FOR THE FARM AND HOME.

Pork to the Bushel.

One bushel of corn should give ten pounds of pork in fattening when fed on the ear.

One bushel of meal dry fed will give eleven pounds of pork.

One bushel of meal mixed with water will give thirteen pounds of pork.

One bushel of meal cooked in mush will give fifteen pounds of pork.—*Practical Farmer.*

What Good Cows Will Do.

A good cow will make 200 pounds of butter in a season, and skim-milk, fed to thirty pigs, will grow 200 pounds of dressed pork, or the same skim-milk fed to a calf will put on at least 200 pounds of live weight. A good steer fed in the ordinary way will dress 800 to 2,000 pounds at four years, having grown on the average 250 pounds of meat each year, whereas the cow has made 200 pounds of butter, and the refuse of her milk has produced nearly as much meat in the pork or growth of young beef in the calf as the average growth of a steer for one year.

Stirring the Soil.

Henry Ives, of Pennsylvania, says that one test of good farming brought out by last year's exceptionally severe drought was the superior crops of those who kept right on stirring the soil, even when all weeds had been killed and there seemed to be no more to conquer, and they were stirring the soil that was already open and loose. In one field of corn of eight acres only one acre was hoed, as it was thought it could do no good in such extreme drought. That acre returned about as much as all the other seven. Potatoes that were tilled well gave 125 to 175 bushels per acre, where those neglected yielded thirty to sixty.

Pastures in England.

The usual practice in Great Britain, when it is intended to lay a field down to grass for permanent pasture, is, after draining and thorough cultivation, and manuring by means of a root crop, folded upon the land with sheep fed on oil cake, to sow a suitable mixture of grasses and clover with a light seeding of barley. When the land is in good condition this is done in March or April. The clovers are sown by themselves, and the mixed grasses at a separate operation. The barley produces a crop which is harvested, and young cattle may keep the grass down the first autumn if there is an abundant growth. The field may be mown the next year, being well manured in the autumn. It is thereafter grazed annually, first with young stock, the cattle receiving at the same time oil cake or cotton cake, thus enriching their manure and adding to the fertility of the land. It is also occasionally manured, lime dust and superphosphate and kainite promoting the growth of the clovers, and nitrate of soda and sulphate of ammonia promoting the growth of the grasses. In the course of a few years the land, if in a suitable climate, will become such a permanent pasture as to satisfy the British farmer.

Receipts.

GRAHAM CAKE.—One teacupful of sour cream, one cup of sugar, two eggs well beaten, two cups of graham flour, one teaspoonful of soda. Bake an hour. This is a wholesome and very good cake.

FISH CROQUETTES.—Take dressed fish of any kind, separate it from the bones, mince it with a little seasoning, to an egg beaten with a teaspoonful of flour and a cup of milk; roll it into balls, brush the balls with egg, and dredge it well with bread crumbs, fry them of a light brown in the boiler. Heads, tails, with an onion and a pint of water, stewed together will make the gravy.

PUMPKIN SOUP.—For six persons use three pounds of pumpkin; take off the rind, cut it in pieces, and put it in a saucepan with a little salt, and cover with water; let it boil until it is soft—say 20 minutes—and pass through a colander; it must have no water in it; put about three pints of milk in a saucepan, add the strained pumpkin, and let it come to a boil, add a very little white sugar, some salt and pepper; no butter is used.—*Ladies.*

MILK BISCUIT.—Light and very satisfactory biscuit are made from this recipe: One-fourth of a pound of butter, one quart of lukewarm milk, two wine glasses of yeast, half a teaspoonful of salt, with flour enough to make a good firm dough. Stir flour in the milk to make a stiff batter, then add the yeast. Do this at evening. In the morning, after melting the butter, stir that in and knead in flour enough to make a stiff dough. Cover it over in a pan and let it rise till perfectly light. When this is accomplished roll it out until a little over an inch thick; cut out the biscuit, place them in shallow baking-tins, and set them in a warm place to rise. When light enough, pierce the top of each one with a fork; rub the top with the white of an egg if you wish to have them glossy. Bake in a quick oven.

