



### WEEDS IN PASTURES.

Grazing does harm to pastures if the cattle are permitted to eat too closely of the grass. Weeds in pastures indicate that damage is being done by cattle, because of the fact that the animals reject the weeds, leaving them to grow and crowd out the grass. When a pasture becomes infested with weeds mow them down and keep the stock off until the grass has an opportunity to grow. It may be necessary to reseed the pasture also, as well as apply fertilizer.

### SOIL FOR RHUBARB.

Rhubarb needs a deep and very fertile soil, and it is useless to expect to grow it in a thin, dry soil, unless under irrigation. Not that it needs wet ground by any means, but a soil retentive of moisture and rather inclined to clay; though good rhubarb can be grown in quite a sandy soil if it be well manured. No amount of fertilizer will take the place of stable manure with this plant. The organic matter in the manure, makes it indispensable when large and succulent stalks are desired.

### USE OF TRAP NESTS.

The only objection that seems to be aimed at the use of trap nests is that they "require much attention." I visit my pens every hour and stop only at those that are closed. To look after 50 nests does not take five minutes, and probably would not take that long were these nests not located in different houses on the farm. Not more than three-quarters of an hour in the day is consumed at this work, and I ask the question, "Could that time be put to more profitable use?" In knowing which are the unprofitable hens, one is enabled to market them. This not only saves feed but gives the workers of the flock more room. This thinning out prevents over-crowding, which means better health, better laying and stronger fertility, paying twofold for the little time spent in their care.—New England Homestead.

### FREQUENT HARROWING.

Plow deep and harrow frequently. Harrowing has great influence on the growth of a crop. In experiments made with grass it was demonstrated that on the portions of fields where the harrow was used five or six times, in order to make the soil as fine as possible, the growth was much better than where only one or two harrowings were given. The use of the harrow frequently in other crops has given equally as good results. Some farmers are of the opinion that it pays to go over a field a dozen times with the harrow, and that it is equal to the application of manure. There is a gain of plant food, however, in an available form, as the harrow, by making the particles of soil finer, presents more feeding surfaces to the roots of the plants, as well as rendering some of the inert matter of the soil available for the crops.

### ECONOMY IN FARM HELP.

The farmer who hires help to perform work that he or his boys have ample time to do, is not economical unless the hired help can do so much more or so much better work than the employer, that to work with him would be but a hindrance to him for the old saying is that "the slowest horse sets the pace for the team," and we have seen two men doing less than one could have done alone, because the hired man did not feel it right to work faster than the "boss." But there is another system of false economy that is much more frequently seen, which is the failure to employ help when it is needed. Sometimes this is unavoidable because in a farming section help cannot always be obtained at a day's notice, but the farmer should foresee these things and provide for them. There are times when one day's work of two men will accomplish as much as four days work of one man, and do more good, for during the last three days the weeds may be destroying the crop or the crop may be losing in value. Not to employ help at such a time is to lose more than the wages. It is better to call out a fire company to save the building than to lose it by one man working alone. It is better for the farmer to employ some one to help him a few days than to over-work so that he must spend a week or a month on the sick bed. To make a little more help than is needed to do the work a little less than enough to do it well. In cotton mills they used to have what was called a "spare hand," who did not work half the time some days, but who was competent to fill the place of any man sick or absent in any department. He might not be called upon to work more than a few hours in the week, but his wages were as high as any other of the help, and higher than many. The farmer should be the "spare hand" himself when possible.—American Cultivator.

### CLEARING LAND.

One of the hardest problems that often confronts a farmer is clearing the soil of the dense growth of trees and underbrush that cover the greater portion of all the older states. Thus far it seems to be a problem that can be met and solved only by hard manual labor assisted by a persistent steadfastness of purpose. It seems to take the greater part of an active lifetime to clear a two hundred acre farm, and arrange it with a comfortable home.

