

We Get the Best Lemons.

Considerable information about lemons, which are now coming into the market in large quantities, is contained in a letter from Louis H. Bruhl, United States Consul to Catania, Sicily, and published in the United States consular reports for April. Lemons, Mr. Bruhl says, begin to ripen in September, and are picked from November to April. The November crop is the hardest and best. It will keep until early summer, and is stored until late in the spring, and then shipped. The lemons are picked green, but turn yellow in the boxes. Before the fruit is shipped abroad it is taken out of the boxes and repacked. That which is bruised or speckled and which would probably rot in transit is either peeled and the juice pressed out or cut up with the peel in halves or quarters and packed in barrels with brine (sea water, generally, with some salt added) and shipped to London or Liverpool for the confectioners' use. The best of the crop comes to this country. The next best goes to England.

HOW TO JUDGE WOOL.

In judging of wool as to fineness, commence at the shoulders, as there the finest wool is always found. This may be taken as the standard, and compared with that from the ribs, thigh and rump, and the nearer the wool from these various portions of the animal approaches this standard the better the fleece is.—New York World.

CIRCUMVENTING THE BEES.

The way to keep the bees away from the trough where your horses drink is to provide the bees with water elsewhere, for they need this liquid just as much as horses and cattle. Make one or more shallow wooden troughs for the bees, and place them near the hives, and then see that they are kept full of clean water. Do this now, for the bees select their drinking places early in the spring, and if the water does not fail them they will not seek it elsewhere. If you will make two troughs for the bees and in one put a little salt in the water, so much the better, for bees are somewhat partial to slightly salted or brackish water.—New York Sun.

CALF-PAIL HOLDER.

Here is a simple device for holding a pail when feeding the calves: First, make a frame out of plank a foot wide and long enough to accommodate the number of calves to be fed, leaving the bottom open. Take a board one foot wide, with a keyhole saw cut holes large enough to take a pail in half way up the sides, in number equal to the number of calves. Nail this on the top of the plank frame. Fasten the whole to the side of the barn, or, if to be used out of doors, to the fence, so that it cannot be moved away. When the time comes to feed set the pails along in the holes and pour the milk in. By this means you give each calf its own mess, and the pails cannot be tipped over.—Connecticut Farmer.

KEEP AHEAD OF THE WEEDS.

There is only one economical way to fight weeds—that is to keep ahead of them. When they are just breaking through the ground they can be slaughtered with less labor than at any other time. This is the time to take them in hand. A little later and the work will be doubled. Too many overlook this fact. In many towns five per cent. off is allowed on all taxes paid before a certain date, and men hustle to pay their tax and save that five per cent. A much larger per cent. off is secured by the man who takes the weeds in season. One can go over a garden with an iron rake when the weeds are just breaking ground, and in an hour's time accomplish wonders. A week later he will have to take his hoe and laboriously cut, cut, cut. And even then he doesn't destroy half as many of the roots of weeds as he would have done a week before with the rake. Neglecting the weeds is something one simply cannot afford.—American Agriculturist.

WHIPPING BALKY HORSES.

Notwithstanding the fact that the press continually admonishes whom it may concern that it does no good to whip or pound a balky horse, almost every owner or driver of one does it to-day. It is probably the greatest piece of horse folly in existence. It is not a remnant of barbarism, but it is continued barbarity, and brings out what original and acquired sin there is in a man.

POISON PLAYS AN IMPORTANT PART IN SOCIAL RELATIONS IN THE INDIAN PUNJAB.

judging from a recent official report which, for the year 1883, gives a total of 498 cases of homicide by poison and 238 cases of the poisoning of cattle. Opium is the favorite means of suicide. When it is a question of killing some one else, arsenic and datura are the preferred agents. For cattle arsenic and the poisonous seeds of a native plant are employed.

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FARM GARDEN

HOUSEHOLD AFFAIRS.

SOUP STOCK.

If soup is desired frequently, stock for making it quickly can always be on hand. With your meat cleaver, cut up all the bones left from your roasts and beefsteaks, and keep them in a covered stone jar. When you have sufficient, put them on and boil for three hours; strain this into an earthen vessel, and set aside to cool. A thick top of grease will rise to the surface, which can be taken off and used for frying purposes. The meat juice beneath, which sometimes is a thick jelly, can be diluted, if not wanted strong. With the addition of some cooked vegetables, soup can readily be made from this.—Boston Cultivator.

TO REMOVE STAINS.

