

GRAFTING THE PEAR.—A correspondent of the Country Gentleman gives some useful particulars of his experience in grafting the pear. He says he took kindly to every new variety of this fruit offered by nurseriesmen, but ultimately found that the most successful was the one which he had selected from the seeds of the pear which he had sown in the autumn, and which he had raised on his own soil.

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HOW DEEP TO PLANT.—W. J. Beal, Professor of Botany and Horticulture at the Agricultural College, Lansing, Michigan, has published the results of planting corn at different depths, ranging from one inch to one foot. The land was sandy and dry as dust at the time of planting, but the corn planted at a depth of one inch to one foot and kept ahead of all the other lots throughout the season, although that planted a foot deep did tolerably well.

CRACKED WHEAT PEAIDS.—Take one quart of unskimmed milk and add to it one gill of cracked wheat uncooked, try an experiment, for the cracked wheat in the seed will not grow. The result was most disastrous, as a heavy rain followed the sowing immediately, soaking and packing the soil to such an extent that the wheat could not grow. Most of the field and garden seeds have come up this year in battalions, those planted deeply and those that were not, while those near the surface remain dormant until after the heavy rains in June. It would seem that no definite rule can be laid down as to the depth of planting which will not require the judgment of the planter at the time, and even then he may widely mistake the mark.—Exchange.

BRISING HORSES.—The following sensible advice is from the New England Farmer: "A man who will habitually take a horse through a narrow door knows very little of what a horse remembers, and that is fair treatment to the animal. One single blow on the hip against the sharp corner of a doorway is sometimes sufficient to ruin a valuable horse. But when the blow is repeated, the horse becomes valiant, because he has become a highly dangerous animal. We have seen a horse whose hip was never hurt by a blow, but who was three times in passing through a narrow way. Another dangerous practice is the leading of horses out of the barn door, by the sides of the head, grain sometimes so excite a high-spirited horse that the person leading loses control over him, and the horse jumps, jumps, banging his shoulders and hips as he proceeds, leaving patches of skin and hair as evidence that he has got through. Many a valuable horse has been ruined in this way, and many a valuable one can be saved by never leading them through a narrow space."

GOOD FARM ROADS.—It is much cheaper and more pleasant for farmers to have good roads on the place than bad ones. Teams can haul larger loads with more safety and comfort, over good roads, from the distant fields and the woods lot, than if there were no roads. Let the stone and roots be gotten out of the way, the rough places be smoothed down, holes filled up, soft places hardened with stones and solid earth, and the team will haul enough more with less damage. In a single year, to pay the trouble of "making a good road. And besides the farm looks better; there is more pleasure and less vexation in the work to both man and team. We have seen horses and oxen so bothered and vexed by the cart or wagon getting into a hole, or in the mud where they could not haul, that they lost all courage and would till they fell all courage and kindness and became balky—confirmed in the habit, so that even afterward they would not draw load out of the place—places—all from bad roads on the farm.

FERTILIZERS.—Let every farm yard be scraped to the bottom and every corner of the soil be employed to increase fertility. Sow plaster, scatter ashes, pound up old bones, clean the chip yard, use the earth about where the dirt has been, in truth, let not a particle of fertilizing material go to waste. There is money in it, and the study of methods for the employment of manure upon the soil everywhere needed. We complain of the poor grass and clover seed, not talking of wheat winter-killing and a hundred other troubles which are wonderfully modified by a higher system of farming, which in every instance means more manure.

WATER IN AN AQUARIUM may be kept clear as crystal by putting in a few tadpoles. Gold and silver fish are beautiful ornaments, and the aquarium may contain aquatic plants, shells and rock work. Keep it always shaded. If the glass becomes discolored, rub it with coarse brown paper.

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