

FARM AND GARDEN NOTES.

ITEMS OF TIMELY INTEREST TO THE FARMERS.

The Names of Fruits—Management of a Strawberry Bed—Spoiling the Chrysanthemum.

THE NAMES OF FRUITS.

It does not pay to select odd or long names for popular fruits, nor yet those which express decided superiority of quality. Our best fruit will make its way under whatever name it may be called, and will be not a whit more popular for being called "nonesech" or "excellent." It is quite natural that the originator of a new fruit should think it better for all purposes than any that have preceded it, but some of the old varieties have excellencies that will enable them to hold the market against all competitors with high-sounding names.

MANAGEMENT OF A STRAWBERRY BED.

A strawberry bed is at its best in its second year after planting. After that it gets so full of runners that crowd each other that the fruit is poor and scarce. The runners of last year should be taken up and replanted in a new bed for next year, and the old plants, fully freed from weeds and extra plants, will bear this year, but not a full crop. It is most desirable to have always two beds of this fruit, one in its second year and one of last year's planting, for the full crop. So there is a yearly planting, and one bed in full bearing each year.

SPOILING THE CHRYSANTHEMUM.

A correspondent of the London Garden thinks florists are destroying the natural grace and beauty of the chrysanthemum, both in growing and showing it. While amateurs have rebelled against that cauliflower-like abortion, the incurved variety, and put an end to trained specimens, it has been succeeded by a close imitation of the domestic mop, stick and all. The elegant wildness and orderly confusion of the Japanese sorts are being trimmed away, and we are being presented with flat monstrosities, having thick, tangled centres, and a fringe of irregular petals. While people of taste in floral matters are realizing that every flower has a natural character and expression, and are learning to love the flowers of the field and hedge better than the pedantic florist fancier of thirty years ago, they are compelled to see the chrysanthemum retrograding under the perverted taste of great growers and fanciers.

PREPARING FOR ONION GROWING.

It is not unlikely that you can fit ordinary farm land that grew potatoes last year so that it will produce a maximum onion crop the present season. In digging the potatoes the soil is cultivated too deeply, so that it is very loose and friable down to the depth of the furrow. The onion does best in a shallow but rich seed bed. If you propose to plant it for an onion crop, do not plow the land, but cultivate three to four inches deep as soon as the soil can be worked in the spring. If an open spell comes in March cultivate and mark the surface, then drilling in the seed and covering it lightly. If a late frost crusts the surface it will be all the better for the crop. The onion seed germinates slowly, and should be soaked before being planted. Then mark the rows where the seed is dropped so plainly that the hoe can be run close to the rows before the young plants appear above the surface. This will save a great deal of hand labor in weeding while the plants are small. It is possible, by having straight lines in which to drop the seeds, to run the hoe within half an inch of the young plants. It is always best, however rich the soil, to drop some nitrate of soda and potash in the furrows with the seed. Onion roots do not run very far, and the plants are greatly benefited by nitrogenous manures, as they begin their growth when the soil is too cold for nitrogen to be developed in it or from coarse manures.

BEST TIME TO PRUNE.

The best time to prune the apple is when the knife is sharp! This is rank heresy in the eyes of many who favor pruning only in winter, but it is borne out by tests at Cornell experiment station in Central New York. In '91, six good-sized apple trees were set apart, and a portion of a young orchard has also been used for experimentation. That season limbs were cut off every month in the year. This winter the scars have been carefully studied and photographed, and no difference can be found in the healing over. That is, no difference can be discovered that would cause the recommending of any particular month to prune. The wounds at time of pruning were covered with all the different substances recommended, and no advantage could be discovered by their use over no treatment, in healing over these wounds, which were one to four inches in diameter. Professor Bailey goes so far as to say that the use of grafting wax, shellac, putty and various other coverings for wounds made by the removal of limbs, is only valuable to keep out bacteria and thus prevent rot. The ideal remedy for this would be Bordeaux mixture (but it does not last), as the other recommended substances in a brief time allow germs to obtain a foothold. The rapidly growing ap-

ple is not always successful. It is satisfied with nothing but the best.

MULCHING.