A dramatic suicide occurred in Wayne county, Ala., recently. F. A. Cox, a respectable young man, attended a party. At midnight he arranged the chairs around the room, invited the ladies to be seated and look at him when he died. He then placed a chair in the center of the room, sat down upon it, and taking a pistol from his pocket blew his brains out before the astonished spectators could interfere.

To Tell a Horse's Age.

At three years old the horse should have the central permanent nippers growing, the other two pairs wasting six grinders in each jaw, above and below, the first and fifth level, the others and the sixth protruding. The sharp edges of the new incisors will be very evident, compared with the old teeth. As the permanent nippers wear and continue to grow a narrow portion of the cone-shaped tooth on each other. The mark will be wearing out and the crowns of the teeth will be sensibly smaller than at two years. Between three and a half and four years the next pair of nippers will be changed, the central nippers will have attained nearly their full growth, a vacuity will be left where the second stood, and the corner teeth will be diminished in breadth, worn down, and the mark in the center of the teeth will become faint. The second pair of grinders will be shed. At four years the central nippers will be fully developed, the sharp edge somewhat worn off, and the mark somewhat wider and fainter. The next pair will be up, but they will be small, with a mark deep and extending quite across them. The corner nippers will be larger than the inside ones, but smaller than before and the mark nearly effaced. The six grinders will have risen to a level with the others, and the tushes will begin to appear. At five years the horse's mouth is almost perfect. The corner nippers are quite up, the long, deep mark irregular in the middle and the other nippers will bear evident tokens of increased wear. The tushes are nearly grown, the sixth molar is up and the third molar is wanting. This last circumstance will prevent the deception of attempting to pass a five-year-old as a five-year-old. At six the mark on the central nippers is worn out. At seven years the mark is worn out in the four central nippers and has worn away in the corner teeth. The tushes are rounded at the points and edges, and beginning to get round inside. At eight years old the tushes are rounded in every way, the mark is gone from all the bottom nippers. There is nothing remaining in them that can afterward clearly show the age of the horse. After this the only guides are the nippers in the upper jaw. At nine years the mark will be worn from the middle nippers, from the next pair at ten years, and from all the upper nippers at eleven years. At nine years the center nippers are round instead of oval. At ten years the others begin to become rounded, at eleven years the second pair are much rounded, at thirteen years the corner ones have the same appearance; at fourteen years the face of the center nippers becomes somewhat triangular, at seventeen years they are all so.—*St. Louis Globe-Democrat.*

Bridal Parties in Independence Hall.

Mrs. Wilson, the Superintendent of the museum in Independence hall, Philadelphia, says that her most numerous and interesting visitors are bridal parties, and that every day she has an opportunity of witnessing the curious phases of character and sentiment developed by newly wedded bliss. The least amusement is afforded by those who are making a bridal tour in style, and who come in carriages, accompanied by an escort of gayly dressed and chattering bridesmaids and groomsmen. Such groups of visitors are frequently to be seen in the museum, and the Duke of Newcastle, when he was inspecting the curiosities there, had an opportunity of also inspecting a gorgeous American bridal party making such queer remarks as:

"What a bang-up old fellow George Third must have been."

"Give those photographs a rest and come over here where Billy Penn is trading with the Indians," or a little voice saying tiredly: "Horace, dear, look at this horrid old man here. I am sure it must be a picture of Captain Kidd." It was a painting of that sturdy old Revolutionary patriot, Israel Putnam.

Mrs. Wilson says that there is no better time to study human nature than when humanity is on a bridal tour, and there is no better place to observe it than in the museum at Independence hall. The bride who, notwithstanding her blushes, has a will of her own, generally shows it by quietly leading the groom where she wants to go. If he is doomed to be henpecked the fact is bound to crop out.

There are a thousand and one little things which go on between the freshly united couples which furnish a never-ending succession of lessons in honeymoon life. Mrs. Wilson has seen so many bridal parties come and go that she knows one the moment the pair enter the room. There are certain infallible signs by which they make their condition of happiness known. Mrs. Wilson says there can always be detected a half-ashamed, half-proud expression, as if they would say—"Now, I am afraid that you will laugh at me, but I don't care. It's a good thing to be married, if it does seem a little queer." The bridal visitors come in the morning, as if they felt it their duty when in Philadelphia to visit Independence hall.

