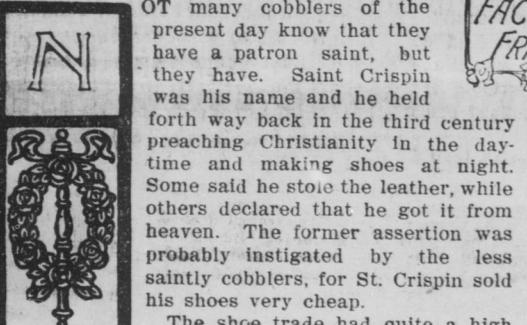




THE ODDEST SHOES IN THE WORLD BEING A FLAT BLOCK WITH A KNOB SLIPPING BETWEEN THE FIRST AND SECOND TOES. INDIA



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It was from this queer style that the high heel developed, only in those days the heel was several inches higher than those now worn.

Of course, the smallest shoes of all are worn by Chinese women. Some of these are only two inches long. The present empress is trying to break up the cruel custom of misshapening the feet. Probably in another generation these diminutive shoes will be a curiosity, but up to a few years ago, a Chinese girl whose feet were four inches long found it a difficult proposition to get married, while the parents of the girl with the two-inch foot was overrun with applicants. As a compensation to these Chinese women for the tortures they underwent during the time their feet were being maltreated they took great pride in embroidering beautiful designs upon their shoes. Very few shoes for women are on sale in China, as nearly all women make their own.

In the northern countries, coarse leather boots are the customary footwear, partly on account of the cold, but principally because a low shoe is too shallow draft to navigate the poor roads. A large percentage of these boots are of home manufacture, roughly stitched and crude in appearance.

Just why shoes for poor persons came into vogue is a question that remains unanswered. They originated in the Grecian sandal and have developed with the increasing tenderness of feet to the heavy leather affair we all know. Yet an Irish lassie who goes about barefooted all her days has a natural sole upon her foot from a quarter to a half inch thick. And she does not have corns, either.

But Americans need not complain of the institution. We made 242,110,035 pairs of shoes in 1905, or a pair for every inhabitant of America, France, Germany, Austria, and a few of the smaller countries. The value of the industry was \$320,170,458. All that was for one year's output, or more money than there was in the world when the first sandal was made. The American shoe is now walking the streets of every capital of the world; it is in the shops in every center of trade; and even on the thresholds of far eastern temples, the American shoe lies beside the crude wooden sandals, and late comers stop a moment to examine it and try it on, if no one is looking.

One of the greatest problems which modern civilization has had to face is the clothing of its feet. In the days centuries upon centuries ago, when man was only a wild beast of the jungle, he wore no shoes and therefore was not bothered with corns. But to-day when every part of the body is covered except the hands and head, man's wearing of shoes has become a necessity.

Thus some of the functions of modern civilization's "pedes" are disappearing. Toenails, no longer being an actual need among tribes which wear shoes, are disappearing and a scientist a few years ago declared that within 100 years there will be no toenails.

Even the American Indian who, a hundred years ago, wore moccasins, to-day clothes his feet in

brogans and he would laugh at his brother red-skin who took to wearing animals' skins on his feet. There are few tribes in the world to-day, except in the darkest portions of Africa, who still spurn the wearing of shoes in some form or other. Of course, every nation has its own special kind of shoes, some of which consist of nothing more than a flat piece of board and a strap. That sort are classed under the general caption of "sandals."

Hundreds of years ago, when people wore no shoes they never complained of rheumatism; they never had ingrowing toenails, neither did they cultivate corns and seldom could they boast of an attack of gout. They called it "evil spirit" then. But the advance of civilization had its drawbacks. The feet were clothed, but at the same time the wearing of the shoes brought on disease of these supports and some authorities doubt whether civilization's feet are any better off to-day than they were a thousand years ago when they were filled with slivers, brambles and the like, but were not nearly as wide a topic for discussion as they are to-day, for then people didn't mind the little inconveniences. To-day, great progress having been made in that line, smaller ailments of the feet are a source of complaint.

The most civilized portions of the world have developed a tenderness of the feet which has become a tradition in the circles which have made the greatest progress. People who wear pointed shoes are compelled to suffer the same agonies that would come if their toes were bound together with adhesive tape and they were compelled to walk about thus conditioned. Others who wear shoes too small have swelling of the feet when they take off their shoes. Shoes too large produce corns, just as do small shoes.

