

FARM NOTES.

Rose bushes should be worked with a hoe, simply stirring the top soil, keeping them free of grass and weeds, and not working the ground deep.

The peach tree is renewed quickly by severe cutting back. It has happened that, when a tree was apparently dead, cutting away the old wood and allowing new buds to grow, made almost a new tree in a year or two.

The small onions sold in glass jars are grown by sowing the seed in rows as thick as possible. The object is to prevent the onions from reaching large size. For an ordinary crop of large onions the seed is used sparingly.

The animals of the farm are the out-comes of the farmer. They are ready to take all that he will supply them, of any kind of produce, for which they not only pay him the highest prices, but also interest on the investment.

It is a fact that the farmer is prosperous when he combines with his farming the manufacture of pork and beef. The corn, grass, hay and fodder are his raw materials. The pork and beef and wool are his finished product.

String beans can be obtained during the entire summer by planting once a month for successive supplies. The seeds germinate quickly in warm weather, and the plants grow rapidly. They can also be extensively grown for pickling.

A grapevine arbor is considered an excellent place for the beehive, as it protects against the sun in summer, but should be thick enough to serve as a wind-break in winter. In very cold climates the hives should be placed in the cellar.

The Mammoth Sweet and Stowell's Evergreen corn are both good varieties for the table. Sweet corn and peas have peculiarities, which is that the more wrinkled the seed the more palatable the corn when placed on the table after production.

The two principal troubles with the plum are the black knot and the curculio. Neither of them need be formidable. The black knot may be prevented, or cured, by promptly cutting off all affected branches on its first appearance and burning them.

Work in the garden is very pleasant in the spring, as the weather is then cool and the ground not very dry and hard. Ladies who make a specialty of flowers or early vegetables will find the out-of-door work very beneficial. The children should have a little plot for their own use as a means of enjoyment.

Gardens should be ornamental as well as useful, but especially should the soil of the garden be very rich. There will be no danger from using too much manure in the garden if it is applied at this season of the year. The soil of the garden should be fine, hence it will be an advantage to plow the garden early.

Under favorable circumstances four tons of clover hay should be taken from an acre. Some farmers report as many as five tons, but such yields are not often obtained. The use of potash, lime and manure will accomplish much with clover. Many farmers are satisfied with two tons per acre, but the object should be to make the land produce more every year.

In order to quickly decompose manure some farmers use lime in the heap, which soon reduces the heat, but with the liability of loss of ammonia. If lime is used, and the heap is kept damp with soap-suds or water, there will not be so great a loss of ammonia as when the mass is dry and heats rapidly. It is not a good plan, however, to use lime in the heap at any time.

There are few seedsmen who have the land to spare to grow all the seeds they require. At the same time they cannot purchase seeds in the open market that they know will be pure and without admixture of other varieties. Hence they are glad to furnish seed for planting or sowing to some one who will keep it free from mixing with other kinds, for which pure seed they can and do pay more than the average market price.

Oats and peas for green food may be seeded together. It is better to cut them near maturity than when too green. Daily cuttings are preferred, but to do such work must begin before they reach the best stage. Farmers who have grown them for hogs turn the hogs in after the pods are filled, and give them control, but there is some waste from trampling. The crop can be mowed and cured, stowed under shelter and fed as desired, but the cutting must not be deferred too late, as the green condition is preferred.

In dressing poultry Americans have considerable to learn from the French. Not only do the French poulters carefully feed the fowls so as to get a plump carcass but they whiten and mold and manipulate the fowl, after killing, until it looks almost good enough to be eaten without further preparations. American markets might not yet appreciate so much care and attention bestowed to the appearance of dressed fowls, but it is well known that carcasses prepared with the greatest care by American methods always bring the highest prices.

