

FOR FARM AND GARDEN

DISPENSING WITH SAWDUST.

There is not so much sawdust as used to be the case, and there are every year more new ice houses creating a demand for it as filling between the walls to exclude passage of heat.

POINTS AS TO PIGS.

I have found boiled small potatoes excellent food for young pigs, in connection with skim milk and house slops, says L. P. Pierce. We cook them in two iron kettles on the back of the range, being at no extra expense for fuel.

Growing pigs should not be fed to repletion; the quantity should be gauged so that they will always come to the trough with good appetite. If they get hungry a little before feeding and squeal a little in anticipation, it is better than to have them lie stupid in their beds until stirred up.

AWAY WITH PARASITES!

Parasites of all kinds, both those that afflict human beings and those that worry the life out of animals, deserve to be exterminated, and we are glad to record that in this work of extermination the Department of Agriculture at Washington is making satisfactory progress.

with the thumb and finger when they were small or but a few inches in length, at which time they are easily got rid of. However, the plan generally followed by the farmer (and some fruit growers also) is to let the trees have a free-and-easy growth for two or three years, when the suckers are getting so plentiful as to give the trees an appearance of shiftlessness; then the owner himself goes to work, or the hired man is told to trim up the orchard, and they usually start in with a saw and axe, cutting and slashing to the heart's content, and by the time the job is completed the trees look as though they would not require pruning again in a dozen years.

During the winter or early spring is considered a good time to prune trees, and furthermore if you do not feel competent to do the work properly, then employ some one of your neighbors who is posted as to which limb or portions of the tree should receive the heaviest pruning or be entirely neglected. A competent man can trim and prune an orchard so the fruit will ripen evenly, also leave the top open so that a man can easily and readily move about among the branches, while a green person would in a day's time cut off hundreds of small limbs that will prove a positive injury to the tree.

All large wounds should be protected with a coating of shellac varnish applied with a brush, or use varnish of any kind or even paint can be used to prevent checking and decay. Should the wound be a large one and not entirely heal or grow over the first year, another coating of varnish should be applied in the fall. It will prevent the stub from absorbing an undue amount of moisture, which materially affects the vitality of the tree.

If you are necessitated to cut away a branch two or more inches in diameter, make it as close to the body of tree as possible, thus insuring greater rapidity in healing, always making the surface of wound smooth as possible by trimming off the ragged edges with a knife after the use of a saw.

FARM AND GARDEN NOTES.

Keep the stock thrifty. Every day the stock is kept adds to the cost.

Stock never stands still. It either gets better or worse.

Keep the hogs in the pasture as long as they can secure a fair supply of grass.

It should not be forgotten in feeding hogs that it is very important to see that they have a full supply of water.

A horse that is a fast walker is all right in the limbs, as no horse can walk fast unless his legs are put on his body right.

A. L. Crosby says that when one is feeding a dairy cow he should watch not only her head end but the "udder" end. Correct. The udder is the rudder that points the cow to profit or to loss.

The fact is becoming recognized that equal executive ability on the farm will, on the average, produce as much wealth and more comfort than it can in average business and commercial enterprise.

The most suitable temperature for what are known as greenhouse plants, such as geraniums, carnations, camellias, arbutus, etc., is about forty-five degrees at night. Hot house plants better have fifteen more.

Can't you and your neighbors start a mail delivery association? The history of the mail service shows that private enterprise started mail delivery in this country. Uncle Sam followed and took the work out of the hands of the people.

There is no time wasted in making beds in the farmer's garden. Plant everything in straight, level rows, the longer they are the better. This will save time when preparing the ground and makes cultivation much easier. The small, raised beds may do for the village gardener, who has time to be fussy, but not the farmer who means business.

FOR THE HOUSEWIFE.

TO POLISH CUTLERY.

Cutlery is polished with fine emery powder either by means of a buffing wheel, that is, one of wood covered with soft leather turned rapidly in a lathe, or by rubbing with a piece of leather on a piece of board. For domestic use there is nothing better than a piece of potato for the rubber dipped in flour of emery.

WASHING GOLD ORNAMENTS.

This is the way to wash gold ornaments: They must be first placed in cold soapy water, and after having been left to soak an hour or two, may be rinsed in clear water. After being dried in a handful of bran, they should be rubbed with chamois leather. Nor must silver jewelry be entirely forgotten. Filagree can be restored to its original white beauty by being thoroughly cleansed in strong potash water. Then rinse. Then immerse in a solution as follows: Salt one part, alum one part, saltpetre two parts, water four parts. Put your filagree into the mixture and bathe carefully for the space of five minutes.

REMOVING GREASE-SPOTS FROM CARPETS.

The best thing to remove grease-spots from carpets is gasoline. If the carpets have been down for some time, they should be taken up and thoroughly shaken free from dust. A perfectly clean cotton cloth should be laid under the grease-spot, gasoline should be poured over it, and it should be rubbed with a clean cloth till it disappears. As the cloth you are rubbing with becomes soiled, change it for a clean one, or rub in a clean piece of the same cloth. In this way the most obstinate grease-spots may be removed by a few minutes' hard rubbing. There should be no light or fire in the room, and the windows should be open when gasoline is used, as it is otherwise a most dangerous and inflammable material. Used with care, it is perfectly harmless and more efficacious than anything in removing grease, being better than naphtha or benzine.

