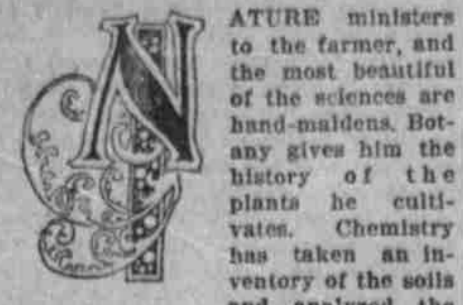


FARM AND GARDEN.

MATTERS OF INTEREST TO AGRICULTURISTS.

Some Up-to-Date Hints About Cultivation of the Soil and Yields Thereof—Horticulture, Viticulture and Floriculture.



NATURE ministers to the farmer, and the most beautiful of the sciences are hand-maidens. Botanany gives him the history of the plants he cultivates. Chemistry has taken an inventory of the soils and analyzed the plants that draw sustenance from them, and shows what is needful to be provided to sustain the growth of the plant.

There is a somewhat general impression that the farmer does not require as high an order of education as do other classes of workers. This is a great mistake. Farming is a high intellectual pursuit, and those devoted to it have need of a wider scope of knowledge than any other class of men.

Morever, grafted grapes invariably increase their fruitfulness, especially if good stock is selected, and the work of grafting is properly done. It is this last advantage that makes many vineyardists adopt this method of propagation with all of their grapes.

Moisture and Frost.—In a recent lecture Willis L. Moore, the new chief of the government weather bureau, spoke on the importance of studying the soil as well as the air in forecasting frosts.

Fifteen-Cent Corn.—"Corn at 15 cents a bushel is splendid property and the man who husbands the same and stays with it long enough is sure to come out with a handsome profit on the right side of his ledger account."

Keeping Beets in Winter.—Beets are very tender and easily injured by freezing. They are therefore most commonly put in the cellar, as that can be watched more closely than pits and there is less danger of frost entering before the owner is aware.

Pasturing Winter Wheat.—The subject of pasturing winter wheat has received some attention at the Kansas Experiment Station. The conclusion is arrived at that pasturing is always an injury to the wheat. The extent of the injury will vary with the character and condition of the soil.

Grafting the Grapes.—The grafting of new and improved varieties of grapes upon old thrifty stocks is a work that is pleasant and satisfactory in results, writes S. W. Chambers in American Cultivator.

Grafting grapes is valuable in doing away with the old, worthless kinds. The destruction of vineyards at one time because the art of grafting was not understood would be a crime in these days. No matter how worthless the stocks may be in the quality of fruits they produce they are invaluable to the vineyardist who understands his work.

Many of our modern varieties of grapes will not grow rapidly from cuttings, and it is like waiting for eternity to come to watch for them to produce a paying crop. The easiest way to do is to graft them upon robust stock and they will invariably produce large crops in a short time.

First Seed Distribution.—The present system of distributing seeds at the expense of the government originated in 1836, with Henry L. Ellsworth, a Connecticut man, who then held the office on which Connecticut has a sort of lien as being the most inventive state in the union, that of commissioner of patents.

Storing Cabbage.—Dig a trench deep enough so that when a cabbage is placed in it with the head down the root of the cabbage will come only a little above the level of the soil, and as wide as desired. Cover the bottom of the trench with straw or hay to prevent the cabbage heads coming in contact with the ground, to which they would freeze if in contact.

Latitude and Climate.—Latitude does not regulate climate. Fruit growers are well aware of this fact, and have had it brought to their attention in divers manners and at divers times. It has frequently been forced upon them at a high price.

Branding Cattle.—As a habit of branding cattle is equal to a dockage of 15c to \$1 per head in the decreased price of the hides. The habit of burning into these valuable integuments letters of the alphabet, complicated monograms, rude imitations of objects in nature and art, maps and hieroglyphics is neither ornamental nor economical.

CURIOSITIES OF PRINTING.

China Was Doubtless the Birthplace of the Art Preservative.

