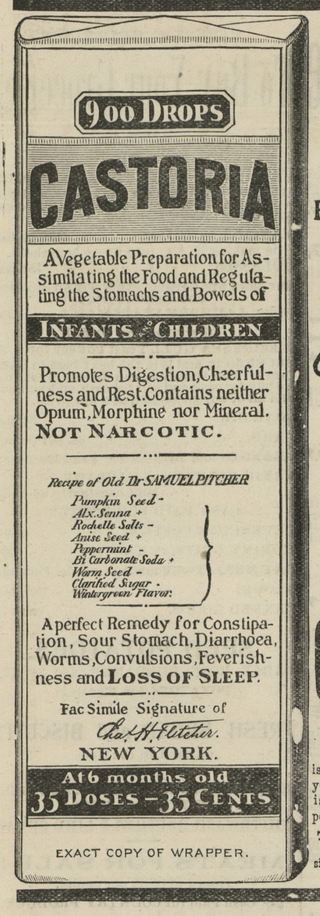
Children Cry for Pitcher's Castoria.



EXACT COPY OF WRAPPER.

SEE THAT THE FAC-SIMILE SIGNATURE —OF— Chas. H. Fletcher. IS ON THE WRAPPER OF EVERY BOTTLE OF CASTORIA

Castoria is put up in one-size bottles only. It is not sold in bulk. Don't allow anyone to sel you anything else on the plea or promise that it is "just as good" and "will answer every purpose." ☞ See that you get C-A-S-T-O-R-I-A.

The fac-simile signature of Chas. H. Fletcher. is on every wrapper.

FARMERS LOOK TO YOUR INTEREST!

WE ARE STILL ON THE LINE OF REDUCTION.

Special Attention Given To Horse-Shoeing.

TILGHMAN SHAFER,

At the Old Stand, Kennedyville, Maryland.

IS NOW BETTER PREPARED THAN EVER TO DO ALL KINDS OF

Blacksmithing and Wheelwrighting!

REPAIRING A SPECIALTY!

—WE KEEP FOR SALE THE—

Genuine Oliver Chilled Plows and Castings!

AND ALL KINDS OF AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS.

☞ Our WORK SPEAKS for itself, both in the Materials used and in the superior quality of the Workmanship.

Carriages, Buggies, No-Top Buggies, Road Carts, Daytons, Sulkies, Carriage Tops, Carriage Poles, Carriage Harness, all Kinds; Farm Wagons and Dearborns, Power Feed Cutters and Shreders, Cucumber Pumps, Barbbed Fence Wire, Belting of all kinds.

✳ *McCORMICK Harvesting Machines.* ✳

☞ Also, Fire Insurance Agent.

Insist on the Genuine GOLD DUST

The best Washing Powder made. Best for all cleaning, does the work quickly, cheaply and thoroughly. Largest package—greatest economy.

THE N. K. FAIRBANK COMPANY,

Chicago, St. Louis, New York, Boston, Philadelphia.

1897. 1897.

Headquarters for

FENCE WIRE:

All Styles of Woven Wire Fences.
Fence Pickets, (Hard Wood. Fence Tools.
Galvenized and Patent Steel Roofing.
Paper Roofing. Roof Paint.
Lubricating Oils.

☞ Before Buying Elsewhere, call to see

JOSEPH GUEST.

FROM MARYLAND TO THE CITY OF MEXICO.

Letter No. VII. — PLANTING CORN, PRINCIPAL FOOD, Etc.

THE crops and their cultivation are interesting and we make diligent inquiries to learn the mode of farming. The whole system is in keeping with this ancient people who seem to care little for time or expenditure of labor. The growing of wheat is very much the same as in America, but corn is king and its cultivation a wonder. They do not use any modern implements excepting a spade, and the one we saw was made entirely of wood. To prepare the ground, a small plow made of a crooked stick about four inches in diameter and drawn by oxen "lays off" the first furrow, plowing about six inches deep; a second and a third plow follow going ten or fifteen inches deeper the latter plow having two strings running from the point of the "plow," back from each side, to a cross arm at rear of plow. These strings or triangle aid to further opening the furrows. Then come the men with seed corn and spades; they dig holes six inches deeper, drop the corn in and cover for six inches. This makes the corn about 15 inches below the surface but covered only six inches. Water is then turned into the ditches.

