ITEMS OF INTEREST ON AGRICULTURAL TOPICS.

Keeping Apples Sound All Winter --- Preserving Eggs--Protecting Bees in Winter---Shallow Covering of Manure---Etc.,

# WINTER.

#### PRESERVING EGGS.

fertile, for a long time in cool weather master of the situation. and without the use of preservatives. If the eggs are put in crates or placed a calf or colt halter (whichever is nein single layers on racks and turned cessary), and teach them when very half over twice a week they will keep young, beginning when a week or ten in good condition for two months or days old. When the work has once more if stored in a cool place during begun never skip a day (unless Sunthe period. Not only will they be day) without going through the regufresh but look fresh, that is, the shells lar exercise. Calves or colts never will retain that lustre which always forget a training of this kind, and are goes with an absolutely fresh egg, but much more domesticated in later life which cannot be retained when eggs when so handled. -Elias F. Brown in are limed or preserved in any of the Agricultural Epitomist. solutions used for the purpose. In order to carry out this plan successfully the eggs must be from hens who are not running with a male bird, and they should be gathered and stored daily. The cool room in which they not begin until half the top was covare kept must be frost proof. The plan is well worth trying, for eggs silage close together. The effect of will bring several cents a dozen more fermentation is to liberate carbonic in two months than now.

Hives occupied by working colonies of bees should be protected during winter. Keepers of bees sel! a chaff hive that answers the purpose of winter protection better than anything else. If these are too expensive, a good substitute may be made of dry goods boxes of various sizes but large enough to allow several inches of space for packing material after the hive has the chaffwill not work down and block the entrance. The box should be a on the top. It will be necessary to make a cover that will be perfectly waterproof. No special form is necessary, but a sloped roof will be the best. Cover it with waterproof paper and then a heavy coat of paint. This protecting box is easily made and operated, the main care necessary being a proper roof, space to use plenty of entrance through the outer box so that the bees may go out and in at will. This protection will enable the bees to pass through the winter in good shape if they have a sufficient food supply in the hive. - Atlanta Journal.

## NURE.

Consequently an attempt should be Cultivater. made to delay the downward progress of plant food instead of assisting it by plowing the manure in deeply. Then again, nitrification is most active near the surface of the soil. Therefore, manure kept near the surface is under Its plant food made available and consequently gives quicker returns.

When a heavy application of manure with the soil. It is quite probable, too, that this deeply buried manure has lost considerable nitrogen through denitrification. Economical manuring consists in obtaining quick returns over as large an area of the farm as possible, and this is accomplished by moderate applications inlow covering of manure also increases the humus of the surface soil. As a result, the soil does not bake and crack in warm weather; it absorbs and retains water much more satisfactorily, and works up into a fine tilth more easily .- New England Home-

## TEACHING STOCK TO LEAD.

One thing farmers are confronted with every few days in the winter Full-grown stock are the more difficult to teach how to lead. It is a pleasure how to hide." to a farmer to have his cattle taught

FARM AND GARDEN NEWS. made, an animal is sold or one leaving the farm for any other purpose, just how it is going to be handled.

We always teach our young cattle to lead in the winter when there is plenty of snow on the ground, then the animal is not very liable to get hurt in falling. But how should the real task of breaking be managed? By taking a cruel whip or club and try to force them into submission? No. By kindness? Yes. Use a # inch rope KEEPING APPLES SOUND ALL 30 or 40 feet long. Make an old-fashioned tie loop at one end so when in place it will not choke down the ani-Take fine dry saw-dust, preferably mal, then make a half hitch around that made by a circular saw from hard | the nose, forming something resembwood, and place a thick layer on bot- ling a halter. With such a rope a pertom of barrel, then place a layer of son can teach a calf or "critter" to apples, not close together, and not lead in a few days. Sometimes the close to the sides of the barrel. Put animal will start on a run directly in saw-dust liberally over and around, front of its leader going in the same and so proceed until a bushel and a direction. This is one of the most half or less are packed in the barrel. difficult things to manage, and where Keep in a cool place. No bruised or the animal is strong one or two men mellow apples will be preserved. but are required to do the work. The they will not communicate rot to the main rope that runs from the animal's other apples. This is an easier and head should have a rope attached half quicker way than to wrap each speci- way between animal and opposite end men in papers, and the apples would where the main man is. By such arbring fancy prices in the late spring. rangements the two men can walk side by side, and if the animal makes a lunge ahead one of the men can step aside, the other man slacking his rope If eggs are low in price it is a good so as to give the animal a side turn to plan to preserve them for the higher the right, when once more both men prices that will come later. It is not are using their full strength, which at all difficult to keep eggs, when not soon teaches your scholar that you are

