Poor Old Spain.

Between the despotism of the church and that of the state, the only wonder is the insurrection in the Philipine islands did not break out sooner. Cuba has been a heavy drain upon Madrid's pocketbook, but the revolt in the Philipeans will be greater still. There are on the Islands about 2,000,000 Malays and Chinese, the former race in particular being renowned for its ferocity, as well as for its bitter hatred of all white people. Moreover, as the islands are more than 9,000 miles farther away from Spain than Cuba, the difficulty in getting troops to Manilla before the rising has had time to extend all over the islands is practically insuperable. Then, Japan may not be neutral.—Lewiston Journal.

During his life, a man stirs up so much trouble that he is finally willing to die to get rid of it.

All husbands are not alike, because some husbands are bridegrooms.

W. N. U., OMAHA—40—1896

When writing to advertisers, kindly mention this paper.

Popular Blouses.

Verily, until the crack of doom shall we wear the blouse. The latest and now prevailing adornment of these, runs in the direction of frills of the material, plain and unadorned. One in blue and green shot silk, which opens with a decided V down to the waist, shows a vest of leaf green chiffon, and round the V are two closely kilted frills, about two and a half inches in width. Quite half the blouses are finished at the throat by fancy turnover collars and cuffs, while the remaining half divide their favors between deep ruffles or the material wrinkled down to the wrist. A black and white muslin looks effective with a ruche at neck and wrists, edged with narrow white valenciennes.

An Envious Mouse.

A mouse saw a swallow skimming along a river and circling in the summer air.

"Oh, how much better to be a beautiful bird, like that, than a mean mouse," it sighed. "If I tried hard perhaps I could be a bird," added the foolish mouse.

It tried very hard, indeed, jumping about and stretching its legs until something like wings grew out of them. As soon as it could fly it said to the other mice:

"You cannot expect me to take notice of you any longer, I am a bird now."

"You a bird, indeed!" the mice answered, "you are only a bat."

Architectural Dreams.

Silesian glassmakers are making possible the realization of an architectural dream. They are producing substantial glass bricks for building purposes. Since glass can easily be made translucent without being transparent, light may be evenly diffused through a building of glass, while its occupants and contents remain invisible from the outside. It does not require a very lively imagination to perceive that many pleasing effects may be produced when glass is used as the material for dwellings and other structures. Besides, people who live in glass houses will not be struck by lightning.

Ineffectual Prayers.

During the long French war, two ladies were going to the kirk. The one said to the other: "Was it no wonderfu' thing that the Breetish were aye victorious ower the French in battle?"

"Not a bit," said the other old lady; "dinna ye ken the British aye say their prayers before gain' into battle?" The other replied: "But canna the French say their prayers as weel?" The reply was most characteristic: "Hoot! jabbering bodies, wha could understand them?"—Household Word.

A Dress Reform Crusade.

Mlle. Payer, a Swiss lady, who has recently taken the degree of doctor of medicine, has instituted a crusade against the faults in woman's dress, especially inveighing against tight gloves and boots, corsets and long skirts. Her lectures are said to be so effective that more than 100 ladies at the end of one of her discourses pledged themselves to renounce corsets, to only wear gloves on special occasions and to have dresses at least ten inches from the ground.

Man-Haters.

A woman who died recently boasted that she had not spoken to a man for over thirty years, and another was equally jubilant over the fact that she had lived twenty-five years in one house without a man crossing threshold. But probably the bitterest manhater of modern times was an Austrian woman, who at the time of her death was engaged in developing a plan for the ultimate extinction of the whole male population.

FARM AND GARDEN.

MATTERS OF INTEREST TO AGRICULTURISTS.

Some Up-to-date Hints About Cultivation of the Soil and Yields Thereof—Horticulture, Viticulture and Floriculture.

