FARM NOTES.

-We have ever looked upon the economic value of our native song birds as rest-ing on their services in the destruction of troublesome insects, but in "The Year Book of Agriculture" for the year of 1891 Professor Sylvester D. Judd, assistant in biological survey for the Agricultural Department, points out the services of some species in destroying innumerable seeds of

some of our most common weeds.

Some of the weeds from which these birds like to pick the seeds, and which, indeed, form a large part of their subsistence in winter and fall, are ragweed, smartweed, bindweed, pigweed, lambs' quarters, amaranth, dandelion, purslaue, knotweed and chichweed. Then there are the coarser are the sedges or the grass and grass and grass are the sedges or the grass and grass are the sedges. grasses, as the sedges, crab grass, nut grass, pigeon grass and others that often crowd out better grasses in fields and the lawns.

While it may be said that good farming would mean the destruction of these weeds most of which are annual, in our cultivated fields, so that they should not ripen their seed, yet few can do even this, while the roadsides, edges of woodlands, hedge-rows and pastures will produce many to perpetuate the pests. And what a power of perpetuation they have! Some of the above species are said to produce a hundred thousand seeds to a single plant, while most of them exceed five thousand or ten

thousand. The birds most actively engaged in this work are the sparrows and finches, which include more than twenty species; horned larks, meadow larks, cowbirds, quail, grouse grosbeaks and others. Their capacity for this work is illustrated by a few

examples.

A crow blackbird will eat from thirty to fifty seeds of smartweed or bindweed at a single meal, and a field sparrow one hundred seeds of crab grass, and they take several meals a day. In the stomach of a Nuttall's sparrow were found three hundred seeds of amaranth and in another three hundred seeds of lambs' quarters; a tree sparrow had eaten seven hundred seeds of

feeding upon the seeds of the Scotch thistle, the bull thistle, wild sunflowers, cone flow-ers, wild lettuce, prickly lettuce, catnip and mullein, and when killed their stomachs were found filled with these seeds. Remember that for at least three fourths of Remember that for at least three fourths of the year weed seeds are the principal food of most of these varieties. Very few of them eat much grain, even where it is grown largely. Of nineteen native birds, including four varieties of sparrows, killed in a wheat field a few miles south of Washington, only two had eaten grain, and they but a single kernel each, while five English energy were lifecally carried with wheat sparrows were literally gorged with wheat. In fact, this imported pest is the only one of our small birds that is known to do much damage to grain or fruit, excepting some of the larger species, which have a liking for shoring and green pess.

liking for cherries and green peas.

Many of these birds that breed in New England and the Central States go farther ter, busily at work around hedges and ditches in seeking their favorite food, which by the way, seems to vary with the differand with narrow bands of silver up the Salve." It's the world's best for Erupent species .- American Cultivator.

the skin, compelling the sheep to rub, scratch or bite itself whenever possible. It will scratch and kick itself with its hind ticularly at night, preventing the animal embroidery. Black taffeta coats are most from resting and making it nervous and iri vogue just now, during these first cool

The treatment of scab is a very simple matter, if taken in the start, before there is much irritation of the skin. The parasite producing scab in sheep live on the sursite producing scale in sheep live on the same scale in sheep live scale in sheep li dips applied to them will come in contact with the parasites and kill them, but may not kill the eggs, which will hatch out in from ten days to two weeks, when the application must be repeated. If the disease has been allowed to become chronic, then there will be scabs formed so that enough parasites will get under and not come in contact with the medicine, and they will

still live to perpetuate their kind. In order to treat scab successfully the wool should be all clipped off, so as to expose the skin as much as possible to the air. Like mange in the horse, the diseased animal should be separated from the well and should be well fed, to build up the physical strength as quickly as possible, as it is a well known fact that parasitic life lives at the expense of physical life. Build up the physical strength, and the body offers greater resistance to parasitic life.

After the animals have been dipped they should not be turned into pastures where they were while suffering from the disease. The parasite is not long lived consequently animals kept out of an infected pasture for a couple of months can then be safely turned in again.-Dr. William McLean, State veterinarian of Oregon, before the Northwest Wool Growers' Association.

