

A THANKSGIVING OF LONG AGO

BY LINDA STEVENS ALMOND.

Once upon a time when your great grandmother was a little girl there lived a little girl named Amelia Ellen. Early one Thanksgiving morning everybody in Amelia Ellen's home was up preparing to go to Grandmother's to spend the day. Amelia Ellen had cross-stitched on paper-mache a motto which she was going to take to Grandmother. It said: "Let Us Be Thankful." It was rolled very carefully and put in a box under the seat of the sleigh along with a plum pudding, a pair of dressed chickens, and woolen gloves for Grandmother.

Hot bricks were ready. Amelia Ellen was bundled snug as snug in her big coat and tippet, and a knitted cap all fleecy-lined was tied over her brown ears. Little Ponto, her puppy, was wrapped in a shawl to be carried along.

"Ready!" called Amelia Ellen's father as Mother locked the front door and came tripping down to the sleigh where Frolic was impatiently prancing to be off.

"Ready!" laughed Mother as she hopped in with extra robes beside Amelia Ellen. Jingle-jingle went the sleigh bells, and off dashed Frolic over the crunching snow.

"Oh, such fun!" Ponto "woof-woofed" as he peeped his little black head out of the shawl to look upon the snow-clad world. Father was thinking of the delicious roast turkey being prepared at Grandmother's, the cranberry sauce, pumpkin and mince pies. Mother was thinking of the happy afternoon with the fireplace, and Amelia Ellen was thinking of the fun of popping corn and roasting apples with her little cousins.

Suddenly it began to snow cloudily. "I believe it is going to snow," said Father.

"It is snowing," said Mother, and sure enough fine fleecy flakes were tumbling all about them.

Before long they reached the saw-mill. "Why!" gasped Father. "The bridge is under repair. We shall be obliged to go all the way around by the ferry."

"Oh, dear!" lamented Mother. "That is a good ten miles."

But Amelia Ellen, snug as could be, didn't mind a mile. Oh, it was great fun pushing along with the sleigh bells jingling and snowflakes dashing in your eyes! So they turned into another road. Faster and faster fell the snow. Father began to look anxious. "It's growing into a regular snowstorm," he said. "It keeps up this rate—"

"At this rate?" asked Mother anxiously.

"Well, we just can't go on," said Father. "That's all. See, poor Frolic is beginning to fight his way."

In a little while the snow became blinding, and Father decided they would have to stop at the first house. Presently they turned into a lane. It wasn't a very inviting-looking place, and the house was dreary and dilapidated looking, but of course it could not be helped. A man came down to the sleigh and when Father explained their plight, he invited them to come right inside. So Mother and Amelia Ellen, with Ponto in her arms, jumped out, and hastened indoors while Father and the man went down to the barn to put Frolic up and cover her with a warm blanket.

A little girl just Amelia Ellen's age opened the door. She was very shy and did not know what to say, but when Ponto jumped out of the shawl she began to laugh and forgot her shyness.

"What is your name, little girl?"

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FREE

Here is a perfectly splendid pen and pencil set free to boys and girls. The fountain pen is made of white and is a self-filler. It has pocket-clip attached, and is guaranteed for one year by the manufacturer. The pencil is a rubber eraser, and under that is a perfect beauty. We will send you this set complete, either ladies' or men's style, in a neat box, if you will send three dollars worth of lovely Xmas Post Cards, Folders and Souvenirs 10 cents a piece. Just send us your name and address and we send you the complete set. When they are sold we will send you our money and we will send you with all charges prepaid. Send your order to-day—before others get ahead of you.

HOMER WARREN CO. DEPT. 41, TORONTO, CANADA

MUTT & JEFF—By Bud Fisher.



S.S. LESSON

Oct. 31. The Evil of Strong Drink (World's Temperance Sunday), Prov. 23: 29-35. Golden Text—At the last it biteth like a serpent, and stingeth like an adder.—Prov. 23: 32.

Care and Feeding of Swine.

