

HOME, FARM AND GARDEN.

Liberal manuring on poor soil always pays. If a little vinegar or some cider is mixed with stove polish it will not take much rubbing to make the stove bright, and the blacking is not likely to fly off in fine dust.

The best grass for wet land is red-top; to this may be added meadow spear grass, fowl meadow-grass and perennial ryegrass. Of these about six pounds each may be used to the acre.

Spice Cake.—One cup of sugar, one cup of molasses, two-thirds of a cup of butter, one cup of buttermilk, two and a half cups of flour, one cup of chopped raisins, three eggs, one teaspoonful of soda, one teaspoonful ground cinnamon, one-half teaspoonful of cloves, one-half teaspoonful of nutmeg.

Dolly Varden Cake.—Three eggs, two cups of white sugar, two-thirds of a cup of butter, three cups of flour, one cup of sweet milk, one teaspoonful of cream of tartar, half a teaspoonful of soda, take half the mixture, flavor it with lemon and bake in two tins, as for jelly cake; to other half add one table-spoonful of molasses, one cup of chopped raisins, one teaspoonful each of cinnamon, cloves and nutmeg. Bake in two tins. Put the cake together with jelly, a light-colored layer at the bottom, the light one being less likely to crumble.

Lice on cows, calves, dogs and poultry should be attacked by means of some oily or greasy substance. This kills them. Sulphur is also fatal to them. Persian insect powder is the best of all remedies. This is to be had at all the drug stores. Whatever remedy is applied should be rubbed into the hair and onto the skin, so as to reach the vermin. Linsseed oil and sulphur well mixed together is an effective remedy when it is thoroughly well applied. But it is useless to kill the lice all over the back of an animal and leave a colony alive on the brisket or under the thighs, where they usually abound, as in this case they soon spread all over the animal again.—N. Y. Times.

Creamed Mackerel.—Wash a salt mackerel, and soak it all night in cold water. To prepare it for breakfast, wipe it well to get off the salt crystals that may be lodged in the creases, put into a broad pan of boiling water, and cook steadily half an hour. Drain when done, and transfer to a hot dish. Pour over it a sauce made by stirring into a cupful of boiling water a heaping teaspoonful of corn-starch, two teaspoonfuls of butter, one of vinegar, and a little pepper. Instead of the vinegar you can put in a teaspoonful of green pickle minced fine. Stir over the fire until smooth and as thick as custard, when add minced parsley, if convenient. Pour upon the fish; cover, and let it stand five minutes in a warm place before it goes to table.

Light Brown Bread.—Mix together three cupfuls of rye meal, not rye flour, two of Indian meal, one of molasses, one teaspoonful of salt, and four cups of milk; sour milk may be used, with the addition of two level teaspoonfuls of soda dissolved in it, and it makes better bread than sweet milk. Beat these ingredients to a smooth batter, pour it into a buttered covered mold or tin pail, set it in a pot containing enough boiling water to reach half way up the side of the mold, and steam it for at least two hours; then uncover the mold, and bake it for half or three-quarters of an hour in a moderate oven; the bread is done when the top and sides are light brown.

It is not always true that a pile of manure steaming with heat and smelling strongly is losing ammonia. Ammonia is a very volatile and pungent gas, and might be known by its peculiar scent, which is freely given off by close ill-ventilated horse stables, or by the coat of ill-cleaned horses. But it is not often that this peculiar scent escapes from manure heaps; on the contrary it is a more disagreeable odor, similar to that of rotten eggs. This is sulphuretted hydrogen, and not ammonia, and occasions no loss to the manure except the sulphur. If in making a manure pile some plaster is mixed in the heap all the ammonia will be caught and held by it, and the water contained in the manure will also hold a large quantity (700 times its bulk) of it, and will not give it off at a heat that can be raised in a manure pile. If the manure is left to heat and get dry and "fire bang," or slowly burn to a white, dry light stuff, then the ammonia is lost and the manure seriously injured.

Sheep That Travel.

Traveling sheep are a travel of the institutions of the colony in Southern Australia. In a pastoral country like this there must of necessity always be numbers of "stock" changing hands; thus, sheep and cattle may be met almost every day passing from one station to another. By law, sheep are compelled to travel six miles per day; cattle, nine miles; and horses twenty. Sheep are often met with traveling for "feed," that is, the owners thereof, having over stocked their runs, find the grass failing; so they send a large mob of sheep off to some imaginary buyer, some hundreds of miles off, choosing of course the route by which they will pick up most grass. After sauntering along for a month or two, perhaps the rain has come; and there being now plenty of grass, the sheep are brought home by a roundabout way. Sheep of that style are known as "loafers," because the drovers try to go as short a distance as possible each day. All kinds of stock are branded for identification.—Chambers' Journal.

Fashion Chat.

Steel appears on the straps of the low shoes. Steel lace will be used to trim black grenadines.

Crepe is to be used in trimming summer bonnets.

Dark mixed straws promise to be very fashionable.

Flowers and feathers are both worn on hats at once.

The new spring pokes are in Tuscan and Leghorn braids.

Quantities of lace will be worn on the new spring costumes.

