THE FARM AND GARDEN.

SOWING WITH BOTH HANDS.

We have known many farmers who have learned to use both right and left hands alternately in sowing grain or grass seed. In this case a wider path across the field is seeded and when there is no wind the seed may be distributed more evenly than it can with the use of only one hand. The motion of the arms keeps time with the legs in walking. The sowing of grain by hand is now not common, as it is generally believed that it can be distributed more evenly and covered to uniform depths by drilling. There are also grass seed sowers that throw farther and distribute much more evenly than it is possible for the best sower by hand to do.—*Boston Cultivator.*

SALTING BUTTER.

The excellence of the butter made from the fragrant pastures can only be preserved for any length of time by the best methods of churning and salting. Butter that otherwise might be classed as good is often reduced to an inferior grade by the manner in which it is treated at the time of salting. A great deal of butter is overchurned, by which it is pounded into a creamy, pasty condition, exactly the opposite of what it should be. To get the best results from salting butter the churning should stop when it has fairly granulated. At this stage the buttermilk should be drawn off and the butter washed with cold water or cold, weak brine, until it runs off clear. Then strong, clear brine may be poured on to remain until the butter has absorbed enough of the salt, or fine, dry salt—one ounce to the pound—should be sifted on and worked in so that it will dissolve. After this a light second working should be given to clear it of any buttermilk that may be drawn out by the salting. Throughout the entire process the utmost care should be taken not to break the grain of the butter.—*New York World.*

GRASSES FOR PASTURE.

The farmer who depends on clover and timothy for pasture grass does not get the best from the soil. The timothy will die out and the clover fail to hold its own, yet three-quarters of our pasture lands are sown with these two grasses. For a pure pasture land blue grass is much better, for it is never permanently damaged by frost or drought, and it seldom runs out. Another favorable point of this grass is that cattle can be turned upon it without damaging it at least a month earlier in the spring than upon a pasture sown to timothy and clover. Blue grass will also grow in the shade, where timothy and clover would die, and a profitable crop can be made to grow under timber trees. A blue grass pasture is a permanent thing, and more of our fields should be sown to it. During severe winters the clover and timothy are frequently killed, and as a result the number of cattle has to be reduced. This never, or very seldom, happens when good blue grass pastures are on the farm.—*Chicago Times.*

A HORSE'S SENSE OF SMELL.

A horse will leave musty hay untouched in his bin, however hungry. He will not drink of water objectionable to his questioning sniff, or from a bucket which some odor makes offensive, however thirsty. His intelligent nostril will widen, quiver and query over the daintiest bit offered by the fairest of hands with coaxings that would make a mortal shut his eyes and swallow a nauseous mouthful at a gulp. A mare is never satisfied by either sight or whinny that her colt is really her own until she has a certified nasal certificate to the fact. A blind horse, now living, will not allow the approach of any stranger without showing signs of anger not safely to be disregarded. The distinction is evidently made by his sense of smell, and at a considerable distance. Blind horses, as a rule, will gallop wildly about a pasture without striking the surrounding fence. The sense of smell informs them of its proximity. Others will, when loosened from the stable, go direct to the gate or bars opened to their accustomed feeding grounds, and when desiring to return, after hours of careless wandering, will distinguish one outlet and patiently await its opening. The odor of that particular part of the fence is their pilot to it.—*Turf, Field and Farm.*

TO KILL FLOWER INSECTS.

An excellent fumigating device is made of stout copper in the form of an ordinary clay pipe, but with the addition of a movable cap in which is inserted a tube for a mouthpiece. The ends of this pipe should be tinned where it is put into the mouth. In its use one has only to get a little ordinary smoking tobacco; remove the cap off the bowl of the pipe. Fill the latter with the tobacco, light it in the usual way, replace the cap on the bowl, then, inserting the end of the pipe connected with the cap in the mouth, give it a gentle, continuous blow and you produce a dense cloud of smoke, which can be directed to any part of the plant infected with the insects. The fumes cause the insects to dislodge themselves at once, even in the most remote part of the sheaths of the leaves or flowers.

Wherever it has been tried on a variety of plants it has been found to answer exceedingly well. For instance, on many orchids experimented on there were thrips far down in the sheaths of the leaves which no insecticide would reach without injuring the plant, but after a few moments' gentle application of tobacco fumes they were destroyed, and no harm done to the plant. Then again, for window plants an appliance of this kind is particularly valuable, as it enables each plant to be kept free of insects at a minimum of cost and trouble.—*New York Herald.*

WATER FOR FOWLS.

