

FARM NOTES.

Filthiness and uncleanness in food tend toward disease. A sow that does not prove a good mother should be discharged. The ducks ought to have some animal food, or they will not lay fertile eggs. All the good qualities belonging to the race can not be found in any single breed. If there is an coarseness in either side let it be with the sow rather than the boar. A perfectly formed animal does not need a great amount of fat to make the best appearance. A variety of food will help to keep the hens healthy and will also be good for the egg production. To select good layers begin by eliminating the last hens. A lazy hen has no place in a flock of breeding birds. Ordinarily a goose will hatch out her own eggs and rear goslings in her own way better than it can be done for her. With hogs one of the plainest indications that they have been crowded with feed when too young is the breaking down in the feet. Charcoal is a good regulator and should be fed occasionally to the young chicks. Mix it in their mash or feed it dry, just as you please. The kitchen scraps will be quite an item toward the feed of a small flock of hens and they will give better returns for them than the pigs will. The cost of keeping a hen on the farm is less than 50 cents a year. An average hen will lay ten dozen eggs a year. Good layers will lay many more. The pulling out here and there of an objectionable feather may never be discovered in the show room, but they will make their influence felt in future generations. In dressing ducks for market, it is sometimes impossible to pick all of the down off. Grease your hands and rub all over the duck. It will look much nicer. No single grain ration meets the entire wants of the growing or fattening animal. In all cases and especially with pigs a good variety gives the best results. Dust, cobs and other filth should not be allowed to accumulate on the feeding floors. Cleanliness in the feeding places will aid materially in maintaining health. Land that has been limed gives good results with beets, carrots, parsnips, peas and beans, even when fertilizer is applied. Lime is also excellent when applied on grass lands. The custom of loading farm wagons so that the heaviest weight is upon the front wheels is all wrong, and adds materially to the draft. The heaviest weight should be carried by the hind wheels. This has been proved by official and careful tests. In laying drains it is best to cover each joint with a coal tar fitted that the soil will not work in and fill the tile. If the bottom of the ditch is cut down to a point exactly the size of the tile the latter will not move laterally nor cause trouble. It is best to make it secure and safe in the first place. Select seed corn that has been kept in a dry place, as that in the crib, if it was exposed last winter, may be injured to a certain extent. Dampness in winter is not favorable to seed corn, as the corn will not stand freezing and thawing. Careful farmers hang the ears in the barn loft, so as to permit of the corn becoming perfectly dry. Peach trees will not bear forcing with stimulating manures, even in sandy soil, as such forcing will cause an overgrowth, and the fruit buds will drop off in the spring when the sap starts up, leaving the buds begin to swell. Do not plant on ground rich enough to grow onions, or the trees will make late growth and produce unripe wood that may be winter-killed. All animals fatten more readily during the warm season than when the weather is cold, which fact should not be overlooked in feeding. The same quantity of food which was necessary to keep an animal in good condition last winter may cause it to become excessively fat if the ration is continued in quantity during the spring and summer. Age has no effect whatever upon the laying or paying qualities of geese. The rule is that geese increase in prolificacy with years. They lay as many eggs 20 years old as they did when only two or three years old and the fertility of the same is better. Of course, a proper keeping and feeding must have been practiced at all times. Fat geese are non-producers. A solid grain ration is detrimental to good results. A grass-run and liberty and a little oats at night during the winter season are best. The warm weather is acceptable to string beans, especially if the season is not too dry. The green varieties are best for pickling, but there is nothing to compare with the German wax for the table, though they are not so prolific as the majority of the other kinds. Plant them every two weeks for a succession. A row of them planted every week is better, and if the garden is richly manured in that way it is surprising how many different crops can be grown, as it is not necessary to wait. Cuttings can be started in pots of sandy compost, with a glass tumbler over to confine the water, and kept from the sun for two or three days. Then place the pots in the warm window, exposed to the southeast. Wet sand is also excellent for growing cuttings, and they will start quicker than compost. A shallow pan is preferable: fill it up with sand (not sea sand), sopping wet, then press in the cuttings lightly, and keep them wet. When the leaves show themselves, in two or three days, transplant into pots filled with light, sandy loam. After shading a day or two they may have ample sunshine and sufficient water to keep them moist. Cuttings taken from the fresh growth of a plant strike best. It is better to break off a branch of geraniums than to cut it, if it breaks easily. Cuttings of roses, heliotrope, etc., will grow better if taken off at the junction of the old and new wood, and should be cut off just below a joint or bud, as the roots start from that point; and if a bud is not left near the base the cutting is liable to decay in the soil.

