

Bellefonte, Pa., March 24, 1905.

FARM NOTES.

-Cut the black knot out of the plum and cherry trees.

-Bone meal and wood ashes in the soil are great for sweet peas.

-Some of the garden crops are very hardy, and can stand a slight frost. Onions, peas, beets and lettuce, if sowed early in rows, or as soon as the warmth of the Along the back is a continuous frill, ground permits, will make good growth before some other crops are put in.

-If the grape vines have not been trimmed and the old wood cut out of the blackberry and raspberry fields it should be done before the season opens warmer. Such work is best doue when the ground is frozen. Grapes are produced on the new wood, and the old vines can stand cutting back severely.

-House plants require constant care at this season, especially when there are so many changes of weather, as they must be guarded against sudden alterations in the moisture of the room and the rise or fall in temperature. On cloudy and windy days the location in the room should be selected with the view of protecting against the winds. Tepid water should be used, and the earth in the pots should not be saturated, as too much water is as injurious as too little.

-Never hold back the crops from market when there is an opportunity to sell. The only time to hold on to the grains and hay is when there is a sufficient number of animals to consume such products. It must not be overlooked that grain shrinks with age, because it dries, and it may be possible to get a higher price per bushel and yet receive less money for the whole, owing to loss of weight from shrinkage. Every farmer should carefully study the markets and fully understand when to sell.

-During very warm weather the ac-cumulation of the stable decomposes quickly, and but a short time is required for the saturated bedding and manure to give off odors. The gases in stables in summer are detrimental, sometimes causing injury to the eyes, affect the hoofs and render it difficult for the animals to obtain rest at night. The stalls should not only be cleaned out, morning and night, but the floors should he hedded with sawdust, or dry earth, with a covering of cut straw over the fine materials.

-It will be a risk at all times to plant a young tree or vine between old ones of the same kind. The manure that may be placed at the location of the young plant will be at once seized by the larger ones, as they will immediately send out roots for that purpose, the result being that the young plant is deprived of food and dies. It is also a mistake to set out a tree in the place of an older one of the same kind that has died, as disease may be in the ground, and also because the plant food ecessary for the new tree has been used by the tree which formerly occupied the loca-

-It is doubtful if there are many berds in which the average quantity of milk will reach seven quarts a day during the milk-ing period, yet there are hundreds of herds, considered as good by their owners, that do not average two pounds of butter per week not average two pounds of onter per week per cow. A fairly good cow should average 12 quarts of milk per day (at least 16 quarts at her best,) and should not go un-der 300 pounds of butter per year, though cows of good breeding will largely excell the quantity named. An extra pound of butter per week may be the turning point of profit or loss. -When grass has partially died out, or has become thin and spindling, loosen up the surface with a rake and spread on a layer of good new soil, but not enough to had returned from her vacation visit to smother the grass that is left. Scatter grass seed evenly over all the thin spaces and draw over it the back of the rake, to set the seed; then roll, or, if the space is small, pack down with the back of a spade. If the lack of grass is caused by shade, this method will, however, do no good. The best way for such spots is to sod them. which will usually keep them green at least one season. -What to do with manure in winter depends largely upon the severity of the season. To haul it on frozen ground, and spread it on the surface, will result in a large portion being carried off by rains. In this section it happens that occasionally a warm spell results. If the ground will permit of so doing, the manure may be spread on plonghed ground, and then work-ed into the soil with first a cultivator, and then a harrow, following with a field roller. Should the weather become cold, and the ground freeze, the manure will be made fine by frost, and rains will dissolve the soluble matter, which will be absorbed by the earth. -Manure should not be damped in the fields, hut spread on the ground at the time of loading at the barnyard. If manure is dumped, and a rain comes before it is spread, the spot upon which was placed the manure will receive the largest share of the soluble portions. This may be no-ticed on all fields where the manure has been dumped, as certain portions were en-riched and the growth of the crop, espe-cially of grass, being very uneven. These enriched portions show the effects of the extra allowance of manure for years, and give good evidence in favor of its liberal -The cheapest mode of growing any crop is to use the best implements for that pur-pose. The perparation of the soil for crops is given more consideration at the present day than formerly, for the reason that the implements used have been so highly improved as not only to reduce the cost of labor, but the work is also better performed. The disc plow, which is coming in general use, permits of working in soils that have been too tenacious to admit of perfect pulverization, and weeds are now destroyed almost wholesale with the weeder, in-stead of by the slower method with the harrow or cultivator, though the killing of weeds is done with the least cost when they are young. For that rea-son the farmer should plow early, in order to allow the weeds to make growth before he is ready to plant his crop, thus getting rid of many weeds in advance. Every weed seed that germinates performs its mission, and if a weed is destroyed when just above ground the farmer accomplishes as much as he would by allowing it to grow to maturity before destroying it. There is much to plan before spring work begius, and when the warm season opens every horse should be in good condition, and every implement bright and sharp, in order to get the first work done as speedily as possible. It is the crop which gets an early start that stands the drought and produces the most at harvest time.

