Agricultural.

How to treat Horses.—No one of the domestic animals is so much akin to men with reference to feelings and ambition as the horse, for when he sweats with a heavy load, when he gets into difficult places, and when he is hurt by his harness or saddle, he shrinks almost in the same way that a man does. His nerves seem to be equally sensitive with ours, and especial pains should be taken to see that his harness sets easily and does not gall him, and during hot weather the lightest rig possible should be used, and every superfluous strap removed. The harness of the horses drawing the street cars of New York is without breeching back or belly bands; in fact, there is nothing but bridle, reins, collar, and tugs, which is ample when horses plow, and also when put to a wagon, providing the ground is level and there is a good brake. Let the stable be airy and clean, and when work is done for the day, let the horse roll if he will, and then bathe his limbs, back, and flanks. If it is absolutely necessary to use a back-band, the owner should be careful to see that it is not too short, or buckled too tight, and that the pad is soft and kept in good order. It is absolutely disgraceful for a farmer's horse to have a sore back, because it signifies that his owner is both careless and cruel. A sore back is a serious annoyance, and three or four weeks with the best of treatment are required for a cure. If, however, the cause remains wholly or only in part removed and the healing scab is broken and irritated the sore may become almost incurable and the animal become of little value. It should be a good cause for criminal prosecution if an owner permits his horse to get into this condition. The remedy for old sores is pulverized burnt alum to eat away the proud flesh, and for fresh ones soap suds, but, probably luke-warm water is better. Harsh, irritating applications whether for outward or interior ills, should be avoided, for they indicate profound ignorance in him who prescribes.—*Tribune.*

Transfer of Disease from Cion to Stock.—Some twelve months ago my attention was directed to a tree having golden foliage, which surpassed anything of the sort I had ever seen for richness of color and effect. On examination I found it to be a Horse Chestnut evidently suffering from disease, caused either by soil or situation. In July last I got some buds from it and worked them on some young trees, at about three or four feet from the ground, a number of which have failed; but, strange to say, many of the stocks have produced foliage exactly like that of the parent of the cion, though the buds themselves are dead. I cannot say whether or not the stocks in which the buds are growing are similarly affected, as it is not usual to let such stocks produce foliage, nor can I see any signs of the yellow color in the growing buds. My opinion is that many of the buds had not vitality enough to keep them alive through the winter, but that during their short period of existence they managed in some way to impart the variegation to the stock, and that in case of the growing buds they may have been more vigorous, and by the help of the stock may have outgrown the variegation altogether. Another curious thing connected with the matter is that there is not the least trace of variegation in the foliage of any one of the stocks below the incision made at the time of budding.—*H. House, in Garden.*

Success with Sheep.—The best way to get a good flock of sheep is to raise them, because there are but few chances to buy such sheep as will pay to keep, unless at a high price. He who has good sheep knows it as well as anybody else, and, as a general thing, if he offers to sell sheep, they will be culls. A beginner should buy a few good American Merinos, say from 20 to 50, and if they are really good—that is, young and free from disease—there is more increase and money in them than in a flock of 500 culls, old, scabby, and otherwise unsound. In fact, such sheep are not worth the feed required to winter them, and the best use to make of them is to send them to the butcher, if that is allowable. By commencing with a few sheep a painstaking man can learn how to manage them as fast as they grow, being like some school-teachers, who learn as fast as their scholars do. It will take from three to five years to learn the sheep business, and by that time the flock should be of respectable size. We hardly know of an instance of young men going blindly into the business with 500 heads who have not lost their whole investment.

Some Rational Rules.—The following are intended for the use of poultry breeders:

1. Feed regular.
2. Perches two feet from ground.
3. Nests on ground.
4. Whitewash your poultry house inside.
5. Paint your poultry house outside, if you want the boards non-splitting.
6. Feed plenty of green food.
7. Never over-feed.
8. Fresh water daily.
9. Have a dust bath in your fowl house.
10. Never train your cocks to fight.
11. Give stimulating food when moulting.
12. Make cleanliness a specialty in your fowl house.
13. Clean out fowl house once per week.
14. Breed to the standard.
15. Give plenty of ventilation, beside warmth, and have your fowl house water-proof.—*Tribune.*

Singing to Cattle.—A good deacon, who was naturally a high tempered man, had been used to beat his oxen over the head, as all his neighbors did. It was observed that when he became a Christian his cattle was remarkably docile. A friend inquired into the secret. "Why," said the deacon, "formally, when my oxen were a little contrary, I flew into a passion and beat them unmercifully. This made the matter worse. Now, when they do not behave well, I go down behind the load, sit down, and sing Old Hundred. I don't know how it is, but the psalm tune has a surprising effect upon my oxen."