ALL the work thus far done at the Arizona Agricultural Experiment Station, located at Tucson, has led Prof. Forbes, the chemist of the station, to deduct the following conclusions respecting this important industry, as set forth in Bulletin No. 21 of this station, just issued:

1. Canaigre is best adapted to the mild, dry, sunny winter climate of the southwest. Although it will endure frost, and will grow in rainy regions, it does not promise good results in these uncongenial situations.

2. Canaigre roots and leaves are damaged to some extent by insects, but the plant is not known to be seriously threatened by them.

3. Canaigre tanning materials are found throughout the plant, being in greatest quanitity in the central portions of the roots.

4. The tanning materials form rapidly during the first year of growth, showing a small percentage increase after the first year, and as long as the root retains its vitality.

5. During the dormant summer period of the plant, the tanning materials seem slightly to increase in young roots. Sprouting does not affect the quantity of tanning materials. The evidence thus far does not show that irrigation lessens the percentage of tanning materials.

6. Heat, air, and fermentation, acting on either roots or extracts, all destroy canaigre tanning materials.

7. The red and yellow coloring matters of canaigre affect the quality of leather produced. The red matters are less desirable and are formed chiefly in the wild crop. They are not present in quantity in cultivated roots. This fact is considered an improvement in the quality of the root for tanning purposes.

8. The sugar contained in canaigre gives roots and extracts their "plumping" qualities. If properly managed it is a valuable factor in the production of heavy leathers.

9. Canaigre bagasse, properly prepared, should be about equal to mesquite wood in fuel value. When well rotted it ought also to have considerable value as a fertilizer. It promises little as a stock food.

10. Canaigre draws heavily upon the soil, especially for nitrogen. Its total drain is about twice as costly as that of sugar beets.

11. The utility of canaigre is demonstrated. Properly handled it produces an unusual variety of leathers of excellent quality.

12. The agriculture of canaigre is yet in its experimental stage. A fair estimate shows that it will be necessary to produce an annual crop of about seven tons, or a biennial crop of about thirteen tons an acre in order to equal the profits of sugar beet culture. On present evidence this yield seems highly probable, but, so far as known, has not yet been demonstrated.

Little Farms in Japan.

The London Times says: "Japan, and not France or Belgium, would appear to be the land of petite culture. According to a recent American bulletin a couple of acres is considered a large tract for farming purposes. Most of the farms are smaller, and on a little plot a surprising variety of crops is cultivated—a few square feet of wheat, barley, maize and millet; a plot of beans perhaps ten feet wide by twenty feet long, a similar area of potatoes and peas, and a patch of onions 'about as big as a grave;' beetroot, lettuce, turnips, sweet potatoes and other crops occupy the rest of the area. The farmer examines his growing crops every morning, just as an engineer inspects his machinery, and if anything is wrong he puts it right. If a weed appears in the bean patch he pulls it up; if a hill of potatoes or anything else falls it is at once replanted. When he cuts down a tree he always plants another. As soon as one crop is harvested the soil is worked over, manured, and forthwith resown to another crop. It is estimated that nine-tenths of the agricultural land of Japan are devoted to rice, and as this is a crop requiring much water the paddy-fields are banked up into terraces, one above another, and divided off into small plots twenty-five feet or thirty feet square, with ridges of earth between them to prevent the water from flowing away when they are flooded. All farming lands are irrigated by a system that is a thousand years old. Some of the ditches are walled up with bamboo wicker-work and some with tiles and stone. According to official statistics, 11,400,000 men and 10,948,000 women—nearly half the total population of Japan—are engaged in agriculture. Silk and tea, the two chief exports of the country, are raised almost by the work of women."

What Forest Trees to Plant.

