

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.

Horticultural Observations.

Whether, in making new strawberry plants by runners, it is advisable to pull off the first runners is a disputed point. A Wisconsin grower says that this practice is a mistake, and that the first runners are strongest and moreover they will not set too many plants in a row if permitted to grow.

Summer pruning always means a loss of foliage, and that in turn means a loss in the development of root, including its vigor. While some advocates of summer pruning say the tree will survive, yet it is hard to understand why it is not better to do this work at a time when all growth is at a standstill.

It is rather surprising that the secretaries of horticultural societies do not show more enterprise in advertising their meetings. The horticultural society of one of our large western states has just held its summer meeting, and not only were no notices sent to the agricultural press, but not all of its members received notice of the meeting. This is an inexcusable blunder. It not only lessens the attendance on the meetings, but is exceedingly annoying to those that wish to attend and receive no notice.

A horticulturist advocates a hedge of the Amur barberry. He says it is "perfectly free from rust, is a dark green, occupies but little space, is a very strong bush and spiny enough to turn stock, dogs, cats, rabbits and boys." That may be so, but what do we want of such hedges anyway? The day of the hedge as a boundary is past. Wire fences are more serviceable and can be made more beautiful in appearance. A barberry hedge is something to be a way from. What advantage is there in surrounding one's self with a wall of thorns?

In preparing the land for grape vines, plow the ground deeply, and, if possible, subsoil. Then pulverize the ground thoroughly to give the small roots all the chance possible to develop. It is best to set the vines not nearer together than 8 feet. The holes in which the vines are set should be each 2 feet square and from 18 to 20 inches deep. If a large number of vines are to be set, the land should be previously marked off, so that the rows of vines will be straight both ways; as this both improves the looks of the field and makes it easier to cultivate. One grape grower advises to keep the surface soil separate from the subsoil when digging the holes, and to put back this surface dirt first when filling up the holes. This will give the roots a good medium in which to develop. Once well rooted and growing the vine can send its roots into the less congenial soil, without experiencing a back-set. In the fall, in regions where winter protection is needed, this may be obtained by plowing a furrow on each side of the row and throwing the dirt up toward the vines. In the spring this dirt must be leveled to admit of even culture. The vines may be staked and tied to the stakes till they are two years old, when they may be fastened to wires strung between posts.

The Northwestern Greening.

(Condensed from Farmers' Review Stenographic Report of Wisconsin Horticultural Convention.)

Mr. Kellogg made a sharp attack on the Northwestern Greening, saying that in his experience it is not a good keeper, though the tree is hardy and all right.

Mr. Adams—I planted about a dozen Northwestern Greenings ten years ago. They began to bear three years after planting, and bore up to two years ago. I had no difficulty at all in keeping the fruit till spring, even till May; and I kept them in an ordinary cellar.

Mr. Chappell—My experience is that it is not a good keeper.

Mr. Tarrant—I have had a limited experience with this fruit; it has not kept very well with me.

Dr. Loope—I think the fruit is better than what we have been hearing about from the southern part of the state. In some sections of my county the trees were injured the previous year, and some of the apples they bore last summer broke open, while on other trees the same apples were perfect. Those poor apples will not keep, but the perfect apples keep well. You do not want to select for keeping those apples with a yellowish cast to them, but you want to select the ones that are green in color. The tree is very good, and so is its fruit, and I think very much more of it than I did a few years ago.

R. J. Coe—in the fall of 1898 I was in Omaha. It was the end of November and the apple exhibit had been exposed to weeks of hard conditions; and the Northwestern Greening was the best-kept apple on our tables. If the Northwestern Greening is carelessly handled it will rot, but when it is free from bruises it will keep till spring. In that it differs from the Wealthy apple, which, when bruised, merely leaves a hard spot.

Mr. Barnes—the tree requires a wonderful amount of pruning, and it takes a great deal of moisture to mature its fruit. The fruit will keep well if it is properly handled. Last season I had 1,400 bushels of Northwestern Greenings, and got \$5 per barrel for the best of them. In planting these trees be sure and put them on the out-

side of the orchard, where they will get plenty of free air.