FOR AND ABOUT WOMEN.

Beat peace with all your life brings. Be at rest in your soul.—Horatio Dresser. Spring neckwear is varied enough this season to please the most exacting woman, for plain stiff linen collars worn with manish bowties are quite as correct as elaborate lace and embroidered stocks and collars, and there are so many different models that almost any style may be used with tailored shirt waists or lingerie blouses. One of the newest features of these wash pieces is a long jabot effect ruffle worn directly on the front of the waist. These are fastened to the collars and are either tucked in at the belt line or are pinned to the sides of the blouse and allowed to hang practically loose. These may be plain, consisting of braid linen centre with narrow ruffles on either side, or made quite decorative with an embroidered centre ornamented with fluted rouchings of net on either side. Though not as novel as long ties, the shower-like varieties tend to sheer linen with embroidered flowers or medallions of lace inserted are attractive and will be much worn with pique and madras blouses. As to the round lace collars and cuffs sets, they will be particularly popular during the spring and summer months, because they give a dressy finish to otherwise plain blouses and are readily put on when one is in a hurry. Children will use full round lace neckpieces during the coming season. These may be either plain and narrow or deep and elaborate. Embroidered collars with or without a narrow ruffle on the edge will again be favorites. The elbow sleeve is doomed. All the ultra-smart gowns show a tendency to run to the other extreme and the fashionable creations for the Ascot races are equipped not only with the full length, but the extension sleeve. The latest edict of the customers is that they shall reach the knuckles. While the woman with pretty arms have revealed in the freedom of the past two years which enable them to display their particular charm to the fullest advantage with the addition of beautiful bracelets their less favored sisters are now having complete revenge. Some sleeves compromise with a gathered ruff of lace or lawn at the wrist, but as the soft material is apt to fall back an elastic band is hidden in the fallness through which the thumb is slipped, thus keeping the hand veil in place. The fashion is the reincarnation of the much-pitied Marie Stuart sleeve. It promises to have an enormous vogue and thus far has had at least one good result. The price of kidskin, which had risen abnormally since the reign of the elbow sleeve, is now reduced to its normal level. Colored voiles made over white foundations have a big following, the new raspberry reds being among the most popular tones for such use. Skirts of opaque materials are plain in the smartest models. Others are trimmed on the hip and hem section, but less down the front panel than last winter. A smart gown seen lately had the sides of the skirt trimmed with a zigzag design done in silk gimp with frayed tassels. Draped corsages, especially those of ribbon effect, are leaders. The increase of sleeve in size is the only startling innovation of the spring, and just what it will end in only next fall's openings will tell. Tan shoes are the rage this season in footwear. In shades they run the gamut from light champagne, a popular tone, through the ruddy browns. Russet tones are, in fact, in the greatest demand and the shoe dealer is having his hands full to meet the situation with a sufficient supply. The same is true of stockings, which must match the shoes, though millinery work and time and tradespeople are put on their wits' end to obtain them fast enough. "The feature of the season," the head of a big wholesale stocking house said this week, "is tan colored hosiery, and they are scarcer than hens' teeth." While tan color is to be the tailor leader for ordinary wear in both shoes and hosiery, shoes that must match gowns in color are driving the shoe man to strong language. "You can't make the women understand," the buyer of a big establishment said this week in despair—he had forgotten that there's none so wise as the woman who can't understand when it's folly to be wise. They demand slippers made in the most delicate tints of color and it is impossible to turn them out satisfactorily. A slipper is made wrong side out and turned and the exigencies of the work require that it shall be wet. Now every one knows that to wet a skin of delicate color is to injure its color. It is impossible to match up skins and fabrics satisfactorily under such conditions." One of the daintiest developments of the season is the kid slipper pin-striped with silk of a contrasting tone. The stripe is machine stitching and is of black or any color on white kid, or of white on black or colored kid. Such slippers are finished at the instep with a trim little leather bow or with a jeweled silver or gilt buckle. These buckles come in elaborate antique designs and are immensely popular just now. The cloth top boot is in very high vogue and bids fair to increase in favor as the season waxes. Next fall and winter are sure to see the fashion at its climax. Corkscrew serge is the favorite material. It can be had in any shade or tone. Very smart boots of the kind come in tan color, the cloth of the top being inset with a leather piping on the front and back seams. Narrow leather straps are also used to finish the front and back seams. There's an air about these shoes that the shoe man calls "snappy, something between French and American in look." A decided innovation is the congress gaiter, which in its modern manifestation bears about the same relation to its old-time type as the coquettish gypsy poke at the milliner's does to the antique cape bonnet. The new congress has the elastic sides, but there is likeness to the original ends. It comes with a cloth top of any color to match the gown with which it is worn and with patent leather vamps. Along the instep three buttons the color of the cloth are placed for a finish. The woman with a high instep and narrow foot can wear such a shoe to perfection. Bottom and lace boots with patent leather vamps and colored suede tops to match gowns are another feature. The assortment of pumps and ties is a large one this year, especially the latter. The two-eyelet Gibson and the one-eyelet sailor ties are particularly prominent. The sailor comes in white canvas or buckskin or in leather of any tone, with ribbon bows and Louis XIV. heels. Tan colored ties, it is thought, will be as well liked with white linen suits the coming season as white ties.

