

FARM, GARDEN AND HOUSEHOLD.

Too Much Hay. Filling a horse's rack with hay, as some persons do, and permitting a constant supply to remain before the animal, is one of the most probable means of producing disease, and most positive in rendering animals unfit for fast work.

Feeding Pigs. Pigs that are to be marketed this year should be pushed hard from the beginning. If allowed to stand still for a day there will be a loss. Ground oats and corn mixed, or ground corn with wheat middlings, will make a good slop for the pigs; soaked corn will also be highly relished, and will be found well adapted to keeping the pigs in high flesh; but as soon as the new corn is fairly in milk that will be found the best of all fattening foods.

Saving Manure. A young man, eighteen years of age, who has been his father's main help in cultivating an eighty-acre farm, said: "Our principal business this summer has been the saving of manure, one item of which has been to supply bedding for eight calves that were kept under a shed during the entire summer. Early in the season sawdust was used daily, in sufficient quantities to absorb the liquids and keep the calves dry, and later, dry earth, leaves or anything that could be obtained most readily. In the fall thirty-one horse-carts loads of manure were drawn from this shed. Since manure is the one article most needed on a farm, the farmer never should cease laying plans for making it, and, if successful, he may look for large returns in produce."—Exchange.

A Hint for Orchardists. One of the worst enemies the apple orchard has to contend with is the codling moth, which, unless dealt with in a vigorous manner, is very apt to destroy the fruit of the orchard. The pasturing sheep in the orchard, when the fruit approaches the ripening stage, appropriate to themselves the early decayed fruit that falls, and thus keep in check the worm which does all the damage. A. R. Whitney, of Franklin Grove, Lee county, Ill., the largest orchardist in the United States, having 45,000 bearing trees, remarked at the recent meeting of the American Nurserymen's Association at Dayton, that he could not get along at all in his orchard without sheep. While the fruit of his neighbors, who do not keep sheep, suffers badly, his apples are smooth, sound and uninjured by his mode of preserving them from the enemy.

Mistake in Milking. "We have frequent communications," says the American Cultivator, "from our subscribers concerning the fact of their cows giving bloody milk. No one would be surprised at cows giving bloody milk if they were fully aware of what a network of blood vessels the udder of a cow is composed. No person should ever make an attempt to milk a cow till they have obtained some knowledge of its structure; then we perhaps should dispense with a large number of those double-fluted men who do not seem to have any knowledge of the purposes or anatomy of a cow's bag, except for them to squeeze and drag it as though it were a piece of dead hide. There is no objection to the strong-handed man as a milker, the stronger the better, but it should be accompanied by a touch as delicate as a woman's. Whenever the cow manifests the slightest sensitiveness the udder should be thoroughly examined. Milking is a pleasure to the cow when everything is all right, and whenever it ceases to afford gratification to the cow there is evidently something wrong. Never fail to wash with warm water the bag of a young heifer, both before and after milking."

Salt for the Throat. In these days when diseases of the throat are so universally prevalent, and in so many cases fatal, we feel it our duty to say a word in behalf of a most effective, if not positive, cure for sore throat.

The Line of Beauty. Professor Muller, in a course of lectures in Berlin, offered a simple and mechanical explanation of the universal admiration bestowed on circles. The eye is moved in its socket by six muscles, of which four are respectively employed to raise, depress, turn to the right and to the left. The other two have an action contrary to each other, and roll the eye on its axis, or from the outside downward, and inside upward. When, therefore, an object is presented for inspection, the first act is that of circumversion, or going round the boundary lines, so as to bring consecutively every individual portion of the circumference upon the most delicate and sensitive portions of the retina. Now, if figures bounded by straight lines be presented for inspection, it is obvious that but two of these muscles can be called into action; and it is equally evident that in curves of a circle or ellipse all must alternately be brought into action. The effect then is that if two only be employed, as in rectilinear figures, those two have an undue share of labor; and by repeating the experiment frequently, as we do in childhood, the notion of tedium is instilled, a distaste for straight lines is gradually formed, and we are led to prefer those curves which supply a more general and equable share of work to the muscles.

