

USEFUL AND SUGGESTIVE.

Save the middle grains of the finest ears of corn for seed.

A correspondent writes: "A silver spoon placed in cans or tumblers will prevent cracking, no matter how hot the fruit or jelly is. I have heard iron was as good, but have not tested it."

Mildew is best removed by dipping the goods into a very weak solution of chloride of lime—a heaping teaspoonful to a quart of water. If the stains do not at once disappear, place in the sun for a few minutes, after which rinse thoroughly.

Apple cake.—Grate a small loaf of stale bread; pare and slice about one quart of apples; lightly butter a pudding mold, dust it well with flour and then with sugar and fill it with layers of bread crumbs, apples and sugar, using a very little cinnamon to flavor it. Let the top layer be of crumbs and put a few bits of butter on it. Bake the cake for about one hour in a moderate oven.

Pa'n Steam Padding.—Two cupsful of sour milk with some cream in it, three cupsful of sifted flour, one-half cupful of finely chopped suet, a little salt and a large teaspoonful of soda dissolved in a little hot water. Stir the milk into the flour, beat until free from lumps, add the suet and salt and at the last moment beat in the soda. Steam two hours. Eat at once with hard sauce—sugar and butter beaten together and flavored.

Clover hay is very nutritious food for horses, and when well cured and put up so as to be free from dust and mold, may be fed with entire safety. The principal objection to its use lies in the great difficulty which attends its curing and preservation. Another objection is found in the fact that sometimes the second crop excites in horses an unusual and exhausting flow of saliva. When either of these objections are present, it is better to dispense with its use entirely, so far as the horses are concerned; but otherwise it is a good and safe food.

Rice Cake.—Beat one pound of butter to a cream, mix with it one pound of sugar (pounded), four ounces of chopped sultana raisins and one pound of ground rice; well whisk six eggs, whites and yolks together; stir them into the mixture, flavor with lemon rind or finely chopped citron—an ounce of the latter; bake in a buttered tin in a quick oven. Kept in a covered cake tin this cake will be eatable three weeks after it is made, provided it has been drawn from the oven as soon as cooked—not allowed to get dry. When withdrawing the skewer—that old but generally sure test—it is better that it should be slightly sticky in a cake of this sort which is required to be kept.

Marking Farm Boundaries.

The most satisfactory method of locating and designating corners for division fences between adjoining farms I witnessed during a recent visit to the farm of the Hon. D. Magone. The surveyor had located, and workmen had just finished setting a stone at the termination of each line in the boundary of the farm. When an act like this is to be performed, affecting property rights, and intended to settle all disputes between neighbors, it should be attended with some care. Now, in no case is it impossible for neighbors to agree as to where their division fences shall be located, but in many cases they may agree upon lines entirely erroneous, and when future owners examine their boundaries with the aid of competent surveyors, and by the light of recorded conveyances, this hap-hazard method may prove a prolific cause of litigation. When boundary lines are to be located, the expense of procuring the assistance of a competent civil engineer is comparatively small compared with the importance of the object to be accomplished. When the country was new and land was held at a low value, farmers were careless about corners and boundary lines; a difference of a few feet, and in many cases a rod or more, was considered as of no great importance. But as the country grows older and land improves in value, and farmers desire to build more permanent fences, it becomes more desirable to locate division fences where they should be. When the farms were first surveyed, it was hardly ever deemed of sufficient importance to locate permanent monuments; the practice was altogether too prevalent of "blazing" some small tree or perhaps merely setting some stake. Either practice was good for the time, but was not lasting, and in many cases all such monuments have long since been obliterated in time.

The gentleman to whom I have referred, to mark the boundary between his and the adjoining farms, procured and set stone slabs seven feet into the ground, the upper end of each slab projecting a few inches above the surface. When this is done, a map of the farm is made, and thus a certain method is provided of settling all disputes that may arise in reference to boundary lines. The question may be asked, Is all this trouble worth the cost? I answer unhesitatingly, Yes. In every farming community, every question affecting landed property is of importance, and none more so than questions relating to boundary lines. Once settled such too often disagreeable questions and they are settled forever.

In a great many cases, farms are composed of a single lot, of a square or rectangular shape. In such a case, only four boundary monuments are required, and when adjoining owners share the cost of procuring the services of a surveyor where it is necessary, and join in the trouble and expense of setting the boundary stones, the cost is reduced to a minimum.—Cor. Country Gentleman.

