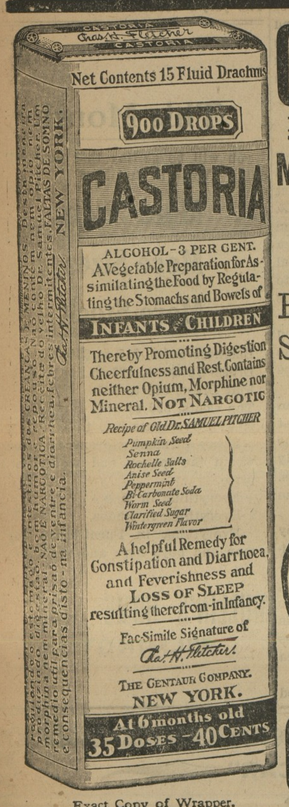

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Faithful Old Animals Done Away With Without Due Regard For Their Past Value

If you do not mind, friends, I'll put in a word for the old horse—that old bay fellow, you know, with the enlarged knees. He has worked for you some twelve years, I understand, and has been satisfied with his board and room and a set of new shoes now and then.

During these twelve years, if I am rightly informed, nineteen hired men have kicked, got balky, and laid down on the job, but the old bay has never done any of these things,. I am told that in the same length of time three hired girls have run away, but the good horse has never done that either. It is also said that you yourself have been away two winters, two months each time, but the faithful nag has stuck to the farm and kept things running until you return.

He is eighteen now or is it nineteen? At any rate he is about as old in horse language as you will be at seventy in man language. He is still doing his best, but of course his best is not very good, and, if I'm alive at the time. I'll say the same thing about you when you are seventy. What are you going to do with him?

I know what you are thinking of doing with him. You are thinking of selling him for $15, or $17.50 if you can get it, to the old garbage man in town. He could do the garbage man's work all right, you say, it would not be hard on him, you need the money for school taxes and then—well, the barn is crowded, badly crowded. That's what you are thinking. Confess.

Say, friend, think again—and while you are thinking, look me in the eye. You know mighty well that old garbage man is so stingy he wouldn't stutter on account of the waist of breath, and will not feed himself enough, let alone a horse; you know he cusses like a pirate when he is mad, and he is always mad; you know he never used a blanket on the last horse he had, and the beast died early in the spring from exposure and malnutrition. That's why he wants another horse now.

What's that? The garbage man is not so bad as painted Well, granting that he is not; granting for the moment that he is a near angel with stub wings sticking out through the holes in his sweater, don't forget that your farm is the old horse's home, and that he loves his home just as much as you do, if not more. He grew to horsehood here and knows every corner and fence-post. If you sell him to any one you will break his heart. He depends on you, he has every confidence in you. He has given you twelve long years of his active life, and if you had kept books he could prove you owe him $2,400 at least. Don't break his heart.

Personally, I don't think your barn is crowded. Why not slip these colts into that box stall and tie these two mares over in that double stall? Make room for the old fellow inside when the weather is bad and give him the range of the pasture when the weather is fine. In the two or three years he has left to live you can pay him back a little of that $2,400.

Make room for the old horse, friend. When you are his age—seventy in your case—the boys and girls will make a corner for you and try to pay you back for the years that you labored for them without pay.

J. Edw. Tufft, in Farm Journal.

The Feeding Value of Damaged Wheat

Many Maryland farmers are feeding damaged wheat to their hogs. Ground wheat of good quality is not far different from ground corn in feeding value. However, there is greater need for grinding th small grains of wheat than is the case with the larger kernals of corn, and in most cases grinding is an expensive process.

Either ear corn or shelled corn is but little, if any, lower than ground corn in feeding value to pigs. But whole corn is far less valuable than ground wheat. The result of a number of feeding trials indicate that ground wheat or rolled wheat may be expected to show a feeding value one-eighth to one-fourth higher than that of whole wheat. Accordingly wheat intended for feeding to hogs should be ground unless very cheap.

When wheat is worth much more per pound than corn, it should seldom, if ever, be used extensively as a feed for hogs, nor, indeed, for other farm animals. The cost of grinding the wheat added to the higher market value per pound will generally make marketable **wheat too high in price** to compete with corn as a feed for large and profitable use in rations for farm animals. It is probable that the best way to get the most out of damaged wheat as a feed for hogs, is to have it ground and and then use it as a partial substitute for corn. On account of the fact that, like corn, wheat is low in protein and calcium, the use of some such feed as skim milk, tankage or fish meal will materially increase the rate of grain in live wheat and also reduce the amount of feed required to produce 100 pounds of grain.—B. E. Carmichael.

Big Damage Suit Tried

The suit of Scott Wilson & Son vs. Louis Blaustein, trading as the American Oil Co., for $100,000 damages, for the destruction of their property in Rising Sun, in the fire which occurred there on June 13 of last year, pending in the Superior Court of Baltimore for more than a year, was on trial there before a jury for nearly a week and ended last week in a verdict for the defendant, under instructions by Judge C. W. Heuisler. It is understood that the case will be taken to the Court of Appeals.

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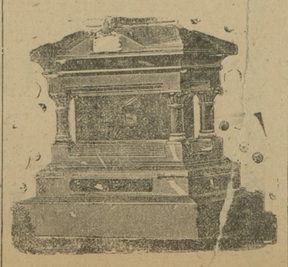

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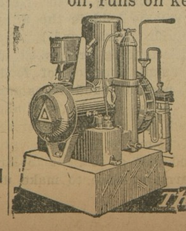

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