The Bloomfield Gimes.

Tuesday, June 24, 1873.

FARM AND HOUSEHOLD ITEMS

Frincite communications from all persons who are interested in matters property belonging to this department.

A Minnesota housekeeper furnishes a recipe, which she says makes the best yeast known to civilized women. She has kept it three months in the hottest weather and much longer in cool weather, and never had any sour. The flour should be thoroughly dried by the fire before being made into sponge, an important item of which many young housekeepers are ignorant. The sponge should be set at noon, mixed at night, and molded next morning. Stirring the sponge after it begins to ferment makes the bread white. Now the recipe: One quart of hops put lightly in the cup; one quart of potatoes pared and aliced; one pint of corn browned like coffee; put the hops in a small bag, add three quarts of boiling water; boil two hours. Strain through a colander, add one cup of white sugar, half a cup of salt, and water to make five quarts of the mixture. When lukewarm add one pint of the same yeast without meal or flour, as that might sour after a while. Half a cup is enough for baking, large or small. The yeast must be made in tin or porcelain. Let it stand twenty-four hours in a warm room, then bottle or can tightly and keep in a cool cellar. Half the ingredients will do for a small family.

Stakes for Tomatoes.

Thomas Meehan, the horticulturist of Germantown, Pa., says he has for several years noted the relative advantages of the different ways of cultivating tomatoes, and he concludes that the best practice to adopt is to proceed as with the Lima beans- that is, set the stakes before the plants are put out. These stakes need not be over six feet high, and may be set about four feet apart each way. As the plants grow, tie them up to the stakes ; but that will not be required over half a dozen times during the season. Twenty plants in this way will yelld as much fruit as double the quantity on any other plan, and in quality there is no comparison.

The common field plan of leaving tomatoes to grow as they list, spreading everywhere over the ground, may be, as truck growers say it is, the way in which the heaviest weight of fruit can be had in proportion to the labor spent; but in this way the fruit is more acid. But whatever system is adopted, do not set the plants out until the soil is warm, or they will be stunted and time lost .- Moore's Rural.

Poetry of the Table.

More appetizing than all patent tonics is a perfectly arranged table, sparkling with cleanliness. So let us be a little extravagant in our fresh table-cloths, when soap, water, and a little labor are all we have to pay. And now we must decide, shall we have the best china, and do with some stoneware for every day? or shall we pay ourselves the respect usually reserved for company? Clearly, we are the persons to whom it is of the most importance. Shall we sit down to odd plates and cracked saucers six days that we may enjoy gilded china the seventh? By no means. We will have plain white French china, which can always be matched when broken, and we will sit down to it every day. In the same way we will bring out the plated knives and silver forks, and partake of our food with a sense of our own deserts. We shall feel increased respect for ourselves, also, with napkins and butter plates; so those we will have.

Pruning.

The proper time to prune trees is said to be in June, when the tree is fully developed. Visitors to the Experimental Farm, in Chester county, are shown the limbs of an apple tree of considerable size that had been sawed off during different months of the year with a view to demonstrate the comparative healing of the stumps. The edges of the wound were found to heal most thoroughly and quickly where the pruning had been done in June. This, says the Practical Farmer, corresponds with sound theory, as the tree is in its greatest vigor and the sap circulation most

Remedy for the Cabbage Worm.

A correspondent of the New York Times, replies to a man who wants to know how to free his cabbage from the cabbage worm. "Thirty years, experience enables me to tell him. Get what is called here shipstuff, or shorts, such as we feed to stockwheat bran will do as good as the shorts; examine the cabbage before they head; if you see the web of the caterpillar, or holes in the leaves of the bud, put a tablespoon ful of the shorts in the head. If hard rains follow, you may have to repeat.— The cure is effectual. The worms become mired in the shorts made wet with dew. The worms seldom attack the cabbage af-ter they are headed.

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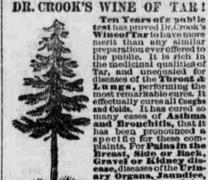
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