

FOR FARM AND GARDEN.

Ensilage in a Dry Season.
Ensilage is proving a great aid. Indeed, our dairymen are learning that it would be a most profitable adjunct to dairying in a dry summer, like the past one, when the year's profits depend on keeping the herd from shrinking in quantity during a critical shortage of feed.

Fruit Trees Along Highways.
In some sections the farmers have set out fruit trees along the highways in place of the more ornamental shade trees. When properly pruned and cared for the practice is a most commendable one, and if others would follow the example it would result in a great profit to those interested. A fruit like the apple should be chosen, as plums and cherries sprout from the root and grow readily from the pit. If neglected the road would soon present the appearance of a jungle. Late varieties of apples should be chosen.

Stone Crocks in the Dairy.
A word about stone crocks. Their weight alone should decide everyone against their use in the dairy. With the most careful handling they are soon cracked, and then it is impossible to keep them sweet. Seamless tin pans are light and easily kept clean, with no possible lurking places for microbes. Of all substances milk is most susceptible to adverse influences, and from nothing else is so variable a product evolved. Over the purity of the milk the housewife has little or no control. Hundreds of women all over the land are daily disheartened by its want of cleanliness when it reaches their hands. Slovenly milkers are responsible for a great deal of poor butter. Prime butter can never be made from milk having the slightest taint. Milk should never be allowed to stand in the stable while cooling. Cream begins to rise almost immediately after the milk is drawn and agitation causes more or less loss.

Money in Ginseng.
Few crops offer as promising returns as does ginseng when properly cared for, and where the climatic conditions are favorable. In my experience I have found it more satisfactory to make the beds in the open field—giving artificial shade—than in the forest or under trees of any kind. Whether the plants are raised from seed or from roots the beds must be well prepared. I am in favor of planting the seed three inches apart in rows in which the plants are to remain until the roots are ready to be dug or market. Plants raised in this manner and properly cared for will mature a fair quantity of seed the second year and a good crop the third year.

Planted in this manner the roots will be much larger at two years' growth than when the seeds have been planted closer. Then in transplanting the roots nearly one year's growth is lost, and the small stunted roots that result from too close planting are far more apt to be destroyed by grubs and worms infesting the ground than larger and fully developed roots. On sowing the seed it should be borne in mind that not every seed will mature a plant. In the fall, after the first year's growth, the vacant spots can easily be filled with roots standing closer than desired, or these may be transplanted to new beds.—E. D. Crosby, in New England Homestead.

Ground Food for Poultry.
Every once in a while we see in some of the papers articles attacking the feeding of soft food to poultry. Yet soft feed, like most other kinds of feed, is of great value when properly fed. It may indeed be a detriment to the fowls if improperly fed. It may easily be conceived that making soft feeds a constant ration would throw out of order the entire digestive systems of the fowls. It would probably have this effect if fed to fowls that had a very large ration of green stuff, especially in the summer time; as in that case it would be substituted for the grain ration instead of being used to balance the grain ration.

The real value of ground feed is in feeding it to take the place of part of the grain and so render the work of the grinding organs of the fowls less severe. The fowl that has nothing but grain from the time the ground freezes in the fall till the time the grass starts in the spring is the fowl that develops symptoms of a ruined digestive system at the time the most eggs are expected in the spring.

A warm feed of ground grain once a day has a wonderful effect in preventing those disorders that are so frequent with fowls confined and heavily fed on grain feed. The reason that it is not more universally adopted is the disinclination of farmers to see the trouble to scald this feed over night or even in the morning. It is so easy to toss a measure of corn to the fowls that many of them get no other food.—Farm, Field and Fireside.

Care of the Apple Orchard.
Keep the ground stirred about the trees by using the garden rake after rains heavy enough to pack the ground. This will conserve the moisture and is better than any mulch that can be applied, and the trees will take deeper root. If weeds or trash of any kind have accumulated about the trees, clear away or cover up in the fall with soil, making a little mound to prevent a harbor for mice. Remove it in the spring.

There are several reasons why the young orchard should be planted to corn. The cultivation of corn is the proper cultivation for the orchard. The corn helps shelter the trees from

the wind. The stalks help lodge and retain the snow, making winter protection, and if the corn is poorly husked there will be plenty of food for the rabbits. Crop to corn until the orchard is fruiting well, then seed to clover.