When we have land to clear we should do it thoroughly. The first cost of a well done job may be slightly more than one that is poorly done, but the one that is done right will prove to be the cheapest in the long run. Several years ago we wanted to clear two acres of ground, and not having the means to hire it grubbed, and being somewhat crowded with work, we decided upon the recommendation of neighbors, to "hack" it off. This was done and the plot put in corn with a root plow, so I did not mind the roots very much; but toward fall the sprouts became very troublesome. The corn did not amount to much, but nevertheless we resolved to try the same method on another piece of ground the next spring; so we hired five acres "hacked off." We cleared this land of all trash, broke it up thoroughly with a root cutter plow, planted it to corn, and cultivated it promptly. I never saw sprouts grow like those. I hired help and tried to keep them down, but in spite of us the field was thickly set with them when the corn was harvested. The ground was sown to wheat and seeded down to timothy. At harvest time the bushes were so thick in the wheat that it was impossible to save nearly all the crop. After a year the shrubs had grown so much that we decided to grub the land and plant it to corn. I set to work grubbing out all the smaller stubs and many of the larger ones, but it was a hard job and cost me nearly as much as if I had had it grubbed in the first place. The land was farmed to corn and wheat again and seeded down to clover. I now feel rather secure, but those sprouts were determined to grow in spite of me, and soon became so bad that I decided to grub the land again and do it thoroughly. So I set to work, but soon realized that I had an elephant on hand. Still I stuck to it, taking everything out that I could get out with any reasonable amount of labor, and some of the excavations were large enough to bury a calf.—Edward E. Higgins, in The Epitomist.

### GOOD BUTTER MAKING.

No one can doubt that better butter is being made on the farms of this country than ever before. The narrow margin between dairy butter and that made in the creameries, as reported from day to day in the city papers, proves conclusively that on the market there is very little difference in the value of the two articles. And yet not every farmer or farmer's wife ought to try to make butter. Why? Because not all farmers or farmers' wives are or can be good buttermakers, any more than all men can be first-class carpenters or merchants. I verily believe that good buttermakers are born, not made. Many men and women have not the skill, the neatness, the keen perception to know when butter is good or bad, no matter whether they make it or not. They may go through all the motions necessary to the making of butter and yet fall for the lack of the intuitive knowledge which is requisite in those who would be called perfect judges of the finished product. It is often said of some men that they do not know a good thing when they see it. There never was a truer thing said of any man than of some who try to make butter. They cannot identify good butter when it is placed under their noses. Then, not all farmers have the facilities for making really good butter. Pure water, free from sediment or other deleterious matter, is a prime essential. Good pasturage counts for much. A good place to set milk goes very far toward success. And above all, a knowledge of the right principles of making the butter stands pre-eminent. There is a world of difference in men and women about mastering the details of such a grand thing as buttermaking. Some might have all the dairy utensils imaginable, every advantage of good milk, pure water and perfect place of setting, and yet fail. Every such man and woman should stop making up his own milk, and stop now. He is not only working against his own advantage, but he is keeping his neighbor who can make a good article from reaching the height of success. Every pound of poor butter sold on the market by just so much detracts from the reputation of the great body of dairymen throughout the country. The creamery has in this way done much for the private dairymen. It has taken the milk of those who cannot turn it into perfect dairy goods and made a first class article of it. This has lessened the quantity of poor butter on the market and advanced the price of the really good butter made by the home dairy. The trouble is to convince these well meaning people that they ought to send their milk to the creamery. Few of us like to think our work is not just as good as that of our neighbor. We are inclined to resent it if any one tells us our butter is not up to the standard. Here is a delicate point, and it is one which only the farm journals can properly handle. By giving the practical experience of good workmen they may at last convict those who are not of their shortcomings, and so after a time induce them to let the skilled creamery man do that part of the work for them. Then the rest of us, who flatter ourselves that we have been all the time doing our best, may be induced to make the best butter.—New York Tribune Farmer.

### MUST MAKE A MARRIAGE DEPOSIT.

Army and navy officers in Germany are obliged to make a deposit of \$7,500 with the Government before they are permitted to marry. This draws an income of three per cent., and at death is refunded to the family or heirs.