Among the work carried on at the Central Experimental Farm last year, as recorded in the report of the Director of the System for the year ending March 31, 1926, was a comparison of housing methods of swine during winter and a study on causes of soft pork, in addition to feed and breed comparisons. The pure-bred swine kept at the Central are Yorkshire and Berkshire. The feeding of crosses and the Yorkshire pen, making slightly larger gains than the Berkshire-Tamworth cross and at about the same cost per pound of gain. The Yorkshire and Berkshire cross did not gain as much per day, but did not consume as much feed per pound of gain. The Berkshire failed to show as rapid and economical gains as any of the other three lots under test.

In a test of a semi-solid buttermilk Prozac (an American feed sold especially as a milk substitute for pigs) for the raising and fattening of pigs compared with skim milk and buttermilk, the pigs fed on the latter two substances stood first in economy, rate of gain and thriftiness, but were followed very closely by the tankage pigs. The tankage was fed at the rate of eight per cent. Prozac although not giving as good results as buttermilk or skim milk proved a good feed, but, says the report, seems to be too expensive to be highly recommended for pigs.

Pigs fed outside but provided with good sleeping berths besides making an economical ration proved more thrifty than those fed inside in a warm and inexpensive pigsty. Investigations into the causes of soft pork, as to the cost of pigs at birth and at weaning age, and to determine the value of potassium iodine fed broad sows during the gestation period, are being continued this year.

Store Only Good Sound Potatoes.

The potato crop has suffered injury on some soils, varying from slight rot to blight, blackleg and stem end rot. Since a diseased or unsound potato takes up as much room in the storage bin as a sound potato it is good practice to gather separately and keep out of the storage all tubers showing dark sunken areas on the surface and a brownish discoloration of the flesh (Late Blight Rot). It is also advisable to examine tubers for Stem End Rot. Evidence of this trouble is shown by a decayed end of the tuber. When a cross section is made near the stem end, a brownish ring is usually plainly visible. Do not use good storage space and labor on a potato that should not be kept. The loss of potatoes on heavy soils will be greater than for rocky soils.

Giving Thanks.

Thanksgiving! Why, we ought to be thanks giving. Each day we're living!

For air and sunshine, and a house to hold. Out too much food. And night and laughter and the friendliness of words. And for birds. And fields, and little hills, and roads that go. Far far! And for the corner movie show. And for the church and paragonage, and, too. The little school where we learned all we know. Until Time taught us lessons still un-guessed! And for the zest! Each day we're here, we ought to be thanks giving!

—Mary Carolyn Davis.

Reflections.

Then art, oh God, the life and light Of all this wondrous world we see; Its glow by day, its smile by night. Are but reflections caught from Thee. And all things bright and fair Have their being in Thee!

—Thomas Moore.

Improvement of Fox Breeding.

An experimental fox ranch has been established at Summerside, Prince Edward Island, in connection with the Dominion Experimental Farms System. The ranch is under the direction of Mr. G. B. Smith, an authority of wide experience, and covers about five acres, with thirty-five breeding pens, thirty-five male pens, two large exercising pens and one trap pen. At present the stock consists of thirty-five female and forty male foxes. The plant as a whole is considered to constitute one of the best and most complete fox ranches in existence. In his annual report covering the year ending March 31, 1926, the Director of the Dominion Experimental Farms says that a deal of credit is due Canadian National Fox Breeders' Association for their contribution in land, animals, and buildings and for their active support in the establishment of the ranch.

Live Stock Marketings in Ontario.

According to statistics given in the recently published fifth report of the commercial live stock marketings in Canada, by the Dominion Live Stock Branch, the average of the last five years of live stock marketed in Ontario was 899,540 cattle, 188,727 calves, 1,370,617 hogs, and 286,327 sheep. Last year was the best in the history of Ontario, 407,660 being marketed. It was also the best for calves, 209,521 being marketed. Hogs fell away to 1,488,507 in 1925 compared with 1,779,945 in 1924 and sheep with the lowest in all the five years, the figures last year being 188,492 compared with 319,497 in 1921. Bruce was the highest county in cattle, Glenora in calves, marketing no fewer than 15,455 to 1,996 cattle, York in hogs and in sheep, Grey came very close to York in sheep.