The question arises, what shall we plant? There are so many general kinds of trees and varieties of each that the matter is very much simplified when we know that the number of species adapted to any soil and locality is comparatively few. Prof. Brewer of Yale college, in Walker's Statistical Atlas, says that in the United States we have only 300 indigenous species that in full growth reach thirty feet in height, and in the region including our own state we have but sixty to sixty-five species that reach fifty feet in height. Different species are found on different geological strata, so that in connection with the question "what to plant?" we may profitably consult our geology and original forest growth. Other species may do well, but we must prove them before trying them extensively. Our original forests have furnished excellent timber of white, burr, red and yellow oak, two or three species of ash, black walnut, chestnut, etc., etc., each of which, if planted well and cared for would, in a comparatively short time, furnish timber for many purposes. Then, we have several species of coniferae, as pines, spruces and larches, each of which has been tried in other countries, and somewhat in this, and have done well. These could be tried on soils not too fertile, and will succeed. Larches especially will grow almost anywhere. One man in Nantucket planted 10,000 in 1877. The locust has been tried and does well; but best of all, perhaps, is the Catalpa speciosa, or hardy catalpa as it is known and distinguished from bignonioides, which is much less hardy, and of which it is a variety. In lower grounds elms, and even willows, might be planted with profit.—Prof. C. L. Ingersoll

Why the Silo Pays.

Until every farmer has a silo, it is in order to preach the silo, so we beg those who have silos to bear with us if we seem to repeat self-evident truths, says Jersey Bulletin. Remember what an awful lot of preaching it takes to save a few sinners, and have patience; or do better, help us spread the truth.

1. The silo stores away corn more safely and more permanently than any other plan. Silage is practically fireproof, and will keep in the silo indefinitely.

2. Corn can be made into silage at less expense than it can be preserved in any other form.

3. The silo preserves absolutely all but the roots of the corn.

4. Silage can be made in sunshine or in rain. Unlike hay, it is independent of the weather.

5. When corn is ready for the silo there is but little farm work pressing.

6. Corn is worth more to the dairy as silage than in any other form.

7. At least one-third more corn per acre may be fed on silage than on dried cornstalks or fodder.

8. Corn is fed more conveniently as silage than in any other form.

9. Silage is of most value when fed in combination with other food richer in protein. It is not a complete food.

10. Owing to its succulence and bulkiness, silage is the best known substitute for green grass, and is therefore especially valuable as a winter food.

Tobacco Dust As an Insecticide.

Mr. T. Greiner, one of America's leading authorities, says: "For some years I have been using and recommending tobacco dust as an all-round insect destroyer. I use it in the greenhouse for lice (aphis), in the open ground for the cucumber beetle, plant lice, and for worms of all kinds, and sometimes in the hen-house for lice, etc. It is surely one of the swiftest of all insecticides we can apply, almost or fully equal to buhach. If sifted or scattered over currant bushes the currant worms will curl up and die, and the bushes will be free from the pest within an hour or less, and fall from them for some time. If blown into the heart of cabbage plants it means the end of the green worm. Applied in the same way to the nests of the caterpillars (and the trees all around us at this time are full of them) especially in the morning or evening, when the worms are all at home, it will clear them out for good in less than an hour. In short, I hardly know what worm or other soft-bodied insect the contact with tobacco dust would not speedily kill. I believe it will even put an end to the potato bug. It is distasteful to many hard shell beetles also, as may be seen by the fact that with heavy applications we can drive away the cucumber beetle (and perhaps the squash bug). The flea beetle, unfortunately, is not so easily conquered, even if it does not like tobacco smell. Surely, tobacco dust must be considered a most excellent insecticide, and as it is not expensive (in some cases, perhaps, the sweepings of cigar factories, etc., will do and can be had for the hauling). I think every soil tiller should keep it on hand. I have usually applied tobacco dust with the bare hands, scattering it rather freely over the bushes and plants, and around cucumbers, melon and squash vines, even an inch deep on the ground. The stuff is worth nearly the full price asked for it ($3 per barrel, or so) as a fertilizer, and I have not felt the necessity of using it in a particularly economical manner. For cabbage and caterpillar nests, however, hand bellows of some kind are almost necessary, as we want to blow the dust well amongst the leaves and the webs. The ordinary cheap hand bellows, as offered for sale by seedsmen and hardware stores, will do very well for cabbage.

