

AGRICULTURAL.

The Farm Horse.

W. J. Overton, of Illinois, writes to the Breeder's Gazette that he does not believe the place for the draft horse is on American farms. He has raised some of the largest and best draft horses in the county and sold them at the yards as quickly as he could get them. He never could get the work out of them he could get out of a good-sized American horse with as much Morgan blood as he could get. When they tried to breed their small or medium sized mares to the draft horses they thought they wanted larger horses. They got them larger in some parts. It might be in the head, the legs or the body, but usually not all in one coil. No one will claim that they have as good a wearing breed of horses as they had twenty years ago. "The farmer who only raises colts for his own use, with now and then one to sell, had better stay by the good-sized, smooth, American-bred horse," he says.

Things to Remember.

The aim should be to produce from 150 to 200 pound pigs at six or seven months old for the greatest profit. Keep on friendly terms with your herd, cultivate quiet dispositions. Have the hogs so that you can handle them with ease. Quietness and patience will aid in doing this. As soon as your hogs are ready, sell them; you have no further profitable use for them on the farm. The man who keeps his hogs after they are ready to go, expecting to get more a pound, will be very apt to lose money, while the one who sells when the hogs are ready generally hits it.

Protecting Young Chickens From Hawks.

Where hawks abound, young chicks must be closely guarded. If shut up closely in pens, growth will be greatly retarded. A good plan under such circumstances is shown in the accompanying cut. Plow two furrows parallel to each other and just far enough

An Excellent Smokehouse.

A good smokehouse on any farm is a desirable thing to have, the great difference between the price of home grown pork and store bacon making it a paying job for every farmer to smoke his own meat, and especially for home consumption. It is too expensive, however, to have a well arranged smokehouse, as generally constructed, in all cases, and hence the reason for presenting the novel affair shown in the accompanying illustration.

Wire Netting to Protect Young Chick.

apart so that the distance from the outside of each shall be just six feet. Make the furrows 150 feet long. Stretch a roll of six-foot wire netting along the furrows, fastening the edges down with stones. This gives a long run on both grass ground and plowed land for the chicks, and hawks cannot molest them. The coop can be set at one end, the other end being stopped with a wall. The plan is shown in the cut.—W. D. Maine, in New England Homestead.

Treating a Badly Drained Soil.

Drainage of a heavy, thick soil, inclined to be hilly and uneven, is something that is not always an easy matter, but if one has such a farm, the sooner he begins to make the improvement the better. It is waste of time and money to attempt farming on a field that demands drainage badly, and it is wisdom to abandon the farm entirely or begin to drain it. I have succeeded so well with a home system of drainage with stones that it may be worth recording. The soil was at first quite full of stones, which I at first picked off and piled in one part of the field. A few stones would work up to the surface every spring, and these I would also pick up. In the course of a few seasons I had a fairly good soil without any stones to annoy me. But the drainage was bad. The water would settle in the soil and on the surface in the spring, and the land was always late in getting into tillable condition. It was cold and wet when most other soils were warm and dry. This made plowing late, or if done early a muddy and unpleasant task. The land sloped down in one general direction, but there were numerous depressions which collected the water all along.

I decided to drain. I planned the whole thing out on paper, noting the general direction of the slopes. I could not afford tiles or any expensive material, and so I decided to use the pile of stones. I plowed deep ditches across the land, making them all run parallel with the main slope, and cutting cross ditches in the opposite direction. In this way the whole soil of the field was drained so that the surplus water would run into main ditches and thus down to swampy levels. Then I proceeded to fill in the ditches with the stones, using the large ones first, and placing them so that the larger possible spaces would be left between. On top of these I packed the smaller ones, and on top of them placed a layer of straw and cornstalks. Then I topped it off with six inches of soil, bringing the surface up to within a few inches of the general level of the field. Now this drainage works perfectly. The soil is never clogged with surplus water. I do not plow over the drains, but I have permitted a sod of grass to form on them to mark their course. The water following the line of ditches drains off below the surface, and there is a steady outpour in the main ditch in rainy weather. The cost was only that of my own personal labor.—C. W. Milner, in American Cultivator.

