, one tablespoonful of butter, one of salt, two tablespoonfuls of rice, two quarts of water, a sprig of parsley and a bay leaf. The vegetables are cut into dice and the butter is put into a frying pan, into which the white potato is added, and is fried a light brown. All this is put into the soup kettle with the water, rice, bay leaf, salt, celery and parsnip, and allowed to boil an hour and a quarter. Then the white potato is added, and all boils fifteen minutes longer. If more seasoning is required, it may be added at the last.

Mina's Liniment cures garget in cows.

THE FARM.

Tree Roots Protected.

That Maine man is right in advising the planting of rocky soils—if not with apple trees; and employing sheep to keep the grass and weeds low. I have often observed that apple trees in such situations are long enduring and fruitful, and, as this is often the case with fruit trees planted along fences, it would seem that they owe their healthfulness and vigor largely to the fact that the plough is never dragged through their roots. Trees suffer from being wounded either in tops or roots, but in the roots most. A volunteer tree, that stands where it came up from seed, is stronger and longer lived than a transplanted tree. As to grass growing about trees—it feeds the soil and it will not have roots capable of materially robbing the tree roots if the blades are kept short by frequent cropping. It serves as a mulch, keeping the surface open and shaded.

Continuous Clover.

Clover in biennial, and dies out when it has accomplished its purpose of reproducing itself by maturing seed. In this purpose it is successful, it struggles on vigorously, perhaps for years, with an apparent determination to succeed, evincing pluck, as it were, worthy of a persevering human being. Now, to retain its life and growth, it is only necessary to keep it in the soil. This can be done by mowing it two or three times each season, as conditions warrant, just before seed form. Mown at this time it makes the best hay, too. By this course the clover will flourish, perhaps for years, and the mowing of it will keep it in the soil. By sowing on a very little seed in March of each year the crop will be kept growing continuously. This is a suggestion to those who feel it desirable to have clover hay every year, but who, from inconvenience or otherwise, do not wish to prepare a new field specially every year to receive the seed.

Early Grafting.

The season for orchard grafting is again at hand, and it is better done early than late, for growth is a slow process, and time is required for internal repair and union of the severed surfaces before any evidences of outward growth can become apparent. Essential to the success of the graft is the close, firm connection, the moisture of the stock will keep the graft from drying until it safely unites. When set very early, as is especially necessary with cherry clones, a paper cap or shade should be put over the graft. When set there will be fewer sprouts from the stock, as the graft will be sooner ready to use the supply of sap; it will make more growth consequently, and this will ripen earlier and better, and be safer against the next winter's cold and wind-parching.

Care of the Carriage.

The finish of carriage varnish is very high, and it has the hardest wear that any high finish ever encounters. A year in daily use is as long as a carriage ought to go if it is to retain its finish. It is not only occasionally it may go much longer; much depends upon the carriage stands. When not in use, if the carriage-room adjoins the stable, and the partition between the two are not tight, or when the door is left open, ammonia from the manure will very quickly dull the varnish, and soon crack it; these cracks, at first very minute, steadily deepen, if the conditions do not vary, and the job is spoiled. Carriages upon which the damaging influence of ammonia have but just begun may be rubbed down with pumice-stone, and rep-varnished to look as good as new. When badly scratched it will be necessary to sandpaper off everything to the "white," or the bare wood. Whenever a carriage properly preserved shows slight signs of decay, the best thing to do is to sandpaper and put in order. This is accomplished at much less cost than if the work be deferred until an extensive job is rendered necessary. In the carriage-room protect the vehicles from rust, and especially from fingerling. White muslin is the best for covering nice carriages, and should be washed occasionally. After each use wash the carriage before the mud or dust dries on it. Varnish is best preserved in winter if it too long a temperature is not allowed in the carriage-room.

An Open Secret of Business Success.