The question of how to cut seed potatoes, or how to economize in the use of seed, has been discussed for many years, and opinions differ. It is conceded, however, that whole potatoes, or large pieces, are better than those that are small, but growers make the mistake of cutting the seed into small pieces in order to allow the pieces to plant more space; but where they save in seed they lose more than its value in reduced crop. Now that the period for planting potatoes is near it would be profitable for each farmer to test the matter for himself by cutting a quart or peck of seed into several sizes and compare the results.

The Maine station reports that the infection of the potatoes with the fungus which produces rot occurs chiefly, if not entirely, in the field before digging; that the infection is usually the result of diseased vines, and that in the majority of cases the disease is not transmitted directly from the vine, but indirectly through the soil. Potatoes may be infected indirectly in the field from spores introduced in the land the preceding year. The experiments at the station agree with those at the Vermont Station in showing that where the vines have, or have not, been protected with Bordeaux mixture, there is far less liability of loss from rotting in the cellar in the case of the late-dug than of early-dug potatoes.

FOR AND ABOUT WOMEN.

A DAILY THOUGHT.

"A fault which humbles us is of more use than a good action which puffs us up with pride."

Pretty Lingerie Made at Home.—Nowadays hand-made underwear is much coveted by women who value really dainty garments. The present style of trimming lingerie makes it possible for the deft-fingered needlewoman to provide for herself the prettiest underwaists, skirts and gowns at comparatively small cost. Lace insertion is used on every garment. Underwaists are laid in fine snooks at the waist line, an improvement on the old seamed fashion. Trunks are permissible, too, because nowadays women have eschewed thick, unwieldy muslin in favor of light cambric or nainsook, so that tucking does not perceptibly increase the bulkiness of a garment, while it adds greatly to its trimming.

A very pretty design for an underwaist is tucked from neck to the waist, the decolletage being outlined with circular motifs of embroidery through which narrow wash ribbon is drawn.

Another pretty waist which might be copied at home, and the fashioning of which would help fill out the idle summer days, is of bands of insertion joined by heading of the same, through which baby ribbon is drawn.

These are very easily made on a machine, and when lace is bought by the piece the cost is trifling. When made by machine out the pattern from stiff brown paper. Stitch down on this the alternate bands of lace and heading, not cutting off any until each row is sewed. In this way not a scrap of material is lost, as the outline constantly follows the pattern. When the piece is finished the paper can be torn out as one separates postage stamps, for the needle going through forms lines of perforations. When made by hand the bands must, of course, be sewn over and over.

The neck and armholes are finished with lace edging and the garment fastens with the tied ends and loop of the baby ribbon, forming a number of dainty bows in front. Fine nainsook garments may be bought untrimmed and decorated at home with motifs of lace and strips of insertion, the undermaterial being cut out to add to the other effect.

Many sets of French underwear, says the New York Telegram, are seen in sheersilk batiste and mousseline. These, too, may be copied at home at a great saving. All these hand-made garments fetch good prices in the shops, for much labor is expended upon them and the materials are very fine. They are worth the time spent in their making, however, if one has to give, and some summer days spent in designing and sewing dainty sets of lingerie will bring most satisfactory returns.

Little Things Well to Remember.—Invitations to a 5 o'clock tea may be issued on the visiting card.

When addressing a letter to a married woman the husband's Christian name or his initials are used in preference to those of his wife. "Mrs. Lawrence Samuels" or "Mrs. L. J. Samuels" is the proper form. The small butter plates or butter patties once used have been replaced by the great and butter plates about the size of a saucer and are placed at the left of the plate. Small individual butter knives are also placed at each plate on all well appointed tables.

At a church wedding two ushers at least are necessary. They receive their instructions from the bride's mother and give a list of those friends and relatives for whom seats are reserved. They meet the bridal party at the church door and precede them to the altar.

In reply to cards left before or after a funeral the head of the bereaved family may send a black-bordered card, upon which "With thanks for your kind expressions of sympathy in written. Letters of condolence should be answered in kind, but several weeks may elapse before they are answered.

