

The Cradle.
How steadily she'd worked at it
How lovingly had dressed,
With all her would-be mother's wit,
That little rosy nest!

How longingly she'd hung on it!
It sometimes seemed, she said,
There lay beneath its coverlet
A little sleeping head.

He came at last, the tiny guest,
Eric bleak December fed;
That rosy nest he never prest—
Her coffin was his bed.

—E. C. Stedman

FARM, GARDEN AND HOUSEHOLD.

Recipes.

GINGER NUTS.—A pint of molasses, three-quarters of a pound of butter, three-quarters of a pound of sugar, a teaspoon of soda, two ounces of ginger, a little nutmeg and cinnamon; pour enough to roll into sheets.

SPICED BEEF.—Five pounds of the shank boiled five hours with celery seed. Drain off the gelatin then chop the meat very fine. Add pepper and salt to suit the taste, and put it into a cloth on a platter. Cover it with the cloth and press it.

SHRIMP CAKE.—Prepare the dough as for biscuit, only much richer; roll two crusts nearly as thick as for pie crust; put them together, spreading a little butter between them; bake in a quick oven. When done, place the fruit or preserves between the crusts. When it is not in the fruit season, dried fruit or preserves make a very good substitute.

HOMINY FURRINS.—Take hominy that has been well boiled (the larger hominy is the best), mush it fine, and add to it three eggs, well beaten; one cup of flour, two tablespoons of milk and a little salt. Mix it of the consistency of hominy batter, and fry in hot lard. These proportions need about a quart of hominy after it is boiled. A very nice breakfast dish.

NUREMBURG PUDING.—Three cups of flour, two-thirds of a cup of sugar, one cup of molasses, one cup of stoned raisins, one cup of sour milk and one teaspoon of soda in the milk. Mix well and put into a buttered tin basin, then into a steamer, and steam for three hours. When done, you can try it by running a straw through it. Set it into a hot oven for five or ten minutes.

Hog Pens and Hog Chokers.
Many a farmer keeps his pigs in a little yard or pen, often near the house, where the mud is as deep as they can wallow through. He throws their feed in the mud, from which they must pick it as best they can, and clean water is something that they do not get from one year's end to another. Yet such a man will wonder why his family have the fever and his hogs the cholera! I have seen hogs kept in this way, or worse yet, in fenced pens which were never cleaned, until at killing time their bellies were full of small ulcers; and when dead were full of small ulcers; and when dead, dissolved in alcohol to the consistency of paint.

A keeping teaspoonful of sulphur added once a week to the feed of a sow will keep it free from vermin. The same quantity is represented in every ounce of fruit trees, as tending to keep them healthy and aiding them to get rid of the old bark.

Considerable cranberry land was visited by the late New Jerseyines. The flames swept over a single narrow strip of thirty-five acres, consuming the berries of about \$1000.

Feed poultry every two weeks with grain beginning with an egg, broasted and bait as often when they are six weeks old, but never give them corn, dissolved in alcohol to the consistency of paint.

From Wilton, N. Y., comes the report of a wonderful soy, four years old, and half old, which has brought 213 pigs, though, ninety-four of which were raised to market.

Permitting Young Fruit Trees to Bear Early.

Very frequently happens that young pear and other fruit trees blossom and, if permitted to do so, bear fruit the same season that they are planted. We have had the blossoms and fruit of such trees pointed out to us as evidence that the trees were thriving particularly well. Such evidence, however, is indicative rather of weakness than of vigor. There is nothing more harmful to young trees than to permit them to bear fruit the year of transplantation. Even for dwarf pears, the third year is soon enough for them to bear, and the sixth year is soon enough for the general quality of standards.

Our readers will find that if they suffer young trees to mature fruit the first or second year, their vigor will, in most cases, be impaired forever after, and having borne at this early age, they will not, as a rule, bear again in five or six years afterward.

The temptation to inexperienced fruit-growers to see their young trees in fruit as soon as may be, is considerable. It is because we yielded to such temptations, that we are now able to guard our readers against falling into the same error. Fruit-bearing is an exhausting process, and only trees that have arrived at a certain age or maturity can exercise the function without endangering their health and strength.

Materials for Matching.

