

## FOR THE FARM AND HOME.

### The Bone Cure for Pawning Horses.

The habit of pawing can be overcome in most cases by lifting the foot and holding it up for a while each time the horse begins to paw. To give the horse his first lesson, put on an old harness, buckle a strap around each of the forward fetlocks, attach a small rope five or six feet long to each strap, pass the ropes through rings or loops on the top of the saddle, take the horse to a soft, smooth spot so that he will not be liable to get hurt, girt the saddle tight so that it will not turn, take up one forward foot and hold it up for ten or fifteen minutes by making the rope fast at the ring on the saddle. The object of this lesson is to teach the horse that standing on three legs is tiresome and disagreeable work; and also to teach him that his feet is held by a superior power, and that he cannot put it down without the consent of that power. For him to get these ideas he needs to stand long enough to get very tired of it, and nexts to his best to get his foot free before he can realize that it is impossible for him to free it. Having given this lesson, put the horse in the place where he is in the habit of doing the most pawing, and when he lifts either foot, take that foot up by pulling on the repeated belt, and hold it for a short time only. The object of this lesson is to teach the horse that it is when and only when he lifts his foot to paw, that the control of it is taken from him. When he learns this he will probably stop the practice, but for him to get this plan the foot must be taken and held long enough for him to realize that it is held every time he attempts to paw. In this, as in all teaching and all disciplinary work, the teacher and governer needs a good supply of patience and perseverance. —*Alfred W. Estes.*

### Scraping Trees.

Do we approve of scraping trees? asks a friend of ours. Certainly, we do; provided they need it, and we can hardly find any trees that do. Aside from the fact that the one val' the old oak, scabbed by age, or age for various insects, including the wood-sap-siphon, the increased beauty of the tree repays the job. There are scrapers made for the purpose, and these have a trapezoidal blade, another a long blade with a flat and an other slightly concave edge. A good one is quite as good a tool as an ax, and the handle to about eighteen inches, just to not grind the blades. If you have a sharp blade, you can cut a young tree he carefully, and not the healthy bark. The same operation be done now, next spring, etc., when there comes a frost, and you will never again have to worry whether he lived up. He takes up the proprie, who would drag him outside his house and set him in the snow against the wall, having first miffed his cap with snow. Every charitably disposed brother or sister passing by would be kind to him. In about half an hour this discipline would sober him, he would get up, shake himself together and resume his duties. —*Lemuel South.*

### Poisonous Stockings.

In a communication to the *London Times*, Dr. Woodland states that, having had his attention directed to a number of cases involving great irritations to the feet and legs, causing small-pox-like eruptions and the skin to subsequently exfoliate and suppurate being fastened upon stockings which the patients wore, he carefully analyzed a number of the cases, to ascertain the precise nature of the difficulty. He found a tin salt which is used as a mordant in fixing the dye. He succeeded in obtaining as much as twenty-two and three-tenths grains of this metal in the form of the dioxide, and, as each time the articles are washed the salt in question is of course rendered more easily soluble, the result is that the acid excretions from the feet attack the tin oxide, and an irritating fluid is formed.

### Not Altogether.

"I have made it a rule through life," he said at the luncheon to the other man at his left, "never to meddle with another man's business." "That's right—perfectly right," was the reply.

"But I see you have a new confidential clerk."

"Yes, sir—yes."

"He's a hard-looking case. I've seen him drunk a dozen times, and I wouldn't trust him out of sight with a nickel. Took him in on charity eh?"

"Well, not altogether, you know. He happens to be my old 'son'?"

Then there was a period of silence so painful that both wished some one would yell "fire" to break it.—*Wall Street News.*

### Birds of Passage.

"How many donkeys have you in Austin, my little man?" asked a passenger on the South bound train, prodding his head through the car window at the depot.

"So, we've got some few donkeys here in Austin, but most of them keep right on through to San Antonio."

The stranger bumped the back of his head on the car window and sank back in his seat.—*Siftings.*

The production of beer in the United States last year amounted to 100,000,000 bushels. The crop of 1871 being 3,000,000 acres, against 6,000,000 in 1881.

