

HOME, FARM AND GARDEN.

—Planning and system save labor and loss. —If the cucumber that grows nearest the root be saved every year, an earlier and smaller variety will be the result; if saved near the ends, a larger and later variety will be obtained; melon seeds are also easily saved.—Massachusetts Ploughman.

—Wheat does not mix like corn by foreign pollen, for the reason that wheat, as well as rye, barley, etc., are hermaphrodites, having both stamens and pistils in the same flower, and fertilization is accomplished before the anthers appear on the outside of the glumes.

—Nothing is better to clean silver with than alcohol and ammonia; after rubbing with this take a little whitening on a soft cloth and polish; in this way even frosted silver, which is so difficult to clean, may be easily made clear and bright.

—Writing of the effect of food on flesh and eggs a correspondent of the Toronto Globe cites the fact that these products of fowls kept on supplies of an unclean kind, such as swill and decayed garbage, will in one case quickly taint and in the other taste unsavory.

—For hoarseness take the whites of two eggs and beat them with two teaspoonsful of white sugar, grate a little nutmeg, then add a pint of lukewarm water; stir well, drink often, and it will cure the most obstinate case of hoarseness in a short time.

—When fattening an animal for beef let the process be as quick as possible. Any stint in feeding will make the meat tough and dry. Stall-fed animals will fatten more readily than others, and young animals require richer food than older ones. In winter fattening much depends upon the warmth of the stable. The warmer the cattle are kept the less food will be needed.

—Cod Cutlets.—Steam the cod until nearly done. Cut a slice and have a batter of self-raising flour ready. The batter is good when mixed with one egg and water. Put the piece of fish in the batter in the pan and fold it over when it sets, having first sprinkled pepper and salt on. Make the cutlets as well-shaped as you can. Have potatoes cut in small balls and steamed in parsley sauce ready with it.

—Every-day Soup.—The bones of a leg of mutton, or those of six or seven pounds of roasted loin or sirloin of beef, will make a quart of excellent soup. Break up the bones, also a bacon bone if you have it, fry them a nice brown; fry three onions until brown, put them with the bones and two sliced turnips into two quarts of water, boil gently for two hours, strain the soup, take off all the fat, let it boil up, skim it well, season to taste. Have ready two ounces of vermicelli paste boiled, put it in the tureen with the soup, and serve.

—Green Corn Pudding—A most delicious accompaniment to a meat course. Take one quart of milk, five eggs, two tablespoonfuls melted butter, one tablespoonful white sugar, and a dozen large ears of green corn; grate the corn from the cob; beat the whites and yolks of the eggs separately; put the corn and yolks together, stir hard, and add the butter, then the milk gradually, beating all the while, next the sugar, and a little salt, lastly the whites. Bake slowly at first, covering the dish for an hour; remove the cover and brown nicely.

—Delicious Cucumber Preserves.—Gather young cucumbers, about the length of your middle finger, and lay in strong brine one week; wash and soak them a day and night in fair water, changing this four times. Wipe, and with a small knife slit them down one side; dig out the seeds, stuff with a mixture of chopped raisins and citron, sew up the slit with a fine thread; weigh them and make a sirup, allowing a pound of sugar to a pound of cucumber, and one pint of water. Heat to a boil, skim, and drop in the fruit; simmer half an hour; take out and spread upon a dish in the sun, while you boil down the sirup with a few slices of ginger root added. When thick put in the cucumbers again, simmer five minutes, and put up in glass jars, tying them up when cold.

Packing Eggs.

There is a mode of packing eggs by which they may be safely carried any distance, and over rough roads, without any damage. And there is another mode by which half of them may be very easily broken. The secret lies in solid packing, with an elastic material between the layers. We have watched many barrels of eggs opened without a single broken one in them; and many badly packed, which we would not have handled had they been given to us for nothing. The proper mode of packing, either in barrels, boxes, or baskets, is to place first a layer of long hay or straw three inches thick in the bottom. On this scatter an inch of cut hay or straw, or chaff of oats, or whatever packing is used; then place the eggs on their sides, not touching each other, and when the layer is complete, spread over them and between the cut straw or chaff two inches deep. Press this down gently with a piece of board, and put another layer of eggs, taking care that they do not touch each other.—Exchange.

—Mr. Theodore R. Davis, who designed the famous White House dinner service, is engaged on a design for a vase which is to be called "America in 1881," with a sub-title of "Union and Peace." The panels and surfaces will be decorated with typical scenes in the life of the country from actual studies in the artist's portfolio.

