

## Agricultural Department

### How to Get Rid of Stumps.

The Progressive Farmer: A few years ago our farm had a great many stumps on it, in every field were thousands of them, and never having seen a stump-puller that we thought successful, we were in a dilemma to know what was best to do. We could not use improved farm machinery to get our crops in, and when in we could not use machinery to harvest it, while to get labor to cultivate the fields without breaking tools was out of the question.

#### CHEAPER TO PULL STUMPS THAN BREAK TOOLS.

One day when we were hoeing with a force of hands an agent for improved tools came along who said he had been in New York where farmers considered it cheaper to take up their stumps than to work around them and break up their tools. This put me to thinking and figuring. We had over one hundred acres of land that had not been cleared long. We began to figure first as to cost of broken tools, the jerking about of our mules, the dread of laborers plowing in those fields, how much more it cost to work stump fields than those that had none, how much nicer it was to work them with stumps out, how many tools it would save, and how much better our help would like to cultivate them, and how much more grain we could make and save by having the stumps out. We figured it out that the saving of our tools and stock, the cheapness of cultivation by improved tools, and the larger crops we could make and gather would soon make up for the cost of taking out our stumps. Hence we made up our mind to face the task of taking up the stumps from one hundred acres of fields that had only a few years ago stood in heavy timber.

#### SOME EXPENSIVE EXPERIMENTS

I determined that all should come. Not one was to be left, no matter if as little as a man's leg or a blue white oak four feet across the stump. As I have said, I had never seen a stump-puller that I had faith in, so it was up to me as to how I was to get the work done. I hired some good hands, giving them twenty-five cents on an average for the stumps they would raise after we went over with a sixteen-pound hammer and knocked down all we could. We found this unsatisfactory, as the hands would take out the easy ones, leaving the worst, saying they would go back after them. They would get their pay for what they had done, and then go. Hence we abandoned that method of lifting them. We then got several good mattocks and shovels, and began with hired hands by the day to lift them. This we found expensive from the fact that the work was burdensome and dirty. Too much hard work too long at one place, and not making a show, was the cry from them.

#### PRIZES AND DYNAMITE.

Finally we made a play job out of it, and we lifted stumps to beat the band, and never will we regret what we have done from the fact that not a stump can now be seen in our fields. Our last and best method was to go over the fields with a sixteen or eighteen-pound hammer with an honest strong man, with instructions to go to every stump in the fields and knock out all that he could. Following him was a force of three good hands with a white oak prize pole sixteen feet long and a 6x8 two-foot block for a beel. In front of those men I sent one with a mat-

tock and shovel to make an opening for prize pole. The boys would follow him and one not knowing anything about the business would be surprised to see how many stumps can be lifted in this way. To do this successfully the ground should be wet, the wetter the better, just so it is not too wet to go over. Following these men we had a man of judgment with an inch and a quarter auger. In every stump that had not been lifted he selected the soundest place and bored a hole, sloping it downward as much as possible toward the tap-root. Following him was a man with dynamite loading the holes and shooting them. Right here I want to say is where I made my luck in getting out big stumps, it made no difference how large or tough they were, up they came. Of course, we could not at all times get the entire stump out, but we would have from half to three-quarters of it out, and sometimes no trace of a stump could be seen except a hole in the ground. Some of the very large ones we would have to load two or three times, but they came. I consider dynamiting them the quickest and cheapest way to get them out. The only objection I find to the method is that some roots are left in the ground; but I don't mind them as much as I do the entire stump, as we can cultivate right over them just as if they were not there.

#### A PROFITABLE JOB.

A goodly part of those stumps we hauled to our wood pile. The balance we used to burn up the fragments left from blasting. They make good wood; a dry stump or two in an old-time country fire-place makes an excellent fire.

Hence it is that we have all our stumps out of our fields, and we can farm much more easily and make much more than before. It was the agent's telling me that the New York farmers took up their stumps that put me to thinking on the subject, and making one of the best investments we ever made on our farm; maybe my writing these lines will encourage some one else to go and do likewise.