### MODES IN SHOES.

Patent leather is the wear of the smart woman, and boots are completely outlined with it, the edges brogued most attractively. Shoes are entirely of patent leather, with cut steel buckles, and black velvet is popular for indoor wear. The house shoe of velvet is popular for indoor wear. The house shoe of velvet has one or two straps, and the velvet boudoir or bed room slipper is trimmed with dark, glossy fur and has flat heels.

### AN IDEALIZED NECESSITY.

Petticoats being one of the necessities of life, it is a pleasant thing to be able to get such pretty ones. Most "necessities" are so prosaic. A straw-colored silk undershirt, boasting of a deep kilted flounce of white chiffon, with another over it of yellow chiffon, is finally veiled in a gathered flounce of white blonde lace, with a design of butterflies, every second one of which is outlined with very tiny yellow baby ribbon.

### WELL-BRED WOMEN.

The best bred women do not fuss. Furniture, their jewels and their children as a matter of course. They are unconscious of their veils and their gloves, and they expect every one else to be equally so. If they see an intimate wearing a handsome gown they refer to it admiringly, but they also preface their comment with an apology. Their differences with their husbands are not aired, neither the domestic upheavals caused by the desertion of the cook on wash morning. The repose of the well-bred woman is not the quiet of weakness. It is the calm of trained faculties, balanced so nicely that an earthquake may cause a change of color, but will not bring forth a loud cry.

Well-bred women are a boon to the human race. They help the social and professional world to maintain a high standard both of morals and behavior.—Philadelphia Telegraph.

### HEMSTITCH MANIA.

"The next generation of sewing girls will be born blind!" exclaimed an exasperated dressmaker the other day after two of her best "hands" had to be given sick leave because they simply could not see what they were doing. "This hemstitching mania and feather-stitched insertions are bad enough," scolded madame. "But when it comes to working three days on a pair of sleeves I call it fine needlework and not sewing. Ten of my eighty girls have had to give up work within the last three years since the fancy-work on gowns became a craze, and I wouldn't like to ask how many of them wear glasses."

"The narrow ribbon work and the tiny ruchings with narrow lace edgings are also maddening. It's delightfully fluffy and dainty when it's done, but think of having to sew 150 yards of baby ribbon on a point d'esprit skirt.—New York Commercial Advertiser.

### REVIVAL OF THE BRACELET.

Bracelets are said to be surely coming in. They have been appearing in one form or another for some time. Earrings are also said to be growing in popularity. But though once in a while one sees a pretty girl buying a pair of pearl earrings that she can wear without boring her ears, and a pair of diamond earrings in the ears of another young woman upon some dress occasion, the jewelers who should know still say that as far as they are concerned there are only the rumors and nothing more. But with the bracelets it is a different matter. They are flexible, these bracelets, and some of them are truly charming. Many of them have a heavy back, a large ornamental piece of gold tapering down to a narrow band, which encircles the wrist. One of these bracelets is of the warm, Burmah gold, and in the center of the hand-carved designs of which it is formed is a beautiful large opal, with exquisite warm lights, which blend delightfully with the rose colors in the gold. It is a stone full of life, and so are the three small oval opals which hang as pendants from the lower part of the bracelet below the large opal.—New York Times.

### MISS BARGAIN HUNTER.

"Ever notice the actions of some of the women who are attracted to the dry-goods stores by bargain sales?" queried a floorwalker in one of the big department stores the other day. "Bright and early on Monday morning the bargain hunter, with her little handbag, appears at the counter. The store has some new goods and a bunch of stale and antediluvian styles resurrected for the occasion, which mean exactly the same thing to the woman hunting for a bargain. The poor, abused clerk has just put a large roll of goods away on an upper shelf out of the way, because it has not been in demand, and thinks no one will ask for it. After a series of flying wedges, Miss Bargain Hunter gets within range, and, after scrutinizing the counters and shelves carefully, her glance finally settles on the big roll on the top shelf. 'Will you show me some dress goods?' she asks. 'Certainly,' replies the obliging clerk. 'Here's something entirely new—just imported from Paris.' 'Can't say that I like that very well. What is that roll up there on the top shelf? No; I don't mean that one. I mean the large roll way up on the top shelf. Yes; that's it. You

don't mind taking it down for me, do you?"