Professor W. J. Head, of the Michigan agricultural college, gives the results of several experiments to determine the best materials to which strawberries and other plants, and arrives at the conclusion that the best is chopped straw. He finds a thick coat of manure excellent for bedding plants. He tried old clover hay, and had a fine crop of clover plants to kill the next spring. Hay gives a similar result in a young crop of grass. Straw badly threshed furnished in the same way a young grain crop in the garden. Forest leaves held down by cornstalks gradually blew away during winter, and the cornstalks alone remained in the spring after an open winter. Pine shavings worked into the soil have proved a nuisance. The same objection existed with tan bark. Clean straw, old or new, or corn fodder cut two inches long, less or more, answered the best purpose.

Farm Notes.

Remember that "a crop well planted is half-had."

"Go for" the tent enterprise. If not already destroyed,

Give the calves a good run of grass and otherwise encourage their growth.

As the season advances imports of American live stock at Liverpool are increasing.

White lawn jackets are the only house wear at present. The sight of a sick dress is enough to give one an apoplectic seizure.

Destroy deer slugs by dusting with lime or ashes; even dry earth will prove beneficial.

O. C. Blodgett, of Pomfret, Vt., averages a pound of butter from nineteen pounds of milk.

Twenty per cent. of the cattle which run on the Western plains die during the winter.

Try a patch of sugar beets this year. Your cows will relish them; wonder fully next winter.

Salt added to peat, yarrow droppings prevents this valuable manure from drying up and burning the plants.

As Taft, of Stockton, N. Y., makes an average of over 300 pounds of butter per annum from each of his cows.

The fruit and vegetable business from Florida to the Northern States has grown from 25,000 boxes in 1871 to 95,000 in 1875, and is still increasing.

The pruning of fruit trees should not be neglected at this season. Where large limbs are cut away cover with varnish, paint or melted sealing wax.

The ex-god-daisy, which has become a great pest in some sections of country, is propagated by seed, and ought therefore to be mowed down before the seed is ripe.

Mr. Jesse Collier, of Rutherford Town, sold five steers averaging 1,900 pounds each. Two of them are thoroughbred Shorthorns, two high grades on a scrub.

Stringhalt is one of the ailments of the horse, for which no cure is known. Ordinary usage is not likely to injure the horse, and will not make him any worse.

The Gardener's Monthly approves of the whitewashing of stem and branches of fruit trees, as tending to keep them healthy and aiding them to get rid of the old bark.

English poultry fanciers are now finding fowls designed for market with lace legs and striped yellow combs. This is a remarkable sort of rapid fashioning quality.

For applying to wounds, made by removing large limbs in pruning fruit trees, nothing is better than gauze poultices, tied in light muslin, and the dressings are renewed daily. The concoction of gauze grows more in favor than the ointments that confine the arm, and there is a fancy for white pearl buttons on long white glovess. The plain gloves (alone) are tied with leather edges, and a durable look that is not easily destroyed; powder both in light and dark shades, and these are turned out by the conventional glove cutters. Should you go along as far as the long white buttons. Then the plain gloves are tied with leather edges, and which are very soft and light greenish, the powder being under the top and an elastic line when levigated with whatever that is either greenish brown, or blue—the colors of the bunch of the stock shown at the leading fairs. Green, cream, honey and pastel colors are still popular for day gloves, and there are various shades far brighter than those that have been worn for years. White gloves are not brightened this season in dark shades, but are now made in light colors, such as cream, gray and tan; white mittens and gloves of the quality and length as day gloves. For men, Fordington mitts and stockings of unbleached cotton are now sold for \$1 per pair in the best qualities, and the price of a pair of gloves is about \$1.50. The most popular mitts are those with long white buttons, or else lined in lace by three castellated bands. Their edges are gray, dark, white, cream and black. Stock gloves are made in similar shades and colors, and are finished like kid. There are also silk and thread mitts—half-handled gloves—to wear withquisitely embroidered. For racing and for driving in phaetons are heavy dog-star gloves, made with lined seams. Lace mitts are fashionable again, and are shown in various shades, from those with merely a counter cuff to the long armed mittens that reach to the elbow. The real Chantilly mitts of fine black lace, with thumb and no fingers, are the best choice, and cost from \$6.50 a pair up to \$16. The Maltese lace mitts are also very fine and web-like, and are shown in black, white, cream, straw and pale beige shades to match costume; the black Maltese mitt is, of course, most useful, as it may be worn with any dress; these cost \$6 to \$7.25. The closer woven mitt or thread mittens in lace patterns are plain-looking, and are liked with certain costumes. For us full black lace mitts with cuffs, fine qualities nearly covered with the design are sold for \$3. These are nice enough to please the most fastidious taste, and there are many serviceable mitts for \$1 or less that will be cool and pleasant for summer wear. For full dress are white Brussels net mitts ornamented with embroidery; these cost from \$12 to \$18.—Harper's Bazaar.

