

Democrat Watchman

Bellefonte, Pa., February 1, 1901.

FARM NOTES.

—Every fruit grower should have at least one hive of bees. It is now known that bees are essential to success in fruit growing, and unless someone is sufficiently interested in bees to have a number of hives, the entire community of fruit growers will find their expected quota of fruit to be lacking.

—The best way to convert cider into vinegar is to add some of the cider to old vinegar, which hastens the formation of acetic acid. When vinegar is frequently drawn from a barrel more air enters; hence, if the bung hole is left open and covered with wire the cider will become vinegar much sooner than when the barrel is kept completely closed. New cider should not be added to the vinegar, as it may ferment too much.

—Ventilation of stables in winter is a matter which requires judgment. When a stable is ventilated it means that the cold air comes in. How to ventilate is a problem, both for dwelling houses and stables. A window left open or a fan due to admit air may serve the purpose as long as the wind is blowing from a certain direction, but when the wind changes the result will be a direct cold draught on the animals that may cause pneumonia. Cracks and crevices in the walls are more dangerous than open windows.

—To clean and carry a hog with ease use a short ladder (about six feet long will do) and place legs about four inches apart. Place a little tar in the scalding water, and the hog will clean easier. For a good hog scraper take a piece of an old grass scythe about four inches in length, with edge rather dull. In place of a scalding trough a large cask laid in a slanting position will answer the purpose very well. Two good rails placed in a standing position against a building is the simplest method of hanging a hog easily.

—To clean a pork barrel that is tainted and has a bad smell about it wash it out as clean as you can, then whitewash it with fresh slacked lime. Let the barrel dry, and it is ready for use. The lime will not hurt the meat at all.

—Insects and diseases cause loss to farmers and fruit growers at all seasons, but since the discovery of remedies that assist in the destruction of such enemies the loss depends largely upon the management on the part of the farmer. The sprayer is now as much a portion of the farm outfit as the cultivator, and the application of remedies must begin as early in the season as possible. In the case of fruit trees much of the damage to fruit is at the period of blossoming, and preparation should be made to begin the work of extermination of insect enemies as soon as the season permits. Frequently a warm rain, followed by mild weather, may cause the blossoms to swell a week or two earlier than usual, and it is at such times that the grower is unprepared. The most popular mixture for diseases is that known as "Bordeaux mixture," while Paris green still holds a front place as an insecticide. The Bordeaux mixture is prepared by dissolving six pounds of sulphate of copper in 10 gallons of water. In another vessel six pounds of stone lime is slaked and mixed with eight gallons of water, the lime and water mixture then being slowly added to the sulphate of copper solution. This is used for the destruction of bacteria, and may be made with the addition of more water if necessary in order to destroy both insects and bacteria, where both enemies are to be combated, add a pound of Paris green to 100 gallons of the mixture. The rule is for biting insects to use the Paris green. For diseases which are due to spores the matter is to use the Bordeaux mixture at the correct times, as a difference of two or three days may decide the matter of profit or loss.

The worm which comes from the eggs of the white butterfly attacks the cabbage, while a leaf disease destroyed the cabbage, turnip, rape and cauliflower crops in some sections last year. Beans were attacked on the pods by some kind of bacteria, celery suffered from damping off, and tomatoes also showed the effects of another form of rot. Cucumbers and melons seemed to suddenly wilt and die, although apparently healthy, and even the hardy onion has been found not free from destruction. Whenever disease shows without evidence of insects the proper remedy is Bordeaux mixture, which is not a cure-all, but is the most effective remedy known for the majority of the diseases arising from and propagated by spores. Of the insect pests the potato beetle is the most persistent, but is easily kept in check with the aid of Paris green. Some insects, such as the squash bug, must be fought daily by hand, and the grubs that work at the roots of plants are too well entrenched to be easily destroyed. Tobacco refuse around the plants is considered an excellent preventive in some cases, but only with persistent work can insect enemies be lessened in number. The borers that damage peach, apple and pear trees must be sought and removed. Some insects work at night, depositing eggs while the farmer or grower is asleep, much of the damage to corn and early plants being done by the cut worm during cool nights. There is no remedy for the cut worm except to trap them, or catch them in some manner, although plowing the land deep and early in the spring, so as to expose them to the rains and frosts, will destroy some of them.

