

FARM AND GARDEN.

Handy Farm Implements.

All farms where beets or carrots are grown for stock, or a large garden is cultivated, there should be a hand garden plow. There are many kinds of these now and a very good one can be had for four or five dollars, and is a valuable substitute for the hoe, they are valuable to stir the soil and kill the young weeds, and one will do the work of half a dozen men with hoes.

Ladders are usually conspicuous by their absence on most farms, yet they are cheap, and if well painted, durable and very convenient. I doubt if I ever got so much comfort out of a dollar as by the purchase of a coal shovel, writes W. F. Brown in the Country Gentleman. I mean the broad bladed flat shovels such as are used for handling coal in unloading cars. I find them so convenient for scraping up the stables, for handling chaff or sawdust, or shoveling manure or potash, that I shall never do again without one of them. They are made with a blade 14 inches wide, and in handling all light material are very speedy.

A narrow long handled spade is a great convenience. I never could use a heavy, short handled spade long at a time without a lame back, and for years I have kept one of these light spades and used it with great satisfaction. I buy the best steel gravel shovel and have it cut down to six inches wide and ten inches long, and think that I can do one-third more work with the same outlay of strength than with an ordinary spade in all light work such as spading along the rows of grapevines, raspberries, etc.

Feeding and Watering Horses.

The feeding of a horse should be varied according to the purpose for which the animal is employed, and the size, age, etc. In many stables all the horses are fed the same quantity without regard to constitution or need. Experience and good judgment will soon enable one to decide the quantity needed by each horse to keep it in good condition. If driving on the road is the principal work of a horse, more grain should be fed, in proportion to the hay, than for a used road horse, four to six quarts of oats, and eighteen pounds of bright hay, daily, are generally sufficient. A horse that is kept for general purposes, or family driving, may be fed oats in the morning and uncut hay. At noon, cut hay mixed with feed made of oats and corn ground together, in the proportion of two of oats and one of corn, if at work; but when not at work, the noon ration may consist of uncut hay. The evening ration may be of cut hay, and feed with a little uncut hay after Timothy, cut just before blossoming, if well cured and kept stored in a dry place, makes the best hay for horses. When not at work, very little corn meal or other heavy feed should be given, but oats, bran, and uncut hay. A few carrots with the evening meal occasionally will be very beneficial. Hock salt should be kept where the horse has constant access to it. If turned out to grass, salt often.

The water given a horse should be pure. Do not have the water in the barnyard, for the wash will soak it, and pollute the water. If a running brook of clean water be convenient, lead the horse to drink from it, a good cistern can be made of a large hog wallow, half way into the ground, and the water from the barn roof led into it will be preferable for the horse than very cold well water. A horse needs at least two pails of water a day, and if given half a pail before meals, or four times a day, it will be sufficient, unless when hard at work in sultry weather. Do not give warm water at any time of the year, but the child may be taken off in winter, so that it will not be icy. Do not water or feed directly after coming in very warm, and do not work hard immediately after eating heartily.—American Agriculturist.

Farm Experience.

INFERIOR HAY OR CATTLE. Last winter I kept a pair of two-year-old steers that did not have a mouthful of upland hay for more than half the winter, and the meadow hay that they ate was of quite inferior quality. I gave them three pints per day of corn meal and wheat middlings mixed, and no other provender. These steers gained very little weight during the winter, and were worked some, too. There was no trouble in keeping cattle in a thriving condition with inferior hay and a small quantity of provender.—Eastern Farmer.

How Dehorned Animals Acted.

On the 25th of last April I dehorned my bull, two vicious cows—the terror of the herd—three yearlings and four calves. They showed signs of very little pain, and when let loose went to eating and directly to chewing their cud. The cows were fresh in milk and did not shrink at all in their quantity, that I could see, but their spirits were broken, and they were quiet and inoffensive. The bull had the corn all taken out of him; he was no longer so fat, and he was driven by the cows not yet dehorned, but which soon will be.—A Vermont Farmer.

Wintering Bees in a Cellar.

