

FARM AND GARDEN.

A BARREL HEADER THAT SECURELY PACKS THE FRUIT.

Detailed Instructions About Making and Keeping Cider Sweet and Sparkling. Attractive Device for Plants—Convenient Rack for Shock Corn.

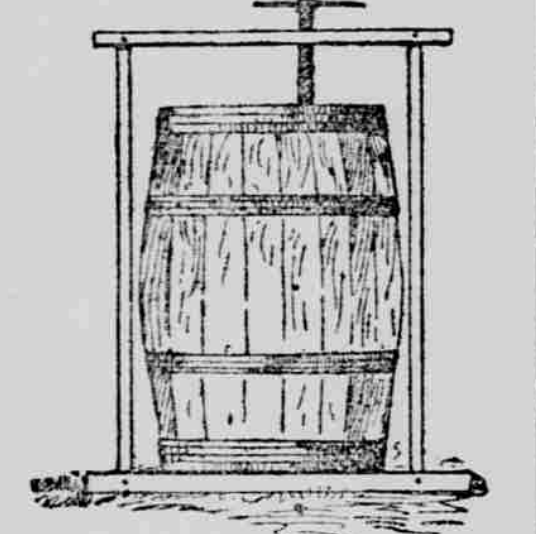
A Kansas correspondent in Prairie Farmer tells how to make a rack for handling shock corn that will be appreciated by any one who has been accustomed to husking on the ground in a cramped position.



Make the ribs or bed pieces of poles or of scantlings twelve feet long. Nail on three stiff boards about thirty inches long for cross pieces. One of these should be on the under side, and the other two on top about three feet apart, and fasten on legs firmly about three feet from the ends. In using it a shock is laid across the rack, and a man or boy may stand on each side of the rack between the side pieces of the rack and throw the ears on one side and the stalks on the other. This rack is often handy to carry the fodder on when feeding it, or when putting it in larger shocks after husking.

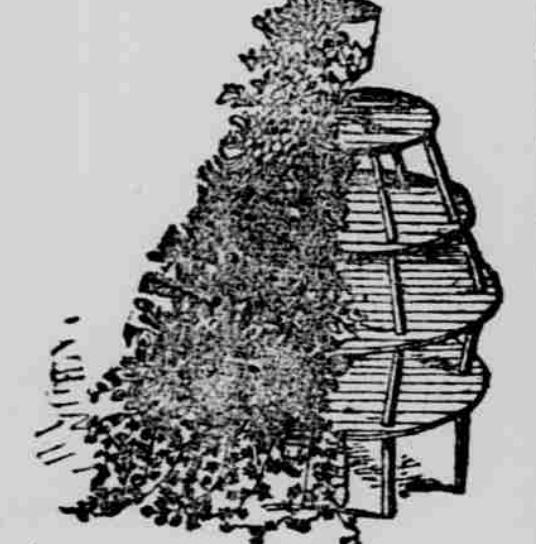
Drying Fruit Under Hot Bed Sash. Popular gardening suggests that owners of hot bed sash utilize these for making a sun drier for drying surplus fruit. The sash should be elevated on a frame four feet from the ground at the front and a foot higher behind. A rack with supports for drying trays at four or five inches apart should be constructed under the sash, to be reached from behind. The place of approach for sliding in or taking out the trays may be covered with fly screening, the other sides with boards. The sash will both increase the heat and keep off the dews and rains, thus allowing the drying to proceed from beginning to end speedily with the smallest possible amount of bother.

Barrelling Apples. Barreled apples are frequently sent long distances by rail or other transportation, and the constant jolting and rough handling bruises the fruit if not securely packed. Hence it is advisable when filling barrels, at every addition of a half bushel of fruit, to gently shake the barrel, and thus secure close packing. Fill the barrel so that quite a number of apples will be above the level of the upper part, then place on the head, above which lay a bit of plank that will easily fit within the end of the barrel, and press the head to its original position by one of the many methods used for the purpose.



A BARREL HEADER. In the cut is shown a barrel header described and recommended by Country Home. It consists, as will be seen by the cut, of a frame of sufficient dimensions to admit the barrel, which stands upon a plank platform. The pressing is performed by means of a screw, either wood or iron, passing through the upper and horizontal part of the frame.