RECIPES.

Oatmeal Gruel—Mix one tablespoonful of oatmeal to a smooth paste with a little cold water. Pour this into one pint of boiling water; let it boil for half an hour. Sweeten it and serve it with toast. Some prefer a little salt.

Drawn Butter for Boiled Fish—Mix together four tablespoonfuls of butter and two of flour until smooth, pour over it nearly a pint of boiling water, add a teaspoonful of lemon juice, set over the fire and stir, letting it come to a boil, then take from the stove and add a teaspoonful of chopped parsley.

Fried Shrimps—Open a can of shrimps, pour into a dish and wash with cold water, skim out and dry on a cloth, mix a little salt and pepper and sprinkle over them, dip carefully in beaten egg, then in bread or cracker crumbs and drop into a kettle of hot suet, skim out and drain. Lettuce or salad should be served with them.

Dried Apple Pie—Stew dried apples soft, in as little water as possible; sweeten to taste and add a few strips of orange peel or one slice of lemon; flavor with a very little spice. Put all through a coarse sieve, sweeten and season putting into the piepan; stir in a beaten egg. Bake with two crusts, rolled thin and warm it slightly before eating.

Apricot-tapioca Padding—Wash and pick over carefully three-quarters of a cup of pearl tapioca; put in a double boiler, cover with three cups of boiling water; cook one hour, when it should be soft and clear; then stir in a saltspoonful of salt, a cup of canned apricots and about a third of a cup sugar; stir until the tapioca jelly is dissolved and serve when very cold in a glass dish.

Scalloped Tomatoes—These may be cooked in small individual dishes or in a large one. Season a quart can of tomatoes to taste with salt, pepper and quarter of a teaspoonful of onion juice; sprinkle the bottom of the dish with stale bread crumbs rubbed through with a little butter; alternate with layers of tomatoes until the dish is full—the top layer, of course, must be of crumbs. Put in a rather quick oven, and when nicely browned they are ready to serve.

No Patent on This.

"I wonder how she manages to have such a lovely complexion all the time?" "She keeps her heart filled with sweet charity and the milk of human kindness, and it restores her face from within."—[New York Press.

Habits of the Moose.

J. G. Lockhart says that moose generally lie with the tail windward, trusting to their senses of hearing and smelling, which are remarkably acute, to warn them of approaching danger from that quarter, using their eyes to warn them from danger to leeward. While they are sleeping or chewing the cud, their ears are in perpetual motion, one forward, the other backward alternately. Mr. Lockhart also claims that the moose has the remarkable habit of making a short turn and sleeping below the wind of their fresh track, so that any one falling thereon and following it up is sure to be heard or smelled before he can get within shooting distance.

All Because of Human Vanity.

There is a vast deal of smuggling done in precious stones in the Port of New York. Persons have been known to carry thousands of dollars' worth of diamonds, rubies, pearls and other gems ashore from steamers, having them in their mouths, in the lining of their hats, or stowed away in the seams of their clothes. A diamond dealer's traveling agent often has in the little box which he carries suspended from his shoulder by a strap thirty thousand dollars' worth of jewels. Some of these jewel dealers were murdered in silent places in the past when making their semi-annual business trips, but now they all go well armed, and are more wary.—Once-a-Week.

Questions Often Asked.

Q. What is Alabastine? A. Alabastine is a durable coating for walls and ceilings. Q. Is it the same as kalsomines? A. It is entirely different from all other preparations on the market. Q. Wherein does it differ from these kalsomines on the market? A. It is made from a cement that goes through a process of setting on the wall, and grows harder with age. Q. What are kalsomines made from? A. From whiting, chalk, clay or other inert powders for a base, and are entirely dependent upon glue to hold them on the wall. Q. Why do kalsomines rub and scale? A. Because the glue, being animal matter, decays in a short time by exposure to air and moisture, and the binding qualities of the material are then gone. Q. Does the Alabastine contain any injurious substance? A. Alabastine has been most carefully tested, and is recommended by leading sanitarians throughout the country, on account of its sanitary nature. Q. What has the same investigation shown regarding wall paper? A. Sanitarians condemn in strong terms the use of wall paper for walls of living rooms on account of the poison used in its manufacture. Q. Can anything but plain work be done with Alabastine? A. Any kind of work, from plain tinting to the most elaborate decorating can be done. Q. How can I learn to do this work and decorate my house? A. By writing the Alabastine Company, Grand Rapids, Mich., for book of instructions and suggestions, and illustration of stencils, also showing six sets of tinted wall designs. Sent free.

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They're the cheapest pills you can buy, for they're guaranteed to give satisfaction, or your money is returned. You pay only for the good you get. It's a plan peculiar to Dr. Pierce's medicines.

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This is not written for publication, but if it will give others confidence in your great remedy, I have no objections to your using it as best you can. With best regard I remain, J. D. Willcox. This is but one of the hundreds of letters received daily by Dr. Kilmor & Co., and five thousand dollars will be given to any one who will prove any portion of the above testimony untrue. Swamp-Root is beyond question the greatest discovery of the age.

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