Perkins & Nye, of Springfield, Ill., have adopted the custom of slaughtering cattle by shooting, instead of by knocking them in the head. The meat dresses more nicely, and the revolting barbarity sometimes practiced in roping cattle which have never been tied, and drawing them to the bull-ring in the slaughter-house is obviated. Five or six cattle are driven into the slaughter-house, and a sharpshooter plants a ball in the forehead of each. The hit animal usually falls dead, but the others are not frightened, and wait their turn unconcernedly.

Pigs.—We believe that there is nothing which will make small pigs thrive and grow so well as milk. Having a dairy, we make use of little else than milk and apples, and find that nothing is much better. Pure corn meal will not do so well as corn and oats, or corn and bran, in equal proportions by measure.

A Hartford gentleman, who had tarried late at a wine supper, found his wife waiting for him in a high state of nervousness. Said she—"Here I've been waiting and rocking in the chair, till my head spins round like a top!" "Jess so, wife, where I've been," responded he; "it's in the atmosphere!"

Scientific.

Camphor.—Camphor is a powerful agent, and in moderate doses is capable of doing much mischief. It is a matter of wonder that so few instances of injury result, considering its wide spread, empirical employment.

Camphor is brought to this country in a crude or impure state, and here it is subjected to the process of distillation to render it fit for employment.

The camphor of commerce comes from Formosa, Sumatra, Borneo, Japan, and China. It is obtained in crystalline masses already formed, and also in grains by distillation. The tree which produces the former kind is a near relative of our basswood, which we know as a charming tree, perfuming the air and yielding the finest honey in the world. It grows on the Diri Mountains in Sumatra, and in Borneo. It towers upward more than a hundred feet, and has been known to attain a girth of fifty feet. The spirited persuasion of the axe draws from this forest monster the white treasures secreted in the longitudinal fissures in its heart wood, sometimes, though rarely, in a layer as large as a man's arm, but more frequently in small fragments to be carefully extracted by some sharp pointed instrument. It is not an abundant bearer. Twenty pounds is a rare yield for a great tree; ten pounds is a good harvest from one of medium size, and many are felled and split that furnish no camphor. This, however, is not an entire waste, since the wood is easily worked and is never attacked by the voracious myriads of Eastern insects which destroy all other varieties except the the teak and calambuco. House and ship timber are made from it, besides many articles of furniture, and the aromatic trunk is extremely valuable to the housekeepers of our colder climate. This kind of camphor seldom finds its way to Europe and America. The Chinese ascribe to it marvellous medicinal properties, and pay for it enormous sums, thereby securing the entire yield.

Common camphor is obtained by distillation from the root, stem, and leaves of certain species of *lauracea*, but more especially from the *laurus camphora*. Of this, also, there are two varieties. The Chinese or Formosa camphor is carried in junks to Canton and there packed in square chests lined with lead, whence it is sent to the different Eastern ports, where we procure it. It is of a grayish color with a grain like sugar, and usually unattractive in appearance. The Dutch or Japan camphor is prepared in Batavia, is packed in tubs securely matted, is pinkish in hue, and coarser than the Chinese. Both kinds need purification before using.