Of course, he doesn't. It's a fortunate thing she can't hear what he is thinking. With a lot of puffing and perspiring, he finally lands the roll on the counter with a thud, and opens it for her inspection.

"How different it looks when you get to see it closely," she observes, in her sweetest tones. "It isn't a bit pretty, is it? And after all your trouble! I'm awfully sorry, but I'll tell you what I'll do. I'll take a sample of it. I didn't intend to buy anything anyway. But I'll remember you when I do come to buy something, even if it's a spool of thread."—New York Tribune.

### FOR TIRED WOMEN.

Learn how to do nothing. Practice cultivating complete rest. Any woman can do it. Begin by completely relaxing every nerve and muscle for five minutes a day.

If you are a home woman, go to your own room and give orders that in no event are you to be disturbed. Draw the curtains and close the door; lie down, if possible. Say to yourself: "I have left care and worry and anxiety outside my door. I will rest my soul and body absolutely for these few precious moments."

Wide-awake repose, if complete, will prove inestimably restful. A few minutes of absolute relaxation, literally thinking of nothing, will greatly revitalize the nervous woman.

With regard to the amount of sleep required for women an author of repute says well that one aspect of this subject is frequently overlooked. Extremely energetic women appear to take a virtuous pride in limiting themselves to four or five hours' sleep, really grudging that, and considering it more a disgraceful evidence of laziness and a reprehensible waste of time.

Now, viewed simply from a purely material and hygienic point, this is an error. It is quite possible to acustom your self to so little sleep as to be greatly the loser thereby. It may not show immediately, but it will in the end.

From seven to eight hours' sleep is needed by all people leading active lives, and brain workers can least afford to cut down their allowance. If for any reason it is occasionally necessary it should be made up by extra sleep as soon as possible. Any other course undermines the strength indolently and the penalty is invariably a breakdown of some sort. The severer the tasks imposed upon the brain, the more sleep it should be allowed.

The woman who cannot sleep is always a nervous subject. She should religiously take enough physical exercise each day to induce healthy fatigue. She should eat simple, easily digested food, avoiding tea and coffee later than her breakfast hour. Many women declare that tea and coffee have no effect upon their nerves. I know they are mistaken. Coffee and tea are excellent excitants and enemies of sleep.

The insomnia victim may be lulled to rest by a gentle massage—the hypnotic stroke will often act as a magical sleep inducer. Sometimes a rub with hair friction gloves will induce sleep. A tepid bath taken just before retiring has a sedative effect. But a hot bath is stimulating, and should not be taken at night by nervous subjects.—Chicago Record-Herald.



The great majority of the handsome new gowns for summer wear are fitted out with sashes.

Linon and plique skirts are still the popular materials for separate white skirts for the summer.

Black daisies of exaggerated size, with centers of a deep yellow, are seen on much of the fashionable millinery. A delicate and pretty umbrella handle in carved ivory represents a full blown orchid. Other designs show the flower half closed.

A double-faced ribbon is satin on one side and moire on the other. When made up into bows the watered side is underneath.

Silver or gilt garter clasps are ornamented with some flower, such as a forget-me-not, a marguerite or a clover-head in colors.

Some of the new fancy grenadines have as design very small blocks of cream white, alternating with tiny blocks of gold, rose, blue or green.

Separate silk waists are made with box plaits between, which are bands of Egyptian embroidery, both the bands and the plaits ending at the bust and the plaits ending at the bust bust line.

A new thing is a cravat holder that will help to keep cravats in shape. This is a heavily colored cardboard, to which are attached ten or more rings. Through these the cravats are drawn. One of the advantages of this holder is that any one cravat can be withdrawn without displacing the others.

An attractive separate waist of pongee is trimmed with black. There is a plain band about an inch deep at the top of the stock, the cuffs of the sleeves are finished in the same way, and there are straps of the pongee, one on either side of the collar below the top band. Half way down the plait, are small black buttons in perpendicular groups of three. Several tucks on the shoulders are stitched with black. It is an effective waist.