The better way, however, is to have

#### FILLING THE SILO.

There is not the need of filling the silo in a single day, as was formerly supposed, so that fermentation could ered with some weight to press the acid gas. This is heavier than the common air, and therefore remains in PROTECTING BEES IN WINTER. | the silo unless there is a hole near the bottom to send in a current of fresh air. The greatest care should be taken to see that insects or mice have not drilled holes through the woodwork of the silo during the time it has been unoccupied. If such holes can be found they should be covered and closed with cement.

The shorter the silage is cut the better it will keep, because short silage been set in. Make a false bottom and packs itself closely and encloses little set it about four inches above the oth- air. It is the amount of air which the er bottom after filling the space with silage holds at the beginning that dechaff. Cut an opening through the box on a level with the false bottom. If the amount is small the silage will termines how much it shall ferment. making it tight at top and sides so that come out sweet. The richness of the at Annapolis, his moral courage and will, so long as it be a gold mine the noon teas in town. Do you suppose ness or sourness. Corn that is nearfoot higher than the hive so that am- ing maturity, but without drying of Brown at Rugby"? You remember of ore weighing perhaps fifty pounds ple protection may be placed over the leaf, makes the best silage. It the gentle little Arthur and the rough- and smash it up. Do not expect to Do Women really Reason?" top of the hive. The broad chambers has more sugar and starch, and these and ready, rugged Tom? Young see any gold in it. because the precof the hives only should be used, the so soon as they ferment, are turned Richmond had the fine qualities of lous metal is probably so thinly and lid fastened down closely and set in into carbonic acid gas, and thus stop both, the outer box, the chaff being pack- any further fermentation. On the ed down firmly all around it and other hand, green corn that is no- rest of his class, was at the swim- together. Continue grinding the ore cornstalks. These cannot be packed some mischance that, as Hobson are opposite to one another. Mix these taken from the silo.

In a dryfall we think that stalks cut out there in the breakers. chaff and the careful making of the and dried in stooks, husked out early latter plan is that it enables the farmer to limit the loss in a wet season, an impossibility. cutting the corn stalks fine, and putting them in a silo where the fermen-SHALLOW COVERING OF MA- the best covering is dry straw, all the hold gave way, and he sank into the better if it is chopped fine. It will breakers. Farmyard manure should be kept as absorb the moisture and itself be rotnear the surface of the soil as possi- ted by it, but this will all the better ble. The rain water as it percolates keep unchanged the strata of carbonthrough the soil has a tendency to ic acid gas beneath, which will pre-

Some Psychic Research. The band of small girls had the stealthy tread and the surreptitious titter which betrays youth on mischief bent. There was no doubt that more favorable conditions for having they should have been in bed hours ago, but the manner in which children escape the vigilance of their elders on such occasions will always be one of has been plowed under deeply, it is the mysteries of an otherwise progresno uncommon thing to see lumps of sive civilization. They were running manure brought to the surface by sub- on tip-toe to overtake a lady and a and on Thanksgiving night young sequent plowing, showing that it had man who had just gotten off the folks will greatly entertain their elders

> "Why aren't you at home?" she asked with remarkable fortitude. The answer came in a tone which eousness of a cause: "We're out Hal-

> loweenin'." "Well what would you do if I were "Why, you wouldn't do anything like that, would you?"

"I don't know. You see, we're out Halloweenin' ourselves."

Bet look here, you musn't think we children do all that mischief." "It's unruly spirits. It tells all eye. Stiff little children in sunbonnets. Stiff little children in sunbonnets." about them in a book up at our

house." "I never saw any such spirits." "They're around, though. This is and comfortable "Samantha Allen" season is the leading of the cattle. their chance to have fun. But they're sort of old ladies, may all be intro-

"But where do they go?"

