



**WATCH THE COLT'S FEET.**

Keep sharp watch of the feet of the colts. Have them rasped or pared as often as once a month, and be sure that they are leveled so that the coronet on each side of the heels will be at the same distance from the bottom of the hoof. See that the toes are not allowed to become too long. It pays to look after these little things. Neglecting to do so may result in ruining a valuable youngster for life.—American Horse Breeder.

**THE REDNESS OF BURNED SOIL.**

All soil contains more or less iron. And when new land is cleared the ground under the log heaps is often quite red from the iron contained in it, and which has been oxidized by the burning. There are cases in which burned earth is used as manure with benefit, and the reason is that the burning oxidizes some of the insoluble earthy matter and renders it available for plant food. Generally these burned patches contain so much potash as to kill vegetation, and keep barren for years until the potash has been washed out by the rains. If the burned soil is spread over the land and fresh soil put in its place, these unsightly spots on new land would be prevented.—New York Times.

**RIGHT WAY TO KILL BUSHES.**

The ancient superstition that bushes may be killed in August never dies, writes Arguside. A neighbor, an old man, has cut the sprouts in the old pasture every year during my decade of neighborhood, and now the roots are more firmly fixed than ever. He will leave the job to his children and they to theirs, and the pasture will grow worse all the time. My way is to tear them out of the ground by force of a pair of cattle or steady horses. I have a strong grab hook with three claws, which is put into the root, and when the pull comes, any root that holds is severed by one blow of an axe, and the thing is done. An overgrown field that came into my possession is now being cleared at a cost of \$2.50 per acre; it would cost nearly as much to grub it in the usual way by cutting in August and leaving the living roots to gain equal strength the next year. When the old field is plowed next spring I can put the plow eight inches deep, and make a thorough job of it.—New York Tribune.

**CROWING HENS.**

As soon as a hen begins to crow, writes Mrs. A. E. C. Maskell, she becomes of no further use—gets quarrelsome, ceases to lay, and struts around a laughing-stock for everybody. One tried to crow and lay too, but the eggs she merely dropped where she was walking; they were soft-shelled at that, some of them shaped most curiously; one of them looked like a gourd with a crooked handle. Some poultry people think crowing might never occur if good roosters were kept and the hens fed with shell-producing food. Lime and ground-up oyster or clam shells should be kept within easy access; feeding pounded eggshells might teach them to eat their own eggs. Soft-shelled eggs are rarely found in the nest, but are dropped around in the hen-roosts at night. A lady in Jersey found an egg with too much shell; inside the first was another smaller but perfectly-formed egg, shell and all, containing the yolk and white, while the outer shell was filled with white alone surrounding the inner shell.

At this time of year if hens are well-fed with cooked food and kept warm and comfortable they will soon lay; and it is the chickens hatched out in February and march that prove so profitable. My mother thought her hens laid better fed on wheat screenings, but also fed out to them potato and turnip parings, together with scraps from the table, boiled up and thickened with coarse cornmeal, which she gave smoking hot. Of course a hen must be kept comfortable if she is expected to lay in winter—and when so kept how her looks show it! How her eyes glisten. How crimson her comb. How smooth and glossy her plumage. Be sure she is infested with no vermin, especially the large, white head-louse, which saps all her strength, feeding about her head, under her ears and around her throat. Catch the "varmint" and kill it if you can; if not, grease her on the head and around the throat with sulphur and lard. Cleanliness averts many of the diseases that make such fatal ravages in the poultry-yard.—New York Tribune.

**BUTTERMILK.**

From different parts of the world come the common praise of buttermilk as a beverage. In fact it is becoming quite a fad all over the world to drink buttermilk. The physicians recommend it, while its price is adjusted to the finances of the most unwealthy. In all hot climates it is drunk at meals and between meals, while now the northern cities of the United States have numerous wagons and stands along the street where buttermilk is sold by the glass, often as low as three cents a pint. The material that goes by this name, however, is not what in warm climates would be called the genuine article. There are several grades of buttermilk. The real, rich article comes from the churn that has but half done its duty and thereby left little lumps of butter and any quantity of cream globules in the buttermilk. To this is sometimes added a third of a glass of rich cream. This makes a truly delicious drink. The next grade of buttermilk is the pure article, but taken

