FOR FARM AND GARDEN.

Salt for Stock.

Salt at regular intervals or in shape of the rock is a necessity for the best results in dairying. Professor Robertson of the Ontario Experiment station made an experiment by taking several cows and dividing into lots. To one salt was given so that they could use all they wished, and to the other no salt was furnished, the feed and care being the same in other respects. The lot without salt fell off in their products 17½ per cent., while the other kept their flow. The lots were changed, and the lot having no salt fell off 12½ per cent in three months, while those having free access to the salt did not lessen their milk.—[New York Herald.

Proper Corn Cribs.

Corn stored in the ear may not be placed in tight cribs, when it has only received the drying natural to its being on the stalk. It often requires the whole winter to fully prepare it for shelling and transportation in tight cars. If the autumn and winter are damp, it will often mold in the centre of wide cribs, and often in the average seasons the chit of germ is killed, especially in those of alternate freezing and thawing, and this from rupture of the cells of the grain. The same cause also renders the meal from such corn bitter.

It is also well know that corn readily absorbs moisture, and that unless kiln-dried before grinding, and placed in air-tight packages, it is apt to heat. In the saving of seed-corn, therefore, it is especially necessary that the corn be ripe, dried thoroughly before it is frozen, and then kept in a dry place, and preferably one where it will not freeze. So, also, corn intended for grinding into meal for human use should be kept in cribs so narrow that it may dry equally and thoroughly, and also flaring enough so that no rain can drive in to dampen the corn.—[Prairie Farmer.

A Cheap Ice House.

"Two years ago," says a correspondent of the New York World, "I made a cheap ice house on a gently sloping ground that has kept ice well by leveling off a spot ten feet square and laying down scantling on which I tacked boards for a foundation. I then set up scantling ten feet long all around for posts and nailed on one course of boards a foot wide, both at the bottom and top of the posts to hold the frame together. One of the boards at the top was flush with the tops of the posts, and the one opposite was enough lower to give sufficient slope to a roof made of twenty-foot boards. Fourteen was cut off each so as to be easily hung upon a square mass and leave about fifteen inches of room for a packing of sawdust between it and the boards when they were put on.

"A foot of sawdust was laid on the bottom boards, and the ice packed on it nearly fourteen inch. The siding was then nailed on strongly to the same height and the vacancy made packed with sawdust. The siding with ice was then completed and the boards nailed on as before, inclosing the whole except that a door was left now and then of the stanchions that was filled with loose boards instead of being nailed on. The packing with sawdust was then finished and with about two feet on top of the ice. The roof was then put on, and small openings in the angles made to answer for ventilation, after which a little sawdust was sprinkled around on the outside to prevent a circulation of air in the packing."

Chickens and Ducks.

Nothing will change the appearance of a chicken quicker than a good diet of lime and a good supply of green food. To chickens in confinement, onion tops are especially a vegetable, and the tops are relished more than are the bulbs themselves. Beet and turnip tops will be greatly relished. That they may not be wasted, lay them with the tops all one way and weight them down with a stone. Bran and shorts, wheat and oats, table-scraps and meat, with a very little corn, a few sunflower seeds and a small amount of buckwheat, make an irresistible combination that will make a chicken thrive and grow in spite of itself.

To make pullets trot along towards maturity with a wonderfully accelerated pace, give them every morning a warm feed of bran and shorts, and ground oats mixed up with milk, or meat stock in which is a little salt. At noon give a feed of meat, and at night all the wheat they will eat and a little left to scratch for the next day. In addition to this provide green food, crushed bones and pure water, and give each day one heavy feed of broken dishes; they will be eaten with avidity.

Feeding pepper often to fowls as a regular appetizer is a bad practice. Although a very little will do no harm, yet the continued use of the condiment is liable to cause liver complaint. Warm feed tends to have the same stimulating effect without possessing the injurious qualities of the cayenne.