OUR YOUNG FOLKS.

A CHILD'S THANKSGIVING. I thank thee, Father in the skies, For this dear home so warm and

bright; I thank Thee for the sunny day And for the sleepy, starry night.

I thank Thee for my father's arms, So big and strong to hold me near; I thank Thee for my mother's face; I thank Thee for my dolly dear.

thank Thee for the little birds

That eat my crumbs upon the sill;

I thank Thee for the pretty snow pat's coming down so soft and still. O, Father, up there in the skies, Hear me on this Thanksgiving day, And please read in my little heart The "thank yous" I forgot to say. -[Kate Whiting Patch.

A PLEASANT PASTIME. A pleasant pastime is making chains of straws and disks or squares of paper. These may be bought in colors, but may also be prepared at home. Soak the straws well, and then cut them in half-inch lengths. The disks and squares may be cut from any strong colored paper. The thread should be tied to the eye of the needle, and the child taught to thread alternately straw and disk or

#### A GREAT NATURAL BRIDGE.

his beautiful wonder of nature is situated twenty miles southwest of Douglas, Wyoming, where the La Prele creek breaks through the foothills of the Laramie Mountains. The and pitches, through a narrow, ragged canon about 1,000 feet in depth. Near the lower end of the gorge a ledge or wall of solid rock, about 150 feet in height, stretches right across the canon. In time long past the water has plunged over the top of this rock wall, which was then a natural dam; but finally the water found its way underneath, and the result is this bridge.

In span of its arch it exceeds anything of its kind in the known world. From buttress to buttress the bridge formed by the action of water. Not this is a "Crystal Cave" in which may be seen countless beautiful quartz crystals of various sizes and shapes.

### LIEUTENANT HOBSON.

silage has much to do with its sweet- his physical courage proved to be procedure of assaying is the same all

The two lads looked into each along the rope for both was nearly

Hobson gave way to his classmate. keeping the merest touch on the rope. tation cannot go only to a limited ex- But, somehow, at the moment of the

The boy left on the rope got in, to shore. All supposed he was dead, but he revived finally.

that!" And, from that day, he was ore per ton. Chambers's Journal. known among his classmates as "Parson Tough.

You can see, even from this brief account, how all along, from a child up, Richmond Hobson has been growing to be a hero.

## FUN FOR THANKSGIVING EVENING

After the holiday dinner is eaten, a little fun largely assists digestion. never become properly incorporated street car. The lady turned sharply, if they arrange for their amusement "A Family Picture Gallery." For this, a large picture frame is placed on a table in a folding doorway and betokened full confidence in the right the upper part of the opening concealed by draperies that can be let down between the tableaux. A number of persons then attire themselves to take a nandful of flour from under in antique costumes, and appearing corporated with the surface soil. Shal- my cape and throw it all over you?" in turn behind the frame, are described as portraits. If the exhibitor be a glib-tongued young fellow, this can be made extremely funny, as he introduces little anecdotes connected "Well, I s'pose it would have to ge. with each as-how "Grandpa Pratt" once had an encounter with a catamount; and how Aunt Mehitable from

and pantalets, simpering "bread and butter schoolgirls," solemn preachers too sharp to get caught. They know duced and dilated upon as ancestors of the family. Meanwhile, between the pictures, all might unite in singto lead as well as horses; for then he realizes that when a change is to be I believe they get inside us children. Bucket," "Where is my Boy To in the year 1752.

night?" "The Old Homestead," "Swance River," "Auld Lang Syne,"

and "Home Sweet Home." Or, if preferred, the same idea can be carried out in historical tableaux, celebrated pictures being carefully studied and reproduced. Thus might be shown Stuart's portraits of George and Martha Washington; Queen Louise of Prussia holding her famous rose; Queen Elizabeth in ruff and farthingale, General Grant, and an unlimited number of other wellknown characters.