It is calculated that the embezzlements and robberies, private and official, in Russia during the year amount to 20,000,000.

THE BIGGEST OF ALL.

An Interesting Account of the Largest Diamond in the World.

If genuine, the Braganza, in possession of the king of Portugal, is by far the largest diamond, not only now in existence, but of which there is any record. But its very size, weighing no less than 1,680 carats in the rough, has caused it to be suspected, and no opportunity has hitherto been afforded of examining it with sufficient care to warrant anything like a conclusive judgment as to its true character.

One of the earliest and best accounts we have of this stone is that given by Mawe in his "Travels in Brazil."

"A few leagues," he writes, "to the north of the Rio Plata is the rivulet named Abaite, celebrated for having produced the largest diamond. Three men named Antonio de Sousa, Jose Feliz Gomes, and Thomas de Sousa, having been found guilty of high crimes, were banished into the interior, and ordered not to approach any of the capital towns, or to remain in civilized society, on pain of perpetual imprisonment.

"Driven by this hard sentence into the most unfrequented part of the country, they endeavored to explore new mines or new productions, in the hope that sooner or later they might have the good fortune to make some important discovery, which would obtain a reversal of their sentence, and enable them to regain their station in society.

"They wondered about in this neighborhood, making frequent searches in its various mines, for more than six years. At length they, by hazard, made some trials in the river Abaite, at a time when its waters were so low, in consequence of a long-continued drought, that a part of its bed was left exposed. Here, while searching and washing for gold, they had the good fortune to find a diamond nearly a pound in weight. Elated by this providential discovery, which at first they could scarcely believe to be real, yet hesitating between a dread of the rigorous laws relating to diamonds and the hope of regaining their liberty, they consulted a clergyman, who advised them to trust to the mercy of the State, and accompanied them to Villa Rica, where he procured them access to the governor. They threw themselves at his feet, and delivered to him the invaluable gain on which their hopes rested, relating all the circumstances connected with it.

"The governor, astonished at its magnitude, could not trust the evidence of his senses, but called the officers of the establishment to decide whether it was a diamond, who set the matter beyond all doubt. Being thus by the most strange and unforeseen accident put in possession of the largest diamond ever found in America, he thought proper to suspend the sentence of the men as a reward for having delivered it to him. The gem was sent to Rio de Janeiro, from whence a frigate was dispatched with it to Lisbon whether the clergyman was also sent to make the proper representations respecting it. The sovereign confirmed the pardon of the delinquents, and bestowed some preferment on the priest."

This famous stone, which has been valued at no less than $1,500,000,000 is said to be about the size of a goose's egg, and weight is usually estimated at 1,680 carats, which, at the rate of 100 carats to the ounce, would make rather over eleven ounces.

Murray tells us that Don Juan VI had a hole drilled through it, and it was suspended to his neck on gala days. Murray was not aware whether it was still among the crown jewels given up by Miguel, or had been previously pledged to carry on the war against the French. For this latter report, current in Murray's time, there seems to be no foundation; and according to all recent authorities, the stone would appear never to have been removed from the Portugese treasury, where it is jealously guarded against all inquisitive sight-seers. For obvious financial motive, the government is naturally anxious that, whatever be its true character, it should continue to be regarded as a genuine diamond. On this point the strongest doubts have always been entertained.

Murray tells us, on the authority of a Mr. Magellan, that "a fragment was broken off from it by the ignorance of the person who found it, having struck it a blow with a hammer." This was the old rough-and-ready method of testing stones, the nature of which was not obvious at first sight. It was supposed that true diamonds resisted the heaviest blow of the hammer, whereas it is now well ascertained that they are easily split by cleavage, hence the circumstance here mentioned would not of itself imply that this stone was not a real diamond.

With regard to its value, Murray, repeating Rome Delisle's preposterous estimate of $1,500,000,000, considered that, "according to the method of calculation by Jeffries," its value will be in its present form $28,224,000. But no price at all can be set upon a stone which is still in the rough state, and regarding the true character of which the greatest uncertainty prevails.