The only way to make a chicken-house is to build it with a board floor. Where the droppings nightly fall on the ground the soil will become foul and damp, even if it be cleaned out every day of the year. The odors that then arise are unwholesome in the extreme, will cause roup, and in fact nearly all the ills that poultry flesh is heir to. The board floor should then be kept covered with two or three inches of dry soil, which should be repeatedly renewed.

The only way to make roosts is to make them on a movable frame, that may be taken out of doors, there to be scalded with boiling hot water in which is a little crude carbolic acid. Make the roosts all on a level and not more than two feet high, thereby preventing much quarreling and the bumble-foot.

Ducks and chickens should never be kept on the same place unless they can be separately fenced. Ducks are not the cleanest animals in the world; they will foul any water to which they may have access. If this be a running stream or a large pond kept purposely for their use, well and good; but if they must run with the chickens, or if the horses must drink after them, verily the duck must go.

Ducks grow very rapidly, and one engaged in the duck business can turn his money over quickly if he will go into the business in a systematic manner, prepared to make it a study and to take advantage of every good point the duck has.

Ducks should be fed every two hours. Every other feed should be of green food—alfalfa, clover, cabbage, turnips or potatoes. Milk when it can be had promotes rapid growth, as does also lean meat, of which they should have one meal a day. Corn should be fed only the last ten days, when it and fat meat should be given in plenty, just as much as they can stand.

Farm and Garden Notes.

No mistake can be made in applying ashes to fruit trees.

Wood ashes are, on sandy soils, beneficial to all crops, and can be applied in any quantity.

There is nothing dangerous about superphosphate to the person who uses it by sowing it broadcast.

On heavy soil there is commonly an abundance of inert potash, though in old orchards even this is largely exhausted.

The garden has a great part to play in improving the soil, not merely in raising fruits and vegetables, but in raising healthy men and women.

Usually fertilizers are damp, and do not make dust, but if they are dry the dust may annoy persons troubled with bronchial disease or asthma.

Set down around an orange tree when the sun is hot, the tree is an effective remedy in many cases, in connection with cultivation and fertilization.

The surface of the ground is injured by the very disease of the plant itself, for most of the leaves fall through immaturity of the sap or root. In such cases the root may not be dead and a remedy is for plant of the stem.

Mr. L. A. Dillon, was reported as addressing the New Jersey Fruit Growers' Association, of the Delaware, as having tried with the entire success each year on the trees of some trees for to prevent the borers from. The point of application was made into two gallons of water.

When there is grass, the morning dew may be omitted if the trees have free range, and appear to do better otherwise. It is more better to have them work hard and some at night because, time to feed too heavily, and cause the laying down at and unproductive.

The most common weed in pastures, sheep sorrel, which, as its name indicates, is sour, and is a sure sign of poor land, and it is not easy to get the latter and go on a little farther. When the plant is about out the milk is better. The only remedy is to keep the cows out of such pastures.

For the small pox worms in a colt over a quart of a part of raw linseed oil and a tablespoonful of turpentine every second day for to days. Also give half a pint of the oil alone. For a few days afterward give cut feed, with bran and one dram each of powdered sulphate of iron and gentian root.

There should always be milk enough skimmed with the cream to get the butter, when churned, a little bit, clear cows. Butter churned from cream, with little or no milk in it, will quickly have an oily or a shiny look. This shows that the grain of the butter is injured, thus giving it a greasy appearance.

A wound made by a kick from a newly-shod horse, and which is cut and ragged, should be cut with the scissors of a surgeon's outfit and with single stitches, each tied in a slip knot, so as to bring the edges together as nearly as possible. It should then be dressed twice daily with compound tincture of myrrh and aloes, applied with a soft feather or a syringe.

Edible Bird Nests are Vegetable.

