

**Agricultural Department.**

WEDNESDAY MORNING, May 12, '69.

From the Country Gentleman.

**HINTS FOR GARDEN PREPARATION.**

One of the first things to be considered in the choice of a garden plot, is exposure. This is of far more importance than its size or external appearance. If there is a chance for choice, select by all means a plot with a gentle slope towards the sun at its meridian. An exposure toward the mid-day sun is as good as being several degrees farther south. Where a garden lies away from the sun, the heat frost will sometimes remain nearly all day, which should be melted off in an hour. On no account should a house, wall or tree, prevent the full rays of the sun; for even in winter, the ground, as well as the few remaining vegetables, is greatly benefited by it. The soil of the garden is next in importance. No trouble should be taken to get too good a soil, but it should be deep, rich and easily penetrated. If shallow it should be trenched; if stiff and clayey, sand and vegetable manure should be mixed in. If too sandy already, alter it with silt and loam. No garden can be conducted with the least degree of satisfaction without a thorough manuring. There is truth in an old English saying—"Hungry garden, and it will hunger you." Composts from old pastures, brick earth, decayed leaves, and lime rubbish, are all excellent in their place. The soil should be thoroughly pulverized. Every spadeful as it is turned up, should be dashed down, so that no hard lumps come against a tender root. Every particle of dirt should be made to do its duty in feeding the plants; therefore every stone should be removed, if no bigger than a marble. If it is a small garden, and the gardener have leisure, a very nice method is to put every spadeful through a large coarse sieve.

The same kind of vegetables should not be planted in exactly the same spot from season to season, if you desire an abundant increase and freedom from insects. Fine sand and coal cinders, also salt, are good remedies for many infesting insects. Coal cinders scattered upon the walks or paths intersecting garden beds, are excellent to keep down weeds, grass and worms. If you have an ailing son or daughter, by all means prepare a nice garden plot and set them to work in it this spring. I know of nothing that will induce finer spirits or better health. Animate them with good tools and some nice work on gardening, and see if the roses do not grow.

**Pruning.**

Between the first of March and the first of May is a period during which a great deal of heavy pruning is performed in the orchards of New England. Universal custom, however, in this respect, as sometimes elsewhere, is at variance with what is the best practice; for it is a well established theory that none but absolutely necessary pruning ought to be undertaken so late toward or into the spring that the wounds made thereby will bleed. This bleeding exhausts the energies of a tree, and the wounds which it takes place rarely heal over satisfactorily. A penknife is strong enough for any pruning where trees are properly cared for. Heavy pruning, made necessary by neglect, as is too often the case, may be best performed—all things considered—during the six weeks preceding December 1; but cautiously always when the wood is frozen. Light pruning is most satisfactory in its results when done in the latter part of June. The heading in of a tree transplanted in the spring is justifiable, because the diminished flow of the tree cannot always sustain the quantity of wood which it could have sustained had the tree not been removed. Wounds of an inch or more in diameter made in pruning ought to be pared smooth, and then covered with something to protect them from the weather. Gum-shellac dissolved in alcohol to the consistency of molasses, coal tar, grafting-wax, common house paint, all answer a good purpose, the latter being perhaps preferable to any of the others. Where paint is used, by throwing a little dry sand or loam upon it while fresh, the coating and its color are both improved.—*Worcester Spy.*

**How One Orchard is Treated.**

I know of an orchard, near by me, which has not failed to produce an average crop for the past ten years. It has been treated as follows:—Early each spring it has been well covered with long manure. About the middle of June it is passed over lightly with a gang plow. Hogs are kept in until about the first of September. Then it is liberally dragged with a fine toothed harrow. The pruning is done mainly in summer by rubbing off such shoots as are not wanted, thereby saving the labor of the saw and the hatchet. Each year, in June, the trees are scraped and generously washed with weak lye from wood ashes. The worms are promptly destroyed on their first appearance. The above treatment is neither expensive or laborious, but it will pay.—*Cor. Rural New Yorker.*

**Cabbage Plants.**

Cabbage plants should be set out as soon as spring fairly begins. Make a hole in the ground with a pointed stick, pour in liquid manure, then put in the plant, and press the ground close around it. Treated in this way, cabbage plants never fail to grow.

**To Keep Fowls Healthy.**

The way I keep my fowls in health, I clean out the house once a week put wood ashes under the roosts; have iron basins for them to drink from; white-wash inside of the hen house with hot lime; and cake of scraps to pick on. I never feed but once a day—at noon, when I shut them up at four or five P. M. When they run out then give them all they will eat. In my experience, there is no way to get diseased fowls easier than to keep them stuffed; it makes them lazy, and they won't work as much as they ought to keep them in a healthy condition.