People will not pay 25 cents for 10-cent butter.

A bad temper in the owner will beget a bad one in the cow, and when they both get bad the profit is bad.

Every farmer that takes an interest in fruits and flowers should be a member of his state horticultural society.

Establishing an Apiary.

A bulletin of the department of agriculture says: Spring is the best time to establish an apiary, especially for a person unacquainted with the practical care of bees. Colonies in good condition secured then are more easily kept in order by the novice than if purchased in the fall. Mistakes in management may possibly be remedied before the season closes, and by the time it is necessary to prepare for the winter the learner will have gained a certain amount of practical knowledge of the nature and requirements of bees. If the start be made late in the season, mistakes, if they occur, may result fatally before the proper remedy can be applied. The beginner had better obtain his start by purchasing one or two colonies of pure Italian or Carniolan bees in accurately made frame hives and in first-class condition. These he should get from some bee master of repute near his own place if possible, in order to avoid expressage and possible damage through long confinement or numerous transfers. The cost per colony may be $6 to $8; yet bees at this price will generally be found to be much cheaper in the end, for, though common bees in box hives may frequently be obtained at half price or less, the cost, when finally transferred into frame hives, fitted up with straight combs, and the common queens replaced by Italians or Carniolans, will not be less. The possession of a colony already in prime working order gives the novice a standard with which to compare all others and often enables him to avoid costly experiments. Another plan, also commendable, is to agree with some neighboring bee-keeper to deliver as many first swarms on the day they issue as are wanted. These will give the right start if placed as soon as received in hives with foundation starters and the frames properly spaced—one and three-eighths inches from center to center, it being understood that the swarms are early and prime ones, with vigorous queens. Only those issuing from colonies that have swarmed the year before or from such as were themselves second swarms of the previous year should be accepted. Swarms from these will have queens not over one year old. It is better to have queens of the current year's raising, but these can only be obtained by taking the second or third swarms from a given hive, which come later and are smaller, or by substituting young queens for those that come with the swarms.

THE ILLUSTRATION IS OF A TYPICAL SHROPSHIRE RAM.

Packing Apples.

A subscriber asks us to tell him how to pack apples so that they will arrive in market in good condition, says Southern Planter. Good packing, although essential to good selling, is not the only essential. Before the apples are packed they should be carefully gathered, not shaken from the trees, but hand picked. They should then be laid for a few days in heaps to sweat and then be carefully graded, sorted, and all defective or specked ones be taken out. Sort them into two or three qualities, and let each barrel be uniform in quality and size throughout. Then take clean, new barrels and pack in the following manner: Place a layer at the bottom of the barrel carefully all one way, for the end that is packed as the bottom should be marked for the top when opened. Then place the apples, all of the same description and same variety, in the barrel, and gently shake it to settle them as the filling proceeds, till at last the apples are a little above the top of the barrel. The head is now placed on and then forced into place by a screw press or lever. Now drive down the hoops and tighten the head in place, and nail on a head lining of a split hoop.

Low Prices for Hogs.

This has been a year when ordinary rules and conditions have been pretty well twisted around, says Drovers' Journal. We have gone through the season when hogs are expected to advance with liberal supplies, excellent quality and almost record-breaking low prices. The country is bearish on hogs, and it is a question whether this exceptionally down-hearted feeling will not result in some more surprises during the remainder of the year. There is a theory advanced that the farmers and feeders figuring on exceptionally low prices after the new corn crop has had time to cut a figure, will crowd hogs forward so fast as to make the low turn come earlier than it might naturally be expected, and that early winter prices are liable to be better than prices between now and then.

Dairy Laws Needed.—We have had some good dairy laws, and we want more of them. Some states are well supplied and some are not. In a number of our states there are no dairy commissioners. The great corporations have been able to prevent the making of laws to investigate dairy products and other foods. The states that have the laws have found the adulteration so universal, that it is perfectly plain why the great manufacturers and wholesalers oppose laws for the protection of the people.

