

The Bloomfield Times.

HOUSE, FARM AND GARDEN.

Profitable Farming.

The Reading (Pa.) correspondent of the Philadelphia Ledger furnishes the following:

"Farming as a general thing, is not considered a very profitable employment, nor do farmers in many sections of the State retire upon fortunes made by tilling the soil; but there are some farmers who accumulate a good deal of money by producing a variety of articles which years ago were not considered a part of their business. A visit recently to the farm of Mr. Christopher Shearer, five miles north of Reading, gave me a good idea of progress. This farm contains 100 acres, and has upon it an orchard of Bartlett pears, which occupies 10 acres; there are also 40 acres in peaches and apples, and another apple orchard which occupies 18 acres of land. From 10 to 20 acres are planted in tobacco, and the balance of the land is planted in potatoes, rye, strawberries, artichokes, willow trees for baskets, and a nursery of peach trees. There is also a large pond for gathering ice, to supply an immense refrigerator, in which the fruit is stored and kept until the market is favorable for its sale.

"The crops gathered this year were 1,000 bushels of pears, which sold at an average of \$2 per bushel; the peach orchard, which is quite young, produced 400 baskets, which sold for \$1 per basket. From the apple orchard there were picked 2,000 bushels, which sold from \$1 to \$1.50 per bushel. The apples that fell from the trees, and those not considered worth sending to market, were sent to the cider press, and from them 200 barrels of juice were obtained, which is now in large vats, to remain until it becomes vinegar, selling at 15 cents per gallon. The patch of tobacco yielded from 1,500 to 2,000 pounds per acre, and sold at 15 cents per pound. In addition to this 2,000,000 of tobacco plants were sold at \$1 per 1,000; 1,200 bushels of Jerusalem artichokes were raised, for the purpose of feeding cattle, but most of them were sold in New York, at from \$2.50 to \$3 per barrel, for pickling purposes, most of them being used in restaurants and bar-rooms as appetizers or for lunch. The sale of willows produced \$100 this year, and from the nursery \$500 was obtained by the sale of young peach and apple trees. Last spring four acres were planted in strawberries, and it is expected that next year at least 10,000 quarts will be gathered. Notwithstanding the long dry spell in this section of the State, grapes enough were gathered to make 600 gallons of wine, which readily sells for \$1 per gallon. Mr. Shearer also bought grapes enough from his neighbors to make 500 gallons more. On the other portions of the land there were gathered 35 tons of hay, 400 bushels of potatoes, and 250 bushels of rye. There was also sold \$200 worth of ice, the pond yielding more than was necessary for supplying the refrigerator, and \$200 was received from other farmers for storing fruit, &c., in the ice house. The entire cost of farming the land including fertilizers, was for the year, \$4,000. The products amounted to over \$12,000, quite a respectable profit on 100 acres of land."

It is a good plan to put earthenware into cold water and let it heat gradually until it boils; then cool again. Brown earthenware may be toughened in this way. A handful of bran thrown in while boiling, will preserve the glazing, so that it will not be destroyed by acid or salt.

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To make boots and shoes proof against snow water, take a little beeswax and mutton suet warmed in a pipkin until in a liquid state. Then rub some of it lightly over the edges of the sole where the stitches are, which will repel the wet, and not in the least prevent the blacking from having the usual effect.

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That the public may be protected against imitations and fraud we specially caution all purchasers of BENSON'S CAPCINE POROUS PLASTER. Do not allow some other plaster to be passed off under similar sounding names, with the assurance that it is the same thing or as good. Bear in mind that the only object such vendors can have is the fact that they can buy imitations at half the price of the genuine, and they hope by this substitution to gain a small additional profit from the public.

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