China, the "cradle of the arts," claims the honor of the invention of printing. Away back in the year 593, nearly 1,000 years before Gutenberg issued the first volume of his famous bible, the Chinese were using the "block system" of printing, and in the tenth century, 400 years before Europe had become acquainted with the "art preservative," the almond-eyed Celestial types were better versed in the science of setting movable types than were the American printers of the days of Benjamin Franklin.

The honor of being the first to adopt the system appears to rest between Laurent Coster of Haarlem (died 1440), John Faust and John Gutenberg. In the above list some include the name of Peter Schoffer, a son-in-law of Faust. Dutch authorities claim that Coster was the first to use movable types, and that Gutenberg, who was at one time a workman in Coster's shop stole the idea from him.

THE FORTUNE TELLER KNEW. Don't Need Second Sight to Foresee What Was Going to Happen.

"I suppose everybody has visited a fortune-teller at least once in his life," remarked a drummer to a New York World reporter, "but I'm willing to bet that few men have ever had such an experience as I ran up against the other day. I was walking through a side street uptown when I chanced to see a clairvoyant's sign in the window.

"I was joined by an elderly woman of motherly aspect. There was nothing of the proverbial fortune-teller about her, and I was more than astonished when she introduced herself as a celebrated clairvoyant. But her gentle smile and old-fashioned manner soon put me at my ease, and I felt almost as much at home as if I had been in my own house.

Better Chemist Than Statesman.

The new French minister of foreign affairs M. Berthelot is an elderly professor of 63 with virtually no experience in the conduct of public office. But in his special domain of chemical knowledge he ranks among the first of his contemporaries.

DEMOCRATIC PARTY.

AND THE PRECIOUS SET IT IS NOW CONTENDING WITH.

John Sherman's Book Is Good Campaign Literature for the Democrats—The Four Men Who Run the Republican Party.

It is not difficult to read between the lines of Senator Sherman's famous book and of his recent interviews the buoyant relief of a man who finds himself at last freed of the restraints which political ambition has for almost half a century laid heavily upon his tongue and pen.

The publishers who so shrewdly lured Senator Sherman into the pleasant paths of literature should not fail to add to his volume a compendium of his recent explanatory and commentarial interviews. Like divers classics brought down to date by erudite scholars, its original form might thus be exceeded, both in bulk and in value, by the appended notes.

Truth in the Pulpit.

Rev. J. B. Silcox of the Leavitt Street Congregational church preached a Thanksgiving sermon in which there was no idolatry of the golden calf. The reverend gentleman sees things as they are and plainly points out the enormities perpetuated by incorporated greed.

An alleged practical financier is quoted as saying: "It is a fact that \$100,000,000 in gold has been taken to Europe annually for the past five years by American tourists, and the cold reality remains that today there is not enough gold left in this country to redeem the present circulating notes."

Platt and Quay Organize the House.

Always Strong in Adversity.

Kinley and Harrison. They undermined McKinley in Ohio and Harrison in Indiana by creating separate "boss" interests in each state, which will exercise great influence in the Republican national convention next year.

First Fire! That Dreadful Cry is fraught with import, doubly dire to the unhappy man who beholds his dwelling or his workshop feeding the devouring element unresisted.

Three clever shoplifters have been arrested at Scranton, Pa., upon their own confession.

Every mother should always have at hand a bottle of Dr. King's Kidney Pills. No child is so good for pain, weakness, colds, and also, rheumatism.

Sheriff Cannon of El Reno, Okl., can ride 175 miles in one direction without getting outside his jurisdiction.

Now is the time to cure your Croup with Huxley's Cough Cure. It gives comfort to the throat. Ask your druggist for it.

Doing good will be found more profitable in the end than digging gold.

Durant's Plagiarism. Theodore Durant, "the criminal of the century," is a plagiarist as well as a murderer. In literature plagiarism is a capital crime.

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Aches Hood's Sarsaparilla. And pains of rheumatism can be cured by removing the cause, uric acid in the blood. Hood's Sarsaparilla cures rheumatism by neutralizing this acid.

DROPSY TREATED FREE. Positively Cured with Vegetable Remedies. Have cured thousands of cases. Cure cures swollen bodies by best means. From first dose symptoms disappear.

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