Democratic Watchman.

Bellefonte, Pa., Oct. 27, 1899.

FARM NOTES.

IMPORTANT FACTS REGARDING HORSESHOEING.—Much has been written concerning the horse's foot and the application of a shoe thereto. The impression seems to prevail generally that any person can fit the nail on a shoe, and just as long as it is thus regarded owners of horses must make up their minds to have the noble animal suffer more or less, It should be the farrier's business to make the shoe suitable to the foot, and then fit the shoe to the foot, and not the foot to the shoe. If the horse has a perfect foot, shoe so as to keep it in a natural shape and allow it the privilege of performing the functions assigned it.

Many smiths run away with the idea that they can improve the form and appearance of a natural or healthy foot. It is impossible to have the foot sound and healthy after bringing it to an unnatural form by the free use of the knife and rasp, and some go so far as to use sandpaper, as if they could not do a finished job without it. Such persons ought to have steam power and a polishing wheel, and make free use of them, thereby saving a great deal of elbow grease. It should be remembered that the foot is not a bone, or so made that it can be ironed in any manner that may please man. It is elastic, expanding to the weight of the horse every time he puts his foot to the ground, provided he is shod properly. No horse can have good action if the nails are driven too near the heel, as that prevents full freedom to the foot. You might with equal propriety expect him to the travel with perfect ease if he had his foot incased in a boot of iron. The formation of the hoof forbids it in every particular. The shoe should be made to suit the foot. Many think that if they have the shoe light, so long as it prevents the crust from breaking, that is all that is needed. Experience has proved quite the contrary. Horses should be shod according to the work, the amount they have to do, where they do it, and how they have to do it; also good judgment is needed to use the proper shoe to preserve the foot. How many times are hind shoes put on the fore feet, when a second thought would teach the smith that it should not be tolerated? Quite frequently fore shoes are put on hind feet, which is not so objectionable as the other, as the position of the hind foot and the work it has to do renders it less liable to injury than the fore foot, which explains why there are more horses crippled in the fore feet than in the hind.

Still, great care should be taken to preserve the natural form, of a healthy foot behind. Nature gives the colt a foot with a round toe, and it generally remains so until some pretended horseshoer alters the shape either with his knife or rasp; and as he has an eye for things that are peaked, so the foot must be brought to that style of beauty, or else he will fit his shoe to drive the heels together, and rather than have a circle of the shoe he must cut the foot narrow to suit the width of the heel. If all smiths would make it a study, and then shoe to widen the heels, the toe would take care of itself, as you will never see a horse with a good wide heel and at the same time have a narrow, contracted foot. The foot should, in the first place, be pared perfectly level, removing only that which nature is trying to throw off. How many love to take a knife and cut away at the frog in about the same manner as a man would a cheese for the family! The ragged ends may be removed without any great injury, yet if let alone nature could do its work, and you would have a natural frog.

Many horses are nearly ruined by the cutting away of the heels, which should not be allowed by the owner of the horse. The shoe should never be burned on the foot to make it fit. Have the foot level, make the shoe the same, and the two levels must fit, and then there will be no springing of the shoe to the foot. The nail should not be driven too high in the hoof and in a straight line—not to look as if the floorman was trying to imitate the teeth of a saw. When clinching them to the foot it is utterly nonsensical to file a gutter around the foot as far back as the nails go, and very often you will see it extend still farther. For appearance's sake file as little as possible under the nail for the clinch, and do not hammer the nail as if you were driving it into wood, as the horse will be sure to resent such treatment. In dressing the foot never file above the nails, as you are certain to have the foot hard and crispy, because you take away from it that which retains the moisture in it. It is the same to the foot that the enamel of your tooth is to it, which, if kept in a state of preservation, gives you sound and healthy teeth.—*Farming and Gardening.*

—The products of the farm can be changed in value according to the kind of crop. Every article has a commercial value where it is grown, as it will be worth something, be it much or little, but there is also a feeding value which represents the use to which it may be applied with the view of deriving a profit from it. An article may be worth more for feeding on the farm upon which it is grown than to a purchaser, as the purchase necessitates the cost of transportation. A farmer can, therefore, feed his home grown article with less expense than he can feed articles purchased and brought on the farm.