I never had any gaps in chickens. When any fowl begins to droop, I give three large pills of common hard yellow soap; 'tis the best thing to cleanse a fowl I know of. I follow it for three days, give them nothing to eat and plenty of pure water to drink. In desperate cases, give a half teaspoonful of tincture of lobelia. It will seldom, if ever, fail of curing. It is a very cleansing and powerful medicine for fowls.—*Cor. Rural New Yorker.*

**Watermelons.**—"J. N. G.," Burlington Co., N. J., writes: "It takes no small amount of work to raise good watermelons, and to have a good crop at the same time, that will pay. First, the ground should be well plowed, and hills made about eight feet apart each way, one foot square, and about ten inches deep. Each hill should be filled with well composted manure, and trodden solid before finishing. Plant from eight to ten seeds to each hill, and cover lightly with a hoe. When the fourth leaf has formed, thin out one to one or two to each hill; one is better than half a dozen, but it is better to leave more, until they get well started, as one may get destroyed. When the vines commence to run, the hills should be well trodden down again around the vine. The plants will require frequent 'farming,' or cultivating until the fruit commences to set, when they should not be moved. With plenty of manure, and some guano or bone dust, a light, sandy soil, (which is the best) and good cultivation, there will be a large crop. I have seen the ground newly covered with melons, some weighing from 30 to 40 pounds."

**Selling Straw to Paper Mills.**

"S. D. S.," Hagerstown, Md. The policy or impolicy of doing this depends on circumstances. Straw is worth about \$3.00 a ton for manure. If you can get from \$5.00 to \$10.00 per ton, on the farm, as we can in the neighborhood of the writer, it will of course pay much better to sell it than to rot it down for manure. Instead of selling all the straw, the better plan would be to sell half of it, and buy oil-cake with the money, and feed it out to the stock with the remaining half on the farm. And what you make on the stock, buy guano with the money. In this way you can sell the straw with great advantage to the farm, and ultimately to yourself.

**A Practical Farmer writes:**

"In my observations for twenty years in the practice application of manure, I am convinced that what is ordinarily termed 'mulching,' or the application of thoroughly decomposed barnyard manure to the surface, is the most economical use of this class of fertilizers. From this experience I am convinced that one cord of manure applied on wheat-ground at the time of sowing, or on the ground intended for corn in the late autumn, or applied to all varieties of large or small fruits, is worth three cords plowed or dug under to a depth of eight inches."

**The Des Moines (Iowa) Register**

declares most solemnly that a farmer near town told me he recently killed one of his choice hens and devoted her to table purposes because she wouldn't produce eggs. Upon dressing her, eighteen eggs were found, seven of them with hard shells and of full size. She was probably waiting for the repeal of the tenure of office act, so she could lay on without any one asking why she did so.

**Cows pine for fresh grass, and they may be turned into swampy land or bog meadows when the bog grass springs green and tender. This is the only time of the year when they will eat it. Cattle must not go upon the summer pastures too early, for they will do great damage to the crop of feed. Manage, if possible, to make the roots last until the pastures are fit to turn the cattle upon.**

**Tomatoes.**

Put out the plants when safe to do so, three or four feet apart, according to the variety. In gardens, some kind of a trellis or support for the vines adds to neatness, and improves the fruit.

**Melch**

among young trees before the dry weather comes on. A bog hay, or near the coast, salt hay, is generally the most available. If a mulch is not applied, keep the soil mellow by frequent stirring.

**Young trees**

should have the soil kept clean and mellow about them from the start. Root crops, which are well manured, and require thorough cultivation, may be grown between the rows.

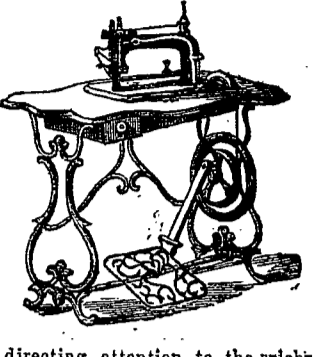
**The Ohio Farmer**

asserts that nine-tenths of the foot and ankle ailments of the horse are traceable to standing on dry plank floors.

**MISCELLANEOUS.**

**AMERICAN BUTTON-HOLE**

OVER-SEAMING AND SEWING MACHINE COMBINED. MEDAL AWARDED AT THE PARIS EXHIBITION, 1867.



