

**The Bloomfield Times.**

HOUSE, FARM AND GARDEN.

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

**Preparation of Bones for use as Manure.**

Place in a wooden trough, or tub, the bones, broken into as small pieces as possible, and pour upon them one-third of their weight of boiling water, and having steamed the mass so as to render the bones completely moist, and one-third of the weight of the bones sulphuric acid and common vitriol of the bleacher, and mix the materials completely, by stirring them, by means of a wooden shovel or old spade. The mixture may be conveniently made in an old sugar hogshead, and should be allowed to remain some weeks previous to being used. It may be mixed, if necessary, with dry peat, mould, or real charcoal, or with sawdust; but lime should not be added to it. By carefully following these directions, the farmer may obtain a compound of high fertilizing value, and much superior to many of the specimens of dissolved bones offered for sale. The addition of slacked lime and soap-boilers' refuse, which some persons occasionally use, should be avoided. By employing the bones, as described, the manure will be found to contain a large amount of soluble phosphate, which very few of the advertised manures afford.

**Tomatoes, Potatoes and Coal Ashes.**

Both potatoes and tomatoes are good crops where they have a monopoly of the soil—very good on manured lands, and phenomenally good or rich soils which have been farther enriched by coal ashes. Having casually observed the effects of coal ashes to be, as I thought, something out of the common on tomatoes—increasing not so much vine growth as the size, smoothness and number of the fruit produced—a market gardener of experience confirmed my suspicion, and last spring I accepted his direction for their use; which were, to throw away a wheelbarrow load of earth where each vine was to stand, fill with half soil and half coal ashes, and therein set out the plant. I did so, and the result was surprising—the dozen plants thus treated bringing nearly double the fruit of others, and that both smoother and larger. But note: Tomato plants so set will, in case of drouth, require water sooner, and more of it, than those growing in common soil.

**Planting Grape-Eyes.**

Those who have not some knowledge of planting single grape-eyes, placing them in boxes of rich soil and the boxes in a greenhouse, had better stick to the old plan of planting two eyes, allowing the upper eye, which should have about an inch of the wood, to be just under ground. They must be set in a straight trench, and have the soil pressed firmly around them with the foot. They grow in this way with great certainty, and almost always take root at both eyes. When this is the case, the lower wood and roots should be cut off, as it makes a prettier, and we think, a more vigorous vine. When single eyes are to be planted, cut the wood with a sharp knife, commencing at the side opposite to the bud and about half an inch from the eye. In setting out these eyes in the open ground, they should be put half an inch under ground, perpendicularly, and the ground pressed closely around them.

**Transplanting Evergreens.**

Make a hole in the ground to contain about twenty gallons of water, and pour about sixteen gallons into it; add to this about twenty pounds of barn-yard manure, mixed with about the same quantity of fine rich soil. By working the mixture for a long time, and carefully, you reduce it to the consistency of whitewash. In this mixture steep the roots of your plants just before putting them into the ground; the earth thrown after them into the hole sticks to the roots, which immediately begin to swell. At the very first movement of sap, rootlets appear through this coating, which gives them immediate manure, and not only brings on but secures the further formation of roots. Once fairly started, there is nothing more to fear.

**French Bread.**

Take clean rice three-fourths of a pound; tie it up in a thick linen bag, giving it room to swell; boil from three to four hours till it becomes a perfect paste; mix while warm with seven pounds flour, adding yeast, salt and water. Allow the dough to work a proper time near the fire, then divide it into loaves, dust them in and knead vigorously. This quantity will make thirteen pounds and seven ounces of excellent bread.

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A STERLING REMEDY FOR DISEASES AND INJURIES OF THE SKIN; A HEALTHFUL BEAUTIFIER OF THE COMPLEXION; A RELIABLE MEANS OF PREVENTING AND RELIEVING RHEUMATISM AND GOUT, AND AN UNEQUALLED DISINFECTANT, DEODORIZER AND COUNTER-IRRITANT.

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