WOMAN'S REALM.

Spring and Summer Fabrics.

Green will be the dominant tint of the season's fashions. Green promises to be the color of the coming spring and summer, and the color cards issued by the importers and manufacturers of summer dress stuffs show this fresh tint in several exquisite shades. Many of the fabrics now being shown in the shops have stripes or figures in black and white-black-and-green combinations are delightfully crisp and effective. Trimmings with black velvet ribbon, black lace, or even with touches of a contrasting color, they make very smart gowns.

The Every-Day Child.

The mother aims at perfection for her child without realizing what perfection in the child should be. Too often the fond parent feels that the dress makes the child, and consequently adorns it in the latest and showiest fashion, without realizing that harm instead of good is done to the child by hampering its actions or making it over-conscious. The every-day child will revel in dirt. It accumulates it by satisfying its curiosity, for its hands are into everything, as well as its feet and knees and clothes. He must get nearer to Mother Earth. His instinct is yearning in this respect, and his good nurse repays him a thousand fold. Dr. Grace Peckham Murray, in the Dolmetscher, says mothers should encourage the mud pie making and sand digging, and the dress and clothing should be such that the child would not be reproved for muddy shoes, soiled and torn dresses.

Cascades For the Boy.

Cascades of ruchings in mousseline de soie, Liberty silk or chiffon are graduated in bias lines of width from the chin to the knees. These cascades are the finish to a fluffy boa, and are at present much preferred to the long, straight stole ends, accordion-pleated or plain. The softness of these plisse boas makes them universally becoming, except perhaps to the woman who has no neck to speak of. Even then the mousseline boa is apt to be becoming to her countenance. It softens the severity of an elderly face.

In Brown and Gold.

A good example of a tailor costume that relies on cut and outline rather than superfluous trimming for its style, is in mouse-brown cloth, with lines of thick black chenille cord stitched down with gold thread on skirt and bodice. The top of the skirt has a narrow shaped yoke piece embroidered in black and gold. The revers and waistband are of modere velvet, the revers and skirt edged with a narrow band of vison. A double row of gold buttons fastens the bodice.

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At the meeting of an education association in a Boston suburb, the speaker—a member of the State Board of Education—took up the subject of moral training in the home and the school. His three special points were that implicit obedience should be exacted, that appeal should be made to the child's reason, even when young, to develop a sense of honor, and that self-control should be taught.

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Pretty things in mercerized ginghams are to be seen in pale blue with woven rings in the materials. A most distinguished looking waist for wear on dressy occasions is composed of pink mousseline de soie and all over embroidery in a deep cream shade.

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Responsibility.

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HOUSEHOLD HINTS.

Good Use For a Mirror.

One or two good-sized mirrors, in brass or gilt frames, will do much to lighten a dark hall or room.

Comfort For the Bedroom.

A winged chair of wicker is a charming bedroom fitment, preferably a willow green one upholstered in quaintly blossomed cretonne, or a brown one upholstered in the softest and most bewitching shade of old rose.

How to Sweep an Invalid's Room.

We all know how untidy a sickroom becomes, and how annoying the dust of the sweeping is to the patient. "To remedy this," said a trained and capable nurse recently, "I put a little ammonia in a pail of warm water, and with my mop wrung dry as possible go all over the carpet first. This takes up the dust and much of the loose dirt. A broom will take what is too large to adhere to the mop and raise no dust. With my dust cloth well sprinkled, I go over the furniture and the room is fairly clean."—United States Health Reports.

Practical Hints.

Candied mint leaves are a fashionable substitute for mint bunnions that are served at the end of a dinner or luncheon. A cooking teacher advises, too, that a few added to a lemon ice impart a delicious flavor.

An Ideal Cupboard.

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Why City Poor Are Not Wretched.