Did you ever notice how often a hen will go to a vessel of water to get a drink, if it be convenient, in course of an hour? If you put a fresh lot of water before fowls, did you ever watch the eagerness manifested to get there first? When such need of drink is so plainly seen, does it not seem a cruel thing to let hours, days, or even weeks pass without furnishing the necessary supply? It is stated that three-fourth of the composition of the egg is water. When the hen is not conveniently supplied with the necessary article do you suppose she can derive enough moisture from what she can gather about the yard to manufacture an egg every day, or even every other day? All who are interested in the comfort and welfare of the creatures around them will do what they can to alleviate the suffering that may result from thirst. Those who have not the time to supply fresh water every day or two can construct a fountain in some shaded place which will furnish a supply until the water is exhausted. Take a ten-gallon keg with a small auger so that a row of them may be close to the bottom. Construct a cover to this, the rim of which may be an inch and a half larger in diameter than the head of the keg, and deep enough to cover the holes. Fill the keg with water from the perforated end, place the water-tight cover on it, and the water will rise in the extra width of the cover until the holes are covered, and there it will stand, a three-quarter inch trough all around the keg, a fountain which will keep fresh in the shade, and into which the fowls cannot step, and thus befoul the water with their feet. —*Dakota Farmer.*

GREEN FODDER BILL OF FARE.

Twenty-five years ago I fed fourteen cows all summer on the produce of eleven acres of green fodder, and had enough put away dry to carry them half through the winter, writes a Pennsylvania farmer. And I was only beginning the practice of soiling then. By this way of feeding land can be cropped twice, or even three times. To begin, one should have winter rye to cut the first; clover or orchard grass to follow; early sweet corn to follow these; and the last will carry the stock through the whole summer, although it is desirable to have some change, and oats and peas mixed and sown together serve excellently in this way. This is the programme, which can be followed whole or in part. The rye is ready for cutting in May or June. As soon as a strip of it is cut through the field ten or twelve feet wide the soil is turned with a swivel plow and planted with Narragansett sweet corn, which will be ready for use, in roasting ear stage, in sixty days. When another strip is ready this is plowed, joining furrows to the first strip (the value of the swivel plow now appears). And so on. After the rye the clover or orchard grass, or both, which are best grown separately, come in and last until the first corn is ready. As soon as this is cut off in strips new plantings are made. By adding a second cutting of clover and grass will be ready, or the oats (2½ bushels) and peas (1½ bushels) sown together. All that is needed is to have enough, which is more than can be fed, and the surplus is cured and put into the barn for winter. With a crop of mangels for winter the system is complete—and no silo needed.—*New York Tribune.*

FARM AND GARDEN NOTES.

Mulch the strawberries.

Resolve to make a good corn crop.

Feed the potato beetles paris green.

What as to corn fodder and ensilage?

"Snow-white" gladiolus is a favorite.

In a favorable season a second crop of orchard grass and of clover can be readily secured.

Your team as well as you gets tired. Remember it is doing the heavier work. Give it a rest.

If you stake your trees be sure that the stake stands firmly. A loose post does more harm than good.

Hungarian or millet make a good hay, but they need a good, rich soil, well prepared, to secure a good yield.

In transplanting trees more loss is occasioned by exposure of the roots than by their mutilation. Avoid both.

If you grow Japanese buckwheat, do not grow it by the side of the common varieties, if you want it to keep pure.

Good onion seed will sink in water, while that which floats either does not grow at all or produces only scullions.

Some object to cutting hay early because the stock will eat so much more of it. This ought to be a good reason for early cutting.

Orchard grass if first to ripen, then clover, followed by timothy and then red top. If properly cured, all make a good quality of hay.

Wheat or oats are grown for the grain or seed, but grass for the straw or hay, and each must be cut at the proper stage to secure the best results.

The form of the animal and the quality of the meat depend mainly upon the breed, but the growth and development depend mainly on the feed.

The seed of most grasses are a very small proportion of their seeding value as compared with the straw, so that the latter should receive the most attention.

When the price of dairy products has fallen low, it will not pay to let our care of the cows fall off. If we do, they will not be ready for business when the price rises.

Do you know of any better use to which you can put your best clover hay than to feed it to the cows? If you don't, store it handy to their stable when you cut it.

Professor Lintner says the potato beetle has twenty-five parasite enemies. Yet notwithstanding these and all the poisons how heroically it stands up and defies annihilation.

Professor Augur, of Connecticut, recommends sprinkling cabbage with brine strong enough to bear an egg as a remedy for the cabbage worm. It is also good for the cabbage.