For a round game "Lady Thanks giving's Dinner" affords both amuse ment and a test of memory. Seated in a circle, the first player asks the next, "What had Lady Thanksgiving for dinner to-day?" He replies what ever he first thinks of, as 'pumpkin pie," and, turning to his neighbor. repeats the inquiry. This one mentions the first dish and adds another, as "her ladyship had pumpkin pie and popcorn balls." Thus on around the company, the menu increasing with every answer, while each must be careful to repeat in the exact order given, acyone failing to do so being dropped from the game. At first this is an easy matter, but when two or three dozen dainties have been served up to the fair dame, it will be found to be quite a task to remember all in correct rotation, and tue number of players will decrease rapidly. The one keeping up the game longest

might be rewarded with a little favor. | think it might cheer her up. But the children must not be forgotten, and they would perhaps better enjoy "Our Minister's Cat." The first player remarks to her righthand neighbor, "Our minister's cat is an awful cat." Number two repeats stream here flows, or rather tumbles it, only changing the adjective to another commencing with the same letter, as "Our minister's cat is an artful cat," and so it goes around the circle until all the A's are exhausted. Then B is taken up, and thus through-out the alphabet. There must be no repetition of adjectives, and the difficulty of thinking of a word creates the sport. By the close of the game the clergyman's pet is such a remarkable feline that if in existence it would

prove a fortune to any museum. The evening might then conclude it, she asked: with "A barnyard art exhibition. is 180 feet; highest point of arch A blackboard is set upon a large sheet about seventy-five feet above the of paper pinned upon the wall. Each water, and breadth of under side, up member of the company is then, in and down stream, eighty feet. The turn; blindfolded and bidden to draw arch is almost as perfect as though a turkey with his eyes shut. The built by man's hands rather than performance is amusing, and the birds in his breast, thus created were surely never secn alone for this remarkable bridge does on sea or land. A committee inspects t pay the tourist to visit this spot; each sketch and awards a prize to the the wild, grand beauty of the canon one whose work of art most nearly s well worth seeing, and added to resembles the king of the Thanksgiving feast.

### The Beginning of an Assay.

imagine a gold mine. You may se lect many climates-Siberla or Africa, As Lieutenant Hobson grew to be Klondike or Australia. California or about old Dr. Hardbee; he has taken a lad, and was in the Naval Academy India. Situate your mine where you to going to all the dances and afterwell matched. You have read "Tom | the wide world over. Select a mass | uniformly scattered through the quartz One day young Hobson, with the that it is impossible to spot a grain where near mature, and has little ming lesson. He was far out along until it is in the form of powder. This sweetness, makes a very poor silage, the rope in the breakers. It would powder is heaped into a cone, which and is mostly very sour. So, too, is be almost sure drowning to lose hold is divided into four parts, of which silage made from putting in whole of the rope. But it happened by the sampler takes two whose angles closely, and the result is that many of pressed still further out, he met a two parts thoroughly and again dithe stalks will be almost rotten when classmate coming in, clinging for life vide into four; take two portions again to the rope. They two were alone and so on till a sample of convenient bulk is obtained. By this logical method the sample yielded is, on any and put in the barn make cheaper food other's eyes. It was a hard moment ordinary calculation of probability. than ensilage. The advantage of the for the youngsters. Safe passage certain to represent accurately the original mass taken.

A certain quantity of this sample is now weighed out, two equal amounts being taken as checks upon each other. The weighing may be tent. After the silo is filled, we think boy's passing him, even this slight done in denominational values of either grammes or assay tons. The assay ton is a most convenient invention and is very simply explained. The ordinand sent aid. Hobson was brought ary ton contains 32,666.6 ounces: if. then, we make a unit (an assay top) weighing 32.6667 grammes, each .001 of carry the soluble plant food down-ward and out of the reach of plants. Serve the ensilage nearly as perfect as alive but Hobson," was the general ton. Thus no calculation is needed at ery. "He is a tough fellow to stand all to estimate the gold richness of an

## The Colonel and the President.

During the late Spanish-American war a certain old colonel who had served all through the civil war and who had lost one of his eyes at the battle of Gettysburg, was very indignant because he was put aside as physically incapable when he applied for admission to one of the New York volunteer regiments.

Filled with wrath he journeved to Washington, bent on having a personal interview with the President. He succeeded in getting an audience, and the President, after listening to his plea, sald kindly;

"But, my good Colonel J-, you have only one eye.'

"Just so, sir," was the prompt rejoinder: "but can't you see the great advantage of my having only one eye? When I aim my gun I will not have to close the other!"

