HOME, FARM AND GARDEN.

—Pimples on the face denote an improper diet, too much grease, particularly pork and lard, or too much sugar and salt, or too much pastry, and the like; and perhaps too little out-door exercise.

—Pickled Red Cabbage.—Slice the cabbage, cover it with salt and let it stand two days. Then drain and put it in a pan; cover with vinegar and spice to your taste. Give it a scald and when cold put in jars and tie up close.

—Here is a recipe for a good and simple pudding: One pint of flour, half a cup of sugar, three-quarters of a cup of sweet milk, one tablespoonful of butter, two teaspoonfuls of baking powder. Bake for twenty minutes; serve with any good pudding sauce.

—Mr. Hollister says three times a year is often enough to go to the mill. The flour, if packed in paper sacks, will grow better every day, and better flour is made from large grists. Old flour is the best because the water has evaporated and the flour has become dryer and stronger.—*Cincinnati Commercial.*

—Scalloped Tomatoes.—Peel and cut the tomatoes in slices a quarter of an inch thick; make a force-meat of bread-crumbs, pepper, salt, butter and a little white sugar; put this in a pudding-dish with alternate layers of tomatoes, having the tomatoes for the top layer; put a bit of butter upon each slice and dust with salt, pepper and a little sugar; stew with dry breadcrumbs and bake, covered, half an hour, remove the lid and bake brown.

—Mustard owes its pungency to a volatile acid oil which it contains. This oil is bitter, and the bitterness of freshly mixed mustard is very apparent unless a certain quantity of salt is added to it. This removes the bitter flavor. To every ounce or tablespoooful of dry mustard add a teaspoonful of salt, and mix with cold water, adding vinegar in which taragon, dill, or other desirable flavoring herbs have been steeped. The French and German mustards are thus prepared.

—Pickled Onions.—Peel the onions and let them lie in strong salt and water nine days, changing the water each day; then put them into jars and pour fresh salt and water on them, this time boiling hot; when it is cold take them out and put them on a hair sieve to drain, after which put them in wide mouthed bottles and pour over them vinegar prepared in the following manner: Take white wine vinegar and boil it with a blade of mace, some salt and ginger in it; when cool pour over the onions.

—Dust-Bath for Fowls.—Make a box three or four feet square, one foot high, and fill two-thirds full of dry road dust with a half pound of sulphur mixed in. Keep a barrel or so of the dry dust on hand to replenish the box with. Pour a pan of sifted coal ashes, or wood ashes without sifting, into the box occasionally. When the roads are dry, and other work is not pressing, procure a supply of dust and store it under cover for use next winter. Where fowls have access to one of these dust boxes they are seldom troubled with lice—*i. e.* if you keep the fowl house reasonably clean.

—Contracted hoof is the result of a disease of the inner part of the foot and absorption or wasting of the internal tissues. It can not be cured by outward applications to the horn, and only by removal of the inward trouble. The usual treatment is to remove the shoes, pare the edges of the crust of the hoof, and to cause the feet to stand in wet clay puddle, or turn the horse into a wet pasture for three or four weeks. Use a hoof dressing of glycerine and water freely, and finally put on a flat, thin shoe without any bevel and with an even bearing over a sole of sole-leather which presses upon the frog. The frog should not be pared, but left to bear upon the ground.—*N. Y. Times.*

—Years ago some one asserted that oil of pennyroyal rubbed on the hair of horses or other animals would repel the attacks of all kinds of flies, but upon trial we found it had no such effect; in fact, the flies seemed to be attracted by the fragrance of the humble herb. Recently we noticed that a certain Dr. Ridge, of London, Eng., recommended carbolic acid and oil for the same purpose, but upon trial during the past week we could not discover that the flies were in the least disturbed by this mixture. Carbolic acid and water as strong as it was safe to apply to the skin of a horse was tried, the hair being well soaked with it; but the flies returned in less than a half minute, and, if anything, in increased numbers. A safe wash for keeping flies from animals is still wanted. Who will discover it?—*N. Y. Sun.*

—An old Scotch gentleman had, in the course of a long life, gained a great reputation for bravery. The shortest way to his own home from the little village club that he nightly resorted to lay through a church-yard, and it occurred to some would-be wags to try if he was impervious to fear of the spiritual as well as the mortal world. One, therefore, dressed up in the orthodox sheet, using a litt'e sulphur judiciously here and there to make it more ghastly, just as the old gentleman one dark night reached the loneliest part of the church-yard, suddenly appeared to him. But of the two the ghost was most disconcerted, for his intended victim, quietly finishing the pinch of snuff first that he was at that moment anjoying, addressed him in the following conciliatory fashion: "Noo, my lad, would ye just have the kindness to tell me are ye out for a saunter by yoursel', or is it the general rising?"

—A plan is on foot in Belgium for offering a testimonial to Hendrik Conscience, the novelist, on the appearance of his hundredth volume.