A grasshopper can be frozen solid in the fall and laid away, and about the first of May he will yawn, turn over and hop away as if nothing had happened in his routine.

Fashion in Dogs.

Of late years the King Charles and Blenheim spaniels—in spite of their tearful beseeching eyes, their trailing ears, their blunt black noses, their silky coats, and the glories of their bushy tails and feathered legs, have undergone unmerited neglect. Nor has the Italian grayhound, for all the grace and beauty of its slender form, its taper, almost transparent limbs, and the elastic agility of its movements, been prized as once it was. Fashion has turned its approved eyes rather upon the fluffy white Pomeranian, with its fox-like picked ears, and pointed black nose; the Dandie Dinmont, brought into vogue by Sir Walter Scott's "Guy Mannering," the Skye terrier, save the turnspit the longest of all dogs in proportion to its height, with its floccule... door-mat coat, its masked eyes, and obscured nose; and the Maltese terrier, a duodecimo edition of the Skye, shorter of back, however, and with a whiter and silkier jacket. The pug too has recovered the favor it had lost so completely that between 1836 and 1846 the breed was almost extinct in England; it has returned to society in the retinue of Queen Anne, as it were, one of the emblems and scenic properties of her reign, its tastes, modes and foibles. Happily the cruel mutilation of the ears of the animal which once prevailed as a means of wrinkling and puckering its forehead and muzzle has been abandoned. The poodle has never been so esteemed in England as in the land of its nativity. Of the Dalmatian spotted or carriage dog popularly known as the "plum pudding" there has been some vanishing of late. The creature, perhaps, was always regarded as more ornamental than useful, and then, with the circus horse, he became the object of suspicion. Could he not, unlike the leopard, change his spots upon occasion? Were they not sometimes done rather to art than to nature? Stories were told of carriage dogs that had gone out spotted and had returned home pure white. Heavy rain had fallen, and the footman had neglected to hold the carriage and rolled over the carriage dog.

The great popularity enjoyed just at present by the Scotch collie, or Highland sheep dog, has to be reckoned among the striking events or "landmarks" of canine history. To the collie have been sacrificed almost the entire spaniel family, and even that former favorite of romantic romance, the Newfoundland dog, so long famous as a savior of children from watery graves, and in such wise as a member of the Royal Humane society.—*London Graphic.*

A National Industry.

A Monterey (Mexico) correspondent says: Washing of clothes seems to be principal industry of the poorer part of the womanly half of the population. This is a vicarious virtue, practiced at the instance and for the benefit of their betters. I don't think that the poor souls ever get a chance to wash their own clothes at all—they don't look as though they did, certainly; but all day long they sit, or, rather, squat, at their work devotedly—and their wash-day lasts the week through. Their common washtub is a stream of water that flows half across the city, wonderfully pure at its source but more and more befouled with soapsuds as it goes onward, until finally it passes the tanneries and so loses all claims upon respectability. All along the banks of this stream the washerwomen practice their honorable profession, and very comforting to eyes which take kindly to the picturesque is the sight of them. Each woman has in front of her a flat stone or a board, or, most frequently, a shallow wooden bowl, oblong, and very like the bowls in which butter is made. In this bowl she soaps and rubs and squeezes the garment to be washed until her fine knowledge of her art tells her that cleanliness has been achieved; whereafter comes copious rinsing in the running stream. Close beside her is a little fire on which rests a little boiler full of soiled linen and of boiling soapsuds; and thence smoke and steam curl up together among the branches of the overhanging trees. Although their attitude is strikingly ungraceful—or would be for a woman not Mexican—these woman contrive to put a certain grace into it, while their instinct for composition compels them always to arrange themselves in graceful groups. Some children, not ever dressed usually play around them or bask like little brown lizards in the sun; on the low bushes near the bank of the stream are spread the drying clothes a straw-thatched hut gives emphasis to the middle distance and the background—of trees and bushes and half-hidden stone walls—is all that can be desired.

Raining Cats and Dogs.

