



THE CAPER SPURGE.

Its Story as Told in Bulletin No. 80 of the United States Department of Agriculture.

This plant is called also garden spurge, myrtle spurge, mole plant, mole weed, mole tree, gopher plant, anti-gopher plant, wild caper, caper bush, wolf's milk, and springwort.

Description and Where Found—This is a smooth, herbaceous, milky-juiced perennial, two to three feet high, with a stiff erect stem, and opposite four-ranked leaves, the lower of which are thick and oblong, the upper, thin, broad and heart-shaped. The flowers are greenish yellow and rather small. The three-seeded fruit is conspicuous. It is



CAPER SPURGE.

(A. Upper Half of Plant, One-Third Natural Size; B. Seed Capsule, Natural Size.)

a common garden plant, sparingly introduced into wet ground in California and Texas, and in the Atlantic states from New Jersey and West Virginia and North Carolina.

Poisonous Properties—The fresh milky juice is exceedingly acid and the fruit is highly purgative and poisonous. When used as a household remedy it often provokes serious trouble.

Women and children are not infrequently poisoned by handling the plant and getting the juice on the face. Cattle are quite resistant to its influence, but they are sometimes overcome, and they eat the plant extensively if nothing better presents itself, and it is said that their milk then possesses all of the venomous properties of the plant. When applied to the skin the juice causes redness, itching, pimples and sometimes gangrene, the effect often lasting more than a week. The seed taken internally in overdose will inflame the mouth and stomach, and cause intense diarrhoea and vomiting. If the dose is sufficient there will be nervous disorders, unconsciousness, general collapse and death.

OATS AFTER OATS.

How to Maintain the Fertility of Soil on Farms Where the Conditions are Unfavorable.

All farmers know that oats are an exhaustive crop, and also one that is especially hard to get a clover or grass seeding with. Where winter grain is not grown, and oats are the chief small grain grown, one failure to seed is apt to be followed by others, until the land becomes so exhausted that neither oats nor grass can be grown. Most of these failures to seed with spring grain come from plowing the land in early spring, thus turning up a lower strata of soil that has not been properly mellowed by freezing. The remedy for this is to fall plow the land, leaving it rough, and then so soon as it is fit to work, cultivate it lightly and put in the grain and grass seed before plowing can be done. If a frost freezes the soil an inch or two after the grain and grass seed are sown, it will be all the better for both. If the second crop of oats fails to give a grass and clover seeding, plow the stubble in the fall after the oats are off and sow wheat or rye, seeding with grass seed in the fall and with clover seed in the spring. This rarely fails to give a good grass catch, and if the season be favorable, there will be some clover with it, even on poor, thin soil.—Prairie Farmer.

How to Handle Kaffir Fodder.

There is quite a difference in opinion as to the best method of handling kaffir fodder when it is planted thickly, and is to be used for feeding and wintering stock cattle. In general it is believed that the fodder should be cut and placed in small shocks when the grains have passed from the soft stage and become firm. The fodder will yet be green, and if put in large shocks will spoil, but will be excellent feed if properly shocked. In feeding it when prepared in this way the amount given should not be more than the cattle will eat up reasonably clean, if too much is given they will eat only the heads and waste a large portion of the fodder.—Farmers' Review.

Alfalfa on Thin Soils.

It must be steadfastly borne in mind that alfalfa is not in any sense a plant for poor soils. In sterile clay, in hungry sands and gravels, in peat soils there are a hundred plants that will pay better. These clay soils need draining and manuring. The peaty soils perhaps will never grow it well, yet in naturally very poor clays we have had remarkably luxuriant alfalfa after it had become well established.—National Stockman.

WINTERING THE BEES.

The Temperature Required is About That Which Will Keep Potatoes Successfully.

The problem of wintering is one of vital importance. To leave a colony on the summer stand, exposed to the sudden changes and bleak storms of winter, is not conducive to success, in the beginning. The careful, successful bee keeper would as soon think of wintering his cow in this manner as his bees, which under proper care would yield under the investment equally as much profit.

There are two means of successful wintering. First, packed, on the summer stand; second, in a well-ventilated cellar. The first is by far the most laborious, yet it has some advantages. Cellar wintering is the least expensive; it is only necessary to keep them in Egyptian darkness and as quiet as possible, carrying them out on two or three bright days for a fly during the entire winter. The temperature required is about that which will keep potatoes successfully. They remain in a semi-dormant state and consume but little.

Most everyone has his or her favorite location for the apiary. Some choose the most shaded point possible. After experimenting for several years, we have determined that, in my locality at least, the most exposed place possible is prolific of the best results. In the country between the Missouri river and the mountains the nights are usually cool, and we find that the mercury falls two or three degrees lower in the shade than on the open ground; that it requires a much longer time to warm up the hive in the shade in the morning than those not shaded; and, besides this, the sun comes out so warm in the morning that often before the colonies in the shade are warmed up, the sun has evaporated a great portion of the nectar.

