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BOUT two years ago Miss Ritz Mylotte, a charming young girl of Oakland, Cal., being in poor health, was advised by her physician to go in for athletic exercise as a means of building up her condition. Miss Mylotte obeyed the medical man, and among other things took to Indian ciuts. Within a month or two she became exceptionally clever, and soon gathered about her a class of children whose parents were too poor to purchase the necessary apparatus. Miss Myloste keeps up her work with the clubs regularly, and has for some time been able to do most of the tricks affeeted by professionals. The promoters of a charitable entertainment finally induced her to appear in public.



and since then no such affair is regarded by Oaklanders as complete unless Miss Rita furnishes one of the numbers. In speaking recently of her favorite exercise the clever young athlete said:

"Club swinging I regard as the best of all exercises in this line, because almost anyone can practice it. There is no costly apparatus to pay for, and all the the exercise that is wanted can be taken in one's room on arising in the morning or just before retiring. I would not advise too long a practice at a time to beginners, for the exercise brings every muscle in the body into play, and one feels the effect after a few minutes. Many young women of my acquaintance swing clubs now, and I am sure that if girls knew the benefits to be derived they would soon secure clubs. The limbs are soon developed from a state of weakness and deficiency to one of strength and fullness, and the whole body feels the change a few lessons will bring. There is also a fascination that grows on one as she becomes proficient, and shortly exertion or strain is rarely felt."

Weakness of the Womanish Man. 'Womanish" men are, after all, a very small proportion of the male population. But men who are afflicted with this weakness sometimes carry their foibles to extraordinary lengths. A certain commercial traveler-a capable business man-has one little vanity. He always carries a small pocket mirror, and from time to time, particularly when traveling by train, he refreshes himself with a glance at his handsome features. When anyone is in the car with him he secretes the looking-glass inside the book or newspaper which he of butter-colored straw is a fetching pretends to be reading. A London so Easter combination seen at a modish licitor, popular as a society man, some milliner's. seasons since hit upon the appearanceimproving expedient of having his hair "waved." The experiment was a are airy enough to be worn by a verigreat success, and at his evening engagements he ever after adopted it. But he has not the courage to face his clerks and clients with curly locks. And so, on his return from a festive evening. he spends an hour or so dampening his bair and laboriously brushing it out straight again.

New Jackets

The new features in lackets for young ladies are strapped seams and small nearl buttons. On the strap extending down from the shoulder on the sleeve. there will be a dozen small pearl buttons on each of the three straps, and stx on the straps pointing upwards pearl bullet buttons are set close together near the top, and two about six walst. - Womankind.

How a Woman Barned a Dollar. Each member of the local Obsistian Endeavor Seciety at Springsport, Mich., pledged herself to turn into the treasury SI carned by herself, and Mrs. Jennie Chy carned hers in a unique way. Two tramps called at her house to cost.

went into a room, got her husband's revolver, and ordered the tramps to throw allowed to depart, Mrs. Clay giving ing about it, the number depending them breakfast. She then presented upon its magnitude, and many of these a bill to the Village Council: "To ar- planets may be the abodes of intelligent resting two tramps, 50 cents each, \$1," beings. To the astronomer this earth of an inch in length, and all this life has den, and know just what article bring and that body, after a good deal of is only a point from which to make obhumorous debute, allowed the bill.

To Relieve a Headache. " Often massage will relieve a congestive headache. The movement should be made with the palmar surface of the fingers and should be vigorous enough to induce more active circulation. If the woman who is subject to such headaches dashes cold water on the base of the neck before the morning bath she will find, however, that there will be less need of any treatment, for her headaches will be fewer in number. To give the massage begin on top of the head and continue the treatment backward and downward to the base of the brain. Continue the rubbing also from the temples backward and downward. Much and heavy rotation at the base of the brain should follow; also crosswise rubbing on the back of the neck and stroking from the head down back of the cars to the shoudders, for the purpose of emptying the veins.