Spray with kerosene emulsion just before the buds open, or apply white-wash with brush to the body. A solution made thin and strained can be applied with a spray pump to the tops. This will destroy many of the enemies of fruit and fruit trees that find a breeding place and winter harbor on the trees.

Bruises from any cause that deadens the bark make an ideal spot for the propagation of the borer. In the dead bark is where the egg is deposited and by nature's law is brought into life and his work of destruction is commenced and done. Carry a roll of grafting wax and a roll of old cotton and twine to do up any bruise or break of bark as soon as done, before the wood or bark becomes dried, and it will grow fast again, but if left until the sap in the wood and bark becomes dried you will have a scar that will take two or three years to grow over and if the borer gets a lodgment there it may be a lasting blemish. It's better not to break or bruise the trees, but accidents will occur, and the remedy should be applied to save the blemish. Wax a bruise, if the bark is not broken; if broken, put the bark back and wax and wind with cloth and tie fast.—American Agriculturist.

Mineral Constituents of Plants.
A correspondent wishes an explanation of how mineral substances get into plants, that is, as he expresses it, "Minerals that are insoluble except in acid." Insoluble mineral matter cannot get into the plant. But the mineral elements of a plant are carried into it in solution. If it is a mineral that water can dissolve, wholly or partially, the particles that are held in solution are carried by the charged water through the roots into the tree. If salt is added to water in an unglazed earthen dish, like a flower pot, with the hole in the bottom stopped up, it will be found in time that there is a deposit on the outside of the pot, and, if tasted, it will be found to be salty. The moisture has gone through the sides of the pot and carried the salt, with which the water is charged, with it. This is what water does with soluble minerals when it enters the roots of a plant. There is, too, at the end of roots an acid that aids the water in dissolving minerals. It is not true, however, that the water takes into the plant all the minerals which it holds in solution. In the economy of nature, the roots, in a natural condition, permit the entrance into the plant of only such minerals as the plant needs.

There is an important lesson in this connection, for the tiller of the soil to learn. We all know that moisture is necessary for the growth of plants, but if it is necessary for dissolving mineral plant food in the soil, it will be seen that too much or too little moisture in the soil must be injurious to the plant because in the one case the solution will be too weak and in the other it will be too strong, or fail to take up as much mineral as the plant needs. To illustrate: If we place just a little salt in a glass of water, the water will have but a slightly saltish taste. If a plant was in need of salt that weak solution would not supply it with what it required. Now if we keep adding salt to that water there will ultimately be a deposit of salt at the bottom of the glass. There will not be enough water to hold all the salt that we have added. We have too much salt for the water. The tiller of the soil, therefore, can see that if his soil contains too much water at any time, the sooner he drains it, the sooner he will feed the crops as they should be fed; and if he is irrigating he will have no trouble in perceiving that too much water will have the effect that we have mentioned. The necessity of frequent cultivation and of keeping a soil malleable upon the surface in times of drought will also be apparent. The use of water is not its entire function in relation to plant growth, but it is an important one.—Agricultural Epitome.

Poultry Notes.
Never allow the mother hen to take her brood out in the early morning. Brooder chicks should be allowed to go out during the warm portion of the day.

Hens will lay more eggs when confined in yards than when having free range.

Do not let the little chicks get chilled or wet. Either means death for them.

Do not cross pure bred poultry. There is enough variety now for all practical purposes.

One breed is enough to keep on any farm. More than that usually results in neglect of all.

The time to cure a sick hen is wasted, if she lingers longer than two days it is better to kill her.

Do not put over eleven eggs under a setting hen in the early part of the season. Later thirteen will not be too many.

If there are any rats around the poultry house get rid of them before the chickens hatch. Otherwise they will soon make way with every brood that is put out.

Family Honors Go to the Dead.
In China when an honor is conferred on a family it is the ancestors and not the descendants who share the glory. If a Chinaman, for his merits, receives a title of nobility, his son can never inherit it or have the right to use any but an inferior title. Thus the nobility in the family goes on diminishing from generation to generation till it finally becomes extinct.

NEW YORK FASHIONS.

Designs For Costumes That Have Become Popular in the Metropolis.