The Killing of Domestic Animals.

The nature of the killing of our domestic animals is too frequently not what it ought to be, being needlessly cruel, and a process of "butchery" in the worst sense of that term. This cruelty arises partly from downright thoughtlessness, and in a good measure from an ignorance of the vital point to be reached in such a piece of work. There are three common methods of taking life from domestic animals, and as every farmer, from his connections and surroundings, may be expected at any moment to be called upon to terminate the life of an animal, he should know how to do the work, and in the most humane manner possible. The first method is by cutting the throat without first producing insensibility. This is to be condemned, first, on the ground of unnecessary cruelty, and secondly, because it injures the flesh of those animals that are slaughtered for food. It is a well-known fact among butchers that the flesh is influenced by the manner in which the killing is done. Anything that prolongs torture increases the secretions which act deleteriously upon the flesh.

The second method of destroying life is by what is termed "pithing," or rendering the animal insensible by piercing a part of the brain by means of a sharp instrument, or by a sharp blow upon the head, after which the throat is cut and the animal bled. When the animal is to have its brain pierced by a sharp iron, the man performing the operation stands upon a platform above the animal and thrusts the *spud*—a sharp iron on a long handle—into that portion of the brain known as the medulla oblongata, or the base of the brain. The animal thus struck falls instantly and is insensible to any further pain. The animal's throat is next cut, and death takes place without a struggle. This method is now quite generally practiced in the larger beef-killing establishments, as those at Chicago, where the writer was much interested with the skill and thoughtfulness displayed in all the operations of slaughtering the animals. The cattle to be killed are in a small enclosure at one side of the slaughter-house, and an animal is struck down as needed, by the "spudsman," who passes above the animals upon cross timbers. The animal as soon as it falls is caught up by a rope with a pulley and drawn into the slaughter-house, where its throat is cut and the blood removed.

But it is not my purpose to describe further than the matter of removing the life of the animal in this paper. This method requires so much skill upon the part of the man who handles the sharp instrument, that it is not practicable for general use among the farming classes who have only an occasional animal to kill. The sharp blow upon the head must be resorted to as the next best method of "stunning" or rendering an animal insensible. To this end, much depends upon the part of the head which is struck by the ax or maul. I have seen animals struck half a dozen times with a heavy ax, and then broken away and try to find relief from its pain in some distant field. All such attempts to avoid pain only increase it, and it would have been more humane to have "strung the animal up by its heels" and then cut its throat without any previous torture. The end to be reached by a blow upon the head is the derangement of the brain, which causes loss of consciousness, and therefore insensibility to pain. Many persons strike too high, and fall in bringing the animal to the ground—not from a too feeble blow, but a wrong application of it to the head. The point to be aimed at in horses is the point of intersection of the lines joining the base of the ear with the opposite eye. There is little or no brain "between the eyes," and this is too frequently the point struck by the ax. With cattle, the brain is nearest the surface, and most readily reached by a blow given on a point which is the intersection of lines drawn from the base of each horn to the eye on the opposite side of the face.

In all cases when a blow is administered, the head of the animal should be securely fastened, and, as a precaution against any jerking of the head, it is well to blindfold the animal. With these precautions, and a sharp blow accurately aimed at the proper point, the animal should invariably fall senseless at a single stroke, thus suffering little or none from the operation of the taking of its life.

If the blow is to be struck with a rifle bullet, the same rules are to be observed. No one but a steady-nerved "sure shot" should practice this method, as an ill-directed shot may make the animal infuriated, and in its suffering cause others to suffer. The muzzle of the rifle may almost touch the vulnerable point, and thus but little chance of error need exist.

The hog-killing day is one of the noisiest upon the farm, and "dying by inches" is experienced by many a pig that could have been put out of its misery by a well directed blow upon the skull. Only experts can cause instant death with a single thrust of the knife. Those "stickers" who stand in the "wholesale slaughter" pen and do nothing else, seldom fail to hit the blood vessel, but the tyro in the farm-yard often sees the object of his torture wandering about and filling the air with noise, because he did not direct the knife aright. First render the hog insensible by a blow, and then proceed with the work of blood letting. The same rule should hold in killing sheep, calves, and other farm animals.—Cor. Country Gentleman.

