

FARM, GARDEN AND HOUSEHOLD

Under this name are comprised the snowdrop, hyacinth, crocus, tulips, narcissus, iris, anemone, jonquil, etc. They are all very easily cultivated, and a few words of practical advice may be acceptable.

Having raked off the bed smoothly, the bulbs are planted in groups or clusters, to suit the taste of the gardener. The crocuses and snowdrops can be planted about three inches apart; and the tulips, narcissus and jonquils five or six inches apart; the hyacinths about ten inches.

After planting, the bulbs will need no further care until spring, except that, if it is desired to have them bloom very early, it will be desirable to cover the bed over in November with a foot of dry leaves, or other litter, to prevent frost from entering the soil.

The bed those bulbs occupy can be used in May or June for planting geraniums, verbenas, or any other bedding plants, for the bulbs can be taken up as soon as they are done flowering and laid away to dry, to be planted again in autumn.

The pain caused by the sting of a plant or insect is the result of a certain amount of acid poison injected into the blood. The first thing to be done is to press the tube of a small key firmly on the wound, moving the key from side to side to facilitate the extrusion of the sting and its accompanying poison.

Notes for the Orchard and Garden. In many portions of the country there has been such an excess of rain that artificial watering has not suggested itself. The summer of last year, as well as the one just past, having been unusually moist, there is the greater probability that the coming one will be dry.

Mr. Browning is now engaged on a four-horse power machine for Miss Hosmer, and it is to be completed this winter, when Miss Hosmer will return here from Rome and have it publicly exhibited.

A Mountain Garden. A garden 21,300 feet above the level of the sea is in the mountains of Colorado, and notably so outside the tropics, yet there is such an one at Summit, Rio Grande county, Colorado.

Light from the north is more injurious to the eyes than light from the south.

A WOMAN'S INVENTIONS.

A Power from Permanent Magnets that may do Great Things—Also Discovering a Process by which Ordinary Limestone may be Made a Firm and Durable Marble.

A London correspondent of the New York Evening Post sends that paper an interesting letter of which the following is a condensation: "Harriet Hosmer is well known as a sculptor of the highest rank, but she now comes before the world in another character, and, as the testimony of some of the best informed savants of England is worthy of notice, she has placed her name on a level with those of Fulton and Morse.

Miss Hosmer arrived in London last August, bringing with her the model of her latest statue, "The Pompeian Sentinel." In the preparation of this model instead of using the traditional clay, Miss Hosmer first constructed a rough shape, in plaster of Paris.

What do you think I've been doing? Miss Hosmer suddenly asked. "I've turned inventor. I've invented a contrivance to enable a player to turn leaves of music, either on a piano or on that of the great upright estate. This contrivance is of my own invention, and it is a beautiful one. But that is more to you. I happened on the idea and worked it out. What I am going to show you now will astonish you. You may think I'm crazy—most every one does at first—but you will change your mind when you see my model applied."

Miss Hosmer then went on to show and describe a discovery she had made, I am not allowed to repeat all that she told me. The essential secret of the discovery I am obliged to withhold until Miss Hosmer authorizes a fuller revelation of the general idea of her contrivance, of its application with the testimony of such savants as have seen it. They are unanimous in declaring it to be not only a wonderful novelty but apparently a thoroughly useful and practical power.

The machine now in process of construction for Miss Hosmer by Browning, on the Strand, is not dissimilar in its general design to an electro-magnetic engine. The important feature consists in an absolutely novel application of the permanent magnet. There is no electric battery, and consequently no electric magnetic action. The magnets are permanent magnets. They are arranged so that the whole power is derived from them, but there is no battery nor any other device for creating or conveying an electric current. The power derived is due solely to the force contained in the permanent magnet. There has been no such property known until Miss Hosmer discovered it. Herein lies the whole secret, and the whole of her claim to originality. The machine to which the principle is applied—instantaneous and valuable though it is—is not an absolute novelty; but on the other hand, this machine is only one of a thousand applications which can be made of the principle. If I were allowed to set forth the method adopted to obtain this result, I could cover the whole of my life in ten years.

When I knew that I had succeeded in finding what I had been seeking for by study and experiment for fifteen years," said Miss Hosmer, "I first asked the opinion of a well-known American engineer, Mr. Clarke, a relative of the Rev. James Clarke of Boston. Having seen the invention, he assured me that I need have no doubts as to the value and importance of my discovery. I then came to England and consulted Mr. Newton, of the well-known firm of Newton & Hales. Well, he could scarcely believe his own eyes, and I had to repeat my demonstration several times. Then he made the magnet accomplish the work himself. His partner, Mr. Hales, came in, and dropped down upon his knees before the table as he saw me repeat my experiment. These gentlemen and Mr. Browning, the well-known maker of scientific instruments, are all enthusiastic over my discovery, and are thoroughly convinced as to its practicability.

Miss Hosmer said further that among others who had been shown the new principle applied was Mr. John Penn, Jr., of the well-known firm of Greenock, and she had a letter from him saying that the discovery actually frightened him, so great would be the revolution in machinery. Prof. Tyndall was away in Switzerland, but he had had the principle described to him, and in a letter from Mr. Tyndall to Miss Hosmer he enclosed a message testifying to the importance and absolute novelty of her discovery, and saying that he should give it careful attention on his return to England.

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How to Renew Velvets.

Velvet, if wet, becomes hard, knotty, and shiny, and at all appearances spoiled, but can be fully restored, looking as well as when first taken from the store, if it is made quite damp, wet thoroughly with water, and then laid on the wrong side, and with the assistance of another held over a very hot iron, but not allowed to touch the iron at all. One should hold the hot iron face uppermost, while another holds the damp velvet close to the iron. In a few minutes the pile rises, and the velvet becomes like new; the heat of the iron sends the water through the tissues of the velvet, forcing the steam out at the upper side, thus separating the small fleecy fibres that, having been dampened or wet on the surface, flattened down and adhered together in hard bunches.

A Vegetable Preparation, invented in the year 1845, by the late General, Sir John King's army. Through its agency he cured thousands of the most serious and fatal wounds that he had ever seen, and which were regarded by all who knew him as a public benefactor.

What is good for a cold? asks a subscriber. Winter is about the best time we know of a good winter full of snow-drifts.

As a general inquiry of what is Grace's Salve, and what it is good for, may be a question worthy of being answered, we have been induced to give the following brief, but complete description of this Salve, which is a vegetable preparation, invented in the seventeenth century by Dr. William Grace, and which is now used in his family from that of King James's army, and the most of our countrymen and foreigners, professional practice, whenever soreness or inflammation of any kind is present.

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