

Democratic Watchman

Bellefonte, Pa., Feb. 10, 1899.

FARM NOTES.

To make fence posts more durable take boiled linseed oil, stir in pulverized coal to the consistency of paint, and give the post one or two thick coatings. Coal tar, thickened with pulverized coal, will also answer, but it will be better to first use the linseed oil and then the coal tar. Apply both mixtures warm. The object is to protect the posts against water. After each post is set in its place use the coal tar mixture freely at the surface of the ground.

Every garden usually has a small patch of onions. As onion sets are put in the ground very early it will be an advantage to spread manure over the plot intended for the crop. As soon as it can be done early in the spring spade the ground, mixing the manure with the soil as much as possible, and then spread some fine, well-rotted manure over the surface, raking it well. The ground cannot be made too rich and coarse manure should not be used. Keep the grass and weeds out of the rows and the crop will then care for itself if sets instead of seeds are used.

Timber cut for purposes where durability is a consideration is worth from two to four times as much if cut between July 15th and August 15th, as the same would be cut in January to April. If a tree is cut after the starch, which enters into its chemical composition, has changed to sugar, say in March, the worms being very fond of this sweet, become destructive to the wood; but if cut in July, after the completion of the spring growth, there is no sugar in the sap or wood, and they seek some more savory food.

Another reason is because if cut when the sap is rich in sugar the fermentative process changes the sugar into an acid, which is the very first stage of decay, and if decay is thus early initiated, it is a wonder that posts and ties do not last as they would if cut when these conditions could not possibly exist.

In 1860 a fence was set with posts split from an oak cut when the leaves were of full size and vigor. Twenty-two years afterward this fence was reset with posts cut in August. The posts taken up were reset elsewhere, and most of them are doing duty yet. Three of the posts set in 1860 are in good condition, after doing good service for thirty-six years. As a rule, a post cut in March, when full of sugar sap, will last only ten years. It costs just as much to replace a post that will last ten years as to replace one that will last three or four times as long. This is quite a consideration when we consider that our forests are fast disappearing—much faster than they are reproduced.

Timber land cut off in from January to April will sprout and grow up again, because the sap at this season is not rich in sugar, to reproduce the leaves, which are the lungs as well as digestive organs of vegetation, but if cut the last of July or the first half of August dies because deprived of both. This idea is valuable to those who wish to destroy certain kinds of trees or to clean up brush land.—American Agriculturist.

Mrs. C. P. Dandant, the well known authority in beekeeping, has been giving a series of interesting articles in *American Bee Journal* from one of which, in regard to the care of bees for wintering the following is selected:

A number of apiarists say that they pay no attention to the spot occupied by the bees when removed, and that when they take them out in the spring it does not matter much where they are placed, whether on the exact spot they occupied before winter or in the place of the other. Once or twice we had considerable trouble from changing the location of hives, and have positively ascertained that many of the bees remember their former location, after three months of wintering, so we take particular pains to mark each hive's stand. To do this without trouble, we leave the cap or cover with the roof over it in the exact spot occupied by the hive and remove only the brood chamber to the cellar. In this manner the hives occupy a much smaller space, and it is easier to give them good ventilation, which is absolutely necessary to keep the combs from molding, if the cellar is at all damp.

We pile the hives in the cellar, two or three or even four tiers high, usually putting the lower tier on timbers raised a foot or so from the ground. We have always noticed that the colonies nearest the ground were the ones that suffered, if any did.

After the hives are in, darkness, quietness, a proper temperature and a sufficient amount of ventilation are all that are necessary. For these hives, as well as for those that are out in cold days, it is a great point to have everything perfectly quiet. The man who will disturb his bees every other day, just to see whether they are still alive, will be unsuccessful, for it is very easy to kill the bees with too much kindness of the sort.

The time of removal of bees in the spring is of utmost importance to consider. If they are taken out too early, they may not have occasion to fly much, and their power of endurance during a late cold seems to have been taken away from them by their prolonged stay in the cellar. They are very much like horses that are kept in a warm barn. He is more apt to be fretful of the cold and to suffer than one that stays all winter in a cold stable. Yet our sympathies are all in the direction of the softer treatment. With the bees there was on our part, as in the fall, a tendency to be too much afraid of a long confinement. I believe it was Dr. Miller who said the best time to remove the bees from the cellar was in March or April, at the opening of the soft buds of maple bloom. This is a very good criterion.