Animal Peculiarities.

Fish and Crabs that Can Imitats their Surroundings

Many insects, birds, animals and even fish and crabs are wonderfully clever imitators. They will take upon themselves the color, shape or position of their surroundings so perfectly that neither friend nor enemy can discover their whereabouts.

There is a fish to be seen in the kelp beds about the island of Santa Catalina which has a clever way of making itself invisible. The body is slender, with which is the dorsal fin, while, opposite, the anal fin is equally ornamented. The fish vary in color. Some are amber, others orange or vivid green, while some have two hues combined, dark and light green or olive and yellow. These peculiarities of form and color render the fish marvelously like the kelp leaves among which it seeks protection.

A number of these fish were placed in the tanks of the zoological gardens, where they might be observed. They showed great uneasiness, some of them even leaping from the tank. Another tank was prepared, where the natural surroundings of the fish were imitated as nearly as possible. A branch of macrocystis, with leaves hanging in the water, was suspended over the tank. The most uneasy of the fish were placed in the new home, and their change of feeling was soon evident. One swam at once to the kelp leaves and poised itself, head downward. Another, with head poised upward, became a remarkable imitation of the hanging leaves in shape and color. The fish made no

further effort to escape. Another inhabitant of the kelp beds is an olive green crab, which clings to the under side of the kelp tangles. This crab also showed great uneasiness when it was placed in a tank. When the kelp was introduced it crawled upon it and was at once almost invisible, so much did it resemble the kelp leaves. Another crab makes itself look exactly like a rough stone. When it is alarmed it draws up its legs and appears a bit

of inanimate stone. Several deep sea spiders which had been found at a depth of 800 feet were kept in a tank for several weeks. When taken from the dredging net they were a dark brown, though presumably the spot where they came from was so dark that they could scarcely have been seen. Yet even this type of apparently sluggish life had sufficient intelligence to realize that in the light of the tank it was a conspicuous object, so it began to add seaweed to its back. The seaweed was plucked, then passed to the mouth and finally attached not to th back, but to the point of the shell above the mouth so that it fell over the bac like a gorgeous plume, making the cra very conspicuous. But when it wa startled the plume of seaweed wou point upward and the crab would b come a rock with a tuf f seawed growing upon it, well c ated to d ceive the most observing enemy .- Ne

York Herald.

Did Not Go to Roost. A matter of fact mind, like Mrs. Sa Speed of A Rattler.

in this wide world there are several things that are swifter than a rattlesnake, writes A. W. Rolker in Pearson's, but they can probably be counted on the fingers of one hand. One of these things is a bullet, whereby hangs the explanation why it is easy to shoot the head off a rattle, although a marksman finds it difficult to place a bullet along the fat seven foot line between the neck of the reptile and the tip of its tail.

It has long been regarded as a curious coincidence that even the man not famed for accuracy has had no trouble in blowing the head off a diamond back. In the diamond back country only one explanation is offered for this-it is the snake and not the man that does the aiming.

