

The Bloomfield Times.

HOUSE, FARM AND GARDEN.

We invite communications from all persons who are interested in matters properly belonging to this department.

Turnips for Milk.

At a recent public meeting in Connecticut Nathan Hart advocated the use of the common turnip as food for a milk dairy. "A few winters since I was feeding common turnips, and when the supply was exhausted I had the curiosity to estimate the value of turnips per bushel for feeding purposes from the returns that I actually received from the milk. We were then getting six cents per quart for our milk. The diminished flow of milk resulting from discontinuing this feed of turnips enabled me to calculate that the turnips were worth twenty-five cents a bushel to feed to cows. I refer to the common flat or field turnip. But as to their saving hay I do not think they do. I think they act as an alternative and their use will cause the cow to more perfectly digest her food. It seems to be adapted to the wants of the cow and produces a good digestion. I feed just before milking." In another portion of his discourse Mr. Hart tells us that when feeding turnips they are fed just before milking at night, and the last feed of the day is given immediately after. He did not find them to impart any deleterious or unpleasant odor or taste to the milk, but thought it important to commence feeding them gradually and slowly, increasing the amount to the full feed; he thought it important to feed them just before milking.

Home, Wife and Saturday.

Happy is the man who has a little home and a little angel in it on Saturday night—a house, no matter how little, provided it will hold two or so; no matter how humbly furnished, provided there is hope in it. Let the winds blow—close the curtains. What if they are plain calico, without border, tassel or any such thing. Let the rain come down—heap up the fire. No matter if you haven't a candle to bless yourself with, for what a beautiful light glowing coals make. Rendering cloudless, shedding a sun set through the room—just light enough to talk by, not loud, as in the highways, not rapid, as in the hurrying world, but softly, softly, whispering, with pauses between, for the storm without and thoughts within to fill up with. Then wheel the sofa around by the fire; no matter if the sofa is a settee; uncushioned at that, if so be it is just light enough for two and a half in it. How sweetly the music of silver bells for the time to come falls on the listening heart then! How mournfully swells the chimes of "the days that are no more."

If people want their hens to lay in cold weather, they must supply them with plenty of gravel and lime, and fresh meat of any kind chopped into small pieces. The latter should be fed three times weekly. During the winter months eggs are worth twice as much in this market as they are in spring, and a little extra care and attention to the henry will be well repaid by an increased yield of eggs. Chickens thrive better on a variety of food, and a diet of corn, buckwheat and oats fed on alternate days will be more conducive to the preservation of health than if either of these grains were given them.

Never whip your horse for becoming frightened at any object by the roadside; for if he sees a stump, a log, or a heap of tan bark in the road, and while he is eyeing it carefully, and about to pass it, you strike him with the whip, it is the log or the stump or the tan bark that is hurting him in his way of reasoning, and the next time he will be more frightened. Give him time to examine and smell of all these objects, and use the bridle to assist you in bringing him carefully to these objects of fear.

Remedy for choking cattle is opportunely about this time when they are more than usually exposed to the danger of getting an apple, potato, or small turnip stuck in the gullet. A remedy is said to be to open the mouth of the choking animal and throw upon its tongue, away back, a tablespoonful of saltpeper, then let the beast go and the obstacle will either pass out or in, in a very short time.

To raise the pile of velvet hold it over a basin of boiling water, the wrong side of the velvet being next the water. To clean a silk dress make the following mixture: Two ounces of curd soap, shredded finely; two ounces of salts of tartar, two gallons of water. Boil these ingredients together, and then another two gallons of water. Wash the dress in the mixture, rinse in cold water, and iron as soon as possible.

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