

FARM NOTES.

Charcoal is much appreciated by the fowls. The best is charred grain.

It is desirable to get them into the cellar with the least possible disturbance.

Chickens are the best main line. Ducks, geese, guineas and turkeys are good side lines.

Beets cooked and chopped make an excellent addition to the winter food of chickens.

There is little danger in having the sow fat if the food used to produce fat is of the proper kind.

The very best condition powder for the poultry consists of clean quarters, good feed and pure water.

As far as can be done, the sows should be bred to farrow their pigs not later than the latter part of September.

As soon as the little pigs begin to eat, they are then practically supported and demand less and less of the mother.

If the bees are so bewildered in the cellar, they should be placed there the latter part of November, unless the weather is unusually fair.

Many of the bees remember their old location, even after four or five months of confinement, and a change helps to bewilder them when first removed.

Leave the caps or covers of the hives on the summer stands with the number of each hive marked on the inside of each cap, so that they may be returned to the same identical spot in the spring.

A lamb is, perhaps, the most difficult of all animals to recuperate after it has once started down hill, and the wisest and most economical plan is to care for them from the start so as to maintain a thrifty, healthy growth.

Anyone who has a few acres of land, whether used as a truck patch or a fruit farm, should keep a few fowls, not only for the direct income they will bring, but also for the large amount of valuable fertilizer they will furnish him, as well as the insects they destroy.

Look over the peas and beans for the weevil. Place the seeds in a close box, having a top—such as a cigar box—and pour half a teaspoonful of bisulphite of carbon over them, closing the box tightly. Allow it to remain closed for an hour, and the seed will be clear of weevil.

The shepherd should breed for size, weight of fleece, evenness of distribution over the body, for length of staple and fineness, for vigor, healthfulness and constitution, and as a result, he will soon have a flock of large thrifty sheep, which yield him each season fleeces of the highest merit.

There are never too many eggs in the markets that are strictly fresh, and the farmer who will take the management of his fowls from the female members of the family, keep large flocks and seek his customers, will find poultry more profitable than larger stock in proportion to capital invested.

Pedigree does not always indicate a good animal, but it enables the breeder to know something of the family from which the animal came, and permits him to better understand how to develop it and what may be expected. In all families there are some animals superior to others, but the pedigree is a guide to breeding.

If a garden is made on sandy soil especially in a section where nearly all the soil is sandy, the use of air-slacked lime will be found very beneficial, as such soils are deficient in lime. Gas lime will not serve as a substitute for stone lime, but shell lime is excellent, however, though the use of stone lime should be preferred. The cost is small compared with the benefits derived.

The fitting value of grains depends largely upon the free oil or fat contained in them, with their sugar, starch, etc. One per cent. of oil is considered equal to more than 2 per cent. of sugar and starch. At these estimates 69 pounds of corn equals 78 pounds of barley, but the barley is richer in albuminoids, and is therefore more valuable than corn for the development of flesh.

Keeping apples by burying them in the ground proves successful when other methods fail, provided every apple is sound and free from blemish when harvested. The reason is that the temperature in the ground or mound in which the apples are kept varies but little, and they are always cool. The same results will be obtained if a cold and even temperature can be secured in a cellar.

It is true of all poor stock that it is never profitable, and it is especially true of sheep. Weed out closely. The most important point in successful winter management of the flock is to begin with strong and healthy animals. Sheep need not be cared for in a different manner from most other farm stock, but there is more wisdom than in keeping them in good condition through the winter.

Fixed wages for a "day's work" is not the proper mode of contracting. There is as much difference in a day's work between individuals as in the value of the products of the farm. Nor can any method be devised for determining the value of a day's work on a farm until the labor has been performed. Whenever work can be done by the piece it should be the rule, though this cannot well be the case on a farm.

Window plants that appear yellow, or do not have a healthy appearance, are over-matured or affected with insects. The pots should be examined in order to discover if the drainage is perfect. It is not necessary to have the earth wet, but simply moist, and to allow the earth to dry some will do no harm. The dust in the rooms will settle on the leaves of the plant which makes it necessary to give each plant a thorough washing once a week.

Kainit is one of the best substances to use with manure. It does not liberate ammonia, but changes it into sulphate or chloride, and thus "fixes" it. Kainit is a potash salt, and also contains common salt. It is one of the best fertilizers for clover, and increases the value of the manure. Applied to the land in the spring it is beneficial, not only as plant food, but in its chemical effect on the soil. It is also cheap compared with some fertilizers.

FOR AND ABOUT WOMEN.

DAILY THOUGHT.

The nearer the intimacy the more cuttingly do we feel the unworthiness of those we love; and because you love one, and would die for that love tomorrow, you have not forgiven, and you never will forgive, that friend's misconduct. And here lies the magnanimous courage of love, that it endures this knowledge without change.—Robert Louis Stevenson.