It is with the bee as with the farmer; the fellow who gets out early in the morning is the one who usually accomplishes the greatest day's work. In experimenting with the matter of location we find that the colony located nearest the shade gathers the least stores, while those located on the most exposed ground gather most. One case in particular was a colony shaded by a small plum tree. As the tree grew, the colony produced less stores, until it barely gathered sufficient to winter itself. We moved this colony out into the sunlight and it went back to its old record in honey-making.—E. Whitcomb, in Farm and Home.

AMONG THE POULTRY.

Do not omit the cleaning-up process during the moulting season.

Growing birds must be well fed or they will go into the winter very poor and no eggs will be the result.

Fowls demand special care during autumn months, and with the best attention thus, profits follow during the winter.

It will pay to select all fowls that will likely be the most profitable during the winter and give them special attention.

Late hatched chicks are not worth wintering generally, and the best thing to do with them is to market before cold weather.

"Well begun is half done," so begin now to fix up poultry quarters for winter and do not wait until cold weather is on. Remember you want a good warm poultry house with plenty of light.

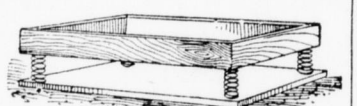
Do not pay 75 cents per gallon for prepared lice killer, but make it yourself at a cost of about 25 cents per gallon. One pint of crude carbolic acid added to one gallon of kerosene is equal to the best of it.

Give the fowls plenty of roosting space and do not have one sitting on top of the other. Each fowl should have room enough so that they do not more than touch while on the roosts. Small breeds should not be permitted to roost with the large breeds, but separate departments should be provided.—Farmer's Voice.

CARRYING EGGS SAFELY.

A Simple Little Contrivance That Will Prevent Much Loss and a Lot of Annoyance.

When a basket of eggs is to be carried over a rough road, either the horse must be made to walk all the way, or broken eggs be carried back. Saw off the bot-



CARRIER FOR EGG CASE.

tom of an empty grocery box and mount it above its cover by four small springs from the upholsterer's, or from a worn-out chair or couch. Set the basket of eggs in this, and it will ride safely over rough roads with the horse at a trot.—American Agriculturist.

No Monopoly in Poultry.

The rapid multiplication of poultry being so easy the humblest individual can take advantage of opportunities and avail himself of the privileges which cannot be monopolized. It is the only class of stock that permits science and knowledge to triumph over wealth and possession, for monopoly may seize the best flocks in the world; yet poultry industry and careful breeding, even in the hands of the most obscure and humble, will break down the walls and open new avenues. The monopoly that can be exercised in the poultry business is brains, for every man, woman and child has the same privileges and advantages. City people as well as those living in the country can have their poultry.—Farm and Fireside.

SOCIAL DELIGHTS.

What One Experiences Sometimes While Engaging in the Game of Whist.

This is what a Detroit whist player is willing to take oath took place at a party where he was doing his level best for a prize:

"The large lady, his partner, gave the right sleeve of her shirt waist a hitch, muttered under her breath and then said to the other lady: 'Look at that, now. It's all askew and so annoying. I don't care who you go to or how much you pay, it's always the same thing. Did you ever behaved better, or was it the other hand?'"

"That sleeve lost us three tricks," continued the complainant. Then the other lady wanted a recipe for making chowchow pickled or something of that sort. Of course, my accommodating partner was right to reel it off, playing a king to me when she had a three spot, revoked another suit, led right into the enemy's strength, and then had the nerve to ask me if I saw anywhere that she could have bettered her play. 'Say, I wanted to boil her in oil.'"

"I tried to keep from turning red, saying anything sarcastic or swearing a little, and succeeded reasonably well. 'When she went to telling about a new hat her neighbor had bought, she took five spots at a heavy cost, and then consoled me with a half-screaming explanation that she had been playing Pedro the night before and had lapsed into it again without thinking. I never behaved better in my life, feigned sudden illness, got away and made things blue for two blocks. After I was gone she told the opposition that I played a very stupid game.'—Detroit Free Press.

Anticipated News.

Mr. Isaacs (in Chicago)—Ish der delegram for Mr. Isaacs sayin' dot his shtore has burned down in New York?

Hotel Telegraph Operator—No! None! 'Well, vhen you gomes shoost sendt it right up to my room, please!—Puck.

From Baby in the High Chair.

to grandma in the rocker Grain-O is good for the whole family. It is the long-desired substitute for coffee. Never upsets the nerves or injures the digestion. Made from pure grains it is a food in itself. Has the taste and appearance of the best coffee at the price. It is a genuine and scientific article and is come to stay. It makes for health and strength. Ask your grocer for Grain-O.

