The Bloomfield Times.

HOUSE, FARM AND GARDEN.

Ashes for Apple Trees.

When apple or pear trees become diseased from being planted in unfavorable or ill prepared soil, or from a lack of food, they are very certain to be attacked by insects, which if they were in a healthy condition would probably be unknown. Certain washes, such as lye, (a solution of potash,) have been applied with success in destroying these Insects and restoring the tree to health. But for our own practice we have for the last two year applied a much simpler remedy with more success, and it causes the old dead bark the chosen hiding-places of insects, to cleave off, leaving in its place a smooth healthy surface. This is simply after a rain and while the bark is yet wet, to throw on dry wood ashes until the capacity of retention is full. If rain soon follows the strength of the ashes is carried into every cranny of the bark, and the effect is working cleanliness on the tree. If there is no rain, the ashes will remain and be working their good effects, and be ready for action when the rain comes. The operation of sowing on the ashes is easily and quickly performed; so if the tree is in a bad condition it is easily repeated until the insects are all destroyed, and a new healthy bark covers the tree. To remedy existing evils sow on the ashes between now and leafing-out, after the first rain if possible; for they can be scattered over the bark now with less waste than when intercepted by leaves and placed more equally where they are needed. As the prevention of future depredations, sow them on in summer when the insects deposit their eggs, which will never hatch under the influence of the ashes. Two objects are gained by this operation; the ashes or lye they produce, furnishes food for the trees as well as destroying its enemies, and imparts cleanliness to the tree.

Farmer's Workshop.

Every farmer should have a room, large or small, provided with a bench and vise, where many little jobs may be done that cost money if carried to the mechanic, and often hinder the farmer more than the money cost of the job. If such a room can take a small stove, where a fire can be kept in cold days, it will pay many times the cost of fitting up with a bench and a few tools. The boys too, will enjoy such a workshop, and will not be any more likely to leave the farm, for having one provided for their accommodation or amusement on rainy days. Many farmers do much of their own carpenter work, such as the repairs on buildings, mending farm implements and tools, and even building new work, when they are any way handy with tools. With a little previous planning and getting ready in the fall a good deal of building and repairing might be done during the winter season, while the farmer's time is less valuable than in

Experiments in Fattening Hogs.

Farmers generally do not appreciate the benefits of warmth or comfortable temperature in fattening stock. All the food in the barn or crib cannot fatten stock unprotected from the blasts of winter and shivering with the cold. As this is the season for fattening stock, especially hogs, we give the following, which shows the fact most conclusively: "A certain farmer made experiments in fattening hogs. He fed 100 hogs, weighing 200 pounds each. The weather was good. He fed them a week and weighed them and found that, at four cents a pound for pork his corn realized 80 cents a bushel. The first week of November his corn brought 65 cents. The third week 40 cents. The weather got steadily colder. The fourth week the corn brought 26 cents only, and when the thermometer was at zero the corn brought nothing, the whole feed only keeping up the necessary warmth of temperature of the system.

A Connecticut farmer says that the butt ends of potatoes and the kernels of corn from the butt ends of the ears, each produced crops that were materially better than where the opposite course was pursued. In the case of the potatoes, the stalks from the butt end were much the larger and more forward at the first hoeing. The increase in the corn was some twenty per cent. in favor of the butt end kernels.

How to Keep Buckwheat Batter.

Keeping buckwheat batter is sometimes very troublesome, especially in mild weather. The only way to keep it perfectly sweet is to pour cold water on that left from one morning to another. Fill the vessel entirely full of water, and put it in a cool place. When ready for use pour off the water, which absorbs the acidity.

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All persons indebted to said estate are requested to make immediate payment and those having claims will present them duly authenticated for settlement to.

S. H. HARRIS, Administrator.

S. H. HARRIS Administrator, Penn twp., Duncannon, P. O. December 2, 1879.—61

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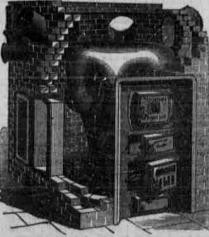
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