

Farm, Home & Co.

Borax—Lady readers who have not tested the magic properties of borax have been losing a great help and comfort. If once used, you will never be without a bottle of your toilet table. It removes stain and dirt from the hands better than soap, and at the same time softens and smooths the skin. It is splendid for washing the hair, and will, without injury, cleanse brushes and combs in a few moments. For washing purposes it saves both soap and labor. It will extract the dirt from articles of delicate texture without rubbing, it being only necessary to put the article to soak with a solution of borax over night, and need only to be rinsed in the morning. Two tablespoonfuls of pulverized borax dissolved in a quart of water, to which water enough is added to cover a pair of blankets, will cleanse them beautifully. It also saves great labor in washing paint. It is said to drive away ants and roaches, if sprinkled on the shelves of safes and pantries.—Farm Record.

Hanging up Coats—A heavy garment like an overcoat, if hung by the loop at the back of the collar, will soon stretch out of shape by its own weight. To avoid this, various devices have been made, some of wire and others of wood. A piece of hard wood, long enough to reach from the outside of one sleeve to the other, will answer this purpose; it should have a hole bored through the center, or a loop of strong cord to hang it upon the nail or hook. Undercoats and vests may be hung in the same way. For the "best suits" this little matter is of considerable importance to all who desire their coats to not be full in the back of the neck and therefore out of shape.

Oats and Wheat—The experiment has been made of sowing oats and wheat together with a view to gain a winter covering for the wheat. The seed, in the proportion of one part of oats to two parts of wheat, was sown in the fall and the oats sprang up and were killed by the early frosts, the stalks and leaves lying on the ground all winter, keeping the snow from blowing away and preventing the sun from thawing the frozen ground. In the spring the dead oats made a good top-dressing for the growing wheat. The crop of wheat sown on the following season was reported to be excellent, while wheat on adjoining land, planted in the usual manner, was of no value.

Swamp Lands—This month and the next are the best for cleaning up the wet, low lands. The thick growth of grass and weeds is dead to be cut and burned, when the soil will be ready to break up with a plow. So soon as the soil has been made fine by thorough harrowing it should be sown to grain seed. Frequently it will be necessary to run one or more drains before the soil is prepared for the sowing. Drain a dry weather drain can be done a much less expense than when the soil is full of water. In making a drain, it must be remembered that its value largely depends upon the thoroughness with which the work is done. A drain to be a paying investment must be a permanent improvement. It is better to make a single drain that will last a longer number of years, with the same money, than to make several that will be constant sources of trouble.

Drilling is by far the best method of sowing; it secures uniformity in depth, and saves seed by putting all the grains to a proper place for growth. Five or six pecks of grain is sufficient seed per acre when the drill is used. Of late some farmers are testing the value of cultivating wheat, and their results are almost uniformly in favor of this practice. In sowing, the alternate sprouts of the grain drill are closed, and the seed sown in rows about 16 inches apart. It is not difficult to construct a cultivator that will work between these rows by means of which the soil may be kept loose and free from weeds.—American Agriculturist.

A beefsteak chopped up fine and baked with flour and yeast in the form of a "meat-bread" is the latest dietetic sensation. It is asserted that the meat thus treated or finely disappears during the process of fermentation, the nutritive principle being incorporated with the bread. M. Schaefer, Keator has just been explaining the process.

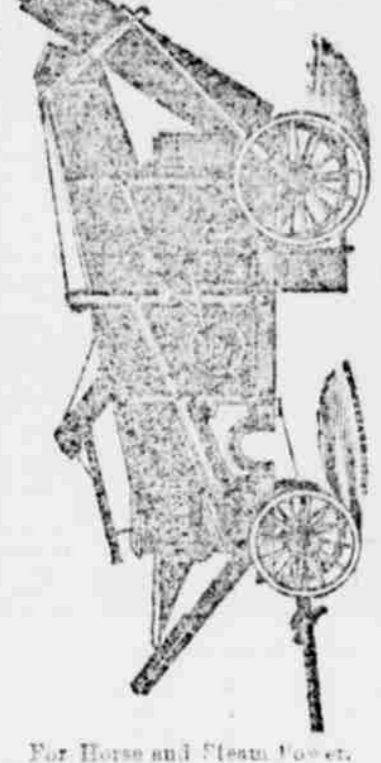
Potatoes should be harvested as soon as they are ripe, otherwise the tubers may sprout, especially if the weather is wet; they are more apt to be affected with the rot if not removed from the soil as soon as they are mature. Burn the vines.—Jb.

Don't suffer briars, bushes and the like to grow along the highway adjoining your premises.

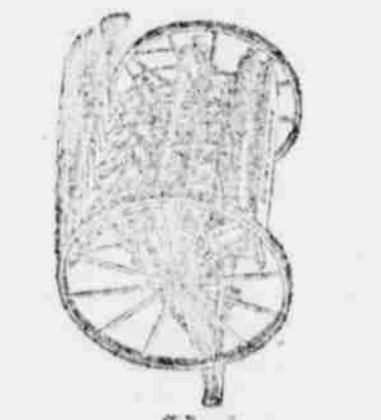
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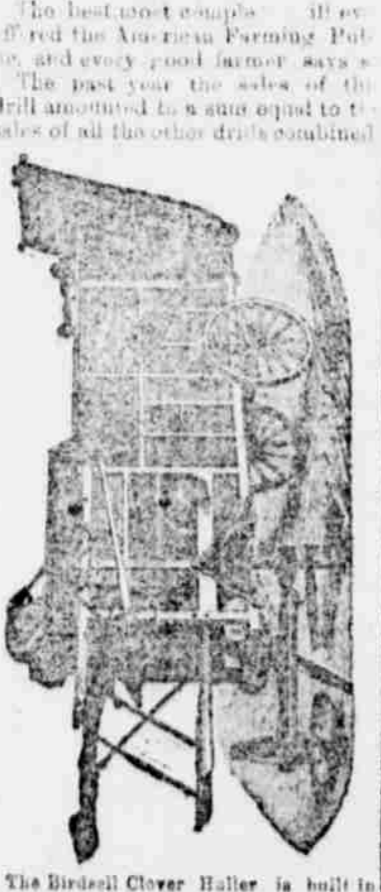
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