-A mere handful of soft coal thrown two or three times a year to your hogs cannot be considered a guard against disease, any more than one or two unordinary meals would induce health to the human system on a restricted kind of food for the same length of time. There is no substance in its natural state that a hog likes which would be harmful if free access is given at all times or at frequent intervals. In the mineral impregnation of coal the hog gets a certain element that is known better to his own instinct and composition for the beneficial results through mastication. I may be fooled and meet a surprise some day in the shape of hog cholera in my herd by placing such faith in coal, but for the present I will make it the "battle guard" against swine disease in all its forms until convinced of its inefficacy.-J. E. Haynes, in Swine Breeder' Journal.

-During the winter aphis on house plants cause much annoyance, but with care and attention they may be destroyed. Make a solution of an ounce of soap in a pint and a half of water, adding a teaspoonful of ammonia water. Bottle and keep ready for use. Mix a gill of the mixture with two gills of warm water and syringe the plants, again syringing with fresh warm water an hour after, in order to rinse the plants. Do this twice a week until the aphis are destroyed.

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FOR AND ABOUT WOMEN.

Too many housewives neglect to provide themselves with sleeves which can be quickly slipped over the dress sleeve when an emergency call them to the kitchen. White cambric is the best for these, and the full kind, gathered at the top and bottom over a rubber cord, is generally most satisfactory.

For little girls between the ages of 4 and 13 the hair is parted on the side, brushed forward over the brows, and secured with a knot of soft, rather broad ribbon. Some artistic mothers fasten their daughters' hair in this fashion with huge rosettes of baby ribbon in pale blue, pink or amber color, making the best of effects. When the child's features are regular, a charming way to dress the hair is to part it in the middle of the forehead and brush it into two large tufts of curls at each side of the head. Each bunch of these curls is tied up with a bright colored ribbon, and the effect is both quaint and original.

If you are in the habit of distorting your face in any way-wrinkling up your forehead and knitting your brows when talk-ing and other habits of a like kind—try and cure yourself of such things as soon as possible. Such habits are a frequent cause of wrinkles, and it is quite unnecessary to try to talk with your forehead as well as with your mouth.

The first thing to do with a sprain is to apply water as hot as can be borne and re-peat until the pain is gone. The hot water may be showered on the sprain, or wet clothes may be used if frequently rene wed. The foot or ankle can be conveniently immersed in the hot water. The next thing is to keep the injured part thoroughly warm. This is done by winding it with wadding or flannel. The less a sprained limb is used and the quieter it is kept the more likely it is to get well quickly.

A woman's coat or wrap in fall and winter is almost of more consequence than her gown, for she is most often seen in the out-side garment in public places. In view of this fact one is underiably tempted to stretch her pocketbook to its utmost limit pigeon grass, and a snowflake in Shrews-bury, Mass., picked up one thousand seeds of pigweed for its breakfast.

Goldfinches have been noticed busily

stretch her possessor of the de-sired article of apparel; all the more so when the display is as captivating as at present. There is a variety in the styles when the display is as captivating as at present. There is a variety in the styles well nigh unbounded, and something is easily found that is excellently suited to any figure. Long, loose coats, ulsters with half fitted backs, short jackets to match the suit and handsome coats of half lengths, all have their places in the fashions of the sea-

In the more dressy winter garments long flaring sleeves are the favorite, many of them fitting loosely from shoulder to elbow, then opening in a bell shape in the lower part. These sleeves are usually long enough to cover part of the hand. These look particularly appropriate on the long velvet coats of Third Empire design. These coats are characterized by looseness of effect with simple but handsome trimmings of Grecian patterns about the bottom and on the flaring sleeves, while the revers are variously decorated. Even some of the rough and ready overcoats of Scotch cheviot, to England on payment of \$100. which reaches quite to the feet, the same south for the winter, while others, whose homes in summer are across the Canadian border, may be found with us here in wintrimmed, as for example, with bands of

front and around the little cape. —True scab is a familiar disease to sheep raisers in every part of the world. The most prominent symptom is an itchiness of feet, thus destroying the wool wherever the steel dots and narrow feather braid are feet can reach. It will also bite itself, and much used in coat trimmings. The velvet will become extremely restless, more par-ticularly at night, preventing the animal embroidery. Black taffeta coats are most days, and one of the most striking that has

> One thing is especially noticeable. The hair is worn low, in a girlish manner plaited loosely, or just turned up and tied with a huge velvet bow of black. Half of the modish women have adopted

this style. And many of them mothers of girls who wear it in the same way. Another pretty style of hair dressing fashion at the present moment is the old-time figure "eight" coiled very low on the neck. The hair is dressed rather loosely, the pompadour is waved, and droops lightly to one side on the forehead.

