

## On the Farm.

### DRESSING TURKEYS.

Turkeys intended for markets should be penned up without food for 24 hours before killing to insure their crops being empty. Give them all the clean water they will drink. Always kill the fowls by sticking in the roof of the mouth, and be sure that they bleed freely; if they do not the flesh will have a reddish tinge and will not keep well. Different markets require different modes of dressing. Some require them dry picked, undrawn, heads and feet on, others wish them scalded, the entrails drawn and the heads and feet off. Inquiries should always be made beforehand of the firm to which you expect to ship, as to the manner they wish them dressed.

For scalding, have the water as near the boiling point as possible, without actually boiling. Hold the fowl by legs and head, and quickly immerse three times, holding under the water for only a second. Do not allow the head to touch the hot water, as it will become discolored, and give the fowl the appearance of having been sick. Pick carefully so as not to tear the skin or bruise in any way. After picking, hold in water near the boiling point long enough to count 10; this plumps and cleanses them, then dip in ice cold water and hang up in a cool place out of drafts until thoroughly cooled out, for if packed with any of the animal heat left in they are almost sure to spoil. Never allow them to freeze; this greatly injures their market value. Dry-picked turkeys usually sell best in most markets. Dry picking is not the difficult task many consider it if rightly managed. It is easily and quickly done if picked at once while the body is still warm. The skin is not so apt to be broken or the flesh bruised as when picking those that have been scalded. In packing, be careful to assort the fowls properly and place all of the same grade together, putting the toms or any not looking so nice in boxes by themselves. Place together the hen turkeys, which always have rounder, plumper bodies than the toms, and to sell well the packages should always be of uniform quality. When different qualities are packed together they are all invariably rated with the inferior fowls. Many dollars are lost every year by not giving attention to this simple but important particular. It is best to have packages to weigh from 100 to 200 lbs, as these sizes are most conveniently handled. We always ship our turkeys to a reliable commission merchant and have always been well treated and obtained the best prices. On the outside of boxes should be plainly written the contents, gross weight, and name of the consignee as well as the consignor. Care in this respect will insure prompt delivery and returns. Medium sized hen turkeys sell better for the Christmas and New Year's markets. After the holidays are over, 8 and 10-lb birds sell best. When shipping poultry that is first-class in every respect, it is a good idea to neatly tag each fowl with the name and address of the sender. In this way a reputation may be gained that will enable him to always dispose of his stock at fancy prices.

### CHARACTERISTICS OF A GOOD FARMER.

A man may be energetic and still not succeed in business. The successful farmer must plan judiciously, and then faithfully carry out those plans. The farmer of to-day must stop all the leaks if he wants to keep even with the world. He must attend to the small details of his business and waste nothing that he can turn into cash. A successful farmer with worn-out lands, poor fences, and farm buildings, is seldom found, because he cannot afford to let them run down. He will use good tools because he cannot afford to use poor ones. His taxes are paid on time because he cannot afford to pay interest on them. As a rule he buys and sells for cash. When he hires help he gets good help because he gets more in return for his money. He faces the problems which confront him in his business and meets them in a practical way. He plans to grow his crops at the lowest cost, and to get the best returns for his money and labor. He informs himself as to the best methods of all branches of his calling. In a word, the successful farmer is an all-round man, looking carefully after his business interests, quick at discovering and remedying mistakes and in adopting the best methods of others.

### ROOT PRUNING AND GROWTH.

Experiments have recently been made to determine how much the roots of young trees should be pruned away before planting. By the Stringfellow method the roots are cut back to only one or two inches in length, at the same time cutting the top back to a mere stump a foot or so high. Another method is to cut about one-half of the roots and limbs off, while a third method consists in leaving the roots wholly unpruned with the limbs cut back one-half. Some time later observations showed that trees planted with no root pruning averaged larger than

those with roots cut back. Those planted by the ordinary method of taking off one-half of the limbs proved to grow fully as fast as those trimmed in any other way.