It is the general opinion that by mulching heavily around a fruit tree when the ground is frozen, the flowering and consequently the ripening season can be controlled. Now let us look at the conditions necessary for vegetable growth, and then apply those facts to the case in hand, says Wallace's Farmer.

The essential conditions for vegetable growth are a supply of assimilated matter, free oxygen in contact with the plant, and a proper temperature. In common parlance, we speak of a tree "ripening its wood" in the fall, which is simply saying that it stores elaborated food, mainly starch, in its body for future use. In spring, when the required degree of temperature is reached, the buds begin to develop by appropriating for their immediate use the starch held in store since the preceding fall. This takes place regardless of whether the roots are kept dormant or not. If, however, the roots are kept dormant while the buds are leaping into life, the moisture necessary for their growth will soon be spent, and the life of the buds endangered.

In order to control the flowering season of a plant its structure must be capable of being placed under a mulch, so that the temperature can be kept low enough to make growth impossible. Many experiments and other examples may be cited to elucidate this question; for instance, if a grape-vine growing near the house be taken through a window into the warm room, in the spring when the whole plant is still dormant, the portion surrounded by the sufficiently high temperature will start its buds, while the portion out in the cold will remain dormant. Again we have an example which still more frequently illustrates this point, in our common potato. The tuber is stored in the cellar, and so soon as the proper conditions present themselves its buds (eyes) start, or, as we say, the potato sprouts. Although the tuber has no connection with soil, and is furnished with no water, the sprouts grow, and hence must live on the substance stored within the tuber which nature has designed for the future use of the plant, and which man appropriates for himself.

Just as the potato sprouts live on the moisture and starch stored within the tuber free from the ground, so the buds of a tree thrive on the moisture and the starch stored within the limbs which are at that time independent of the root system.

Let these examples suffice to illustrate the idea we wish to convey. A word, however, as to the ripening of wood in the fall: a tree which does not fully ripen its wood at the close of the growing season fails to make ample provision for the life of its buds in the following spring, and hence it is not a complete success.

FARM AND GARDEN NOTES.

Give the brood mares some exercise.

Give the young pigs a warm, dry bed.

A warm stable should be provided for the young "bosses" coming in nowadays. A chill in the first few days of a calf's life gives a poor start for a successful life.

A little grain fed to young growing stock will give big returns. Oats or bran are better than corn, yet we would feed a little of the latter if we had it, and did not have oats or bran.

Bee propolis is a good cement for slop pails, poultry water-dishes, etc.

The life of a bee depends upon the work it does. When it labors its life is shortest.

Take out surplus honey now and keep the bees at work on a new supply for winter.

An old superstition has it that whenever the red cloud of war hangs over Europe, the bees will be idle.

Keep your eyes on the old combs. Moth larvae will, very likely, be in them along with pollen. In this case sulphur them.

On many farms geese could be raised to good advantage. Besides yielding a regular income in the way of feathers, they are a profitable market fowl.

While ducks or geese do not seem subject to roup or cholera, yet they will become lame and droopy, often, if too closely confined in damp quarters.

Look after the small economies in poultry-keeping. It is the summing up of little things and little cares in the business which puts the balance on the right or wrong side.

An attempt to improve the flock is all right, but one would better buy thorough-bred eggs or fowls than to try to grade up the common stock, because it saves time, and going up hill

is not always successful. It is satisfied with nothing but the best.

An interesting experiment would be to have two beds of plants, exactly alike, keep one thoroughly stirred, and the other not, and then note the difference at the end of the season. During dry periods, beds pulverized once a week show nearly as good results as if well watered.

The banana, from the fancied resemblance of the centre to a transverse section of the cross, has been supposed by many to be the forbidden fruit of the Garden of Eden, and that, by eating it, Adam was given to see the mystery of the redemption by the cross.

Give the cattle good food and care, and the dust will remain thick on the cover of the barn medicine chest.

Don't forget to provide grit and lime in some form, as the frozen and snowy ground affords no opportunity for the hens to help themselves, and they must have a supply in order to do much at egg production.

The prime causes of failure to succeed with house plants in many cases are injudicious watering and improper potting. If you will exercise a little judgment, based on information received from experienced friends or the floral magazines, failure from these causes will not so frequently occur.

Where Food Costs Least.