Quite a number of others testified to the long-keeping power of this variety, some having kept it till midsummer. The testimony was so strong that Mr. Kellogg was apparently convinced that the men that did not succeed in keeping it had not treated it properly. He said that he was rejoiced at the direction the testimony had taken, because the tree itself is hardy and all right.

Orchard Grass.

Orchard-grass (*Dactylis glomerata*) is widely diffused, being grown all over Europe, from Norway and Russia to Portugal. It is also found in northwestern Africa, in Asia Minor, and even in India. It is now extensively cultivated in the United States east of the Mississippi river. In this country

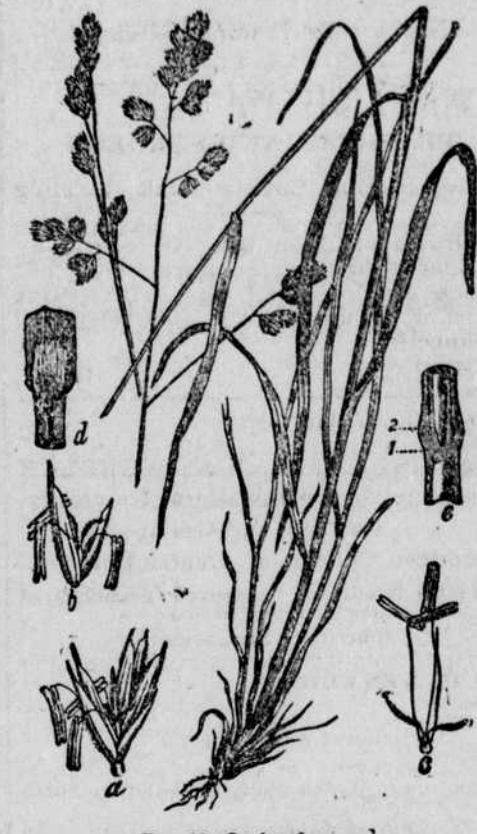


FIG. 36. Orchard-grass.

it is called orchard-grass because it thrives in the shade as well as in the sun. In England it is called cock's-foot. It grows well in pastures that are quite heavily wooded.

It will grow upon every soil not too wet, but prefers a loam fairly sandy in texture. Heavy soils are not suited to it, as in such soils it roots so lightly that it is easily thrown out by the action of the frost. On suitable soil it is a vigorous grower, and in this respect is surpassed by but few. It is nutritious and makes good growth after being mown. For this reason it is said to stand grazing remarkably well. It will also stand a good deal of tramping. This grass will be found to be very serviceable in a good many locations.

Mexican Cattle Industry.

Consul Griffin of Matamoras, under date of March 23, 1900, says: Mexico contains a great many haciendas admirably adapted and almost exclusively devoted to the raising of cattle. A fact which is attracting general interest here is that every season shows an improvement in the care taken of the animals, and also in the class imported. The stockmen throughout this country are taking such an interest in this direction and have imported so many pure-bred cattle from the United States that on many haciendas one may find animals which compare favorably with those on noted breeding farms in the north. In former years, they consisted exclusively of the old, long-horned, Spanish and Mexican types, which have large bones and frames and long legs, but are deficient in flesh. This deficiency is certainly not due to the country, for the climate, grass, water, and general topography are decidedly favorable to animal growth and comfort, and, while it is a generally recognized fact that Mexican stock is inferior to United States animals, it is the prevailing opinion that a cross between the pure blood of the north and the cow acclimated here produces a large, healthy, vigorous offspring, with an unusually compact muscular development.

Peach Yellows.

Yellows is a highly contagious, incurable disease of the peach. Trees affected with it should be destroyed at the earliest possible moment by uprooting and digging them out and burning roots, trunk and branches, including fruit, on site. No remedy save that has proven successful. Dragging diseased trees or branches through an orchard will infect healthy trees. Late summer and fall are the most favorable times for detection of yellows by symptoms of fruit and twigs. These are: 1. Premature ripening of the fruit, which is highly colored and spotted and has the flesh marbled with red. 2. Premature unfolding of winter buds. 3. Abnormal development of new buds in the trunk and branches, which grow into slender, sickly-looking shoots.

A Novel Clock Regulation.

A clock regulated by Hertzian waves was a novelty shown at the late Royal Society conversation. It was suggested that all the clocks of London—public and private—could be controlled by wireless telegraphy, a coherer on each clock receiving the electric waves and causing the time to be set to that of the central transmitting clock.