My bees are in the cellar on a platform raised about three feet from the cellar bottom, with the entrance wide open, and with a cover and blanket on the same as when in the summer stands. They have natural stores, mostly gathered from fall flowers and buckwheat. I keep the temperature about thirty-four degrees Fahr, as near as I can. I have a ventilator connected with the chimney, and when it is too warm I open that, and when it is cool I close it; if too warm, I put a piece of ice in the cellar. My bees are not, and there are but few dead ones. They do not seem to be troubled by any one entering the cellar for vegetables unless they are jarred.—A. C. Waldron, Minnesota.

Corn Fodder Cured in the Cask.

About fifteen years ago a small quantity of corn fodder was cooked up, and through neglect four cocks were left in the field until December, and it was then found to be in excellent condition, except a little weather-beaten on the outside. From that time we have usually provided corn fodder for the months of September and October, and sometimes for November and December. Gradually it was cooked nearer the time of cutting, and for ten years had been put up green. In that time the corn had been cooked directly after cutting, and not a dollar in value has been lost through rot, mold or sourness. If sweet corn is planted thin, and is heavily eased up, perhaps it may not be safe to cure it by this method, but for years I raised sweet corn with a fair show of ears and put it up green, and it cured just as well as that without ears.—Cor. Country Gentleman.

Ensilage for Dairy Cows.

I find that when I depend upon hay for dairy rations the balance is against me. I cannot raise to exceed an average of one ton to the acre on my farm, and as it takes the product of two acres at least to keep a cow through the months of winter, it makes the cost of feed \$16. Ad-

NEW AND NOTES FOR WOMEN.

Chevron stripes reappear. Cream is the spring color. There are forty-five female lawyers in the United States. It is estimated that women spend eight millions of dollars on bustles. A long plush wrap with sleeves of cloth heavily braided is very chic. Wide fish-like collars of plush give a top-heavy appearance to short cloth cloaks. A scalin' mantle of small dimensions, lined with Russian sable, costs \$1,000. A Pennsylvania young man recently married a girl who had refused him eighteen times. Water-green with palest pink is a favorite Parisian combination for very dressy occasions. Wool and silk plaids in shrimp serpent and gobeelin shades are shown for stylish spring costumes. Dr. Eva Harding has been appointed physician of the new Soldiers' Orphan's Home at Atchison, Kansas. Miss Bertha Piper has been elected journal clerk of the Washington Territory House of Representatives. A bright golden-haired ten-year-old girl was the other day elected page of the Iowa House of Representatives. New and stylish spring woollens have beige grounds, with broad silk stripes of slightly darker or contrasting hue. At a recent Arkansas ball a young lady, her mother, grandmother and great grandmother danced in the same set. The Russian cape, pointed back and front, is more stylish, though less comfortable, than those covering the shoulder. Heavily dotted veils are worn by young ladies who have no particular interest in keeping their eyes strong and young. Bengaline, which has very much the appearance of Irish poplin, is one of the latest and most fashionable importations. There are twenty women students in the medical department of the Buffalo (N. Y.) University, a larger number than ever before. Seven engagements were made at a leap year party at Woodland, California, the other night, where only fourteen couples were present. In deep mourning only black fox, beaver, black raccoon and lynx should be worn, while light mourning admits of seal and sable. Miss Rose Streater, of Midway, Ala., is said to be the belle of the South. She is a brunette and at a distance greatly resembles Mrs. Cleveland. Long clinging pelisses of moire plush, or Genoa velvet, are preferred even to fur wraps for evening wear and for driving by many Parisian leaders of fashion. Passementerie upon black gowns has often a lining of cream, scarlet, apple green, copper, blue, or even white silk, but the effect is far too loud to be elegant. Mrs. Augusta Evans Wilson, of Mobile, is an enthusiastic lover of geraniums, and her collection is pronounced by botanists to be the most complete in the world. Stripes and plaids are again combined with plain material—which, however, may now match the figure, not the ground color—so there is a pronounced zebra effect. A gown wholly of plain velvet at once proclaims its wearer hopelessly passé, but combined with moire, brocade or other lighter material, it is chosen for the very handsomest gowns for women of any age. Widows may wear Byron collars and outside cuffs with inch-wide hems of very sheer white muslin, or else a fold or two of bolting cloth or soft black net, which last is the favorite of elderly women. Miss Mary L. Seymour, who has one of the largest type-writing and stenographic establishments in New York, says that women make better type-writers than men, and quite as good stenographers. New printed chailles of pure wool come in shades of old rose, gobeelin, blue serpent and cardinal; and are figured either with detached flowers and leaves, or with broken stripes, which last is the favorite style for the newest Scotch gingham. In expression of gratitude for her efforts in behalf of Russian embroidery, the Slavonic society will present the Czarina with a sewing machine in silver, whose screws have each a jeweled head, and which is to be enclosed in a case representing the Imperial crown. Miss Wilkinson, of London, is a successful landscape gardener. She prepares plans for the laying out of recreation and play-grounds for the Public Gardens Association, which are much admired for their beauty and economy, and herself superintends the manual labor.