Among the many queer sayings which one often hears none is more peculiar than "It's raining cats and dogs." Some say that the expression came from the French word *cata-doupe*, a waterfall, but there is a more pleasing explanation of how the phrase came into use. In some parts of England the blossoms of the willow tree are called "cats and dogs." These blossoms increase in size very quickly after a few warm showers in April, and it was believed once that the rain brought them. Hence the saying, "It's raining cats and dogs."

Jokes by the Juveniles.

A little fellow in a primary school was asked by his teacher to spell the word knife. After he had correctly done so, he added, "But what's the K for?"

"What can I do for you to induce you to go to bed now?" asked a mamma of her five-year-old boy. "You can let me sit up a little longer," was the youngster's response.

We were eating our supper, and Mrs. Dodge was cooking beefsteak. I asked my little girl how she would have her beefsteak cooked. She replied, "I will have it tender and true."

A little three-year-old girl, while her mother was trying to get her to sleep, became interested in some outside noise. She was told that it was caused by a cricket, when she eagerly observed: "Mamma, I think he ought to be oiled."

A small boy of four summers was riding on a hobby-horse with a companion. He was seated rather uncomfortably on the horse's neck. After a reflective pause, he said: "I think it one of us gets off I could ride better."

A little lass, whose birthdays do not number more than three, recently went to a church in which the choir occupies a gallery with a clock on the front. "What did you see at church?" asked auntie when she came home. "I saw some folks sing on the clock shelf."

A short time ago, at a school in the north of England, during a lesson on the animal kingdom, the teacher put the following question: "Can any boy name to me an animal of the order edentata; that is, a front-tooth toothless animal?" A boy, whose face beamed with pleasure at the prospect of a good mark, replied, "I can." "Well, what is the animal?" "My grandmother!" replied the boy, in great glee.

Sweet are the Uses of Adversity.

A boy of 12 stood leaning against a fence on Dutchess street, hat pulled down, feet crossed, and his right hand going up occasionally to wipe his nose, when along came another anatomy about his size and asked:

"Sick?"

"No."

"Any the family dead?

"No."

"Going to run away?"

"I dunno. I've just been licked."

"Who dun it?"

"Dad."

"Did your ma ask him to?"

"Yes. She told him I had been aching for it more than a month."

"Say," said the new arrival, "you are in luck. I'm trying my best to get dad to whale me. I'd give fifty cents if he had tanned me this moon and it was all through lourting."

"Why?"

"Why? Haven't I got three dollars saved up to buy pop and maw Christmas presents, and if I can get him to whale me before Christmas won't I spend every cent of that money on myself? How much you got?"

"Two dollars."

"Bully! You are all right! You've been licked, and they won't expect even a stick of gum from their pounded son. I'll go home and skin the lady around and steal sugar and kick the cat and pass mother, and if I can get walloped to-night I'll meet you here to-morrow, and we'll peel in and buy more pistols and scalping knives and rock candy and nuts and raisins than you ever saw before! Yip! Peel me down, dear father—bang my hide on the fence, mother darling!"—*Free Press.*

Actresses Spoiled by Marrying.

Pretty Marion Elmore the actress who set the boys wild last week, is under engagement not to marry for five years. Billy Hayden, her manager, says: "When I signed to star her five years and pay her $100 a week and twenty per cent. of the profits I made her go into writing not to marry during the engagement."

"Why do you tie her up this way?"

"Because actresses lose their hearts more madly and more absurdly than any woman in the world. And marrying nearly always spoils them. I've had more actresses ruined by husbands than all other ways put together. Miss Elmore is clearing $10,000 a year, and in five years she will then be twenty-four; she can then marry and quit the stage. But she can't think of love till her time is up. Many young actresses are bound up in the same sort of contract, and held to it strictly.—*Atlanta Constitution.*

THE CHARLES A. VOGELER CO.,

The New Partnership in the House of A. Vogeler & Co.

[Baltimore Herald, October 11.]

A most important change in one of the largest enterprises of the city took place yesterday and inquiry was busy in gathering the facts.

Immediately following the death of Mr. Charles A. Vogeler, the surviving partners of the house, of which he had been the moving spirit, issued a circular to the trade and press, which appeared in the columns of this paper. It made public an arrangement which in the exigencies of the moment was deemed necessary, and announced that it was the desire of all concerned to continue its affairs as they had been previously conducted.