—The best time to manure the garden is the present. Rake the ground and burn the refuse before plowing. After plowing the ground cover it two or three inches thick with manure that contains no litter, and then work it in with a cultivator. When spring opens the soluble materials will have been dissolved from the manure and absorbed by the soil. The frost will also assist in reducing the materials. Early in the spring plow the land again and harrow it fine, giving additional harrowings as young weeds appear, so as to destroy them.

—Carrots can be sliced with a root cutter and be made serviceable for all kinds of stock. Horses can eat them without preparation of the food, but cattle are liable to be choked by any kinds of roots unless the food is cut or sliced. With the root cutter carrots may be sliced and chopped at one operation into very small piece, so as to render them serviceable for poultry of all kinds. Turnips, beets, potatoes and parsnips may be sliced in the same manner.

—Bitter cream sometimes occurs despite every precaution, and it is difficult to assign a cause. It results from the cows eating certain weeds found in the pasture, or it may be caused by spotted mildew, which forms upon cream in damp cellars. When the milk is kept too long without skimming, or the pails are not thoroughly cleaned, the result may be bitter cream.

——"Might I ask why you have that dollar in a glass case?" asked the threshing machine agent. "It's one I brought back from New York." Mr. Haicede explained with pardonable pride.

FOR AND ABOUT WOMEN.

Miss Caroline Hazard, of Rhode Island, who has just been inaugurated as President of Wellesley College, is not a college graduate.

An old-time lotion for weak and aching eyes is a weak decoction of sage leaves. Pour a quart of boiling water over a handful of freshly picked leaves, cover closely and allow it to steep gently on the back of the range. Strain and bottle.

For the last two weeks leading tailors have not made gowns, particularly tailor gowns with habit backs. This seems a step in the right direction. If a woman is too thin this style of gown accentuates the fact, and if she is too stout the habit back is particularly trying.

The newest skirt has a pleat resembling a Watteau down the back. It runs to a point at the waist, and loses itself in the flare of the train. Some of the tailors tried to intoduce this skirt in the late spring, but the fair ones would not have it. Paris has adopted it, however, and now it is getting in its work here.

All basques of jackets are cut in short, round tabs. The tailor made dress for autumn wear is as simple as possible, consisting of a plain skirt, without even a circular flounce and a plain, buttoned jacket with small revers and a coat collar.

Foulard skirts are not made in one with the lining, as that destroys the character of the material and makes it appear thick and heavy. The lining of taffeta takes the place of a separate skirt, attached to the outside merely at the waist band.

Flannel shirt waists are all the rage and are worn by the best dressed women.

If a woman is looking for these flannels she does not want to get one with the dots too close together. These are not half so stylish as the larger and infrequent dot, such as women have been wearing on their veils of the last half year.

One point should be noticed in making up these flannels. The regular cuff with the link buttons should not be put on every one of them. A cuff with buttons regulates such a waist absolutely to the daytime. Cut the sleeves in a slight flare over the wrist and put either several rows of stitching or a narrow ruffle of velvet ribbon to match the design in color, or more especially in black.

Even the cuff and sleeve are more artistic if made without the shaped cuff stitched to the sleeve. Instead of the cuff shape the sleeve down to the wrist, make it quite long, open a little at the back, catch it with link buttons and roll it over to suit the length.

This sleeve is very much favored by women who dress carefully.

The fashionable colors this autumn are dark ink-blue, sealing wax red, lichen gray, locust green, swan gray, cocoa brown, Hollandese purple and automobile plum; goods are offered in all these shades.

The three-quarter length sack coat is to be worn greatly. To the daughter of the gods who is divinely tall I commend it. She whose proportions are on a scale of less grandeur would do well to stick to the tight, trim French shape, ending a few inches below the waist, which, like the poor, is always with us, and always in good style. Sleeves are cut very tight and very long, ending in a point right over the knuckles.