In Old Missouri.

Mrs. Goodwin—Here's a quarter, poor man. But tell me, pray, what ever brought you to this miserable state?

Dusty Rhoads—Me autermeel, ma'am. I was tommor' lowa, an' I axenderly straddled across der line, see?—Chicago Evening News.

There is more Catarrh in this section of the country than all other diseases put together, and until the last few years was supposed to be incurable. For a great many years doctors pronounced it a local disease, and prescribed local remedies, and by constantly failing to cure with local treatment, pronounced it incurable. Science has proven Catarrh to be a constitutional disease, and therefore requires constitutional treatment. Hall's Catarrh Cure, manufactured by F. J. Cheney & Co., Toledo, Ohio, is the only constitutional cure on the market. It is taken internally in doses from 10 drops to a teaspoonful. It acts directly on the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. They offer one hundred dollars for any case it fails to cure. Send for circulars and testimonials. Address: F. J. Cheney & Co., Toledo, O. Sold by Druggists, 73c.

Worse Yet.

Snarley—They're a bad family. The father plays the stock market and the son the piano. You'd think they were virtues if you heard the daughter play the piano.—Syracuse Herald.

To Los Angeles and Southern California. Every Friday night, at 10:35 p. m., a through Tourist Car for Los Angeles and Southern California, leaves the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Union Passenger Station, Chicago, via Omaha, Colorado Springs and Salt Lake City, for all points in Colorado, Utah, Nevada and California.

In addition to the regular Pullman porter, each car is accompanied by an intelligent, competent and courteous "courier," who will attend to the wants of passengers en route. This is an entirely new feature of tourist car service and will be appreciated by families or by ladies traveling alone. Parlor tickets are paid to the care of children, who usually get weary on a long journey. These tourist cars are sleeping cars supplied with all the accessories necessary to make the journey comfortable and pleasant, and the berth rate (each berth will accommodate two persons) is only \$6.00 from Chicago to California. Ask the nearest ticket agent for a tourist car folder, or address Geo. H. Headford, General Pass. and Ticket Agent, Chicago, Ill.

"My daughter's music," sighed the mother, "has been a great expense." "Indeed?" returned the guest. "Some neighbor sued you, I suppose?"—Boston Traveler.

Like Oil Upon Troubled Waters is Hale's Honey of Horsebalm and Tar upon a cold. Pike's Toothache Drops Cure in one minute.

Harduppe—"Skifflint is a close chap." Dedbroke—"Yes; he's close, and yet you can't touch him."—Philadelphia Record.

Just as soon as things begin to taste right to a sick person, the neighbors stop sending things in.—Athenian Globe.

He—"A fellow caught me in a lie today." She—"Are you telling me the truth?" He—"Of course I always tell the truth."—Town Topics.

Wigwag—"It strikes me that times are getting harder than ever." Watson—"They must be; I haven't been able to borrow a cent for over a month."—Berlin (Md.) Herald.

A Child of Fortune—"Jacy Dukane is a very lucky woman," said Mrs. Northside. "Is she?" replied Mr. Esplanade. "Has not her husband died recently?" "Yes, and his life was insured for \$100,000, and she looks just too utterly sweet in black."—Pittsburgh Chronicle-Telegraph.

"You have long boasted of what you were going to do with Chaffers when you met him, and when he confronted you the other day you ran away from him." "Very true. But, strong as was my belligerent impulse, I couldn't overcome the influence of my mother's injunction to shun bad company."—Richmond Dispatch.

Dorman—"I think that Dumbleigh must either be a very unselfish youth or a very big fool." Windam—"What has Dumbleigh been doing?" Dorman—"You know those 'Pouter' girls? It is said that each of them is worth her weight in gold. Well, Dumbleigh has actually gone and engaged himself to the smallest one of the lot."—Boston Transcript.

Robert Lillard, the actor, brought a young Englishwoman to see "El Capitán." She was much impressed with De Wolf Hopper, and remarked: "What a charming man your Mr. Hopper is. Tell me, is he married?" "Been married three times," was the reply. "Three times?" she repeated. "and they are all dead?" "No," was the answer, "he's divorced." "Ah!" she rejoined, "I see; he's a Grass-Hopper."—San Francisco Argonaut.

Struck It Big.

Henry A. Salzer, Manager of the John A. Salzer Seed Co., La. Crosse, Wis., also President of the Idaho Gold Coin Mining and Milling Co., is in luck. They have recently struck a wonderful deposit of gold on their properties. As a result the stock of the Gold Coin Co. has doubled in value. Many of the patrons of the John A. Salzer Seed Co. are owners of Gold Coin Stock. The mines are located in the Seven Devil District, Idaho.

True to Nature.

