

### The Currant Borer.

When currants begin to wither, turn yellow, and drop off the bush, the cause can be attributed to the borer. This is the first visible indication of the injury which the grower sees. The parent insect of the borer eats its way through the bark of the bush and penetrates by means of the pith of the stems, through the whole plant. The eggs are deposited in the plant, and after a while they are hatched and cause the same injury as their parents to the currant bush. When the indications of the presence of the borer is made known the insect has been a resident of the plant for some time.

There is only one sure way of getting rid of this devastating insect. Carefully examine the currant bush, and when the presence of the borer is detected cut out and burn the infested parts. If it is necessary, do not hesitate to destroy a whole bush, for if an infested bush is left the insects will radiate from it and affect the whole patch.

The boys who recently went to Burlington, Iowa, to attend Elliott's Business College, are well pleased and commend the school highly.

### Money in Fruit.

There is more money invested in fruit than most people suppose. The census taker has to determine how much money is invested in fruit, and the bulletins already published give some interesting, and almost startling information. They show that in 1889 the vineyard interests covered 401,000 acres of land and produced 572,000 tons of grapes. This interest represented an investment of \$155,000,000. The vines now growing are expected to produce, within three years, from 8,000,000 to 10,000,000 boxes of raisins. At present the consumption of the entire country is only 7,500,000 boxes.

Peach trees cover 507,000 acres and the value of the crop is \$76,000,000. In 1887 upward of \$90,000,000 was invested in peach growing.

Mr. Mortimer Whitehead, for so long master of the National Grange, has charge of that branch of the census work that deals with fruit growing, and he states that the entire capital invested in horticultural pursuits in this country exceeds a thousand million dollars.

A fruit grower in Champaign county, Ill., says: "To apply the phosphate fertilizers on soils lacking that element, and to give copious irrigation to all soils in seasons of drought my experience and observation teach me the secret of successful fruit growing."

### Cheap Homes for the Millions.

In order to meet the constantly growing demands which come from every quarter of the North, East and West, for reduced rates, to enable the farmer, the emigrant and the capitalist to visit the Southwest, particularly Texas, the Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railway has determined to sell tickets on August 30th, September 27th and October 25th, from all points in the North, East and West, to all points on its main line in Missouri and Kansas, south of Clinton, Mo., and all points in the State of Texas, at the extremely low rate of one fare for the round trip, good to return 30 days from date of sale.

The reports which come from Texas of the prodigious prospective yields in the crops for the present season, as well as those for several previous years, together with the severity of the winters in the Northern and Western States for several years past, will induce many to locate on the sun-kissed prairies of this favored land during the coming fall. Now is your opportunity. Grasp it while it is yet within your reach.

For further information as to routes, rates, maps, time-tables, etc., call on or address E. D. SPENCER, Traveling Passenger Agent, Room 12, Rookery Bldg., Chicago; E. B. PARKER, Asst. Gen. Pass. Agent, 505 Chestnut St., St. Louis, Mo.; WALTER G. GRAHAM, General Ticket Agent, Parsons, Kansas.

### Furniture Covers for Sweeping Day.

Among the minor conveniences of the household, a few large and well-made covers for protecting furniture from dust on sweeping-day will be found useful. These covers are made of cambric or muslin; ordinary paper cambric will answer, but in this case the covers should be starched and ironed smoothly. This is necessary in order to prevent the dust from sifting through, which it would do were the thin material laundried without dressing.

For an ordinary cover, two widths of cambric sewed together and hemmed will be sufficient. This will protect a sofa or a piano. Other large covers may be made, which can be put over chairs which are set together in groups, or smaller covers can be made for the individual chairs according to fancy. A cover two yards square will protect the bureau, arm-chair or center-tablet and will save a great deal of working in the way of dusting and re-arranging.

A model housekeeper has a number of these covers always at hand. When her guest-chamber is put in order, every article in it is covered with one of these "throw-overs," as she calls them. In case of emergencies, the cover can be removed and the room is ready at a moment's warning. The dust of two or three days, which would show very plainly on the furniture, is gathered up in the wrappings and shaken out of doors. If this be carefully done, the room does not require dusting before being used. Any apartment which is not continually occupied is treated in the same way. It being but the work of a moment to whisk off these covers if occasion requires.

It must be borne in mind, however, that it is necessary to launder and starch these pieces of cambric as soon as they become flimsy, else the dust will surely sift through them, and what was intended for a labor-saving arrangement will prove to be merely a snare and a delusion.

If care is taken in handling the cloths, they will remain clean for some time, all the more so if a piece of ordinary glue the size of the bowl of a spoon is dissolved in the water before the starch is made.—N. Y. Ledger.

### Cooking a "Green Goose."

A full-grown goose makes a coarse, greasy dish, and there is no special reason for serving it when the market is full of better things. But the immature goose of four or five months of age (it is known as a "green goose") is quite a different bird. It has something of the toothsome and delicacy of the young pig, as contracted with the grosser pork, and none of the flavor of goose oil, which is a very useful article for lubricating the chests of croupy children, but is not desirable for the table. To prepare a green goose, see that it is thoroughly picked and properly drawn; then wipe it well, but do not stuff it. Dredge it inside and outside with salt and pepper; lay an onion cut in two inside the bird. Dredge a little flour over it. Lay it on a rack in a dripping pan in the oven, and let it roast for about fifty minutes. When the bird has roasted for ten minutes pour a little water in the bottom of the pan to prevent the drippings from burning. Baste the goose with these drippings frequently, turning it so that it will cook evenly on all sides. Make a rich brown gravy with the drippings, adding a little stock if necessary. Serve the goose with a dish of young onions boiled, and a dish of apple sauce if you like.—New York Tribune.

