

SEASON 1883

Wall Paper.

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FARM NOTES.

Preserving Eggs.

Referring to a recent article in this paper on the preservation of eggs, our correspondent, Mr. M. P. Baumann, of Pittsburg, Pa., gives the following method, which in his hands worked to perfection:

Having filled a clean keg or barrel with fresh eggs, he covers the eggs with cold salt water. The eggs must be kept down by a few small boards floating on the water, and the whole covered with cloth to keep out dust.

If set in a cool place the eggs so packed will keep fresh for months, but they must be used as soon as they are taken out of the brine.

To make the salicylic solution, dissolve salicylic acid (which costs about about \$3 a pound) in boiling water, one tablespoonful of acid to the gallon. It is not necessary to boil all the water, as the acid will dissolve in a less quantity, and the rest may be added to the solution cold. The solution or brine should at no time come in contact with any metal. In a clean, airy cellar one brine is sufficient for three months or more, otherwise it should be renewed often. For that purpose the kegs, etc., should be provided with a wooden spigot to draw off the liquid and replenish the vessel.

Butter kneaded in the same solution, and packed tight in clean stone jars, will keep fresh the whole winter, but must be covered with muslin saturated in the water, renewing it sometimes. Cover the jars with blotting paper saturated with glycerine. Salicylic acid is harmless, and yet one of the best and certainly most pleasant disinfectants in existence, with no color, smell or taste. The water is an excellent tooth wash, and the best gargle to prevent diphtheritic contagion.

Hedge Fence.

It makes but little difference whether you plant Osage orange or hawthorn for fencing in your farm. Either one makes a good fence when properly attended to, and neither one makes a fence at all when neglected. The Osage orange will make a fence in less time than hawthorn, but it will cost more to keep it in order, on account of its thrifty growth, unless you let it take its own course, as our worthy (or unworthy) trustees do of the one growing on the burial grounds of our county seat. Said hedge is twenty-five or thirty feet high, and where it is this enough for a cow to walk through they have put in boards and nailed them to the hedge. That kind of a fence I would call a nuisance. The nice thing about a well set hedge fence is, you always have a surplus of material, and the brush or trimmings will always pay to gather and burn them, whereas, in repairing a rail fence you must always supply new rails in place of those that have rotted out.

The hedge fence, if taken care of, is an everlasting fence. I never knew one to die that was taken care of. I could show you hedge fences more than a hundred years old, and good fences yet—good enough to turn hogs or horses. I would advise every farmer that has a nice laying farm to plant hedge fence for road and line

fences. It don't make any difference whether it is hard froze, or wet from the last big rain, you can trim hedge fence all the same; in fact, winter is the time to shape up the hedge fence. With a good hedge fence around your farm you can rest contented till morning, without being afraid the wind will blow down the line fence and let your neighbor's stock in on your fields of grain. I admit there are other kinds of fence that can be made quicker and cheaper than hedge, but they will eventually rot out, and then to replace makes them the most costly of the two. Not so with the hedge. It starts up every spring and puts out its leaves, and appears to enjoy life with the fresh grass and growing grain. As for the hedge dying out on account of this soil, it is out of the question when soil is put under and subsoil on top; the leaves from the hedge will keep the soil rich enough. I would rather attribute the cause of the hedge dying to the surplus of stagnant water poisoning the roots.

Poultry Houses and Vermin. To be successful in raising poultry one of the first things to be considered is a suitable house. An expensive or elaborate house is not a necessity, but a disadvantage, in poultry keeping. The two great drawbacks in the way of success are cold and vermin. The costly house affords no protection from either. But build a plain (the plainer the better), substantial house, one that can be cleaned in a short time, and well ventilated. And be sure to have the laying boxes at a little distance from the roost, that they may be kept free from lice. Make two sets of boxes, so that when one set gets dirty it may be replaced with the other set, and clean and whitewash ready to change when the other set gets dirty. Of the three kinds of insects most troublesome to the fowl the mite is the worst and hardest to get rid of. The body and feather louse can be rolled off by the hen in the dust-bath, and may be driven away by applying Parisian insect powder or some other insect killer. But they seldom breed in such numbers as to completely overrun a fowl. But the mite breeds on the poultry-house, not on the fowl, and does not even need the presence of a fowl to propagate. The mite is analogous to the chinch, or the bad bug, and "loving darkness rather than light," because its deeds are evil, attacks its victims on the roost and leaves them in the morning. This is the little fellow which is so destructive to the sitting hen, which has no chance during the day to prevent its attacks. A dusting of Parisian Powder two or three times a week is a great help to the hen; but it does not destroy the myriads which dwell in every crack and crevice of a board. Hence the necessity of having a plain house as possible, thus avoiding hiding places for the lice. While the insect powder is a great help, yet the first time the hen leaves her nest she shakes the insecticide from her feathers, and when she goes back the mites renew their assaults. The sitting period is a severe ordeal to a hen, and usually leaves her nothing but skin and bones. Her comb is shriveled and colorless, and her feathers are in the same condition. This is the effect of vermin, as may be shown by noting a hen that

has set in some place distant from the poultry-house. She has lost some of her bright color, and her feathers are not as bright as they should be; yet a week or two will put her in good condition again.

