

FARM AND GARDEN.

Items of Interest on Agricultural Topics.

Banish the Scrubs Thinning Fruit—Evergreens for Windbreaks—The Aquilegia Etc., Etc.

BANISH THE SCRUBS.

To feed good crops to poor animals is the height of folly, and is not excusable under the plea of good farming.

THINNING FRUIT.

In the experiments in thinning apples at the New York station last year, the thinned trees gave fruit of a lighter color and a larger per cent.

EVERGREENS FOR WINDBREAKS.

The proper time for planting evergreens is just when the new growth is about to begin to start.

THE AQUILEGIA.

In selecting the hardy plants for outdoor planting, the old-fashioned favorites should not be overlooked.

CARE OF HORSES.

So long as hard work continues, even if it be to midsummer or later, horses should not be allowed any green grass or clover.

THE VALUE OF COW MANURE.

Cow manure does not heat quickly. It is, therefore, not in favor for forcing beds or for crops where early results are important.

to ninety-nine per cent. Considering the amount of nutrition which a cow in full flow of milk manufactures from its food every day this result is remarkable.

PRUNING GRAPE VINES.

Most of our native grapes require more room to grow in than is usual in European vineyards.

PRESERVING EGGS FOR HIGHER PRICES.

When eggs are preserved and placed on the market, they will not take the place of fresh ones, and commission merchants never sell them for fresh eggs, no matter how well they look.

The most satisfactory method that I have tried is the boiling water process. The sweetness and natural flavor of the eggs are retained.

New Implements of War.

One of the most remarkable of war inventions is attributed to the ingenuity of a Frenchman, Paul Giffard.

Another popular method of preserving eggs is to dissolve four ounces of beeswax in eight ounces of warm olive oil.

Valuable Lessons.

Physical culture is so helpful, it teaches the children to go upstairs properly.

Quite Invisible.

The Husband—Have you any invisible veils? The Saleslady—Yes, sir. It is impossible to see them.

THE DIATOMS.

How a Plant Guided Nansen Toward the North Pole.

It is interesting to record the important part taken by the microscopic plants called diatoms in guiding Nansen toward the North pole.

But in spite of the universal distribution of diatoms as a class, there are certain species of the tiny plants that are of very restricted habitat.

Of course, there were other clues that pointed in the same direction, but perhaps no other single bit of evidence was so influential as that furnished by the microscopic diatoms.

There is a sawmill in Grandin, Mo., many departments of which are in charge of women. There is a woman in charge of the engine.

The TONE OF THE BELL.

There is a general belief that the introduction of silver or gold in the casting of a bell assures for it a superior tone.

Not Improved by the Use of Gold or Silver in the Bell Metal.

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A Small Herd of twenty Buffalo is owned by the Island Improvement Company.

A big black dog of uncertain breed seized the mail bag when it is thrown off the train at a certain rural town in Georgia.

NOTES AND COMMENTS.

A MINNESOTA newspaper prints pictures of the "Faculty of Instruction" and of the graduating class in the local high school.

A PARTY of forty Spaniards have been engaged to work as stokers on two of the big lake passenger steamers.

A SANITARY Bible for the use of courtrooms has just been put on the market.

DEWEY COUNTY, S. D., which is larger than the State of Delaware, is officially declared to have no inhabitants.

THE Chinese are said to possess secrets in the preparation of sweets that astonish our most accomplished confectioners.

In Austria a law has just been passed making it a punishable offense for parents to take young children to bed with them.

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"We have found," said a Government official in Washington, "that the men and women who ride wheels get down early in the morning."

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According to statistics recently furnished by Dr. James Wood of Brooklyn.

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A Four Legged Postal Assistant.

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a work recently published in Paris. From this it would seem morphinomania is most prevalent in Germany, France and the United States, although it has victims in Russia, Sweden, Turkey and the remote east.

In this country canals have been killed off by the competition of railroads, says the New York Tribune. But in Europe the latter are actually destroying great rivers.

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Laziness in Crete.

Crete is a land of the past, says the Springfield (Mass.) Republican. It is a land of memories rather than of passing events.

Where the Energy of a Cyclone Comes From.

The primary cause of the low barometric pressure which marks the storm center and establishes the cyclone is expansion of the air through excess of temperature.