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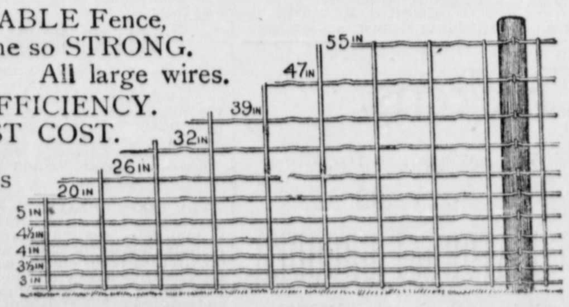

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Young Plants

Every farmer knows that some plants grow better than others. Soil may be the same and seed may seem the same but some plants are weak and others strong.

And that's the way with children. They are like young plants. Same food, same home, same care but some grow big and strong while others stay small and weak.

Scott's Emulsion offers an easy way out of the difficulty. Child weakness often means starvation, not because of lack of food, but because the food does not feed.

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Whatever the cause of weakness and failure to grow—Scott's Emulsion seems to find it and set the matter right.

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50c. and $1.00; all druggists.

TWO CONSCIENCES AND A HORSE TRADE.

Once there were two men who traded horses. Each traded for the purpose of cheating the other, and after getting home and examining his property each felt that he had succeeded in his design.

After that they would take roundabout ways to avoid meeting, and in time each came to have a hang-dog look. People wondered at the change which had come over these two men. They had once been good citizens and steady church members. Both had been genial, hale fellows, who had cracked their honest country jokes and laughed loudest at them themselves, but after the horse trade they lost their old gayety of spirits.

They kept away from church; they avoided not only each other but their neighbors, and from cheerful old souls they became sour-looking fellows, who went about continually dreading something that they thought was sure to happen or that might happen if it didn't turn out otherwise.

But one day the horse that Brown had traded to White lay down and died. White was filled with joy. He felt that, after all, he had not cheated the other man. His conscience seemed to pull a large, jagged prod out of him. He even went out behind the barn and whistled, just to make sure that he hadn't forgotten how. He was glad that he was not a cheat, after all, and that he could still look the world in the face.

"I'll go to Brown," he said to himself, "and forgive him for gouging me. I can afford to be magnanimous, for wickedness is its own punishment. I wish somebody knew about this. I hate to go round just keeping it to myself. I never thought before that I'd ever be glad to get cheated, but it's one of the pleasantest things I know of. I wish I could afford it right along. The old world's all right. It's the finest place I've ever seen and one of the best things in it is that old dead horse out there."

Now it happened that while White was having all this pleasure Brown, too, was happy. His horse had fallen dead of old age and general debility, and he, therefore supposed that he was the cheated one. He was so glad that he ate five or six green apples without noticing what he did. The sour look left his face and he ran out to the road where a boy was riding past on a milk cart to cut up with him and plague him about the Addiston girl with the wart on her chin.

"I mus go and forgive White for wronging me," he said to himself, "and we'll be friends again, if he has the courage to look me in the face, and at night I won't hear the crickets all saying, 'Cheat, cheat, cheat,' any more."

So he set off down the road humming "Nellie Gray" as he went, and surprising the people he met by joking with them in the old way.

Presently he saw White coming toward him. He was sorry that a large crowd would not be present when they meet. He wanted other people to see how pleasant he was going to be while shoveling coals of fire on his old friend's head. At the same time similiar thoughts filled the mind of White. As they came nearer each ran forward, with a happy countenance, and an outstretched hand, not quite understanding why the other didn't hang back and look guilty.

"My dear old friend," said Brown, as they met, "I want to forgive you."

"I was just going over to forgive you," replied White. "The horse you traded me dropped dead this morning. You cheated me, but I'll not hold a grudge against you. I——"

"What! Me cheat you! Not much! You cheated me. The horse I got from you in that trade died of old age a couple of hours ago. But I forgive you. Let's let bygones be bygones."

Then they stared at each other for a moment, and began backing away, while the guilty looks returned.

When he got home Brown sat down and thought. At length he seemed to have it figured out.

"By jing!" he said, "I believe a man that wants to cheat and can't get the chance is just as bad as the fellow that does and gets caught at it."

But White looked at it in another way. "Darn it!" he said to himself, "now I won't have a chance to go to church and look at Brown's empty seat there and feel like a boy that got licked for stealing a piece of pie that they're just found out somebody else took."

Many a man's conscience is in his liver.

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Bears the Signature of Chas. H. Fletcher.

USES FOR NETTLES.

They Are Good to Eat and Furnish Thread and Clothing.