DICE WENT OVERBOARD.

How a Regiment of Crap Shooters Was Converted at Sea. Five hundred pairs of dice are lying on the bottom of the Atlantic ocean somewhere off the east coast of the United States unless the fishes swallow them and carried them away. The spotted cubes were thrown overboard by the negroes of the Twenty-third Kansas regiment during a violent storm at sea, the sacrifice having been prompted by penitence. It was while the negro regiment was on board the ship Vigilancia en route to Cuba in September, 1898, that a storm, says the Kansas City Star, converted a score of bolterous crap games into a fervent religious meeting. The Twenty-third Kansas went from Topeka to New York city and from there sailed for Cuba. There was no sleep on board the Vigilancia the first night out. It is said that practically all of the negroes who were not prostrated with seasickness were shooting craps. The scene is described as one of mingled suffering and excitement. The distressed pleaded for quiet and rest, but were unheeded by the noisy gamblers. Above the cries and moans of the suffering such language as this could be heard in different parts of the vessel: "It's 'leven, an' I know it." "Shoot de money." "Didn't I get a coon?" "Little Dick." Late at night, while the games were running high, a violent storm broke suddenly upon the sea. When the wind struck the Vigilancia a rudder was broken and she whirled round and round and then dipped down into the hollow of a mighty wave. The shock was unexpected, and in a moment the soldiers were experiencing all of the horrors of a storm at sea. The negroes grabbed up the dice and loose change and huddled together like cattle, some of them moaning and others too frightened to utter a sound. The storm raged for an hour, the soldiers thinking that every moment would be the last. Fortunately there was a negro preacher on board, the Rev. John L. Waller. It was for him to rise to the occasion. He gathered a crowd of negroes around him and spoke thus: "Brethren, the Lord sent this storm on the heads of sinful crap shooters. If we want to be saved, let us pray." Then he dropped down on his knees and his voice was heard praying above the noise of the storm. The soldiers joined with the preacher in his prayer. In a short time lamentations, moans and promises could be heard on every hand. It was a revival meeting in earnest. Nearly every one of the 800 soldiers was either singing or praying. The whole regiment was "converted" in a very few minutes. But the rough sea continued. The colored preacher felt that something further must be done. An inspiration came to him. There must be a sacrifice. "Our prayers and songs don't prevail," he shouted. "There's something wrong. Brethren, the dice must go into the sea!" The suggestion had only to be made. The dice were tossed into the angry waters, about 500 pairs. Some of the negroes also threw in the money which they had won with the dice. In half an hour after the dice went the storm abated. The Rev. John L. Waller held religious services at frequent intervals during the rest of the voyage. They were always well attended. At each meeting he told his hearers that the prayers of the righteous had saved the wicked. Then he urged them all to remain steadfast. Nothing was said about crap shooting during the rest of the voyage. Shortly after the soldiers landed in Cuba there was a pay day. Then it was that a backslider tried to borrow some dice, but not a single pair could be found in the regiment. They had all been consigned to the sea. This was a condition that could not last. An ingenious negro soldier stole an ivory billiard ball from a Cuban pool hall and whittled out a pair of dice. He sold them for \$12. Presidential Nicknames. Washington was nicknamed the Father of His Country, Americus Fabius, the Cincinnatus of the West, Atlas of America, Lovely Georgius (a sarcastic nickname applied by the English soldier), Flower of the Forest, Deliverer of America, Steppfather of His Country (applied by bitter opponents during his presidency), and Savior of His Country; Adams was nicknamed Colossus of Independence; Jefferson, Sage of Monticello and Long Tom; Madison, Father of the Constitution; Monroe, Last Cocked Hat; J. Q. Adams, Old Man Elouquet; Jackson, Old Hickory, Big Knife and Sharp Knife, Hero of New Orleans, Gin'ral and Old Hero; Van Buren was Little Magician, Wizard of Kinderhook and King Martin the First; Harrison, Tippecanoe, Old Tip and Washington of the West; Tyler, Young Hickory and Accidental President; Polk, Young Hickory; Taylor, Rough and Ready, Old Buena Vista and Old Zach; Fillmore, the American Louis Philippe; Pierce, Purse; Buchanan, Old Public Functionary, Bachelor President and Old Buck. Resemblance. "It is easy to see that the baby takes after me," Mr. Nupaw asserted. "He is as bald as I am, his eyes are brown as are mine, he resembles me in features, he?" "Also," cut in the wife as the kid set up a howl for his noonday meal, "he goes after the bottle about as often as you do." Mrs. Nupaw did all the talking for the rest of the evening.