Bellefonte, Pa., Dec. 9, 1898.

FARM NOTES.

-Wood ashes have always held a high place in the estimation of farmers for ferti-lizing purposes, and as long as they can be had of standard quality will continue to be used on farms. Hardwood ashes are regarded as far superior to the ashes of soft woods, yet the variation in the amounts of potash derived from the ashes of hard woods is so great as to render it difficult to draw the line between hard and soft woods. Experiments made at the Ontario Station with Canada ashes show that hickory ashes contain 9.17 per cent. of potash; those from rock elm, 6.63 per cent.; red oak, 5.75; butternut, 3.99; walnut, 4.62; cherry, 5.28; pear, 9.73; plum, 4.81; peach, 6.98; quince, 6.32; and grape cuttings, 12.21 per cent. It will be noticed, therefore, that the ashes of grape cuttings largely exceed all others in percentage of potash contained, while the pear wood goes above hickory. These facts show that no farmer can go upon the market and purchase wood ashes with a knowledge of their correct value unless he learns something of the place and manner

in which the ashes are produced.

Ashes contain, in addition to potash, all the mineral elements that enter into the composition of plants. Even the leached ashes have value. According to the gov-ernment bulletins, the accepted average for unleached ashes is 5 per cent. of potash, 1.5 per cent. of phosphoric acid and 32.5 per cent. of lime. On the farm there are materials which largely abound in potash and which are usually consumed, the abundance of such materials not being perhaps great, but they produce sufficient potash to pay for saving them. Corn-cob ashes contain 12 per cent. of pure potash, and corn-cobs can be put to no better use than spreading on the land in that form.

It has long been admitted that much of the benefit derived from ashes is due to the lime contained as long as lime can be pro-cured in cheaper forms. If a ton of ashes costs \$10, and the value of the potash and phosphoric acid is \$6.50, the 650 pounds of lime in the ashes will cost \$3.50, and, as lime is the principal substance in ashes, it is plain that the higher the price of the ashes the more the farmer pays for the lime. The lime in ashes is derived from vegetable substances entirely, thus differing from stone lime in being exceedingly fine, but lime thus obtained does not differ in com-position from stone lime. As ashes contain all the mineral elements of the woods from which they are derived, they consequently contain certain other substances, such as magnesia, soda, etc., and, with nitrogen as an aid, wood ashes should form a complete fertilizer for some crops.

—The beet is greedily consumed by swine, and though largely consisting of water, yet it is nourishing and fattening, owing to the large proportion of sugar contained. When fattening hogs on corn, mix the corn with cooked beets or with beets that have been cut or pulped and there will be a greater gain in weight on beets and corn than on corn, and also at smaller cost. wearing mourning for any but her deceased For sows having pigs beets are excellent, husband, but when once taken off the ruche as they are succulent and assist in producing a larger proportion of milk. On some farms 500 bushels of beets per acre are grown, which provide a large amount of

-It is during such weather as the recent case vulgar and ostentations. snow storm that the colts, pigs and calves receive checks in growth. A night's expublic amusement while you are in mournleaves will assist in preventing draughts at the theatre and other similar places, along the floor, but the most important When you feel you wish to dispense with taken idea that a window must be open to marked by quiet costumes. provide ventilation during cold weather, as the difficulty will be to keep the cold, fresh air out rather than to let it in.

-The largest profits from the ground are made by those who cultivate small farms or plots, which are highly manured, such as trucking. The ordinary farmer requires forty acres, where the trucker cultivates The one spreads his manure and labor over a great surface while the other concentrates it. The objection to trucking on the part of the farmer is that too much work is required, yet the farmer on a large farm performs more work than does the trucker in proportion to results accomplished. It is the labor that pays, and the more labor that can be profitably applied the greater the receipts.

-That coal ashes are beneficial when spread on the surface of apple orchards in grass cannot be disputed. But they contain scarcely any mineral fertilizers and are, of course, having passed through fire, destitude of any other. Undoubtedly they benefit by setting as a mulch, and where they cover grass, causing it to die out and rot. In this way, they supply considerable fertility and moisture indirectly.
Wherever coal ashes have long lain under fruit trees there will be an abundance of alike. tree roots just under the ashes where the grass has been killed.

-An excellent fertilizer for an orchard is a mixture of 100 pounds of nitrate of soda, 200 pounds muriate of potash and 150 pound of bone meal, applied on one acre, every year, during the first year growing a hoe crop in the orgherd in order. ing a hoe crop in the orchard in order to destroy weeds, and every other year plowing under crimson clover or cow peas. Manure may be used with advantage once in four or five years, and in winter it will prove beneficial to sow rve or some other crop that will cover the ground during the cold period.

ly accumulates in the earth floors of stables centre of each cover to tie the case. These is sometimes very large. Not only is the nitrogen of the liquids absorbed but also the soluble mineral matter, which assists make them. On the outside of the cover in forming nitrate of potash and other valuable compounds. The earth floors should be removed occasionally and fresh earth supplied, as it is almost impossible to pre"Needles" outlined below. vent absorption of the liquids when the floors are of earth, whether they are covered with straw or not.

-There are several things fruit producers should resolve to do viz.: Grade their fruits, wrap in paper the fine fruit, evaporate the second grade and not have any third

They are made after the model of an entire the second grade and not have any third.