An Edible Tuber.

The Oussunify, for which the botanical name of *Plectranthus Coppini* has been proposed, is an edible tuber of the Sudan to which M. Maxime Cornu has just drawn attention. It resembles the potato, with the advantage that it can be grown in a truly tropical climate.

Some men are good for nothing; others are good because it pays them.

The Pinkham Record

Is a proud and peerless record. It is a record of cure, of constant conquest over obstinate ills of women; ills that deal out despair; suffering that many women think is woman's natural heritage; disorders and displacements that drive out hope.

Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound

cures these troubles of women, and robs menstruation of its terrors.

No woman need be without the safest and surest advice, for Mrs. Pinkham counsels women free of charge. Her address is Lynn, Mass.

Can any woman afford to ignore the medicine and the advice that has cured a million women?



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When the mist turns to rain the umbrella is very often missed.

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Your clothes will not crack if you use Magnetic Starch.

Better throw stones at random rather than idle words.

Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup. For children teething, softens the gums, reduces inflammation, allays pain, cures wind colic. 25c a bottle.

A soft corn is nearly always a hard thing to bear.

Hall's Catarrh Cure Is a constitutional cure. Price, 75c.

The golden rule must be a pure one, as it is seldom made to work both ways.

Ladies Can Wear Shoes. One size smaller after using Allen's Foot-Ease, a powder. It makes tight or new shoes easy. Cures swollen, hot, sweating, itching feet, ingrowing nails, corns and bunions. All druggists and shoe stores, 25c. Trial package FREE by mail. Address Allen S. Olmsted, Le Roy, N. Y.

Some men have no taste, but if the color is all right they take chances on it.

Care, worry and anxiety whiten the hair too early. Renew it with PARKER'S HAIR BALM. Half-price only, the best cure for corns. 15c.

Teplitz, a small watering place in Bohemia, claims the honor of being Gen. Cronje's birthplace.

Throw physic to the dogs—if you don't want the dogs—but if you want good digestion chew Beeman's Peppermint Gum.

"Filthy lucre" doesn't mean gold. It means bank bills after they have been in circulation for a dozen years.

Are You Troubled with Dandruff? If so, get a bottle of Coko Dandruff Cure. All druggists and barbers, \$1.00.

Don't be too critical—with other people, that is to say. You can't be too critical with yourself.

When buying a package of "Faultless Starch" ask your grocer for the book of humor that goes with it free.

When a baby cries without shedding any tears it is generally reasonably safe to spank him.

Sunday is a day of strength; the other six are week days.

Are You Using Allen's Foot-Ease? It is the only cure for Swollen, Smarting, Burning, Sweating Feet, Corns and Bunions. Ask for Allen's Foot-Ease, a powder to be shaken into the shoes. At all Druggists and Shoe Stores, 25c. Sample sent FREE. Address Allen S. Olmsted, Le Roy, N. Y.

Theory may be well enough in its way, but lawyers and physicians prefer practice.

Piso's Cure cannot be too highly spoken of as a cough cure.—J. W. O'BRIEN, 322 Third Ave., N., Minneapolis, Minn., Jan. 6, 1900.

Steam may be a good servant, but it occasionally blows up its master.

Use Magnetic Starch—it has no equal.

Wise is the individual who backs his friends and faces his enemies.

If you have not tried Magnetic Starch try it now. You will then use no other.

Foster as a Historian. Ex-Secretary of State John W. Foster has just completed writing a work on American history, which is to appear next fall.

Salt in Knife and Fork Handles. Handles of forks and knives are utilized for the storage of salt and pepper under a new patent, each handle being formed of a tube, which has spring clips to hold it on the shank, with an internal reservoir for the salt or pepper, which is shaken through the ends.

Hopeful as to Results. Witham, the Georgia banker, and his party of cashiers and pretty girls, left New York for the south the last of the week. There have been no marriages as the result of the trip, although it is understood that matrimony was one of the objects of the junket. There is the consolation of knowing that seven engagements have been made, however, and doubtless the weddings will take place in Georgia in due time.

