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Subscribe for THE DISPATCH.

Corn-Growing on a Large Scale.

The essentials of a profitable farm are good land, well drained but not too rolling, and accessibility to reasonable transportation. Six thousand acres being about three miles square makes the largest farm which can be operated to advantage from a single central station; a larger acreage simply means two or more farms.

About April 1, men and mules move on the fields in battalions. Four-house seeders, four-foot harrows, and six-horse gang-plows, manoeuvre for six weeks like an army, sowing small grain, plowing, and planting corn. The minute the small grain is sown, 31 corn-planters are thrown behind the plows, and in this work lies largely the success or failure of the crop. Note, for instance, the pains taken in selecting the seed corn.

A perfect stand of corn is the first requisite of a large yield. From a choice piece of land previously planted with selected seed about 2,000 bushels of the finest ears are taken. From these an expert selected 900 huskels. These ears are placed on racks in a building arranged especially for a seed-house. Whatever the thermometer registers in Iowa, the temperature in that seed-house never falls below freezing. All this insures the highest possible germinating power in the seed, and that alone might, in case of a cold, wet spring, save the entire profit of the season by producing a good stand.

The planting must of necessity be done by machinery, and to secure the maximum yield three seed kernels must be dropped in each hill. If five drop in, that hill is lost to the profit account; if only one it is partially lost.

But perfect as American farming machinery is, it does not leave the factory perfect enough to insure against irregular planting. Patiently and by a series of exhaustive tests the planter plates are so adjusted to the size of the seed kernels for each year that they will deposit an average of sixty-five kernels to every twenty hills, and not more than four nor less than two in any one. So great are the precautions that before the seed is shed off the tips and butts of the seed ears are cut off to secure kernels of an even size.

Even after this delicate adjustment of the best machinery in the world, foremen follow the 31 planters and at intervals open hills to count the seeds deposited and make sure that each machine is doing its work. In addition, a purse of \$100 is split into eight prizes between eight men who do the best work and whose teams mark the straightest row. With such method is it any wonder that the crop on this farm averaged 60 bushels per acre, against the average of 32 bushels as given Iowa by the government report for 1898?

After the seeding, the harrowing, and it is done with extraordinary energy and concentration. One hundred and forty sections of four-foot harrow sweep the fields like a charge of cavalry. Every time they move a mile together sixty-two acres are covered.

When the 3,800 acres of corn are up and ready 76 two-horse cultivators are put into it. The point in the first cultivator one way and in the second the other way is to get as close as possible to the corn; but after the pains taken to place it there no plant must be left covered by a clod of earth. The field-hand must uncover it, and a foreman on horse-back behind each twenty men is held responsible for his crews work. In the third and final cultivation the earth is thrown up against the plant, the small weeds in the hill being smothered and the large ones pulled by hand. It will be of interest to merchants and to theological professors to learn that it is not the weed in the row, but the one in the hill which mars the beauty of the balance sheet.

The corn being now three feet high, the interlacing roots and the overhanging stalks prevent further cultivation. Into this field, approximating one mile in width and six miles in length, are sent in October 75 wagons and men for the husking. This takes 60 days, and a row of cribs 10 feet wide and 16 feet high, half a mile long, are required to hold the crop.—From "An American Farmer's Balance-Sheet for 1898," by Frank H. Spearman, in the American Monthly Review of Reviews for March.

CHAPTER X.

The Body's Waste and Repair.

Perfect Nutrition is the Safeguard of Health—  
Dr. Von Stan's Pineapple Tablets Insure It:

1. The body is constantly and necessarily subject to many changes.
2. The process of nutrition aids in its development and growth.
3. The body is ever in a condition of waste and repair.
4. Healthy digestion is the bed rock of good health.
5. If the stomach fails you, digestion will be imperfect—if digestion is imperfect.
6. One may suffer the tortures of dizziness, distress after eating, pain after eating, gas on the stomach, heart burn, flatulency, bloating.
7. Which in time develop into chronic dyspepsia, nervous prostration, and general debility.
8. Dr. Von Stan's Pine Apple Tablets digest the food, increase flesh.
9. Tone the system, they are nature's preventative, and sure cure. 35 cents a box, 60 tablets.