from the churn that has done its duty and got out all of the butter fat from the cream. When it is fresh it is very palatable, with a chunk of ice in it on a hot day in summer. This is the genuine article of the farm, and makes a good drink in the hay field or while at other hard work on the farm. The last and worst quality of buttermilk is the article usually sold in large cities, where the inhabitants do not know a butterfly from a bumble bee, and are in no sense experts on cow products. This third-class article is nothing but old sour milk or clabbered milk worked awhile in the churn to thoroughly mix it. This article sells readily on the streets and in restaurants for three cents a glass on hot days. When sufficiently cold to numb the sense of taste it is a good drink, harmless and wholesome, and by some people, not exactly cranks but peculiar, it is thought to be good.

There is one point in selling buttermilk at which we wish to draw the line, and that is selling colored buttermilk. We have known first-class establishments do this, and it is a great mistake, because there certainly is a bad taste about it. This color comes from the annatto used in coloring the butter, which always, we believe, gives a reddish tinge to the buttermilk. While this sign gives assurance that the article is genuine buttermilk, that is all the virtue it has.—American Dairyman.

**FARM AND GARDEN NOTES.**

The best layers make poor mothers. Small hen turkeys bring the best prices at this season. Professor Bailey says that tomatoes do not mix in the fields. Feather pulling is largely the result of idleness with the hens. Too much corn and too cold quarters will often be the cause of no eggs. The best way of feeding oats is to scald well and let them stand over night. Linsseed meal added to the skim milk makes a good ration for calves or pigs. The willow, elm, poplar or locust should never be planted close to wells or drains. In winter hens must have materials supplied to them to make egg shells, as well as materials to fill them. When the hens appear droopy it is a good indication that they are suffering from lice, indigestion or colds. Ducks will begin laying when about six months old, but, as a rule, the eggs should not be used for hatching. Keep the chickens in the broods growing rapidly by supplying them with a good variety of food and feeding regularly. Look out for scaly legs. These are caused by an insect that gets under the scales. A bathing with kerosene and milk, or rubbing with kerosene and lard, will cure in a few days. If after the action of subsequent frosts the ground in the orchard is harrowed fine and a top dressing of manure put on, we may consider that we have nearly done our part to secure a fruit crop. A good lock on the henhouse door, carefully fastened nights, often has good effect in increasing the profits of poultry keeping. It prevents the other people from raising so many—off the roosts. Henry A. Dreer says that Alphonse Bouvier, one of the new cannas, is a vigorous plant, but of dwarf habit. The foliage is deep green and the flowers are very large and of an intense crimson hue. The French tigered and spotted and some other good strains of foxgloves come true from seed. Defiance, scarlet and Emperor Frederick, azure blue with white throat, are both fine varieties that come true from seed. Felch estimates that one bushel of corn or its equivalent in other flesh-growing foods will produce nine to eleven pounds of live weight in poultry, and one has only to weigh his fowls to approximate their food cost, for cost of care must be added. A good mutton sheep will always have a good fleece, but those that make the most and the best wool are not always the best mutton. But to get either at its best requires such feeding as will keep up a steady growth, and the more rapid the better the result. Feather eating among chickens can often be prevented by putting a small quantity of salt in their soft feed, enough to give a moderately salty taste. Three heaping tablespoonsful of common salt for one hundred hens is not too much every day. This should be tried. There is good common sense in the injunction to increase the feed gradually when preparing a cow for a test. A month is not too long for preparation. If too rapid increase is made, it is almost certain to cause indigestion, of which the least bad effect is waste of food. It is quite an item in purchasing an incubator to get one that is, in a manner, self-regulating. Being obliged to open the drafts to reduce the temperature will not answer. When the temperature gets too low the flames of the lamp must be controlled by the heat in the incubator. When it is time to take the pigs away from the sow, stop giving sloppy food and roots, that her milk may dry up. It is better to begin this as soon as the pigs have learned to drink milk at the trough. They should have a trough so arranged that the sow cannot get to it, and should be given sweet milk, milk-warm at first.