Among those nice little points of dress that to the well-dressed French woman are even more important than her hat and gown, first to be noticed is the change in glove fashions. White gloves are much less worn. And, strangely enough, they are seen more with the severe, long-sleeved tailor suits than with any other.

When mosquito net gloves accompany the shorter sleeved costume they are often light tan or chamois shade, and frequently they are black. The latter is a most extravagant fashion, for everybody knows how soon a black glove loses its pristine freshness, and then it is useless to the woman who knows what an ill effect it gives to her whole costume.

Shoes continue in the long, square-toed shape. For afternoon wear those with black patent leather vamps and pale gray suede tops are best liked. Though there are many high-heeled, dark brown kid, with lighter brown suede tops. The effect in either case is that of an overgrainer, but without the clumsy thickness of the latter.

When there are brown shoes there are apt to be tan gloves and a leather-brown feather boa—the latest shade for this indispensable accessory of the well-dressed Parisienne's toilette.

Brown veils have grown even more popular. They have small velvet dots sprinkled generously over the fine golden brown mesh, or that of more extravagant creamy white. The latter being indescribably becoming.

In the category of becomingness might be mentioned the present neck "fixings." Those very high linen collars, so dear to a French woman's heart, have been rendered much less trying, and, accordingly, more numerous, by the present way of making. Though they are just as stiff, they are, apparently, much less so because of the hand-embroidery which covers the single thickness of linen forming the outer turnover. Then, the handkerchief linen jabots, edged with baby Irish lace, which are now worn as neckties, make the whole arrangement handworked and very lovely.

In colored gowns it is the same. There is a rays the transparent yoke of filmy lace, baby Irish or point d'alecon preferably. This, indeed, stretching over the throat like the skin itself, is the most becoming thing we have had in many a day.

Cut steel buttons always hold their own, especially this year, when combined with gay enamel or gold. Particularly effective was one with a rim of cut steel around solid white enamel, with steel studs and an open filigree centre.

If you know a woman who dotes on a pretty table, give her a set of doilies for Christmas. She can never get more of this sort of thing than she needs, and if you do the work yourself it is hardly probable that she will have a duplicate set.

These doilies may be round, square or even oval. They may be entirely of the lace or, what is thought more effective by many people, they may have a centre of very fine linen or of Brussels net.

Sometimes the lace-maker finds it impossible to secure a pattern for her centre-piece that exactly matches the doilies. She can overcome this difficulty by joining four of her doilies into a circle and inserting a centre of either the linen or the net.

The question of size is important and, perhaps, a trifling puzzling to the woman who has not been accustomed to doilies on a bare table. The smallest made are for sherbet glasses, and are about four inches in diameter; those for a tumbler about five inches; for a finger bowl about six inches across, and those intended to go under plates run from eight to twelve inches, according to the size of the plate—whether for breakfast or dinner. The ordinary centrepiece is anywhere from sixteen to twenty-four inches in diameter.

Use sage tea to keep your hair from becoming gray. Make a strong brew, strain through muslin and add a suggestion of alcohol. Apply to the roots every night.

Beat to a fine cream one-half pound of butter, add gradually one cupful of pulverized sugar, a wingful of sherry, a wingful of French brandy and enough lemon juice to bleach the mixture. Powder with nutmeg and set in a cold place till needed. This sauce is better if made the day before it is to be used.

Old-Fashioned Molasses Candy.—Cook slowly over the fire one quart of molasses, one cupful of sugar, and butter the size of an egg. Just before removing from the fire, add a teaspoonful of soda, and flavor to taste.

The season is now at hand when furs are a part of the out-of-door toilets of most women, and wise is she among her sisters who gives a few moments of each day to the care of those she possesses.

Never put your furs away damp. When you come in on a stormy day, shake every possible snowflake and raindrop from both muff and boa, and spread them in a safe place to dry. Then before putting them into the closet brush the fur the wrong way with a good stiff clothes brush. You will find the reward for your diligence in the renewed fluffiness and softness of its appearance.

Careful women keep white furs, or very light-colored ones, in pasteboard boxes, between layers of tissue paper. These delicate furs may be cleaned with lump magnesia. If the collars on the darker furs are greasy at the back of the neck, clean them with a piece of cotton batting wet with gasoline.

And, women, don't toss your handsome furs in a heap on the top shelf of a dark closet, and expect to find them in a wearable condition at the end of the first winter! Eternal vigilance is the price a woman must pay if she expects to be well dressed.

If oatmeal is soaked over night in water it requires only about one-half the time to cook.