She—What a good picture! He—No, it isn't. I was not well, and I looked like an idiot that morning. She (intently studying the photograph)—Well, it looks exactly like you, anyway.—Judge.

Winter in the South.

The season approaches when one's thoughts turn toward a place where the inconveniences of a Northern winter may be escaped. No section of this country offers such ideal spots as the Gulf Coast on the line of the Louisville & Nashville Railroad between Mobile and New Orleans. It possesses a mild climate, pure air, even temperature and facilities for hunting and fishing enjoyed by no other section. Accommodations for visitors are first-class, and can be secured at moderate prices. The L. & N. R. R. is the only line by which it can be reached in through cars from Northern cities. Through car schedules to all points in Florida by this line are also perfect. Write for folders, etc., to Jackson Smith, D. P. A., Cincinnati, O.

The world may owe every man a living, but the miner is the one who digs down in the earth's pockets and gets it.—Chicago Daily News.

Every reader of this paper should give special heed to the offers which are appearing from week to week by the John M. Smyth Co. in this issue will be found their advertisement of a thoroughly up-to-date, first-class sewing machine, at the astounding low price of \$14.25. Coming as this offer is a commercial rating of over one million dollars, and of the highest character, they mark an opportunity that the shrewd buyer will not be slow to take advantage of. The John M. Smyth Co., 150 to 166 West Madison street, will send their mammoth catalogue, in which is listed at wholesale prices everything to eat, wear and use, on receipt of only 10 cents to partly pay postage or express, and even this 10 cents is allowed in first purchase amounting to one dollar.

The Office Boy—"Only three more days before my vacation!" The Fixture—"You ought not to wish away your time." The Office Boy—"I ain't, I'm only wishing away the time that my time can begin."—Boston Transcript.

Coughing Leads to Consumption. Kemp's Balsam will stop the Cough at once. Go to your druggist to-day and get a sample bottle free. Large bottles 25c and 50 cents. Go at once; delays are dangerous.

The Bachelor Defined.—A Dallas mother with five grown daughters defines a bachelor as a "miserable coward who has lost the opportunity of a lifetime."—Dallas News.

Lane's Family Medicine.

Moves the bowels each day. In order to be healthy this is necessary. Acts gently on the liver and kidneys. Cures sick headache. Price 25 and 50c.

A man's favorite joke is that he is related to the church by marriage.—Athenian Globe.

The Rock Island Playing Cards are the slickest you ever handled. One pack will be sent by mail on receipt of 15 cents in stamps. A money order or draft for 50 cents or same in stamps will secure 4 packs, and they will be sent by express, charges prepaid. Address, John Sebastian, G. P. A., C.R.I. & P., Chicago.

There is one thing worse than not having anything good to eat, and that is to have it and not be able to eat it.—Ledger Monthly.

To Cure a Cold in One Day. Fake Laxative Bromo Quinine Tablets. All druggists refund money if it fails to cure. 25c.

Ignorance is more powerful in the hands of some people than knowledge.—Chicago Daily News.

I have used Piso's Cure for Consumption both in my family and practice.—Dr. G. W. Patterson, Inkster, Mich., Nov. 5, 1894.

KIDNEY DISEASE,

Caused by Internal Catarrh. Promptly Cured by Pe-ru-na.

Hon. J. H. Caldwell, a prominent member of the Louisiana State Legislature, says the following in regard to Pe-ru-na for catarrh:



Hon. J. H. Caldwell.

"I have used Pe-ru-na for a number of years with the very best results for catarrhal diseases. I shall never be without it. I never fail to recommend it when an opportunity presents itself."—J. H. Caldwell, Baton Rouge, La.

Gilbert Holt, Gray, Ky., says in a letter dated March 7th, 1894: "I have used four bottles of Pe-ru-na and I am well of my catarrh, and it cured my Bright's disease. I had been troubled for two years. I weigh twenty pounds more than I did before I was taken sick. I shall never be without Pe-ru-na." Send for free catarrh book. Address Dr. Hartman, Columbus, O.

Advertisement for Dr. Bull's Cough Syrup, claiming to cure all throat and lung affections.

Advertisement for Dr. Bull's Pills, claiming to cure constipation and various ailments.

Advertisement for 'A WOMAN HELPS WOMEN' featuring Mrs. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound.

Advertisement for 'CHRISTMAS PRESENTS GIVEN AWAY' featuring John M. Smyth Co. sewing machines.

Advertisement for 'JOHN M. SMYTH CO.' featuring sewing machines and mail order services.

Advertisement for 'DON'T RENT' featuring a 25c magazine subscription.

Advertisement for 'W. L. DOUGLAS' shoes, highlighting quality and price.

Advertisement for 'PISO'S CURE FOR CONSUMPTION' and 'CARTER'S INK'.