Farm and Garden Notes.

To prevent waste, cut your corn-fodder and feed in with bran. Nothing lessens the flow of milk quicker than chilling the cow. Geese are harder and easier to rear than turkeys, and if fat bring a good price. Bury old boots at the foot of an apple tree, which will feed on the supplied ammonia. It should be the aim of every man who gets his living out of the soil to add to its productivity. An Australian farmer finds the thistles which infest his lands make ensilage that the cattle eat readily. Warning drinking water for cows may be less costly than warming it after it gets in their stomachs. Foot-rot is a bad disease among sheep, but keep the flocks on dry ground, and they cannot contract it. There is no better agency for protecting an orchard from insect ravages than a large flock of fowls—chickens. Many colored people from the Gulf States are cultivating cotton with considerable success in Southern Kansas. Kalamazoo, Mich., has 2,000 acres devoted to the cultivation of celery with a stated average profit of \$400 an acre. If the soil is properly prepared, manure may be applied to advantage at any time of the year, so that it does not interfere with the work.

Scientific and Industrial.

A powerful disinfectant, adapted to all purposes, has been obtained in Paris from coal oil. Regarding the effects of scorpion poison on the animal itself, Professor Lloy Morgan writes to Nature, corroborating Professor Bourne's conclusion that the poison of the scorpion has no fatal effect on the same individual or another individual of the same or even of another species. The possibility of infection from disease germs escaping from hospital windows is attracting some attention, and special inquiry is recommended. Hospital ventilation might be so arranged that the foul air might be drawn through a furnace before mingling with the outside atmosphere. The proportion of water held by different woods varies greatly. According to Scheubler and Hartig, freshly cut horn-beam contains 18.6 per cent. of water; willow, 26 per cent.; ash, 28.7 per cent.; birch, 30.8 per cent.; oak, 31 per cent.; pine, 39.7 per cent.; red beech, 39.7 per cent.; elm, 41.5 per cent.; larch, 48.6 per cent.; and white poplar, 50 per cent. The interesting fact is stated that as indurated by wear or decay is the African teak wood, which shows built up in it a large quantity of silica, broken up because of their poor silicic qualities from faulty models. The wood in fact, is one of the most remarkable known, on account of its very great weight, hardness and durability, its weight varying from 45 to 52 pounds per cubic foot; it works easily, but on account of the large quantity of silica contained in it the tools employed are quickly worn away. It also contains an oil which prevents spikes and other iron work with which it is in contact from rusting. As illustrating the durability of gutta-percha, there was recently shown a specimen of it that had lain immersed in water for a period of thirty-seven years, and is still in first-class condition. The only indication of wear on the gutta-percha is where it rubbed against the rocks on the bottom of the river, and is very slight. Another specimen is of a ten-conductor gutta-percha insulated underground cable, which was recently taken from Blackwell's Island and New York for a period of thirty-seven years, and is still in first-class condition. The only indication of wear on the gutta-percha is where it rubbed against the rocks on the bottom of the river, and is very slight. Another specimen is of a ten-conductor gutta-percha insulated underground cable, which was recently taken from Blackwell's Island and New York for a period of thirty-seven years, and is still in first-class condition. 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