Attractive Arrangement for Flowers. The floral cone is a pretty ornament for the conservatory or window garden. American Garden gives recently an illustrated description of one, which is here reproduced for the benefit of our readers. The cut shows the construction and finished side. Four circular shelves are arranged one above another for a foundation, the diameter of the same depending upon individual taste. A convenient size for the cone is got by making the lower shelf 12 inches from the ground and the shelves 10 inches apart from center to center, with the stand for the pot 8 inches above the highest shelf. Allowing for a pot 6 inches high and for the plant in it to project 6 inches above it, the height of the cone will be 22 inches. For this height the lowest should be about 20 inches in diameter; the next higher, 23 inches; the next, 27 inches; and the highest, 18. The spaces between the shelves are filled with soil, such as a pot would be filled. First is a layer of coarse gravel or broken crockery and charcoal and then mold within two or three inches of the next shelf. The shelves are properly braced to bear the weight put upon them. The outer surface of the soil is made in the direction of the shelf just above, except on the lower shelf, on this the surface is perpendicular back three or four inches. Above this the seeds are planted not only on the level surface, but also on the inclined outer surface. Annuals are the best, and one may select to suit his own fancy.



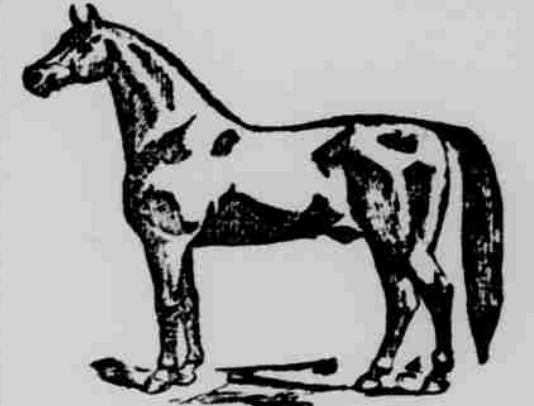
FLORAL CONE. The soil should not reach quite so far out as the periphery of the shelf that holds it. The soil is watered by inserting the long spout of a can between the soil and the shelf above it. Holes are bored around the center of each shelf, to allow the water to drain through. The lower shelf is planted in something that will drop to the ground. Here the seeds are planted on the level surface, from the

FARM AND GARDEN.

A CABBAGE TRENCH ILLUSTRATED AND DESCRIBED.

Requirements Necessary to the Successful Employment of Artificial Incubators. How a Cross Cut Saw May Be Used by One Man—Cleveland Bay Horses.

Inasmuch as many fairs this season have provided a regular class for Cleveland bays, and this breed of horses appears to be coming into prominent notice throughout the country, we give the picture of the stallion Royalty, who stands at the head of one of the largest Cleveland bay studs in America.



ROYALTY, CLEVELAND BAY STALLION. There exists but little definite information concerning the origin of the Cleveland bay. The sale of Cleveland in Yorkshire was peculiarly their home. This fact, together with their uniform bay color, gave them their name. The Cleveland Bay Horse society in England was organized in 1884. This breed was introduced in this country some ten or twelve years ago. The Cleveland Bay society of America was organized a year ago. A Cleveland bay is of medium size, standing 16 to 16 1/2 hands high and weighing from 1,350 to 1,450 pounds. This breed supplies the demand for strong, showy coach horses. They are also well adapted for general purpose horses.

A Convenient Garden Hot Bed. For a small garden hot bed excavate a trench two feet deep, three feet wide and as long as desired, selecting a sunny and well drained spot; sprinkle a little stable litter in the bottom, and on this shovel enough horse stable manure to make twelve or fifteen inches in thickness after it is well tramped down; around the bed construct a frame of boards, a foot high in front and eight inches at the back, with ends beveled to fit the sides, the whole to be covered with glass in sash that can be conveniently raised or lifted off when required. Some manure should also be put around the frame on the outside and covered with earth to keep out the cold air. Horse stable manure mixed with a moderate amount of the bedding is the right kind to use, and it should be hauled out and piled up a few days near the trench, and be forked over several times and kept moist, but not drenching wet, until the heap is well heated up, when it should be shoveled in the pit as directed, and covered with five or six inches of rich soil as a bed for the seed. If the heat is excessive at any time remove the whole or a portion of the sash, and on warm days this should always be done. Where old sashes are on hand the bed may be made of a size to suit them and save the expense of new. In sprouting large quantities of sweet potatoes for plants many producers cover their beds with coarse muslin, as being cheaper than glass and answering the purpose quite as well.

