The Bloomfield Times.

HOUSE, FARM AND GARDEN.

Farmer's Families.

Much has been said and written on this subject. Poets have loved it and almost every artist has his cozy little farmhouse nestled among the trees, covered with climbing-roses, and surrounded by the "necessary outbuildings," Many a time have we forgotten white gazing at such a picture, or reading one of these amorous effusions, that we were born in the country, and that we lived in a farmhouse and followed its tiresome monotony from morning till night, varying from laundry to dairy, feeding the poultry, rising before the lark was astir to milk the "patient kine." " shod like the mountaineer," and so on with but little variation, save on those days on which there was house cleaning or some "extra job" to be done.

Then when evening came and we sat down, thoroughly wearied, what an unutterable longing came over us for something more. If (and the tantalizing picture would present itself) there was a paper to be picked up after this was over, or some interesting and instructive volume-we were weary, very weary, and the very sight of a pile of patching made both fingers and eyes ache-we were disinclined to touch it.

And just here is one of the great wants of our modern farmhouse. There will be found, if the case be investigated, that in by for the largest portion of them there is but the one weekly paper, and in very many none at all. In these houses the library may easily be counted. And here men and women in embryo spend those years that will so much influence their future lives. Let this beremedied. Let the fathers supply their children with those grand educators, the public press; gather around their firesides the classic author, the historian, and mingle with them the best poets and some well-assorted novels, and thus inaugurate a new era in our farmhouses, which will make home more attractive to the sons than the corner grocery, and the wives and daughters will have something to amuse and rest them after the cares of the day.

Cure For Burns.

A venerable patient, a retired foundryman, tells us that during his apprenticehood to a ship builder of Philadelphia he became acquainted with a never failing remedy for burns and scalds, and that in his subsequent foundry life he saw innumerable such injuries relieved of pain and healed as if by magic by powdered charcoal. The softer it is the better, and that from the pine wood is the best. It is to be thickly sprinkled over the burned or scalded surface as soon as possible, and renewed as it becomes moist or drops off. The same patient states that in the shipyard and in his foundry fir balsam proved a most soothing and rapidly curative dressing for abrasions and cuts. The hurts heal with marvellous expedition, and suppuration, erysipelas, &c., are always prevented, he says. The balsam should be spread thickly over the wound.

No doubt the disciples of antiseptic surgery would attribute the good results of this dressing to the disinfectant power of the balsam, but the secret of its efficacy lies, no doubt, in its exclusion of the atmosphere from the would. Nature endeavors to keep out the air from wounds by means of a film of lymph or pus or a scab, and meddlesome man thwarts nature by frequently cleansing, the hurt by water, or, worse still, soap and water. The balsam protects the sore from the air and water and nature, unobstructed, does her healing work rapidly and well.

Water For The Cook.

In cooking almost all kinds of meat soft water should be used when possible, but with vegetables hard water is often best, and for that reason salt is thrown into the water to make it hard when cooking. Some vegetables are spoiled by cooking in soft water, because it will not dissolve or make them so tender that all the flavor passes into the water, leaving the vegetables insipid and worthless, destroying all the firmness of texture necessary to retain the flavor and juices. Salt is also added to retain the color, else that would be lost in the water, and the vegetable becomeyellow. Soft water is best for making soups, broths, or anything from which one desires to extract the juice regardless of the substance, and hard water when it is necessary to hold the juices in the meat; and, as the softest water may be made hard by the addition of salt, house-keepers will do wisely if they provide then selves constantly with soft water na far as possible

Indian meal should be kept in a cool place, and stirred in the open air once in a while. A large stone put in the middle of the barrel of meal is a good thing to keep it cool.

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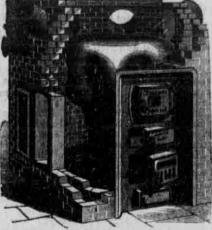
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