The old notion that edible bird nests, that greatest delicacy in the menu of a Chinese dinner, are made up of a fluid secreted from the salivary glands of the birds that build the nests, which liquid hardens on exposure has been thoroughly exploded by recent investigation. The "gum" of the edible birds' nests have proven to be a sea-weed brought by the birds some times from very great distances. In the case of our own chimney swifts, it has been shown that the gelatinous matter with which the twigs are fastened together is of a vegetable and not of an animal character, and in a particular case recently investigated by a scientist the gum was found to have come from a cherry tree.

Unprecedented and Unprofessional.

Physician's Wife—What's the matter, George? You seem depressed tonight.

Physician—I am, dear. I have a most puzzling case on hand. Old Robinson, whom I've been treating for three years, is getting well in spite of all I can do.—[Buzz.

QUAINT AND CURIOUS.

Some one says that an electric current will show whether or not a horse is suffering from his shoes.

An Englishman recently stated court that he married at the age of because he was out of work.

In one of the Italian quarters in New York a shave can now be had for three cents. Most Italians wear beards.

The greatest number of patents issued in any year before the war was 4819. Since 1861 the number issued has reached 24,263 in a single year.

A Georgia lover, when refused by his adored, whipped out a razor and sliced off one of her ears. After this little evidence of affection she concluded she would have him.

It is between four and five hundred years since coffee first began to be cultivated in Arabia, and for a long time its production and consumption were confined to that country and Persia.

It seems that there are now only 50,000 Germans in Paris, less than half the number that lived there before the Franco-Prussian war. More than one third of these are quartered in Paris.

Anaxarchus of Samos maintained, 280 B. C., that the earth turned on its own axis and revolved about the sun, which doctrine was held by his contemporaries as so absurd that the philosopher nearly lost his life.

A separation with white wings leads a dove a distance in a straight line of 1,800 miles, as ascertained at Rondout, N. Y. It is treated with great confidence by its companions, who follow at them towards at a respectful distance.

Bernard Meyer, of Omaha, Neb., recently had extracted from his left shoulder a needle which he swallowed when he was an infant, nearly fifty years ago. Mr. Meyer has not the recollection of the occurrence.

The first pocket time piece was called the "pocket clock" and the "Nuremberg animated egg." It was made in 1474 by Peter Henlein of Nuremberg, and cost a great deal. It was valued at three hundred pounds and was about the size and shape of a goose egg.

At a recent fox hunt in England the fox ran into a church where afternoon services were being held and hid himself in the pulpit, where he remained undetected. The baffled pursuers came to the church door but could go no further and had to give up the chase, much to their mortification.

One of the most gigantic men of whom there is any reliable data as to exact size was John Middleton, born in 1578, and who was commonly called "The Child of Hale" Lancashire. His hand, from the carpus to the end of his middle finger, was seventeen inches long, his palm nine inches broad, and the breadth across his breast three inches.

A curious ferryboat is building for the River Clyde at Glasgow, Scotland. Instead of requiring movable landing stages or bridges to meet the river and fall of the tide, the deck of the boat itself will be movable, carried on six hydraulic elevators, by which it can be raised or lowered. The boat will be a double ender, 150 feet long, of 35 feet beam, and 12 feet 6 inches draught.

Brain at Berne.

Every one immediately associates the mention of Berne, Switzerland, with bears, says the Baltimore American. The coat of arms consists of one of these animals, and everywhere and on everything they appear—in stone and in wood, carved and painted, and alive in pits, where they have been maintained at the expense of the Government from time immemorial. Fountains are ornamented with bears; if the fountain itself is not a bear, one is sure to be found in the vicinity. A statue of Rithold von Zaringen surmounts a watering trough, and by him stands a small bear, with a sword hanging by its side, and acting the part of helmet-bearer.