Young ladies and some older ones who follow the fashions with good intent, equip themselves with French-shod shoes, which raise the heels into the air from three to six inches. This of course gives them a beautiful instep, they claim, and it also keeps them walking on their toes. It twists the spine and exerts pressure upon the base of the brain which causes fear of head-aches if the practice is followed for any length of time each day. Skeptical persons with set ideas on shoes are talking of asking the next session of congress to put a tariff on French heels which will effectively bar them from this country. But there are so many wives of congressmen and senators who declare that French heels are far more comfortable than half-inch heels, that the bill has about as much show as the traditional snowball.

Morning Tonic.

The duty of the young man toward his future self is the greatest duty that he has. It is greater than his duty to parents, friends or society, for it includes all these. We should so live that our future selves shall have nothing to reproach us for. Keep clean, keep the body clean from vice, from drink, from drugs. Keep the mind clean

drinking or bathing, as prescribed by the physician.

The Child and the Law.

While discussing the juvenile court before the charities and corrections conference of Washington, Judge S. J. Chadwick of Colfax said "less law, not more law," was the fundamental idea underlying the modern system of dealing with the juvenile delinquent, and he added that "what is needed is the sweeping away of the rigors and hardships of fixed rules," so that judges may have "unrestrained discretion to

deal with each case in his own way, considering the child, its environment, its opportunities, its disposition and its hopes."

Such is the modern progressive view, and its soundness is too apparent to call for special emphasis. The hard rules of the law are not for the child. Applied to the child, they often confirm untoward predispositions and tendencies. The broadest possible discretion should be given courts created to deal with juvenile delinquents.

NOTES FROM MEADOWBROOK FARM

By William Pitt



See that the brood sow gets the exercise she needs.

Sheep should not be fed ensilage except in small quantities.

Let not a year go by without having planted some trees on the place.

It is said that barley furnishes as much nutriment as the same weight of oats.

Don't overcrowd the chickens. Winter only as many as you can comfortably.

Clean dirty eggs with a woolen rag slightly moistened in water; never wash them.

A teaspoonful of chloride of lime in a pint of warm water is said to relieve wind colic in horses.

Have you been using the road drag? If not, we hope you have an uneasy conscience. Get busy after the next rain.

The failures that we make if wisely pondered and wisely used may guide us to the success we long to achieve.

You can't count the wrinkles on the horns of the cow that has been dehorned so as to tell her age, so it is a good plan to keep a record book of your cows.

Did you help celebrate apple day by eating apples, talking apples and planning for more and better apple trees on your place? October 20 marked another advance step in the apple's popularity.

A cheap farm paint can be made from one gallon of skim milk, three pounds Portland cement, dry paint powder to give desired shade. This compound must be kept well stirred, as the cement settles. Stir up not more than one day's supply at a time.

How hard should the ground freeze before covering up the strawberry vines? Well, if it will hold a wagon up when driven over it you may conclude that it is time to put on the mulch. Don't put on too much at first, however. Increase the amount of covering as the weather increases in severity.

It is rather a startling statement which the dairy commissioner of Minnesota makes when he says he believes the farmers of that state lose \$34,000,000 every year through poor cows. Probably there are rather more than 1,000,000 cows in that state. That would mean that on an average every cow in Minnesota robs her master of \$34.

It is estimated by competent authorities that over 45 per cent. of the food products of the better classes in the United States consist of animal products. In other words, half of the amount spent for food of the average family goes for meat, eggs and dairy products. This fact suggests why it pays the farmer to raise stock.

Again let us urge you not to leave the tools out to warp and rust in the winter storms. One winter's exposure will hurt them more than two or three years' use. Clean them up and put them away in the dry. If you have no tool house put them in the packing shed. A coat of paint applied now will add several years to the life of the woodwork of tools.

Corn shows by the different states are becoming popular. Illinois will have one the last of November. Indiana will hold one at Purdue university in January, and other states are in line for similar shows. Now, brother farmer, plan to attend one of these shows. See what the other fellow is doing and learn how you can improve on the quantity and the quality of your corn crop.

Minnesota has apparently solved the difficulty of dishonest commissioners by the enactment of a law compelling the commission man to keep a record of his sales, in which he must report the name of the purchaser, the date of the sale and the price obtained. The consignor, by means of this record, may, by going to a little trouble, ascertain who bought his consignment and the price paid for it; and with this information so easily obtained, the commission man takes great risks when they make dishonest returns to the consignor. It is claimed that the law has worked well in Minnesota.