**HOUSEHOLD AFFAIRS.**

**OLD FASHIONED POCKETS.**

A most comfortable arrangement for the woman who wears the sheaf skirt is that of having a flat pocket of good size made of the same material as the dress and tied around the waist by strings. In the seam of the dress skirt or beneath the pleats in the back is concealed the opening, just long enough to allow the entrance of the hand. It is by no means a new idea, for our mothers or grandmothers wore flat linen pockets beneath their gowns.—New York Herald.

**APRONS WITH BIBS.**

The largest bib or napkin is often not sufficient to protect the dress of a child at meal times, especially if the child has some little service to perform at the table, like passing a plate or serving the butter. The sleeves suffer from the contact with the food which even the neatest and most orderly cannot always prevent. The old fashioned, long sleeved aprons were a boon in this respect, and while they are not as artistic as the present styles with low necks and no sleeves, their usefulness was great. Such aprons ought to be restored for protecting dresses at meal times.

These aprons can be made of 8-cent calico—a white ground with little dots of blue or red will not be unsightly—or of common domestic gingham at the same price. They can be cut sack style in three pieces, front and two backs, or with a plain waist and skirt, the sleeves in either case being large enough to slip easily over the dress sleeves. Three or four buttonholes in the back are sufficient to hold the apron in place, and two yards and a half of calico are enough for an apron for a girl of seven years.—New York Recorder.

**TO BLEACH BEESWAX.**

The commercial way of bleaching beeswax, writes E. Blaisdell, is as follows: The wax is melted in a large tank, at the end of which is a wooden cylinder turned by hand, while the melted wax is running over it. The cylinder being half in cold water, and consequently always wet, causes the wax to flake off into the water; it is then put on large cloth screens supported by legs about half a yard high, and is put out into the light and air to bleach. After it has been out about a week, the same process is gone through again, and by another week or so it is white.

This can be done on a smaller scale, by pouring the melted wax on the surface of warm water to form a thin sheet, and then putting it out on cloth to bleach; or another way is to put wax in cold water, let it come to boil, cool the water, and a thin sheet is formed on the water which is put out to bleach in the same way.

There is also a way to do it chemically, which I copy from a book which we have. Heat wax to about 212 degrees in an iron vessel lined with lead; add chloride of lime, either dissolved in water or dry, and stirred with a wooden spatula. When these materials have acted on each other long enough to discharge the color from the wax, the chloride of lime is removed by the addition of diluted sulphuric acid. The whole is then to be boiled until the alkali is separated. The solution of the chloride of lime in proportion of twenty pounds to 112 of water, and an equal quantity by weight of wax. The sulphuric acid should be of the specific gravity of 1.8 and be diluted with twenty times its weight of water.

**HOUSEHOLD HINTS.**

To clean a black silk dress use a sponge dipped in strong black tea, cold. To wash calico without fading, put three gills of salt in four quarts of water; put the calico in this while the solution is hot and leave it in until it becomes cold, then wash and rinse.

To clean gold jewelry, make a lather of plain yellow soap and tepid water and wash the ornaments in it; dry them thoroughly and afterward brush them with a little dry whiting, finally polishing them with a very soft leather.

It is said that a Paris laundressman has discarded all soaps, sodas and boiling powders. He merely uses plenty of water and boiled potatoes, and can cleanse, without employing any alkali, the worst soiled linens, cottons or woollens.

Dr. Hutchinson recommends for the treatment of bleeding at the nose the plunging of the feet and hands of the patient in water as hot as can be borne. He says that the most rebellious cases have never resisted this mode of treatment.

Mix two ounces of spirits of wine with four minims of extract of ambergris. If the insides of the gloves are rubbed with a small piece of cotton wool which has been previously dipped in the mixture it will give them a pleasant and lasting perfume.

For a piece of dried beef weighing two pounds allow two hours' steady boiling. Remove from the fire and allow the beef to stand in the water until cold. This beef, cut in thin slices, will be found very nice for luncheon or light supper.

To polish patent leather take one part linseed oil to two of cream, warm them, shake together thoroughly and apply with flannel. Rub well with a soft, dry cloth. The leather must of course be as clean as new before any attempt at polishing is made.

When meat is to be boiled be sure to put it into boiling water to start with, as that closes the pores instantly and keeps the richness in the meat. When boiling it for soup or bouillon put it into cold water and bring it to boiling heat as slowly as possible, for in this case the object is to extract the strength and richness from the meat, instead of keeping it in.