Sugar Making in This Country. The experiments conducted under the auspices of the National Department of Agriculture, at Fort Scott, Kan., in making sugar from sorghum cane have been successful. A complete success by Commissioner Colman. The new process is rapid, less costly and more efficient than the old process. By the latter it is estimated that about one-half of the saccharine matter was wasted, even in the southern sugar crop. The diffusion process, it is claimed, saves about 95 per cent. of the saccharine matter. Experiments are being conducted in Louisiana with making sugar from the ribbon cane by the new process. Commissioner Colman believes that these experiments and their results are as important to this country as the invention of the cotton gin. The only entirely successful experiment in best sugar production in this country has been at the Alvarado factory in California. It appears from a recent report that there are possibilities of sugar-making in the San Joaquin valley, as to lengthen the factory season in California to five months instead of three, the length of the season in Europe.

A Homemade Sawing Machine. In the illustration is shown how a cross cut saw may be used to good advantage by one man. Prairie Farmer explains the arrangement as follows: One end of the saw—the handle being taken off—is hung by a swinging bar several feet long to the side of the woodhouse. The swinging bar should run between two horizontal strips, which will make it run steady. To support the stick which is to be sawed, a heavy piece is fastened on the corner of the shed, and a crooked piece is fastened to the side of the shed, either by



HOMEMADE SAWING MACHINE. nailing from the inside or by bolts, or by setting it in the ground. The saw should have a good set so it will go through the wood without cramping. The longer the swinging bar is the less rocking motion the saw will have.

Artificial Incubation. The manufacturers of incubators and the advocates of the artificial method of hatching lay down as the requisites of the successful employment of this method the following principles: 1. Heat of about 103 degs. Fahrenheit. 2. Proper ventilation. 3. Turning of the eggs. 4. Sufficient moisture. In theory there has never been any difficulty about artificial incubation, but it has not been found so very easy in practice. The past few years, however, have devel-

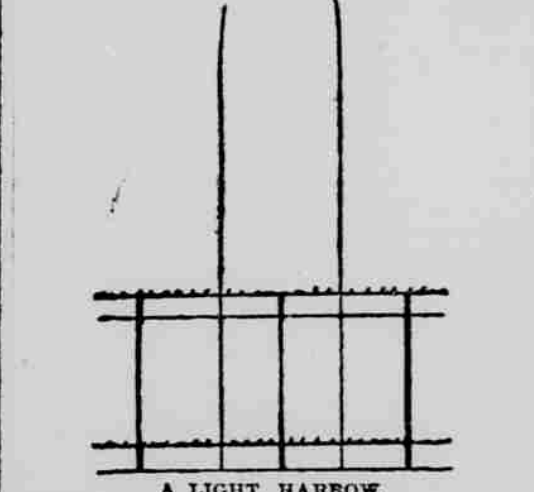
might be developed with care. The cut illustrates Gilt Edge, who has made a good record among Guernsey milk cows.

Drying Apples. Experiments appear to have proven that acid apples with apples make the best product when dried. In large establishments apples are prepared for the evaporator by machines that pare, core and slice the apples in one operation. Hand prepared fruit, not being divided into uniform pieces, does not dry as evenly and presents a less attractive appearance. Some manufacturers place the apples when they come from the parer into a solution of salt and water—one pint of salt to ten gallons of water. This is thought to cut the gum on the fruit and clean it, also to prevent fermentation and aid in bleaching. Bleaching is done by exposing the fruit in a wooden box or special machine, to sulphur fumes. The sooner the bleaching is done after the apples are cut the better. Caution is necessary not to overbleach the fruit and cause it to both taste and smell of sulphur. In different establishments the heat of the sulphur varies from 95 degs. to 200 degs. Fahrenheit. The fruit must remain in from two to five hours, according to the heat of the air in the evaporator. One bushel of apples is estimated to make from five to seven pounds of dried fruit.