The Modern Cook.

What are some of the things that every cook who prepares a meal for any family ought to know? Unless the whole routine of her work be haphazard and unreliable, she should have intelligent and well defined opinions concerning the relations of food to physical growth, so that she can furnish that which is the best adapted to the whole household, fit to build up healthful and symmetrical bodies for the children as well as the mature workers in the family, the nutriment necessary to keep good the balance between supply and demand. The children should not fail to develop properly on account of her ignorance of their needs. The father should never give out more vitality in his struggle with the world than she can make good to him as she prepares his daily food. All this implies a practical application of the principles taught in physiology and chemistry, as well as a knowledge of the kind and the quality of nourishment stored in plants, flesh, fish and fowl. Earth, air and sea furnish her with materials which she must understand how to prepare, so that it can be transformed into bone, blood and muscle in such proportion that each shall have its proper development. She must be both too wise and too humane to concoct any dish or brew any drink that will induce dyspepsia, headache or dullness.

Never until cook gives more time to the mastery of such studies will cockery take its proper place among the sciences. These bodies of ours are exceedingly complicated and delicate machines, not to be safely tampered with by bungling. A blacksmith can unlearn with greater impunity to make a watch than an ignorant and untrained housekeeper to build up, without knowledge or skill, a symmetrical and perfectly-developed human body. And when the value of these bodies, not only as physical organisms, but as related to mental growth, is fully appreciated, the work of the skilled cook will rank with that of other great scientists, and more than that, with other great philanthropists. It is not extravagant to say that the progress of humanity toward true perfection depends largely upon this branch of domestic economy. How much thought and study are given to the proper food for fine stock. Surely we owe as much care to our children as to our herds. It is certainly true that just in proportion to the advance of any people in civilization will be the advance of care and skill in the preparation of the articles of food. It is, therefore, worthy of an absorbing study. Health, mental vigor, virtue and happiness are more closely dependent than we are apt to imagine on the cook that reigns in the kitchen.—Mrs. M. B. Welch, in College Quarterly.

Kindly Treatment of Domestic Animals.

Nothing can be more foolish than the attempt to catch either a horse, cow, pig, sheep or dog by running after it. How many futile attempts to catch a horse have been made in pursuance of the above method. How many times has the horse, just as the hired man was about to walk up to its head and at the point of catching it, made a sudden wheel and shown the brightness of its shoes. At this juncture we have seen a little boy, who had never struck the horse with a whip, but who had given the animal many an apple in days gone by, stroking him and playing with him—at the time we have seen even this little fellow take the horse quietly by the foretop, and together they would go to any desired point. Or perhaps a lady makes her appearance, in whom the horse recognizes a friend who has frequently regaled him with a lump of sugar. He does not even wait for the lady to come to him; for he goes to her, and the simple lump of sugar will enable his mistress to lead the noble horse to his stall, a task which all the chasing and yelling of the hired man has failed to accomplish. The intelligent animal is attracted neither by the personal appearance nor the tone of voice of the rough fellow who strives to rule by force alone.

Another individual attempts by running and yelling to catch his cow or cows. Why do these naturally gentle animals run away from him? Because they remember full well that on former occasions, when he has succeeded in catching them, a series of blows from some heavy cudgel has been their reward. Is there not some better way of securing the good will of our herds and in managing them as we wish? There is a hollow place on the head of every cow, just behind the junction of the horns, which is commonly full of dust, short hairs and the like, causing the animal an itching sensation. It is a source of extreme pleasure to the cow to have the spot scratched and (since from its location the animal herself cannot reach it), hence, when her keeper approaches her, either in the stable or in the pasture, an era of good feeling may at once be established if due attention be paid to scratching this hollow spot. If, at your first approach, the cow is a little shy, offer her from one hand a nubbun of corn while with the other hand you gently scratch the particular spot in her head mentioned above. In a very short time, whenever you go into their pasture, the whole herd will come to you to have their heads scratched, and you will soon be satisfied that it is as easy to have them follow you as to resort to driving and loud noise.—American Cultivator.

—Organ grinders are allowed in the streets of Chicago between the hours of nine a. m. and nine p. m. only. A man who demands more than twelve hours of such music ought to get employment in a boiler shop.—Norristown Herald.

Kindness to Animals.