Free samples at Garden Bros.

Many have puzzled themselves about the origin of evil I am content to believe that there is evil, that there is a way to escape from it; and with this I begin and end.

MISERY IN A HOSPITAL.

Rheumatism Made Life a Burden—South American Rheumatic Cure Lifted It—A Permanent Cure.

The life of John E. Smith, of Amasa Wood Hospital, St. Thomas, was one long round of misery, he was so afflicted with rheumatism. He tried all manner of cures without much benefit. After having taken half a bottle of South American Rheumatic Cure he found great relief, and four bottles cured him permanently. Sold by Garden Bros.



Mrs. Wright, of Norval, Ont., EXPERIENCED INTENSE SUFFERING FROM ECZEMA IN HER FEET.

Raw From Her  
Toes to Her Knees

Dr. Chase Makes a Wonderful Cure.

Mrs. Knight, 17 Hanover place, Toronto, makes the following statement:

My mother, Mrs. Wright, who lives at Norval, near Doncaster, suffered a summer and winter with Eczema in her feet. She could not walk, and very seldom got any sleep. It became so bad that she was perfectly raw from the toes to the knees. After trying every available remedy without receiving any benefit, and almost hopeless of relief, she was advised to try Dr. Chase's Ointment. She has altogether used 8 boxes since commencing, but with the happiest results, for she is now completely cured. There is but one scar on one of her feet, a memento of her fearful suffering condition. Any person desiring further testimony in this case is at liberty to communicate with Mrs. Wright at her address, Norval, P. O. Mrs. Knight says after such a grand success, is it any wonder we recommend Dr. Chase's Ointment?

W. H. De Long, Civil Engineer, ex-Warden, and County Councillor, New Germany, Lunenburg Co., N. S., Oct. 28th, 1897, says:—"I had itching piles for thirty years, and have tried various kinds of pile cures, but none gave me permanent relief until I used Dr. Chase's Ointment. I have recommended it to others with the same result."

Phantom Parties.

"What is a phantom party, papa?" asked Willie.

"You'll find that out later in life, my boy," was the reply.

"When I am married?" persisted Willie.

"Precisely, my boy," answered his father.

"When your married and come home late from the club you will occasionally find something in the nature of a phantom sitting up—"

This was the point at which Willie's mother hastily carried him away to bed, declaring that she would not permit him to listen to such outrageous exhibitions of masculine humor.—Chicago Post.

Before. After Wood's Phosphodine.

The Great English Remedy. Sold and recommended by all druggists in Canada. Only reliable medicine discovered. Six packages guaranteed to cure all forms of Sexual Weakness, all effects of abuse or excess, Mental Worry, Excessive use of Tobacco, Opium or Stimulants. Mailed on receipt of price, one package \$1, six, \$5. One will please, six will cure. Pamphlets free to any address. The Wood Company, Windsor Ont.

Wood's Phosphodine is sold in Woodstock by Garden Bros. Druggists.

New Magazines,  
New Books,

STATIONERY

Souvenir China,  
Fancy Goods.

W. H. EVERETT, Woodstock.

No. 6 Main Street.

NOTICE.

A Bill will be presented to the Legislative Assembly of the Province of New Brunswick at its next session for the purpose of being passed to enable the Sheer Boom Improvement Company to put place safely keep and take care of on land along the River Saint John and its Tributaries in the Counties of Victoria and Madawaska, after the business of the Company may be closed for the season, the booms, plant, property, goods and chattels of the Company with provision for reasonable compensation to owners of lands occupied for the purpose. And to provide for the punishment of persons doing malicious injury to the Company's property and to authorize the Company to do on any land in said Counties along the said River and its Tributaries any act necessary for the business of the Company to do in transacting the business and doing anything it has power to do including camping, landing, and maintaining camps, and buildings on said lands.