Camphor is slightly soluble in water, but yields freely to alcohol, acetic acid, ether, and the essential oils. A pretty experiment may be tried with it, which the young people will find amusing. Scatter a few pieces of clean camphor upon pure water, and they will whirl and sail about, keeping up the dance sometimes for hours. Drop among them some greasy matter and the merry little performers will stop on the instant.—*Scientific American.*

Aeronautic Steerage.—At the last meeting of the Aeronautical Society, London, two rather important steps of progress were reported. One is that by M. Dupuy de Lerne, who sends information that by means of a screw worked by eight men, in a balloon weighing altogether four tons, he has been able to cause the balloon to deviate twelve degrees either way from the direction in which the wind was blowing. This, as the chairman remarked, would have enabled balloons to go into Paris as well as out of it. A step in the direction of motive power, combining strength with lightness, was exhibited in a small machine occupying less than a square yard, in which steam was got up by the use of gas in less than two minutes to a pressure of 100 pounds to the square inch. The machine weighs only fourty pounds, and is of four-horse power. On the same principle it was observed that another engine could be made of 100-horse power that will weigh within 700 pounds. One is ordered for a balloon that has been constructed for the Aeronautical Society of Vienna, at a cost of £1,200.

Tobacco Leaves.—The State Chemist of Connecticut, in his recently published report, presents some interesting information in reference to the tobacco crop, with the results of tests upon the tobacco leaves. The general summary of the report is as follows: The most highly valued tobacco in New England is the thin, tough, elastic leaf, which burns readily to ashes. Those leaves containing the most carbonate of potash in their ashes, burn the most freely and suitably. In some combinations potash does not favor the burning, and some tobacco manufacturers improve the flavor and burning quality by artificially impregnating the leaf with acetate, citrate, or tartrate of potash, applying the latter in solution and then drying. Chlorine injures the tobacco, as does also nitric acid. Sulphuric acid, united with potash, soda or lime, favors the burning of tobacco. The best tobacco is produced on well-drained, warm, sandy lands. It is believed heavy manuring increases the quantity of the crop generally at the expense of quality as regards texture.

Artificial Ivory.—Two pounds of pure india rubber are dissolved in thirty-two pounds of chloroform and the solution saturated with purified ammoniacal gas. The chloroform is then evaporated or distilled off at a temperature of 185° Fahr. The residue is mixed with pulverized phosphate of lime or carbonate of zinc, pressed into molds and cooled. When the phosphate of lime is used, the resulting compound partakes in a great degree of the nature and composition of genuine ivory, for we have the requisite proportion of the phosphate, and the india rubber, which takes the place of the cartilage; and the other component parts of the genuine article are of little importance.—*Scientific American.*

The *English Mechanic* states that a new process of iron-making has been practically tested, and specimens of its produce shown at Wolverhampton. The bloom is made direct from the ore, which is ground, mixed with lime and pitch, and baked in a coke oven. This is treated as pig-iron, and a furnace charged with it is ready for working in half an hour. It is also stated that a ton of finished iron can thus be produced by the expenditure of but two tons of coal.

New Process of Printing with Indigo.—M. Lalande reduces indigo by means of hydrosulphite of sodium; and to the white indigo thus obtained, he adds an excess of the salt, to produce a suitable consistence. With this preparation, he prints fabrics, and afterwards exposes them to the air. The excess of hydrosulphite causes the rapid oxidation of the indigo.

The yellow pine, an invaluable building material for bridge and car work, is being rapidly thinned out in the South. No tree of this kind grows afterward where one is cut, but only a worthless, scrub pine of another species. Those who now set out new plantations of these trees will in a few years find them very valuable.

Marriages by moonlight are the latest novelty in Georgia. Very proper, considering what a sweet lunacy the business is. It is a colored people's invention. The whites generally prefer gas.

Domestic.

Ice Cream.—To the making of good ice cream five things are essential—namely: pure sweet milk or cream, fresh eggs, white sugar, good flavoring extracts, and maizena or corn starch, or arrow-root. The last mentioned it is difficult to obtain in an unadulterated state, and maizena is nice enough for the most delicate taste.

The most common fault in ice cream is flakiness, which may be produced by the use of milk which has been watered, or by an imperfect method of freezing. There are several kinds of patent freezers now advertized, each of which claims superiority. I have one in use which promises to do its work in five, and actually does it thoroughly in from eight to fifteen minutes, according to the quality of the cream. The more pure cream there is in it, the longer will be the time required for freezing it.

