

FOR THE FARM AND HOME.

Requirements of Sweet Corn.

In a discussion on sweet corn by the members of the Michigan Horticultural Society at the summer meeting, at Bay City, the following opinions were expressed: Sweet corn is much more difficult to germinate than field corn, hence more seed is required in planting. It crosses more readily than other corn, but varieties so produced are exceedingly hard to its. Sweet corn, for best growth, requires a colder climate and soil less rich in vegetable matter than does field corn. Phosphorus proves more beneficial than potash fertilizers. Sweet varieties of corn with a red cob may be cooked without the kernels becoming discolored by placing the ears in boiling water to which has been added a little salt; soil rapidly and remove from the water as soon as done. Corn designed for the evaporator should not be picked until ripened. Corn cooked by steam is sweeter than when boiled in the usual way.

Using Wagon Wheels.

A well-made wheel will endure constant wear from ten to twenty years, if care is taken to use the right kind and proper amount of grease, but if this matter is not attended to it will be used up in five or six years. Hard should never be used on a wagon for it will penetrate the hub and work its way around the spokes and the spokes and wheels. Tallow is the best lubricator for wooden axle trees and axles for iron hubs, but many of the present axle greases are also excellent, and have the merit of being cheaper and easier to handle. Just grease enough should be applied to the spindle of a wagon to get it a slight coating. This is better than using the surplus put on will work out at the ends and be forced by the shoulder bands and nut washers into the hub around the outside of the boxes. To oil iron axle trees, first wipe the spindle clean with a piece of cloth wet with kerosene or turpentine, and then apply a few drops of oil or grease near the shoulder and end. One teaspoonful is sufficient for the whole.

Form and Location Notes.

Charcoal and lime should be always in abundant supply where poultry can reach them.

Every poultry house should face the south on a level to get the full benefit of the light and heat of the sun. It pays as a part of the winter program.

Old hens and turkey hens with some young should sympathize. The daily food for farm or carriage horses especially is warm water.

There are many reasons why heavy legs are preferable to light ones, which are so common. They are not only more durable and strong, but a general trouble for the horse, especially in disease, especially that of the leg.

If the food is not good, the horse will not be in good health. The best food for the horse is a mixture of hay and grain, with a little of the best quality of vegetable oil.

Joseph Harris, an expert in his field, issued a warning that every farmer should know very well, and that every farmer should know very well, and that every farmer should know very well.

Fruit growers who give a study for their own use, and who will look over their gardens and see whether they have the right sort of a regular and continuous supply for the season through. They will have a good opportunity, as the best time is now, to see to it that their own gardens are in good condition.

A late writer says that on any foot of wall, except that facing north, it is possible to grow a pound of grapes. He then explains: "How great would be the produce were the flow and the paved walls of our houses and gardens covered with them?"

Among the preventive remedies against disease among swine is cleanliness, a supply of pure water at all times, a variety of food, avoiding corn except in cold weather, and an occasional proportion of charcoal, wood ashes and rotten wood.

It has been thoroughly demonstrated by practical men that the small breeds of swine mature earlier, require less food to maintain the system, and therefore produce more pork for the food consumed than the larger breed.

Sheep of good quality will, as meat producers alone, render nearly as good account of food consumed as other stock and what wool is produced is so much more to be credited to them. A moderate stock of sheep is always profitable, while on the other hand an overstock, to which there is always a tendency when the profits are good, will result sooner or later in loss.

Some growers maintain that pear trees are much less liable to blight if left to grow in the grass than if cultivated. It was believed at one time that pears in sod were blight proof but experience contradicts this theory. Trees in sod are less liable to sudden changes, and especially to the excessive stimulation of growth at midsum-

mer, which is one of the chief provocations of the blight in pears. But too much stunting of growth is almost equally injurious.

Rose slugs and thrips (leaf-hoppers) are two insects which often attack rose bushes. One of the best remedies for them is tobacco-soap water thrown on the bushes with a garden syringe. The thrips should be attacked early in the morning, as they get active when the sun is up; while soap water is good if they cannot be had.

A seedling tree which produces a fruit but little above the ordinary for its first crop, may improve with age. Many trees bear better fruit after they have borne a few years than they do on their first crop. Pears, especially, are apt to improve. They are nearly always less woody and more highly flavored on old trees.