But, above all things, a warm day must be selected to remove the bees from their confinement. If you take them out on a cold day, their anxious desire to take a flight will induce them to venture out when the temperature is too low for their safety, and many of them will perish. If the day is warm and pleasant, they will take a cleansing flight within a very few minutes after they have been brought out, and are thereafter ready for their habitual duties.

I have often been asked whether it is advisable to take the bees out on a warm day during the winter for a good flight and put them back again. I have never tried this, but from all that I ever heard it do not believe such a course is successful. The bees after their flight begin to rear some brood and remain less quiet than if they had been kept indoors all winter.

A lawsuit over a dog, between two farmers from Catawissa valley, cost the taxpayers \$101.00, and he was a worthless cur at that.

FOR AND ABOUT WOMEN.

The really correct skirt has only one gore and that is in front. All the rest of the skirt from the front part of the hips is cut from one piece, the bias of the goods falling exactly in the middle of the back. The gore in the front is very narrow, say seven inches at the top, widening as it goes toward the bottom. This is for a medium sized woman. Remember this is the only gore in the skirt.

The average width for a good skirt either for walking or the house is four yards. That is the width adopted by the best dressmakers. As there is a lack of crinoline in the hem this four yards has the appearance of being very much less full than it is, for it swings around the feet in the most approved and graceful manner.

The skirt should grow an inch longer at each measurement. Take forty for the length for the middle of the front of the skirt, then forty-one at the front of the hip, forty-two at the point of the hip, and forty-three in the middle of the back. The tendency of this skirt in trying it on must slope downward and the skirt must be fitted a little high on the back. The placket is made in the back by cutting open the middle of the bias. The natural flare of the skirt is confined into two pleats, stitched at this opening. They are made to meet over the placket so that the opening will not show. Face the edges of the placket and fasten them with two hooks.

Another point, if a woman has a large abdomen, or is very full around the hips, the skirt is apt to jerk out in the middle of the front gore if not fitted most perfectly. The remedy for this defect that is satisfactory and final is to lift it up in the back. In watching out for this the skirt should be cut extra long in the back and keep lifting it up to the belt until the hips take on the lines that they should have to be well fitted. "Do not cut the skirt by any late measurement of the back, and do not allow anything for this lifting process; make the extra length either at the top or at the bottom and then have someone fit it on until this jerking in the front of the skirt is entirely removed." Keep pushing your fullness toward the front gore, not toward the back. Fit it to the bias until an almost straight line prevails, then stitch it on to the front gore and you will find that it fits very much better.

So many amateurs, and among them so many dressmakers, keep pushing that fullness of the hips toward the back and taking it up there; this leaves a drawn look on the hips and is very apt to pull the skirt up in the front. Now a very little fullness, in fact, almost none, is needed for the placket. No fullness is particularly desired anywhere around the belt line, so you will make, a very ugly mistake when you put this fullness into pleats near the placket. Whatever fullness there is let it fall freely over the point of the hip. The lines of the bias are needed, for this is the point that requires the perfect length. Nothing is uglier than the skirt that dips in the front and in the back, and shortens up in the ripples at the side.

The skirt after this pattern must touch in the back, and simply shave the floor in front. This skirt may be cut with the lining in it or separate. It is prettier when the lining is separate. The new way of cutting the linings is after the same pattern as the skirt. The hem is made 4 inches above the ground, and the bottom of the hem is split and a box pleating of silk is inserted in it. The lining is only attached to the skirt at the belt and serves as a petticoat. There is no use in encouraging a woman to think that these skirts are easy to make, for they are not. Even the best dressmakers worry over them. However, most women want these skirts because they are the newest. Four yards in the five-gored skirt is a good width, and in that skirt, as well as in the other, the same length in the back is demanded.

Women with long faces frequently make the mistake of wearing the hair low on the forehead in the hope of shortening the countenance. Whether the hair should be worn high or low depends on the setting of the eyes and the quality of the face. The eyes should be in the middle of the face. Draw an imaginary line across the top of the head and another below the chin. The eyes should be just half way between these two lines, and if not then the hair should be so arranged as to give this effect. If they are low near the top line, arrange the hair low on the forehead only increases this effect. The quality of the face is also to be considered in the arrangement of the hair. A strong face, which would be brutalized by wearing the hair low, is often given a most beautiful spiritual expression by arranging it high on the head.