Broadcated gauzes will be among the elegant novelties of the coming season.

Young ladies still wear the plain round skirt and waist with sash at the side.

Red appears shaded from the deepest Vandyke, which is a very dark shade, to the palest pink.

Large round collars of the same material as the dress are worn. Some of these collars are shirred.

Some of the new gauzes have plush-like effects given to them by a heavy looping of silk threads.

The straws worn will be of the open-work varieties with lace crowns, and soft crowns of pulled silk.

Striped grenadines are shown with alternating stripes of satin and an open-work design like lace.

Shirring not only is seen on the mantles and dresses, but bonnets of shirred silk are fashionable.

Buckles will be very fashionable worn with sashes, and they match the buttons worn on the dresses.

Long trained dresses are still universally cut en princess, with shirred and puffed fronts, square corsage.

Woolen dresses are generally made with plaited skirts, the jacket being of the same material as the skirt.

Wide linen collars edged with lace three inches deep will be the fashionable collar for morning wear with summer dresses.

Very few overskirts are now worn; the trimmed skirt has all the effect of an overskirt and is more desirable as to economy.

New styles of linen collars are simply straight bands fastened with a gold button. The ends are slightly curved and are made to lap.

Among the new colors is "condor-brown," named after the condor of South America—a bird said to fly higher than any other bird.

Fruits will be used to trim bonnets this season as well as flowers. Small bunches of grapes are shown, looking very pretty and natural.—Andrews' Bazar.

Roses.

To raise roses in perfection, it is needful to feed them well and place them in the full sunlight, and not where they will be shaded by trees or shrubs. After they have bloomed prune them closely, and also when they commence to leaf in the early spring. The beds in which they are planted must be made very rich with well-decomposed compost, dug to the depth of at least two feet. In making a rose bed, it is a good plan to take off the soil for two or three feet in depth and fill the cavity with good ordure well rotted. Then add six inches or a foot of very rich soil with a mixture of sand. After the plants are set, mulch them with long litter from the stable. This will keep the roots moist and cool during the heated term, and make a healthy growth of branches and flowers.

After the June flowering has passed, all monthly roses should be severely pruned and the new growth cut back two or more inches; also the old branches should be cut away. The handsomest flowers always spring from fresh growth from the roots; and to make these start vigorously the knife must be freely used. For a few weeks, your pets may seem shorn of their glory, but soon they will renew their beauty and give you plenty of flowers, while, if you permit the seed-buds to form, it will stop the blossoming in a great degree. Therefore, as each rose fades, cut it off, or, better yet, cut it while in its bloom.

From the branches which are pruned new plants can be raised. As a rule, all cuttings should be taken off just below a bud or joint, and they should be selected from young growth rather than from the old where the bark has become hardened. Try to snap the branch. If it bends without breaking it is too old to grow easily; but if it snaps off at once it is in the right condition to strike root quickly. Leave one or two buds above the bottom one, and trim off two or more of the lower leaves, as they will wilt easily and thus injure the cutting.

Clear sand kept very moist is the best soil in which to strike cuttings, and they can be placed in a pot only an inch apart, and put up in the shade for a few days. Warmth, an even temperature, and moisture, are essential for root growth. It will take from three to four weeks to develop the roots, and then the plants can be placed in rich soil with a little sand to lighten it, and soon they will be good, stocky plants.—Floral Cabinet.

Since the assassination of the Czar, extraordinary precautionary measures have been taken to secure the safety of Queen Victoria while traveling by railway. During a recent journey to London, a train of empty carriages was run about a quarter of an hour in advance of the Queen's special train, which it piloted throughout the trip from Windsor to Paddington, while the entire distance between the Windsor terminus and the metropolis was guarded by platoons stationed at regular intervals along the route, and well within sight of each other.

When They Found Her Dead.

Children are the sunshine of life. They are the soft wind which thaws away the snow and ice of selfishness. They are the atmosphere in which old age finds hours of youthfulness. On Prospect street lived an old woman who made herself a terror to every child who passed her door. Her house was old and grim. The dark curtains were always down, the doors were seldom opened, and no child passed it without fearing the evil spirit that seemed to lodge there. The old woman cursed any one who dared peer through the fence, and if seen abroad she was carefully avoided.

A few days ago the children saw the inside of her house for the first time. The old woman had been found dead, and men and women had assembled to respect her cold clay. With them came the children. They were the first to forget what she had been, and the first to shed tears over the close of her earthly career. Men and women were satisfied when the body had been dressed for the grave, but the children brought flowers and laid them on her grizzled hair until she seemed to wear a crown of glory; they placed a beautiful lily in her bony fingers, a green vine over her breast, and when the curtain was raised and the sunshine streamed in and fell upon the dead, men and women said:

"It is the face of a mother and a woman, and we were too harsh with her. Let God remember that she was all alone and had much to endure."

The work of the children had robbed death of its look, and melted frozen hearts, and as they stood around the bier and sang:

"Yes, we'll gather at the river That flows by the throne of God," Men pressed each others' hands and whispered:

"Would that our hearts would always be the hearts of children."—Detroit Free Press.