There is much difference of practice and opinion as to the value of salt for asparagus beds. Some contend to have had better results with salt, while others have had equally good results without it. The nature of the soil may have something to do with it. In general we do not believe in the use of salt on asparagus beds.

Fluorapatite border plants are not numerous. In fact, the old favorite, *Lobelia Eriosea*, is about the only one. It is everywhere admired, and everywhere common. Few, however, besides gardeners, are aware that the little blue and white beauty is a true tobacco.

It is a mistake to smother a tree with tar to keep off the canker worm. The tar should be put on a strip of canvas or very thick paper. If tar has been applied directly to the tree it should be removed, and all the outer and inner bark carefully scraped off where the tar has had contact.

It is better to wait until grain has thoroughly dried out before drawing it to the barn. A little drier will often spoil it before the silage, or will spoil it if the crop is dried in a narrow deep channel in the barn, with a narrow groove on one side and a single row of wheel tracks on the other. Here the sea breeze is blown and the stream is as still as a pond. There is no sound except the splash of an outside of the occasional wheel of a wagon, and we that have once seen a horse die of thirst, we can believe that it is a real and a real one.

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LIFE IN BEAUFORT, CUBA.

What is to be Seen in the Island.

View of the Domestic and Industrial Life of the Cuban.

It was one sunny afternoon in February, when we started, three of us, for a little tour of discovery upon the small rivers which drain the beautiful island of Cuba.

We left our vessel in our dory, the only small boat we had, and rowed past a Spanish gun-boat and through a swarm of fruit-lighters to the wharf, by the side of which the river enters the harbor. As we went up by the wharf, the two guards who are always on watch there, came to the side and looked into our boat to see that we smuggled nothing ashore, but being satisfied of our peaceful intentions, they sauntered back to a crowd of loungers, while we passed on.

We pass first the fruit-houses of the different shipping firms, where we see coconuts piled up, as we have become accustomed to see coal in the sheds, and then past a battery of back doors which open right on to the river. Here we have a grand chance to study the domestic life of the Cubans, and in some instances the sights that we saw were very amusing. One thing that we noticed which struck us as being rather peculiar was that all the ladies smoked, not the faintly little cigarettes which some of our American girls have been known to indulge in, but real long, strong cigars, "cigarras" as they call them. It was like listening to music to hear them talk, for such melodious language I never before heard.

The most curious of interest that we saw in the city of Havana was all that we saw of the "cigarras" as they call them. It was like listening to music to hear them talk, for such melodious language I never before heard.

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PEARLS OF THOUGHT.

She neglects her heart, who studies her glass.

It is better to sacrifice one's love of sarcasm than to indulge it at the expense of a friend.

To enjoy reading is to transform wearisome hours into delightful ones.

Philosophy teaches us to bear with calmness the misfortunes of our friends.

A man's wisdom is his best friend; folly his worst enemy.

Good-will, like a good name, is got by many actions and lost by one.

To swear to do a thing is to affirm that two things—essentially changeable—will never change.

The weakness of women have been given them by nature to exercise the virtues of men.

Be courageous and noble-minded; own your heart, and not other men's opinions of us, for our true honor.

Doctors are of use only as they are practiced; men may go to a doctor with their heads full of truth.

We may laugh or weep at the madness of mankind, we have no right what-ever to vilify them.

The main strength and force of a law consists in the penalty annexed to it.

We confess small faults in order to insinuate that we have no great ones.

Wrinkles in the face, wrinkles in the heart.

A Yellowstone Geyser.

To the left is the channel of the Excelsior Geyser, a great geyser two hundred and fifty feet across, its sides broken and jagged, and constantly bubbling with steam and constantly sending up into the air a great volume of white smoke.

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How Do the Tides Rise and Fall.

Let us consider the moon first, as its action from its greater proximity to the earth is much more effective in producing tidal waves than that of the sun. We know from the laws of gravity that the moon tends to draw the water upwards; if it be at the antipodes, beneath our feet, its tendency is to draw the earth downwards. Now, if the earth were a rigid, solid mass, like a ball of iron, this action of the moon would have no other appreciable effect than to draw the earth as a whole upward or downward. The case, however, is different when we consider the surface of the solid globe, there is an ocean of liquid matter. The force with which the earth is attracted by the moon, and the force with which the earth is attracted by the sun, are not equal, and the difference between them is the cause of the tides.

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