Irrigating Fruit Trees.—In a recent paper Professor E. W. Hilgard, of California, said that much water makes fruit too acidulous and of poor quality, says an exchange. If there is too little water the fruit will be dry and small. The thing to be avoided is to not irrigate too much. If the ground is soaked all the season, the roots run near to the surface, and a drought would probably kill the tree. Irrigation has much to do with the flavor of fruit. Fruit men should study the nature of the soil, and irrigate accordingly. As soon as fruit is fully formed, irrigation should be decreased, as the tree needs rest as well as everything else.

Planting Old Maids.

The man who told this story prefaced it by saying that it was the sort you could tell only to a young woman or a married one. Whereupon his listener remarked that she was indeed glad to hear a story of that kind, as, according to her previous experience, all stories were divided into two parts—the kind you could tell to young women and the kind you could not. The story was as follows:

A certain man had, somewhat late in life, taken unto himself a wife who was, to put it temperately, not precisely in the first bloom of her youth. At the wedding the man's mother, a typical Yankee, took occasion to say:

"Yes, I'm real glad to see John married and settled at last. An' I'm real pleased at the choice he's made, too. He couldn't a suited me better. Ye see, young girls are skittish an' hard to manage, an' widders are set in their ways and ye can't manage 'em, but old maids are thankful and willing to please.

Over-Dressed Worshipers.

American women, above women of any other nation, have the reputation of overdressing. An Irish girl paying her first visit to an American church, asked if they gave parties in America after church, and when asked why, she said:

"I thought the women were dressed for one."

A large number of the wealthier class, from frequent visits abroad, have become educated to a proper style of dress, but it should be so with all women. Dress appropriately and you will lessen your expense and increase the becomingness and style. Do not wear diamonds or a lot of jewelry in the morning. Do not wear light or fancy gowns shopping, or to church, which is only suitable for the evening or a social function. Do not have a nice quiet gown to go down town and spoil it all by the fancy lace-trimmed parasol or a much bedecked and bedizened hat.—New Orleans Picayune.

Grenadines in Midsummer.

In spite of the opposition and notwithstanding the great variety of fashionable grenadines of the season, in patterns of stripes, arabesques, dots, blocks, checks, openwork mesh designs crossed with satin bars, lace patterns and other fancy devices, plain, handsome sewing-silk grenadines devoid of patterns of any description, made up over satin moire or crisp lustrous taffeta silk, are really among the best of the materials for midsummer wear if the dressmaker is not allowed to have her way and make the gown unbearable by using an extra inner lining under the silk one. Many women who have worn both kinds this summer have decided with emphasis that there is nothing in all the lines of grenadines, either French or domestic, to compare with those showing the plain, unbroken silk mesh when handsomely made up and trimmed with cool, dainty chiffon or costly lace.

The Horseless Carriage.

The horseless carriage promises to be as pervasive in its social as well as its commercial influence as the bicycle. In Paris, the dry goods houses are all selling the horses that drew their delivery wagons, and using automobiles, and scores of electric dog carts and other horseless vehicles are seen every evening taking their owners out to their homes in the suburbs, where lands are rapidly going up in value. This is but the beginning of a great popular evolution. The horse in cities is practically forbidden to all but the rich. The horseless carriage is comparatively cheap, and a team fed with oil or napthia, at a cost of a few cents a day, will eventually put a carriage in a park within the reach of any bookkeeper or clerk.

For Sound Sleep.

Professor Fisher, a German, has demonstrated by a series of painstaking experiments that we should sleep with the feet slightly elevated, or the head a trifle lower than the feet, as he puts it, and this condition he advises bringing about by placing pillows under the feet instead of the head, says the new York Recorder.

The advantages claimed by Professor Fisher resulting from this manner of lying are that the intellectual repose is much more profound than obtained by the present prevailing method; also that amelioration of the nervous system is greater; that the effect on the brains is better, and, consequently, the condition of the blood is improved, and weakness of the lungs is largely overcome.