At close quarters the instant the muzzle of a six shooter is thrust to ward a rattlesnake the infallible eye catches the range, and in the fraction of a twinkle the deadly head has aligned itself. As the gun roars and darts its tongue of flame the head of the creature is torn clean as if severed with a knife, and the viper lies writhing, emitting a defiant rattle even as its grim, relentless heart ceases its beat.

CONSTANT BIRDS.

Baldheaded Eagles and Golden Woodpeckers Mate but Once. The married life of most birds could be taken for a model even by members of the human family. There is, for instance, the staid, dignified and homely baldheaded eagle, the glorious emblem of the American republic. He mates but once and lives with his one mate until he or she dies. If left a widower-even a young widower-the baldheaded eagle never mates again. He remains alone and disconsolate in the nest on the rock crag or in the branches of a tall pine that formed his domicile while his mate was alive. No other female eagle can tempt him to forsake his disconsolate life. With him, once a widower, always a widower.

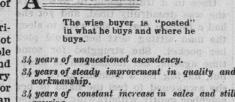
The golden woodpeckers live in a happy married state, mating but once. If the male dies his mate's grief is lasting, and she lives a widowed bird the rest of her life. So, too, the male woodpecker never seeks another mate after the death of his own. He taps on a tree beside their nest day and night trying to recall her; then at length, discouraged and hopeless, he becomes silent and never recovers his gayety.-Chicago Tribune.

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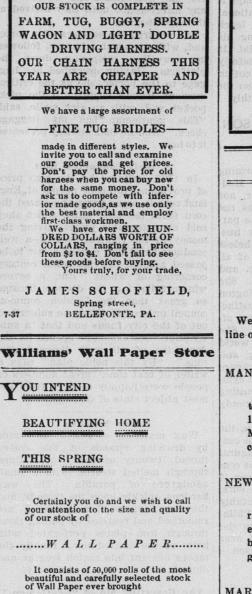


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"I suppose you went to bed with the chickens while you were away," said one of the neighbors after Mrs. Salter a farm.

"No, indeed," said Mrs. Salter indignantly. "They were very neat, quiet people, though they've never had city advantages. We had rooms in the front of the house, on the second story. and the chickens slept somewhere at the back of the house. We never saw them after sunset, and we were there nearly three weeks. I am sure farming people are often more particular than we have been led to suppose."-Youth's Companion.

Not Old Age. "Weel, John, how are you today?"

asked a Scottish minister on meeting one of his parishioners.

"Gey weel, sir; gey weel," replied John cautiously; "gin it wasna for the rheumatism in the richt leg." "Ah, John, be thankful, for there is no mistake you are getting old like the

rest of us, and old age doesn't come alone." "Auld age, sir," returned John. "I wonder to hear ye. Auld age has

naething tae dae wi't. Here's my ither leg jist as auld, an' it's soond an' soople yet."

Hard Case For Wreckers. Looking over the storm swept Pentland firth, with its dangerous rocks and fierce currents, I remarked to the Orkney pilot, "This must be a great place for wrecks."

"Wracks, man!" he shouted. "There's mony a braw farm in Orkney got out | IF YOU WANT TO BUY o' wracks, but the Breetish government has put a leethoose here and a leethoos there, and yon," pointing to the double lighthouse on the Skerries, "yon's twa. There is no chance of wracks for a puir fisher body noo."--Cornhill Magazine. 48-18-1y

Had a Long Ladder. Little Dot (seeing some workmen on a tall spire)-Oh, mamma, there go some folks up to heaven. Mamma-Heaven is a long way above that steeple, my dear. Little Dot-I guess it is, 'cause they's taking a ladder up with them.

Stoicism Worthy of the Name. Younger Sister-What is stoicism? Elder Sister-Stoicism is the ability to congratulate the fiancee of the man you wanted to marry without showing any disappointment.-Cincinnati Commercial Tribune.

A torn jacket is soon mended, but hard words bruise the heart of a child. -Longfellow. viwole asivon

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