## TOPICS OF THE DAY.

The United States government is about to establish a signal service station on the summit of Mount Whitney supposed to be the highest peak of the Sierra Nevada range, and, in fact, the highest in the United States, having an altitude of 14,898 feet above the sea level.

A Californian was told by a lawyer that, in consequence of an inaccurate statement in the newspaper about him, he could get heavy damages, and so consented to the bringing of a suit. On the trial his character was shown to the jury in so unpleasant a light that they decided it to have been injured to the extent of \$1. His expenses were \$500, and he has sued his counsel for that sum on the ground that his advice was bad.

The Watertown, N. Y., weatherologist, who has kept a record of the weather for thirty-five years, states, as one of the things he has learned by it, that all years ending in 9, 0, or 1 are extremely dry, those ending in 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6, are extremely wet; those ending in 7 or 8, are ordinarily well balanced; those ending in 9 have extremely cold winters, those ending in 2 have an early spring; those ending in 3 have a late spring; those ending in 4 or 5 are subject to great floods.

A military engineer perceives many advantages when it comes to the construction of public works. The experience of Brasilia building, and roads has repeatedly illustrated this fact, but seldom in a more striking manner than in the construction of the Jambus-Pink railway. The road is 120 miles long, and it was necessary to erect no fewer than sixty-nine bridges, but military battalions accomplished the whole work in five months at a cost of only \$17,000 a mile.

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**Houses and Homes in the Great City.**  
The population of New York city is now nearly 1,000,000, and for dwelling purposes in whole or in part, says the *New-York Journal*, there are said to be 75,000 houses. Of these 25,000 are exclusively occupied as dwellings. Most oil producers regard the patent as invalid, because nature supplies the fluid in the well into which the nitro-glycerine tube is lowered; but the courts have sustained the patent. Some oil well-owners "torpedo" their wells, probably by night to avoid paying the high price charged by the company. This operation is called "moonlighting," and many lawsuits have grown out of it.

Mr. Atkinson, of Boston, recently exhibited a mule-fodder and a cart of hay to Professor Vodkevich, the well-known agricultural chemist of England, with the view of showing the set of ensilage prepared in America. Having analyzed the samples, the professor reported the mule-fodder to be perfectly sound, and the hay very slightly moldy, but both were wholesome food for cattle. A little cotton-seed meal having been added to the fodder, it was given to cows on an experimental basis. They took to the usage of it, and evidently enjoyed it. With careful management, Mr. Atkinson calculates that four cows will be maintained in good condition to a acre of ensilage.

There are in the Dominion of Canada 119,500 Indians, of whom number 6,244 are living under tribal relations. Manitoba and the northwestern territories. The Indians are kept on reservations, under conditions generally similar to the American Indian system. The difference is that the British government maintains a more consistent, because a less political, control over the red wards. They are taught to support themselves by farming, and are generally payable. The food-stirring accounts of recent Indian raids in the Southwest or former outbreaks in Montana, are never heard of by the British Indians. The recent report of the Dominion Indian commissioners alludes with considerable anxiety to the fact that the international boundary line is still a protection for the raiding tribes who will not stay on reservations.

### "Dead Drunk."

"Dead drunk" is described by savants of the Paris biological society to be a condition in which there is a proportion of one part of alcohol to 105 parts of blood in the circulation. Should the proportion ever come to be one part of alcohol to 100 of blood, death would ensue. This might happen, and in fact has happened repeatedly, where a very large quantity of alcoholic liquor is swallowed at one time and quickly. In Mount Washington and other high places little plots of dark vegetable earth can often be found far above the present timber line—the remains of trees which existed before the earth was washed away. What is called the timber line seldom shows graduated sizes, as a mere matter of temperature would call for. Generally the line is formed of very tall trees and immediately scrubby plants, from the absence of deep soil begin.—*New York Independent.*

### American Agriculture.

The development of American agriculture is unequalled in the history of any other nation. The wheat acreage of the United States has increased from 21,000,000 acres in 1871 to 38,000,000 in 1881, and the corn acreage during the same period from 33,000,000 acres to 64,000,000. Cotton has doubled, the crop of 1871 being 3,000,000 bales, against 6,000,000 in 1881.