The cheapest food in Europe, considering that it is of good quality, is probably to be had in the restaurants attached to the homes for the aged pensioners of the city of Vienna.

The Poor Law Department of that city allows all citizens who are entitled to it about 12 cents a day, and these are the prices and the articles they will purchase: Half pint of various soups for 1½ cents; beef cooked and without bones, three and two-third ounces for 2½ cents; corn beef with sauce, four and one-half ounces for 2½ cents; roast veal, lamb, or pork, five and one-half ounces for 3 cents; smoked beef, two ounces for 3 cents; potatoes, cabbage, turnips, etc., half-pint for 1 cent; milk pudding, half pint for 2 cents; boiled puddings, four and one-half ounces for 1 cent; old white wine, half pint, 4 cents; red wine, half pint, 6 cents; beer, one and three-quarter pints, 3 cents; milk, half pint, 1½ cents, and coffee, half pint, 2½ cents.

All of these articles are carefully inspected by officials both before and after they are prepared.

A Luncheon for a Penny.

In a large city where it was observed that even many of the poorest children had a penny to spend at the noonday hour, it was also noticed that the penny went for cheap and unwholesome candies and confections. "What can we do?" asked a number of philanthropic women, "to satisfy the craving for sweets, and yet provide these poor children with something that is nutritious and safe for their stomachs? What kind of a luncheon could any one sell for a penny?" The first solution of the question was two large sandwiches spread with apple jam, or a large piece of gingerbread. From this beginning it is hoped to furnish more of a variety for the penny luncheons, which the children gladly patronize.

Twelve Fat Boys.

Following is a list of boys in this country who have extreme weights: Harry Gutterman, of Boston, age 12, weight 178; Michael Corrigan, Waltham, Mass., 13, 193; Howard Tibbets, Malden, Mass., 13, 210; Anton Mochty, St. Louis, 10, 150; Fay Honser, Groton, N. Y., 12, 212; Joseph Young, New York City, 13, 204; Theodore Tierman, Cincinnati, O., 14, 244; James Angul, Natick, Mass., 15, 315; Charles Schwartz, New York City, 15, 220; Howard Grosner, Philadelphia, 11, 200; Martin Buxman, Coopersville, Mich., 11, 265; Elmore Shepherd, Pocahontas, Va., 10, 304.

Iron Melting by Electricity.

Gustaf de Laval, the inventor of a rotary steam engine, is reported to have discovered a method of smelting iron directly from its ores by the aid of the electric current. Large iron works have been purchased in the provinces of Norrland and Wernmland, in Northern Sweden, the two great iron districts of the north, together with immense water privileges and vast deposits of peat to be used as fuel. If this process should prove commercially practicable, its influence on the iron industry can hardly be overestimated.

The Pillow Habit.

The Queen of Serbia, while indulging in all of the luxuries due to her rank, eschews a soft bed and the tempting down pillow. She sleeps on a narrow divan with a hard and unyielding mattress, and without the vestige of a head rest; the consequence is that her figure is perfect, and the carriage of her head stately and natural. The royal family of Serbia had never been permitted as children to indulge in the pillow habit; consequently the absence of it is no deprivation to the beautiful queen.

She Saw Napoleon.

A Polish woman, 104 years old, who saw the march of Napoleon and his army into Russia in 1812, and the terrible retreat of the survivors, is living at Shahokin, Penn. She is very feeble, and came near being burned to death last week, when her house caught fire.

Oyster shells were used by the Romans to make tooth powder.

ISLAM'S HOLY COAT.

Relic Which is Exhibited to the Faithful Once Every Century.

The Holy Coat of Mohamet, which is exhibited for the adoration of the faithful once every hundred years, according to the tradition was presented by the Prophet to a Yemen dervish, Wasil-Karani, as a token of gratitude for his services in discovering the use and preparation of coffee, is a kind of "chukva," or robe, with flowing sleeves somewhat similar to Western dressing gowns, which is worn in the Levant by those whom foreigners are accustomed to designate as Turks of the old school. It is needless to add that its color is green—the hue above all others sacred to the Prophet. The extent to which the garment is venerated by all true believers may be estimated by the fact that the principal and most cherished title of the Sultan is that of "Hadum-ul-Haremeh," or Guardian of the Holy Relic. The latter was brought to Constantinople by Sultan Selim I, along with the keys of the holy cities of Mecca and Medina, from Cairo, where they had been preserved until that time in the keeping of the Caliphs. The shrine in which it was placed by the Sultan Selim, and where it has remained ever since until this day, is within the precincts of the Imperial Treasury at Gulchane.

