

USEFUL AND SPRING. Pruning too late in Spring. In passing through the country at the present season of the year, we observe a great improvement in the management of newly set orchards. Twenty or thirty years ago, not one orchard in fifty received proper cultivation. The consequence was that a large majority of the trees set out, either perished in a few years or made a feeble and sickly growth. In some instances not ten per cent. survived. An extensive observer, whose business gave him special opportunities for judging, informed us that among pear trees not more than a third of the multitudes that were once sown over made a good growth or came into successful bearing. But at the present time to neglect has become the exception, and good clean cultivation is more and more common. Thrifty young orchards are frequently met with, and good fruit is finding its way among all classes.

Second Stock. But while we see a great improvement, so far as the cultivation of the soil is concerned, there is frequently a serious loss from improper pruning and the importance of observing the right season for the work is less understood. These remarks are especially suggested at the present moment by seeing a large and newly set pear orchard nearly ruined by cutting back the buds had opened. The trees selected for setting out were of good size, handsome and thrifty when taken up, but the work was done in the best manner, and the ground which they stand is kept clean and mellow, and in the best condition. But one important part of the work had been done wrong. The trees had been heeled in until the leaves began to expand; the shoots and branches were then shortened back at the time of setting out. It is now mid-summer, and many of them have grown half an inch—more barely survive. Had the cutting back been performed early in spring, when the trees were dug up, and before the buds had swollen, we see no reason why they should not have made a growth of a foot or two, and have presented a thrifty and handsome appearance. Nothing checks a young tree more than heading back too late. Some have pronounced the practice of cutting back at all to be worse than useless, because they did it at the wrong time. Pears and cherries are particularly sensitive to this mismanagement. Young cherry trees are sometimes ruined by it. We have seen rows of standard pear trees in a nursery that had been budded the previous season, actually killed by scores, by cutting down after growth had commenced. We have had occasion to speak before of this error in practice; but while the subject is so commonly misunderstood, we shall have to give line upon line until the error is corrected.—Country Gentleman

How to Produce Milk. At a meeting of the Massachusetts and New Hampshire Milk Producers' Association recently, different milk producers gave their practice in answer to the question: "What is the best method of raising milk?" We quote: "Resin of Lexington feeds his cows 3 times a day, dry feed, including hay, 4 quarts of shorts, 2 quarts of oil meal, and one peck of oats for each cow daily. He milks at 5 a. m. and 5 p. m. giving the cows' water at every feeding. Hills of Groton got all the water he could into his cows, as he had learned the more water the more milk. One cow will now drink a tub of water at once with a little meal put into the same. Men cannot manage in raising milk at present prices if the cows are fed on good hay. Wood of Groton makes more milk than he can sell, and is diminishing the quantity of meal, giving his cows about one-half, and if the prices of milk are not better than at present he shall not give his cows any meal. It costs him 60c a can to raise milk, while he is selling it for less than 40c a can. Barnhart of Milford, N. H., said it is not all in feeding, but in the way of milking. A large flow of milk, but much dependent on the care and treatment of them,—regularity of feeding and milking. There should be a quick use of salt in feeding, since the more salt the more water, and the more water the more milk. He had taught his cows to eat as much salt as possible, and that was a very large quantity. Wood of Groton feeds his cows only twice a day, steaming all the food given to his herd; has the milking done regularly and by the same person. Horenson of Milford, N. H., steams all the feed given to his cows, most thoroughly salting the same, so that one cow will drink from 1 to 3 pails of water, 3 times per day, or after eating each of their 3 meals. One cow sometimes gives 20 quarts of milk a day. GALT of Groton finds his cows to increase in flesh and flow of milk by feeding them on cotton seed and Indian meal.—Rural New Yorker.

Planting Forest Trees. At the National Agricultural Convention, held in Washington last month, the following resolution was adopted: "Resolved, That we earnestly advise and entreat the farmers of our whole country, who are favorably located for the purpose, to plant forest trees, not merely for shade and ornament, but by the acre and hundreds of acres, in order to reproduce forests, to take the place of those that are being so rapidly and fearfully demolished in every direction, thereby not only providing for the actual necessities of those who are to come after us, but also to avert calamities that may befall us in the future, and to secure that most eventually come whenever our broad land shall be stripped of its forests, and consequently deprived of the numerous beneficial influences they are known to impart.

Notes for Horsemen. To cure colic in a horse, a correspondent says: "Give one to three drachms of oil of sweet almond." "Sassafras is a splendid thing for a horse's horse." To prevent ringworms on colts.—A correspondent of the Rural New Yorker says:—"Tell those who wish to prevent and cure ringworms on colts to try letting the colt suck seven or eight months, keeping the mare up by extra food." The English Coach Horse.—At a meeting of the Jefferson Co., N. Y., Farmers' Club, recently, Gen. Pratt introduced the adoption of measures to introduce into that locality the "thorough-bred English coach horse." He considers these animals "the most valuable horses known, possessing all of the desirable qualities in size, style, action and color, having been bred for over 100 years. They stamp with almost infallible precision their characteristics upon their offspring."

CHARLES HORSEBOURNE.—A new horse breed, produced in Paris by H. Charrier, has been favorably received. It consists of a narrow rim of iron, thoroughly protecting the edge of the hoof without cramping its sole in the least. The material to be used must be of the best quality; but the weight being considerably less, the cost is not increased. Thousands of horses of the many public conveyances in Paris have been provided with these shoes, and they give general satisfaction.

Warts.—Warts have been cured by the application daily (for a few days) of spirits of salts. It does not stain the skin, or leave a scar where the wart has been.

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Fancy and Staple Dry Goods,
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ERIE RAILWAY.
WELLSBORO & LAWRENCEVILLE R. R.
STATIONS. No. 1. No. 2. No. 3. No. 4.

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The Birthday of Saint Patrick. The first fraction light in the world... A hundred cents will make a dollar, but a million dollars won't make good sense. "Assault with intent to become insane" is the way they put deadly attacks now.

There are no words so fine, no flattery so soft that there is not a sentiment beyond them that it is impossible to express, at the bottom of the heart where true love lies.

Mr. Nathan G. Grin, one of the commissioners of Chester county, killed a hog on the 17th of the present month, that weighed 320 pounds. It was but 16 months old—a pure Chester White.

An excellent old orchard owner, having won a fine turkey at a charity raffle, didn't like to tell his secret or rather wife how he came by it, quietly remarked as he handed her the fowl, that the "Shakers" gave it to him.

"I will have the kindness to hand me the butter before you," said a gentleman politely at a tea table to an ancient maid. "I'm no butter," she replied, "but I thought for your appearance you had been waiting a long time."

"Please, sir," said an Irishman to a traveler, "would you be so obliging as to take me great coat here to Boston with you?" "Yes," said the man in the wagon, "but how will you get it again?" "Oh, that's mighty easy, so it is," said Pat, "for there I'll remain inside you."

A Scotchman, observing that the once white linen of one of his employes had, through long absence of soap and water, become a hazy black, inquired, as a preliminary to a homely reprimand, how often his shirt was washed. "Once a month," was the reply. "I require two shirts a week!" "Two shirts a week?" ejaculated Robbie—"You mean be a dirty devil!"