—Bohemian Magazine. Dad Murphy's Brevity. Old Dad Murphy, as he was affectionately known to the boys on the road, was a conductor on a trunk line transporting large shipments of live stock from the west. Dad had been in the service so long that the rules of railroading had become second nature to him, and the result of the superintendent's frequent orders to the trainmen to answer with military brevity all questions and messages, especially those by telegraph, to relieve the burden on the wires had reduced Dad to his conversation. On a baking hot July day, when not a breath of air was stirring and the sun beat on the car roofs till the pitch pulled the soles of the brakeman's shoes, Dad in looking over the train discovered that eight hogs had succumbed to the heat. When passing the next telegraph station he threw off a message to the superintendent: Burhans, Supt.—Eight hogs dead acc't heat, advise. MURPHY, No. 78. At the second telegraph office he received his answer: Burhans, Supt.—Hogs still dead. MURPHY, No. 78. Dad grunted, shifted his quid of fine cut and wrote as follows: Burhans, Supt.—Hogs still dead. MURPHY, No. 78. Judge's Library. What He Lost. A traveling man was leaning against the counter in the hotel gazing disconsolately at the door. "Lose something?" queried the hotel clerk. A nod of the head answered. "Was it very valuable?" "Twice with the nod." "Sure you had it when you came in here?" A third nod. His face was growing wistful. "You should have put it in the safe." "Could not have done that very well." His voice quivered. The clerk stretched his neck and gasped, "Why, what was it?" "It was," the traveling man began, but he choked—"it was—my job." "Oh, pardon me a minute, the phone is ringing." And the clerk tiptoed softly away. A dismal stillness reigned.—San Francisco Chronicle. Onion as a Disinfectant. There is, writes a London correspondent, a stratum of common sense in the advice given by a north country teacher to her scholars, "If you have cholera or scarlet fever in the house, put some onions under the bed and they will sweep away all disease," for the onion proved its virtue in a remarkable way years ago, when cholera raged throughout London. It was noticed with surprise that one of the most insanitary districts—Saffron Hill and its neighborhood—was almost exempt from the visitation. The majority of the inhabitants being Italians were great onion eaters, and strings of this vegetable were found suspended from the ceiling in nearly every room. The medical officer of health concluded that the onion, among its many virtues, contains a powerful antidote against cholera morbus and possibly other diseases. Hugo and Verdi. Verdi labored long before he persuaded Victor Hugo, who was vexed that the tragic beauties of his "Le Roi S'Amuse" had been turned into operatic effects, to attend a performance of "Rigoletto." He succeeded at length, and Hugo sat in the box with the composer and listened to the opera. But not a word did he speak. Verdi's impatience got the better of him, and he asked: "Well, what say you—about the quartet, for instance?" "Show me a way in which four persons can be permitted to speak simultaneously," replied the poet, "and I will write something more beautiful than your quartet." Early Dentistry. The art of dentistry was practiced among the Egyptians and Etruscans, and there are evidences in mummies and skulls that in very ancient times teeth were filled and efforts were made to supply the loss of natural by artificial teeth. The first writer on the treatment of diseased teeth was Galen. The science was introduced into America by John Greenwood, who established himself in New York in 1788. In 1790 and again in 1795 he carved in ivory an entire set of teeth for General Washington. Chronic. "Opposition, opposition; nothing but opposition!" "What's the matter, dear?" "My parents objected when I wanted to marry him, and now he kicks because I want a divorce."—Louisville Courier-Journal. Nature and Man. Huxley was once talking to Sir William Gull about the healing power of nature. "Stuff!" said Gull. "Nine times out of ten nature does not want to cure the man. She wants to put him in his coffin."—London Telegraph. His Explanation. "Henry," whispered Mrs. Smithers, straightening up in bed, "what's that noise in the library?" "Must be history repeating itself," muttered Henry drowsily. "Go to sleep!" Not at All Easy. "Oh, it's easy! Easy as taking candy from a baby." "Easy, eh? Ever try to take candy from a baby?"—Pittsburg Post. He that is proud eats up himself.—Shakespeare.