It was thither that the present Sultan of Turkey betook himself in state recently. He was seated alone on the back seat of his carriage, and facing him was old Osman Ghazi Paqa, the hero of Plevna. Alighting at the Bab-ul-Saidn, or Sublime Porte, he, with his own hands, unlocked, by means of a massive golden key, the silver grating or cage which protects the Holy of Holies from intrusion by the profane. With another key of the same precious metal, he proceeded to open a huge cupboard or box composed of the purest and most massive gold, and to extract therefrom a bundle, which he placed on a silver table of great beauty. One by one the Sultan removed the forty outer cloths in which the Holy Coat was wrapped up, until the last but one was reached. That latter consisted of some thin, transparent kind of gauze, and is left intact; for no mortal eye may behold or human lips touch the sacred relic unshrouded. Reverently, and with every token of the utmost veneration, the Sultan bent and kissed the dingy looking bundle, his example being followed by the Shiek-ul-Islam, the Grand Vizier and the various chief dignitaries of the realm, according to their rank. During which time the verses of the Koran were chanted by the plebe.

Subsequently all the men withdrew, and under the guidance of his Highness, Yaver Aga, the grand eunuch of the imperial seraglio, the Valide Sultana, or mother Empress, along with the various wives of the monarch and princesses of the family, appeared upon the scene and likewise paid their respects to the Holy Coat. As soon as they had closed their devotions and departed, the Sultan carefully wrapped up the bundle again in the nine-and-thirty wrappers which he had removed, after which he replaced it in its golden cupboard, locked it, as well as its silver cage or grating, and returned to his palace at Yildiz Kiosk between a double line of troops, who kept a path open through the vast multitude of people for the imperial procession. In the evening the Sultan sent to all those who had been present at this ceremony small white cambric handkerchiefs with the verses of the Koran embroidered on them, which had been specially consecrated at Mecca for the purpose.

Besides this, splendid presents were made by the Padishah to the Shiek-ul-Islam, the primate of the Turkish Church, and also to Yaver Aga, a coal black and gigantic negro, who is addressed as "Your Highness" and ranks with the Grand Vizier and bears the title of "Dar ul Sadr Aghassi," which, rendered in English, means, "he whose post is behind the door of the sanctuary of bliss." The Grand Vizier and the Ministers also received tokens of imperial good will in the shape of jewelry and decorations.—New York Tribune.

Some Horses.

Some horses cannot bear to be without company, especially in the fields, while others apparently dislike it, and may be seen grazing always apart from a troop on some large common or fell. I have known a horse of mature years fall as deeply and desperately in love with a donkey at first sight as the veriest moon-calf that ever visited a ball room. In fact, such was the poor animal's pitiable plight that, after a day or two of companionship, he would not eat until the ass had made a start from his manger. On the other hand, I have known a horse, at first averse to the society of the same donkey, after a while grow quite fond of it, thus proving that platonic affection may be a thing of slow or rapid growth between animals, as in human beings, according to individual disposition.

Horses vary a great deal, too, in regard to nerve. Some are born frightened of railway trains, and though they may live all their lives near to them, remain so. Very few will stand being "shot off," yet now and again one may be met with that will remain as steady as a rock while its rider blazes off with both barrels right over its head at a convey of gronze. Very few horses will wait for their masters when left unfettered upon a public road; however, I have known one faithful little mare that would wait for her bibulous master outside a country public house on a cold winter's night for two and even three hours on end. When tired of waiting, I have on many occasions heard her neigh for her master. I have been shut up in a stable on several occasions with individual horses while a number of people, including in each case the man who fed and drove the animal under observation, went by. In some instances the

horse would whinny in recognition of its attendant's footsteps, and in others pay not the slightest attention.

Bet His Whiskers.