Agricultural Societies and Their Doings. The election of officers at the late session of the American Pomological society, in Boston, for the next two years, resulted in the choice of P. J. Herckmann, of Augusta, Ga., for president; Charles W. Garfield, of Michigan, secretary; T. T. Lyon, of Michigan, first vice president, and a vice president was also selected from each state and territory.

At the convention of American florists, in Chicago, the officers elected were as follows: President, E. G. Hill, Richmond, Ind.; first vice president, W. D. Siebrecht, Astoria, N. Y.; secretary, W. J. Stewart, Boston, Mass.; treasurer, M. A. Hunt, Terre Haute, Ind. One vice president was also elected for each state and territory. At the late convention of agricultural chemists in Washington the following officers were elected for the ensuing year: President, P. E. Chassel, state chemist of South Carolina; vice president, W. J. Gascoyne, state chemist of Virginia; secretary, Clifford Richardson, district chemist; executive committee, P. H. Jenkins, vice director of the Connecticut agricultural experiment station, and J. A. Myers, state chemist of Mississippi.

Broadcast Harrowing. A North Carolina farmer describes in Southern Cultivator how to make a light harrow for use in broadcast harrowing of cotton or other crops during early growth, when a heavy harrow with thick teeth does not work well.



A LIGHT HARROW. The length of this harrow is eight or ten feet, and the width two and a half feet. Teeth on front piece are twelve inches apart, and on aft piece same distance. These latter teeth are set at mid-way between those of the front piece, cutting little furrows of six inches apart (as shown in cut above), which will break the entire surface at each going over, taking out one-sixth of the plants.

Treatment of Barnyard Manure. The proper treatment of barnyard manure is a matter of pecuniary interest to the farmer. Professor Weber, in a recent report issued by the Ohio state board of agriculture, says on this subject:

- 1. The stable floor should be impervious to water, and may be made of concrete, clay, brick or plank. 2. Enough bedding should be used to completely absorb the liquid excrements. Straw is the best bedding. The amount of bedding should be equal to one-fourth of the dry matter of the feed given. This would in general be about six to six and a half pounds for every 1,000 pounds of live weight of stock per day. 3. Where the manure is allowed to accumulate in the stable it is often necessary to employ some absorbent for the escaping ammonia. The best absorbents are manure and soil sprinkled over the surface from time to time. Where these cannot be had the following substances may be employed: Gypsum or land plaster, one-half pound per day for every 1,000 pounds live weight. Sulphuric acid, one part to 1,000 parts of water. One pint of this mixture per week will be sufficient for each animal. With this precaution no loss or evil results will come from the accumulation of manure in stables. 4. Where stables are daily cleaned a manure pit for the preservation of manure should be provided. This pit should have double the stable surface, should be two feet deep, and have a wall or ridge around the outside, at least a foot higher than the surrounding surface, in order to exclude water during rains. The bottom and sides of the pit should be impervious to water, so as to prevent loss of the soluble constituents. The manure should be spread over the whole pit, and not piled up at one point. Here it will keep moist, which prevents heating, and all of the soluble ingredients will preserve. Manure from such a pit, according to the authority quoted, would contain per ton 10 pounds of nitrogen, 5.2 pounds of phosphoric acid and 12.6 pounds of potash. The money value would be about \$9 per ton.

Lime Destructive to Hog Cholera Germs. Dr. Salmon is reported to have said at the meeting of the Society for Promoting Agricultural Science that lime will kill the germs of hog cholera. It was advised that the lime be applied at the rate of fifty bushels per acre, upon land used as a hog pasture, and the germs will be destroyed in the soil to the depth of six inches. A like proportion of lime mixed in manure piles containing the germs, it was claimed, will also kill them.

A Thirty Pound Book. The largest book ever bound is owned by Queen Victoria, and measures eighteen inches across the back and weighs thirty pounds. It contains the jubilee addresses of congratulations from members of the Primrose League.—Chicago Times.

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