No Use to Whine.—There isn't anything in the world more disagreeable than a whining person. He whines if it is hot, he whines if it is cold. He whines at his, he whines at that, he whines at everything. Whine, whine, whine. It is just a habit he has fallen into. There is nothing the matter with him. It is just a bad habit.

The whiner is generally an idle person or a lazy one. What he needs is to get some real hard work, mental or physical. Some work that will interest him and engage his whole attention, and he will not have time to whine. We know two women. One of them does her own housework and takes care of her horse besides. She is happy and singing all the day long. The ladyboard of her life sounds no whining note. It is a pleasure to be with her, a good wholesome tonic to watch her. The other woman is so situated that she does not have to work. Nothing to do but to amuse herself. She has no zest in life, no interest in anything. She is a bunch of selfishness, and whines at everything. Whining has become such a habit with her that her most casual remark is tinged with a whine. She is miserable herself, and makes everybody else in her presence miserable. She is a weakling, a parasite, a drag, a heavy weight on somebody all the time.

Get the whine out of your voice or it will stop the development and growth of your body. It will narrow and shrink your mind. It will drive away your friends; it will make you unpopular. Quit your whining; brace up; go to work; be something; stand for something; fill your place in the universe. Instead of whining around, exclaiming only pity and contempt, face about and make something of yourself. Reach up to the stature of a strong, enabling manhood, to the beauty and strength of a superb womanhood.

There is nothing the matter with you. Just quit your whining and go to work.—[Medical Talk.

Colored stockings—silk and otherwise—require a good deal more care in the laundering than the usual black. And colored stockings are promised very definitely to be used during the spring and summer seasons. Tan shoes are to be good again this year, and nothing is so shabby looking as faded tan stockings, even though they may fade the first time they are washed.

Tan silk stockings are extremely pretty, although most of us content ourselves with tiele thread; and red slippers demand red silk stockings; but both of these colors will "run" a little unless you're very careful.

Flower pins with fancy heads of gold or silver, and precious stones are a convenient device for fastening flowers to the dress. More dignified in effect than the delicate chains de la rein, or necklace, are the strikingly beautiful collars in which bars of large stones connect strands, network or elaborate designs of small stones closely set.

M'GAHAN AND SCOBELLEFF.

The Newspaper Man's Picture of the Great Russian General.

McGahan was the correspondent who first described to Europe the Bulgarian atrocities. What a brilliant creature he was, with his steel blue eyes, his face as delicately chiseled as though it were of marble, his lithe, light frame and that suggestion of absolute courage, iron resolve, underneath the almost feminine thinness of the features. He was one of the intimates of Scobeieff—indeed, the men were so attached to each other that Scobeieff nearly always insisted that McGahan should share his tent with him, and McGahan was in the tent of Scobeieff the night after the disastrous assault on Plevna. Scobeieff was, said McGahan, a wonderful picture of the horrors and terrors of war. His face was black with powder, his uniform was in rags, and his sword was twisted like a corkscrew. It is evident from this description that Scobeieff took part with his own hand in some of the work of the day. There was a sequel, by the way, to this picture. I am not quite sure whether McGahan published it, but he told it to me. Scobeieff was always a dandy. Even in leading a charge he was dressed with dandical precision. In the middle of the night McGahan was woken up, and he saw Scobeieff dressing himself with great care, putting on a new uniform and even perfuming his hair and clothes. And then came another transformation. Scobeieff, his elaborate toilet finished, sat down on his bed and burst into a shower of tears and a tempest of sobs, thinking over all his poor men who had been so vainly sacrificed in the attempt to gain the fortress.—London M. A. P.

The "Governor" Was Enough.

"Charles, have you ever considered going into any business?" "Naw. The governor wanted me to last year, but I told him, doncher know, it was enough to have one tradesman in the family."—Judge.

The readiest and surest way to get rid of censure is to correct ourselves.—Demosthenes.

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