In an experiment at the Indiana station the application of barnyard manure nearly doubled the crop of potatoes over that of the field not manured, and the tubers were just as sound and smooth.

It's Hard to Hit a Man.

A crowd of revenue officers were talking, when one of them remarked:

"Do you know it's a heap harder to hit a man shooting at him, than it is to hit a squirrel the same distance?"

"Of course it is," was the general assent.

It was a harder question to decide why this was so.

"One time," resumed the first speaker, "I shot eleven times at a man, not fifty yards away from him. He shot ten times. Neither of us hit the other. Both were dodging behind trees, but all of mine were pretty fair shots. I'll give you my word, I wasn't frightened until the whole thing was over. I aimed like I was shooting at a target, and I'm not a bad shot, either. They tell me that fellow could hit a nickel at a hundred yards ninety-nine times out of a hundred, and I don't believe he was scared. But it's a fact—you can hit a squirrel five times where you couldn't hit a man once."—*Atlanta Constitution.*

A statistical crank computes that 37,000,000 babies are born every year, and that their cradles placed in line would reach round the globe.

HOUSEHOLD AFFAIRS.

HEALTH-GIVING ODOR IN THE ROOM.

If you want a lovely odor in your room, break off branches of the Norway spruce and arrange them in a large jug well filled with water. In a few days tender, pale green branches feather out soft and cool to the touch, and giving the delightful health-giving odor.—*Scientific American.*

EVILS OF HASTY COOKING.

Too much haste is the cause of much bad cooking, according to a commentator on modern cookery. The majority of cooks bake brown bread and baked beans, for instance, in from one to two hours under a hot fire. The Boston cooks give from ten to twelve hours of baking to their beans and brown bread, and have the satisfaction of hearing that in no other city or country can such "delicious beans" and "lovely bread" be found.—*New York World.*

LARD.

There are three classes of lard—prime steam lard, pure kettle-rendered and refined lard. Prime steam lard is the leaf fat of hogs and the selected fat trimmings cooked in a close tank, by wet steam, at a pressure of from thirty-five to forty pounds, for from twelve to sixteen hours, after which the tank is allowed to settle and the lard is drawn off. Pure kettle-rendered lard consists of the fat backs and other trimmings of hogs, rendered in an open kettle, and agitated while cooking to prevent burning. Refined lard is a compound production. It includes, besides a certain proportion of the higher grades of hog fats, the lard stearin left in the extracting of lard oil from the leaf lard, the settlings and scrapings from the kettles from which the neural lard is made, and all available fat tissues of the hog, to which are added the beef stearin obtained in the manufacture of oleo oil and a certain quantity of a double refined cotton-seed salad oil. The preparation of this product involves the employment of a somewhat complicated arrangement of steam jackets, hot air agitators, settling kettles, filters and other machinery. The first two grades are inspected by the Board of Trade, and branded with a certificate of their purity before being put upon the market.—*New Orleans Times-Democrat.*

CARE OF THE PIANO.

Many people are apt to think an old piano does not need care. A friend of mine, on forgetting to close her piano before retiring said, "I'll not go down stairs for it; it is an old piano; when I get a new one I'll take care of it." Pianos are like people in one respect, the older they get the more care they require. I do not mean by this that a new piano does not need care, and the care of it does not end with simply shutting it at night. Damp air should be excluded from it at all times. Too much heat as well as cold is injurious. A sensitive ear will soon detect the change of tone in a piano that has been neglected. It is well known that the tone of a piano is much better when it is moved away from the wall, yet we often see them moved close up to the wall, and occasionally in a corner. Many rooms are small, and the close arrangement of furniture may seem necessary, but a piano—an upright—does not take much more room when standing across a corner than when it is moved close in against the wall, and it will repay you even for a little space, and I should give it if possible.

It is also well known that a number of books and ornaments on a piano injure the tone, yet they are often loaded with books, music, and even bric-a-brac. Many people wonder why a piano does not sound the same in their home as it did in the store, and they are often tempted to think the piano they received is not the one they chose. In a store there is nothing on a piano. There are no close walls, and the room is not carpeted and hung with heavy curtains. All this makes a great difference with the sound of a piano.—*Prairie Farmer.*

RECIPES.

Hasty Muffins—Two cups flour, two eggs, one tablespoonful mixed butter and lard, two teaspoonfuls white sugar, one teaspoonful baking powder, saltspoonful salt, one cup milk. Into the eggs, beaten very light, stir the melted shortening, the sugar, the milk and the flour, well mixed with the salt and baking powder. Stir well, and bake in thoroughly greased tins.