An old receipt for making Sally Lunn, is to make a batter of one pint of milk and enough flour to make it a little thicker than for muffins. Add one spoonful of melted lard and one of butter, one teaspoonful of salt and the yokes of two eggs. Dissolve a cake of yeast in half a cupful of lukewarm water and add to the butter. Stand it away to rise for two hours, then put it in the pans and let it rise again for half an hour. Bake about twenty minutes.

It is a wonder that women who have taken to gardening of late years do not raise their own herbs, and so have some really worth while, and if they are not commercially inclined, that they do not raise them for market. Herbs are easily raised, so that semi-invalids, who wish to do some light work in the open air, could easily manage an herb garden. There is nothing pleasanter to the eye, nor more grateful to the senses than beds of lavender, rosemary, sage. Summer savory, saffron, fennel, dill and carraway, to mention only the most common.

They need a rich soil, so that they may grow quickly and luxuriantly, for the value and flavor of the herb largely depends on the character of its growth; all the care they need when well started is to keep the soil well stirred, and the weeds down, and one must be sure to cut them at the right point, when they are in their prime. Then comes the drying in an airy, not too light, shed or room, and afterwards, when perfectly dry, they should in the case of herbs used to season meats with, as sage. Summer savory, and others of like nature, be rubbed fine and put away in glass cans; others, meant for perfuming linen, tied up in neat bundles, or put in porous bags and laid whence their sweetness may be useful.

It is not so many years ago that two sisters, who needed to add to their income, and by good luck had land suited to the various mints, as well as pot and sweet herbs, set themselves to work to make something of an herb garden. They consulted a druggist, who told them what it would be worth while to raise, and the prices they would fetch, and the woman attempted the venture.

In the bit of swamp that was theirs, they planted spearmint, peppermint, bergamont and flag; in their garden they planted all they could get the seeds of whose names came in the list given them by the druggist; they studied the best times to cut their crops; the right way to dry them and to do them up, and they found themselves at the end of the season with a neat sum on hand and a desire to continue the business.

One cannot make a living, or even an addition to one's living, without exercising skill, foresight, and, best of all common sense; cannot succeed in the enterprise unless willing to put a certain amount of work and time into it, but there is no reason why many cannot make it lucrative, and, as said in the beginning, an herb garden furnishes a pleasant diversion to those who only love gardening and have no mercenary views.

Grass linen sailor collars will be worn on may of the cloth gowns this fall. These collars are much more elaborate than they were last year. One seen on an advance style imported blue serge gown was trimmed with a narrow band of white embroidery beading. Through the beading scarlet baby ribbon was run, and the effect was exceedingly pretty.

Married By Proxy.

Peculiar Ceremony Performed in Australia and Africa.

An extraordinary ceremony recently took place in Amsterdam, with a counterpart in Africa. It appears that a young man left Holland some years ago to serve in the telegraph department of the Transvaal. It had been his ambition to make a certain young lady in Amsterdam his wife if he ever attained to prosperity. But when success was achieved he was unable to leave his work for a journey to Holland. In this difficulty a marriage by proxy—known in Holland as a glove marriage—was suggested.

The details were all carefully arranged, the difference of time exactly calculated, and continuous cable connections between Pretoria and Amsterdam secured. The bridegroom and his friends assembled in the Hotel Kruger. An operator using a wire from the cable notified the lady's family in Holland that all was in readiness, and the reply came that the ceremony would then begin.

In the Amsterdam mansion a friend of the bridegroom made the responses, and when the time came to clasp hands, produced a glove belonging to the bridegroom, which he had worn. The proxy, holding one end of the glove and the bride the other, the promises were exchanged and the ceremony complete.

A cablegram from the bride to her husband, six thousand miles away, gave him her wifely greeting, to which he responded. There was a wedding feast in Pretoria and another in Amsterdam, and the cable was kept busy with congratulations. Then the bride said farewell to her family and went on board the steamer to begin her voyage to her new home.