In the frosty weather, particularly if dark clothes are worn, the hands very soon become soiled, and require frequent washing. They should be washed in warm water, not hot water, and if possible, in soft water. After washing they should be dried very thoroughly in bran or oatmeal, and great care taken that the nails are most thoroughly dry; in the drying the cuticle can be pushed back sufficiently to show the half moon at the base of the nail. Nail scissors, not used for any other purpose, should be used to cut off hang-nails; but it is better to use a file to keep the nails short, and for this purpose there should be three or four files of varying size. To give the luster desired, there is a new kind of wash that makes the nails pink, not deep red, and also gives a gloss and finish. After this is put on the hands should be washed, but sufficient of the polish will remain, says *Harper's Bazar*.

After the hands are washed the second time to remove the polish the nails should be rubbed briskly, either with a piece of chamois, a nail-polisher, or by rubbing them again with the palm of the hand. The last method is, perhaps, the best of all for it polishes just enough without giving too exaggerated a finish in appearance.

Rings are so much the fashion that the hands must of necessity be well kept, but it is a mistake to wear too many rings, particularly with a plain gown; it is to be hoped that it will soon go out of fashion to wear them with anything but evening dress.

The long shoulder seam is the fad on gowns of both tailor and dressmaker. It extends two inches beyond the beginning of the shoulder, and is often given the appearance of more breadth still by a little cap-like extension which covers the top of the sleeve. The puff has entirely disappeared, as well as the wrinkled sleeve, save in an occasional instance where a soft muslin or chiffon sleeve is desired for a demi-toilet. The unlined lace sleeve is smooth, and in one case was extremely old-time looking because of the fact that the velvet bodice to which it was attached was high necked and choked with a lace cravat over a silk foundation. The unlined sleeves were of black Chantilly lace, and were finished with lace flounces, deep and full at the elbows.

Coler for February.

The Position of the Planets and the Stormy Periods.

Prof. C. Coles in "Storms and Signs" for February says:

The month of February presents a strange and striking condition of planetary affairs. The planets are in each, every other sign. The first and the fourth week of the month will be composed of "low ebb" days, and the second and the third week of "high flood" days, making a fighting combination of extraordinary character which may result in a great surprise even to the most experienced. The magnetic and electric currents will be greatly confused and unbalanced and will cause strange electrical phenomena that will interfere with the running of all electrical machines, and cause strange electrical storms and a climatic condition known as the "suicide," or "crime wind," which is indicated by a soft, moist, warm air that settles heavily on the earth, and drives people to madness. Just notice the awful crimes that the papers on both continents will record this month.

THE STORM SIGNALS.

The excess of "high flood" days last month drove the awful storms to the other side of the world, according to our theory given in December forecasts. This month the "low ebb" forces are together and have vial forces, as shown on our storm calendar, and what the result will be we cannot tell, because it is a new position in the play of the planets that has never been presented before, to our knowledge. And, a great sea of gaseous matter is passing over the sun, which, if a break occurs in it any time between the 4th and 12th, the 14th and 17th or the 20th and 27th, will cause awful storms and floods, logzards and snow blockades. Those living along rivers and streams should keep a careful watch out for the safety of their property, and their families. If a break does not occur then very unseasonable weather will predominate and much sickness will result from the gorges and condition of rivers and streams. Nature's open sewers—which are filled with deadly germs imprisoned in ice; the warm sun rays will burst their prison doors and allow them to escape, and an epidemic of fevers and bowel troubles will follow.

\$10,000 Bird Dead.

Emma Thursty's Mynah, Gifted Songster, Which Spoke Five Languages, Succumbs to the Grip.

Mynah, a wonderful bird of the Orient, who spoke five languages and imitated all manner of musical instruments is dead. He belonged to Miss Emma Thursty, a well-known singer, who lives at No. 34 Gramercy Park, New York.

Many bird fanciers have spoken of Mynah as the cleverest of his kind. Miss Thursty valued him at \$10,000. He was presented to her twelve years ago by the Emperor William of Germany, grandfather of the present ruler. It was then three years old, and had traveled on steamers nearly around the world.

At the bird show, several months ago, he was the centre of attraction. His frequent inquiries of "What are you doing there?" came with such directness that those within reach of his voice became humble and hastened to explain that they were doing nothing at all.

STORE OF LANGUAGE INCREASED.

He was an accomplished linguist at that time, and his store of languages increased year by year. He spoke Malay, Chinese, French, German and English. One of the choicest bits in his repertoire was a Chinese dirge, which he sang with bewildering effect.

GOOD IMITATION OF A BANJO.

It was an entertainer of children that Mynah will be remembered by a large circle of friends. Miss Thursty gave several entertainments during the holidays. On December 30th last, a score of children from the tenements were invited to an entertainment given by the bird. Mynah was the entire program. He sang songs from several languages and gave an imitation of a banjo. He responded to several encores. The youngsters went away with his cheery good-bye ringing in their ears.