Life is not necessarily altogether miserable for those who have poor clothing, poor food and narrow house room. There still remain some sources of happiness, not perhaps very many but enough, where vice and drink are absent, to make men cheerful, women patient and children merry. Granting then that a family living below the "poverty line" is sober and respectable—it would be manifestly absurd to deny those virtues to a good quarter of the whole population—what are the consolations open to them? First of all, the happiness derivable from the affections belongs alike to all, though among the very poor we think strong affection is generally limited to that existing between parents and children. Secondly, there is a pleasure to be got from the general social life of a town. The fascination exercised by the perpetual procession of the streets is inconceivable to those who do not feel it, but almost all the poor do feel it. How many people does this fascination draw from the country? How few who have once fallen under its spell ever tear themselves free from it? Movement, light, company, "mates" for the man, neighbors for the woman, playfellows for the children, all these things a town offers to the poorest of her inhabitants.—London Spectator.

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One of the very newest of the back-of-the-waist buckles looks like three buckles—and, indeed, it is three, fastened underneath in some way. Visible there are three circular buckles caught in buckle fashion through the silk. They may be in pearls, which are so pretty, or in steel, which is so fashionable, or in silver, which is a fad with so many women.

Things to Avoid.

Not only children, but many grown up people, have a trick of holding pins in the mouth and of sucking the lead of their pencils to add to the facility of writing. Both habits are exceedingly dangerous as well as inelegant.

The swallowing of a pin is less to be dreaded than the contagion that may lurk about the pin. Under its head and about the point of a pencil a whole multitude of disease germs are lurk, which, being given entrance to the mouth, from there soon infect the whole body, thus causing illness or perhaps even death.

It is through the mouth that most malignant germs find their way into the body, and therefore one would think that it was hardly necessary to warn people of the risks they are running in using it as a sort of third hand. One would imagine that hardly anyone needed cautioning against holding money with the lips, and yet an immense number of otherwise cleanly people indulge in this dirty and dangerous practice.—Washington Star.

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ENGLAND'S NEW ROYAL HOUSE.

Britain's New Ruler First of the House of Saxe-Coburg.

"Whittaker's Almanack," the famous English year book, which is almost as well known here as in its native country, has caused some sensation by recording King Edward VII. not as a ruler of the house of Hanover, but as the first British sovereign of the house of Saxe-Coburg, thus making the late Queen Victoria the last ruler of a line which has given to the British empire six sovereigns.

FOOL YOUNGENS.

Me an' Bert an' Minnie-Belle Knows a joke, an' we won't tell! No, we don't—'cause we don't know Why we got to laughin' so; But we got to laughin' so, We ist kep' a-laughin'.

Wind wuz blowin' in the trees— An' wuz out at us three Playin' there; an' ever one Ketched each other, like we done, Squintin' up there at the sun, Like we wuz a-laughin'.

Nothin' funny anyway— But I laughed, an' so did they— An' we all three laughed, an' nen Squint' our eyes an' laugh again; Ner we didn't ist p'ten— We wuz shore'nough laughin'.

We ist laugh' an' laugh' tel Bert Say he can't quit an' hurt. Nen I howl, an' Minnie-Belle She stir up the grass a spell An' ist at on her yers an' yell, Like she'd die a-laughin'.

Never sigh fool-youngeus yit! Nothin' funny—not a bit— But we laugh so, tel we whoop— Put'nigh like we have the croup— All so hoarse we'd wheeze an' whoop He has a chuckle laughin'.

—James Whitcomb Riley, in the Century.

FLASQUES OF EVILS.

"If you don't quit eating so much, Willie, you will be sick." "Won't it be time enough to quit then?"—Indianapolis News.

The means may justify the end, And yet we must admit That our success may oft depend On knowing when to quit.

—Philadelphia Record.

She—"I see that Miles, the humorist, spent his boyhood days in the country gathering chestnuts." He—"Yes, and he has a bushel or two left."—Chicago News.

Hewitt—"What became of the girl that you used to say was the light of your life?" Jewett—"Another fellow came between me and the light."—Judge.

Madge—"She went and had her hair bleached and her complexion beautified because somebody said she was a back number." Jack—"So, then, she's a reprint."—Judge.

