

The Bloomfield Times. HOUSE, FARM AND GARDEN.

Pear Blight.

It has been shown by careful microscopic examination in its earliest stages that the disease is caused by a minute fungus which develops in the bark and penetrates inwardly, destroying the cell structure as it proceeds. The fungus is so small that the distinguished investigator, Dr. J. Gibbens Hunt, under a powerful microscope, could not distinguish the species; but this is one of no consequence, this being the cause of the disease, the preventive is obvious. Any one who is in a neighborhood liable to blight can have immunity by washing his trees annually with pure linseed oil, sulphur wash or other things that will kill a fungoid spore without injury to the bark. Of course spores may get into a crevice where the washes cannot reach, and hence there may be some cases where, even though the trees were washed, there will be disease. The cause of the disease has been so clearly demonstrated and the remedy so patent, that cases of "fire blight" only prove ignorance or neglect.

Scab in Sheep.

A correspondent whose sheep were badly diseased, after trying other remedies, especially sulphur, found in April nearly all his ewes had lambs, and when the lambs were one week old they began to dig and scratch themselves. He says: After I turned them to grass, I paid no attention to them till I sheared them: then every sheep and lamb had the disease, though no worse than in the winter when the sulphur kept it in check. About the first of June I made a strong decoction of tobacco, at about five pailfuls mixed with three gills of spirits of turpentine. I then gave every sheep and lamb a thorough washing all over the whole body. I then turned them to grass to watch the result. I found that two of them still showed signs of the disease. I caught them and put sulphur all over their backs and sides, and that is the last that I have seen of the scab in my flock.

Potato Salad and Dressing.

Cut a dozen cold boiled potatoes into fancy shapes one-quarter of an inch thick; mix with some flakes of cold boiled fish—halibut, cod or salmon—and pour over them a boiled salad dressing, made with six tablespoonfuls of melted butter or salad oil, six ditto of cream or milk, or a teaspoonful of ground mustard and one cupful of vinegar. Boil well, then add three raw eggs beaten to a foam; remove directly from the fire and stir for five minutes. When quite cold pour over the salad; garnish with slices of pickled cucumbers, beets, hard-boiled eggs and parsley. This dressing can be made in quantities and kept tightly bottled for weeks. When used for the green salad put it into the bottom of the bowl and the salad on top and stir together when ready to serve. Salt and pepper to taste.

Tomato Vines.

If there is any truth in the following it is important: A statement comes from South America that a single property of tomato leaves has been discovered by a fruit grower. Having cut down some tomato vines he used them to mulch around his peach trees. He soon discovered that the curculio, which was destroying his fruit, had abandoned the trees surrounded by the tomato vines. Following up this discovery, the free use of tomato vines proved a perfect protection, not only against the curculio, but other noxious insects.

Marble can be nicely cleaned in the following manner: Pulverize a little blue-stone, and mix with four ounces of whiting; add to these four ounces of soft soap and one ounce of soda dissolved in a very little water. Boil this preparation over a slow fire fifteen minutes, stirring all the time. Lay it on the marble while hot, with a clean brush. Let it remain half an hour; then wash off in clean suds, wipe dry, and polish by quick rubbing.

If spermaceti is dropped on any garment or furniture, first carefully scrape off all that can be removed without injury to the material; then lay brown paper over the spot, or a piece of blotting-paper, and put a warm iron on the paper until the oil shows through. Continue to renew the paper and apply the warm iron until the paper shows no more oil.

Soup Flavor.

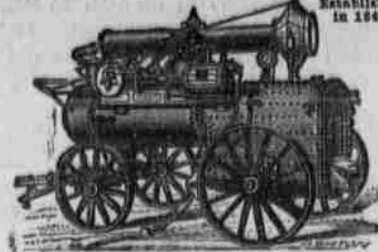
Turnip-peel, washed clean and tied in a net, imparts a flavor to soups. Celery leaves and ends serve the same purpose.

To Remove Tan.

New milk half a pint, lemon juice one fourth of an ounce. Boil the whole and skim clear from scum. Use night and morning.

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