Robt. L. Abernethy.  
Gaston Co., N. C.

#### Medicine That Is Medicine.

"I have suffered a good deal with malaria and stomach complaints, but I have now found a remedy that keeps me well, and that remedy is Electric Bitters; a medicine that is medicine for stomach and liver troubles, and for run down conditions," says W. C. Kiestler, of Halliday, Ark. Electric Bitters purify and enrich the blood, tone up the nerves, and impart vigor and energy to the weak. Your money will be refunded if it fails to help you. 50c at J. T. Mackey & Co. and Funderburk Pharmacy.

#### The Deep-Breathing Cure.

Pall-Mall Gazette: A boy who was consumptive and was rapidly going along the road to the grave was taken in hand by one who understood deep breathing and the importance of proper mastication of food, etc. He was made to understand precisely why deep breathing was of such vital importance and he took a lively interest in his own cure. He was fourteen years old. In a very few weeks the change was remarkable. He began to get firm flesh on his poor little limbs, his chest developed well and a healthy color came into his cheeks. His eyes, which were always covered with sties, became perfectly free from them, and in three months or less there was no sign of consumption in him. I may say he was treated once a week for half an hour.

#### A Dangerous Operation.

is the removal of the appendix by a surgeon. No one who takes Dr. King's New Life Pills is ever subjected to this frightful ordeal. They work so quietly you don't feel them. They cure constipation, headache, biliousness and malaria. 25c at J. T. Mackey & Co. and Funderburk Pharmacy.

### Breathe More Fresh Air.

Chester Lantern: As one of our parting words, we wish to beg all the readers of The Lantern to breathe more fresh air. Throw the windows of your bedroom wide open. If you imagine that it is necessary, put on a little more cover, but you will find that the additional heat-producing oxygen that you will get from the pure air will almost if not quite make up for the heat of a close room with its impoverished air. Don't be afraid of "that draft", it is the very thing many of you are dying for. Don't fear the night air. Don't be careful to shut out the damp air. Any kind of outside air is better than any kind of inside air. Do you see those swarthy, delicate children? They are dying for that draft which their parents are so much afraid will give them their death of cold. It is better to sleep in the open air at home and thus ward off consumption than to take the dreadful disease and go to the Adirondacks or Arizona to be put upon the same treatment that would have been a preventive at home. Let the pure life-giving air sweep through the house.

#### Marked for Death.

"Three years ago I was marked for death. A grave-yard cough was tearing my lungs to pieces. Doctors failed to help me, and hope had fled, when my husband got Dr. King's New Discovery," says Mrs. A. C. Williams, of Bac, Ky. "The first dose helped me and improvement kept on until I had gained 58 pounds in weight and my health was fully restored." This medicine holds the world's healing record for coughs and colds and lung and throat diseases. It prevents pneumonia. Sold under guarantee at J. T. Mackey & Co. and Funderburk Pharmacy. 50c and \$1.00. Trial bottle free.

#### Boys Whipped by Night Riders.

Waverly, Tenn., Nov. 28.—Two boys by the name of Baker, living in the southern part of the county, were taken to the woods last night and given a severe whipping by masked night riders. The reason given by the riders was that the boys would not work. John Walker was also visited by a band of riders who whipped him and forced him to run up and down a half mile lane until he was exhausted. He was told he had been talking too much.

Coughs that are tight, or distressing tickling coughs, get quick and certain help from Dr. Shoop's Cough Remedy. On this account druggists everywhere are favoring Dr. Shoop's Cough Remedy. And it is entirely free from Opium, Chloroform, or any other stupefying drug. The tender leaves of a harmless lung-healing mountainous shrub give to Dr. Shoop's Cough Remedy its curative properties. Those leaves have the power to calm the most distressing cough, and to soothe and heal the most sensitive bronchial membrane. Mothers should, for safety's sake alone, always demand Dr. Shoop's. It can with perfect freedom be given to even the youngest babes. Test it once yourself, and see! Sold by Funderburk Pharmacy.

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