The King of Siam has done a graceful thing in presenting to the National Museum at Washington a number of articles illustrating the life, manners and customs of the Siamese.

THE Ottawa (Kan.) *Rebellion* thus quotes: Mr. Harvey B. F. Keller, recorder of deeds, says: I have long been convinced of the merits of St. Jacobs Oil, and use it in my family for rheumatism successfully.

AS AN article of food the lobster dates back centuries ahead of the oyster and clam, and is believed to be coeval with dyspepsia.—*Burlington Hawkeye*.

AN ex-Consul of Great Britain, says the Brooklyn *Eagle*, related that Mr. Charles Townsend, Sedalia, Mo., was cured of rheumatism of the worst kind by St. Jacobs Oil.—*Indianapolis (Ind.) Sentinel*.

"STOCKINGS I can do without, but earrings I must have," a San Francisco belle was heard to murmur in the gloaming.—*Puck*.

What Physicians Say. SAN LEANDRO, Cal., Jan. 6, 1877. Dr. R. V. PIERCE, Buffalo, N. Y.:—Dear Sir—I have employed your "Pleasant Purgative Pellets" in my practice for the last four years. I now use no other alternative or cathartic medicines in all chronic derangements of the stomach, liver and bowels. I know of nothing that equals them. J. A. MILLER, M. D.

WHEN the schoolmaster threatened to tan Johnny, the urchin reminded him that "a soft tan, sir, turneth away wrath."

DR. PIERCE'S "Golden Medical Discovery" has become so thoroughly established in public favor that were it not for the forgetfulness of people it would not be necessary to call attention to its power to cure consumption, which is scrofula of the lungs, and other blood diseases, as eruptions, blotches, pimples, ulcers and "liver complaint."

IN cards as in life, it is the man who is ready to beg who is waiting for something to turn up.

How Women Would Vote. Were women allowed to vote, every one in the land who has used Dr. Pierce's "Favorite Prescription" would vote it to be an unfailing remedy for the diseases peculiar to her sex. By druggists.

"I HAVE done the State some service," was the remark the released convict made after an imprisonment of ten years.—*Southern Journal*.

Nature's Sinner-Way. The kidneys are nature's "sinner-way" to wash out the debris of our constantly changing bodies. If they do not work properly the trouble is felt everywhere. Then be wise and as soon as you see signs of disorder get a package of Kinney-Wort.—*Constitution*.

Flies and Mosquitoes. 15c. box "Rough on Rats" keeps a house free from flies, bed-bugs, roaches, rats, mice, &c.

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A MAN'S curiosity never reaches the female standard until some one tells him that his name was in yesterday's paper.

"You seem sad and dejected to-night, Claude, dear." "Yes, darling; men of my emotional nature are easily affected by the smiles or frowns of fortune." His washerwoman had discharged him.

"You can't add different things together," said an Austin school-teacher. "If you add a sheep and a cow together, it does not make two sheep or two cows."

A little boy, the son of an Austin avenue milkman, held up his hand and said: "That may do with sheep and cows, but if you add a quart of milk and a quart of water, it makes two quarts of milk. I've seen it tried."—*Veas Siftings*.

PROFANITY never did any man the least good. No man is richer, happier or wiser for it. It recommends no one to society; it is disgusting to refined people, and abominable to the good.

THE leaves are turning slowly yellow; their summer's hue is fading; the ripening fruit is on the tree; the small boy on the fence. He looks around, he views the ground and thinks the moment suits; he fills his pockets full and round, then jumps the fence and scoots.—*Meriden Recorder*.

A LESSON in pronunciation: Said Master Jones, "Now must we go without delay to the depot." Laughed sweet Miss Jones, "I should say so! Let's start at once to the day-po." Smiled Mrs. Jones, "In quick-step, oh, We'll all run down to the dep-po." Groaned Mr. Jones, "It's mighty hot, To drive you all to the dep-pot." These contents of pronunciation: Would not be it they'd call it "station."—*H. C. Dodge*.

A LADY who had quarreled with her bald-headed lover said, in dismissing him, "What is delightful about you, my friend, is, that I have not the trouble of sending you back any locks of hair."

RUMORED approaching movement of the czar—up into the air.—*Graphic*.

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