Coal Tar on the Farm.

The attention of our readers has been frequently called to the value of coal tar on the farm, especially in the preservation of woods, and we are more forcibly impressed with its value as our experiments begin to assume the authority of a demonstration. Much has been written of its adaptation to the needs of the farmer as a cheap paint for out-buildings; without detracting from its value for such purposes, we are led to believe that this is one of the minor considerations in its practical use, and that the great purpose to which it will be applied will be in the preservation of timber and the conversion of woods, liable to decay from exposure, to material valuable for all purposes. That coal tar does almost perfectly preserve our soft woods has been fully demonstrated, so that it does not belong to the speculative.

Last year, to test for Iowa the value of our soft wood, when properly treated, we boiled posts of green bass-wood, water-elm, cotton-wood, white willow and oak, in coal tar, allowing them to remain in the tank ten minutes each; then they were drained and piled up, exposed to the sun one month; afterward they were set in the ground as ordinary posts. At this date there is no perceptible difference in their durability; all are as sound as when set. What is more remarkable, the bass-wood holds a nail apparently as well as the oak. In cutting a cross section, the tar seemed to penetrate quite a distance, filling the pores and hardening the wood from one-half to three-quarters of an inch deep, which was like cement and impervious to water. Much depends, doubtless, upon the method of preparation. The wood should be green to obtain the best results. Farmers are familiar with the decided improvement in the character of wood when cut green and seasoned under shelter. Poplar, cotton-wood and white willow thus prepared, make excellent fuel. Beech and other woods for mechanical purposes, when the greatest solidity and tenacity of fiber are required, are dressed green and oiled, then are dried under cover. The charring of wood also adds materially to its durability. Coal tar secures all these conditions. When the green post or board is placed in boiling tar the sap is expelled, and is replaced by the tar to some extent; deeper portions are affected as by rapid seasoning.

The vat for heating the tar may be made like an ordinary sap pan and of any length; put in a barrel of tar and dip the whole post or as much as desired. The most particular part to be covered is that just above and below the surface when set. Where great durability is desired the post should be boiled thirty minutes or more; ten minutes will answer for boards.

A barrel of coal tar, costing $3, will cover 150 posts, if boiled, or 200 if dipped one-half length. The cost of boiling lumber in tar is estimated at $5 per thousand feet, and thus prepared, even bass-wood is practically indestructible. Treated with coal tar the long, slim white willow poles, so abundant in the West, become as valuable as cedar and are the ready solution of the question, what shall we do for fence posts?

As a paint, one coat of hot tar is worth more than any known preparation of oil for the preservation of wood.—*Prof. S. A. Knapp, in Iowa State Reg'r.*

Porterhouse Steak.

"This is the porterhouse, is it?" asked the sad passenger, sitting at the corner table in the restaurant. "Yes, sir," said the waiter, with the weary air of a man who was tired of having to tell the same lie a thousand times a day, "porterhouse steak, sir, same as you ordered, sir." "Do you cut porterhouse steak from between the horns this year?" asked the sad passenger, with the intonation of a man who wanted to know. "Sir?" said the waiter. "It seemed to be a trifle tenderer last year," the sad passenger went on, with the air of a tired man indulging in pleasant reminiscences of the past, "but I remember now; it was cut a trifle lower down then. Last year you cut your porterhouse steaks from the curl in the forehead, and the sirloins from the shin. But I think this comes from between the horns. I used to live in a boarding house where they cut the porterhouse between the horns, and this one reminds me of them. Animal dead this steak came from?" "Dead," echoed the astonished waiter; "course, sir. He was butchered, sir." "Butchered to make a Roman holiday," sighed the sad passenger. "He would be more likely to make a Roman swear. Well, it was time he was killed. He hadn't many more years to live on this earth. Ah, here is the brass tip from one of his horns. Dropped into the steak, no doubt, while you were slicing it off. What do you do with these steaks when the guests are through with them?" The waiter looked puzzled. "Why, sir," he said, "they ain't nothing left of 'em, sir." "Possible?" said the sad passenger; "what becomes of them?" The waiter looked nervous. "What?" he said; "the customers eat them up." The sad passenger looked up with an air of interest. "Incredible," he exclaimed; "cannot accept your statement without proof. They may hide them under their chairs, or secrete them in their napkins, or they may carry them away in their pockets to throw at burglars, but I cannot believe they eat them. Here, let me see one of them eat this, and I will believe you. Trust me, good waiter, I —"

But the waiter pointed to a placard inscribed: "Positively no trust," and went to the cashier's desk to tell the boss to look out for that man at the corner table, as he didn't seem to be satisfied with his steak and had asked for trust.—*Burlington Hawkeye.*

Shabby Gentility.