Care of Finger Nails. Women never cared more carefully for their nails than now, but the woman of taste avoids extremes in this as in all things. Pink nails are admired because a perfect nail should be thin enough to show the rosy blood beneath, but a nail glowing with the red salve of the tollet table is no better liked than lips and cheeks which owe their brilllancy to the rouge pot. Nor is an artificial polish to be recommended; the natural gloss merely should be maintained and heightened. The best authorities forbid the use of the nail brush. Any dust or soll may be removed with a bit of cotton wound around a wooden toothpick or bit of orange wood; the small emery boards which are sold everywhere for the purpose keep the under surface of the nail so smooth that little or nothing can ad-

A Helpful Hint, Every quick-witted woman will appreciate the following: Pass round the



thumb one end of the skein, which entwine round the palm of the hand and slip the opposite end on the first finger.

Fancies for Springtime Sweet peas rival the famous arbutus

as the fashionable boutonniere. The trimming under the brim of the modish hat is quite as important a fea-

ture as that which is on top of it. The beef-cater crown is in again, but as it admits of an indefinite variety of

brims it does not become monotonous. A velvet crown of violet with a brim

Big-brimmed hats are of shirced chiffon trimmed with wide gauze ribbons table Titania.

A gown of pale gray crepon, lined throughout with rich white taffeta and otherwise absolutely untrimmed, will be worn by an Easter bride.

Modish sleeves in the Louis Quinze coats terminate in a long, bell-shaped cuff, which makes the dainty gloved hand beneath look very diminutive.

Tiny purses of gold chain set with a miniature top and fastened by a jeweled clasp might be found aceptable as an Easter gift by fastidoous maidens. Light tan-colored box coats are s perennial favorite and are an unfailfrom the wrist. The front is closed ing harbinger of spring. The newcest with books on the left side, and two have strapped seams and are orna-

mented with huge pearl buttons. The newest handkerchiefs show a inches above the top, and two about tiny colored border or a bit of delicate-six inches above the edge below the lytinted embroidery, though the dainty tiny colored border or a bit of delicatewhite mouchoir is generally affected

by the conservative woman. Chiffen shoulder capes, with chiffen trimmed bees to match, are a fascinal-ing combination. A fancy, however, only to be indulged in by, the lilles of

A FRAGMENT OF THE UNIVERSE. | bespangled azure, in the glow and TOPICS FOR FARMERS One of the Wonders Revealed by a

With a refracting telescope, having a forty-inch object glass, fixed stars to the twenty-first magnitude will be ren-165,000,000,000 of suns, many of them vastly larger than our sun. Areturus, for instance, is 550,000 times larger than the sun, and is moving them could only stretch their bodies athwart the solar system a million and up their hands, which they did. She a balf miles an hour, and is moving tothen commanded them to march, and ward us at the rate of 75,000 miles an started them to the village lock-up, hour. There is little reason to doubt where they were caged for the night, that every one of these suns has from In the morning they were registered and a dozen to hundreds of planets revolvservations; its diameter of 8,000 miles is of water no larger than a pin head, and the Practical Farmer. We plant of too little consequence to be taken into consideration in determining celestial distances, and the diameter of the earth's orbit, 185,000,000 of miles, is far too short to constitute the base of a triangle by means of which to determine the distances of more than half a dozen of the nearest fixed stars. If such an orb as Arcturus should strike the sun it would transform the center of our system into gases and vapors in an instant, and blot out the solar system as you would snuff out a taper. The disappearance of this earth from the heavens would have no more effect upon the visible portion of the universe of which we are speaking than would the falling of a single needle from a single pine have upon the general appearance of the forests of North Amer-



ROTIFER VULGARIS. Magnified 5,000 times.

And yet we little mortals upor this atom of stellar dust regard our penny-whistle activities as of some consequence. A thousand millions of years have been occupted by the world in its growth to its present condition. What will have become of it and its microscopic parasites a thousand millions of years hence? The thought crushes us with humility, while it gives us a lesson upon the infinitely great, and the microscope tells of almost equally impressive facts in the domain of the infinitely little.