The best remedy for diseases is to change the locations of crops that are planted every year if possible. Old locations become more unsuitable each season, and some diseases will soon be eradicated if a change of crop is made frequently. This is also efficacious in some cases when the soil is infested with grubs. Not having their natural food, they are not under favorable conditions. The rot of the sweet potato remains in the soil for several years after the crop is removed, but unless carried to a new field it will in time pass away. One of the causes of disease is lack of care in selecting seed. It is a very important matter, as a single infested potato may cause a loss of an entire crop. But few who purchase certain seeds know where they are grown, hence every farmer who purchases seed should insist upon knowing all about them, and exact a guarantee against impurity and disease. No reliable seedsmen who grow his seeds will object to satisfying the customers, as their reputations are at stake. It must not be overlooked that the plow, harrow or cultivator that was used over a field in which a diseased crop was grown last year should be thoroughly disinfected before using this spring. Dipping them in Bordeaux mixture, then thoroughly scrubbing, and then dipping again, will greatly serve in preventing the spread of disease by the implements.

FOR AND ABOUT WOMEN.

Some Wash-day Hints.—Add a few drops of ammonia to the blue water to whiten the clothes.

Clothes turned right side out, carefully folded and sprinkled, are half ironed.

Sprinkle salt on a wine stain and pour hot water through it until it is gone.

Wet fruit stains with alcohol or pour boiling water through them.

Kerosene in the boiling water whitens clothes safely, especially such as are yellow from lying. Put in a tablespoonful to each gallon of suds.

For very yellow or grimy things, make an emulsion of kerosene, clear lime water and turpentine in equal parts. Shake them together until creamy, then add a cupful to a boilerful of clothes and boil for half an hour.

The same emulsion is good for very dirty things, such as jumpers, overalls, working shirts, children's trousers. Use it in conjunction with strong soap suds, as hot as the hands can bear, and rub a little directly upon dirty grease spots. Let the clothes stand five minutes before washing out and be sure to have the second suds and the rinsing water as hot as the first.

If coffee is spilled on linen the stains can be removed by soaking the part in clear cold water, to which a little borax has been added, for twelve hours.

If the stain is from tea or fruit, do not put the article in cold water, or the stain will become set. Simply pour boiling water over it until it disappears, which it will do if quite fresh.

Cheese Straws.—Lift a cup of flour with a teaspoonful, each, of salt and baking powder, and stir in four tablespoonfuls of grated cheese, the beaten yolk of an egg, and enough cream to make a dough that can be rolled out thin. Cut in narrow strips or straws, and bake to a light brown.

It is a mistake, unless a woman has an unusually long waist, to wear a belt that is in a strong contrast to the color of the waist or skirt. It should really be of the same color as the waist, and must either be very narrow or very broad, for there is no happy medium in belts at present.

When the waist is to be worn under a bolero jacket or Eton, the white belt is really the best, as it can be pulled down on to the skirt in the back, and in that way makes the waist line longer.

The tendency in sleeves, as noted in the spring gowns, according to accounts from Paris, is toward an increase in fullness at the bottom. Many of the models for this season have a sleeve close at the shoulder, but increasing in fullness into a little cuff at the wrist. The cuff is sometimes of a second material, but there is no under-sleeve. If the elbow sleeve is preferred, the prettiest and newest idea is to make it close at the top, slightly bell shaped and finished with a puff of some thin stuff at the elbow. There are all kinds of elaborate and wonderful undersleeves worn at present, and, in addition, cuffs added to the upper sleeve, but it is by no means certain that this style will continue.

The particularly new feature of the coming blouse is the sleeve principally. The advance models show a sleeve which increases in size from the shoulder to the cuffs, where it is gathered in. The tendency is to have the shoulders cut longer than before.

It is becoming more and more common to line the staircase wall with pictures. On consideration, the idea is a good one from other points of view than the artistic. The climb, particularly of a long, unbroken staircase, is to many persons an affair of minutes, and it is not at all unpleasant to be cheered in length by some attractive pictures. In some houses there are series of photographs along the stair, those of celebrities being more often selected than the pictures of friends of the family.

Plain materials are the most favored for spring, especially the smooth, satin faced cloths.

The various shades of red will be in striking evidence; among the new colors is strawberry, in a variety of tints.

Skirts will appear with pleats about the hips and back, stitched down to just below the hips, while others will have the fullness tucked or shirred.

Black cloth coat and skirt gowns, lined with a color which is repeated in the blouse and petticoat, are promised as one of the spring modes.

Summer shirtwaists, it is said, will be more dainty and delicate than ever. The shirtwaist with stiff collar and cuffs has retired in favor of the finest linen lawns, batistes and silk shirts made with dainty lingerie tucks and insertions.

The most becoming waist finish that has been noticed for some time is the black velvet girdle, usually attached to the skirt that runs around the waist in front and crosses slightly above the waist line behind, the two points running up on the bodice. When these girdles are worn the skirt runs up above the waist line at the back in a semi-watteau effect.