CATHEDRAL SANDIEGO, AGUASCALIENTES.

As the corn grows dirt is pressed in, then comes the plowing, the hoeing or heaping dirt about the stalk for about twelve inches. Two, three and four stalks constitute a hill. This mode of mounding is to protect the stalk from being blown down by the strong winds that prevail. Then the harvest and threshing comes. The latter is done by driving the burros over the husks which are placed in an immense era, or circular masonry wall, four feet high with rock floor. It is fanned by tossing the grain in the air, the heavy winds doing the rest. Wheat is treated the same way. Two and three crops per year are raised upon the same land, everlasting spring and irrigation making this possible. Grain is all measured by the cargo, 350 bushels of corn constituting a cargo, and 330 of wheat. Corn sells for $5 to $10 and wheat $9 to $11 per cargo. We saw some Kansas corn shipped here which sold for $1 per bushel.

The Principal Food.

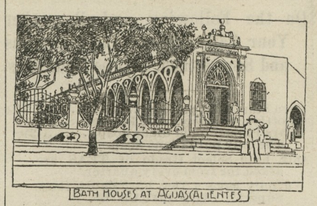
Corn is for man and not for chickens or cattle in Mexico it, being the chief food product. These country people live upon the most meagre food, the cost varying from three to ten cents per day. Tortillas a favorite dish is made from corn first boiled soft and then rubbed between two stones or pieces of iron till made into a pulp, soft and doughey. This is seasoned only with salt, and baked into a small thin cake between layers of which are sometimes placed beans, pepper, onions, but rarely any meats. Many families seldom touch meat, but eat this tortilla and drink a cup of coffee. We are interested in the making of this cake and try our hand. The old piece of iron has a rough surface like a nut meg grater, while the roller was simply a crude piece of round iron, but we soon ground out some meal and then watched the cook do the rest. Another *rare* dish is *hot tamale*. These are also made of coarse meal, without salt but filled with grease and *lots* of *red pepper*, and then fried in little cakes about one-fourth of an inch thick and the size of an oyster cracker. These cakes smell good but that is all!

Many of the country and village folks keep a hog, or *cochenos*, as they call it, and these animals are allowed to roam about in the house and enjoy all the privileges of the children! We had traveled through the South and had seen what is termed the razor-back hog but this was our first *real* view of this special specie. Americans don't know what a razor-back is, and if a Mexican would bring his cochenos to a North Carolina fair he would get a prize sure, for he can beat a nigger running every time! They remind us of the remark, in one of the farm journals, made by a farmer, who was asked why his hogs were always rubbing against the fence and he replied "man, they are stropping themselves!" In one home we saw a mother, three small children, several chickens, two dogs and a pig.

A City of 40,000 People.

The journey with its novel scenes has been one of unalloyed pleasure and now we enter a city of 40,000 inhabitants known as Aguas Calientes, or Hot Springs, 350 miles from the capital. We are met by the horde of beggars but with them come the sellers of fancy drawn work and pottery. The drawn work is lovely and evidence skill of design and workmanship unequalled anywhere. We enter an American restaurant and there find several from our country who are here to enjoy the natural hot baths hoping for restoration to health. We find a negro who came from Baltimore, having escaped into Mexico to avoid the police. He says he cooked on the steamer Samuel J. Pentz.

We get aboard the first class street car propelled by three burros or donkeys, and away we go into the heart of the city. Up through streets about ten feet wide, barely giving room for a man to walk alongside the car. The houses are all one story and built flush with the pavement, the latter being only of sufficient width to allow two persons to walk thereon, while the streets are paved with rough cobble stones. The hotel Washington is one of the *finest* houses here. It is one story, cost $50,000, has 18 rooms all carpeted and all rooms open in a court filled with flowers, fountains, etc. The market place is a sight to behold and fortunately, just as we enter, we saw an American lady and little boy marketing. We make ourselves known and for the balance of our stay become the guest of this lady and her husband, Mr. and Mrs. Schroeder, of St. Louis. They have been in the city six years, Mr. S. having charge of the electric light plant. The market is open from early morning until late at night, and except at noon, when each and every Mexican tradesman and ranchero taken a restful siesta, the multitudinous wares are lustily called and offered for sale by the cigarette-smoking owners, who sit on rush mats or on the ground beside their potatoes, beans, corn, cheap jewelry, candy, onions, pumpkins, red pepper, pottery, calicoes, etc. In every direction within the four roofless walls articles too numerous and too difficult to mention are offered for sale. Harsh, shrill voices are heard on every side and Bedlam reigns King. Large sun umbrellas are shifted about as the sun wanes to protect the market folks. Chickens, alive, are staked out and sell for 14 cents; Sugar for 12 cents;