Historic Doubts.

It has been strongly argued whether James Aronius, a self-styled physician, had the ability to cure the disease of syphilis, and to effect a cure of leprosy, as stated in the records of Rome. Some have been compelled to admit that the question is not easily settled. A Boston lawyer has collected documents of these. He asserts that the historians who have done so far in this direction are exceedingly credulous. It is the fact that it took place on the 1st of May, 1723, the fact being that she will live and well many years after the date. There are good grounds, too, for believing that the pretense of Abelaar and Heysse is a pure fiction.

Note—he has got contradicted the mystery of the Man in the Iron Mask, an nobody seems likely to do so, with the identity of the writer of the "Junius" letters is as far from being settled as ever. There are two insoluble and impenetrable mysteries that baffle science and, about which, perhaps, the public has become tired of suspense.

An extremely witty and characteristic anecdote told of Lord Beaconsfield's bear repetition. An adherent from a distant county brought his two sons to the trial, Mr. Disraeli, and asked him to give them a word of advice on their introduction into life. "Never try to ascertain," said the illustrious statesman to the elder boy, "who was the man who wore the iron mask, or you will be thought a terrible bore." Nor do you, turning to the second, "ask who was the author of Junius?" or you will be thought a bigger bore than your brother."

Walpole wrote an ingenious work to show—taking for his base the conflicting statements in history and biography—that no such person as Richard III ever existed; or that if he did he could have been neither a tyrant nor a lunatic. His doctrine relative to Napoleon was published in London in 1810, and created widespread amusement because of its amazing cleverness. Napoleon, who was a captive at St. Helena, admired the composition greatly. Archbishop Whately gave a similar result in a young crop of grass. Straw badly threshed furnished in the same way a young grain crop in the garden. Forest leaves held down by cornstalks gradually blew away during winter, and the cornstalks alone remained in the spring after an open winter. Pine shavings worked into the soil have proved a nuisance. The same objection existed with tan bark. Clean straw, old or new, or corn fodder cut two inches long, less or more, answered the best purpose.

It is believed that the darkness of the deepest may be mitigated to some extent by the phosphorescence of certain animals. Professor Moseley thinks it probable that such of the denizens of the ocean's depths as have eyes congregate around these light-giving forms, and grope their way in the gloom from one bunch to another as they are scattered, over the seabottom—just as a traveler may half feel, half see his way from lampost to lampost in a London fog.

Thirteen years ago nine brisk young fellows went into the torpedo business in the oil region. Only one, Tom Walker, is left. The others were all killed by their own torpedoes.

FOR THE FAIR SEX.

The new fans are formed entirely of flowers; those made of violets, tulips or daisies are the prettiest.

Scotch ginghams are as much worn this season as last. They come in many than usual variety and of excellent quality.

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People talk of monitory responsibility: There is responsibility like a baby. How important that its health be maintained by the use of Dr. Ball's Baby Syrup. Price 25 cents a bottle.

SCHOOL IS OUT.

The Pelegue who Retired to Rest in the Workhouse.

A day or two since a wretched up little old man entered the Central Station and asked to be sent upon vagrant, adding, as he took a chair.

"School is out and vacation will last forever."

Being questioned it was found that he had journeyed here on foot from New England, and was out of funds and broken in health.

"I'm sixty-seven to day," he said, as he took off his hat, "at 1 I've been a school teacher exactly forty-one years. First class in history, stand up. What is a prison? A place where an old palagon can buy his bacon after a line of hard service. Circuit, my son. What is old age? Old age is that period in life when you can't help anybody, and are therefore left without help yourself. It is better to be a young dog than a poor old man. Circuit again. You may take your seats."

"So you are a school teacher?"

"Yes. I've been a school teacher for forty-one straight years. I've coaxed, flattered and puffed knowledge into the human cranium," was the reply. I broke this finger in jerking a Vermont whale over his desk; this went above the eye; got from a New Hampshire mother for whaling her son; I was bitten here on the basis of the haul in Massachusetts; this scalp was received in Rhode Island when I started out to teach. I'm a school teacher."

"And you've had to quit?"

"Yes. They don