The following tabular statement exhibits the number of fixed stars or suns which can be rendered visible by a telescope with a forty-inch object glass. This calculation assumes that the ratio of increase is the same for magnitudes. below the ninth as it is known to be for magnitudes from the first to the ninth, which have been carefully estimated by astronomers. The error, if any, one way or the other, in our calculations can only be a few hundred milllons of suns:

NUMBER OF FIXED STARS OR

SUNS	man man
Anguitude.	Number
1	20
2	- 63
3	108
4	423
5	1,100
6	3.200
7	13,000
8	40,000
9	142.00
0	440,200
1	1.364.200
2	4.230.300
3	13,133,900
4	40,653,000
5	126,024,300
	390,675,300
g	1.211.003.400
7	Contraction of the Contraction o
8	3,754,389,500
9	11,638,607,600
0	86,079,688,500
1	111,847,018,850
Total	185 107 514 000

Out from under the infinite and star-

the pure wintry air into a quiet study. on whose four walls stand rows of treasured books, the silent spirits of the A DEPARTMENT PREPARED FOR great of earth, the loved companions of a life of solitude, is only a step. Amid dered visible showing not less than these sacred surroundings we spend an Profit in Ruising Popcorn-Devices hour examining through a microscope an animal which is only one one-thousandth of an inch long. A dozen of lengthwise across the black line, making the widest wart of the lines composing one of these printed letters, a being which, it is needless to say, is Playing around this Rotifer Vulgaris people, too, I wonder, know that there (the animal's name) are hundreds of is money in it! For several years past other forms of life, many of which are I have kept an accurate account of evless than one one-hundred thousandth erything raised and sold from our garample room for its activities in a drop in the most money, says J. R. Moore, in the drop is from Lake Calumet. These Queen's golden popcorn, and find it prominute rascals resemble men in some liffe, while the ears and kernels are particulars, and while we are observ- extra large. The corn when popped is ing their anties two of them "pitch in- a beautiful, delicious cream color. The to" the side of a larger form of another shelled corn sells at 4 cents per pound species and gnaw off a good supper here, which is at the rate of \$2.40 per from his outer flesh, much to his ap- bushel. But we do not prefer selling it parent horror and disgust. A curious in that way. A pound of the shelled feature of the Rotifer which we are ob- popcorn nicely popped makes nine serving is his ability to withdraw all quarts of popped corn, and a bushel the sections of the lower part of his consequently would make 540 quarts. body into the upper section, as the We use Mrs. Rorer's recipe-dressing small sections of a hand telescope are the freshly-popped corn with a little pushed into the large section. The melted butter, stirring the corn while realization of the fact that this animal has eyes, a digestive apparatus, and ly with a little fine salt. (Just try probably a nervous system, and that it some and be convinced that it is delithat it is a veritable whale compared direct to consumers at 5 cents per with the many forms of life around it, quart, at a curbstone market in our impresses the observer profoundly and nearest town. Does not \$27 pay well illustrates the infinitely little in organic for the labor and cost of raising, prelife, and exhibits a world of marvelous to us by powerful instruments. We present two pictures of the Rotifer, one of them exhibiting the animal's tail extended and the other the tail largely withdrawn into its body, and the cilia about its head sweeping food into its lowing ways to catch cut worms: mouth. Each eye of this small animal, too, is equipped with an independent set of muscles enabling it to look upward with one eye, while looking downward at the same time with the other. -Pullman Journal.

ADDITIONS TO THE ALPHABET.

Two Letters of Which Our Foreceedingly rare and I have never yet each evening. seen a book printed prior to 1652 in which it appeared. In the century immediately preceding the seventeenth a good light and sharp eyes. when Roman numerals were used, as in around the fresh-cut plants. this example: viij. for 8 or xij. in place to use it as a letter is an interesting. the tub.

but perhaps an unanswerable query. In a like manner the printers and language makers of the latter part of phabetical sign or character, as the selves the first year. first sound in the word "wet."

ers recognized the fact that the double | the previous weighing. to the twenty-first magnitude, inclusive, have one book in which three forms pounds. When delivering them a neighthe last stroke of the first v crosses found to be 1,130 pounds, a loss of 130 the first stroke of the second and the pounds on each cow, or a loss of \$19.50 third is the common w we use to-day.-New York Mercury.

Mystery of a Shoe Store.

envelope containing \$7. The name was take advantage of it. traced to an East Boston corporation. but they said the man had not worked for them for eight years. How did the money get into the rubbers? My friend the toe for safekeeping. Afterward bers did not fit, and forgetting all about the pay envelope returned them to the store, where by some chance or other they remained unsold for eight years. This is certainly a clever explanation and for want of a better 1 will accept it. The laborer, by the way, cannot be found.