Gun Powder

is made of nitre, charcoal, and sulphur in proper proportions intimately mingled with water. Nitre, charcoal and sulphur without that exact proportion and commingling have no more explosion value than common dirt. The nourishment of the body is made out of the food which is eaten; bread, meat, potatoes, etc. But unless this food is perfectly mixed in the stomach with the digestive juices it is an incapable of nourishment as the unmixed elements of gun powder are of explosion. For this reason health cannot be gauged by appetite. To obtain the benefit of food, to have it converted into nourishment for blood, nerve and muscle, the organs of digestion and nutrition must do their part. Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery makes blood and flesh, bone and muscle by putting the digestive and nutritive organs into perfect working condition. It has no equal as a cure for diseases of the stomach and organs of digestion and nutrition. Medical. Back Gives Out. Plenty of Bellefonte readers have this experience. You tax the kidneys—overwork them—They can't keep up the continual strain. The back gives out—it aches and pains; Urinary troubles set in. Don't wait longer—take Doan's Kidney Pills. Bellefonte people tell how they act. Frank P. Davis, moulder, of 246 east Logan St., Bellefonte, Pa., says: "I used to suffer very much with a weakness of the back and severe pains through my loins. It kept me in constant misery and I seemed to be unable to find any relief, until I got Doan's Kidney Pills at F. Post-Green's drug store and used them. They reached the spot and in a short time my strength returned. I have never had any trouble of the kind since and am glad to recommend Doan's Kidney Pills not only because they helped me but because I know of others who have also found relief in the same way, and I have yet to hear of a case in which this remedy has failed to give satisfaction." For sale by all dealers. Price 50 cents. Foster-Milburn Co., Buffalo, New York, sole agents for the United States. Remember the name—Doan's—and take no other. 51-59-2m-c-o-w.

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