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Published every day except Sundays. Subscription price, in advance, $10.00 per year, $5.00 six months, $2.50 three months, $1.00 per month, 25 cents per week, postpaid or delivered by carrier.

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Twenty Acres and a Living.

A correspondent of The Ohio Farmer declares that any energetic man not afraid to work can buy on credit ten to twenty acres of land, rich or poor, near a village of not less than 1,000 inhabitants, and in a few years not only pay for the land, but make a living besides. He himself has bought twenty acres in this way, and in five years finds himself not only out of debt, but with improvements on his place worth $600. At this rate no farmer apparently need despair of getting on.

The correspondent was offered the second year of his occupancy seventy-five dollars an acre for the land. He could now get $200 an acre, so much has he added to its value, but he has no wish to sell. He is laying up money. He explains some of his methods. He has been a close student of agricultural literature both in books and papers, and he attributes much of his success to this fact. Furthermore, he has run to specialties in gardening. He has a considerable vineyard from which he sells grapes. But he has not put all his eggs in one basket, but distributed them so that if one is a loss he will have others to fall back on.

For instance, on the one vegetable, horse radish, which most farmers treat with contempt, he realizes annually a large sum. He puts it up in bottles, and cannot prepare it fast enough for his customers. He has now an acre and a half in the vegetable alone. His plan generally is to find his own customers and sell to them directly, without the middleman's intervention. His wife does much of the buying and selling and otherwise runs the financial end of the partnership, leaving him time to carry out his agricultural ideas.

Artesian Wells in Cities.

In Lincoln park, Chicago, is an artesian well that supplies twenty gallons of pure water a minute to thirsty crowds. Artesian well water generally is preferred to that which cities get by piping from lakes and rivers, because it contains less decaying organic matter, coming of it does from away down deep in the earth. The large well in Lincoln park is 1,400 feet deep, and there is in the park also another well of the kind, flowing constantly. During the disturbance of the water supply some time since in Chicago one hotel triumphed over the others because it had its own artesian well, from which flowed a crystal stream unchocked by storm or breakage. In Newark, N. J., an enterprising citizen makes a comfortable living by bottling the water from a famous artesian well and delivering it by wagon to families that are unwilling to drink the ordinary hydrant water.

It seems that there are large possibilities in the artesian well industry for cities and for smaller towns. An establishment that had its own well would be independent at all times of the water department. For fires and seasons of drought and for other emergencies public wells of this kind would be useful in every city. And small towns might draw their entire water supply from this source in almost any spot in this country. Numbers of villages have, in fact, constructed public water works in this way, and all of them might do so.

It is a very serious business when a regularly accredited officer of the United States in a foreign country stands a self confessed forger and swindler, as one of our foreign consuls in Europe does at this moment. Nothing short of insanity could excuse dishonesty in such a place. The consul from this country who turns out to be a forger does irreparable damage. An imputation of dishonesty will be cast on the good name of all Americans as long as his crime is remembered. People elsewhere in Europe will shrug their shoulders at mention of a United States consul. "American consul! Oh, yes. American consuls are forgers. Look out for them." To the man who has thus dragged his country's flag in the dust and besmirched the good name of all American citizens hardly any punishment is too severe. Let him go hang himself.

An electric wagon, run by storage battery, has appeared in Chicago. It might be useful and available, and may yet be, but there is the same old trouble. The battery which generates the electricity, and which must be hauled about in the wagon, weighs a ton—as much as one of the largest of draft horses. At present the motive power costs as much to maintain as a pair of horses, so there seems no advantage except the greater cleanliness and more room in the streets. When shall we have an economical and convenient way of getting electric power? The stored battery for vehicles would come near the mark if it could be made cheap and of light weight.

Hams Roasted by a Cow.

A comic scene took place a few days ago at Berne. A peasant from Ostermundigen was driving a cow into the capital, and had arrived at the Muratalden, when the animal bolted, and jumping the rails around the well known bear pit arrived at the bottom without injury. The proprietor thought that his cow was lost, but he was mistaken. She attacked the bears bravely, which otherwise rooted, retired into their den, into which she would have followed them had she not been prevented by the keeper of the animals, who let down the trapdoor. Then the cow went to the slaughter house and fulfilled her destiny.—Pall Mall Budget.

A Woman Who Owns a Stage Line.