### KEEPING APPLES SOUND ALL WINTER.

Take fine dry saw-dust, preferably that made by a circular saw from hard wood, and place a thick layer of apples, not close together, and not close to the sides of the barrel. Put saw-dust liberally over and around and so proceed until a bushel and a half or less are packed in the barrel. Keep in a cool place. No bruised or mellow apples will be preserved, but they will not communicate rot to the other apples. This is an easier and quicker way than to wrap each specimen in paper, and the apples would bring fancy prices in the late spring.

### ADVANTAGES OF FALL PLANTING.

It is oftentimes argued that if a tree is planted in the fall it will become established in its position and make some root growth before the ground freezes and before the leaf growth begins in the spring. Experiments were made by Prof. Fred W. Card of Nebraska, to the effect that the fall planted trees made some root growth in the autumn succeeding planting and in the spring before the leaves started. Whether or not this is desirable depends upon many other things, chiefly climate.

### PUMPKINS FOR HOGS.

When hogs are on a full feed of corn, as many of them are at this season, nothing is better than a daily supply of pumpkins. Begin gradually, giving each hog about one-fourth of a moderate-sized pumpkin. Increase this until each animal is getting about half a one. Do not cut up the pumpkins but simply break them into several pieces.

### LOOK AFTER THE POTATOES.

As the nights grow colder keep adding to the covering upon the outdoor potato or other vegetable pits. Do not put on all at once, but be sure that cold weather does not arrive before there is enough earth to keep out the frost.



FROCK FOR GIRL FROM 8 TO 10.

This little frock is made of red cloth with a plain gored skirt and a blouse-waist. The waist is cut down in a point at the front and round at the back, and is bordered with rows of narrow velvet ribbon. The top of the waist is filled out with a yoke of red silk covered with lace. It has a red ribbon belt.

### A DIAMOND CROWN.

A pretty and agreeable amusement is the production of a perfect imitation of a diamond crown by means of a cheap chemical solution. It is only necessary to dissolve a pound of alum in a quart of hot water and hang in this solution a crown made of wire, wound with flannel.

In order to achieve the best results a smooth surfaced and perfectly transparent glass should be used, and this, with the solution and the crown, be allowed to stand, undisturbed for twenty-four hours. The alum will then have been deposited in crystals on the crown, giving the latter the appearance of a diamond studded crown, which can be taken out of the solution, dried and preserved. In place of the crown, one can select any other shape, which can be made with wire, and one can color the crystals by pouring a little ink of whatsoever tint into the solution of alum.

Mrs. Richard King, of Texas, owns two thousand square miles of land in that State.

## THE NEWS IN A NUTSHELL

### THE VERY LATEST FROM ALL THE WORLD OVER.

Interesting Items About Our Own Country, Great Britain, the United States, and All Parts of the Globe, Condensed and Assorted for Easy Reading.

### CANADA.

Parts of Manitoba have a foot of snow. The population of Berlin is 9,632, or within 368 of the city mark. All the passes to the Klondike are now reported to be blocked with snow. Hugh Ryan, the well-known contractor, is seriously ill at his residence in Toronto. The survey of the proposed new Thunder bay and Nipigon railway line will be commenced at once.

Homestead entries in the Northwest this year so far are 2383 as against 2389 for the whole of last year. Only 315 vessels passed through the Canadian Soo canal during October, as against 404 vessels in October last year.

Two Montreal girls, aged ten and sixteen years respectively, have been arrested on a charge of stealing diamonds valued at \$400.

British Board of Trade returns for October show increases in imports from Canada of \$1,600,000, compared with October, 1897.

A despatch from Vancouver says the city is invaded by desperate northern thugs. Numerous burglaries and attempted murders have taken place.

The Doukhoborskys will be wintered in the emigration buildings at Regina, Brandon, Portage la Prairie, Yorktown and Dauphin.

