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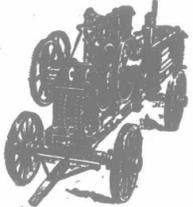
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As the years come and go, industries of our country will prosper and decline, fortunes will be made and lost, even government may change its form, but so long as the world stands, agriculture will be the foundation of national wealth and prosperity.—Aaron Jones.

At a Scotch fair a farmer was trying to engage a lad to assist on the farm, but would not finish the bargain until he brought a character from the last place, so he said, "Run and get it, and meet me at four o'clock." The youth was up to time, and the farmer said, "Well, have you got your character with you?" "Na," replied the youth; "but I've got yours, and I'm no comin'."

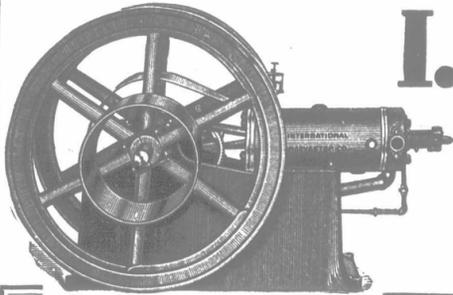
Owen Wister, the novelist, who hates long-winded preambles and useless questions, tells of a man who stood before a mirror in his room, his face lathered, and an open razor in his hand. His wife came in. She looked at him, and said, "Are you shaving?" The man, a foe to surplussage, replied, fiercely, "No, I am blacking the kitchen range. Where are you—out driving or at a four-o'clock tea?"

A man was complaining to some bystanders that he did not know what was the matter with his horses. He had tried everything he could hear of—condition powders, and all other specifics—but to no purpose; they would not improve in flesh. A stable boy of Irish extraction, whose sympathies were aroused by the story, comprehended the situation, and modestly asked, "Did yez iver try corn?"

Prof. Lyon Playfair once visited a phosphate mine, whose manager, a Scotchman, desired him to leave at once and drop his specimens. Prof. Playfair addressed him in good Scotch, and asked him if he thought him a mining adventurer. "Ay, that's just what ye are!" "No," replied Mr. Playfair, "I am a Scotch professor." "Then, if ye are, ye'll be havin' a name." "My name is Playfair," he responded. "Man," said the Scotchman, "are ye Lyon Playfair?" Then looking from his six feet two inches with compassion on the five feet four of the professor, he continued: "Hoot, mon, yer name's travelled further than yer wee legs will ever carry ye!"

The young pastor was examining the Sunday-school, and asked the class just in front of him if any of them could tell anything about the Apostle Peter. A little girl raised her hand. "Come up here, my little lady," said the minister. "I am much gratified to see that you have remembered your lesson. Now, tell the school what you know about Peter." The little girl was quite willing, and commenced: "Peter, Peter, pumpkin-eater, had a wife and couldn't keep her, put her in a— But they never heard where he put her, on account of the general uproar."

The boarding-house mistress looked at her latest "guest" with a firm but cheerful expression of countenance, and allowed the faintest hint of a smile to play over her features. "Oh, no, I never have any trouble with my boarders," she said, briskly. "I don't see any need of nagging 'em if they don't do just as they would in their own homes, and as they'd like to be done by; but I generally let them see in some way when I don't approve of their doings. For instance, there was Mr. Cranston, one of my table-boarders, a real well-meaning young man, but pretty careless. He sits down at the end of the table near those little shelves, where I keep my extra china, and he got in the habit last summer of coming in in a hurry and laying his hat right on top of the plates. Well, it didn't look just right, but I didn't nag him about it. When he'd done it a half-dozen times I just put a sheet of sticky fly-paper in on top of those plates. He never said anything about it, for he knew what I meant after that night. That's why I say if folks will use tact they've no need to have any trouble with boarders—not a bit!"



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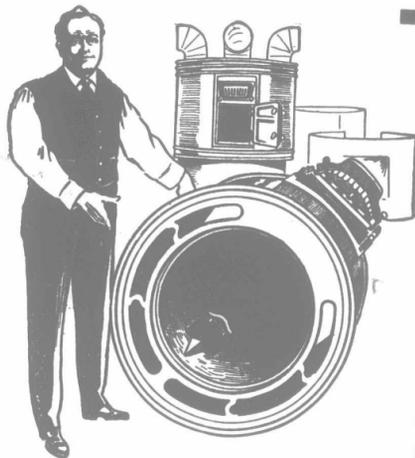
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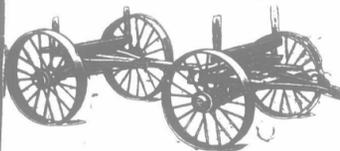
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