The Chicago health commission has forbidden the sale of milk from ordinary tin cans. All milk must now be delivered in sealed bottles. Nearly one-half of the infant mortality of the city is supposed to be traceable to impure milk. It requires careful washing and constant care to keep a tin can in good condition. Few people know how to wash a can and those who do know apparently do not like the job. If you want any proof of this fact, take the cover off of any milk can that is being returned from any city and notice the nasty stench that meets your nostrils. The price of city milk is constantly advancing, so that farmers have hopes of getting money enough to pay them to keep it clean and in prime condition.

Express your thanksgiving in thanksgiving.

Poultry for profit demands good quarters and good feed.

Stagnant water drunk by the cows is apt to cause stony milk.

Molasses as part of the feed ration for the horse has proved its value.

Keep tab on the markets and watch your chance to sell your crops at the best price.

Oats make an ideal food for the brood sow. It will pay to keep her well fed up.

The American quail is a good bird to have on the farm, as he is an industrious insect eater.

More failures in hog breeding probably come from lack of good yards and fences than from any other cause.

A small flock of sheep on every farm should be the slogan of the organized farmers throughout the country.

Barns are cheaper than feed. Shelter well your livestock and make the high-priced feed go as far as possible.

Roots as part of the ration for the sheep in the winter time are quite essential if you would take them through good condition.

Sheep will never drink impure water. In putting your flock into winter quarters see that proper care is taken to provide adequate and clean water supply.

Notice how uneasy the horse is when the curvy comb is being used on the legs. Most horses are very sensitive there. Try an old cloth to rub the dirt off.

When your pet theory has proved a failure, hasn't worked out as you expected, and there is no reasonable chance for its doing so, be man enough to admit your mistake, and give it up.

Again we want to urge the importance of beginning early in the handling and training of the colt. Get him used to the halter, handle him frequently and break him to driving by putting a pair of lines to the halter and walking behind him. You will be surprised to see how soon he will learn to obey the commands to stop and to start and to stand still.

The Pennsylvania agricultural college has just completed a most successful test with an acre of fruit trees which were unproductive and unprofitable. The 52 trees were first trimmed and then in April sprayed for San Jose scale. This was followed at blossoming by another spraying for the codling moth. The result was a marked increase in the quantity and the quality of the fruit borne. After reading this just ask yourself if you are realizing all the possibilities of your orchard, and if not, why not?

Rhubarb out of season is in good demand and brings a good price. When the roots are dug for forcing they should get a thorough freezing outdoors before they are taken into the forcing house. Also leave as much of the soil adhering to the roots as possible. These roots may be forced successfully in a mushroom house, or under a greenhouse bench, or in a cellar or cold-frame, setting the roots close together, filling in the hollow spaces between the roots with soil or leaf mold—anything to hold moisture. Every two weeks a fresh supply of crowns may be brought in and planted to keep up a succession.

Most farmers think clover hay is not good for horses, but here is what a farmer friend had to say on this point the other day after having fed clover and mixed hay to his horses for several years: "If I had my choice between well-cured clover hay and nice, bright timothy, I would take the clover hay every time. Many farmers are of the opinion that horses will have the heaves if fed clover hay. I have raised a good many horses and have never had one yet that had the heaves as a result of eating clover hay. Of course a horse will sometimes eat more clover than is good for him if permitted to do so, because he relishes it better than timothy. But give him the amount you think he ought to have and let him go without until the next time."

Here is what the Technical World Magazine has to say concerning the American hen: "Sixty billion times a year these small citizens announce the arrival of 'fresh laid,' and the sound of their bragging is waxing loud in the land. According to the last census, there are 233,598,005 chickens laying a day in the United States. These are valued at \$70,000,000, and the eggs they lay, if divided, allow 203 eggs annually to every person—man, woman and child—in the United States. The value of all the fowls, \$85,860,000, would entitle every person in the country to \$1.12, if they were sold and the proceeds divided. All the weight of the animal products exported, the pork, beef, tallow, ham, bacon and sausages, weigh 846,800 tons, while the weight of the eggs laid yearly tips the scales at 970,363 tons."

Fall pigs generally prove unprofitable unless the feeder can utilize feed that would otherwise be wasted in keeping them through the winter. Pigs that are kept through the winter make good gains when put on pasture in the spring, and when fattened in the late summer and early fall often bring in fair profits. On account of coming to maturity at the right time to breed for the spring litters we have found them very desirable to keep for brood sows. The second season gives them a great bone and muscle development at a low cost. Pigs drink light, warm and dry quarters, succulent food, with frequent changes of bedding and diet, and a properly balanced ration, will insure good growth in winter; but unless we are in the best shape to look after all these details, we find it best to confine our feedings to spring pigs.