In directing attention to the celebrated COMBINATION BUTTON-HOLE AND SEWING MACHINE, we feel fully warranted in claiming for it the most important superiority over all others as a Family Machine. The Simplicity, Ease and Certainty with which it operates, as well as the uniform excellence of its work, certainly place it far in advance of any other similar invention of the age. It is also the cheapest, intrinsically, as well as the best, since it is really two machines combined in one, by a simple and beautiful mechanical arrangement never before accomplished by human ingenuity, making either the Lock Stitch or Button Hole Stitch, as occasion may require. It is, at the same time, simple in construction, comparatively noiseless, easily understood, and, in a word, it combines with those advantages exclusively its own the most desirable qualities of all others, for it not only does every variety of sewing in a superior manner, but in addition OVERSEAMS splendidly and makes beautiful Buttons and Flyer-Holes in all fabrics. This is far beyond the capacity of any other machine. The EXPENSIVE MECHANISM of this Machine, and the superior skill workmanship and materials employed in its construction, are a guarantee of accuracy, strength and durability, and enable the company and its agents to Warrant Every Machine they sell to give entire satisfaction.

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Lessons may be taken if desired with a view to test the Machine, or to become better acquainted with it before deciding to purchase. Samples of work will be furnished upon application at J. J. BISEL & CO., LOCK HAVEN, PENNA. Agents for Clinton, Centre and Clearfield Counties.

**This Machine does all kinds of**

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feb27/69-ly.

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Assets over, \$10,000,000.00 Annual Income, \$5,000,000.00 Surplus, \$5,000,000.00 Losses paid in 1868, Three-Fourths of a Million Dollars. Dividends over, One-Half of a Million Dollars. Life Insurance on all plans. mar27/69-ly.

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We are happy to inform the people of Centre and the adjoining counties, that we are now prepared to make Castings, such as: Sash Weights, Celler window Frames, &c. of all sizes. Grist and Saw Mill Castings, Steel Scales of all kinds, Flows, Plow Shares. We also manufacture the

**IMPROVED WORTZ PLOW.**

Also EGZ STOVES, Stone Castings, Oven Doors, Frames, Coal Grates for Pavements, Water Pipes, Wagon Boxes, together with every variety of Castings kept constantly on hand, or made to order. All orders filled promptly. Give us a call. Don't forget the place, near the Railroad Depot, Bellefonte, Pa. feb27/69-ly. S. J. McDOWELL.

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BARLEY-SHRAFF, REGULATOR, IRON SIDES, PATENT, EUREKA, AMITY.

Castings and all kinds of repairs furnished to order for all kind of stoves in market. Basic Sheet Iron finished, Gas Burners neatly repaired. A large assortment of

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of our own manufacture, kept constantly on hand, which we will sell Wholesale or Retail at prices as reasonable as elsewhere.

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and all kinds of Jobbing done on the shortest notice and warranted. We will receive orders for and put up "COOPER LIGHTNING RODS," which are superior to all other rods in market. We will pay the highest market price for Old Metal, Copper, Brass, Pewter, &c., &c. We always endeavor to sell CHEAPER THAN THE CHEAPEST. Try us and be convinced. feb27/69-ly.

**ARE PRACTICAL WORKMEN,**

and everything sold will be guaranteed as represented. Repairing and custom work promptly attended to. feb27/69-ly.

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Before ordering your

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The only exclusive Boot and Shoe Manufacturing plant in Bellefonte. I would respectfully invite your consideration to the general satisfaction which in every case follows my work. Prices reasonable, and neat fits guaranteed. JOHN POWERS, feb27/69-ly.] Allegheny St., Bellefonte.

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**WOOD & COAL BURNT LIME.**

Fresh burnt Lime always on hand and for sale at the lowest market price, at the

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**BEST LIME IN THE STATE.**

It is free from core, and our kilns are so constructed that all the ashes are separated from the burnt lime before it leaves the kiln. It is a

**PURE SNOW-WHITE LIME!**

And makes as fine a finish as the lime burnt from the same quarries in the eastern part of the State. Our facilities for burning and shipping lime are such that

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than the same quality of lime can be had at any other place. All orders promptly filled. Address, J. R. & C. T. ALEXANDER, Bellefonte, Pa. feb27/69-ly.