Parisian Potatoes—From peeled and washed white potatoes scoop out little balls with the cutter that comes for this purpose. Boil them for five minutes, then put them in the frying pan with two tablespoonfuls of melted butter. Stir them about until every ball is well coated with the butter, pour into a colander and set them in the oven until brown. Sprinkle with salt and a little minced parsley before serving.

Beef Loaf.—Three and a half pounds of good beef chopped fine; roll fine eight soda crackers and mix with the meat; add three well beaten eggs, one-half tablespoonful salt, one teaspoonful ground pepper and four tablespoonfuls of thick cream. If the beef is very lean add a piece of butter the size of an egg. Mix all thoroughly; make into a loaf and bake in the oven one and a half hours according to the heat of oven. Very nice for lunch or tea.

A Delicious White Cake—One cup of granulated sugar, one-half cup of butter, one-half cup of milk, one and one-half cups of flour, one-half cup of cornstarch, two teaspoons of baking powder, whites of six eggs. Cream butter and sugar and add the milk. Mix flour, cornstarch and baking powder, and stir into butter and sugar. Have the whites beaten very stiff beforehand and add. Any flavoring can be used; almond is especially delicate. This cake can be used also as a layer cake.

Beef Kidney—This is a very delicious way of serving beef kidney: Cut the kidney in thin slices not more than an eighth of an inch in thickness; cut out the centre, which is tough and indigestible and gives it its rank taste. Soak in salt water for several hours, then parboil for five minutes. Put butter in a pan and when very hot lay in the kidney, with a teaspoonful of finely-minced onion, salt, pepper, two tablespoonfuls of tomatoes, stewed and thickened, a minced gherkin and some celery salt; add enough of any kind of stock or gravy to cover it, thicken with a tablespoonful of flour wet with water and simmer for ten minutes. Pour over toast.

Russia has ordered a large quantity of ammunition in France.

NEWS AND NOTES FOR WOMEN.

Cricket is becoming a popular pastime among English women.

Queen Victoria wears broad-soled, square-toed, heavy shoes.

Narrow ribbons in lieu of strings are used for lacing low shoes and slippers.

Beaded wraps rank amid the most dressy outer garments for summer wear.

Rustic belles have green leaves embroidered in the corner of their handkerchiefs.

For the first time in its history the Boston Dental College has graduated a woman.

Laver de soie is the classic name for the washable silks used for children's frocks.

Elbow mousquetaire gloves for summer wear have Vandyke points cut along the edge.

Amethyst and pink roses look well when artistically combined, although a parody upon nature.

Crownless hats have the trimmings arranged to cover the crown sufficiently to conceal the top of the head.

Tuscan yellow straw passementerie bands trim some of the silk and etamine toilets from Parisian workrooms.

Navy blue or brown flannel, in short plaited skirts and plain blouses, are the thing for camping out in woods.

One of the prettiest ways of displaying a lace barb is to gather it round the edge of a bouquet holder and finish it.

Silver serge is a novelty cloth, woven with a peculiarly twisted quill thread, which gives the warp a sheen effect.

Slippers of French gray Suede kid foxed with patent leather may be worn with impunity by ladies with shapely feet.

Archery will continue one of the fashionable, out-door recreations in the country. Some of the archery sets are very handsome.

The favorite baptismal name for young women in New Orleans is Viola. There are also many Ophelias in the city, but not a Desdemona.

Miss Joanna Baker, who was a tutor of Greek in an Iowa college at the age of sixteen, now occupies the chair her father filled seventeen years ago.

White alpaca, plain or sprigged with rose-buds, is one of the antique novelties of the season. For a tea gown or garden dress it is luxuriously cool and light.

Pundita Ramabai and nine of her fellow-workers were delegates to the fifth annual Congress of India. The appearance of women delegates was unprecedented in that place.

In a lecture on the Transvaal (Africa) Republic, delivered by Miss Annie Russell in New York city, it was stated that at one of the diamond mines alone 12,000 women were employed.

Hair is dressed quite low on the neck in braids, pinned up and down, in the form of the letter S. The front hair, on the other hand, is short, often the curls and crimps being less than an inch deep.

Parasols rival hats in their ornateness of material and garniture. A beauty is of ceil-blue tulle composed entirely of knife-pleated flounces overlaping each other. The handle is of mother-of-pearl.

Lamps encased in bamboo have come to correspond or harmonize with the bamboo furniture for country houses, where comfort takes the place of style. They are just as ornamental as they are useful.

