

HOUSE AND FARM.

The Vegetable Garden. Though much has been said and written on this subject, yet comparatively few people attach to it the importance which it deserves. No small part of the support of a family can be found in a well cared for vegetable garden.

Potatoes for Seed. The following are the ideas of an old farmer in Maine, on seed potatoes, as given in the Lewiston Journal: "We use too ripe seed when we propagate from tubers that have lain in the ground till dead ripe."

Sod as a Fertilizer. During the past year I made a limited experiment in the use of grass sod as a fertilizer. It was desired to plant a piece of worn out land in cabbage.

with a spade, of a width to suit the furrows, and of such length as the sod would allow. These were turned bottom upward in the furrows, which were then filled full of loose earth with a hoe.

Most Butter From Shallow Pans. I have been reading reports of factory men for a considerable time, and have heard it asserted frequently that as much butter can be obtained from a stated quantity of milk set deep as shallow, but I did not accept their evidence as conclusive.

A Large Poultry Farm. We learn from a correspondent that Mr. Briggs, of Wyandotte, Kansas, has inaugurated a poultry farm near that place on a large scale, as an experimental poultry farm.

Cucumbers. Wherever we go we see the cucumber in the open air suffered to run on the ground. This is no doubt a relic of European culture. There it is necessary. The climate is not hot enough, and the plants have to be started, if not grown altogether, in low, flat grass frames.

the luxuriant growth of a cucumber when trained to a stake which has a set of stubby side branches left along its length. A great advance in the style of culture is that the plants occupy far less ground than when permitted to spread over the surface in the usual way.

Unripe Seeds. A correspondent of the German-town Telegraph, writing from Iowa, says: "About the year 1838 an Englishman, a doctor and a scientific man, came out from Boston and settled in this country, and went to farming, of which he knew nothing but from books and observation."

But this was not all his theory—unripe seed, he contended, enabled him to carry out the other part of his system. He always gathered the seed while "in the milk," and hung it up to dry; when dry it resembled the common sweet table-corn.

You may wonder why his neighbors did not fall into this system of planting. I have wondered so too. There seemed to be a general fear of failure; most people thought he was running down the size of his corn; but he did not, for he adhered to the system as long as he lived here, some twelve or thirteen years.

Now, in gathering seeds of any kind I reject the undergrown and overgrown, whether of corn, potatoes, wheat, or anything else, and seek for the medium in size and well matured. In wheat and other small grains this mode is not so easily practiced, but it can be approximated by selecting patches of moderate but perfect growth.

The hard winter has hurt the Texas cattle trade.

Old pastures may be improved by a good harrowing in the spring.

Over thirty agricultural papers have been established at the South since the war.

A FRENCH paper says that a small quantity of spent tan bark put in the "hill" prevents the potato disease.

Three hundred million dollars is the sum charged to insects injurious to vegetation in this country annually, by entomologists.

A NEW departure in horse shoeing is to set the heel-cork of the fore shoes lengthwise of the shoe instead of sidewise, to prevent the horse from slipping sidewise.

SOMEbody predicts that the sugar maples of New England will be annihilated in fifty years, if they continue to decrease at the present rate.

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A GOOD FARM. This farm contains 53 acres of first class soil; mostly cleared; with enough of good timber; situated about four miles from New Brighton, on the New Castle road, in North Sewickley twp., Beaver county, Pa.; has a very good orchard, the farm is in good repair; there is A NEW FRAME HOUSE OF SIX ROOMS, well finished, with a large frame barn with other outbuildings. Plenty of good water at the house; running water on the place. Price \$5,000 in payments. Adam Kirk, Jr., owner.

A GOOD DAIRY, STOCK OR GRAIN FARM in Big Beaver township, Beaver county, Pa., containing about 140 acres—of which 120 acres are cleared, 35 acres first bottom land; 20 acres in oak timber; balance of cleared land; gently rolling; all under fence, on the P. Ft. W. & C. Railroad; building on a good township road one-half mile from Homewood station; soil is first class and all can be worked by machinery. Improvements, one newly weather-boarded log house of 5 rooms, two stories high, veranda and frame kitchen, with pleasant surroundings, one new two-story frame house of 4 rooms, porch in front; a good cellar; spring of water and well close to house; one new bank barn, with stone foundation, 40x50, with plenty of stabling for horses and cows; corn crib, smoke house, and all usual outbuildings; a first rate orchard of various kinds of fruit trees in good bearing condition, and a young orchard. This place is in a very pleasant part of the county, with every surrounding object to make it agreeable and attractive, and is a first-class farm in a good neighborhood, close to schools, churches, post-office and station—will subdivide this tract if desired by the purchaser, for sale. Price, \$80 per acre, in payments. George E. McCready, owner.

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