BATH HOUSES AT AGUASCALIENTES

coffee, 50 cents, and bitter as gall; flour, 9 cents; eggs, 6 cents; fish, 8 to 12 cents; butter, 50 to 60 cents; fresh meat, 8 to 10 cents per pound; canned peaches, 50 cents per can; onions, 1 cent per bunch; red, ripe tomatoes one cent a piece, etc. Here is found a cactus resembling our lettuce and used as such, also a small apple grown on the cactus and a great favorite in seasoning soup. The sweet potatoes require no butter or greese and it is impossible to boil them as they crumble and fall to pieces. A soap tree grows here blocks of which are on sale and used for washing clothes. The folks pay two cents tax per day. This is collected every day.

The inhabitants are *all* Catholics and worship in ancient cathedrals. Prisoners work on the street; common laborers receive 18 cents per day; soldiers and guards 35 cents and board themselves; street car drivers 37 cents per day; conductors, 50 cents, and ticket solicitors, 75 cents; shave, 12 cents; linen collar, 18 cents; street car fare, 3 and 5 cents. As we pass the various homes we noticed whole families sitting about a rough table making fancy drawn work, which sold for almost anything, from 25 cents to $12. Oranges grow here in great abundance and large ones sell for two and three cents. Many are shipped to America from this city.

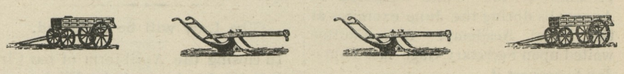
After visiting the schools, cathedrals, shops, etc., we accompany Mr. S. to his home. It is like most of the other homes in many respects—built of adobe with one door and window both heavily barred and always kept locked. The interior was cool and home-like in every respect. There were four rooms all opening into a court where flowers and fig trees were blooming and bearing fruit. The walls of the house were prettily painted and the furniture was brought from America. All the water was filtered and kept in large earthen vessels, therefore it was always cold. The Mexicans are noted thieves and are especially fond of stealing small articles. Mr. S. caught a man one night at his window trying by means of a long wire to hook his cloth from the table and on another occasion a fellow was caught coming through his roof. Mrs. S. was homesick and wanted to go back to the States but her six-year-old son, Kyrle, was perfectly contented. The thermometer here registered 87° and Mr. S. said, this was about as hot as it ever gets. A crude piece of earthen ware sits in the yard and is used for washing clothes being an imitation of our old zinc wash-board. We reluctantly leave our new found friends and again go on towards the city.

ADAM F. HUEY.

Massey Vehicle, Implement and Harness Bazar

LARGEST STOCK! GREATEST VARIETY!

LOWEST PRICES!



BUGGIES, DAYTONS, PHAETONS, SURREYS and ROAD CARTS.

THE CELEBRATED KENT FARM WAGONS. HARNESS and BICYCLES.

GENUINE OLIVER CHILLED PLOWS and CASTINGS.

KEYSTONE and U. S. CORN PLANTERS,

A FULL LINE OF IMPLEMENTS and FARMERS HARDWARE.

AGENTS FOR STEVENS ENGINES, THRESHERS and STACKERS.

We claim to sell only genuine goods, and keep in stock both the Highest and the Medium Grades of Vehicle. The record of the past twenty years is the best guarantee of fair treatment and attractive prices. m20-tf.

For Early Spring Application!

TRADE MARK

WE OFFER THE FOLLOWING BRANDS OF FERTILIZERS:

The leading farmers and canners in Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Delaware and Maryland speak in its highest praise, declaring our goods to be positively the CHEAPEST, the SAFEST, and the BEST in use. Once a trial, always a patron. Wouldn't it be a good idea for you to try our Fertilizers? Many farmers think that all Phosphates are alike, but a Fertilizer apparently the same by analysis on paper may show a vast difference when tested on the soil.

FOR ASPARAGUS.

We have an article that has given more satisfaction as a feeder for this plant than $30.00 goods. We will sell it to you for $16.00 per ton. Send for one of regular Asparagus circulars, giving you full information concerning it.