New York City (Special).—These novelties have been observed at recent weddings:
The abandonment of gloves by bride and bridegroom.
The attachment of a court train—



WEDDING DRESS OF WHITE SATIN.

very long and full—to the wedding dress.
The frequent substitution of some clinging fabric, like crepe de chin or veiling, for the classic white satin.
The addition of many tiny frills to the wedding veil, unless this be of costly lace or an heirloom.
The garbing of the maid of honor precisely like the other bridesmaids, even to the color of her bouquet.

too, follows out this design until lost under the lace bolero. This bolero, gauntlet sleeves and the odd band which holds the skirt fullness in shape are all of cream point de Venise lace. Very gracefully laid folds of old-rose velvet make a most effective ground for the edge of the top of the lace bolero, and also serve to show off the yoke and stock of finely shirred cream mouseline. The buckle catching the folds is of rose gold set with garnets.

A New Texture.
An effective material resembles a Shetland shawl of the finest make, woven by the yard, and most gossamer looking. Over satin it is employed for tea gowns, draping most beautifully, and often interlaced with ribbon. This looks well in white and also in hortensia, the new red. Skirts made in it fall in graceful folds at the back and nearly always display a sash or one long end. It is also used for boleros over velvet vests, rose velvet being the popular color, and mostly worn with a velvet hat of a slightly darker shade, closely stitched all over, raised on one side with a large red raisy.

Handsome Tailor Gown.
Something quite new in a tailor gown is made of nut-brown cloth. The skirt is box-pleated all around from the front breadth, which is plain, and trimmed with curved bands of cloth covered with stitching. The blouse worn with this is of pink and brown plaid silk, and the coat is of the Etou variety with a belt of brown satia covered with stitching.

Stylish Belt Buckles.
Belt buckles covered with suede in its natural color, and ornamented with steel, jet or turquoise are one of the novelties.



LACE AS A MODISH GARNITURE.

The preference for "white" weddings.
At one of the largest weddings that New York has seen this season both bride and bridegroom were of unusual height, the one being more than six feet tall, the other within an inch or two of that stature. There were six bridesmaids, all conspicuously petite, and, whether by design or accident, the effect was not unlike that of a marriage of Brobdingnagians attended by Liliputs.

The dress of the stately bride was of exquisite white satin, creamy and soft, and with something of the naivete of a pearl. In cut it was severe. The robe was arranged in a flat plait at the back and descended in a full train. The bodice was pointed both in front and at the back; it was slightly draped across the bust and rose at the throat in a high collar. At one side was arranged a cascade of real lace, which fell, with increasing volume, to the hem of the robe, interrupted here and there by sprays of orange blossoms. The veil was an immense affair of beautiful point d'Alencon, fixed over the head with a wreath of orange flowers.

Two Dresses Worth Careful Study.
The rage for lace is simply tremendous. We can't get enough of it. The more we invest in it, the more the makers strive to render it more attractive, that we shall be driven to buying still greater quantities. The flounces, too, with their graceful circular shapings, are well known, and owned by those who can afford them, as are all the hundred and one small devices in demand for neckwear.

In the two dresses shown in the illustration we see very fetching introductions of this cobwebby fabric. In one the sleeves, revers, vest and border for the overskirt and Etou are of creamy Renaissance. The material itself is of satin cloth in a pastel gray, the folds on the bodice being of cream mouseline.

Bridal Bouquets.
A cloud of filmy tulle envelops the latest bridal bouquets.

Coats For Tailor Suits.
These two new little coats show which way the wind is blowing in a number of respects. There are novel little revers for those who are "tired to death" of the plain coat sort. One, too, has a dip in the front and to most of us it is "the" becoming cut, while the other suggests the cutaway. It, as you see, is made to fasten with a fly, the collar and revers being faced with velvet. The material is a semi-heavy tweed.

Either rather heavy serge or a mixed tweed is the proper material for the one with jaunty dip. The



JAUNTY LITTLE COATS.

finish is three rows of heavy stitching either the self color or white. Six buttons serve down the front. The skirt shows a moderate dip in the back.

EDWIN OBED STANARD

TALKED OF AS M'KINLEY'S POSSIBLE RUNNING MATE.

St. Louis Has a Candidate for The Presidency in Edwin Obad Stanard—His Only Political Office Was That of Lieutenant-Governor.