It was learned, late last evening, that certain changes affecting the permanent establishment of the business had been resolved upon, and a reporter of the *Herald* was dispatched to the office of Col. Charles Marshall, attorney for the estate of the late Charles A. Vogeler, where it was ascertained that negotiations had been concluded, as follows:

That the interests of the surviving partners had been purchased by Mr. Christian Devries, a member of the old and substantial house of William Devries & Co., and president of the National Bank of Baltimore, and that a new firm was about to be formed under the firm name of The Charles A. Vogeler Co., this name being in honor and perpetuation of the memory of the late Charles A. Vogeler. It was further ascertained that the new firm will be composed of the widow of the late Mr. Vogeler (she retaining her late husband's full interest), Mr. Christian Devries, as executive partner and financial head, and Mr. H. D. Umbstaetter, who, from the first step in the initial venture of the house of A. Vogeler & Co., was the manager of the advertising department and confidential adviser of Mr. Charles A. Vogeler.

By this arrangement it has been fully determined that all the plans and business purposes of the late Charles A. Vogeler, the founder and executive manager of the late firm, shall be developed to their full fruition, and that the popular preparations of the house, prominent among which are St. Jacobs Oil and Dr. August Koenig's Hamburg Family Medicines, shall hold their high rank under new auspices and the new management.

There is one feature of this commercial episode which appeals strongly to the kindliest feeling and points a touching moral. Mrs. Vogeler holds her relation in the firm with a wifely courage. Her whole future is centered in the resolve that the fruits of so valuable a life as that of her husband's, which was freely sacrificed in his zeal for the welfare of his native city, and that the aims and projects he pursued shall not be permitted to languish, but shall be revived and strengthened to its credit and to his honor and fame, and that she will strive to build for him an enduring monument in the enterprise of his own founding.

He Had a Heart.

After all, these Virginia City miners have big generous hearts. The other evening one of them, who was finishing up a week's spree in 'Frisco, stepped out of the Pacific hotel after dinner and ran against a haggard-looking, shabby-genteel woman, who was weeping on a corner. "What is the matter, marm?" said the miner. She told him a sad story—poverty, sickness, a large family of children, nothing to do, nothing to wear. "Is that the best frock you've got?" said the rough fellow, gently. She said it was. He felt in his pocket. It contained just one $20 piece, which he had intended to devote to wine and wickedness that evening. "Stop here a moment, marm," and he dodged around the corner and into a dry goods store. In a few minutes he returned, and, pressing a small bundle into the poor woman's hand, disappeared with the air of a man who has done a kind action gracefully. The starving female eagerly undid the package. It contained a pair of embroidered silk stockings.—*San Francisco Call.*

ON THIRTY DAYS' TRIAL.

THE VOLTAIC BELT CO., Marshall, Mich., will send Dr. Dye's Celebrated Electro-Voltaic Belts and Electric Appliances on trial for 30 days to men, young or old, who are afflicted with nervous debility, lost vitality and kindred troubles, guaranteeing speedy and complete restoration of health and manly vigor. Address as above.—N. B.—No risk is incurred, as thirty days' trial is allowed.

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There was a young lady quite fair
Who had much trouble with her hair,
So she bought Carboline,
And a sight to be seen
Is the head of this maiden, I declare.

WATKINS made easy with Lyon's Heel stiffeners; they keep your boots and shoes straight.

A Case not Beyond Help.

DR. M. B. BRICKS, Kewanee, Ill., advises us of a remarkable cure of consumption. He says: "A neighbor was so badly attacked with violent lung disease, and pronounced beyond help from Quick Consumption. As a last resort the family was persuaded to try Dr. Wm. Hall's Balsam for the Lungs. To the astonishment of all, by the time he had used one-half dozen bottles she was about the house doing her own work. I saw her at her work and think she could not recover."

Watson's Neuralgia Ring.

This were of the best remedies for Neuralgia ever invented. A lady who had the Canary other things, without relief, tried N... Ring and was cured.

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Send three 3c. stamps for Christmas No. Our Little Men and Women.
Send eight 3c. stamps for Holiday Wide Awake, the Futurist, cover in colors.
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