Someone has discovered that the great thinkers of the world were short Some of them could get presty

## OUR RURAL FRIENDS

Employed for Catching Cutworms Value of Scales on the Farm-Crude Petroleum for Shingle Roofs.

Popcorn for Profit. Why do we hear so little about the raising of popcorn? How many farmwholly invisible to the unaided eye, ers, boys and girls, yes, and grown pouring it on, and then dusting lightbegets and cares for its young, and clous.) We sell the corn prepared thus, paring and selling a bushel of popcorn? creations, which can only be revealed My books prove in what order farm products are profitable with us, and I knowingly say, plant popcorn for profit.

How to Catch Cutworms. The Florist's Exchange gives the fol-

Placing around the plants fruit or vegetable cans, from which top and bottoms have been removed. The top of the can should be three or four inches above the surface of the ground. The ends can be unsoldered by throwing the cans into the fire.

Plowing the ground early in Septem-

ber, and not allowing weds to grow. Plowing the ground late in the fall fathers Were in Total Ignorance. or early in the spring, keeping the sur-It is a fact, not so well known but face free from weeds by cultivation. that it may be said to be curious, that and not putting a crop on same until the letters j and w are modern addithe middle of May or first of June. tions to our alphabet. The letter 1 During the first ten days of May fresh only came into general use during the cut clover, grass or weeds which have commonwealth, say, between 1649 and been dipped in water containing Paris green should be strewn over the ground

Collecting the worms each evening

It became the fashion to tail the last i Each morning hunting for the worms

Using "light traps" at intervals durof 12. This fashion still lingers, but ing the months of June, August and only in physicians' prescriptions, I be September. These traps are made by lieve. Where the French use j it has filling a tub or half cask two-thirds full the power of s as we use it in the word of water, pouring a little kerosene over "vision." What nation was the first the surface and hanging a lantern over

Value of a Set of Farm Scales. Most farmers realize to a certain exthe sixteenth century began to recog- tent the value of a set of farm escales. nize the fact that there was a sound in But few seem to think the value equal spoken English which was without a to their original cost. In many instances representative in the shape of an al- they have more than paid for them-

A farmer in Illinois, according to the Prior to that time it had always been Ohio Farmer, sold seventy hogs to a spelled as "vet," the v having the long shipper. Before delivering they were sound of u or two u's together. In or- weighed upon the farmer's scales. When der to convey an idea of the new sound weighed upon the buyer's scales there they began to spell such words as was a discrepancy of over 1,200 pounds. "wet," "weather," "web," etc., with After investigation it was found a two nu's, and as the u of that date was 1,000-pound weight had not been counta typical v the three words above look- ed, which would have amounted to ed like this; "Vvet." "vveather." \$56.50 (at \$5.65 per cwt., the selling "vveb." After a while the type found- price), and would have been lost but for

u had come to stay, so they joined the Another farmer sold five cows to a lotwo u's together and made the charac. cal butcher at three cents per pound, ter now so well known as the w. I guessing their average weight to be 900 of the ware given. The first is an old bor induced him to weigh them upon double v (vv), the next one in which his scales. The average weight was upon the whole number.

Then there is a great advantage in being able to tell the rate of gain when fattening stock and when selling pota-A Boston man tells of a servant girl toes, hay, straw, grain, etc., from the in his family who recently purchased farm. Guesswork is poor business at a pair of rubbers at a bid department best. Competition has placed the price store, and, having taken them home, of scales within the reach of the averwas astonished to find in the toe a pay age farmer, and it is his privilege to

Petroleum for Shingle Roofs

Crude petroleum can be had for \$3.50 to \$4 per barrel, including the barrel. had an ingenious theory that the wife It is not a paint, but is a preservative of the laborer purchased the pair of of timber. Some seventeen years ago rubbers and tucked the envelope into one of the editor's barracks was given a coat of it, mixed with seventy galshe must have concluded that the rub- lons of the oil and thirty-five pounds of other. The barrack looks well yet, and the boards are as sound as when first put on. A hog pen and colt shed was recently given a coat, and to the roof, which was of shingles, two coats were applied. The oil was sprinkled on with a fine rose watering-can. After the first coat had soaked in, a second coat was given. The oil was put on when the roof was very dry, the roofing being quite flat, it was easy to put it on. Where new rooding is to be d a better way would be to soak the

shingles beforehand. Then take them out and dry them in the sun.