I have for the last three years experimented quite extensively with different recipes, and I have settled upon the following as making the best ice cream:

No. 1.—Two quarts of milk, four eggs, three-quarters of a pound of sugar, two tablespoons of maizena, and a little salt. Boil the milk with the salt for two or three minutes in a tin pail, set in a kettle of water. Remove it from the fire and stir in the maizena dissolved in a little cold milk, then the sugar, and lastly the eggs. Stir it constantly for two or three minutes to keep the eggs from cooking. Add the flavoring extract just before freezing, as otherwise the process is retarded.

No. 2.—Skim a quart of cream from five quarts of milk, which should have been standing in summer twelve hours, and in winter twenty-four hours; add to this one quart of new milk, two tablespoons of maizena, three-quarters of a pound of sugar, a little salt, four eggs or less, or none at all. With the four eggs it is very rich, too rich for most tastes. Flavor as you like. The cooking process is the same as in No. 1.

No. 3.—A still richer articles may be made by using clear cream, and in this case no eggs should be used. The same proportion of other ingredients should be observed.

There are a good many articles of cookery which require only the whites of eggs; the remaining yolks are very nice in either of the first recipes, instead of the regular number of entire eggs. From four to twelve yolks may be used in No. 1.; from two to six in No. 2.

The first recipe makes a more economical dessert than most pies or puddings.—*Hearth and Home.*

Aunt Lou on Rag Carpets.—I have made rag carpets several times, twice a hundred yards at once, and several times a smaller quantity. I find, where we have a family sufficient to furnish rags for carpets, there is decided economy in making rag carpets; but it is much better to buy your carpets at once than to buy the "rags" to make one. The cheapest and most serviceable carpet is made with the ground what is called "hit-and-miss;" that is, all rags, cotton, woolen, light or dark, long or short, sewed indiscriminately together, Striping with red, white and black, which gives it a very bright appearance. The chain to be used without coloring; thus, no coloring is necessary unless for the stripes, and a light carpet not only wears much better, but is much more easily kept clean than a dark one. I have never had a carpet, made in this way, cost me more than thirty-three cents per yard.

Again, when my imported carpets wear out I cut them in lengths that can be easily handled, give them a good washing, then cut into "carpet rags," cutting across the carpet from selvedge to selvedge edge, overcast the pieces together, get heaviest chain, send to the weaver, and, in addition to the plentiful dish of grumbling which she is sure to serve up to you you will have a rag carpet that will last you a lifetime, and serve to thatch your grandchildrens' cottages afterward. I have a carpet of this kind made fifteen years ago. It has been in constant use on a bed-room occupied by men in my husband's employ, and there is not a weak spot in it now. When such carpets are not wanted as carpets they may be used to advantage as rugs before the fire or at the doors; being heavy, they are not easily torn up by tripping feet; being very thick they absorb all water, keeping the dampness from the other carpet; being so thick that the chain is completely imbedded in the wool, they are also fire-proof; and after all, they are not as you are all ready to exclaim, at all "ugly."—*Moore's Rural New Yorker.*

Harmless Hair Restorative.—The *Druggist Circular* remarks:—"The basis of all the best lotions for restoring hair is cantharides or ammonia. A solution of borax in camphor water is useful. It cleanses the roots of the hair, and acts very slightly as a stimulant; and thereby it will serve to promote the growth of the hair. But one of the best stimulants we know of that has not hitherto been published, is this:—Vinegar of cantharides, 1 fluid ounce; Glycerine, 2 fluid ounces; Rose water, 6 fluid ounces. Mix well. Let the mixture stand for twenty-four hours, and filter.

Rattlesnake Bites.—The venom of the rattlesnake, as well as that of other poisonous reptiles, can best be vanquished by copious drafts of whisky. The ordinary effect of the whisky upon the system is neutralized by the poison, and the patient feels no ill effects from the stimulant. The action of the poison upon the blood is such that a powerful stimulant is required. On the western plains, where bites from rattlesnakes are of daily occurence, whisky is the universal and effectual remedy.