The books in the Picton Street School at Hamilton, where the pupils had suffered from diphtheria, have been burned and the room fumigated.

License Inspector Platt, of Guelph, has gone to New York to be treated at the Pasteur Institute. He was bitten by a dog two weeks ago.

The Socialist Labor party in London have nominated Mr. Fred J. Darch for Mayor. It is probable they will put up a full municipal ticket in the field.

Lord Aberdeen has sent the Prisoners' Aid Association of Canada a cheque for \$25 and signified his intention of becoming a life member of the association.

The Quebec City Treasurer's annual statement shows a revenue for the past year of \$624,420.92, and an expenditure of \$610,866.26, leaving a surplus of \$13,554.66.

Montreal is threatened with an epidemic of disease because the Health Committee has stopped removing garbage everywhere, as its appropriation is exhausted.

The rush of grain through to the sea over the Grand Trunk is unprecedented. The greater part of it is American, the Manitoba grain not yet moving to any extent.

The largest passenger engine ever built in Canada has just been completed at the Kingston Locomotive Works. It is the first of an order of three for the Intercolonial Railway.

A plaster cast of a marble bust of the Right Hon. Sir Wilfrid Laurier, by Mr. Chevre, sculptor of the Chaplain monument, is now on exhibition in the rooms of the Garrison Club, Quebec.

Dr. Robert Bell, of the Dominion Geological Survey, speaking of the Michipicoten district, of which he has been making a map, says enough gold has been found to encourage development.

The Grand Trunk Railway freight authorities are seriously considering the advisability of erecting another elevator at Midland, the present accommodation not being sufficient to meet the demand.

Henry Pigeon was arrested in Montreal on the charge of robbing a church. He told the detectives that there were two men in penitentiary serving terms for crimes that he had committed.

The Toronto Street Railway has decided to make an experiment in the matter of smoking cars and will run cars on certain lines during certain hours of the day, in which smokers will be allowed full privileges.

Copies of the Wentworth County Council's petition to the Legislature, asking for an act to regulate bicycling on public highways, are being sent to other County Councils, whose co-operation is designed in the matter.

Mrs. Ireland, wife of Dr. Ireland of Trenton, who mysteriously disappeared from Montreal a couple of weeks ago, has made a claim on the London & Lancashire Insurance Co. for \$5,000 insurance on her husband's life.

### GREAT BRITAIN.

During October 2, 114 emigrants left England for Canada, while 18,473 came during the ten months of 1898. The number of emigrants to Canada troubles that of similar bookings for Australia during the year, and exceeds the Cape Colony total by 8842.

The percentage computed from the complete returns of the plebiscite vote show that 22 1-2 per cent. of the entire electorate voted for prohibition, and 21 1-2 per cent. against, making a total of 44 per cent. Of the entire electorate 56 per cent. did not go to the polls.

### UNITED STATES.

The Italian protected cruiser *Etna*, on a cruise around the world, is at San Francisco, Cal. Mrs. Leslie Carter, the actress, has filed a petition in bankruptcy, showing liabilities of \$63,773 and no assets, except wearing apparel, valued at \$200.

A train on the Central Railway in California, has been delayed over twenty-four hours by fire in the snow sheds and tunnel between Summit and Trucker.

Mrs. Jennie Walker attended a religious meeting at Kansas, Mo., on Sunday, and after uttering a prayer professing her readiness to die fell back into her seat dead. Heart disease was her trouble.

The Richmond, Vt., savings bank was entered by burglars Sunday morning by three unknown men. They secured from the vault stamps valued at \$600 to \$800. Two citizens who happened to pass when the burglars were at work, were captured and tied.

Postmaster-General Smith, of the United States has issued an order admitting private mailing cards authorized by the act of May 19, 1898, into the foreign mails at one cent postage each for Canada and Mexico and two cents each for all other postal union countries.

