

## FARM AND KITCHEN.

### Requirements of Bean Culture.

A mellow clay or sandy loam is well adapted to the growth of beans; the preparation required is much the same as for corn. The bean is a tender plant and calls for care. The rule is to plant beans about a fortnight after corn is planted. Marrow beans require a bushel of seed or more per acre—about one and one-eighth bushels, say some of our best truck farmers; medium beans, three-fourths of a bushel, and kidney and other large beans more in proportion to their size. Beans may be planted and cultivated by machinery, when grown on a large scale. Never cultivate beans in wet weather or when dew is on the ground, as earth scattered on the leaves when wet causes them to rust and thereby injures the crop.—*New York World*.

### Improved Blackberries.

All of the popular cultivated blackberries were originally found in a wild state. If any really excellent variety has been raised by cultivators from seeds, we are not aware of it. Almost every one who has in his youth gone "blackberrying," can recollect certain patches or single bushes which gave fruit far superior to others, and which, in memory, seem vastly better than any of the cultivated sorts. Those who know of such wild bushes can easily bring them into cultivation and enjoy their fruit without hunting for it. Take up the roots of such bushes this fall and cut off all that are as large as a goose-quill, or larger, into pieces from one to three inches long. Take a box of any kind, and, if the bottom is tight, bore several holes in it. Lay some straw over the holes, and over this an inch or so of soil; upon this place a layer of roots, then some soil, more roots and so on until the box is full. Bury the box in a place where water will not stand, and cover it with enough earth to prevent freezing. Next spring the root may be planted in nursery rows.—*Almanac of Agriculture*.

### Wounds.

Farmers, in knocking around the barns during the winter, frequently get ugly cuts and abrasions, which are infected by the cold weather, and prove not only painful in this season, but open sets in the spring. Kerosene oil is very good. It is good also for diseases of the scalp of children. There is a bad odor about it, which can be relieved by the village druggist, but aromatics are not always healthful antidotes. Vaseline is the condensed petroleum. But we are never without emollient sold in some shape. For a toilet soap nothing is better. It cleanses the hair and the skin. It eases chafed portions of the body, especially where the clothing is rough. There is a strong carbolic soap for use on animals. We have used it successfully on men and dogs, sheep, doves, etc. Do not let it get into their mouths, for it is a poison. The carbolic is a great healer of cuts. It can be put up by any druggist. It is invincible. Since writing the above we find the following in the *Commercial Farmer*.—A bottle of carbolic acid should be kept in every farmhouse, not only as a disinfectant, but as a wash for wounds and sores. For any purpose it should be diluted with water. Its power to destroy fungous growths makes carbolic acid invaluable in pruning orchards of pear, plum, or peach, where blight or disease is suspected. The pruning-shears should be frequently dipped in carbolic-acid water.—*New York Herald*.

### Horse Medicines.

Let the horse's litter be dry and clean underneath as well as on top. Standing on hot fermented manure makes the hoofs soft and brings on bursa.

Change the litter partially in some parts and entirely in others every morning; brush out and clean the stall thoroughly.

To procure a good coat on your horse, use plenty of rubbing and brushing. Plenty of "yellow grease" opens the pores, softens the skin, and promotes the animal's general health.

Let the heels be well brushed out every night. Dirt, if allowed to clog, causes grease and sore heels.

Whenever a horse is washed, never leave him till he is rubbed quite dry. He will probably get a chill if neglected.

When a horse comes off a journey, the first thing is to walk him about till he is cool if he is brought in hot. This prevents him taking cold.

Let his legs be well rubbed by the hand. Nothing so soon removes strain. It also detects thorns or splinters, soothes the animal, and enables him to feed comfortably.

Let the horse have some exercise every day. Otherwise he will be liable to fever or bad feet.

Let your horse stand loose, if possible, without being tied up to the manger. Pain and weariness from a continued position induce bad habits and cause swollen feet and other disorders.

Look often at the animal's legs and feet. Diseases or wounds in these parts, if at all neglected, soon become dangerous.

### Chapped Hands.

People sometimes suffer greatly with chapped and cracked hands. It is easily cured, however, if the following precautions are observed. Do not wash the hands while the healing process is going on oftener than necessary, and when you do wash them use Castile soap and warm water, dry them thoroughly and then rub them well with melted mutton tallow. Do this three times a day and you will soon cure the worst case. If those who are exposed to the cold weather would grease the hands well with mutton tallow every night they would find the skin softer and whiter and less liable to chap.

Sponging the head frequently with sage tea will prevent the hair falling out.

Moths can be kept out of garments by wrapping them in solid colored calico.

Have metal or earthen vessels for matches, and keep them out of reach of children. Wax matches are not safe.

Sour apple sauce is greatly improved by the addition of a tablespoonful of butter to a quart of sauce, and, moreover, there is much less sugar needed. A little lemon juice makes a fine flavor.

### A Seven-Year-Old Soldier.

A correspondent of the *Boston Spy* says: The following facts were given by a gentleman who served through the war and in the company with "Little Abe," who is believed to have been the youngest person enlisted. The gentleman could not recall the name of the lad, who was known in the army as Little Abe, and who was enlisted at Jefferson Barracks, a short distance from St. Louis, Mo., May 1, 1861, as a drummer, at the age of seven years and one month. He belonged to Company E, 2d United States Infantry, Captain, afterward Major-General, Steel. The reasons which influenced the acceptance of so young a recruit were that his father was in the service and his mother dead. There were no relatives who could or would look after the boy, and, so, with the consent of the army authorities, he was put with his mother in the army.

Little Abe was a true fellow in both officers and men. He displayed all the spirit of the combat and after ignorance of fear. His favorite position was in the front rank in battle, and as soon as he saw a soldier fall, despatched him to throw away his drum, seize the musket of his fallen comrade, and load and fire as coolly as the most hardened veteran, although his diminutive size and strength did not allow him to elevate the gun without some kind of a rest. In the rear part of his army experience, one of the battles when the Union forces found it necessary to take up a position in the rear, Little Abe, in a moment of alarm, and when the army was forced back, his drum was captured by the Confederates. He was regimbered and told that when retreating it should not carry a drum, as it would be a liability. 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