Farm, Home &c.,

Raising Leeches.

A letter from Bordeaux gives a frightful account of the leech ponds ten miles from that city. The leeches are regularly fed with the blood of old horses, which are driven into the ponds, where the leeches suck them till they grow fat. Then they are taken out and allowed to graze in the fields till they regain a little strength, when they are again driven into the pond, and the process is repeated till at last they are dragged out, bloodless and dead. A well known English veterinary surgeon, who has done much to mitigate the horrors of some of the Continental veterinary schools, has taken this matter of the Bordeaux leech ponds in hand.

Cling to the Farm.

It is a common complaint that the farm and farm life are not appreciated by our people. We long for the more elegant pursuits, or the ways and fashions of the town. But the farmer has the most sane and natural occupation, and ought to find life sweeter, if less highly seasoned, than any other. He alone, strictly speaking, has a home. How can a man take root and thrive without land. *He* writes history upon his field. How many ties, how many resources he has; his friendship with his cattle, his team, his dog, his trees, the satisfaction in growing crops, in his improved fields; his intimacy with nature, with bird and beast and with the quickening elemental forces; his cooperations with the cloud, the sun, the seasons, heat, wind, rain, frost. Nothing will take the various social distempers which the city and artificial life breed out of a man like farming, like direct and loving contact with the soil. It humbles him, teaches him patience and reverence, and restores the proper tone to his system. Cling to the farm, make much of it, put yourself into it, bestow your heart and your brain upon it, so it shall savor of you and radiate your virtue after your day's work is done.

Are Your Closets Ventilated?

There is nothing so handy in a house as an abundance of large, roomy closets; but because they are handy and extremely useful they are apt to be abused. There are many things, which, as a matter of course, are always put into a closet, of which the articles of outward wearing apparel make a large part. There are also things which ought not to go into a closet, that is a closet adjoining or closely connected with a sleeping or living room. Of such are all soiled outer garments, the wash clothes, which should be put into a large bag in the purpose, or a roomy back yard, and then placed in the wash room, or some other well aired at some distance from the family. Having thus excluded one of the fertile sources of bad odors in closets, the next point is to see that the closets, are properly ventilated. It matters not how clean the clothing in the closet may be, if there is no ventilation that clothing will not be what it should be. Any garments after being worn for a while will absorb more or less of the exhalations which arise from the body, and thus contain an amount of foreign—it may be hurtful matter—which free circulation of pure air can soon remove; but if this is excluded, as in many close closets, the effluvia increases, and the clothes, closets and adjoining rooms in time possess an odor that any acute sense of smell will readily detect. Every closet in daily use in which the night clothing are hung by day and day clothing by night, should have an airing as well as the bed. If the closet can be large enough to admit of a window—and it is in some cases—an ample provision for sunlight and a circulation of pure air is provided in the window, which should be left open for a short time each day. In the case of small closets a ventilator be put over the door or even in it. In many cases such precautions for pure clothing are not practicable, and the next best thing is to see that the door of the closet is left open for a half hour or so each day, at the time when the windows are thrown up and the large room is purified with fresh air from out of doors. In this way: first, by keeping out clothes intended for the wash; and second, daily changing the air, the closets may be comparatively pure.

The Arabs have this laconic way of describing a horse: He must have four things large—the front or brow, the breast, the rump, the limbs; four things long—the chest, the upper ribs, the belly, the haunches; four things short—the back, the pasterns, the ears, the tail. To this Abdelkader added, that three things should be clear or pure—

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