

The Farmer's Advocate AND HOME MAGAZINE.

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judging of the different classes would be educative. All stock should be in stalls or pens. All cattle and horses should be shown haltered, on a line or in harness as the case may be. Turning all the cattle loose in a corner of the grounds as is sometimes done affords no education to those in attendance, and fairs so managed have little cause for existence. The products of field and orchard should be well arranged on tables, each class by itself. If the fall fair is to fulfil its mission it must plan to educate and it cannot educate unless exhibits are well arranged. Plan better things for your fair this fall.

Nature's Diary.

A. B. KLUUGH, M. A.

A weed in regard to which I have recently been consulted is the Black Henbane, (*Hyoscyamus niger*). This plant is from eighteen inches to two and a half feet in height, is sticky and covered with long hairs, and has an unpleasant odor. The leaves are rather deeply notched and the upper ones clasp the stem. The flowers have a tubular calyx with five spiny teeth, and a funnel-form corolla, greenish-yellow in color with purple veins, and with five spreading lobes at the top. The seed-capsule is globose-oblong and is enclosed in the calyx. This plant is poisonous and the dried leaves and flowering tops collected while the plant is in flower are official medicinally under the name *Hyoscyami folia*.

As a weed this plant is not a serious menace as far as my experience goes, as I have known of its occurrence in some localities for ten years without its having spread to any marked extent. The Black Henbane belongs to the Solanaceae, the same family to which also belong the Potato, Tomato and Tobacco.

Another weed belonging to the same family is the Thornapple or Jimson Weed, (*Datura stramonium*). This species grows from two to five feet in height and has leaves from three to eight inches in length which are deeply and irregularly toothed. The flowers are large, white, and borne singly in the forks. The calyx is tubular and the corolla is funnel-shaped and five-lobed. The seed-capsule is about two inches in length and is covered with prickles, hence the common name of Thornapple. It blooms from June until September. This species like the Black Henbane is a native of Asia which has become naturalized in America. It is often quite abundant in waste land, but as far as I have observed is not troublesome in cultivated land.

The dried leaves of the Thornapple collected when the plant is in flower are the *Stramonii folia* of the British

Pharmacopœia. They should be dried at a temperature of 100 to 110 degrees F., and sell for from sixteen to twenty-five cents per pound.

A weed closely related to the Jimson Weed is the Purple Stramonium or Purple Thornapple, (*Datura tatula*). It differs from that species mainly in having flowers of a violet or lavender color and a purple stem. It has been naturalized from tropical America, and is often common in waste land. In the Solanaceae, as in many families of plants, we find some species which are well-known for their edible qualities, and others which are highly poisonous, in fact this relationship of esculent and poisonous plants is a very common one.



Black Henbane.



Thornapple.

Give the Hired Help Some Responsibility.

BY SANDY FRASER.

About a week ago I was lookin' through the "Questions and Answers" department o' the Advocate an' I saw where some farmer chap was wantin' tae ken what he could dae to his hired man, or at least tae the man he had hired, an' wha had gone an' left things. He had promised tae gie this mon a certain amount o' oats for his horse ilka day, an' one time when the chap wis gaein' awa' for a drive, he pit a gallon o' aits in the buggy tae feed his horse while he wad be gone. But the boss came along and took the aits oot o' the rig an' pit it back in the granary. This made the ither chap mad, an' he up an' left, an' noo the boss, havin' been lookin' around for trouble until he found it, doesna' like it, an' he comes tae the auld Advocate for some free advice as tae how he can mak' the mon he hired sweat for gaein' an' leavin' him in sic' a hole, wi' the hayin' comin' on, an' everything else in the way o' farm extras tae be done as weel.

Noo, it may be doesna' show a vera guid speirit tae tell a mon in trouble that what he is gettin', serves him right, but gin I could see this chap wha is lookin' for law, I think I'd be inclined tae let him understand that I thoct he wis gettin' vera little mair than he deserved. As they say, "he made his bed, sae let him lie on it."

The hired help problem is about as auld as any o' the ither problems that hae been worryin' mankind in past ages, for gae as far back as ye like ye will find that the tendency wis for one mon tae get anither tae dae his wark, gin he, by ony means, could coax or compel him tae it. An' mony a time when one mon could mak' a slave o' his brither mon he wisna' slow tae tak' advantage o' the fact. We're gettin' a wee bit past that stage in the world's history, an' it's a guid thing too, but there's ower muckle o' an inclination on the part o' a guid mony men tae act the slave-driver yet. What they have not a'thegither learned is that "Jack is as