Vegetable Soups.—Few realize the importance of preparing this article of diet in the winter and spring seasons. An excellent soup can be made by putting a cupful of Lima beans, a cupful of sliced potatoes, five sliced carrots, into one pint of milk; pepper and salt to taste; simmer it for an hour and a half; before serving blend a teaspoonful of flour in half a cup of milk, bring the soup to a boil, and slowly stir in the thickened milk until the soup becomes smooth.

A New Way to Serve up Peaches.—Take good-sized freestone peaches, wipe them with a towel, halve them, and place them flat side down, in hot butter or lard. Let them fry to a nice brown, then turn and fill the seedcup with sugar, which, by the time the fruit is properly coated, will be melted and form with the juice of the peach a rich syrup. Serve up hot, and if you don't like them you need not repeat the experiment. Most persons think the dish a superb one.

Breakfast Corn Cakes.—Three teacupsful of white or Southern corn meal, one cup of wheat flour, two of sour milk, with two tablespoons of cream, or one of melted butter, and one egg, and a teaspoonful of salt. Bake in "gem pan," and serve hot like rolls.

To prevent ink from turning mouldy, it has been recommended by a German chemist to add a drop or two of mustard oil. A similar addition to starch paste is said to prevent its becoming sour.

When Shakespeare's mother wished him to confess a theft, what distinguished character did she hold up before him?—William Tell.

Humorous.

Mrs. Moyer's Bustle.—It was Moyer's turn for inventions that caused the disaster. Moyer designed a new kind of a "patent, inflated gossamer bustle" for ladies. It was a thin bag of India rubber, which was to be inflated with gas to give it the proper distension and sufficient lightness. When the model was completed, Mrs. Moyer determined to try it. She went into the yard, and tied the machine under her dress, while Moyer turned on the kitchen gas to fill the bag. It worked well enough for a few moments, when all at once Mrs. Moyer began to ascend with frightful rapidity. She had barely time to scream down to Moyer to put the children to bed early, and to tell Mary Jane to set bread, and the next instant she was two miles above the snowline. It was embarrassing for Mr. Moyer—very embarrassing, especially as she could not reach around to the bustle to turn off the gas in order to come down. So she floated about up there among thunder-storms and clouds and crows and aurora borealises for several hours, enjoying the scenery and studying the air currents and wishing she had brought her muff and a book to read. Then she commenced to descend gradually, until she came within a couple of hundred feet of the earth. She then screamed some as she floated along, and several enthusiastic students of natural history tried to bring her down with shot-guns, under the impression that she was some variety of ostrich or flamingo. But a sudden gust of wind struck Mrs. Moyer and blew her against the Presbyterian church steeple with such force that the "inflated gossamer bustle" exploded violently, impressing the sexton with the conviction that the sacred edifice had been struck by lightning. But when he came out and saw Mrs. Moyer caught by her panier on the weather-cock, with her parasol pointing east or west, as the wind happened to shift, he comprehended the situation. It cost six hundred dollars to build a scaffolding to get Mrs. Moyer down, and even then Moyer did not introduce his bustle into the market. He will sell out his patent rights cheap. Mrs. Moyer wants him to.—*Max Adeler.*

A Disappointed Surprise Party.—A story is told of a surprise party that came off in Connecticut, recently, which was not as joyous as it should have been. It was reported of a man and his wife, who had been married for many years without having any children, that they had at last been made happy by the birth of a daughter. Some of their friends determined to give the man a presentation surprise party. So about forty persons marched up to the house one evening, carrying a cradle, and lots of gum rings, and bibs, and bottles with gum nozzles, and a baby carriage, and some little night-gowns, and a coral amulet, and a gross of soothing syrup, and socks, and paregoric. And they all burst into the parlor at once on tiptoe. And when the man, in amazement, asked them what they meant by such conduct, they said they were coming quietly so as not to wake the baby. And when he blushed, and stammered, and asked, "What baby?" they said his baby, and began to hand him the things, and to load him down with soothing syrup and gum rings until he floored one of the guests with a quart bottle of paregoric, and held him down until he explained. And then it was revealed that it was all a mistake about that little daughter; that no such arrival had taken place at all, but that the report was false. And then the surprise party was a great deal more surprised than the man was; and the guests gathered up that infant furniture, and tried to pretend to the man that they never thought he had a daughter, but they understood he had accepted a position as a director of an orphan asylum, and that they brought round a few things for him to distribute among the poor fatherless children. The man said it was singularly thin, and then the company went home.