The custom of the old glove marriage dates back to old Dutch coloniel days, when they were more common than in these times of rapid and cheap journeys. But there is a contract far older that resembles it in many of its particulars. Many a tearful farewell to mourning loved ones assembled around a deathbed, is like that bride's good-hye to her family, merely the parting of one who goes to Him who has long been loved, and who is about to enter the mansion prepared before the foundation of the world.—*Pittsburg "Dispatch.*

Prairie Wonder.

Corn that Will Yield 150 Bushels to the Acre.

J. C. Manbeck, a farmer living four miles northwest of this city, who is continually experimenting with a view to making his farm as productive as possible, has secured a wonderful corn that yields 150 bushels to the acre. Owing to the great difficulty in getting the seed, Mr. Manbeck was only able to plant half an acre this year, but from this little field he will secure seventy-five bushels.

The corn is called the German corn, is as white as white can be, produces from three to seven ears on the stalk, and from 10 to 20 stalks to the hill, and requires but one grain as seed in each hill. The corn branches out from the root like Winter wheat, and grows from 10 to 12 feet high. In a sample stalk brought to the "Register" office the last ear is 9 feet from the ground.

The ears of this corn are of a regular size, about 9 inches long and quite thick, the grains being very large and even. Mr. Manbeck says that it is the most wonderful corn he ever saw, and that he doubts not but that, with even fairly good care, anyone can raise 150 bushels to the acre. It makes the finest of stock feed when cut for fodder, and produces many times as much to the acre as the common field corn.

Mr. Manbeck's experiments are further indications that the great resources of Iowa farm land are not half-developed.—Des Moines "*Register.*"

Wide Tire Law.

Of Particular Interest to Farmers Who Attend Market.

The following text of the wide-tire law is taken from Green's highway law of 1898, and is correct: "Every person who during the year ending June 1, 1898, and each succeeding year thereafter, uses on the public highways of this state only wagons or vehicles with wheels upon which two or more horses are used, the tire of which shall not be less than three inches in width, shall receive a rebate of one-half of his assessed highway tax for each year, not exceeding, however, in any one year the sum of $4 or four days' labor. The right to such rebates shall not be affected by the use of buggies, carriages, or platform wagons carrying a weight not exceeding 100 pounds. Upon making an affidavit showing that he complied with the provisions of this section, during any such year, he shall be credited by the overseer of highway for the district in which he resides, or any road district where he is assessed, with such rebate. Such affidavit may be taken before any overseer of highway, who is hereby authorized to administer such oath."

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——"I suppose the college where you went turned out some good men?"

"Yes, I got turned out the first term."

The Corpse and the Dog.

The other day a woman shipped her husband's remains and a dog over the Central. At Albany she appeared at the door of the baggage car to see how they were getting along.

"How does he seem to be doing?" she asked with a sniff.

"Who, the corpse" inquired the baggage master, kindly.

"No, the dog."

"Oh, he's comfortable," replied the baggage man.

"Anybody been sitting down on him?"

"Who, the dog?"

"No, the corpse."

"Certainly not," answered the baggage man.

"Does it seem cool enough in here for him?"

"For who, the corpse?"

"No, the dog."

"I think so," grinned the baggage master.

"Does the jolting appear to affect him any?"

"Affect who, the dog?"

"No, the corpse."

"I don't believe it does."

"You'll keep an eye on him, won't you?" she asked, wiping a tear away.

"On who, the corpse?"

"No, the dog."

And having secured the baggage man's promise, she went back to her coach, apparently contented.

——You ought to take the WATCHMAN

What Do the Children Drink?

Don't give them tea or coffee. Have you tried the new food drink called GRAIN-O? It is delicious and nourishing and takes the place of coffee. The more GRAIN-O you give the children the more health you distribute through their systems. GRAIN-O is made of pure grains, and when properly prepared tastes like the choice grades of coffee but costs about ¼ as much. All grocers sell it. 15c. and 25c. 43-50-17

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