### Best Sugar in Colorado.

One of the most important projects for Colorado is on foot. Claus Spreckels, the sugar king, has agreed to invest \$1,500,000 in an immense beef sugar plant in Denver, if a like amount will be invested here in stock in the enterprise. Mr. Spreckels agrees to erect and equip a sugar refinery in this city at a bona fide cost of \$3,000,000 and commence its operation in two years.—Denver Republican.

### Queer Part of Book Selling.

One of the beauties of the subscription system of book selling is this: If the book is one of a dozen, say, that you don't want it at any price, the agent, male and female created, comes after you in your weakest hours, and, penetrates to your most secret lair, demands your piece of money or your peace of mind. Whereas, if the book be one of real value and interest, one that you, a man or woman, say not less than 33.3 per cent. above the zero of idiocy, would naturally care to read and own, then what happens? Why, then you have to seek out the publisher yourself, who civilly refers you to some local agent, who sits in secret somewhere smiling while you long for it. Queer, is it not?—New York Tribune.

### Politicians in Hayti.

Hayti suffers from a superfluity of politicians; the supply largely exceeds the demand. The officers to which perquisites are attached are too few to satisfy the hordes of rapacious time servers, each anxious for an opportunity to steal enough from the public funds to support himself the remainder of his life in ease, be it in France, if the sum be large enough, otherwise in Jamaica or some other neighboring island, or even in Hayti. But once successful, he generally prefers to leave the country than to remain and run the risk of being compelled to disgorge the fortune won at the expense of his fellow citizens and his own honesty.—Cor. New York Post.

### Insects in Drugs.

At a meeting of the Chemists' Assistants' association some rather disquieting specimens were exhibited, demonstrating the existence of "insects and germs" in sundry pharmaceutical preparations and drugs. The first was a fair looking sample of crushed linseed, recently obtained from a large wholesale firm, and kept in a wooden cask with a wooden cover. The exhibitor gravely asked what would be the effect of applying a poultice containing "thousands of insects" to an open wound, especially if the poultice be made from hot instead of boiling water?—London Lancet.

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### A Potato Diamond.

Farmer Bowles, of Easthampton, L. I., is grateful for the open winter of 1889-90. He had a large mortgage about ripe, and was wondering how he could raise the money to pay it off, as it could no longer be renewed. To think the better he went into his cellar and sorted his potatoes, some of them already sprouting, under the impression that it was spring instead of winter.

While cutting out one of these sprouts his knife glanced from a glass like substance, which the good farmer dug out in a leisurely way and put it in his pocket without the flourish he would have made had he known it was a diamond.

He found it out later when he went to Brooklyn on business. He displayed the stone to a merchant, who at once pronounced it a diamond of the first water, and offered to go with him to a jeweler's for satisfaction. They went, and the merchant's opinion was corroborated with an offer of \$2,000 cash for the jewel. The farmer did not accept the offer, hardly knowing what to do under the circumstances. If he could only know how the diamond got into the potato he would feel better about it. Not knowing but the rest of the potatoes were equally as rich he went home and picked over the lot, but without further results.

It is thought that some burglar hid the diamond in the field and the potato appropriated it.—New York Journal.

### A Primitive Timekeeper.

Now and then the explorer among primitive people happens upon a "find" which strikingly illustrates that necessity is not only the mother of invention, but that there is a strong family likeness among the inventions. An English naturalist, while visiting Great Sangir, one of those islands of the Indian ocean known as the Celebes, or Spice Islands, lodged at the house of a rajah.

In front of the house was a veranda, in the corner of which stood a sentry, whose business it was to keep the time for the village, by the aid of a primitive sandglass.

Two bottles were firmly lashed together mouth to mouth, and fixed in a wooden frame, made to stand upright in reversible positions. A quantity of black sand ran from one bottle into the other in just half an hour, and when the upper bottle was empty the frame was reversed.

Twelve short sticks, marked with notches from one to twelve, were hung upon a string. A hook was placed between the sticks bearing the number of notches corresponding to the hour last struck and the one to be struck next. The sentry announced the time by striking the hours on a large gong.—Montreal Star.

### Man Was Made to Mourn.

Perhaps, and perhaps not. However that may be, he has no excuse for his misery, if it is produced by nervousness, so long as he neglects to reinforce his enfeebled nerves through the medium of improved digestion. He can secure this by the regular use of Hostetter's Stomach Bitters, a grateful tonic and tranquilizer. It should never be forgotten that the brain—which is the headquarters of the nervous system—and the stomach bear the closest relations one to the other, and that debility under the waistband produces a correlative disturbance in the organ of thought. Give, however, a quietus to nervousness and headaches by a reform begun at the fountain head by the Bitters. Take it, also, for malarial, bilious and kidney trouble, rheumatism and the infirmities of age. Taken before meals it imparts relish for the food.

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