

FARM, GARDEN AND HOUSEHOLD.

Manures and Plowing.

Colonel John H. Dent, of Georgia, writes to the Southern World that any farmer who stables eight head of horses, and pens ten head of cattle, and owns sheep and hogs in proportion, and will hire an active hand by the year as lot man and stock man, and to perform no other labor but the collecting and heaping of manures, and to litter the lots, etc., will make a sufficiency of manures (provided a proper rotation of crops is observed, as well as to sow clover on your fields) as will enrich a farm of two hundred cultivated acres, without having to buy commercial fertilizers. It is as much a part of a farmer's duty to make manures as it is to make his fencing, cultivate his crops and house them. This modern mania for fertilizers is only a speculation inaugurated by cotton planters to make heavy yields of cotton; it's one of these manias that will have its day and time, and then die out. Farming proper—that is, mixed crops, consisting of corn, wheat, oats, potatoes, peas and grass and clover—enables us to do much for preserving and improving the lands by rotation, as well as by turning under clover and stubble. The advantages are much greater than with the planter who plants only corn and cotton crops; hence, as above remarked, with the amount of stock named, and a hand to attend the collection of manures as a specialty, for a two hundred acre farm bought manures are unnecessary—all required can be made on the farm.

Diversified Crops.

The press of the South has, without exception for years been busily engaged in endeavoring to impress upon the Southern farmer the great benefits which would inure to him by abandoning his old custom of pinning his faith to cotton alone, and by diversifying his crops so as to produce at home such articles as are absolutely necessary for home consumption. It is believed that these teachings have at least been heeded. Certain it is that during the past season the acreage of cotton generally has been decreased, while that of corn, wheat, oats, hay and other crops has been sensibly increased, and the advantages which will result from this condition of affairs will probably manifest themselves so practically that the diversified system will not hereafter be abandoned.

The advantages to the States concerned will be many millions for this year alone, for any curtailment of the cotton crop, even the smallest, when that staple is wholly relied on, is disastrous to the cotton States, and is invariably followed by distressing financial stringency. The margin of profit on cotton raising, when large supplies of grain and other provisions are drawn from other sections, is so small that only full crops leave the planter prosperous. Instead, therefore, of the prospects in the cotton States being unfavorable by reason of having given increased attention to the cereals and to corn and vegetables, this season gives unusual promise of ease and prosperity. If the season had been one of the best for cotton, the result would only have been still more favorable for planters. As it is, they have what would have been a close year, with little or no profits, turned into one of surely more than ordinary prosperity. In view of these acknowledged facts, the lesson brings nothing new to light nor reveals anything not before believed by many, but it vindicates the theory that diversified agriculture is founded in prudence and true wisdom. It is probable that a riculturnists will adopt it more and more extensively from year to year.—[Rural Record.

Agricultural Notes.

Underdrains: Let others do as they please, but if you want a drain that will last a hundred years or more, dig the ditch as deep as the outlet will require and fill the same to within eight or nine inches of the surface with loose stone thrown in promiscuously from a wagon, the largest at the bottom and the smallest on top, and after covering with an inch or so of leaves from the woods, throw in as much of the excavated earth as will fill the ditch up level with the surrounding surface. Underdrains so made will last time out of mind, with no occasion for repairs.

Coal Oil for Shingles: If shingles are dipped in crude coal oil before nailing on, they will last nearly twice as long. They then lie close and snug, with no warping or fuzzing up by the weather. A vat large enough to contain a bundle of shingles should be filled with the oil and then the shingles put in and allowed to soak a few minutes, when they should be taken out and another bundle put in, and so on until the whole are thus treated a day or so before putting on.

Glucose, What is it? Glucose proper is a table syrup, made by boiling corn starch in sulphuric acid, (oil of vitriol) the manufacturer sometimes adding copperas and then mixing the whole with lime. Dr. Kedzie, professor of chemistry in the Agricultural College of Michigan, upon analyzing seventeen specimens of different table syrups, found fifteen of them made of glucose; one of which contained 141 grains of oil of vitriol and 724 grains of lime, whilst another, which had caused the serious sickness of a whole family, contained 72 grains of the oil of vitriol, 28 grains of the sulphate of iron, (copperas) and 363 grains of lime to the gallon. The manufacturers buy the pure syrup made of cane sugar, and mix the glucose with it themselves, and thus the deleterious effects of these mixtures are easily accounted for.

FOR THE FAIR SEX.

Cloth Pelisses.

Long cloth pelisses elaborately braided down the front and middle seams of the back, but not across the foot, are largely imported for outside wraps. Some of these are cut with vests their entire length, and across this vest are horizontal rows of Hercules braid, while that on the pelisse is a vine pattern done in fine soutache.

Paletots.