William Sells has deserted the circus business to go into the theatrical business. He now manages a New York theater, but he likes to tell of the old show days. He had in those days a partner known familiarly as "Jim" Hamilton. Hamilton had a black, bushy beard—hair that would have driven Paderewski into seclusion—and a general intellectual air. One night some one suggested that Hamilton would look better if he would shave of his whiskers. Sells, who knew of Hamilton's fondness for his whiskers, offered to bet \$25 that Hamilton wouldn't shave. Hamilton, who was present, replied, "I will take that bet." He did, and a barber was sent for. Hamilton submitted quietly to the operation. Then he asked gently if Sells would bet \$50 he wouldn't have his hair cut. Sells said he would. Hamilton took it, and then had his hair trimmed until he looked like a convict. When he got all through he said, musingly: "I have been intending to shave and clip my hair but this makes it easier." Sells did not hear until later that it was all a put-up job, and that Hamilton had a habit of letting his hair and beard grow to such proportions just to get some one to bet him that he wouldn't shave.—New York Tribune.

Fed by Hawks.

A group of men in a Washington hotel the other night were talking about lazy people, when one told an anecdote that broke up the meeting. The relator, observes the Star, said that a family of his acquaintance living in southern Indiana subsist upon fish entirely. A stream runs through the little farm upon which they reside, and fish hawks are plentiful. The boys of the household keep close watch for fishhawk nests, and catch the birds before they are able to fly. Then these chicks are raised in a happy-go-lucky sort of way until the older birds of the flock train them how to fish.

The hawks are let loose and the boys lay in the grass by the side of the stream watching them. When a hawk catches a fish, the prey is taken from the bird, which, however, is allowed to eat all it wants when the day's fishing is over. They have enough hawks to keep fish on hand sufficient to supply them with food, and to sell a few, by which their scant clothing can be replenished. Not one of the family ever attempts work of any kind, and they are supported entirely by the hawks.

Cinnamon Adulterations.

The organ of the Society of Public Analyst mentions the following curious instance of commercial ingenuity: A certain firm of confectioners abroad used a large quantity of walnuts in various forms of sweets, and found that the shells had a distinct commercial value, and, in fact, they sold the shells for more than they gave for the whole walnuts. The shells are ground to powder, and then used in adulterating ground cinnamon. But the buyer is not altogether secure in buying cinnamon in the stick, for this is sometimes adulterated by the natives who gather it with the bark of other shrubs. A heartless, ingenious, deception, too, is that practiced every spring, when large quantities of a common weed, the leaf of which closely resembles the musk plant, is by some means slightly scented with musk and sold as the genuine, at so much a root, to the great subsequent disappointment of the buyer.—Household Words.

Will Teach Dutch.

It is rumored that a chair of Dutch Language and Literature will be founded at Columbia College. The only foreign country in which the study of Dutch has ever been seriously prosecuted is Japan, which, however, in the last half of this century, has seen the wisdom of substituting English. The young Japanese, who formerly were sent to Holland to be educated, now go to this country, England, Germany, and, to a less degree, France.—Detroit Free Press.

The White House Kindergarten.

Since Mrs. Cleveland engaged a kindergarten teacher for her little girls, quite a school has been established in the White House. Among its pupils are the little Wallace children, the grandchildren of Chief Justice Fuller, the little daughter of Gen. and Mrs. Draper and the children of Private Secretary and Mrs. Thurber.—New York Mail and Express.

Typewriter for the Blind.

A typewriter for the use of the blind has been invented. It works like an ordinary typewriter in impressing the prints of the letters, but it also makes a raised cut on the side by which the blind can read. Matter written in this way can be used both by the blind and those who can see.—New York Telegram.

Let the Eyelids Alope.

People must also restrain the habit so natural to many, of rubbing their eyes "to get the sleepiness out," as children say. This has a tendency to loosen the lashes and make them fall out unduly. The eyelids should be touched as little as possible, and the hand should always be perfectly clean before it comes near them.

A Haunted House Advertised.

The following advertisement appears in a London paper: "A genuine haunted house; one hour worth of London, and close to a favorite town; four reception and fourteen bedrooms; stabling, lodge and park lands; first-class repair. Rent, £100."

Miss Alcott's View.