Table linen should be carefully looked over before washing, as soap sets stains. For fruit stains put a small teaspoonful of tartaric acid or salis of lemon in a tablespoonful of water. Stir until dissolved. Wet the stain with it, and lay the linen in the sun again. Most fruit stains, if taken in season, can be easily removed from linen by putting the stained portion over a bowl and pouring a stream of boiling hot water through it. But when they are obstinate, acids have to be used. For iron rust use lemon juice thickened with equal quantities of salt, cornstarch and soft soap. Spread this on the spots and lay the linen on the grass in the sun. This is one of the safest methods, as it does not injure the fabric. Javelle water is sometimes used when everything else fails.—New York Advertiser.

SCREEN DOORS AND WINDOWS.

Screen doors and windows are a blessing which the tidy housekeeper can scarcely do without. By their proper adjustment and use but few flies gain an entrance even to the kitchen. Unless you are very handy with tools it will prove cheaper to purchase the screens of the desired size already framed, and as a matter of durability, get those for the doors that are provided with corner irons, as they will keep their form longer, and prove more durable. For the lower sash of windows those that can be adjusted or removed each day are most desirable.

AT THE APPROACH OF WINTER BOTH DOOR AND WINDOW SCREENS SHOULD BE CLEANED AND SET AWAY FOR USE.

Following season, and after two years' use, if in an exposed situation, the wire portion should be repainted. This, green paint gives the best appearance. Be careful that the paint does not at some points remain and cover the space between the wires. Should it do so, simply free the brush from paint and push the end of it through the screen at the point of trouble. Doors frequently become warped or do not shut closely. By moving the catch or fastener up or down they can sometimes be made again to behave; if not, when putting away for the winter place them so the refractory part will be held in the desired position and by the following season they will be all right.

IN THE ABSENCE OF WIRE SCREENS, COMMON MOSQUITO NETTING MAY BE TACKED TO THE LOWER PORTION OF THE UPPER SASH, AND TO THE WINDOW SILL AND SIDES, AND WILL PROVE EFFECTIVE FOR ONE SEASON, AFTER WHICH IT SHOULD BE REMOVED.

This cloth is not desirable for doors.—New England Homestead.

POTATO BALLS.—ONE CUP OF COIL SOIL mashed potatoes, mix with one beaten egg, season with pepper and salt and make into balls. Fry brown in butter.

Lemon Shortcake—Make a rich cake, split and butter, then take rind, juice and pulp of three lemons grated, one cup sugar, one cup cream, mix thoroughly and spread.

CORN FRITTERS.—HALF A CAN OF CORN mixed with one tablespoonful of butter, a little pepper and salt, one egg and two tablespoonfuls of flour. Make into cakes and fry.

PRESSED MEAT.—CHOP FINE MEAT left from soup, season with pepper, salt and allspice. Put the meat in a mold, pour over one-half cup of clear soup and cover all with a weight. Eat cold.

POTATO PUFF.—TWO CUPS OF COIL MASHED POTATOES; stir in two tablespoonfuls of melted butter. Beat very light. Add two well beaten eggs and one cup of milk. Pour into a deep dish and bake in a quick oven.

CURRIED VEAL.—SLICE A SMALL ONION and brown it in a little butter, add a spoonful of curry powder, cover for a few minutes to cook; add cold chopped veal and butter about the size of a walnut and thicken with a little flour. Serve at once.

AMBROSIA.—SIX BANANAS cut into thin slices, three oranges, one-half box of desiccated cocoanut. Put in a dish a layer of bananas, then a layer of oranges and sprinkle with sugar, then a layer of cocoanut. Continue in this order until all is in. Set away for an hour or so and serve either with or without cream.

APPLE CAKE.—TWO CUPS DRIED APPLES soaked over night, then chopped and boiled in one and a half cups molasses a short time; beat one cup butter and two of sugar together, add three well-beaten eggs, three cups of flour, one teaspoon saleratus, cinnamon, cloves and a small nutmeg, one teaspoon mace, one cup raisins stoned and chopped. Bake moderately.

RICED BLANC MANGE.—FOUR TABLESPOONFULS of ground rice and a little salt; wet with cold milk and stir in one quart of boiling milk; rub the rind of a lemon hard with lump sugar and sweeten with sugar thus flavored; boil, stirring all the time for a few minutes; then cool it and add the whites of three eggs beaten to a froth; place over the fire again, and stir continuously until boiling hot, then turn into molds to harden.