The town of Dedham, Mass., was established in 1636, and a house built there that year is still occupied by descendants of the original owners.

**The Evolution of the Handkerchief.**

The authorities are neither clear nor in harmony as regards the history of the handkerchief, known popularly in English as the pocket handkerchief. The etymology of the name is nevertheless sufficiently clear. The last syllable comes from the old French chief, meaning head; the syllable "ker" is from the French conier, to cover, while the prefixes "hand" and "pocket" were applied when the article began to change its mediæval use of head covering and became the aid to neatness and decency which it is at present.

The old French name, couvre-chef, or chief, came over to England with a host of other French words after the conquest, and in time became "gerchief," which is long since obsolete in America, though it may perhaps be still heard in parts of England. For long ages after the Crusades even women of rank wore the kerchief, which, after many changes, became the modern hat or bonnet. But exactly at what period it began to be carried in the hand or in the exterior pocket or hand-bag is uncertain.—Doll's Dress-maker.

**How to Prove It.**

A rash assertion cannot be made at long by simple repetition. If we say a thing is prompt in its action and its effects are permanent there should be evidence to support the assertion and that evidence should be without a flaw, like the following: Jan. 17th, 1883, Messrs. Geo. C. Osgood & Co., Druggists, Lowell, Mass., wrote: "Mr. Lewis Dennis, 136 Broadway, N.Y., writes: 'I am Dr. Orrin Robinson, of Grandville, Jan. 17th, 1883. Twelve years ago, came to my house in the summer of 1881 walking upon crutches, his left leg having been torn at the knee for over two months. I had some St. Jacobs Oil in the house which I gave him to rub on his knee. In six days he had no use for his crutches, and went home well without them, and he has been well since. St. Jacobs Oil cured him.' After an interval of about four years Messrs. Osgood & Co., on June 18th, 1887, were asked about the condition of this case and they replied: 'Lowell, Mass., July 9th, 1887.' 'Gentlemen: Mr. Lewis Dennis has just called and informs me that the boy Orrin Robinson, who was a poor cripple on crutches and was cured by St. Jacobs Oil in 1881, has remained permanently cured. The young man has been and is now at work every day at manual labor; a case certainly which proves the efficacy of St. Jacobs Oil. Mr. Dennis tells me also that he had rheumatism; that he tried many remedies that were of no use, and that St. Jacobs Oil cured the rheumatism permanently, as it has not troubled him for years.' Geo. C. Osgood, M. D.

Bethany, Mo., August 4th, 1888. Suffered for years with rheumatism, but was finally cured by St. Jacobs Oil. T. B. Sheer.

In the spring of '75 I was taken with lameness; was bed-ridden and given up by physicians; suffered one year; was cured by St. Jacobs Oil; cure has remained permanent. Mrs. I. Powelson, Gann, Ohio.

Beware of Ointments for Catarrh that Contain Mercury. As mercury will surely destroy the sense of smell and completely derange the whole system when entering it through the mucous surfaces. Such articles should never be used except on prescriptions from reputable physicians, as the damage they will do is ten fold to the good you can possibly derive from them. Hall's Catarrh Cure, manufactured by F. J. Cheney & Co., Toledo, O., contains no mercury, and is taken internally, and acts directly upon the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. In buying Hall's Catarrh Cure be sure you get the genuine. It is taken internally, and made in Toledo, Ohio, by F. J. Cheney & Co. Ladies, state size and width usually worn, whether Opera or Common Sense Toe is desired. Sold by Druggists, price 25c per bottle.

"Life has been a burden to me for the past 50 years on account of great suffering from very severe and frequent headaches. Brandy, cognac has done wonders for me. I am now a new man, and shall proclaim the merits of your medicine to all I can reach." George F. Fowler, Attorney-at-Law, Palatka, Fla. Fifty cents at drug stores.

Is your blood poor? Take Beecham's Pills. Is your liver out of order? Use Beecham's Pills. 25 cents a box.