A large percentage of eggs in an infested nest fail to hatch, it being impossible for a hen to sit closely enough to keep up the requisite temperature. The constant twisting of a hen to fight the lice admits a little cold air to the eggs, and they become rotten, and when an egg becomes rotten (the cause being due to the death of the embryo from lack of heat in most cases), its contents begin to exude through the pores of the shell, and then the mites swarm to the eggs and stick there and increase so rapidly that the hen is compelled to leave her nest, or if she refuses to leave her nest, she often lies a victim to lice. It will be seen that the larger and more elaborate and complicated the poultry house the more cracks for the vermin to breed in, and the harder they are to exterminate. If the house is plain it can be cleaned with little labor and expense. Formerly chickens were allowed to find their own roosting places, and the cholera and cramp were unknown. The birds will live out all winter, but common fowls are educated birds or susceptible of education, and there is little trouble in inducing them to sleep indoors; in fact, they are more than willing, as may be seen in cold weather, when they hunt for a shed or some other sheltered place. Houses should be provided that will retain the healthy conditions of the trees and yet protect them from the cold and storms. Look to your houses and see that they are in a good condition.

Renovating Old Gardens.

After a garden has been maintained in the same place for many years it sometimes loses its productive power, in spite of repeated and heavy manuring. Many kinds of vegetables refuse to thrive, and it becomes necessary to change the garden-plot, or infuse new life into the cloyed soil by a period of rest and a partial return to a state of nature.

The location of the vegetable garden is not always a matter of choice, and frequently there is but one place which unites the different requirements of soil, exposure and convenience, and after this has been permanently enclosed it is annoying to arrive at a period when the garden becomes unable to meet promptly the demands upon it.

It has long been known that heavily stocked an old garden with a red clover, and allowing it to remain two years without plowing, will bring the soil back to its fertility and vigor. This is sometimes done by farmers, but it is hard to persuade a village resident to adopt a remedy so far outside of his usual course. As a substitute which, under certain conditions, is even better than clover, I would recommend planting starwberries. One-half of the garden may be planted at a time, leaving the other half for a period of rest and a partial return to a state of nature.

Plow at the usual time, and in April plant strong plants of any very vigorous variety, with perfect blossoms and desirable fruit, in rows thirty inches apart and fifteen inches in the row. Keep clean and allow the run-

ners to cover all the ground. Late in the fall mulch lightly with chopped straw, and in the following spring pull up any weeds that show themselves. Under anything but extraordinary circumstances—such as a very late frost or peculiarly unfavorable weather at blooming time—you will in June pick a large crop of berries, which will be a trifling more difficult to pick than if they were in separate rows. After picking remove all large or tall-growing weeds that may have grown and leave the plantation for another year's fruiting, mulching again in winter. The result will be a crop of berries nearly as large as the first.

Immediately after bearing, the heavy crop of old and new plants which covers the land should be plowed under and the ground planted to late cabbages or Swedish turnips. The following spring it will be in condition to grow a very large crop of early potatoes, followed by celery. After this the ground will be fit for any garden crop, and the other half of the garden can be subjected to the same rotation. The result of treating a garden once in ten or twelve years to a change of this kind will be eminently satisfactory and profitable.

Saved from the Grave.

Mrs. NANCY J. SMITH, of Eastland, Tex., writes:—"I was terribly afflicted with Kidney Disease and Dropsy, having suffered for over three years. I employed the best physicians in this country, and obtained no relief, but was getting rapidly worse. My family and friends had lost all hope. My son happened to read your advertisement of Hunt's Remedy, and procured the medicine for me. I began to take it, and it worked like a charm. After taking several bottles, I became entirely well. I am indebted to Hunt's Remedy for saving my life; and if it had not been your medicine, I am fully convinced I would have been in my grave to-day."

Internal Revenue Department, Washington, D. C.

Mr. Stephen A. Alpin, Washington, D. C., says:—"A member of my family having been troubled for several years with Kidney Disease, and, after trying numerous remedies and methods of treatment without obtaining relief, she was induced to use your Hunt's Remedy, and after a thorough trial she became completely cured. Knowing the facts in this case, I cheerfully recommend its use to any one afflicted with diseases of the above nature."

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COMMERCIAL.

COUNCIL BLUFFS MARKET.

Corrected daily by J. V. Fuller, merchandise broker, buyer and shipper of grain and provisions, 33 Pearl street. WHEAT—No. 2 spring, 70c; No. 3, 63c; rejected 50c; good demand. CORN—50c to feeders and 34c to shippers; rejected corn Chicago, 49c@51c; new mixed, 52c. The receipts of corn are light on account of bad roads. OATS—Scarce and in good demand; 30c@32c. HAY—40c@50c per ton. RYE—40c; light supply. COY. MEAL—1 25c per 100 pounds. WOOD—Good supply; prices at yards, 5.00@6.00. COAL—Delivered, hard, 11.00 per ton; soft, 5.50 per ton. BUTTER—Plenty and in fair demand; 25c; creamery, 30c. EGGS—Scarce and in demand; 30c per dozen. LARD—Fairbank's, wholesaling at 15c. POULTRY—Firm; dealers paying 15c per pound for turkeys and 10c for chickens. VEGETABLES—Potatoes, 45c; onions, 25c; cabbages, 30c@40c per dozen; apples, 25c@35c per barrel. CITY flour from 1.60 to 3.40. BROOMS—2.00@3.00 per dozen. CATTLE—3.00@3.50 calves 5.00@7.50. HOGS—Market active, and all offerings quickly taken at higher prices. Car lots: Common, 5.75@5.90; good mixed, 5.90@6.40; heavy packing, 6.00@7.00; choice fancy packing, 6.00@6.10.

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