guid as his master", an' that they hae no' moral richt tae treat ony mon wi' less consideration or respect because o' the fact that he is in their employ, an' is expected tae obey their orders. Gin the hired mon gets guid money frae his boss, he gives the strength o' his muscle in exchange for it, sae there is no obligation on either side, an' one mon should be juist as guid a mon as the ither, sae far as their business relations are concerned. Each owes tae the ither respect an' consideration. The idea on the part o' some farmers that their hired men are a' the time tryin' tae get the better o' them, has a tendency tae react on themselves, because it pits the same notion intae the ither chaps heid, an' sometimes mak's a rascal oot o' an' otherwise honest mon. The surest way tae get intae trouble is tae keep expectin' it, an' the quickest way tae send a mon tae the bad is tae show yer lack o' confidence in him. The farmer that we mentioned, that took the oats oot o' the buggy, might juist as weel have told the ither fellow in sae many words, that he wis a thief. An' the only mon that would stand for that would be one that had lost a' his self-respect an' didna' care what his boss called him.

Another reason I've noticed for lack o' success in handlin' hired help, is the habit some men hae o' bein' too familiar wi' them. I ken one young farmer that is a' the time 'chewin' the rag', as he calls it, wi' his hired mon. It's a' meant as a joke, an' taken in the same way, but the result is that he does not get the best wark oot o' his men, for they get to hae a sort o' contempt for him, that mak's them careless aboot his orders or interests. An' mair than once I've seen this sort o' familiarity end in a row that made a change o' relations advisable for a' concerned.

I heard a married woman say once that the only way she and her man found they could get along together wis tae be as polite tae ane anither as if they were next thing tae strangers, an' I'm thinkin' her plan will wark unco' weel wi' oor hired help, or silent partners, as one I knew called them. I ken they're no always silent, but as a rule they ken their place when the boss kens his. An' the idea o' partnership is no' a bad one when ye come tae think o' it. Baith parties tae the contract are makin' a livin' oot o' the business, an' it should be tae the interest o' baith alike tae see things gaein' along smooth-like an' prosperous. An' it has been my experience that in nine times oot o' ten, when the hired help are treated right, they tak' an interest in the farm wark that is worth mair tae the owner than anything he could force oot o' them by hard words.

About the best an' easiest way tae pit yer help on their good behavior is tae gie them some responsibility. Maybe not ower muckle at first, but mair o' it as fast as ye see they can stand it. It's no' the sign o' a good boss tae see him daein' a' the maist particular wark, an' the hired mon daein' juist that which requires plenty muscle, but na brains. One mon has a heid as weel as the ither, an' he should be given a chance tae use it. The far seein' business manager kens pretty weel the value o' pittin' a feelin' o' responsibility on the heads o' the different departments o' the store or factory, an' the principle is juist the same on the farm. Gie yer mon a chance tae bring the coos through the winter in guid shape, or gin he's mair interested in horses, let him be responsible for their welfare an' appearance. An' dinna' jump on to him wi' baith feet gin he mak's some mistake, or even gin he is a wee bit careless at times. There's another way. I ken one man that has mair effect on his hired help, juist through the way he looks at the wark they hae done, than the average mon would wi' a regular callin' doon. They ken what his silence means, but there's naething they can say, as naething has been said by the boss. But they dinna' let the same mistake occur the second time, I've noticed. They've had a man's treatment frae a mon that they respect, an' they feel noo that it's "up tae them". It seems tae me that the secret o' this whole problem o' keepin' on a guid footin' wi' yer help is in showin' them the consideration that ony man has a richt tae expect frae anither, an' which you expect frae them. An' gin ye are managin' what ye might call a "going concern", that is, a farm that shows the result o' a policy o' "progressiveness and efficiency", that we hear sae muckle aboot these days, an' which the mon o' ony pride is always glad tae be connected with, then ye hae fulfilled aboot a' the conditions that the situation calls for.

The day is comin' when there will be neither masters nor servants, an' when a man will be respected for what he is, an' not for what he has in the way o' cash or credit. Then when we ask what ony mon is worth it will mean that we want tae ken what he is guid for. That will be the day when wars, big an' little, on the battle-field an' on the farm, will be at an end, for man will hae learned the lesson o' giving as weel as getting, or treating his fellow-man as he wad want tae be treated himsel'.

"Then let us pray that come it may—
As come it will for a' that—
When sense an' worth, o'er a' the earth,
Will bear the gree, an' a' that.

For a' that, an' a' that,
It's coming yet, for a' that,
When man to man, the world o'er,
Shall brothers be for a' that."

Fall cultivation makes the crop. The other day a young farmer called at this office and in the course of conversation remarked that the best piece of spring grain he had this year is growing on land which was cultivated in preparation for fall wheat last fall, but owing to the drouth the wheat was not sown.