Mr. Charles F. Muth is a veteran of bee culture (though for many years his apary was confined to the roof of his Cincinnati store), and during two or three decades has been probably the largest honey dealer in the country, sometimes shipping by the carload to wholesale grocers, confectioners, manufacturers and caterers; and withal he owns and manages a 600-acre Indiana farm "in a perfect state of cultivation." Here is a characteristic incident of his progress, quoted from the *Illustrated Bee Journal*, and illustrating the Scriptural truth that "the liberal hand maketh rich":

"At the convention of the subject of the palmetto honey of the South came up. Friend Muth called upon to tell what he knew about it. To impress upon us that the honey is of excellent quality he made the remark that on one shipment which he had engaged for 8 cts. a pound he afterward paid the man 10 cts. because it went so much beyond his expectations. At this point 'Professor Cook arose and interrupted him. 'Friend Muth,' said he, 'I wish to ask just one question right here. 'Very well, go on,' said our jovial friend. 'I want to know if the convention has not understood that this is the kind of a man you are?' 'It is the kind of a man I was that time,' was the prompt reply. And we believe that is the kind of a man friend M. has always been, and we trust always will be.—N. Y. Tribune.

Tomatoes for Amateurs.

Almost any soil will grow tomatoes, but how many have tried the effect of enriching the soil? In fact, no soil is too rich for them. If one-fourth part of the soil be well-rotted manure so much the better. They will stand forcing better than any other vegetable or fruit, and always find a good early market. Seed should be sown in hotbed or in the house by March 1 or sooner. That sown in hotbed will be ready for transplanting the 1st of April, and to be set out May 1 if one is willing to watch out for the frosty nights. I like to set out a few plants as early as the ground will allow, and cover them at night as long as necessary. If you wish to secure large, smooth tomatoes, see that the stems of every flower is covered with pollen. This secures the development of every ovule in the ovary and, in consequence, a symmetrical form. This will hardly pay on a large scale, but is interesting in early experiments or for the amateur gardener. Tomatoes may be most ornamentally as well as profitably by training and pruning to show the fruit, and allow the sun a good chance to ripen them.

Saved by Analysis.

A science lecturer at a recent agricultural meeting in England entertained his audience with a story of a simple stratagem for self-protection of buyers of commercial fertilizers and feeding stuffs. We excerpt from report in *Farm and Home*, a London paper:

One farmer in particular took this advice, and on receipt of the manure sent a letter to the sellers saying that a sample of it was to be sent to a chemist for analysis, and the price of the stuff would not be paid till the report of the chemist had been received.

"The result of this intimation was the following telegram: 'We much regret to say that an inferior manure has been sent you by mistake. Please return it and the right manure will be forwarded immediately.' (Great laughter.) Numerous other cases of the same sort had been brought under his notice, and there could be no doubt that the farmers would derive great and solid advantages by living under the protection of a reliable chemist of the first standing."

—A man's life is not measured by the rate of pulse-throbs. It is not so very uncommon to find strong, healthy men whose normal pulse is 40, yet in spite of this low movement they live as long as those whose pulse is 80.

—The theory of the pulse, if I may say so, is not a very new discovery. It is a very old one, and it is a very true one. It is a very old one, and it is a very true one. It is a very old one, and it is a very true one.

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For Bronchitis

"I never realized the good of a medicine so much as I have in the last few months, during which time I have suffered intensely from bronchitis, followed by pneumonia. After trying various remedies, without success, I began the use of Ayer's Cherry Pectoral, and the effect has been marvelous, a single dose relieving me of choking, and securing a good night's rest."—W. H. Higginbotham, Gen. Store, Long Mountain, Ga.

La Grippe

"Last Spring I was taken down with la grippe. At times I was completely prostrated, and so difficult was my breathing that my breath seemed as if confined in an iron cage. I procured a bottle of Ayer's Cherry Pectoral, and no sooner had I begun taking it than the relief followed. I could not believe that the effect would be so rapid."—W. H. Williams, Cook City, S. Dak.

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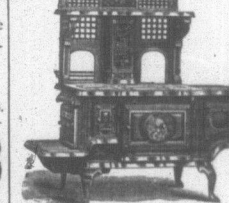
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The Range, Windsor, N. S., Jan. 9, 1893.

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