

THE MYSTERY OF THE INN BY THE SHORE



Florence Warden
Author of "The House on the Marsh," etc.

CHAPTER IV.

There was a faint track over the fields, not deep enough to be called a path, but just clear enough for him to discern by the trodden look of the short grass.

He was within a couple of hundred yards of the little river, and was looking out for any sign of Nell's presence in the little garden on the other side, when he became aware that the questioning Jean Strickles was in sight, peering slowly down the stream, as he had done the day before.

"Well, sir, I warned you as how it was not a good idea to put up at the Blue Lion," said Jean, with a saucer-like frown which made Clifford wince. "I told you that if you put up at the Blue Lion, you would be sure to get into a row with the law."

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AGRICULTURAL.

Salting Butter.

Cold water will absorb about thirty-six per cent. of its own weight of salt, and boiling about forty per cent. This makes what is known as a saturated brine, which always means all the salt that the water will absorb. In salting butter the brine is seldom made stronger than thirty or thirty-four per cent. of salt.

Paris Green to be Trusted.

Professor L. E. Van Slyke and W. H. Andrews, of the New York Agricultural Station at Geneva, in accordance with the provisions of a law designed to protect purchasers of Paris green, have published (Bulletin No. 222) the results of their examination of samples in 1902. In the forty-four samples of Paris green examined, the arsenic oxide varied from 55.29 to 61.10 per cent., and averaged 57.19 per cent. The water soluble arsenic oxide varied from 0.61 to 1.55 per cent., and averaged 1.01 per cent. The copper oxide varied from 27.63 to 30.73 per cent., and averaged 29.11 per cent. The amount of arsenic oxide in combination with copper, varied from 50.03 to 57.90 per cent., an average 55.19 per cent. The general result of the examination is to show a good quality of Paris green in the market at the time the samples were taken.

Silo Saves Space and Labor.

The question of economy of storage room is entirely in favor of silage. Less room is required for storing the product from a certain number of acres in the silo than in a barn in cured condition. Hay placed in the mow will take up more than three times as much room as the same quantity of food material put into the silo. In the case of mold-cured fodder, the comparison comes out even more favorably to the silo on account of the greater difficulty of procuring the thick stalks from a mow than from a silo.

Securing Stand of Orchard Grass.

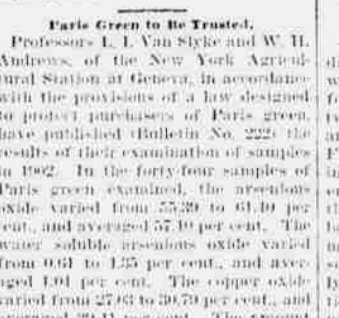
Orchard grass generally does well on rather light soils which are quite fertile. It usually grows in clumps and this fails to make a compact turf, unless heavy sowing and mowing is practiced. Many successful gardeners on Long Island prefer to grow orchard grass because of the abundant yield obtained on their sandy soils. It is common there to sow as high as three bushels per acre, where very heavy mowing has previously been practiced. In this way a heavy, thick growth is obtained with little or no tendency to form tall clumps.

Incubators.

The time has come when one who contemplates owning a large chicken yard looks first toward incubator hatching, seemingly forgetting mother hen, except that she must produce the eggs. Having decided upon buying an incubator, the next important thing is the best make to buy. Comparison of really good incubators, as well as poor ones, is so great that a good one, whose work will be relied upon for a long time, can be had very readily, and it is always best to get one of the best makes, for although cheap ones may do good work for a time, they soon rust and warp and go to the ash pile, after they have caused several batches of eggs to be either chilled or roasted. But if a good machine is purchased, one that is not sensitive to the heat and cold of the room where it is kept, and if the directions which accompany all good incubators are closely followed, little if any trouble will be found in hatching all the fertile eggs. Especially if the machine is run simply long enough before starting with eggs to bring out all its points. The heat should be very more than two or three degrees, and the eggs will stand up to a clean and hatch out stronger chicks than they will with excessive heat. Learning to run an incubator successfully is like learning anything else; one must expect to meet with some failures before they become experts. One question that is often asked is "what size shall I buy?" That depends largely on the amount of money one has to invest, and upon the number of chicks one wishes to raise. There is very little difference in the expense of running the large and small ones, while one gets better pay for the larger expended if the larger sized ones are used—Stella W. Dyer, in The Epitomist.