Dated this 10th day of February A. D. 1899.  
C. N. SKINNER,  
Solicitor for the Company.



"It's the devil for any one to tell me a secret, for it is sure to come out in print."—HAZLITT.

It will not be long before the snow disappears and we put on the garments of spring. I would, with all modesty, ask the ear of the streets committee, while I pour a little good advice into the same. Try and make this a banner year, not by the way of excessive expenditure, for the public does not look for that, but by the way of judicious expenditure. In the first place do your best to get the west side of Main street from the corner of Connell to Chapel asphalted. There is a report around that the property owners on that side of the street mean to act ugly, that they don't mean to lay the stone curbing, and are, altogether, going to block progress. Now, this an unfair reflection. The property owners of the west side of Main street will be not less public-spirited than the property owners across the street. If we get this job done this coming season our principal business street will be a credit to the town. I might rise to remark that the store keepers on the West side should ask for a reduction in rent if the sidewalk is not laid. Travel and traffic will go in the best channel, and all the pedestrians will ignore the rickety plank sidewalk when they can get the asphalt. It would be also only fair for the council to asphalt the sidewalk from Elm street to Mr. L. P. Fisher's residence. It is already graded, and a tax payer like Mr. Fisher deserves surely a little special consideration.

Who will not be glad to see, once more the green grass, and who will not rejoice when the robins and the blooming birds sing, and when the trees leave out, and all that sort of thing. Oh! for a poet to give spring the welcome it deserves in this part of Her Majesty's dominions. We have had so very much of a winter, and it has been such a sad winter, that we will all rejoice when its outward, manifest signs disappear. We have had a fat church-park in Woodstock this year and yet there was no "Green Christmas." So, one old motto or saying is discredited. For many years past the old residents told us that our winters were not as they used to be, that they were changing in the direction of much milder weather. No such storms, no such cold weather as we used to have. But the ancient residenter is quiet this year. It would be pretty hard to recall a winter in which there has been a more steady run of cold weather. There was no "January thaw" to let us up a little. Steady, steady, mettleless cold. So, as is aforesaid, we will give Spring a jolly good reception, and pray that next winter will be as mild as this is intensely severe.

I am not much of a politician, but I cannot refrain from commenting on the ominous title which one of our parties assumes "Liberal-Conservative." Why do they not drop the "Liberal" part of it. I understand the joint title was assumed at Confederation when there was a co-alition government. But that is past and gone now, and if I were a "Conservative" instead of a "neutral" I would say, that name is good enough for me. The doctrine of merger comes in here. What liberals are now with the opposition become merged in the conservative element. If this doubled barrelled nomenclature is to go on we shall have Mr. Blair and Mr. Tarte calling their party the "Conservative-Liberal" party. A few years ago a "liberal Unionist" party was started in Great Britain, but one hears now only of the conservative party. The "liberal unionists" have been merged. Of course, it is a mere matter of taste, but as I say, if I were a conservative, I would not be ashamed of the name, and take in a qualifying adjective. Fancy, in temperance, such a thing as a "whiskey-temperance" party, or a "cold water-John Collins" party. However as you like, gentlemen.

A newspaper is always on the lookout for matter that may lead to a libel suit. It is rarely that an editor intentionally publishes that which is libellous. He is more often led into putting something in the paper, the libellous nature of which, he was entirely innocent. Yet he often has to face the courts. One cannot fail to notice however, that the courts are now inclining to great leniency to the papers. Within a year past, two Canadian papers, the Montreal Star and the Ottawa Citizen have been sued for libel for publishing reports of trials in the courts, which reports it was alleged had injured certain parties. The judges decided in both cases that it is in the public interest that the proceedings of the courts of law should be made public, and in both cases the newspapers won.

A SUCCESSEUL FINANCIAL INSTITUTION.

NORTH AMERICAN LIFE.

The annual meeting of this company was held in the Company's building, Toronto, on Thursday, February 2, 1899, when Mr. John L. Blaikie was appointed chairman, and Mr. William McCabe secretary.