Singletrees, plow-handles, ax-helves -in fact, all kinds of farm tools-will be much improved in appearance and in durability by giving them a good

dressing of this oil.

For cuts, for abrasion of the skin from the plow-traces or saddle galls, a thick coat of this oil, applied at once, will quickly heal. The empty barrels, cut in two, make most excellent flower tubs. Paint the woodwork bright red, and the iron bands black. They are cheap, durable and highly ornamental, when well filled with a choice collection of cannas, geraniums and English lvy.-The American.

## Cutting Course Fodder.

The Maine Station compared the value of chopped and unchopped hay for cows, and found no evidence that the chopping had any effect. Cutting corn stover was found advantageous at the Wisconsin Station. The Indiana Station found that steers made better gains on cut than on uncut clover hay. In reference to cutting coarse fodder Professor Henry says:

"There should be a good feed-cutter on every dairy farm, useful for silo filling in the fall and for chaffing feed in the winter. All cornstalks should be put through the machines, for then they are in better condition for feeding. and the coarser portions left uneaten are in good form for bedding and the manure heap. Large cornstalks are a nuisance in the feeding manger, worthless for bedding and troublesome in the manure pile. Many farmers find difficulty in feeding cut cornstalks, since sometimes the cows refuse to eat them. In a few cases we have found that the sharp ends of the corn-stalks, when cut certain lengths, injure the mouths of the cows. When they are not well eaten, the cause is often due to overfeeding or endeavoring to have the cows live on too limited a variety of foods. Keep the mangers clean and feed the cut fodder with care, and usually very little will be left over, and that only the coarsest portion. Experiments at the Wisconsin Station show that with the varieties of corn-fodder raised there much more of the cut stalks will be eaten than if fed uncut under the same conditions.

The Early Pullet. Never forget this in poultry culture: The pullet that commences to lay earliest in life is the one to lay the largest number of eggs through life, as cattle that have the milk-producing organs active make the best cows. Select the fast-growing, early-maturing specimens that present in full the type and size found in the breed, and use only these as breeders, and the egg-producing merits will be increased. We have reported the wonderful product in single specimens, which can be made true of a flock. But it is care and attention to the flock that finds and secures these merits in the progeny. Neglect and

Odds and Ends.

hap-hazard breeding never pays.

A little salt sprinkled on a hot stove will remove any disagreeable odor.

A great deal of the unpleasant odor that is carried through the house from bolling vegetables may be avoided by putting a piece of bread in the water with the vegetables, and if a bit of charcoal be used the cooking of cabbage or cauliflower cannot be detected.

Rough towels are marked by means of stitching on them a piece of muslin. on which the initials have been previously embroidered. Embroidered top. sheets are no longer sought after, but down quilts have a linen cover, buttoned on, something like an envelope flap over the edges, and occasionally a broad silk frill.

Corks that have been steeped in vaseline are an excellent substitute for glass stoppers. Acid in no way affects them, neither do they become fixed by a blow or long disuse, which latter fact will be appreciated by those who often lose time and temper by a "beastly fast stopper." In short, they have all the utilities of the glass without its disadvantages.

A favorite as well as nourishing drink for invalids is barley water. To prepare it place one quart of water in a saucepan over the fire. Wash well, two ounces of pearl barley and throw into the water. Bring it to boiling point, then add lemon and sugar to suit the taste. Draw the pan to the back, of the fire and simmer gently two hours. Strain and cover until cold.

A cake of magnesia and a clothes brush are a frugal woman's best friends. After brushing a dusty gown and then with the magnesia rubbing both sides of any solled spots, it should be hung away for a day or two and then brushed again. The spots will be found to have disappeared. Care taken with gowns is a secret of dressing well on a limited allowance.

The ideal bedroom should have neither carpet nor woolen hanging. The floor should be of wood, with, perhaps, one or two small rugs, shaken every day, or the floor should be covered with matting, with no rugs. The bedding should be thoroughly aired every morning, and the best way is for it to hang in the sun and wind for an hour or two; but if that is inconvenie It should at least be spread open wie ly and the sun and air be allo reach it and the uncevered matt