How to Raise Turkeys. Two to four hens and one gobbler are sufficient, and two to three-year-old fowls better than younger or older ones. When they begin to lay watch them and find their nests, which are generally made in some obscure place. Remove the eggs as fast as they are deposited in the nest, and put a chicken hen's egg in for a nest egg. When she lays out her number, which is usually from fifteen to twenty, and begins to set remove her at night to a point near the dwelling, having prepared a setting-place in a barrel turned down on the side and straw therein. Fasten the mouth up for a day and night, so she cannot get out. The following day remove the fastening, and if she goes back to her old nest, take her at night and fasten her up again for twenty-four or thirty hours. By this time she will become accustomed to her new and convenient quarters and you will not suffer from the depredations of crows or egg thieves. Never put more than seventeen turkey eggs with a turkey hen nor more than twelve turkey eggs with a chicken hen. Some poultry raisers prefer to have all their turkeys hatched with chicken hens, but my experience is that the young do better when reared by their natural mother. While your eggs are accumulating keep them in a box or basket in a dark place with an old woolen cloth under and over them. Handle them very gently and turn them over in the basket every few days. Last year I had forty-nine out of fifty eggs to hatch when managed as above stated, and raised forty-three of them. When the eggs are all hatched, fasten the hen up in a sheltered pen so the little things can get in and out at pleasure, and where the wind and rain cannot reach them on the west and north sides. Keep them in this way until they are three or four weeks old, and then they shift for themselves and will be as hardy as any fowl. Until they are about a month old they are the tenderest of all domestic birds. Feed them on curds and let them have plenty of buttermilk to drink, with now and then cooked corn bread, with a little salt and some cayenne pepper added before cooking, and give them wheat screenings occasionally. Feed them regularly night and morning, and they will always come home to roost, after feeding in the fields for a quarter of a mile around the house all day. When one-third grown, nothing is better to feed them than whole grains of corn; but generally this is not necessary, as grasshoppers and other insects are their choice food.

A German Village. The little village of Gross Tarnitz lies on the northern slope of the long ridge of the Thuringian mountains, about ten miles from its northwestern end. Its economic state, which is only a type of many others in the district, is decidedly primitive. Every well-to-do family has its little strip of ground, or sometimes several such strips have been accumulated in one family by inheritance or intermarriage. The village butcher, with whose family ours was soon in tolerably intimate terms, was the owner, or at least the cultivator with perpetual rights, of many little fields situated in almost as many parishes. On these fields they raise the corn of which their bread is made, the potatoes, turnips, beet-root, etc., which help to provide them with food, and the flax which forms the raw material of their linen underclothing. The flax is spun at home by the women during the winter months when field-work is impossible, and is woven into long pieces of linen by village weavers in old-fashioned looms, such as could be seen fifty or sixty years ago in the homes of manufacturing villages in England. Each family also has its cow and its three or four geese. The latter, in addition to the profit derived by selling or eating their flesh, furnish a perennial source of revenue from their feathers, which are plucked at regular intervals from the living breasts, and sold for the purpose of making pillows and feather-beds for the inhabitants of more luxurious homes.