Saratoga lawyers are unequal to the exertion of a complete dance, and this is the way they manage to slide out. "Eli Perkins" is our authority. The young lady is introduced to the substitute with the following casual remark: "I give and bequeath to you to have and to hold in trust one-half of my right title, and claim, and my advantage, in a dance known as the 'Railroad Galop,' with Amelia Johnson, with all her hair, paniers, grasshopper bend, rings, fans, belt, hairpins, smelling bottle, with all the right and advantage therein; with full power to have, hold, encircle, whirl, toss, wiggle, push, jam, squeeze or otherwise use—except to smash, break or otherwise damage—and with right to temporarily convey the said Amelia Johnson, her hair, rings, paniers, and other objects heretofore or hereinafter mentioned, after such whirl, squeeze, wiggle, jam, etc., to her natural parents, now living, and without regard to any deed or deeds or instruments, of whatever kind or nature soever, to the contrary in anywise notwithstanding."

Whose Fault?—Wife (reproachfully) "O, Charles!" (She had returned to the dining-room, wondering why he had not come up stairs to tea). Charles (who had evidently taken a little too much wine): "V'y well, my dear! 'Sh not my fault! 'Sh your fault! Cooksh fault! Bisque soup was salt! Sh'preme d'la V'laille was smoked! And orange frittersh tough as leather! What did Capt'n. Du Cane shay? Bad cookery cause of all sorts o' crimes. 'Shamed of yourself!"

A Lexington (Mass.) owner of hens noticed that one of them had an immense crop, and procuring a sharp knife and made an incision, and drew forth a dish-cloth. That's just like a hen. It will eat anything it can swallow, and swallow anything it can get hold of. It would swallow a fence if it was loose, and then step around back of the house to see if dinner was ready. It is with hens as with story papers, everything is in their necks.

Recently a young man who was attending a night writing school near Danville, was smitten by the charms of a Lady who was present, and at the close of the school hustled forward to solicit the pleasure of escorting her home. "Yes," said the Lady, "if you will carry my boy." The youth wilted, and the young matron went home without him.

A Great Favor.—Butler (at luncheon—"Steak a little hard, Ma'am? (Pause.) We've a partic'ler tender leg o' lamb in the hall. Shall I inquire if you can have a slice of that, Ma'am?"

Little by Little.—Farmer—"Wull, Maarster Jarvis, and how be ye, sir?" Master Jarvis—"O, only just middling! There be a main soight too much o' me to be all well at one time!"

The man who wrestled with adversity wore out his silk stockings and got worsted.

A lady took her son, of some five years, to church. After the minister had been preaching about half an hour, the little fellow grew sleepy and began to nod. The mother roused him into attention several times by pushing; but as it seemed a hopeless case, she concluded to let him sleep undisturbed. After a while the little fellow had his nap out, and saw the minister still holding forth. He looked up in his mother's face, and innocently asked, "Mother, is this Sunday night, or is it next Sunday night?"

Miscellany.

Mr. G. Emery, a capital character actor, comes to this country from England next season.

Old Humbugs Discarded.—Thank heaven, the old-school practice is passing away. Ipecac, aloes, calomel, blistering, the lancet, and (worse than all), MEDICATED RUM, have given place to a new remedy, which bids fair to become the UNIVERSAL MEDICINE OF MANKIND. VINEGAR BITTERS is that remedy. It is de-tined to take precedence of all other curatives now before the world. The pharmacopœia and conspectus of the regular Faculty contain nothing that will compare with it. Every day hundreds of the sick are emancipating themselves from systems of treatment which entail great expense and do no good, and are flying to this cheap and absolutely certain means of relief. Dyspepsia, rheumatism, liver complaint, periodic fevers, sick headache, kidney diseases, constipation, nervous affections, and in short all maladies, acute or chronic, which do not involve the irreparable injury of some vital organ, are cured by this PURE INALCOHOLIC VEGETABLE RESTORATIVE. 5

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