Mynah's performance for the poor children was his last public appearance. He had contracted the grip. He grew weaker, and last Friday week he passed away. A taxidermist is preparing him for a place under a bell glass.

A GOOD REMEDY FOR BOILS.—"I never knew what a boil was until recently I have been afflicted with a number of these disagreeable eruptions. I began taking Hood's Sarsaparilla and in a short time it purified my blood and the boils entirely disappeared and I have not had any trouble with them since." Clarence Hertz, Hazelton, Pa.

Paul Addison, of Ellwood, Ind., recently seen the town because his little boy of eight fell into a sewer and was drowned. The jury gave Addison a verdict of \$599.95, the net cash value of the boy's life from eight to twenty-one, when he would have been his own master, figuring it in this way: From eight to ten years old the boy would have been able to make 45 cents a week. During that period it would have cost five cents a week to keep him. From five to twelve he would have made 75 cents a week, and it would have cost \$1.25 to keep him. From twelve to fourteen he would have made \$4 a week, and the living cost would have been \$2. From fifteen to eighteen he would have made \$5 a week, and the living cost would have been \$4. By the jury's calculation, the most valuable time of the child's life would have been from fifteen to eighteen.

Change of Rates.

HAVE you read the announcement on the fourth page of this issue of the Watchman. It tells you how you can get the best paper in the county, from this time until January 1st, 1900 for \$1.00. See it, and we know you will order the paper at once.

Peanut Sandwiches.

One way is to roll the meats very fine, stir them up with mayonnaise dressing and spread between slices of bread. Another receipt demands a rolling of the meats, spreading them thickly on buttered bread and sprinkling lightly with salt before putting the slices of bread together.

A THOUSAND TONGUES—Could not express the rapture of Annie E. Springer, of 1125 Howard St., Philadelphia, Pa., when she found that Dr. King's New Discovery for Consumption had completely cured her of a hacking cough that for many years had made life a burden. All other remedies and doctors could give her no help, but she says of this Royal Cure—"it soon removed the pain in my chest and I can now sleep soundly, something I can scarcely remember doing before. I feel like sounding its praises throughout the Universe." So will every one who tries Dr. King's New Discovery for any trouble of the throat, Chest or Lungs. Price 50c and \$1.00. Trial bottles free at F. Potts Green's Drug Store; every bottle guaranteed.

Try Grain-O! Try Grain-O!

Ask your Grocer to-day to show you a package of GRAIN-O, the new food drink that takes the place of coffee. The children may drink it without injury as well as the adult. All who try it, like it. GRAIN-O has that rich smell of Mocha or Java, but it is made from pure grains, and the most delicate stomach receives it without distress. $\frac{1}{2}$ the price of coffee—15c and 25c per package. Sold by all grocers. 43-30-17

FOR SALE CHEAP.—Double frame

dwelling house, on east Logan street, near brick school house. Price asked \$750. 43-47-4f JULIA MODERMOTT.

FOR RENT.—A good brick house with

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WANTED.—One pair of tongs not longer

than 30 inches with brass handles. A wire fender with brass trimmings. Both to be in good order. Leave word at this office. 43-50-4f

NOTICE TO THE STOCKHOLDERS

OF THE JENKINS IRON & TOOL CO.—By a resolution of the Board of Directors of the Jenkins Iron & Tool company, a meeting of the stockholders of the said corporation will be held, at its office in Howard, in the county of Centre, on Tuesday the 14th day of March, A. D. 1899, for the purpose of holding an election to decide whether or not there shall be an increase in the capital stock of the Jenkins Iron & Tool company, which proposed increase is twenty thousand dollars. This notice is given by the undersigned in pursuance of the resolution aforesaid. S. W. MURRAY, Pres. J. NORRIS BOGLE, Sec. 44-1-8f

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for "The Story of the Philippines" by Murat Halstead, commissioned by the Government as Official Historian of the War Department. The book was written in army camps at San Francisco, on the Pacific with General Merritt in the hospitals at Honolulu, in Hong Kong, in the American trenches at Manila, in the insurgent camps with Aguinaldo, on the deck of the Olympia with Dewey, and in the roar of battle at the fall of Manila. Bonanza for agents. Brimful of original pictures taken by government photographers on the spot. Large book, new prices. Big profits. Freight paid. Credit given. Drop all trashy unofficial war books. Outfit free. Address, F. Barber, Sec'y, Star Insurance Bldg., Chicago. 43-42-4m.

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