While making baby clothes for her tiny niece, recently born to Chief Justice Fuller's eloping daughter, Miss Mildred Fuller composed the "Jolly Wizard," a dainty poem that is going the rounds of the press.

One of the first women to preach in Kentucky was Mrs. L. M. Woolsey, of Cooneyville, who was licensed to fill a pulpit by the Kentucky Presbytery three years ago, and has done successful religious work since.

Modern pillow shams are works of art. The old fashioned ones of linen no longer obtain, and the substitutes of China silk, lace or very handsome tinted cheese cloth are things of beauty and joy to the possessor.

Leghorn headgear, covered with white plumes are called "Maud Muller hats," but it is very much to be doubted if the young woman who figures in the poem had any such toggery, unless in those days it was given away.

The Zouave jackets can only be worn by very tall or very slim ladies, but a half Zouave, that is to say, only the front of the bodice and not the back, cut in Zouave shape, is becoming to any one who is not really stout.

Simple costumes are the best for car traveling. If dresses and wraps are elaborate the wearer will be quite uncomfortable on a warm day in the cars, and will look even much more uncomfortable than she really is.

A pretty fashion is to have a pot of ivy concealed and its sprays twined about the sticks and bars of an easel. A big flower study may have the leaves and vines of ivy twined about and covering the frame with artistic effect.

The Queen Regent of Spain rises early, takes a cold bath every morning, even in winter, and performs her toilet with the help of one of her waiting-maids. She usually dresses very plainly, and never wears jewelry except on ceremonial occasions.

Mrs. Lillie Devereaux Blake is one of the best-looking of the women suffragists. She is tall, and she has a delicately poised head and soft gray eyes. Her hair is turning gray, but her hands and her throat have the pretty plumpness of youth.

Mrs. Martha Lumpkin, of Upson County, Ga., is in her ninety-eighth year and enjoys good health. When ninety-five years of age she knit sixty-five pairs of socks during the year. She has 400 children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

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The Wooden Shoe Trade.

"Are there many wooden shoes sold in Cincinnati?" was the query the reporter addressed to a dealer in the article.

"There are 10,000 pairs sold annually, at an average price of thirty-five cents a pair."

"Where are they made?"

"In Indiana, chiefly. A solid block of poplar wood is shaped on the outside with draw-knives, and the cavity of the foot is gouged out with peculiarly shaped instruments."

"Are they warm and light?"

"Yes; more so than leather. A man with wooden shoes on his feet appears clumsy, but he is wise and feels more comfortable."

"Who buy most of them?"

"Dairymen, gardeners, street car drivers and actors. For wear where the feet will be subjected to damp, nothing is better, and there is nothing on earth that can equal them for making a racket when containing the nimble feet of a skilled clog dancer on a polished stage floor."

"When is the trade in them at its best?"

"Just at the opening of winter, when slush and mud become common."—*Cincinnati Times-Star.*

"Griddling" the Beggar's Fad.

Sunday begging appears to be growing popular and flourishing in Lambeth, a London suburb. Two sturdy fellows, Spinks and Wilkins by name, who were brought before Mr. Biron, belong to a gang of beggars who have introduced a little novelty into their professional calling by singing or shouting hymns in the streets on Sundays. To this system the name of "griddling" has been applied, and, according to the evidence, it is a paying line. The defendants had collected some pennies from passers-by in a very short time, and the "griddlers," it was stated, were known to boast, as they returned to their haunts in Deptford and Southwark, "how much they could make in a few hours, and how they had gulled the benevolent."—*New York Journal.*

Flowers in London's Heart.

In the very heart of the City of London the Bank of England boasts within its sacred precincts as fine a show of rhododendrons as may be seen anywhere in the London radius. The garden is tastefully laid out in a rectangular style around a central fountain. The young Stock Exchange men slip in en route to business and get a buttonhole from this superabundant supply.—*New York Journal.*

More diseases are produced by using brown and perfumed soaps than by anything else. Why run such terrible risks when you know Dobbins's Electric Soap is pure and perfect. Dobbins's prevents hands from chapping.

ALL the Governments of Europe are making active preparations for a general war.

J. A. Johnson, Medina, N. Y., says: "Hall's Catarrh Cure cured me." Sold by Druggists, 75c.

FIFTEEN States have, within about three years, enacted Ballot Reform laws.

Confirmed.

The favorable impression produced on the first appearance of the agreeable liquid fruit remedy Syrup of Figs a few years ago has been more than confirmed by the pleasant experience of all who have used it, and the success of the proprietors and manufacturers, the California Fig Syrup Company.

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