The British consul at Philadelphia has investigated the death of a Buddhist sailor on board a British vessel and found that he starved himself, having been convinced by his countrymen that the time had come for him to offer himself up as a sacrifice to his faith.

### GENERAL.

The University of Heidelberg, Germany, is trying to put a stop to student duelling.

A lunatic gained entrance to the Royal castle at Stuttgart, Germany, and declared he was the rightful King of Wurtemberg. He is now in jail.

Alfred Belancourt, a British subject, was assaulted at Havana on Tuesday last by a Spanish officer because he wore a five-pointed Cuban star as scarf pin. Belancourt was also ordered under arrest and imprisoned. Mr. Jerome, British Vice-Consul, demanded his release, which was granted, but very reluctantly.

### WOMEN DUELISTS.

"Affairs of honor between women were far from infrequent in Vienna 15 years ago," says a French fencing master, "and I assisted at several. I will remember one in which the combatants were both young and belonging to the best society, which was refought for a very singular reason. The meeting took place in the park attached to a then unlet Schloss, a few miles outside the capital. There were four young lady friends present—who had sworn to absolute secrecy—and myself, in addition to the fair duellists, Well, after each one had been pinked on the body several times apparently without the slightest injury, the combatants suddenly remembered that, though they had removed their dress-bodices, they had not their corsets. And," added the speaker with a smile, "if you knew what a mass of steel and whalebone fashionable Viennese corsets were, at all events in those days, you would not feel any more surprised than I did at the difficulty they had found in injuring one another."

"They immediately proposed to take the articles off, but I intervened, stating that honor was satisfied, in the hope that they would make it up. My good intentions were unsuccessful as regards the latter part, as I heard afterward that they refought the affair at a friend's house in dishabille, when the younger of the two was so severely wounded that her life was despaired of."

"Many years ago there was in Vienna a beautiful woman, an actress and one of the finest mistresses of fence I have ever met—who picked quarrels with quite half a dozen young debutantes in her profession, whose beauty she was pleased to think might eventually turn them into rivals. The disappearance of a remarkably pretty young girl from the cafe-concert stage created some comment. It was afterward stated—I know it to be a fact—that Fraulein Z. forced a quarrel upon her, and succeeded in irredeemably disfiguring the superb shoulders of her pretty young antagonist. The poor girl had nothing of a voice, and so her chance was, of course, spoiled; as decollete costumes were now out of the question, and it was her lovely arms and shoulders which had lifted her into fame with the habitues of the cafe-concert."

"You see there are not a few salles d'eserime in Paris, where quite a considerable number of the pupils are ladies. They come, of course, chiefly because fencing is so graceful a form of exercise, and so beneficial to the perfect development of the figure, but many of them eventually become such experts that they might meet an opponent of considerable skill with every chance of success. As recently as the commencement of the present year I assisted at an affair d'honneur, in which the combatants were two ladies. The meeting—which never came to the cognizance of either the Press or the authorities—took place early one May morning in the neighborhood of Suresnes."

"One of the ladies, who is a magnificently cool swordswoman rode down with her second on a bicycle, the other seeking the comparative privacy of a brougham. They wore their fencing costumes, and fought for some 15 minutes ere one received a sufficiently severe injury to satisfy honor."

### DUTY BEFORE ALL THINGS.

The blind devotion with which an old servant did his duty was illustrated on one occasion when his master had a dinner party. During the dinner Henry was very nervous and made two or three blunders. His master showed his annoyance and cast angry glances at his servant, but the poor man could not settle quietly to his work.

At last, when the dessert had been placed quietly on the table, he stole timidly behind his master's chair and said:

"Please, sir, can you spare me now? My house has been on fire for the last hour and a half!"

## IN THE HOMES OF OTHER PEOPLE

If you ever go visiting your friends, and I hope you have many friends to visit, there are certain things that you want to bear in mind, if you desire to be a welcome guest, and if you hope for invitations in the future, writes Kate Thorn.