Sunday afternoon the entire populace, old and young, dress in gala attire and visit the pits. A double row is formed round the railing, each person purchasing carrots or bread to throw the pets, whose elephantine-like gambols provoke shouts of laughter from the surrounding multitude. They really are most amusing animals. A deep hole is in the centre of the den, and while we were present a regular wrestling match took place between two bears, which followed, in which the great struggle was to throw one another into the water. At last one succeeded in giving his opponent a thorough ducking, and then sat on the brink eyeing his defeated adversary, his head on one side, and rubbing his immense paws, apparently with the greatest enjoyment. One of the lookers-on declared that he grinned and chuckled, but serious doubts may be entertained as to the veracity of that statement.

Live Goslings as Fish Bait.

Sport is admittedly cruel, but the worst of one yet is recommended by a correspondent of the Globe-Democrat, who solemnly vouches to an accidental discovery that the best of all baits for black bass was goslings—goslings alive—and that with three of the tiny downy yellow-breasted little creatures he caught thirty-one fish of size and fierceness simply appalling. Now we rise to declare that if Mr. Cleveland or General Harrison shall accept this innovation and be guilty of aught so cruel we will give our vote and influence and do our small possible to elect some man who does know a trout from a sucker.

Value of Land in New York City.

The total assessed valuation of real estate in the city of New York in 1886 was $1,203,941,035; 1887, of 161,334 plots of real estate, $1,264,491,819—showing an increase in one year of $59,550,784. But as the assessed is less than two-thirds of the market value, the whole is not worth less than two billion dollars. Real and personal property within the municipality has grown throughout the past decade more than $40,000,000 per annum. The books in the office of the Commissioner of Taxes and Assessments state the amount of taxes paid by every real estate holder at the rate of $2.18 on every hundred of the assessed valuation. But these figures do not constitute a trustworthy standard in the determination of market values, for the assertion is upon that some assessments in lower town wards are of more than market value, in other wards of only one-third, others one-half, and in other two-thirds. Vacant lots are assessed at from 20 to 36 per cent., improved property from 56 to 70 per cent. of its value. Inequitable as the assessments are, it is yet true, as affirmed by Mayor William R. Grace, that "upon no species of property are taxes levied with more equality as to value, not with better chance of speedy and equitable collection than upon real property. The valuations placed upon personal estate from all sources is not more than nineteen per cent of the valuation placed upon real property, and the taxes from this source are most difficult of collection. Of the annual city budget, which generally amounts to from $31,000,000 to $34,000,000, the taxation imposed upon real estate supplies more than four-fifths."—[Harper's Magazine.

An Exclusive Tyrolese Barber.

"The story is authentic," says the St. James's Gazette, "we find by the Austrian papers, and is amusing enough. A few weeks ago a man dressed in a peculiar costume entered the shop of the principal barber in Innsbruck, sat down in a chair, and made a sign that he wished to be shaved. The proprietor of the establishment is patronized by all the civic dignitaries of the place, and is naturally anxious to keep the class of his customers select. Seeing, therefore, a rough-looking fellow clad in national doppe reclining on the sofa in a hall that was sacred to local officers, he approached the daring intruder, and politely told him, 'We don't serve peasants here; this is a salon for gentlemen.' The stranger rose, with a smile. 'Very well,' he said, 'but allow me to leave my address, should some one inquire for me, by telling him that I have gone to be shaved by your rival across the street.' I am the Archduke Joseph.' The Archduke, who is the Commander-in-Chief of the Hungarian Landwehr, and who is hot to be pretty well known by sight even in the Tyrol, then lifted his hat and departed."

Forests Temper Bleak Climates.

Large areas of forest favorably affect the climate of the neighboring localities. The shaded and porous soil absorbs moisture, and cool air fills the glades and sheltered valleys. This cool air modifies the temperature, and, mixing with passing warm currents, precipitates the vapor they contain and causes showers to fall where otherwise none could be produced except from widespread evaporating conditions. In a wooded country it is not unusual to see a shower falling within sight while the sun is shining overhead. Comparatively slight causes affect the weather, and as a few ounces may overbalance a great weight that is nicely poised, so the influence of a small tract of woodland may be the cause of considerable variations in the weather over a wide area. Hence farmers should not neglect this means of restoring the balance which has been destroyed by the cutting away of the timber during past years.—[New York Times.