The women of New York and Philadelphia are making this droop more pronounced than ever. Often it takes the form of a large curl in the centre of the fore-

In dressing the hair low on the neck, one should part the hair about two inches below the ear so that no unsightly breaks may be visible between the pompadour and the coil.

Then the front portion of the hair is parted a little to one side, waved, "ruffed" slightly underneath to give the pompadour effect, and brushed lightly back where it is caught just behind the ear with the combs.

There is no comb worn on top of the head. The hair is twisted ever so little and is fastened with tiny hairpins before coiling. Sometimes there are two tiny curls, either artificial or real, worn at each side of the coil to relieve the plainness at the neck.

The many fashiouable women who are wearing the hair braided draw it high on the head, where it is tied securely, but it is braided very loosely and spread out over the head until it looks like a coil. With this style of hair dressing two large bows are worn; one at the neck and one just be-

low the hat. In New York fashionable women are still wearing the hair very high with evening

dress. The newest touch in aigrettes is an exquisite millinery rose, quite pale in tint and not too aggressively fresh.

These are bought ready to put in, fastened deftly to an imitation shell hairpin.

The price is about eighty five cents. They may be worn with a high or low coiffure.

The brass on bedsteads when new is finished with a coat of laquer, and while this remains intact the brass will keep clean and bright. It should be dusted with a soft cloth every day, and, if it looks soiled rubbed with a cloth slightly moistened with sweet oil, and then polished with a chamois leather, and a soft cloth or a newspaper is excellent for rubbing it.

Four Widows of Revolution

Only four widows of soldiers who fought in the American Revolution now remain on Uncle Sam's pension roll.

These four women may be said not merely to join the eighteenth and twentieth conturies, but actually to furnish connecting links between the War for Independence and the present day—a time break of one hundred and twenty five years. Though they themselves did not witness the birth of this great Republic, their husbands be-held that event and took part in the doings which led to the formation of our Government.

One of these interesting women is Esther Damon, who lives in Plymouth Union, Vt. She is nearly eighty seven years old.

Rebecca Mayo, the oldest of the surviv-ing widows of the Revolution, was born January 4, 1812, and is, therefore, eightynine years of age. She lives in Newbern Virginia.

The youngest of the four widows is Mary Snead, who is only eighty five years old. When last heard from she was hale and hearty, and, according to her own account, "able to walk around to the nearest neigh-

Nancy Jones, of Jonesboro, Tenn., is the last of the four relics of the Revolutionary pensioners. She is eighty seven years old.

The Tailor Bird.

This wonderful bird lives in India. It has a beak shaped very much like a shoemaker's awl. The little bird is entirely yellow in color and is only three inches long. It derives its name from the way in which it makes its nest. It selects a large leaf hanging from the end of a twig, then it pierces a number of holes along the edge of it with this awl-like beak and then gets the long fibers of plants, which makes excellent thread, and carefully sews the edges together like a purse or bag, using its bill for a needle to carry the thread through. The ends of the thread are knotted through. so as to entirely prevent them from slip-ping through the leaf. The stalk end of the leaf is bent and crushed so as to form a hood over the opening of the nest, protecting it from the sun and the rain. But what is very strange, when the leaf is not large enough to make the nest this bright little bird gets another leaf, pierces it with holes and pieces the two leaves together. The interior of the nest is lined with cotton and silky grass, making a very snug and comfortable home for the little birds. The bird and its nest full of eggs are so very light that they can be suspended from the end of a slender twig. Would it not be interesting to watch this little tailor se-lecting the leaves and the thread and then piercing the holes ready to sew the leaves together to make for itself a comfortable little home?

Gems Tied to His Legs.

Penrhyn Nevilla, a young English so-clety man, who landed in New York on Monday, en route to Chicago to marry Lena M. Vail, spent the morning explaining to customs officials why he had strap-ped to his legs beneath his trousers a bag containing \$2,400 worth of jewelry.

Neville said he did not mean to cheat the government, but that the jewels were intended as wedding gifts to his bride. He may be allowed to export the jewels back

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