## He fought at Santiago,-

A statistician has estimated that an average man of fifty years old has worked 6,500 days, slept 6,000 has amused himself 400, has walked 12. 000 miles, has been ill 5,000 days, has partaken of 36,000 meals, eaten 15,-000 pounds of meat and 4,000 pounds of fish, eggs and vegetables and drank 7,000 gallons of fluid.

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THE HAPPIEST MAN.

Who is the happiest man? Is it he who is wealthy and great? Is it he that is doing the best that he

Or he that governs the State? Is it he that has won a fair maid for his own.

Or the warrior who makes his foes scatter?

No. no; it is he who is sitting alone With a woman who knows how to flatter.

#### A SUITABLE NAME.

"If this is your 'Indian summer,'" prowled the refugee from Mississippi, blinking dismally and drawing his rain coat tighter about his shivering form, "I know what Indian it was named after."

"Well?" said the curious citizen. "Rain-in-the-face."

TO CHEER A SADDENED SOUL. Good gracious, Bridget! I never dreamed that when I gave you an afternoon off you'd come back lugging one of the funeral wreaths." 'Oi am goin' to sind it to me sister's husband's aunt, poor soul. She has been sick foive weeks, an' Oi

BETTER THAN A WASTE BASKET. Mildred-What's the 'poetic fire' one reads so much about ?

Charley-It's generally the fire in the editor's grate, if he can afford to have a grate in his office.

OFF FOR THE HONEYMOON. Bridegroom.-I'm afraid we will everyone will know we are just married.

worry, old chap; it will only be for a day or two, you know !

AN IEREPARABLE BREAK. After he had kissed her and pressed her rosy cheek against his and patted

"George, do you shave yourself?" "Yes," he replied. "I thought so," she said. "Your face is the roughest I ever" --- Then she stopped, but it was too late, and

LIGHTNESS. "You should put your mind on your

work," said the candid friend. "I do," confessed Willie Wishington. "But I never can tell what moment something irrelevant is going to come along and brush it off."

### HIS GREAT WORK.

First Professor. "Isn't it strange his mind can be affected?"

Second Professor. "Oh, no; he is gathering material for his new work,

## SCIENTIFICALLY EXPLAINED.

I have solved and confirmed by long

"How do you account for it, professor?" "I have concluded that they get so off." hot that their wrath melts suddenly

# away in fervid heat."

HE BURNED IT. "Dawson's an awfully extravagant "Yes, he is."

"Has he got much money back of him? "I'm afraid he has more than he has ahead of him."

## HIGHLY SENSITIVE.

"I'm going to report that post office clerk," indignantly exclaimed the young woman with ink on her fingers. "He always seemed very polite,"

said her companion. "Well, he isn't. What business has he to try to criticise my writing? When I went to mail a lot of poems he asked if they weren't second-class matter."

## UNNECESSARY QUESTION.

cut?" asked the observant boarder, as he rubbed his hand over the crosseyed boarder's head in that peculiarly exasperating way some men have. "No," replied the cross-eyed board-

shoes blacked."

A GOOD THING. Lambkin-But, really, is there any money in this thing you are pushing so energetically?

Wolfson-There will be, my dear fellow, when the subscriptions for the stock come in.

#### NO CONSOLATION. "There's no use in being discour-

aged, Victor," said his young wife. 'Remember that when William Cullen Bryant began to write he got only \$2 apiece for his poems.' "Only \$2 !" exclaimed the strug-

gling young literary genius, with bitter assistance of a cane. Unlike most fat emphasis on the "only." "If I could men. Mr. Walker is a neavy eater, his get \$2 apiece for my poems, Arabella, I could make \$40 a day !"

## HE WAS MYSTIFIED.

"What is this?" asked the customer from Upcreek. "It's a kaleidoscope," replied the

sales-girl. "How do you play it?" inquired the customer, trying to find the mouthpiece.

# NEAR RELATIONSHIP.

Clarence. - Algy claims to be directly related to Lord Littlehead. Ethel .- Dear me! How is that? committee refused it the other way."

Clarence.-Why, the same girl promised to be a sister to both of

A PROLIFIC INVENTOR.

"I guess that man has invented more airships than anybody else in the business, "I shouldn't have taken him for a

scientist." "He isn't one. He's a rural correspondent for a western newspaper."