A Chicken Hatcher.

The accompanying illustration is a diagram of a home-made hatcher, which I have used with great success for two years. It is a three-handled bucket with a lid, twelve inches wide and constructed a few inches by six feet. From center K to point M, fourteen inches, and a three-inch board from end to end of pen into nest, using strap hangers, if necessary, for partitions, making each nest fourteen inches square, placing a narrow board directly below L M on edge to secure partitions. The top of hatcher on side of nest may be covered with one wide board running full length. Or if one has time, money and tool, the cover of each nest may be hung with hinges at points L, 2, 3, 4, etc. Leather ties are a good thing. At point C place a board upright wide enough to make the pen dark and secure the hole by the hinges. Now a string, three inches for the hen where she may cut and drink at will. These runs are best made of lath, and should extend from L to N and fourteen inches wide, placing each in a separate inch-wide, extending full length. These last covers should extend to L and point N. As soon as a hen wishes to sit, place her at night on edge of one of these, fastening her in securely with board in C C, making the pen quite dark, and let



her remain until feeding time, when she may be placed in it if less cost than it can be put up as cured fodder. To derive full benefit from the food materials in the feed used in hatching, it must be run through a feed cutter in small proportions at a time; the corn must be most cases be husked, crushed, and either ground, cut and all, or shelled and ground. In doing corn, the whole plate is now, as a rule, run through the cutter and sifted into the silo at once, thus doing away with the separate grinding of each corn. Current experiments with such corn, conducted by several of our experiment stations, have shown that "slice" grain made from corn and "crus and all" has produced somewhat better milk and butter than dry fodder and dry corn, handled and fed separately. The point of the same area of land here compared in the same case—G. Ellis, in The Cultivator.

Attractive Farm Ornaments.

Sometimes life on the farm seems monotonous in the farmer's wife or daughter. If one who is weary of the monotony of life in the country, a few attractive farm ornaments will give a new interest to the life. This is not hard to do, for it is not difficult to find a few things that will give a new interest to the life. This is not hard to do, for it is not difficult to find a few things that will give a new interest to the life.

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FOR WOMAN'S BENEFIT

THE WOMAN WHO FALLS BEHIND.

Social Cultivation Progresses as the Education of Arts.

Books are not people, nor is any magazine or newspaper the living voice of actual personality. Perhaps, in reading her newspaper or magazine, however, the Woman Who Falls Behind may find one of these most interesting advertisements that tell of a woman of cultivation who is not getting along in the world because she is behind in her education and her knowledge of the world.

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the fact that the pretty woman is abandoned in the consciousness of a pretty face and neglects her general appearance. It is apt to think that a pretty face covers a multitude of sins by making up for all other deficiencies. Only women can always look "chic" and "à la mode," and as dress is of more importance than face, she makes the most of this fact and leaves nothing undone in point of style and deportment. She is apt to look more "fashionable" than the pretty one because she is unconscious of her features. This is an air of distinction and a certain amount of culture.

A Black Role.

Nothing is funnier as its name would imply is the newest black role. Indeed, it is a splendid creation. The skin is composed of grooves or narrow ridges, and being placed on the side, those ridges are not so much as the advantage they are so fitted to any degree of smoothness. They may be applied to the foot, too, though in this case they do not, as the shaped form of a lady's hand. Renaissance hand. This form is nearly like the shape of the foot, but it is put on as if it were a glove, the usual objection being that it is a glove. The grooves are set together in a joint effect, the skin corresponding with that used in the glove. Enough material comes from the glove to make a dress. Considering how many designs turn out disappointing, this is a desirable solution.

Women's Strange Voracious.

Women are entering into competition with men in the capacity of office to office sales. In some instances they are even their husbands' agents, the men folk doing the manufacturing at home. In other cases, these women represent large retail houses and work on commission basis. About half a dozen books are carried and samples distributed with free home.

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FRILLS FASHION

Grand silks in plaids, bayadere stripes, small checks and subtle effects as suitable for country hats.

Shawl waists and walking suits of formal for the coming season will be in vogue in new patterns.

A French fashion for face is very delicate on colored material, both for collars and trimmings.

English material in a very fine quality is to be much used in the creation of very swaggar fabric gowns.