St. Louis has a candidate for the vice-presidency on the republican ticket in the person of Edwin Obad Stanard, ex-lieutenant-governor of Missouri and ex-congressman. He is one of the leading citizens of St. Louis, and has been identified with its public enterprise for many years. He has been president of the Merchants' Exchange, the St. Louis exposition and a leader in the Autumnal Festivities association, out of which grew the Business Men's league, besides serving on committees or at the head of countless public enterprises, whether of commercial, social, political or religious character.

Gov. Stanard's political career is comprised, practically, between the years 1868 and 1872, during which he served as lieutenant-governor of the state and representative of one of the St. Louis districts in congress. While serving in congress, he was instrumental in securing the adoption of the Eads jetty system.

Gov. Stanard comes of good New England stock. Both of his great-grandfathers served with distinction in the revolutionary war. His mother

died in the air, salted, put into bags and pressed and packed in casks. It is one of the most important articles of Russian trade, the sales reaching annually over \$10,000,000. The importation of caviare to America is increasing yearly. In 1899 it was double that of the previous year.

Where We Get Caviare.
Caviare is consumed in vast quantities all over the Russian empire. It is also sent to Italy, Germany, France and England and is largely eaten in this country. Caviare is a shining brown substance in little globules, looking exactly like little brambleberries. It is obtained from sturgeon in March by millions on their spawning beds in the mouth of the Danube, the Dnieper, the Don and the Volga rivers, where both nets and hooks are used to capture the fish. After the membrane of the roe has been removed the grains are washed with vinegar of the cheap white wines of the country. Then they are

greatly distinguished himself. At Oxford Prince Christian was known as an athlete. He has been employed in active military service almost continuously since he left college. He is the eldest son of the queen's daughter Helena, and was born at Windsor.



Prince Christian Victor of Schleswig-Holstein, the queen's grandson, who is fighting the Boers in South Africa, has been a familiar figure in recent British wars. He is an officer in the King's Royal rifles, and is 32 years old. In the Ashantee war of 1895-6 and in the Nile expedition of last year he

FANCIES OF THE CZARINA.

One Is For Wonderful Russian Lace and Another for Black Roses.

The czarina has aroused the wrath of all her court ladies and, rumor says, of the czar himself, by her studied simplicity in dress. She heartily dislikes gorgeous clothes, and if she consulted her own wishes would seldom wear jewels; but she has one enthusiasm, and that is for the Russian lace which is made only for the Russian Imperial family. Years ago a tribe of lace-makers lived near Archangel and made by hand a deep yellow lace of marvelous design and texture. The Empress Marie, wife of Alexander II., developed a passion for this lace, and, being a woman of whims, sent for the lace workers, about 200 in all, and forced them to leave their homes and settle in St. Petersburg. The story of their captivity and homesickness is a pathetic one. The older women of the tribe died, one after another, of homesickness and age, but the younger, less submissive, were in perpetual rebellion. Many of them escaped and rejoined their husbands and lovers, and the emperor threatened to send the couples to Siberia, but the empress, feeling a slight responsibility in the matter, intervened. The girls who stayed in the palace married and were well provided for, but only a few of them are still living, and they are kept busy making lace for the czarina. Another fad of the czarina is the black rose, which has made a sensation in St. Petersburg. A florist named Fetisoff has produced in his garden a rose jet black in color, and the finest specimens are owned by the czarina.

TANNED HUMAN SKIN.

Used as the Growsome Binding for Some Famous Books.

The skin of William Corder, the murderer of Maria Martin, was used for the binding of a book containing a biographical sketch of the murderer, and this book with its growsome binding is to be found in the library of Trinity college, Cambridge. M. Flammarion had in his possession a book bound in the skin of the woman he loved in vain. The lovely countess, whose white and gleaming shoulders had stirred his admiration before her death, bequeathed him the skin that covered her form, upon which he had gazed with such pleasure. She also left a letter desiring the astronomer to use her skin to bind the wonderful work in which he speaks so eloquently of the glimmering world of stars, and Flammarion did not hesitate to fulfill the last wish of this most eccentric of women. Andre Le Roy had at one time in his possession a volume bound in the skin of Delille, the poet. A book entitled "Principles of Practical Anatomy," written by Prof. Leydy of Jefferson Medical college, Philadelphia, was bound in human skin, and is now in the Rusk library.

Vast Possibilities of Russia.

Should Russia ultimately succeed in her scheme for dominating Asia, she will become mistress of some 800,000,000 people.