Neighbor—"The baby suffers from sleeplessness, does it?" Mr. Jerolomon (baggard and hollow-eyed)—"I didn't say it suffered; it seems to enjoy it."—Chicago Tribune.

Teor—"When I gave my first concert four people had to be carried fainting out of the hall." Friend—"Oh, but since that time your voice has considerably improved."—Ti-Bits.

"Ha!" exclaimed her father, angrily, "how is it I catch you kissing my daughter?" "Why—er—I believe, sir," he stammered, "it was because I didn't hear you coming."—Philadelphia Press.

Alas, this world is full of gulls, Regrets for hasty approbation, Too late we find a sunny smile May hide a shady reputation.

—Philadelphia Record.

Mrs. X. (who has been three times married)—"Oh, if I were a man, I would make a name for myself!" Tom (who is number three)—"Strikes me you've done pretty well as it is. This is the third you have made."—Brooklyn Life.

Mrs. Noddle—"My husband is very frank with me; he tells me everything he does." Mrs. Witman—"My husband does me the honor to try to deceive me right along. If he didn't I am afraid I should think he had lost all respect for me."—Boston Transcript.

"Doesn't it make you the least bit envious to see what elegant furniture Mrs. Erefly is putting into her house next door?" "Not a bit. My husband says it will be sold by the sheriff within six months—and I'll be there to buy."—Chicago Record-Herald.

"He may mean well," said the young doctor, "but I don't exactly like the tone of his letter." "What's the matter?" inquired the old practitioner. "Jones, the undertaker, writes and says that if I will send my patients to him he will guarantee them satisfaction."—Judge.

Colder Than Liquid Air.

Dr. Arsene d'Arsonval, a member of the French Academy of Sciences, proposes to announce his discovery of a method of extracting from ordinary petroleum oil a liquid absolutely unrefreezable at a temperature of 235 degrees below zero, thus beating the record for unrefreezability hitherto held by liquid air.

According to Dr. d'Arsonval, the new "petroleum ether" is destined to be of the greatest importance to scientists, especially in chemical research, permitting the construction of thermometers of a precision not hitherto attained.

In his forthcoming communication Dr. d'Arsonval will demonstrate other valuable scientific uses of the new discovery. One of the doctor's collaborators says that d'Arsonval is on the point of succeeding in experiments which aim at the use of petroleum ether for cooling the atmosphere of houses during the summer, a project which exceeding cheapness renders practicable.

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HOUSEHOLD RECIPES.

Horseshoe Sauce—Scrape clean and grate one stick of horseshoe. Add one gill of whipped cream, one dessert-spoon of made mustard, one dessert-spoon of powdered sugar, one teaspoon of salt, a generous dash of pepper and a tablespoon of vinegar. Mix well and cook for five minutes. Serve cold.

Bombay Toast—Beat four eggs. Add half a teaspoonful of salt, one tablespoonful of chopped capers and a dash or two of cayenne. Put in a saucetpan two tablespoonfuls of butter and when hot stir in one tablespoonful of anchovy paste and the egg mixture. When it thickens take from the fire, spread on thin slices of buttered toast and serve.

Tomatoes and Beef—Put half a can of tomatoes in a small pan with half a tablespoonful of butter, one tablespoonful of minced parsley and celery, one teaspoon of minced onion, salt, pepper and sauce to taste; cook for five minutes; then put in slices of rare roast beef; cover and let simmer a few moments; serve on slices of thin crisp toast.

Jellied Veal—Select a knuckle of veal or any piece having a large proportion of gelatin. Cut into small pieces, cover with cold water, add one onion, one teaspoon salt and one teaspoon pepper. Let it simmer until the meat slips from the bone, the gristly portions are dissolved and the liquor reduced to one pint. Remove all the bones, strain the liquor and season lightly with salt, paprika, lemon juice and thyme. Pick the meat to bits and add to it three tablespoonfuls powdered crackers and enough liquor to make it very moist. Pour into a mold and set in a cool place to harden. When ready to serve turn from the mold and cut into slices.