In a book of reminiscences of Concord thirty years ago, by Frank Stearns, just published, the author relates how Miss Alcott came to him one day, and asked him to take her out rowing. He complied, but he found it more of a job than he had anticipated. "This is the darnedest boat I ever pulled," he remarked. "Frank," said Miss Alcott, "never say darn. Much better to be profane than vulgar."

Round the Hearthstone.

Household necessities, cheer and warmth in winter, require the building of more fires. A cheerful, warm fire-place is a gracious comfort, but the harm fire may do has no limit. Hearthstones have stored legends, and there are stories of how houses are burned down by carelessness. But it is because we have more fires that there are more burns and scalds, the treatment of which, to allay at once the torturing pain, requires something for immediate use. No household should be without it, and St. Jacobs' supplies the need. Used according to direction, it heals, soothes and cures, and leaves no scars behind.

"You told me you and Harry loved at sight." "Yes, but we quarreled on acquaintance."

How's This?

We offer One Hundred Dollars Reward for any case of Catarrh that cannot be cured by Hall's Catarrh Cure. F. J. CROWLEY & Co., Toledo, O. We, the undersigned, have known F. J. Crowley for the last 15 years, and believe him perfectly honorable in all his transactions, and financially able to carry out any obligation made by their firm. WEAVER & THOMAS, Wholesale Druggists, Toledo, Ohio.

WALDING, KINMAN & MARVIN, Wholesale Druggists, Toledo, Ohio. Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally, acting directly upon the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. Testimonials sent free. Price, 75c per bottle. Sold by all Druggists.

Sailors were landed from the American ship Alert at Corinto, Nicaragua, to protect property.

Dobbins' Electric Soap has been made for 23 years. Each year's sales have increased. In 1888 sales were 2,947,000 boxes. Superior quality, and absolute uniformity and purity, make this possible. Do you use it? Try it.

There appears to be little abatement in popular feeling in Spain against the United States.

FITS stopped free by DR. KILMER'S GREAT NERVE RESTORER. No fits after first day's use. Marvellous cures. Treatise and \$2.00 trial bottle free. Dr. Kilmer, 361 Arch St., Phila., Pa.

Atlanta, Ga., is pointing with pride to the prospects of a building twenty stories high.

"BROWN'S BRONCHIAL TROCHES" are a simple yet most effective remedy for Coughs, Hoarseness and Bronchial Troubles. Avoid imitations.

Tuberculosis is said to be alarmingly prevalent among the cattle of Illinois.

Dr. Kilmer's SWAMP-ROOT CURE all Kidney and Bladder troubles. Pamphlet and Consultation free. Laboratory, Binghamton, N. Y.

Poets are born, not made; and Poets Laureate are made, not born.

Sour

Stomach, sometimes called waterbrash, and burning pain, distress, nausea, dyspepsia, are cured by Hood's Sarsaparilla. This it accomplishes because with its wonderful power as a blood purifier, Hood's Sarsaparilla gently tones and strengthens the stomach and digestive organs, invigorates the liver, creates an appetite, gives refreshing sleep and raises the health tone. In cases of dyspepsia and indigestion it seems to have "a magic touch."

"For over 12 years I suffered from sour

Stomach

with severe pains across my shoulders, and great distress. I had violent nausea, which would leave me very weak and faint, difficult to get my breath. These spells came oftener and more severe. I did not receive any lasting benefit from physicians, but found such happy effects from a trial of Hood's Sarsaparilla that I took several bottles, and mean to always keep it in the house. I am now able to do all my own work, which for six years I have been unable to do. My husband and son have also been greatly benefited by Hood's Sarsaparilla—for pains in the back and after the grip. I gladly recommend this grand blood medicine." Mrs. PETER BERRY, Leominster, Mass.

Hood's Sarsaparilla

Is the One True Blood Purifier. All druggists, \$1 Hood's Pills cure all Liver Ills and Sick Headaches, 25 cents.

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OVER 100 STYLES AND WIDTHS, CONGRESS, BUTTON, and LACE, made in all kinds of the best selected leather by skilled workmen. We make and sell more \$3 Shoes than any other manufacturer in the world. None genuine unless name and price is stamped on the bottom.

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