There was a time once when the common nettle was not the usually despised weed it is now. People did not root it out of existence or shun it as a nuisance, but cultivated it for use as food, for clothing and for paper manufacture.

It certainly does not look inviting as a food, and yet during the Irish famine hundreds of poor people existed entirely on it, cooking the young plant as greens. There was a method of blanching it by "earthing up," as is now used for sea kale.

Animals, while refusing to touch the growing nettle, devour it eagerly when made into hay, and in Russia, Sweden and Holland it is mowed several times a year for fodder.

The common name given to the nettle in some languages means "that with which one sews," for the fiber was used as a thread several centuries ago.

In Kamchatka the natives use the thread for fishing lines and cordage. In France it is used for paper. In Hindustan and China it is woven into grass cloth, and the Scotch have prepared, spun and woven it into as good linen as the flax makes.

The Chinese nettle yields a fiber as soft as silk, and there is now in Dresden a "China grass" manufactory devoted to the industry of weaving cloth from this and the common nettle.—Stray Stories.

Resourceful Major Pond.

Major Pond was never upset in difficulties. Once he was traveling with Ian Maclaren. There was a breakdown on the railway and the prospect of a lecture engagement being missed and $1,000 lost. What he did was to telegraph a long and merry message to the audience about the breakdown, saying he and Ian Maclaren would be arriving not more than half an hour late. Singing was provided to entertain the audience. When the half hour was up in came another telegram more cheerful than ever, saying that they were coming along and that Ian Maclaren was determined to lecture to that audience if all the railways in the world had broken down.

The Americans are an emotional people, and they were interested. Every twenty minutes in came a fresh telegram with something funny and bright about it and always declaring that the great novelist was advancing. It was half past 10 when the couple reached the platform, and the welcome given them was hilarious.

A Natural Weather Vane.

It was an old belief that if the preserved body of a halcyon or kingfisher were suspended by a thread from the ceiling its bill would always turn toward the quarter from whence the wind was blowing.

Thus Barabas in Marlowe's "Jew of Malta" says:

"But now how stands the wind?
Into what quarter peeps my halcyon's bill?
Ha! To the east? Yes."

Shakespeare also alludes to it in "King Lear" when Kent in his reply to Cornwall rebukes those who—

"Turn their halcyon's beaks
With every gale and vary of their masters."

In more modern days a stuffed kingfisher has been seen hanging from the beam of a cottage ceiling at Botley, near Southampton, and in other places of that neighborhood, where there is a kindred belief that if a dead kingfisher is hung up by its beak its breast will turn with the ebb and flow of the tide.

Cassius M. Clay as a Fighter.

General Cassius M. Clay fought many duels in his day, usually with his long bladed knife, meeting pistol or rifle equally with that trusty weapon. His physical strength was gigantic. He was accustomed to the use of weapons, and he was always cool and never lost his judgment. For example, when an adversary shot him and he supposed he was done for he inflated his lungs to the full, conscious that he would live as long as he could hold his breath; then he drew his knife and did his bloody work. That was when he killed Turner. After all, speaking musingly, reviewing his life, he confessed to a reporter when he was above eighty-four that he was opposed on principle to the duel, thinking it a savage way to settle a difficulty. "But there are some cases for which it seems to be the only remedy," he added.

A Beautiful Toast.

On a grand day in the old chivalric times, when the lady of each knightly heart was pledged by name, when it came to St. Leon's turn he lifted the sparkling cup on high and gave them this: "I drink to one," he said, "whose image never may depart, deep carved on the human heart, till memory is dead." With that he paused as if he would not breathe her name in careless mood thus lightly to another, then bent his noble head as though to give that word the reverence due and gently said, "My mother!"

Fatal Plans.

She—I believe every man is the architect of his own fortune.

He—Yes, but the trouble is most men spend so much time on the plans that they have none left for building.—Exchange.

A Hard Subject to Handle.

Dauber—I will guarantee to paint anything called for.

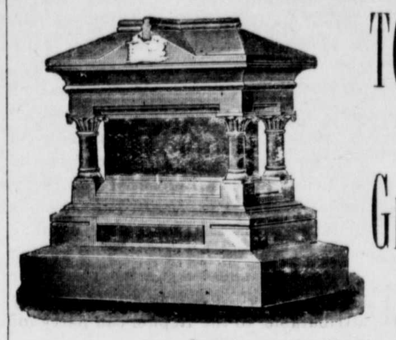
Dealer—Good! Do me a speaking likeness of a dumb waiter.—New York Times.

The park surrounding Blenheim palace is 2,700 acres in extent and twelve miles around.

Guilt has very quick ears to an accusation.—Fielding.

STILL POND MARBLE WORKS,

WM. H. KRUSEN, Proprietor.



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