Miss Edna Hilbert is the daughter of Edward Hilbert, of 183 Broadway, Lawrence, Mass., who sends us the following: "Ten years ago our child was born. Having lost six children we were naturally anxious as to the health of this one. What was our dismay and sorrow to find that she was apparently doomed to the same fate as the others. She had little strength as a baby, and did not improve as she grew older. When about 2 1/2 years old she began to have

**Fainting Spells,** dropping wherever she happened to be. At these times she would turn black and appeared at the point of death. Doctors told us she was in a very bad way from

**Heart Trouble** Nothing that we gave her did her any good until, in utter desperation, we began giving her Hood's Sarsaparilla. She gradually began to improve, the fainting spells became less and less frequent, and finally ceased entirely. Her general health improved until she stopped giving it to her. At this time she was 4 years old, and although anxious she troubles me right when she is called to worry, she seemed so well. She is now 10 years old and is as

**Healthy and Rugged** as a child as you will find anywhere and has never shown any indication of a return of the heart difficulty. During the past 4 years perhaps she has taken 3 bottles in all, we only giving it to her irregularly at times when she has complained of feeling tired in the spring and early summer. We feel that we owe a great deal to

**Hood's Sarsaparilla** and cannot say too much in favor of it." Edward Hilbert, Lawrence, Mass.

**Hood's Pills** cure Liver ills

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MR. CHARLES LAWRENCE, of Ashland, Neb., says that Swift's Specific cured him of SEVERE RHEUMATISM of which he had suffered for over six months, with vain efforts to get relief. He recommends it to all sufferers from Rheumatism. After suffering untold agonies three years from Rheumatism, having had much treatment without relief, I decided to take Swift's Specific. Eight bottles

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and I wish other sufferers to know of the value of your great remedy for Rheumatism.—JOHN McDONALD, McDonald's Mills, Ga.

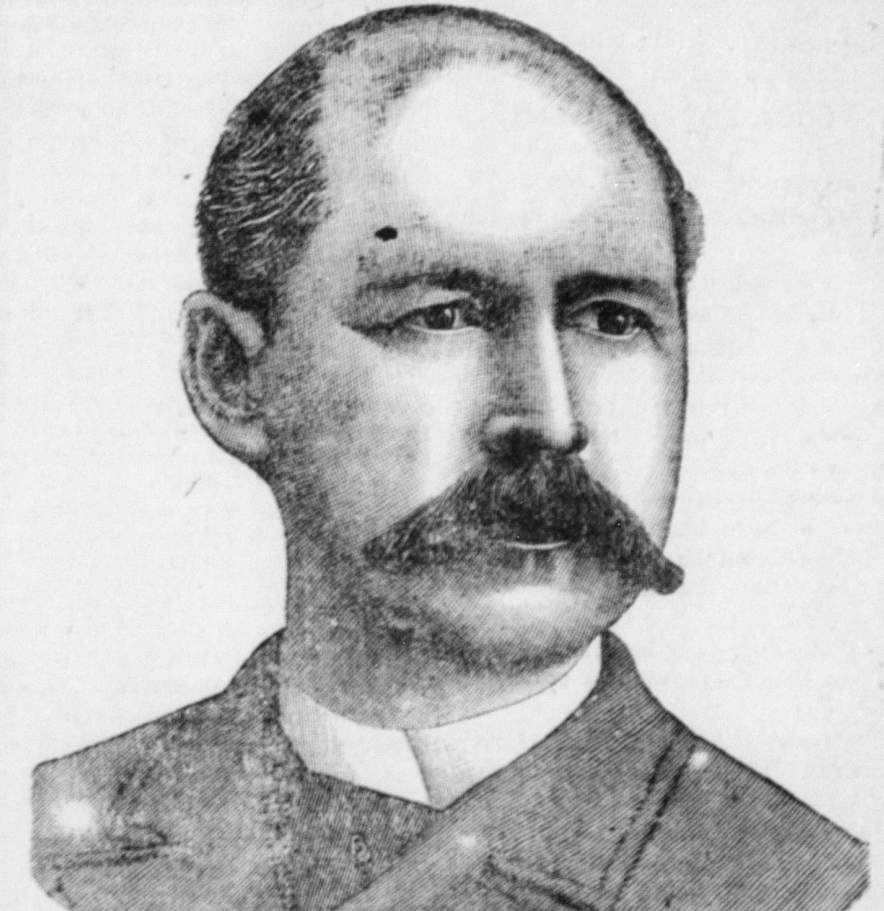
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