Cleaning Soiled Books.

Ink stains may be removed from a book by applying with a camelshair pencil a small quantity of oxalic acid, diluted with water, and then use blotting paper. Two applications will remove all traces of ink. To remove grease spots, lay powdered pipe clay each side of the spot and press with an iron as hot as the paper will bear without scorching. Sometimes grease spots may be removed from paper or cloth by laying a piece of blotting paper on them and then pressing with a hot iron. The heat melts the grease and the blotting paper absorbs it.

McClure's Magazine for October will contain a biographical and personal study of Ian Maclaren, the author of "Beside the Bonny Brier Bush, by the Rev. D. M. Ross. Mr. Ross was associated with Ian Maclaren in a circle of students who lived in special intimacy at Edinburg university, and has lived in intimate relation with him ever since. The paper will be illustrated with portraits of Ian Maclaren, views of his various homes, and scenes in and around "Drumtochty." The S. S. McClure Co., New York.

Curling the Hair.

From Philadelphia Times:

Curling is a process which should be undertaken most carefully. Heating with irons should be avoided as much as possible. When using them give yourself plenty of time. The hasty use of over-heated irons is the cause of many short, fuzzy looking fringes one sees. The best plan for curling the hair is to put it into curling pins over night, as the constant use of irons causes the hair to wither and snap.

It is not desirable to use curling fluids, but as it is sometimes very difficult to keep the hair in curl, especially in summer, when the forehead is apt to get damp from perspiration, it may be useful to know of the following preparation: Mix 10 or 12 grains of carbonate of potash with a pint or so of warm soap and water. Froth the water with brisk agitation. Then dip the brush into this solution and moisten the hair before curling at night.

The October Atlantic.

The Atlantic Monthly for October is one of the most important issues of the year. There is the usual fine literary flavor to the contents, and this is supplemented by timely papers on political, scientific and industrial subjects.

The leading article of the month, by President Eliot, of Harvard, is on "Five American Contributions to Civilization," viz., the practice of arbitration instead of war, the increase of wide religious toleration, the safe development of manhood suffrage, the proof that people of a great variety of nations are fit for political fredom, and, fifth, the diffusion of well-being among the population in general.

Pro. John Trowbridge sounds a note of warning in the vigorous article entitled "The Imperiled Dignity of Science and law."

Exhaustive book reviews and The Contributors' Club complete the issue.

By Far Too Literal.

Little Evelyn Jones went with her mother the other day to make a call upon a lady whose niec had recently died. In offering her condolences Mrs. Jones said, among other things, that "the good die young," and it seemed as if the bad and useless people lived on indefinitely, while those who were of real use in the world were the first to be taken. That night when Evelyn was saying her prayers, her mother was somewhat surprised to hear herdepart from the usual form and in conclusion supplicate, "and now dear God, won't you make me a bad and useless little girl, and mamma and papa and little brother, too, so we can go on living forever and ever? Amen."—Judge.

His Ignorance Was Desirable.

From the Washington Star:

"Young man," said the merchant to the applicant for employment, "do you know anything about the financial question?"

"No," was the reply in a discouraged tone. "I didn't know you were going to consider a knowledge of political economy essential."

"I don't. I am looking for somebody who is wrapped up in ignorance of everything pertaining to currency, excepting how to make change—at least during business. We've had three bright salesmen, but every one of them was liable at any moment to forget all about selling goods, and to go in to convince a customer that the country was going to ruin if it did not adopt his ideas."

She Knew That Much.

"Well, there's one thing that I know about the convention," remarked Mrs. Snaggs, "and that is that McKinley hasn't got all of the delegates."

"No?" replied Mr. Snaggs in an indulgent tone.

"No, he hasn't for I read in the paper something about delegates-at-large."—Pittsburg Chronicle Telegraph.

The motives which prompt a woman to accept a proposal of marriage are often to see what will happen next.