A Queer Chinese Belief.

In various parts of China there is a belief that the souls of very atrocious criminals who have either been executed or died in prison are sent back from Hades by Yeoo, the judge there, to undergo a further term of imprisonment, one death not being enough to expiate their crimes. When the second term of imprisonment is judged to have expired, the district magistrate beseeches the tutelary deity of the city to accompany him to the prison in order to expiate the ghost with his release. The order is supposed to reach the imprisoned by burning it, a ceremony which is solemnly carried out in the yamen. On August 19 last the district magistrate of the city of Soochow had placards posted up inviting subscriptions of imitation money for the ghosts then in the city jail. This was all duly burned, and thus converted into currency, which would be useful to the ghosts on the long journey before them.

Emergency Bread of Turnips.

There was a dearth of wheat in England in 1629 1630 and 1631 and in those years bread was made of turnips. They were boiled until they were soft enough to mash, when the greater part of the water was pressed out of them. An equal weight of wheat meal was then mixed with the pulp, and the dough was made in the usual manner with yeast. The dough rose well in the trough and after being baked was formed into loaves and put in the oven. Bread prepared in this manner had a peculiar sweetish taste, which is said to be not disagreeable; it is as light and white as wheaten bread, and should be kept about twelve hours before being cut, when the smell and taste of the turnip will scarcely be perceptible.—[Good Housekeeping.

On Loaning Books.

A good home stands for more in the community than its busy inmates ever realize, especially if it is one whose "latchstring hangs out." Into it come many who are troubled, or perplexed, or hungry in mind or heart; and out of it goes the strong help, the cheery word, the cheery word, the mental and moral food. Wise words from one individual to another, face to face and heart to heart, are always the best words, but many persons are not able to utter these. Either they are timid or lack expression, or feel too keenly sympathetic to say the decisive hard word, or are not brave enough to say the one that is as disagreeable as it is true, or the one who needs help has given no outward showing that the needed severe, or tender, or analytical or moral word will be understood. Yet it should be said; who will say it?

Perhaps your friend, or neighbor, or servant, or sewing girl, or restless errand boy, is just wavering between the right and the wrong decision. Do you not know some printed word that will make it easier for them to choose aright? Is your friend sad; do life look dark just now, has failure come; are there clouds in sight? You know where there are cheerful and comforting words, for you read them only the other day. Perhaps you meet someone who is only weary with the heavy things of daily life.

People often complain that their books are borrowed and not returned. To guard against this keep a little memorandum book and pencil hanging beside your bookcase, with which to keep a list of loaned volumes. Two bookcases of generous size, stand ready in my home, to add in this kind of service for others. Our friends laughingly call them our Circulating Library. All of the books are never in. They are out doing genuine missionary work. They are sent with special thought and hope to meet some individual need. For years they have spoken the good word, and come back, all but two, to go forth again in helpful ministry.

To be sure they come back with worn covers and soiled edges, the result of use, not abuse, but trifling losses are far outweighed by positive gains. Weak souls have been strengthened, sad ones gladdened, tired ones rested, perplexed ones pleased, and hungry ones fed. I have seen perceptible growth mentally and morally by the use of books specially the good word wherever and whenever you can, for that is best, but do not be afraid to call on friends or to largely upon the ever ready friends, waiting upon your bookshelves, to aid in the good work.

A Vexatious Delay.

"Sleath!" shouted the eminent tragedian, Ras Hamlet, as he paced to and fro with slow tread to the "the hour is on the stroke of 8, and me true girl not yet returned. Bill! Were it not cowardly to lay one's hand upon a woman, save in the way of business I would make that Irish washerwoman curl! Go! Go! Go