FOR OATS.

Use our Special Oat Fertilizer, which has stood the test now for years. It has grown as high as fifty-five and sixty bushels per acre, and many patrons use it year after year.

FOR GRASS.

As a top dressing for Grass our Phosphate has no equal, but it should be applied as early in March as possible. Many of our patrons claim that an application of 200 pounds per acre has made from a third to a half more hay. We have delivered already considerable goods for this purpose. It is cheap and acts well.

FOR POTATOES.

We have been selling the Truckers of Gloucester county, New Jersey, as well as through Delaware and other points, a Special Potato Manure, which has stood the test in competition with Mape's, Yarnell's and Baugh's, in fact, all the high grade goods on the market.

FOR TOMATOES.

We manufacture a Special Tomato Fertilizer that is particularly adapted to this crop. We sold last year nearly 1,000 customers for this crop alone.

FOR CORN.

We have a splendid fertilizer for Corn, which our patrons claim will not fire or burn this crop. The mechanical condition is unsurpassed, and it goes farther than most any fertilizer you ever tried for this purpose. We can sell a special bargain this season on this article.

THEN AS ANOTHER.

Do not forget your PEACH TREES by failing to give them an application of OUR FRUIT GROWER. One patron wrote a few days ago that he received 45 cents more per basket from a buyer for his Elbertos last year that were phosphated with OUR FRUIT GROWER than those which were right along side of them which were not. He buys again as well as his neighbors. It will cost you less to fertilize this crop per acre than it would to haul manure and put upon it. We recommend sowing broadcast over the ground in the centre of the row, 250 pounds per acre, as early as the ground will permit to plow, then turn it under, and as the sap ascends, along during the Spring, and the goods being unusually available, takes it up in the tree, increases the size of the fruit as well as makes new wood.

☞ We will be glad to have you call in person or correspond with us before purchasing your spring supply. If you have not received one of our Pocket Diaries for 1896 kindly drop us a postal and one will be duly forwarded to you, which contains much useful information for farmers and planters. Respectfully,

T. R. HUBBARD & SON,
WILBUR W. HUBBARD,
Manufacturers of Standard Bone Fertilizers, Chestertown, Maryland.

EDWARD WILKES, 7541,

REGISTERED STANDARD-BRED TROTTING STALLION.

WILKES SPIRIT 2.24
Won 11 out of 13 races, (trial 2.24),
Sire of
Cornelia Wilkes 2.29¼
Dam of
Wilkes Spirit, Jr. 2.23¼
Sire of
Chester 2.12¾
and 7 others in 2.30.

GEORGE WILKES 2.22
Sire of 88 performers with records from 2.13 to 2.30. Over 3,000 descendents in 2.30 list, among them
John R. Gentry 2.01¼
Joe Patchen 2.01¾
Frank Agan 2.05¾
Rubenstein 2.06
etc., etc.

LADY VON HOESEN,
a 2.40 road mare.

HAMBLETONIAN (10),
Sire of Dexter 2.17¼
and 40 others in 2.30, sire of dams of 16 others 2.07¾
and 90 others.

DOLLY SPANKER.

ANTOINETTE,
Bred by Edward Wilkes in 1862 at special request of Mr. France.

ARISTOS 2.27¾
Sire of dams of 18, including
Rubenstein 2.06
H. R. Winship 2.20¾
Warren 2.20¾
and 25 others in 2.30.

BAY FANNY, trial 2.25
sister of Kitty Cook 2.26

DANIEL LAMBERT 2.42
Sire of Comtee 2.19¼
and 36 others in 2.30 list.

FANNY JACKSON,
Dam of Aristos 2.27¾
and six others in 2.30 list.

MESSENGER ECLIPSE,
Fastest gelding in 3 heats, sire of Geo. M. Patchen, sire of St. Albans, 2.20¼, etc.

DAUGHTER OF DUROC,
by Diomed.

FANNY ALLEN,
Dam of Kitty Cook 2.26
sister Daniel o Lambert.

ABRAHAM,
Sire of dam of Ketch 2.19¼
etc., sire of
Brightwood 2.18¼
and 9 others in 2.30 list.

Will Make the Season of '97 at Bel Rio Farm.

TERMS, $15 to Insure, payable when mare proves in foal.

☞ Address, Box 33, Chestertown, Maryland.

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