They are made after the model of an entire the second grade and not have any third. grade. The East should profit from the experience of California and make the start. Fruit put up in fancy packages will around three edges with an embroidered around three edges with an embroidered around three edges with a manufacture of the case here. self. Fruit put up in landey packages will around three edges with an embroadered self from 50 certs to \$1 per crate more than that put up in the ordinary way, and the highest price will not be for the unwraphing a narrow hemstitching. Into this linence en envelope is slipped a linen covered

The frost is a very serviceable agent in pulverizing the soil. All clods or lumps are made fine when soaked by rains and then frozen. The frost contracts and exFOR AND ABOUT WOMEN.

The "French Maid" tie, which is said to have been seen on every two women out of twenty during the spring, has again come

No article of neckwear aids more materthat the big tie of black tulle. This tie is made out of one yard of tulle. The tulle is cut in half and sewed together so that there is a strip two yards long. Starting from the front it is carried around the neck twice and finished with a very large bow. When the tie has been made into a bow the ends are fastened invisibly upon the waist so that there are only loops to the bow. This is its distinguishing featurethere are no ends to be seen and one is kept wandering how the tie can be made with out having a beginning or ending.

The time of muffs has come round again, and many of us notice that those we put away last spring need to be re-lined before we can have any pleasure in using them. We perhaps do not feel inclined to pay a furrier for doing the work for us, and yet feel rather nervous about attempting to do it ourselves. But really there is no need for nervousness, for the matter is a simple

For the new lining half a yard of satin is needed and three quarters of a yard of nar-row elastic. Begin the work by carefully taking out the old lining so as to avoid cutting the fur. Then examine the interlining, and, if needed, replace the old cotton

wool with fresh. Cut the satin according to the size of the muff; the ordinary size would want a lining about 13 inches wide, including the two inches required at each end for hem and heading. Joir up the lining and run a heading at each side. Then inclose the elastic, which should be made tight or loose according to whether you desire a large or a small aperture for the hand.

When you have done this you will have a thing somewhat like a short fat cracker. This must now be turned the other side out and slipped into the muff. Join the hem of the lining to the edge of the fur with strong silk, not cotton, and be careful to conceal the stitches.

In this and in all other fur work it will be found a great assistance if the fur be held back from the leather with a piece of thin card (a visiting card will do nicely), for this enables the worker to sew the skin without perpetually tangling her thread in the fur, as would be sure to happen other-

After the first six months of mourning a widow may put on the turn-over cuffs and collars of white linen lawn which nowadays can be worn by anyone in mourning. Most of mourning gowns are now lined with soft materials, either in silk or lightweight wool, so as to avoid the rustle. The plainest of black shoes and gloves should always be worn with the mourning costume. No suspicion of a white petticoat should be seen with a mourning dress. Never be guilty of wearing a mourning veil with a shirt waist of washable material.

The white ruche in the bonnet belongs distinctively to the widow's weeds, and should never be worn by a woman who is ments. The extreme widths are in any

posure in a cold barn through which cold draughts flow may not seriously damage an adult, though even in that case the animal will suffer, but the young stock feel the cold seriously. Plenty of cut straw or make the error of wearing long crape veils matter is to look after the cracks and crev- the wearing of mourning, be guarded and ices in the walls of the barn. It is a mis- let its retirement be slowly and gracefully

A pretty and acceptable trifle to give a college boy is a stud and ring box. This is made from strong etching or parchment paper, and is round in shape, the lid lifting up. It is hand-painted in the colors of the young student's college-red and blue, blue and white or orange and black-and on the top are drawn a pair of link cuff buttons, a scarfpin and one or two rings.

Another suitable gift for the masculine student is a frame for a small photograph.

The gilt framework may be bought square or oval in pattern and having a rest behind to support it—and may then be decorated by the giver. A square of glass protects a hand-painted square of rough etching paper. This is in dark blue, for instance, with a large Y for Yale in the upper right hand corner. Across the left corner is a daintily painted maiden, peeping out over the oval opening for the photograph.

When a number of gifts is to be made to friends in different homes it becomes easier to provide each with a simple reminder of the day, inasmuch as the presents may be

Half a yard of linen may be so cut as to make nine needlebooks, and with the flannel for the inside and a few needles added, strips into nine equal pieces, thus produc-ing squares of four inches. Use these to cover pasteboard squares, making four for each book; overhand them together into two squares and make the two covers nec-essary for each book. With a colored twist fasten the two covers at the back with catstitching, or tie them with narrow ribbon.

Tack two thicknesses of fine flannel against the inside of one of the squares and insert -The amount of nitrogen which gradual- a few needles. Add narrow ribbon to the books are always pretty and Christmas-like and cost so little that any one can afford to may be a simple embroidered design, the initials or the name of the recipient out-

Other acceptable gifts are the linen sachets to be laid among the underwear, sets of these being sent when the time and package that just fits the covering, the cotton for the powder not being too thick.

The initials of the recipient are sometimes worked into the flap portion. When the gifts are ready to be sent do not disparage and when spring opens the cross plowing of a plot that has been plowed in the fall makes the soil fine and free from lumps. New Advertisements.

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