### A POPULAR WOOD.

Verdi wood in mission furniture is one of the most popular for summer use. Sometimes the chairs have rush seat and back; again, plain linen raffia, or an armure in dark colorings and semi-Egyptian design are used to upholster them. The last named is quite striking and not unattractive.

### SUMMER DRAPERIES.

There is a wealth of summer draperies this summer, both pretty and artistic. In white, dimity is charming. Then, cheaper is the muslin, dotted or plain, with scrim, fish-net and even cheese-cloth for variety. The better grades of cheese-cloth furnish many attractive shades in colored drapery, one strong yellow being very desirable.

### HOW TO WASH GLASSES.

Slip the glasses in sideways so that the water touches the outside and inside of the glass at the same time, and there will be no danger of cracking from unequal expansion. Wash one at a time, rolling it around in the pan with the ends of the fingers or use a dish mop kept specially for the glass and silver. Wipe at once without rinsing or draining. Before washing a glass that has held milk, or a glass milk bottle, rinse it first in cold water. A piece of old cotton cloth, neatly hemmed to avoid raveling and lint, will be found the best polishing towel for glass.

### A DELIGHTFUL LIVING ROOM.

A home in which the increasingly popular "no-parlor" idea is exemplified was seen recently. It is an ordinary city house, one of a brownstone block, and has recently changed owners. The new chateleine has turned the long heretofore parlor in the front of the house into the most delightful of living rooms. Low bookcases have been built around the sides, and all woodwork in the room painted white. The walls are hung with a plain cartridge paper of just the proper tone of green to go with the plain green carpet of deep pile that suggests the moss of the forest, the two harmonizing with several pieces of furniture in the room upholstered in another tone of the same shade of green. The fireplace, pictures, and a very few pieces of necessary bric-a-brac relieve the monotony, while nothing away from the restful influence of the apartment that is gained by the pervasive green.—New York Post.

### LIGHT OF THE HOUSEHOLD.

There is no light equal to that given by a well-cared-for lamp, but to get the best results daily attention must be given. The lamp must be kept perfectly clean, and none but the best oil must be used. In a house where there are several lamps in daily use a regular time should be set apart each morning to attend to the lamps. In this way they are never forgotten, and the use of a partly filled lamp is avoided, with all its accompanying dangers.

First remove the chimneys from all the lamps and wipe them daily inside and out with a soft clean cloth. This will remove the daily accumulation of dust that will gather. Once a week give every chimney a thorough washing with hot water. Wipe thoroughly with a clean cloth. A little ammonia or borax placed in the hot water will help to remove the oil from the chimneys. When the chimneys are clean wipe off the wicks with a piece of soft paper. Before doing this turn the wicks down so that they are very little above the top of the holder, then rub with the grain until all the charred part is removed. Now fill the reservoir to within half an inch of the side opening, and be sure to notice if there are any black particles floating on the oil. If the oil should not be perfectly clean empty the reservoir, scald it, and, after drying thoroughly, refill with fresh oil into which put a teaspoonful of salt.

When you find that the wicks are growing short throw them away at once and refill the lamps with new wicks. Before putting in the new wicks boil them for half an hour in vinegar, dry them thoroughly and you will find that your lamps do not throw out a disagreeable odor, nor will they be apt to smoke.

As a usual thing it is the want of judicious care that causes a lamp to become a nuisance and a dangerous element in the house.

### RECIPES.

Breaded Chicken.—Cut a young chicken in pieces, roll in beaten egg and bread crumbs, season with parsley pepper and salt. Place it in a pan, lay on each piece of chicken a lump of butter, add a little water, bake slowly, baste often. Dish, and pour a cupful of cream and a cupful of bread crumbs in the pan. Stir and pour over the dish.