Stonewall Jackson and the Wagon Tongues.

Mr. Howell, one of the proprietors of the Atlanta (Ga.) Constitution, recently said of Stonewall Jackson:

"His genius lay in two things—the thoroughness of discipline and his devotion. I do not think he was a man of great natural ability. He could not talk at all. He was not an entertaining person. He was a rigid military man; educated at West Point, he had learned his lesson thoroughly, and applied it unflinchingly. I remember a single order which he always enforced, which, in my mind, accounted for a good deal of his success. It was that whenever we stopped on a march the wagons must go to the side of the road, and be unhitched with their tongues pointing to the road, so they could be driven either up the road or down. Now that would seem to be a simple thing but it accounts for the remarkable celerity of Jackson's marches. Suppose a man would stop and his wagon tongue would point the wrong way, and at a certain hour in the morning we would begin the march, and that the wagon would block up the road? If there were many such wagons the march would be delayed a certain time to let them get ship-shape. Jackson rode up and down his lines every day, morning and evening, to see if such orders as these were strictly carried out."

"Woman's work is never done." Monday's work is to wash, and so on; Tuesday's work is to iron, with grace; Wednesday's work is to take and sew; Thursday's work is to clean—for show; Friday's work is to sweep, dust and brush; Saturday's work is to cook—with a rush; The next that comes is the sabbath day; And then she's too tired to rest, or to pray.

Immense fields of pampas grass are being cultivated in Southern California—so great is the demand for those beautiful plumes. Perhaps in the not distant future they will enter into the decorations devised by milliners, and supersede the plumes of the ostrich.

It is better to be up with the lark than down with the measles.

Sports of the Lane-Kin Club: Do robin an chirpin', Do blue-bird an singin', Do voice of de bird jus' an heard in de land; Do wid ducks an flyin', Do geanders an squawin', An de big banko man he am showin' his hand. Do mud's growin' deeper, An' thunder's a comin', An' de possum comes out of his log for to see, Do spring rain's a fallin', De spring calf an bawlin', An' de waite-wa-hin season has opened for me.—Detroit Free Press.

PA, what is the difference between civilization and barbarism? "Civilization, my son, is blowing your enemy to pieces with a bombshell at a range of four miles. Barbarism is knocking his brains out at arm's-length with a brutal club!"

Possibly a mistake: "James," said a motherly woman to a young man whose first sermon she had just heard, "James, why did you enter the ministry?" "I had a call from the Lord," said the young man, and then came the reply, "But are you sure it wasn't some other noise that you heard?"—Harford Courant.

PRISONER, you are charge with drunkenness," said his Honor. "I guess I was." "Have you any excuse?" "I have. It was all on account of family troubles." "What were those troubles?" "Well, sir, I kindly allowed my wife to earn two dollars by washing, and then she wouldn't wash up. Such ingratitude so disheartened me that I flew to drink to drown my sorrows." He was given sixty days in which to recover his former cheerfulness.

A COUPLE of young men went out fishing the other day, and on returning were going past a farm-house and felt hungry. They yelled to the farmer's daughters: "Girls, have you any buttermilk?" The reply was gently waited back to their ears: "Yes, but we keep it for our own calves." The boys calculated that they had business away—and they went.—Cincinnati Gazette.

The following anecdote is told of Alexander II. A few years before his death, while visiting Odessa, a cashiered officer broke through his guards and, casting himself on his knees, besought the Emperor to grant him justice. The Emperor answered that he would consider his case. "No, no," exclaimed the man, "if you do not see justice done me at once I am lost. Then the Czar heard his story, saw that a cruel wrong had been done, and promised that the officer should be reinstated. Even this, however, did not satisfy the man. "Tell me here, before everybody, that I am an officer of yours, Father, and sign this paper. Your mere word would not be obeyed once your back was turned." Nicholas would have bounded at this insinuation, but Alexander II. tacitly acquiesced in it and did what was asked of him.

A Deadwood firm of lawyers, in an advertisement headed by a picture of a skull and cross-bones, offer for sale claims against a number of persons, among whom is a Deputy Sheriff and a man described as "a professional dead beat and amalgamator." The list is to be "kept standing until paid, and other names will follow, if the accounts are not settled."

—Where was she when he spider? and where will she beetle he sees her again?

(Freeport (Ill.) Bulletin. There is now a substance which is both professionally and popularly indorsed and concerning which Mr. J. B. Ferschweiler, Butteville, Oregon, writes: I have often read of the many cures effected by St. Jacobs Oil and was persuaded to try the remedy myself. I was a sufferer from rheumatism and experienced great pains, my leg being so swollen that I could not move it. I procured St. Jacobs Oil, used it freely and was cured.

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(Louisville Home and Farm.) Frank O. Herring, Esq., of the Champlon Safe Works, 251 and 252 Broadway, New York, reports the use of St. Jacobs Oil for a stiffness and soreness of the shoulder, with most pleasant and efficacious effects.

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It is said that the drinking water in Paris is so very bad that if a ring of it were to be discovered at our of the American summer resorts, five hundred thousand persons would go there next summer for the express purpose of drinking it.—Norristown Herald.

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