The Directors' report presented at the meeting, showed continued and marked proofs of the great progress and solid prosperity of the company in every branch of its business.

Summary of the financial statement and balance sheet for the year ended Dec. 31, 1898:

Cash income, . . . . .	\$ 785,130.81
Expenditure including death claims, endowments, matured investment policies, profits and all other payments to policy holders, . . . . .	442,019.07
Assets, . . . . .	3,137,828.61
Reserve Fund, . . . . .	2,586,947.00
Net surplus for policy-holders . . . . .	474,029.08

Audited and found correct.

WM. McCABE, Managing Director.

JAS. CARLYLE, M. D., Auditor.

Some of the leading features of the year's business, as mentioned by the President, were the following:

- (1) Looking at the company from every standpoint, the report submitted shows financial strength, productive assets, solid growth, and large relative surplus, which is the supreme point to policy holders, as it is from this source alone that satisfactory returns can be made to them.
- (2) The new business for the year exceeded that of any previous year.
- (3) Another marked feature of this Company is the relatively large amount of its net surplus to liabilities, when contrasted with that of its leading competitors. The President showed that this ratio was one of the best tests by which to judge of the relative merits of the different companies.
- (4) The following marked increases were made during the year:

	Per cent.
In Premium Income . . . . .	11.56
In Interest Income . . . . .	13.11
In Insurance in force . . . . .	13.15
In Assets . . . . .	10.01
In Net Surplus . . . . .	10.73
In Insurance Reserve . . . . .	15.18

The President stated that gentlemen representing the United States Insurance Departments had been in the city during part of last month, and had made a thorough and most searching investigation into the affairs of the Company, with a view to its admission to do business in their respective States, and that these experts were extremely well satisfied with the soundness of the Company, and expressed themselves as gratified with every aspect of affairs.

The Hon. Mr. Allan, in seconding the adoption of the report, called special attention to the excellent character of the investments of the Company; of these over 37 per cent. are in first mortgage securities, nearly 20 per cent. in debentures, nearly 14 per cent. in stocks and bonds, loans on policies about 6 1/2 per cent., the balance consisting of cash in banks, interest accrued, etc.

He also called special attention to the fact that although the assets had increased very largely, the outstanding and accrued interest had been very materially decreased, which is a proof of the excellent character of the investments of the Company, and the promptness with which the interest thereon has been paid.

James Thorburn, M. D., Medical Director, presented a full and interesting report of the mortality experience of the Company, from its organization, which showed that great care had been exercised in the selection of the Company's business.

The Consulting Actuary reported that he had made an independent examination of the affairs of the Company as at December 31st, 1898, having examined the books, accounts, and balance sheet, also a detailed copy of the annual report to the Insurance Department, and stated that he was very much gratified with the result of such examination, also with the thorough system of the work of every department throughout the office. He commended the Company for closing its books promptly at the end of the year, as had been its custom from organization, and stated that, notwithstanding the large amount paid to policy-holders during the year, another substantial gain had been made in the net surplus, now amounting to \$474,029.08, or if made up on the same basis as that generally used, viz., by adding the difference between the cost and market value of debentures, etc., owned by the Company, such surplus would be \$522,664.83. He referred to the great difficulty which had been experienced of late years in securing satisfactory investments, and pointed out the great decline in the rate of interest which gilt-edge securities yielded. In view of this he stated that the settlement of the Company's Investment Policies should be highly satisfactory to the holders thereof, as they compare favorably with those of the leading and best managed companies on this continent.

A special vote of thanks was unanimously tendered to the Company's Provincial Managers, Inspectors and Agency Staff for their splendid work of the past year, during which the largest business ever done by the Company had been secured, largely exceeding that of any other home company at the same age in its history.

After the usual vote of thanks had been passed, the election of Directors took place, whereupon the newly-elected board met, and Mr. John L. Blaikie was unanimously re-elected President and the Honorable G. W. Allan and Sir Frank Smith, vice-presidents.

H. S. WRIGHT,  
District Manager, Woodstock.

THE IMP.