The ground on which the Assumption college at Sandwich, Canada stands has been in possession of the Catholic church 136 years.

Rumming Goutain, Dr. Elmore's, 102 William St., N.Y., is thereupon to prescribe for rheumatism, and best remedy known for kidney, liver and stomach diseases. Abundant proofs. Send for circulars.

## "Torpedoing" an Oil Well.

In his article on "Torpedoing Oil," in the *Conting.* E. V. Stanley says:

"When a well fails it is usually torpedoed to start the flow afresh. A long tin tube, containing six or eight parts of nitro-glycerine, is lowered into the hole and exploded by dropping a weight upon it. The tremendous force of the powerful explosive tears the sand and rock apart and loosens the imprisoned oil and gas. Nothing is heard on the surface save a sharp report like a pistol shot, but the ground heaves perceptibly, and pretty soon the oil comes spouting out in a jet that breaks in spray above the lofty derrick. The torpedo man" is one of the interesting personages of the oil region who is seen with most satisfaction from a distance. He travels about in a light vehicle with his tubes and his nitroglycerine can, traversing the rough roads at a jolly round trot, taking the chance of an accidental explosion, and whistling or singing as he goes. Sometimes the chances are against him, and a blow of a wheel against a stone sets free the terrible for example in the white fluid in his can. There is no occasion for a funeral after such an accident, for there is nothing to bury. Man, horse and buggy are annihilated in a flash, and an ugly hole in the ground and a cloud of smoke are all that is left to show what has happened. The torpedo company buy a new horse and hires a new man, and there is no more difficulty about one transaction than the other. The business of torpedoing wells is in the hands of a single company, which has made a large amount of money from a patent covering the process of explosives under a fluid. Most oil producers regard the patent as invalid, because nature supplies the fluid in the well into which the nitro-glycerine tube is lowered; but the courts have sustained the patent. Some oil well-owners "torpedo" their wells, probably by night to avoid paying the high price charged by the company. This operation is called "moonlighting," and many lawsuits have grown out of it.

There is a terrible future for all physical exertion, and impeding dangers always bring a person to his senses, even though it may be only a momentary one. The effects of consumption are continually increasing.

It is a suffering from malnutrition and typhoid fever, loss of blood or weakness. It low, the possibilities point to brain disease, and of irregular heart trouble. This is one of the principal and sure tests of the health of an animal.

### To Test the Health of a Horse or Cow.

In horses the pulse at rest beats forty times, in an ox, from fifty to fifty-five, and in sheep and pigs about seventy to eighty beats per minute. It may be felt wherever a large artery crosses a bone, for instance. It is generally examined in the horse on the side which crosses over the bone of the lower jaw in front of its curved position, or in the bony ridge above the eye; and in cattle over the middle of the first rib, and in sheep by placing the hand on the left side, where the beating of the heart may be felt. Any material variation of the pulse from the figures given above may be considered a sign of disease. If rapid, hard and full, it is an indication of high fever or inflammation; if rapid, small and weak, low fever, loss of blood or weakness. It low, the possibilities point to brain disease, and of irregular heart trouble. This is one of the principal and sure tests of the health of an animal.

### Drunken Russian Peasants.

Mouths are curious when drunk. They hardly ever quaff, but become affectionate and embrace each other. Their idea of drinking is to swallow until they are quite insensible. When I was in Russia I had a coachman who once mouthed up to come and ask me for his last drink during the convalescent days. I sent him away. I think that only on these occasions would a coachman remain sober during the rest of the month. Having obtained leave he would go to a drinking house, the proprietor his money and state how long he might remain there. Then he would sit down at a table with some spirits before him. Gradually and solemnly he would get drunk, place his arms before him in the table and recite on them. Thus he would remain for two days and nights, the proprietor supplying him with more liquor whenever he lived up. He would then, the proprietor would drag him outside his house and set him in the snow against the wall, having first miffed his cap with snow. Every charitably disposed brother or sister passing by would be kind to him. In about half an hour this discipline would sober him, he would get up, shake himself together and resume his duties. —*Lemuel South.*

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