

Agricultural Department

About the House.
If you have a crack in the wall in the corner of the room or anywhere else, do not send for the plasterer, but get live or air with cold water, then take your finger and rub it into the crevice till it is smooth. Bad nail-holes in the wall can be mended in the same way. Should the top of your lamp work loose, take it off and wash it with soap, wash the glass, then put the plaster around the glass, put the brass top on again, let it stand until hardened, and it is ready for use again. A lamp should never be filled quite full, as the kerosene softens the plaster.

There is a species of vegetation which has been little attended to, but which does not fail to procure frequent remarks, and therefore merits some record—we refer to the mould which develops itself on articles of food left too long in a damp place. Bread made with too large a proportion of water, and maize-paste, are rapidly covered with greenish fungi, among which may be found some poisonous kinds. Mouldy bread is not without danger: eaten in large quantities it produces slight poisoning, such as giddiness, burning thirst and a general depression of strength. Fowls have died from the effects of mouldy bread, and many accidents have been reported as happening after eating food which had been too long cooked, and when it had contracted a slight acidity.

A recipe for javelle water is as follows: Take two pounds of washing soda and two pounds of chloride of lime, place them in a hot stoneware pan and pour over them two gallons of boiling water. Place over this a thick cloth and a board with a stone upon it. Let it stand twenty-four hours, stirring it two or three times. When quite clear, strain it through a thick cloth or thick flannel, filtering it immediately to save the cloth. Then bottle close for future use. Javelle water is excellent to remove fruit and vegetable stains, wash it out some others, but avails nothing with ink and iron rust. It is intensely alkaline, and therefore affects acids principally. A half pint in three or four gallons of boiling water will whiten the clothes beautifully. Any small article that is to be thoroughly treated should be washed and boiled first, then dipped in the javelle water, and allowed to stand three or more minutes, but not more than five, if the stains are deep. If there is only a faint outline of stain, that will often come out in the subsequent treatment. Do not let the fabric be in more than two minutes, as there is risk of its being injured. Then throw it into the hot water, let it stand a few minutes, rinse it thoroughly in two or three waters, and hang it to dry in the sun. Do not let a drop of it fall upon colored cloth, and if it falls upon any article, wash it out immediately, or it may eat a hole. Do not get the hands in it long (say half an hour), or it will eat the cuticle.

Flower and Kitchen Garden.
Spindling-glass-plots, garden-beds, with clear lime-water, in damp weather, when the worms are near spring (in most cases several times), is said to be destructive to the worms, and it is recommended that other wise to the vegetation.

H. J. Hodges, Brighton, Indiana, writes to the *Working Farmer* that he raises the common cucumber as large as the ordinary one, by covering the ground rich, and the bushes open, so that light and air can have free access to them. He renews the wood every two years; the young plants grow until that time without pruning.

If you get a moment to spare, "spruce up" the gate on its hinges; put a little paint on the picket fence you built last year; trim the doorway, and make it cozy and inviting. Do not say you can not find time to attend to these things; you have time. The fact is, you have no right to be slovenly. If you do no good, but, on the contrary, it will mar your peace, wound your self-respect, and impair your health. "Spruce up" your gate in a summary way, as well as in other ways. You will appreciate this fact when you come to sell your farm.

Rhubarb roots require replanting occasionally. If the stools remain unproductive for several years they often begin to rot, and the plants are unprofitable. Every three or four years the stalks should be lifted and divided, leaving but one large crown, with its accompanying roots attached. These may be planted in the same soil, or upon some fresh plot. Rhubarb is very much like asparagus as regards to fertilizing materials; the more there are the better, and an extra application afterwards will always be beneficial. It should be deeped in hot water, shaken, or a long needle pierced through it, as nine out of every dozen eggs you buy from some unprincipled dealer are served. A house for Bantams on the same plan that need for larger breeds but smaller will answer. Feed them twice a day on crushed corn, once a day on oatmeal, well seasoned with cayenne pepper. Fresh water costs nothing and should be given every day, and oftener if possible.

Barn, Stable and Yard.
An enthusiastic poulterer, writing of bantam fowls says: "They are not only ornamental, but useful, and families living in the city, not having yards of sufficient size to raise larger fowls, will find that a flock of Bantams will keep them in eggs and 'spring chickens.' Their flesh makes in quality what they lack in quantity. Their eggs, though small, are of very excellent quality. The different varieties of Bantams are numerous, some of which I will give: White, Black, Black African, Golden Sebright, Silver Sebright, Black Red Game, Ducky, and Frizzle. I would recommend the White, and for pets the Sebright Bantams, though some say the eggs from the latter variety are apt to prove infertile—and so will every egg that has been dipped in hot water, shaken, or a long needle pierced through it, as nine out of every dozen eggs you buy from some unprincipled dealer are served. A house for Bantams on the same plan that need for larger breeds but smaller will answer. Feed them twice a day on crushed corn, once a day on oatmeal, well seasoned with cayenne pepper. Fresh water costs nothing and should be given every day, and oftener if possible.

Educational Department

COMMITTEE OF ASSOCIATE EDITORS
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TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION.—The next session of the Bradford County Teachers' Association, is to be held at Smithfield, Sept. 10 and 11, 1875, beginning Friday, at 10 o'clock A. M.

The following are the appointments: Lecturer, Rev. P. S. Everett; Papers, Rev. J. H. Nason, Prof. J. F. McCollum; Essayists, Misses Emma Woodworth, Isadore Blakeslee, Decker, Kirk Wood; Debutants, Business Committee, Hon. J. H. Webb, W. N. Waldron, D. D. Forest, Alice Hale, Leadore Blakeslee, A. M. LIZANA, Sec'y.

OUR DUTY TO OUR CHILDREN.
Among the inferior animals we have repeated evidences of their affection for their own offspring. Man towering above the brutes, in that he is intelligent and is morally responsible for his volitional acts, inherits this propensity in a correspondingly greater degree. This affection discloses itself in various ways, modified always more or less by the selfishness and by the intellectual status of the parent. Undoubtedly it should find its normal vent in producing the greatest possible good for the child.

How to educate his children properly, is the greatest problem that can agitate the mind of any parent. Examining closely the things which surround him, he may be surprised by what he sees. In our love for our children, we are supposed to absorb ourselves to a greater extent from his dominion than in any other relation of life. Yet how often does the greed for wealth, place, or power, absorb all attention that should be given to the proper training of our children. While money is so easily expended to decorate the interior of our houses, how grudgingly is it often expended to expand the minds and souls of our children.

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