ORANGE SOUFFLE.—PEEL AND SLICE SIX ORANGES, put in a glass dish a layer of oranges, then one of sugar, and so on until all the orange is used and let stand two hours; make a soft boiled custard of yolks of three eggs, pint of milk, sugar to taste with grating of orange peel for flavor and pour on the oranges when cool enough not to break dish; beat whites of eggs to a stiff froth, stir in sugar and put over the pudding.

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NEWS & NOTES FOR WOMEN

Bosnia has two female physicians. One-sixth of England's women work. Three beauty contests are held in Vienna each year. The United States has 30,254,370 female population. In North America there are 970 women to 1000 men. Bicyclists among women of the "smart set" multiply. Sheer white lawn blouses are to be very popular this summer. The University of Chicago has a glee club composed of sixteen women. Des Moines (Iowa) women have adopted the bloomer costume quite generally. Wyoming has the smallest female population, 51,363; New York the largest, 3,020,960. On her last birthday Susan B. Anthony received a purse containing \$800 from her friends. The Congregational choir at Atchison, Kan., is composed of fifteen little girls about ten years of age. Some of the leading society lights of Cincinnati, Ohio, have formed a society for the suppression of gossip. In all Christian countries the number of females who attend the churches is far greater than that of the men. Mrs. Lynn Lynton, the authoress, never went to school. Her first book was written at twenty-four years of age. It is a singular fact that the queens who reigned as sovereigns every one who reached middle life became quite fleshy. Mrs. Cowden Clarke, [the compiler of the "Concordance to Shakespeare"] is eighty-five years old, and resides in Genoa. Many women have excelled as executants of music; no woman has ever been a great or even a mediocre composer. In Paris the fashionable dressmakers are using for berthes and in other bodice adornments Venetian point lace set with brilliants. A woman with a military nose and prominent chin is certain to make her mark. All female society leaders have had such facial peculiarities. What are styled garden capes are already offered and prove to be a mere fluff and frenzy of delicate Dresden silk cut into little picked frills. Picture hats are finished about the brims with great waving frills of crust-colored chiffon, piped along the edge with a little bow of black velvet. The board of elections of Berlin, Wis., refused to permit fifteen women who had registered to vote. The ladies now propose to make the legal far fly. The Indianapolis chief of police has formally given his consent to women's wearing bloomers in the street. He says that they will wear what they want to, anyhow. Women cannot throw because of a peculiar formation of the shoulder blade that prevents the swing necessary to the proper propulsion of a stone or other object. When spectacles first came into use in Italy women were forbidden to wear them, on the ground that they would stimulate the vanity of the fair sex. The following appeal was printed recently in a Scottish newspaper: "Wanted, a good school for girls where the birch rod, coming into fashion again, is used in the old way." Mme. Carnot, widow of the late President of France, has detached all the ribbons from the wreaths sent at her husband's funeral and has decorated a small drawing-room with them. Miss Grace Chisholm, an English woman, has been granted the degree of doctor of philosophy by the University of Gottingen, by the permission of the Prussian Minister of Education. Miss Nellie Tephale, a Vassar graduate of the class of '82, has recently been engaged in assisting Professor Ratzel, of the University of Leipzig, in a revision of his treatise on the United States. Dr. Helen Webster, of Wellesley College, is the only woman who has ever earned the title of Doctor of Philosophy. She went to Germany and literally won the honor by hard, unremitting labor. The diet has gone forth that skirts must be worn by women bicyclists, according to Vogue's Paris correspondent. Those who do not wear them are not correct, although more at their ease. Some Parisian women are wearing hand painted gowns. One in which a well-known leader in fashion in that city appeared was of dull white silk and had over the flaring skirt large painted baskets loaded with flowers.

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A Use for Condemned Guns.

Last week we mentioned that the Lobanon (Penn.) Bolt and Nut Company had received two car loads of condemned cannon from the United States. It was the purpose to break them up and use the metal for mercantile purposes. Since then the firm has received inquiries from all over the State from Grand Army posts, asking the privilege of buying the guns for decoration purposes. The demand from this source created considerable surprise, and the firm has decided to let the Grand Army people have them rather than melt up the metal.—The Manufacturer.

PROSPECTIVE MOTHERS

and those soon to become mothers, should know that Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription robs child-birth of its terrors and terrors, as well as of its dangers to both mother and child, by aiding nature in preparing the system for parturition. Thereby "labor" and the period of confinement are greatly shortened. It also promotes the secretion of an abundance of nourishment for the child.

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