Batter Laddings.—Mix one-fourth cup of flour with one-fourth cup of milk, stir this into one cup of scalded milk, stirring until smooth; add two tablespoonfuls each of butter and sugar then add the beaten yolk of two eggs, then the whites beaten stiff; turn into a buttered pudding dish and bake half an hour; serve with strawberry or hard sauce.

Italy owns the three largest churches in the world—St. Peter's, Rome, the Duomo, Milan, and St. Paul's at Rome.

Cecil Rhodes' funeral procession was five miles long. The statistician suares no subject, however solemn.



Russia is now opening new savings banks at the rate of 600 a year.

An India rubber tree gatherer in Brazil averages sixteen pounds of juice daily.

Since 1871 Japan has built nearly 30,000 elementary schools, providing room for 4,000,000 pupils, one-fourth of whom are girls.

The King of Denmark has passed his eighty-fourth birthday anniversary. This would indicate that the work of a king is not so exhausting as it is sometimes represented.

Shakespeare often put a nugget of wisdom in the mouth of his fools. Sir Andrew Aguecheek said: "I am a great eater of meat, and I believe that works much harm to my wit."

In New York city a messenger boy and a Fifth Avenue stage ran into each other. As a natural result the two things reputed to be the slowest things on earth, did little damage in the collision.

A writer in the New York Independent describes J. Pierpont Morgan's economic developments as the "morganiization of industry." That comes as near as possible to embalming the financier linguistically.

It is said that the Georgia peach-growers consider the full of the moon in April the date on which the fate of the season's crops has been decided. If there has been no bud-killing frost by that time they feel safe.

American canned and dried fruits are now so well known and so popular in Germany that the demand is often in excess of the supply. During the past year, these products have been introduced as a very attractive feature in department stores, where they are sold at about two-thirds the retail prices charged by ordinary grocers.

There are thirteen cables across the Atlantic between the United States and Europe. There is not one across the Pacific between the United States and Asia. The construction of a Pacific cable has been under discussion in the United States and England for twenty years. Up to 1898 no project took definite form because no one government possessed along any practicable route landing places or islands on which cables could be landed and the electric current reinforced.

The Great Round World makes the interesting suggestion that a Marconi outfit would be a great help in a North Pole expedition. "If," it says, "the ships of Baldwin and Peary, now creeping toward the pole from two sides, were equipped with wireless plants, we might know of their daily progress. It should not be difficult, for example, to send a message through the air from Baldwin's ship to Franz Joseph Land and thence to the northern coast of Europe. And in return the explorers would be able to brighten their spirits, so often depressed in the gloom of the Arctic night, by hearing from the world they have left behind."

Saxony possesses one of the best regulated systems of forestry in the world. The forests of Saxony serve not only the purpose of giving the state a substantial annual revenue, but they add a thousandfold to the scenery of the country, thus attracting many tourists into these parts every summer. The most important feature of the forests, however, is the fact that they keep for ever alive the fountains of water which spring from the highlands of the Erzgebirge and Saxon Switzerland. The forests furnish the material and the water the motive-power to hundreds of pulp, paper, and saw-mills, which in turn give employment to thousands of men, women and children.

In The Forum John P. Irish urges with much force that the Federal Government lease its 400,000,000 acres of grazing lands as the only means of preserving the pastures from the destruction caused by the free use thereof. While the lease holders would protect the pasturage, the free users of the lands neglect them, and the meadow is soon converted into a desert. Mr. Irish points out that the Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nebraska, Utah and Wyoming lease their State lands for grazing at an average of a little less than two cents an acre, and while deriving an aggregate of upward of a million dollars a year from the leases these States have by this policy brought the pasture lands almost to restoration.

It is curious how all the educational institutions patronized both by men and women it is the latter solely who are called "co-ed." Why the men pupils are not likewise designated is a mystery. Is it that the term is in a measure one of reproach, and that being such it is naturally visited upon the women alone? Women, as a rule, have to bear the brunt of most disagreeables that by rights should be shared by either sex, says the New York Sun. At the University of Chicago, at all institutions where men and women are educated together, the men are known as freshmen, sophomores, etc., as the case may be. The women are all lumped together under the general title of "co-eds."