An Aerolite in Souk. Pawnbrokers take some curious pledges, but it is not often that they receive one from another world. A London pawnshop, however, exhibits in its window as an unredeemed pledge a magnificent aerolite, a mass of fused metal that fell, as it were, from heaven to provide a poor man with his beer. A ticket bears the statement that it was brought from the arctic regions by a sailor.

More than half the champagne sold in France in 1898 went to England.

United States courts in New Mexico cost the government about \$75,000 a year.

High Rental for a Hotel. The Park Avenue hotel, at Fourth avenue and Thirty-third street, New York, has passed into new management. It was leased last week for ten years for nearly \$1,000,000. This rental is 25 per cent more than was paid for the last ten years. The edifice was built by Alexander T. Stewart, who intended it for a woman's hotel. It has been a quietly fashionable hostelry for a number of years.

It is estimated that the number of Germans and their descendants in the United States is 15,000,000.

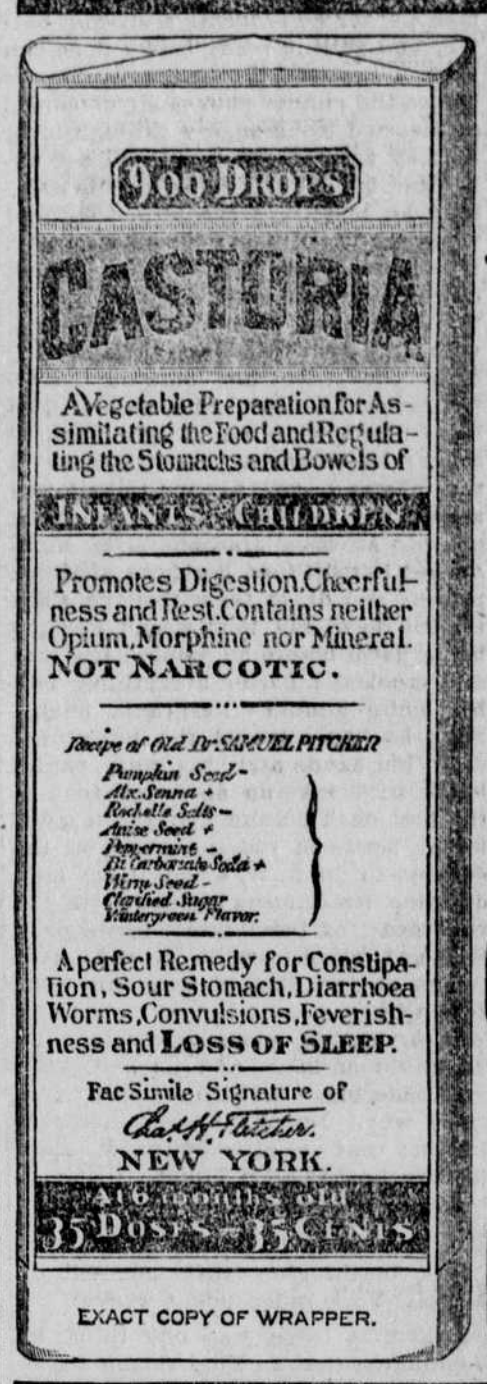
By a recent militia order British infantry battalions will henceforth be regiments.

A man of many callings—the huckster.

A son of Li Hung Chang is to enter the Harvard Law school next fall.



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A DEAD LIVER



He thinks he lives, but he's a dead one. No person is really alive whose liver is dead. During the winter most people spend nearly all their time in warm, stuffy houses or offices or workshops. Many don't get as much exercise as they ought, and everybody knows that people gain weight in winter. As a rule it is not sound weight, but means a lot of flabby fat and useless, rotting matter staying in the body when it ought to have been driven out. But the liver was overburdened, deadened—stopped work. There you are, with a dead liver, and spring is the time for resurrection. Wake up the dead! Get all the filth out of your system, and get ready for the summer's trials with clean, clear blood, body, brain free from bile. Force is dangerous and destructive unless used in a gentle persuasive way, and the right plan is to give new strength to the muscular walls of the bowels, and stir up the liver to new life and work with **CASCARETS**, the great spring cleaner, disinfectant and bowel tonic. Get a box to-day and see how quickly you will be

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W. N. U.—OMAHA. No. 29—1900

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