The Sun's Light.

It has been calculated that the amount of light received from the sun is about 600,000 times that of the moon. The intrinsic brightness of the sun's disc is about 20,000 times that of a candle flame, 150 times that of the lime-light and more than four times brighter than the brightest spot in the crater of an electric light. The darkest spot on the sun is much brighter than the lime-light.—New York American.

THE LORD OUR SHEPHERD

Sunday School Lesson for Nov. 15, 1908
Specially Arranged for This Paper

LESSON TEXT.—Psalm 23; read also John 10:1-18. Commit entire Psalm.

GOLDEN TEXT.—"The Lord is my Shepherd, I shall not want."—Psalm 23:1.

TIME.—Either in his youth, or places it during Absalom's rebellion, referring to 2 Sam. 13:27-29.

Comment and Suggestive Thought.

The Good Shepherd Shepherd His Sheep.—Vs. 1-3. "On such a wilderness of mirage, illusive paths, lurking terrors, and infrequent spots of herbage, it is evident that the person and character of the shepherd must mean a great deal more to the sheep than they can possibly mean with us. With us, sheep left to themselves may be seen any day—in a field or on a hillside with a traveling wire fence to keep them from straying. But I do not remember ever to have seen in the east a flock of sheep without a shepherd. On such a landscape as I have described he is obviously indispensable."

The sheep in modern times under civilized governments are as really protected by the shepherd as are those in the open fields of the orient; only in a different way. The laws take the place of clubs.

Police guards mode of protecting the sheep from labyrinthine paths and desert dangers, and of guiding them to the green pastures and waters of rest.

This is equally true of life. By a full knowledge of natural and divine law, by the protection, which Christian civilization bestows, and the guidance of God's word, many things are done for us which needed once more visible guidance. But it is the same shepherding as was given of old.

The Good Shepherd loves his sheep with an everlasting love. He gives his life for the sheep.

He left heaven, his home, and became man; taught, suffered, died, that he might find his lost ones.

The shepherdom of Christ and the fatherhood of God are the two most comforting assurances of Scripture.—Hugh Black.

The Good Shepherd Knows His Sheep by Name. "It is a remarkable fact in oriental husbandry, that in a flock of hundreds of thousands each individual sheep has its name, knows it, and is known by it." This implies: 1. That the shepherd takes a living, personal interest in each individual. 2. That he knows each individual's peculiar circumstances, so that he ministers to each one what he specially needs and requires. 3. That he assigns to each one the work for which he is best fitted. 4. That he can accept the love and loyalty of each individual. Jesus, the Good Shepherd, does all this and more for his flock.

"Every life needs shepherding; and a shepherd knows his sheep by their weakness and faults, and measures his care of them thereby; and when the Good Shepherd calls his own sheep, he calls them by the name which suggests at once their failing and his help, and his call thus becomes a tender appeal, for it is both a remembrance and a promise."—Hugh Black.

The Good Shepherd is Our Guide Through Life. "He leadeth me." "Guideth me on a journey from which it is easy to stray from the right path." "In the paths of righteousness." "In the right tracks, those that lead directly and safely to the place of destination."—Prof. C. A. Briggs. "Often have I roamed through the shepherd country in my youth and watched how hard it is to choose the right path for the sheep; one leads to a precipice, another to a place where the sheep cannot find the way back; and the shepherd was always going ahead, 'leading' them in the right paths, proud of his good name as a shepherd."

"The rod and thy staff" are not synonymous, for even the shepherd of to-day, though often armed with a gun, carries two instruments of wood, his great oak club, thick enough to brain a wild beast, and his staff to lean upon or to touch his sheep with, while the ancient shepherd without firearms would surely still more require both.—George Adam Smith.

The staff is the common shepherd's crook, by which he can draw a wandering sheep toward him or pull him out of some crevice or away from some poisonous herb.

"They comfort me." "We must not miss the force of the good old word 'comfort' (con, together; fortis, strong). It means far more than simply to console. It signifies to tone up the whole nature, to strengthen a man so that all his energies can be brought to bear."—M. R. Vincent.

"Goodness and mercy" (the qualities of God) "shall follow me," pursue me, hunt me.

One need not seek anxiously for them as an illusive blessing, as the child seeks in vain for the rainbow; but they will pursue him and