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Always on hand and for sale at the lowest market price at the

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**BEST PITTSFORD AND SHAMOKIN**

Antiseptic coal. Also a new consignment of plastering hair, palling, and saved shingles for sale for each at our yard, near south end of B. & V. R. R. Depot. feb27/69-ly.

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**TREMENDOUS AMOUNT OF LEATHER!**

The undersigned has just received the most extensive lot of Leather, from the New York, Baltimore and Wilmington markets, ever brought to this place, consisting of Spanish Sole Upper American Kip, French Kip, Baltimore Calf, OIL FINISH AND BRUSH MOROCCO, KID GLOVE SKIN, Whang Leather, Livings and Shoe findings, of every description, all of which will be sold cheaper than can be bought at any other establishment in Central Pennsylvania. ABRAHAM SUSSMAN, feb27/69-ly. Bellefonte, Pa.

**STORES and Hinges of every variety**

at kind at IRWIN & WILSON'S

**BOOTS & SHOES.**

**THE BELLEFONTE**

**BOOT AND SHOE STORE.**

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**ALLEGHENY STREET, ALLEGHENY STREET, ALLEGHENY STREET,**

One Door North Irwin & Wilson's Hardware Store.

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PINE CALF BOOTS, FINE CALF BOOTS, KEPT CONSTANTLY ON HAND AT THE BELLEFONTE BOOT & SHOE STORE, BY GRAHAM & SON.

A large assortment of KIP BOOTS, warranted, AT \$5.00 PER PAIR, AT \$8.00 PER PAIR, AT \$5.00 PER PAIR.

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LADIES BOOTS & SHOES, LADIES BOOTS & SHOES, MISSES' & CHILDREN'S MISSES' & CHILDREN'S

BOOTS & SHOES. BOOTS & SHOES. CALL AND EXAMINE CALL AND EXAMINE

OUR CHEAP BOOTS & SHOES, OUR CHEAP BOOTS & SHOES, feb27/69-ly. GRAHAM & SON.

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Wholesale & Retail Boot & Shoe Store.

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are always in attendance to wait on his numerous customers. The HIGHEST CASH PRICES paid for all kinds of marketing and produce. Cash paid for

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Good delivered with pleasure. No trouble or show goods. Give him a call before purchasing elsewhere.

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**OUR GROCERIES, QUEENSWARE AND GLASSWARE,**

are of the very best quality and are sold at the most reasonable rates. We pay at all times the highest cash price for Wheat, Rye, Oats, Corn and Barley. We most cordially invite everybody to give us a call before purchasing elsewhere. Do not forget the place.

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different makes and prices, Stoves—Cook, Parlor Gas-Burners, and Cylinders, four makes and kinds. SPRINGS—Axles and Skins, all sizes, WOOD WORK, all kinds, for Wagons, Suggies and Carriages.

GRINDSTONES, all sizes, and Kitchen do., Platform Scales, from 100 to 1000 pounds, Counter Scales and Balances, Oil, Paints and Varnishes, of all kinds. The Celebrated MANILLA ROPE, all sizes, and PACKING, ORIENTAL FURNACES, for Dwellings Houses and Churches, PUMPS, for Cisterns and Wells. WOODEN WATER PIPES, of any Bore and Length. Call and see their Stock before making your purchase. Are always pleased to show our goods. feb27/69-ly.

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will sell AT THE LOWEST PRICES. Their stock consists of all sorts of building hardware, table and pocket cutlery, carpenters', masons', plasterers' and blacksmiths' tools, and materials, nails, iron, horse-shoes, and horse-shoe nails, rope, tackle, GRIND STONES, etc., etc. Housekeeper's goods, saddlery, carriage trimming, etc., etc., with all sorts and sizes of COAL OIL LAMPS, and the different parts thereof, together with a complete assortment of the best PAINTS, OILS, VARNISHES, &c. They hope, BY STRICT ATTENTION TO BUSINESS and a constant care for the ACCOMMODATION OF CUSTOMERS to merit and receive a SHARE OF THE PUBLIC PATRONAGE. BUILDERS AND OTHERS will find it to their advantage to call and EXAMINE THEIR STOCK. J. & J. HARRIS, No. 5, Brokerhoff's Row, feb27/69-ly.

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OF FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC Cloth, Cassimeres and Vestings, which he is prepared to make to order in the latest and most fashionable styles, for men or boys. Goods sold by the piece or by the yard. He also keeps on hand a full line of GENTS FURNISHING GOODS, of every style and description. He is also agent for the celebrated SINGER SEWING MACHINE. feb27/69-ly. JOHN MONTGOMERY.

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