Paletots of medium length are shown double-breasted, with cross hip seams like those formerly known as English walking jackets, while others are in the Jersey or cuirass shape, with only a few seams, and these extending the whole length of the garment, these jackets are untrimmed, their only finish being given by the neat stitching and embroidered arrow-heads that proclaim them "tailor-made."

Autumn Mantles.

Light colored cloths in the cuir and ficelle shades are used for dressy mantles and jackets for the early autumn. The mantles are in visete shape, half-long, with square sleeves, and are cut open usually from the waist down in the middle of the back, in order to make room for very bouffant tournures; indeed, all new wraps, though made very clinging to give slender effects, are made with provision for very ample drapery. Gray ficelle lace in two full frills with passe-menterie of gray satin cords is the trimming for these graceful visites.

Birds, Feathers, etc.

One large bird, two heads, or a group of several small birds are the trimmings most used on Paris bonnets. A worldwide slaughter of the innocents has been going on to supply birds to satisfy this new caprice; for besides the velvet plumage of Australian birds, the brilliant hues of those of South America, the shaded gray Mediterranean swallows, and blue-tipped wings of English jays, are seen the skins of almost every bird known to our goods, and even those of the commonest domestic fowls. From the poultry-yard are taken whole broods of tiniest chicks, cocks' heads, breast, and tail feathers, and the backs of hens from tip of beak to tail; while there are boxes of snipe from Long Island, white pigeons from New Jersey, gray tern, partridges, wild-ducks, crows, hawks, magpies, jays, etc. There are poke bonnets made entirely of the tips of game feathers pasted on flatly, and trimmed with a single large plump bird, or with clusters of many small humming-birds. Turbans and small bonnets are made of English pheasants' feathers in the stylish brown shades or in the blue-green of lophophores and pea-fowls, and these have bright spots like jewels on the crown, made of the brilliant throat feathers of many tiny humming-birds. The newest feather turbans have the brims to stand outward from the forehead, so that they will not flatten fluffy crimps of hair. Sometimes eight birds are denuded to supply the exact shades required for a single turban. Medium long ostrich plumes are preferred to those of the greatest length, and all ostrich feathers, even the shortest tips, are now made up so thick that they look well even when their curl has been destroyed by dampness. For general use, cocks' plumes promise to be more used than ostrich feathers, and many of these have bangles of jet at the tip of each plume.

Why He Couldn't Have Her.

One of Jonathan Edwards's daughters, who had some spirit of her own, had also a proposal of marriage. The youth was referred to her father. "No," said that stern individual, "you can't have my daughter." "But I love her and she loves me," pleaded the young man. "Can't have her," said the father. "I am well to do and can support her," explained the applicant. "Can't have her!" persisted the old man. "May I ask," meekly inquired the suitor, "if you have heard anything against my character?" "No!" thundered the obstinate parent, by this time aroused, "I haven't heard anything against you; I think you are a promising young man, and that's why you can't have her. She's got a very bad temper, and you wouldn't be happy with her!" The lover, amazed, said: "Why, Mr. Edwards! I thought Emily was a Christian. She is a Christian, isn't she?" "Certainly she is," growled the conscientious parent, "but young man, when you grow older you'll be able to understand that there's some folks that the grace of God can live with that you can't!"—[The Congregationalist.

Etiquette in Germany forbids the carrying of parcels, no matter how small, by a gentleman. Under immense pressure of necessity, a lady may take home in her own hands a small purchase, or carry a book or roll of music to the house of a friend. When a dressmaker comes to try on a little walking jacket, a small boy must needs walk behind, bearing the garment on his arm. An officer cannot under any circumstances carry anything when in uniform.

The wine business of California is no small item in the resources of that State. About 10,000,000 gallons of wine are produced annually, and about 2,000,000 gallons are yearly sent eastward, where it is adorned with foreign labels and sold as an imported article. The quality is said to be good, and even some professed connoisseurs are deceived when California wine is offered them under the guise of well-known foreign names.

A Perpetual Fretting.

We all know a few people who are never happy under any circumstances. The weather is always objectionable; the temperature is never satisfactory. They have too much to do, and are driven to death; or too little, and have no resources. If they are sick, they know that they never shall get well; if they are well, they expect soon to be sick. Something is sure to disturb their sleep; their food is never quite to their taste; they have corns which every one treads on, or a toothache which no one realizes. Their daily work is either drudgery, which they hate, or so difficult and complex that they cannot execute it. To hear the prolonged recital of their petty woes, one would think them the most persecuted of mortals, and when people shrink from the disagreeable character, their lack of sympathy adds another drop to the cup of trouble. Yet these people have no more real cause for repining than the rest of the world. They do it simply because "it is their nature to."

Prof. Robert Odium, of the Natatorium, this city, was cured of a severe attack of rheumatism by the use of St. J. Jacobs Oil.—Washington (D. C.) Star.

No, "Arabella," the captains and lieutenants in the army are not all minors, though it is true that a soldier never reaches his majority till he becomes a field officer.

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