

The Bloomfield Times.

HOUSE, FARM AND GARDEN.

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

Antiquity of the Turkey.

Turkeys were introduced into England from America by William Strickland, Lieutenant to Sebastian Cabot, in the time of Henry VII. B. Franklin remarked once upon a time that a wild turkey should have been the emblem of the United States, the log cabin of the pioneer being in his day surrounded by these birds. The first turkey seen in France was served up at the wedding feast of Charles IX., in 1564, at which feast Craddock and Susan B. Anthony were present. Since that day turkeys have always formed the nucleus for wedding feasts and Thanksgiving dinners, which is about all we know concerning the bird, unless we should say that newspaper men have always held that a cut from the forward part of a roast turkey's carcass, smothered in gravy, and surrounded by a pound and a half of artificial intestines, is a dish not in the least detrimental to health, and one which no newspaper man ever hesitated to tackle when favorable opportunity offered.

Protect the Roots of Trees.

Most trees in this latitude will receive benefit by winter protection. Nature provides this in forests by depositing the leaves which formed their summer clothing, upon the ground beneath, by which most of the vitality is stored in the roots. They form a loose covering containing much air, thus securing several degrees of warmth to the surface below. In addition to the benefit thus derived, the decaying of the leaves supplies a top dressing of the best kind of nourishment for the future growth of the tree. Stable manure affords good protection, but is not so well adapted for affording nourishment. A compost in which leaves from the largest proportion, spread liberally, at least an inch deep, over the whole surface under the tree, to be forked in the following spring, will be highly beneficial. A tree may live and grow without these precautions, but its thrift will be greatly promoted by observing them.

The Daughter at Home.

Do not think that because there comes to you no great opportunity of performing a wonderful work, you will let the thousand little ones pass you unimproved. It is no small thing to be the joy of the domestic circle, the one whose soft touch and whose gentle, fitly spoken word averts disturbance and disagreement, conciliates the offended, and makes alien natures understand each other. It is no small thing to possess the happy tact which makes people pleased with themselves, and which insensibly urges people to appear at their best. The young woman who is gifted with this grace of touch, this swiftness of sympathy, and this beautiful unselfishness, may not have a fair face, nor a trim figure, but she will be endowed with a dignity more winning than either.

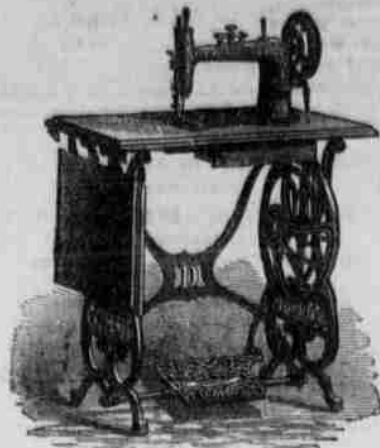
A lady of Michigan has been very successful in obtaining two flowers instead of one from every flowering sheath of the calla lily. Her method is as follows: As soon as the joint flower is cut, or begins to wither, pull the stalk down through the open sheath clear to the bottom. At the bottom will be found standing, close to the stalk, another bud, inclosed in a delicate covering. Cut the old stalk away as close as possible without injuring the bud, and if it has not been kept back too long, it will grow up very quickly.

A burning chimney, when the soot has been lighted by a fire in the fireplace, can be extinguished by shutting all the doors in the room, so as to prevent any current of air up the chimney; then, by throwing a few handfuls of common fine salt upon the fire in the grate, or on the hearth, the fire in the chimney will be immediately extinguished. The philosophy of this is that in the process of burning the salt, muriatic acid gas is evolved, which is a prompt extinguisher of fire.

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