An excellent polish for furniture may be made with equal parts of turpentine, linseed oil and vinegar.

To remove the stains made by iodine, soak the stains in cold water.

PEWS FOR OLD MAIDS.

Quaint Distinctions In the Old Hatfield Meeting House.

Around three sides, about on a level with the pulpit, in the old meeting house at Hatfield, Mass., extended the galleries, reached by staircases on the northeast and southeast corners, where, in the front seats, sat the singers, trebles on the north and basses on the south and counters and tenors on the east. The next two rows of seats were occupied by children, girls in the north and boys in the south, and frolicsome youngsters they were, if we may judge by the frequency with which the town was obliged to renew the brass tips to the staves of the titling men, three of whom were always on duty to keep the youth from disorder.

Behind the children and still higher in square pews against the wall sat the young men and maidens, the latter on the north and the former on the south. One gallery pew was reserved for colored men and one for colored women, and, queerest of all, a high square pew over the north stairway was assigned to old maids and a similar pew over the south stairs to old bachelors. Just how many years these two classes had to number before they were promoted from the lower seats in the synagogue the records do not state, but that they sat in those exalted seats Samuel Dwight Partridge, to whom we are indebted for the description of the old meeting house, assures us is beyond question. The square pews on the floor were assigned to householders, according to wealth and social position.—Springfield Republican.

TRICKS OF THE CAMERA.

Why You Should Let the Photographer Do the Posing.

"I always hate to have my picture taken, because I have such a horrid long neck," said the woman petulantly as she entered the photographer's gallery.

He smiled sympathetically. "Wait till you see the picture I take," he replied. "You won't know your own neck, so to speak. No, it isn't in reaching, but I always pose a long necked subject lower than the camera, and the neck shortens up. That's only one of the tricks of the trade. The hatched faced man I pose looking straight into the camera in a full light. His face seems to broaden and become more fleshy in this pose. The person with a fat, round face I place so that soft shadows veil either side of the face, which has a tendency to make the features more clear cut and handsome.

"I often have subjects with crooked noses. Now, a crooked nose should be frankly attacked—that is, the camera should be pointed directly at the crook, which reduces it. If I took it from the side the deformity would be exaggerated a hundredfold.

"The homeliest persons need not fear having their pictures taken if they put themselves wholly in the photographer's hands and pose just as they are instructed to."—New York Press.

Lonely Man in a Crowd.

"Once in a great while," remarked the old New Yorker, "I have been caught out on Broadway in the theater district just as the women and girls were coming out from the matinee performances. In spite of the fact that there are always a great many men in this crowd the proportion of femininity is overwhelming, and I've been puzzled to find a satisfactory reason for my sense of confusion and embarrassment. But now I know just how I feel and why I have the emotions that always beset me so keenly there at such a time. I am simply suffering in the way a man always does who goes to an afternoon tea and finds himself the only one of his kind who has appeared on the scene."—New York Press.

Mary, Queen of Scots.

Mary, queen of Scots, must have believed in phonetic spelling, for she wrote to her son in 1570:

Dear Son—I sen this herares to see zow and bring me word how ze do and to remember zow to learne in tyne to love, knaw and fer God, and nixt ytt, conformme to Goddes command and good n'wse to remember we dewite anent hir

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yet has borne zow in hir sydes. I send zow a buk to learne ye samyn, and I pray God zow may learne yat begynning, and that he will give zow his blessing, as I do hartly give zow myne, in help zow shall deserve it qunan zow come to discretion. Your loving and good moder, MARIE R.

The Turks and the Crescent. When Phillip of Macedonia approached by night with his troops to scale the walls of Byzantium the moon, then new or in crescent, shone out and discovered his design to the besieged, who repulsed him. The crescent was after that adopted as the favorite badge of the city. When the Turks took Byzantium they found the crescent in every public place and, believing it to possess some magical power, adopted it themselves.

Consoling. "Look here," remarked a violinist resentfully, "you were talking all through my solo."

"Oh, don't worry about that!" replied the man addressed. "I assure you I wasn't saying anything that you would particularly want to hear."

Theory and Practice. "I am going to hitch my wagon to a star!" exclaimed the enthusiastic young dramatist. "Don't you do it, my boy," said the experienced manager. "She'll be sure to kick over the traces."—Baltimore American.

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Sure of His Umbrella.

Departing Guest—Dear me, what a wet night! I wonder if you could give me the loan of an umbrella? Host—Certainly, but—well, the fact is, I think I would be the better for a walk. I'll just take a turn home with you and shelter you by the way."

Bright Boy. "Can you stand on your head?" asked a visitor of little Dudley. "No," he replied. "It's too high up."

To grief there is a limit; not so to fear.—Pliny the Younger.

Medical.

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