There is something almost pathetic about the shabby gentility of people who are always trying to put the best foot forward; who on very insufficient means make a respectable appearance; who have the old bonnet pressed into the new fashion, or dyed to escape neighborly recognition, and the old gown restored to look like new; who darn the old laces till they resemble works of art; who preserve the traditions of elegance and plenty in the face of poverty and privation. Everybody knows they are poor; they do not flatter themselves that they deceive any one; but, shabby or splendid, gentility is a blessing which their rich, vulgar friends would pay handsomely for possessing. Their worn carpets; their faded hangings; their cracked china; their cheap luxuries; their tables spread and served with scrupulous nicety, but with little else; their efforts to keep up to the standard of good housekeeping—these things are all subjects of mirth to the immature and unreflecting, who see in the pride and anxiety of such individuals nothing greater than a silly ambition; who seem to think that a person who has nothing but penury as her portion ought to give up the contest, and be content to eat her pottage on the kitchen table, to feel at home with bare floors and patches, rather than demand that the table be swept between the spare courses, and the pewter smartened to look like silver; but this aptitude for piecing out domestic short-comings, and diffusing an atmosphere of gentility in the most unpromising circumstances, merits more consideration than it deserves. If it is a weakness, it is one that leans to virtue's side; it shows at least a regard for such refinements as are within reach; and if the shabby-genteel body is provokingly particular sometimes about her associates, if she reckons certain non-essentials as the sinews of respectability, do not even the members of the "best society" the same, and the people who point their wit with her misfortunes? If Mrs. Grundy is her fetich, to whom she sacrifices ease and strength and time, before whom she burns her drops of incense, for whose approval she schemes, is she very different from the rest of womankind? Is the apostle of Mrs. Grundy any wiser or less absurd because her silk is not shiny?—because she does not feel obliged to stint the fire or the table in order to compass a shabby gentility in those particulars which are most exposed to the public? The woman of wealth may wear her old clothes without fear of being suspected of having no better; she may refuse a charity without being charged with anything more contemptible than meanness; she may do her own work without being accused of anything but eccentricity; but her shabby-genteel neighbor cannot afford to follow the good example, but must compromise her comfort and peace of mind in order to purchase an imaginary position in society.—*Harper's Bazar.*

Is it Possible

that a remedy made of such common, simple plants as Hops, Buchu, Mandrake, Dandelion, &c., make so many and such marvelous and wonderful cures as Hop Bitters do? It must be, for when old and young, rich and poor, Pastor and Doctor, Lawyer and Editor, all testify to having been cured by them, we must believe and doubt no longer. See other column.—*Post.*

"I UNDERSTAND that your son is a bachelor of arts," said Mrs. Brown to Mrs. Homespun, whose son has just been graduated at Harvard. "Well, yes," replied Mrs. Homespun, "yes, he's a bachelor—but he's engaged."—*Boston Transcript.*

THERE is scarcely a person to be found who will not be greatly benefited by a thorough course of Kidney-Wort every spring. If you cannot prepare the dry buy the liquid. It has the same effect.—*Palladium.*

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WOULD not be without Redding's Russia Salve, is the verdict of all who use it.

ASK your grocer for National Yeast.

THERE is some corn in Michigan so poor that it can't afford to wear silk. It will have to return to its fodder.—*Detroit Free Press.*

A FISHERMAN'S occupation ought to be the most profitable because his entire gross receipts are net profits.—*Elevated Railway Journal.*

IT'S all very nice to read about those old curfew bells, but let a man begin now-a-days to pound daylight out of an old bell at sunset, and the people would rally on him so quick that saltpeter wouldn't save him.—*Detroit Free Press.*

ONE of the most laughable things ever seen is a mosquito alighting on the cheek of a Cleveland reporter, and straining himself all to pieces in a wild, desperate effort to force its sting in. The disappointment of the skeet is very ludicrous.—*Boston Post.*

JIM WEBSTER dropped in on Uncle Mose during one of the hottest day last week. Old Mose suspected Jim was after a dram, and sure enough, presently Jim says: "Uncle Mose, I feel berry debilitate; hain't yer got no refreshments." "Yer want refreshments? Jess take dat cheer and set in the dore whar de breeze kin strike yer. Heah's a palm-leaf fan."—*Texas Siftings.*

A WEALTHY iron founder of Pittsburgh has bought an island off the Alabama coast. As he is known to be afflicted with agricultural weaknesses, it is believed that he intends to fence it in and run a farm for raising steel cranes and breeding Bessemer pigs.

"YOU are a disgrace to your family, sir; I am almost ashamed to call you my son," said Mr. Smithers to his offspring the other day. "Say nothing, dad," replied the young scapegrace; "I'm as much ashamed of it as you are."—*Boston Post.*

THE scales used for weighing gold in the assay offices are so delicate that one glance from a squint-eyed man will throw them off balance.

SARA BERNHARDT has drawn a plan for her tomb. It does not, as might be inferred, resemble the barrel of a shotgun or a joint of gas pipe.

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