A peculiarly serious little woman, with dark sixteen hair and flashing black eyes, is often registered at the Grand hotel in this city. She is Mrs. H. J. Langdon, of Lassen county, the woman stage driver of the Sierras, but she is more than a driver of stages—she is an owner. Her stage lines extend for several hundred miles throughout the mountains, and she owns stores of horses and vehicles and carries the United States mail as well as hundreds of passengers.

Her husband died a few years ago, and she took hold and managed and extended the business aforesaid. Mrs. Langdon has taken many mail contracts from the government, and is well known at Washington, which city she often has occasion to visit in connection with her mail contracts.

Mrs. Langdon is reported to be as good a judge of stock as any in the stage business. She knows also the opportune moment when to grease a wagon, all harness and generally to keep in touch with the stage business, so as to make it successful.

Her stage lines extend over some of the rugged routes to the Honey and Agate across plains, like those about Susanville. Plumas county has several of Mrs. Langdon's lines. She delivers mails and passengers promptly, and by reason of her skill in taking contracts and her ability in executing them has become noted for her pluck and enterprise. She is said to be an excellent whip and is able to hold in manipulate the lines of four or more horses about as easily as the famous Hank Monk used to do on the old Geiger grade.—San Francisco Examiner.

Inexpensive Dishcloths.

"Dishwashing is an awfully commonplace subject, isn't it, and yet it is a very important one," said an admirable housekeeper. "Indeed, I think I could preach an excellent sermon with dishcloths for a text. Just what kind is best and how they should be cared for are matters that receive but little attention in the average household, based for too little, for on the judicious management of some items of this sort much of the daintiness and what might be called the poetry of dishwashing depends. For there is poetry in dishwashing, although at first operations is commonly carried on it isn't apparent to the ordinary esthetic taste. I have tried all sorts of cloths, lines, cotton and mixtures of them materials, and for a long time could find nothing that exactly pleased me.

"One day, in a fit of desperation at not being able to lay my hand on just what I wanted, I caught up an empty flour sack which had been through the laundry, and was so delighted with it that I have been a perfect slave to the lion of flour sacks ever since, and was to be the unfortunate handmaiden who destroyed one of them or appropriates it to any other use. The soft, fine cotton makes absolutely perfect cloths and when my supply of them runs short I buy cotton so nearly like the working material as I can find, and stitch it up into bags to precisely the same shape. It has the additional recommendation of being inexpensive and, when one buys flour by the bag, of utilizing that which is often allowed to go to waste."—New York Ledger.

Boiling Milk Does Not Injure Its Value.

A very important question, from the point of view of the management of newborn children, is whether boiled milk retains a sufficiently nutritive value. Formerly it was universally thought that milk ought to be used in a state as nearly like as possible to that in which it is when issuing from the breast, and uncooked milk was the only kind employed for feeding infants. Nowadays, however, since it has been clearly demonstrated that milk may be an agent for the transmission of various diseases, such as eruptive fevers, typhoid fever and especially consumption, most authors and physicians agree in recommending that boiled milk only should be given to infants.

This practice is assuredly excellent from the point of view of prophylaxis against contagious diseases, but it is equally good from the point of view of alimentary hygiene, and in feeding infants on boiled milk do they not sacrifice nourishment? This question has been examined, with the aid of all the documents which could be collected, by Mr. Henry Drouet. From his researches, made from the various points of view of physiology, clinical treatment and attitudes, results the general conclusion that boiling does not at all diminish the digestibility of milk, and consequently does not diminish its nutritive value.—Paris Revue Scientifique.

Ways of Protecting a Watch.

If you are determined to wear your watch like the rest of womankind, thrust it into your bodice; it is a good idea to have sewed securely to the lining of such a place one of the patent fastening hooks which have to be pressed in order to pass over anything. Clasp this over the big link at the end of your chain, and you are comparatively safe. A strong handed thief may break the chain, but cannot capture the watch. If this is impossible, it is at any rate always easy to fasten a fancy pin through the end of the chain, which will keep it from slipping away and render it a little less easy to grab.

Another excellent plan would be to have a small pocket sewed to the lining of such bodice at the place where it is natural to slip the watch. This pocket could open toward the front, and when the watch was thrust in could fasten by means of one of the patent hooks to an eyelet inserted in the lining of the bodice.

With the watch securely tucked in such a receptacle, even with the chain dangling distinctly down the front of the gown, a woman might safely venture into a crowd and not be obliged to keep one hand continually over her breast to protect her property.—Cincinnati Commercial Gazette.

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