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# AGRICULTURAL TOPICS.

ACRICULTURAL TOPICS, Keeping Hubbard Squash. To keep Hubbard squash perfectly, a dry room should be secured, where the temperature can qe kept always above freezing. Dryness is even more important than warmth. Squash quickly mildew and rot when exposed to moist ar either cold or warm. Neate Foot Oil. Many farmers when they butcher a dow throw away the hoofs as worth-less. They ought always to be used to make neats foot oil. Put them in a kettle with plenty of water and boil until all the oil is extracted. A set of four feet will usually make a pint of the oil, which should be skimmed trom the surface as it rises in boiling. —Boston Cultivator.

-Boston Cultivator. To Destroy Caterpillars. A farmer writes to an agricultural paper: Every year I hear of caterpil-lar s destroying whole orchards and there is nothing so casay to dispose of. I bore a hole in the tree deep enough to reach the sap, fill it with sulphur and plug it up. The sap takes the sulphur to every branch and twig and the caterpillars disappear at once. I have never known a tree to be injured by it and have used it for years. Buying Weeds With Hay.

by it and have used it for years. Buying Weeds With Hay. A great deal of hay is sent to market full of weeds. While it is true that some of theso, as the white daisy when cut early, will be eaten, there is no weed that grows in meadows that has the untrition which hay has, and many weeds are positively injurious. The worst of feeding weeds with hay is that many of the weeds have seeded, and when they go into the manure pile they go wherever the manure pile is carried. Chenner Than Stable Manure.

pile they go wherever the manure pile is carried. Cheaper Than Stable Manure. Professor H. E. Van Deman says in the Philadelphia Record that a erop of clover or cow peas plowed under every two or three years in the orchard will stimulate growth sufficiently, and as it would take twenty loads of stable manure per are to do the same the former is the cheaper. He thinks also that 600 pounds each of muriate of potash and dissolved bone or phos-phate rock per are should be applied. But this will not be necessary every year until an orchard is bearing heavy crops and shows signs of impoverish-met. Pigs Need Sunlight.

means to raise funds for the auditorium it is to build, probably with the aid of the "button scheme," the sale of lapd the s

The to this matter of light will save openty of money and prevent serious disappointment." Heavy Seeds the Eeter. The Year Book of the United States Department of Agriculture for 1897, now being distributed, contains an im-portant paper on the supremacy of large, heavy seed which consideration of every farmer desirous of increasing his erop yields. The experiments with heavy and light seed of various grains and vegetables on which this paper is based demonstrated very strikingly the superiority of the plunp, sound, heavy seed. The plant and root de-velopment of the young seedling from heavy seeds. The plant and root de-velopment of the seedlings from heavy seeds was larger, more uniform and better in every way than from light seeds. The seedlings from heavy seeds are angre, more uniform and better in every way than from light seeds. The seedling from heavy seeds are angre, more uniform and better and eorresponding gradations were noted in the seed-lings therefrom. This interesting paper concludes with the statement that numerous investigators, both in this country and in Europe, have stee, produce heavier erops in the field than lighter seed of the same variety sown under similar conditions; and there seems no room for doubt that, in the majority of cases at least, the se-lection of large or heavy seed will re-pender.

pay the planter for all the money expended. Cannon Ball Fired in 1812. Edwin S. Hunt, of Essex, Conn., has a cannon ball which was found where the old Saybrook fort was once located, just north of the Valley Bail-road station at Saybrook Point. The ball was fired from a British ship in the river during the War of 1812.

A Carlous Stone. One of the most curious stones in the world is found in Finland. It is a natural barometer, and actually fore-tells probable changes in the weather It turns black shortly before an ap-proaching rain, while in fine weather it is mottled with spots of white.

Rapid Communication. Rapid Communication. The Greenwich Observatory has been put into telegraphic communica-tion with that of the McGill College, Montreal, and the signals can be flashed between the two places, a distance of 3300 miles, in three-quarters of a second