The report, which is to be had free on application to the Publications Branch, Ottawa, notes that there was a marked improvement in the quality of the cattle and that evidence of the incident demand for export cattle is to be found in the fact that the percentage of stock at country points for direct shipment in 1925 exceeded the average of the previous four years by over 45,000 head, or was approximately 148 per cent. greater. There was also improvement in the quality of calves and in lambs.

Frost Injury to Plants.

Mr. H. N. Raebolt, Plant Pathologist at the St. Anne de la Pocaterie, Que., Dominion Field Laboratories, in his report to the Dominion Botanist, notes a peculiar "bruising" down of apples in storage that had never been noticed before. It was first noticeable by the darkening of the skin and the softening of the fruit. The bruising was caused by frost injury to the tissues underneath. On cutting through these spots the tissues were found to be a light brown. It was ascertained that apples picked prior to the cold and snow storm of October 7 were free from this and that it was in apples picked after that date that the trouble appeared. The varieties affected were in order of severity, Fameuse, Scarlet Pippin, McIntosh Seedling, and Milwaukie, but a percentage was found in all varieties. The loss was estimated at upwards of twenty-five per cent.

A Laugh.

A laugh is just like music. It freshens all the day. And drives the clouds away. The soul grows glad that hears it. And feels its courage strong— A laugh is just like sunshine. For cheering folks along.

—Abon.

Yes, Mutt, Try to Putt With Those Balls.

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Thanksgiving Decorations.

Wishing to brighten my Thanksgiving table, I tried my luck with carrots. Large ones were cut into two-inch pieces, the centres hollowed out with an apple corer, the top edge cut into points. These were the nut cups. A bit of wax paper was put inside to keep them dry.

For the Thanksgiving Feast

After the capable housewife has planned and prepared a wonderful dinner, there are a few "extra trimmings" which she can easily add, and which will increase the pleasure of the occasion. There is not much room on a well-filled table for elaborate decorations, but a basket filled with red apples and pears, or a low bowl of yellow and orange chrysanthemums, will give a festive touch. One hostess hollowed out a pumpkin and filled it with fruit, having first lined the pumpkin with paraffin paper. Another housewife used a toy wheelbarrow, filling it with choice fruits. Little cornucopias can be made of colored paper and filled with raisins and nuts of small candies, then attached to the water glasses by paper-clips.

If a large number of guests are to be seated the hostess will save herself trouble by making place-cards. These can be blank cards or even slips of paper decorated with turkey or pumpkin seal. A gracious hostess may write not only the guest's name but some kindly Thanksgiving compliment such as, "We are thankful for Uncle Jim's kind heart," or "We are thankful for Aunt Marcella's helpfulness," etc. A great deal of confusion in the setting is avoided by using cards, as the hostess can plan carefully beforehand and add to the success of the dinner. Uncle Jim will be delighted to have beside him Cousin Clara, who takes especial thought for his deafness, so speaks clearly and slowly, while Aunt Marcella and Aunt Minnie will enjoy exchanging their latest news as they sit side by side.

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Nowhere is made in the world as good as this

the best of the breed of the province of B.C. is a high class of sheep, and the care of wool is the best in the world.

There are many reasons why the B.C. sheep is so good. The climate is just what is needed for the growth of the wool. The food is also of the best. The care of the sheep is also of the best.

Many of the B.C. sheep are of the "Bluebelly" breed. This breed is known for its fine wool. It is also known for its hardiness and ability to withstand the cold winters of the north.

The B.C. sheep is also known for its fine fleeces. These fleeces are of a high quality and are much sought after by the wool trade. The B.C. sheep is also known for its fine heads and legs.

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