After the second crop of hay has been all gathered in, which is supposed to be achieved by the beginning of September, and for the gathering in of which the meadows are open to the cattle and geese of all the inhabitants, and the Hirten have no longer such an arduous task. The pasture-land becomes again for the time the property of the commune, the "common land" which it originally was, and is dotted with red oxen or snow-white geese. During the months of July and August the whole population, male and female, is for the most part occupied in getting in the crops of different kinds, which seem to form a continuous series, beginning with the first crop of hay, at the beginning of July, and ending with the Grummet, or second crop, early in September. The women are by no means behind the men in the severity of their labors. During this time work begins at 4 A. M., and lasts till dusk. The crops are gathered without the assistance of the machinery which an American or English farmer would consider essential. A very short scythe, of primitive shape and make, is used for the grass and corn. The men employ a great part of their evenings in hammering their scythes, so as to give them a harder and sharper edge, and the continuous clang of the hammers is by no means an attractive or soothing feature of life in a German peasant-proprietor village to a stranger in search of quiet. Mowing, we may notice, appears to be the one dignified agricultural work which a woman can do. Occasionally I have seen a woman use the scythe for a few minutes, but it was always with a sort of apology on the part of the woman for intruding on masculine functions, and seemed to be regarded by the men with compassionate toleration. Women and girls are competent in Thuringia to carry burdens of sixty, eighty, or even a hundred pounds weight, in great baskets, for miles, to the nearest market town, but they cannot mow, or at least public opinion decrees that they shall not.

RECIPES. PEACH BUTTER.—Pare ripe peaches and put them in a preserving kettle, with sufficient water to boil them soft; then sift through a cullender, removing the stones. To each quart of peach put one and one-half pound sugar, and boil very slowly one hour. Stir often, and do not let them burn. Put in stone or glass jars and keep in a cool place.

RASPBERRY JAM.—To every quart of ripe raspberries, allow a pound of the best loaf sugar. Put sugar and berries into a pan, and let them stand two or three hours. Then boil them in a porcelain kettle, taking off the scum carefully. When no more scum rises, mash them and boil them to smooth marmalade. When cold, put them in glass tumblers.

STEWED CUCUMBERS.—Cut the cucumbers fully half an inch thick right through; put them in a sauce-pan, just covering them with hot water, and let them boil slowly for a quarter of an hour, or until tender, but not so as to break them; then drain them; you want now a pint of good cream, and put your cream, with a teaspoonful of butter, in a sauce-pan, and when it is warm pop in the cucumbers; season with a little salt and white pepper, cook five minutes, shaking the saucepan all the time, and serve hot. It is just as delicate as asparagus, and a very nice dish indeed.

TOMATO PIE MEAT.—Take the remains of roast meats, (roast beef or other meats will answer,) chop as for hash, and chop three times as much bread. Have peeled some tomatoes. Take a broad iron or tin basin and grease it, then proceed to make your pie. First put a layer of crumbs, then a thin layer of the meat, slice a layer of tomatoes over the meat, season with salt and pepper, then add other layers as before, and lastly, cover the top with the bread, and press all down smoothly to form the upper crust. If you have the gravy, pour it over the pie to moisten the bread, but avoid using too much fat; or melt a piece of butter in two cups of water and a little salt, if you have no gravy. Bake until the crust is brown and the tomatoes cooked, in a moderately hot oven, and let it stand to cool awhile before turning it out. If rightly done you will be surprised to have so nice a dish from remnants. The canned tomatoes are good in winter.

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Man wants but little here below and he can get that quickest by advertising.

INDIGESTION, DYSPEPSIA, NERVOUS prostration and all forms of general debility relieved by taking MENNEN'S PEPTONIZED BEEF TONIC, the only preparation of beef containing its entire nutritious properties. It contains blood-making, force-generating and life-sustaining properties; is invaluable in all feeble conditions, whether the result of exhaustion, nervous prostration, overwork, or acute disease, particularly if resulting from pulmonary complaints. Caswell, Hazard & Co., proprietors, New York.

25 Cents Worth of a Treatise upon the Horse and his Diseases. Book of 100 pages. Valuable to every owner of horses. Postage stamps taken. Sent postpaid by NEW YORK NEWSPAPER UNION, 150 West Street, New York.

VEGETINE is composed of the best vegetable ingredients the dispensary of nature furnishes. The juices are extracted in a way which preserves their unimpaired medicinal properties, making it one of the greatest cleansers of the blood that can be put together.

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Rev. —, Washington, D. C.

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