It is a fact beyond dispute, as any observing naturalist will affirm, that the closer the relation between animals and man, the more intelligent and docile will the animal become. Upon the farm there is every reason why animals, and especially horses, should be treated, not as "dumb beasts," but as intelligent creations of the same Being who made their master. The Arabs, who are the most successful horse-trainers in the world, appreciate the value of kindness, and by making their horses equals in one sense—dwelling with them in the same tent, bestowing upon them almost the same love and caresses as are bestowed upon their children, who are allowed the colts for playmates, the Arabian horse has become the most intelligent and easily-controlled of its race. It is not enough to feed an animal and give it a comfortable bed; it has feelings as well as its master and can appreciate kindness. It must be uniformly kind, however; a pet to-day and a kick to-morrow amounting very nearly to continued abuse—at least, so far as the horse's temper is concerned. Many a horse has been injured, if not spoiled, by being placed in the care of a half-grown boy, whose only idea of driving, and showing his authority, seemed to be jerking at the reins and veiling. Unfeeling or impatient hired help, also, do much toward making ugly or "tricky" horses. An animal treated with unvarying kindness will soon learn to have confidence in its master, and is therefore more readily trained. In Belgium, horses are so well trained that they are guided almost wholly by word of mouth, the driver relying upon the intelligence of his horse rather than upon the bit. A Belgian plow-horse in an awkward situation will obey readily as many as five separate and distinct orders, the single check-rein meanwhile remaining attached to the plow-handle, leaving the driver's hands free for the harder task of guiding the plow. This certainly illustrates the economy of having trained animals for farm work. There is much in finding out the peculiarities of a horse's disposition; he may have some whims that it will pay to occasionally indulge. Make him feel your friendship, treating him firmly but with uniform kindness, showing that you are not only his master but friend, and he will return the kindness with interest.—Charles B. Dodge.

—The American Consul at Aix la Chapelle writes that as a result of the enormous wheat importations from America, pure wheat bread, which two years ago was considered a luxury in the home of the German laborer, has now become an article of every day food.

—Lightning struck a pine tree at the head of Colvin's Creek, N. C., and kindled a fire that swept 7,000 acres of land, destroying timber, crops and turpentine.

—Follow the example of trees—keep some things in the shade.—Syracuse Standard.

Cured of Drinking. "A young friend of mine was cured of an insatiable thirst for liquor, which had so prostrated him that he was unable to do any business. He was entirely cured by the use of Hop Bitters. It allayed all that burning thirst; took away the appetite for liquor; made his nerves steady, and he has remained a sober and steady man for more than two years, and has no desire to return to his cups; I know of a number of others that have been cured of drinking by it."—From a leading R. R. Official, Chicago, Ill.—Times.

IRON EYES, the father of Bright Eyes, has six wives. Did Editor Tibbles realize when he married how many mothers-in-law he was getting?—Boston Post.

Tell the Sick. Thousands of lives are destroyed by diseases of the kidneys and liver. Kidney-Wort would save them. Tell the sick of it, and that it is for sale by all druggists in either dry or liquid form.—London Times.

JOHNES says that, after trying for years to photograph his girl upon his heart, all he got from her in the end was a negative.

"I DECLARE I never was so impressed in my life with the foolishness of flies," exclaimed the boarder to his landlady, as a couple of winged voyagers embarked in his soup-plate. "I do not understand you, sir," she added laughingly. "Well," he explained, "those two poor creatures undoubtedly supposed that this stuff was thick enough to float 'em."

BOB INGERSOLL says that the State Prison is full of "only children."

A LEAFY background, two noble trees, a hammock swinging beneath, and she on whom your heart is fixed lazily swinging in the same, is a very pretty picture, young man, very pretty, and we don't blame you for being attracted by a magnet of such wondrous power. But consider if your means will enable you to keep that picture all your days, or whether in the coming time it will not be supplanted by a chromo of a worn-out, faded woman frying doughnuts over a hot fire in the middle of a hot summer day. The two pictures are intimately connected.—New Haven Register.

A MAN must be mighty hard up who would climb Mount Blue for ascent.

"Look here, Uncle Mose, you ought to shoot dat doz. He is gwine ter hab hydrophobia, sure," said Jim Webster. Uncle Mose, somewhat alarmed, asked what were the symptoms. "He am afraid to drink water. Dat am a certain sign." "G'way, fool wigger! You hain't drunk no water yerself in de last ten years, and you hain't bit nobody yet. Does yo want me to take a gun and shoot 'em of yo becase yo don't drink water."—Texas Siftings.

NO ROOM was ever made large enough to hold both a fat man and a mosquito.

ALPHONSE CARL, referring to food adulterations in France, once said: "If I poison my grocer I shall be sent to the penitentiary, but if he poisons me he gets off with \$10 fine."

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