Bishop sleeves, very slender ones, figure in any material from gauze to fur.

Even the shortest train adds much to the grace of a house dress.

The handsomest rainy-day skirts have the stitched border in a separate, slightly gored piece—flounce fashion.

Shall we ever find anything to take the place of the delightful Eton?

Thin women should not strive to attain curves by fullness which is tucked in at the yoke and again below the bust, as it gives a look of meagerness well upholstered.

Ribbon run heading figures up anything from a bit of underwear to an evening dress.

Cavalier cuffs give a dash to many an otherwise commonplace jacket.

Even pleated flounces, when graduated, are usually out in the circular shape.

Storm collars which run into revers are out so they may either rest gracefully on the neck or hook tightly at the throat.

There's an undeniable trimness about the cuffs and shaped belts which are stitiched all over.

The loop of cord has fairly superseded the buttonhole.

Only slender women affect the blouse which blouses in the back.

Storm collars are more attractive when the pieces of which they are made broaden out into a shallow yoke.

Sailor collars bid fair to be with us forever.

Big Gain in Timber Tract.

A tract of timber land, located at the head of Cedar run, Lycoming county, which ten years ago was purchased by the late Silas Billings for \$276 was sold Thursday by heirs of J. R. Weed & Co. for \$40,000. The tract is said to contain the finest lot of hemlock timber yet standing in Pennsylvania.

A FIREMAN'S CLOSE CALL.—"I stuck to my engine, although every joint ached and every joint was racked with pain," writes C. W. Bellamy, a locomotive fireman, of Burlington, Iowa. "I was weak and pale, without any appetite and all run down. As I was about to give up, I got a bottle of electric bitters and, after taking it, I felt as well as I ever did in my life." Weak, sickly, run down people always gain new life, strength and vigor from their use. Try them. Satisfaction guaranteed by F. B. Green. Price 50 cents.

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Philadelphia Surgeons United the Separated Ends For a Wounded Girl. To Remove Paralysis?

Aside from the tragic circumstances surrounding the shooting of Miss Carrie Nichols, by Romeo Helms, a rejected soldier or for the young woman's hand the case is regarded by Philadelphia surgeons as one of unusual importance, as the woman's spinal cord was completely severed and there are strong hopes that her life can be saved.

While Miss Nichols was leaving Thompson's Spa, on Monday evening last, she and Helms were employed, Helms drew a revolver and fired two shots at the young woman, after which he shot himself through the heart.

When she was taken to the Pennsylvania hospital one bullet was located near the spine and directly against the sacrum. The appearance indicated that it had struck a curved steel and inflicted only a slight wound.

The second bullet necessitated careful probing, for it was found that the ball had entered the back, plowed through the vertebrae directly in the centre and about three inches from the lower end of the spine. The minute examination revealed the fact that the spinal cord had been severed.

Continued probing failed to dislodge the bullet because it had firmly become imbedded in the rear of the spinal column. Paralysis of the entire muscular system set in below the severed cord, and a novel operation was decided upon.

Dr. Francis T. Stewart, chief resident physician of the hospital, assisted by Dr. L. Marshall Van Meter and Dr. Thomas J. Orshon, succeeded in removing the imbedded bullet, and gathering the severed ends of the spinal cord, which were fully three inches from an inch apart, sewed them together in such a manner that should the ends knit, as has hitherto been regarded as impossible, there would be a possibility of the paralysis eventually passing away and of the young woman's recovering the use of the lower members.

Miss Nichols' wound was of such a character that at first her chances of recovery were doubtful, but since the severed ends of her spinal cord has rallied considerably, and it is now thought she will survive.

The outcome of the operation is awaited with interest, as the case is of a character hitherto unknown, at least to the staff of the Pennsylvania hospital.

Priest's Robe Catches Fire.

Father Anclaux, of Lynchburg, Va., on Wednesday nearly met his death while he was endeavoring to prepare for the future life of "Archie" Hunt, a negro boy, who will be hanged at Richmond for murder next Friday.

Father Anclaux was baptizing the negro according to the ritual of the Catholic church. He was attired in a flowing robe of white, and around him were lighted tapers.

As he raised his arms to invoke a blessing, a portion of his robe touched the flame, and in an instant he was enveloped in fire. Retaining his self possession he tore the robe from him, and with his naked hands smothered the flames. Then draping the banded garments around him he continued his prayer. Hunt will hang for the murder of one who was his close friend.

From Experience.

First Clubman—Widows are akin to the field. Some are grass and some are weeds.

Second Clubman—Yes, and I knew one once who was a daisy.

Business Notice.

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