#### SYMPATHETIC. "Yes," said the young man, "liter-

ary work is very fatiguing." 'I should imagine so," replied Miss Cayenne. "When I realize that some authors have to keep their minds on the stuff they write I feel positively sorry for them."

#### DEPENDING HER AGE. .

"You have to tell your age when you register, don't you. George?"

"And whether you are married or

not?" "Yes." "Well, for my sake, please, George, tell them that I'm your second wife

### and that you married me late in life." MEAN TRICK OF A DENTIST.

#### An Episode That Put Murder in the Heart of an Estimable Gentleman.

"I wonder if it's against the law to kill dentists." said a very estimable gentleman of New Orleans, "because if it is not I would like to indulge in a first class homicidal orgie. A confounded molar mangler has just cut me out with my best girl, and he did it in a peculiarly mean and ungentlemanly manner. I knew we were rivals, but he is a good operator, and I went to him to get a back tooth filled. look so happy and contented that not thinking he would stoop to any thing unprofessional. Well, he had trouble reaching the spot, so he pried Best-Man (consolingly). - Don't open my jaws as far as they would go and drove in a couple of patent plugs to keep them apart. I must have looked exactly like an alligator. and while I was sitting there helpless. my features entirely obscured by my mouth, who should walk in but the young lady herself. I heard a sort of titter, and in my excitement I sat bolt upright and trained that yawning cavity on her like a thirteen-inch gun. Of course she did not know anything about those infernal plugs, and attribhe went away with a cold, heavy lump uted my expression to astonishment. so she naturally concluded I was the biggest idlot she had ever seen. 'Do close your mouth, Mr. Blank,' she said, 'or you'll catch cold.' I made a wild gesture at the dentist, meaning for him to tell, but the brute pretended not to see me and remarked that I had a singularly open countenance. I tried to explain, but all I could say was 'Ow! wow! wowwow!' and things like that, and they both went off into shricks of laughter. I thought the girl would never stop. She got really hysterical, but the dentist have seen murder in my eye, for he showed her out and then tried to make me believe it was all a pure accident. I merely motioned for him to take out the plugs, but before he'd "There is one thing in the compli- do it he armed himself with a big cated philosophy of our existence that | mallet | and stood | on the defensive. What I said to him is neither here observation. People who are quick nor there, but he knows my opinion to anger are just as quick to get over of the whole business, and if it hadn't been for the mallet-what about the young lady, did you ask? Oh, I haven't seen her since. That's all

Indiana's Fat Man. Longevity is not the only feature of Indiana rural life. Over near the village of Argos, one man at least has the distinction of weighing nearly a quarter of a ton. George Washington Walker, a farmer's son, tips the scales at 540 pounds. He stands 5 feet 10 inches, measures 27 inches around the arm, 68 about the chest and 78 about the waist. His excessive flesh has made him almost belpless, and he has been unable to perform any farm work for years. He now permits enterprising managers to exhibit him, that he may earn a living for himself and

family. Mr. Walker's is a peculiar case. He. had attained his majority and had married before any evidence of approaching corpulercy became apparent. He was born in Noble county "Have you been getting your hair forty-eight years ago, and until 25 years of age he was as other men in the matter of weight. None of his ancestors, as far back as he can remember, was endowed with too much flesh. His parents are both small peoer, savagely. "I've been having my ple, his father weighing but 145 pounds. His mother is somewhat larger, but she is far under 200. Shortly after the birth of his son he began to take on flesh rapidly, until it became impossible for him to do even light farm work.

When he had attained a weight of over 400 pounds, he decided to make this fact the vehicle for a living. For several years he has put in the summer months at county fairs as the champion fat man, and has earned a comfortable income by his exhibitions, His flesh continues to incresse to that he is almost helpless, although he can still walk about slowly without the assistance of a cane. Unlike most fat appetite keeping pace with the increase of adipose tissue.-Chicago

## Right Side Up.

It is said that a French painter once visited the salon in Paris in company with a friend who was a member of the committee of selection, who had been instrumental in securing the acceptance of the painter's work. When the artist came near his picture he exclaimed: "Good gracion! You're exhibiting my picture the wrong side up?" "Hush!" was the reply; "the