In the first place, never give your friends any pleasant(?) surprise. Nine housekeepers out of every ten would much rather know when guests are to be expected, and it is a duty you owe the visited to advise her of your contemplated visit. She can then make her plans with reference to your entertainment, or she will be able to send you word if, for any reason, some other time than the proposed will be more convenient for her to receive you. And you should never feel hurt, or slighted, if she should inform you. There are times and seasons in the life of every housekeeper when guests would be a perplexity of spirit, and when they would be most heartily unwelcome, and you do not want to chance upon one of those seasons.

When you arrive at your friend's house, and the greetings are over, let her know just how long you purpose to remain her guest, and never be persuaded to overstay the time mentioned—not even by one train.

Accommodate yourself to the ways of the household. Do not wait to be called out of bed for breakfast. There is nothing more exasperating to the mistress, the cook, and the hired girl, than to be obliged to keep breakfast hot and waiting for somebody who is too lazy, or too heedless, to get around in season for the meal. And in rising early enough for the breakfast hour of the family, do not make the mistake of coming down to the parlors before they are put to rights for the day. Wait for the bell. You don't want to be moving round from one place to another, to avoid the broom and duster; and the girl who is doing the sweeping does not want you there in her way, either.

Never interfere in any way with the servants or the children. There is nothing upon which the average woman is so "touchy" as upon the management of her servants and children.

Don't argue with anybody about anything. Bear it the best you can if the master of the house smokes in the sitting room. If he doesn't know any better, let him live and die in his ignorance, and be thankful that you haven't got to endure it any longer than you please.

If you do not like the kind of tea or coffee served to you, drink the less of it—a few days' abstinence will do you no harm. Don't urge the young girl of the family to sing and play when she persistently refuses. She will do both fast enough when she finds that you do not care anything about it. Just you wait and see.

Don't compel the children to come and kiss you the first thing. Let them alone. They will amble all over you after they come to a realizing sense of the fact that you don't want them to do it.

If you are politely told that you can retire any time you choose, that is the very time when you ought to be sleepy, and go to your room. You can be awake all night if you want to.

Don't ask for envelopes, and pen and ink, and needles and thread, and liver pills, and boot-buttons; carry all those things along with you, and have them handy in case you need them.

If there is another or a grandmother in the family, be patient with her reminiscences, and laugh at her anecdotes of a past age. Listen sympathetically to the story of her neuralgias and dyspepsias, and rheumatisms; for if you don't die, you will be old yourself some day, and you will enjoy relating your divers experiences as well as she does.

Be patient with everybody. Don't speak slightly of the friends of the family you are visiting. You may not fancy them, but that is really nothing against them, since tastes and opinions differ so much.

Don't find fault with the sermon of the minister where your friend goes to church. If you do not like his sermon, somebody else does, and it is not preached in vain.

Don't in any wise belittle the family doctor, or the beefsteak served by the family butcher. Tolerate the cat. Endure the dog. Put on a wrap if the house is not warm enough for you.

Accept any offered courtesy with thanks. Mail yourself just as agreeable as you know how to. Don't criticize the young man who comes to call on the young lady of the family. Let her marry him if she wants to; it is not essential to their married bliss that you should approve of him.

Be sure and not miss the train by which you have announced you will take your departure; and when you are at home, be careful and write to your friend a pleasant note of thanks for the hospitality you have received, and it is highly probable that she will invite you to visit her again some time.

### SIGNS INFALLIBLE.

Madam, smiled the doctor, your husband is well again. His liver is in perfect condition.

I know it. He paid the bill for my new fall hat without a protest and then asked me if I didn't think I would better get a nice winter wrap of some kind.

### EBB TIDE.

Witherby—I'm afraid, old man, that this whisky of mine is rather poor. Castleton, looking at the bottle.—No, not poor, but in reduced circumstances.