

THE FARM AND GARDEN.

WASHING BUTTER.

In butter-making, it is quite as necessary to strain the water with which the butter granules are washed from the sides of the churn, as it is to strain the water used in washing the butter in the churn.

OATS AS A MAY CROP.

Whenever the oat crop does not promise well to be harvested in the usual way, by reaping and binding, the best economy will be to cut earlier, the same as grass, rake up in light windrows, and as soon as dry, stow away in the mow to be reached about the first of February for the milch cows.

THE DIFFERENCE IN COWS.

Notwithstanding all that has been said and written about the difference in cows, a great deal yet remains to be learned. Experiment stations can give us the comparative merits of individual animals of the different dairy breeds, but the information most valuable to farmers and dairymen can only be learned by themselves.

ASPARAGUS.

Many ignorant persons, says a writer in the Massachusetts Ploughman, allow the asparagus stalks to stand in the fall until they shed their berries, or even to stand out all winter, when most of them get shaken off by the wind or eaten by birds.

WHY THE HENS DO NOT LAY.

There are a great many reasons, writes Webb Donnell, of Maine, why a particular flock of hens may not lay, but I think I could have told the owner of a flock that I saw recently the special causes why his fowls were refusing to fill the egg basket.

Among peculiar shoes of recent introduction are velvet carriage boots with lace ruffles around the top, and suede house shoes ornamented with crested snakes in metal threads, but the most appalling innovation will be the strap shoe, worn with the white stockings, so long obsolete.

also be used for a roosting room where the fowls will be very warm on cold winter nights, as there should be no large windows in this apartment.

Another cause for the poor results with the flock first mentioned was the filthy condition of the floors. It is strange that people who believe firmly in cleanliness for the human family should allow the animals on the farm to inhabit such filthy quarters as many of them are obliged to. Setting aside the principle of the thing, it ought to be remembered that poultry will not do well unless they have dry, clean quarters.

FARM AND GARDEN NOTES.

Red combs indicate vigor in poultry. Kerosene the chicken roosts once a week. Provide the calves shelter from rain and sun. A little kerosene will help brighten a rusty plow.

Never feed a growing hog more than it will eat up clean at each meal. When the skimmed milk is fed to animals a little cream left in it is not lost. If the soil is dry, plant deep; if it contains plenty of moisture, plant shallow.

How to Boil Asparagus—It may seem unnecessary to give directions for so simple an operation, but it is rarely indeed that one sees a properly-cooked dish of this delightful vegetable.

Breast of Lamb With Peas—Remove the skin from a breast of lamb with most of the fat, and cut it into neat pieces. Dredge these with flour and put them into a stewpan with an ounce of fresh butter, letting them remain until lightly browned on both sides.

Asparagus Soup—This is a cheap soup when one has an asparagus bed. Cut off the hard ends of two bunches of asparagus and boil the remainder until tender in salted boiling water first having cut off the tips to be boiled separately for an omelet or to garnish some dish; drain the asparagus when tender; put three tablespoonfuls of butter into a stewpan, add the asparagus, simmer for five minutes, dredge with three tablespoonfuls of flour and dilute with two quarts of chicken or veal broth and one of boiling milk.

Ontario, Canada, has an agricultural text-book in her common schools.

HOUSEHOLD AFFAIRS.

CLEANING DECANTERS.

To clean glass bottles and decanters, break up a few egg shells (that have not been cooked) into the article to be cleaned and put in a little cold water. If greasy, take warmish water with a little sal soda. Shake well and rinse out with plenty of clear, cold water.

A BABY'S NEED OF WATER.

One of the things that mothers, and especially young mothers, need to be reminded of over and over again, is that children oftener suffer during the warm months with thirst than with hunger. The fluid portion of the milk is quickly taken up into the body, leaving the solids in the stomach too thick to be digested.

SEASONABLE DISHES.

Lamb's Tongue With Brain Sauce—Boil one or more tongues in salted water until tender. Tie the brains in a piece of muslin, after washing them and picking the fibers from them, with a teaspoonful of minced parsley to each pair of brains, and simmer in salted water for fifteen minutes.

Boiled Tomatoes—This is one of the nicest ways of serving this healthful fruit. Put enough water over the fire to cover the tomatoes you wish to boil, adding a tablespoonful of salt to each quart of water.

Broiled Shoulder of Lamb—Many excellent dishes can be made from the cheaper parts of lamb. Take the shoulder, weighing two or three pounds, and cook slowly in water until tender; lift out and press between two plates until cold.

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NEWS AND NOTES FOR WOMEN.

Skirts are growing longer. Brown was never more popular. Indiana has women notaries public. Fur capes will be worn all summer. Finger rings remain as popular as ever.

Ginghams with a lace design can be bought. The streets of New York are filled with white-gloved women. Minnie Hauk, the singer, was born in New Orleans in 1853.

Lover's knots of ribbon give the latest touch to a lace flounce. Mrs. Robert Goelt, of New York, pays taxes on \$3,000,000.

Diamond asps are worn as brooches and as ornaments in the hair. The bracelet par excellence is a gold bangle with an Egyptian inscription.

Thirteen more women than men voted at the municipal election in Cawker City, Kan. A new brooch imitates in gold a little shoe, the rosette of which is formed of pearls.

Young women employed at the British Museum receive two cents per folio for copying. A new veil, called fil de Vierge, is of thread studded with pearls or electric blue stones.

The latest fad is that simplicity shall prevail in the street though magnificence runs riot everywhere else. The first trades union of women in Belgium is an organization of women tobacco workers in Antwerp.

In the fashionable New York boarding-schools a manicure calls twice a week to treat the hands of the pupils. A fat figure can be reduced in appearance by trimming the darts with braid one-sixteenth of an inch wide.

The Montreal (Canada) General Hospital refuses to admit female students to the privileges of the Institution. Enamelled snakes are demanded in the jewelry trade and tinsel snakes from the milliner and dealer in fancy goods.

A new brooch likely to please very young ladies consists of a pearl key thrust through a heart-shaped padlock. The best dressed woman in the world is said to be Queen Margherita, of Italy. She seldom wears a dress more than once.

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A Wonderful Bronze Pagoda.

A missionary who has settled in the province of Sz-Chuan, Central China, and who has visited the great Buddhist peak, Mount Omel, describes the temples around the base as still showing many wonderful works of art. Near the foot of the mountain there still stands a pagoda of bronze fifteen stories high, believed to be upward of a thousand years old.

A Magnificent Walnut Tree.

A veneer mill in Grand Rapids, Mich., recently purchased a magnificent specimen of blister walnut, which cut up into five logs twelve feet long and one seven-foot log, all of them as round and regular as if turned in a lathe.

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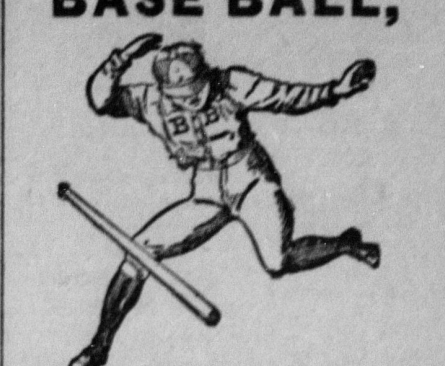
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