FOR FARM AND GARDEN.

Care of Grape Vines.

Dusting grape vines with sulphur will sometimes prevent the black rot in the fruit, but it is not a certain remedy in very unfavorable seasons. From recent experiments it would appear that a solution of sulphate of copper is a better remedy than sulphur. It is made by dissolving one pound of the sulphate in three or four gallons of warm water, and when completely dissolved and the solution has become cool add one pint of spirits of ammonia, then dilute to about 20 gallons. Apply this to the vine with a syringe or ordinary garden engine. The first application should be made soon after the blossoms have dropped from the vines.—[New York Sun.

Frosty Bits.

No one who has had to do with horses when the mercury is considerably below the freezing point, but has witnessed their sometimes almost frantic efforts to escape the pain that comes of putting on the bridle. Misunderstanding it many times, the brutal hostler adds blows, and forces the animal to take between its jaws a piece of iron that freezes its tongue and sections of its mouth the moment it touches them, causing not only present pain, but often ulceration, and almost always sores. The preventive is a leathern bit. If this is not easily procured, a common iron one can be covered. To do this, cover the bit with strips of common bridle leather, and as much of the cheek piece as will be likely to touch the flesh, winding them around the iron while wet, and then carefully sewing the edges so as to make the surface smooth as possible. A real mouthpiece can be made by any harnessmaker at small cost, and would be altogether preferable to the covered one, as it can be taken from the headstall and cheek rein, and replaced by the iron when cold weather is passed, and be kept in readiness for another winter.

Feeding of Cows for Milk.

It is an established fact proved not only by reason but by a great many scientific tests and practical experiences of dairymen that a mixture of straw with a certain proportion of any rich grain food will produce the same results as the best of hay alone would. Clover hay is the best standard food for milking cows, but when this cannot be readily procured cut straw, with bran and cornmeal, will be found equally good. The quantity of bran and meal required to make up for the poorer quality of straw varies with different cows, as the digestion may be better or worse. Rather an average good cow two pounds of mixed bran and meal added to five pounds of cut out straw of good quality would be equal to five pounds of the best clover hay. This ration might be given three times a day and would be best if the straw is cut up and wetted and the meal mixed with it. The manner of feeding such fodder is to cut the straw in a cutting machine as fine as possible, to moisten with water, and then mix the meal with it so that the food is all eaten together. It is well to give a little salt with such feed, this helps the digestion.—[New York Times.

Sell By Weight.

Farmers are too often beaten when selling poultry, because they do not use the scales. They "jump off" fowls for a trifle less than they are worth. A single illustration will prove this, related by a poultry dealer:

"I picked up one to talk to a farmer, and there were four hen-house chicks near him at work. 'Look, Dick! you want to sell the roosters?'—they appeared to be a year old. 'Yes,' he said, 'he got to. They are scratching my garden all to pieces. They were hatched the first day of March, and I'll let 'em go for $1.50.' I brought them to town and they sold for $2.85. Why, most farmers are almost willing to give away their chickens if one talks to them long enough. They don't know what poultry is worth nor appreciate its value."

Of course chickens are not worth as much now as in the spring, yet it will pay to weigh them at any time, provided they are fit to put upon the market. Agree upon the price per pound, weigh your coop, fill it with chickens and weigh again, and figure out what they come to. This is the satisfactory way to buy and sell.—[Farm, Field and Stockman.

Hints for the Orchard.

The frequent damage to orchard trees by mice and rabbits and also by sheep thoughtlessly turned into orchards to consume the weeds which should have been turned under or to eat down sprouts which should never have been permitted to grow may be prevented very easily. As the damage once done cannot be repaired, it is of the greatest importance that the trees, especially the young ones, should be protected at once. Fifty young trees planted a year ago by the writer were wrapped in old newspaper, one paper to each tree, around the stem, and tied by three strings, one at each end of the paper and one in the middle. Not one tree has been damaged, and now that the wrapping is removed the bark of the stems appears bright, smooth and sound, and perfectly healthful. The white paper is safe, as it does not absorb heat as tarred paper does, and the absorption of heat by tarred papers is apt to be injurious by the killing of the bark when a cold night follows a warm sunny day.

A medicated wash for orchard trees as a safeguard against injury by vermin and borers is made as follows: A peck of lime is slaked in water sufficient to make a soft paste as for plasterers' use. This is thinned with water and mixed with some fine clay puddled, fresh cow dung, and a few pounds of the strongest smelling superphosphate of lime that can be procured. This is painted upon the stem of the tree. It is devoid of the bright whiteness which so much exasperates the too æthetic traveler who notes with scorn the white painted packing-box houses, the whitewashed fences and trees, and the whitened border stones on the edges of the roads and paths that are common in some localities. It has a dark gray color, much like that of the stems; it is repugnant to all sorts of vermin, and as it is washed down by the rains it carries valuable plant food to the roots, thus being useful without being disagreeable to any person.—[New York Times.

Young Swine.

James Cheesemen, Toronto, Canada, in a pamphlet on "The Swine Industry," says: Sows milk not only contains double the solids of skim-milk from cows, but five times as much fat as will be found in Cooley creamer skim-milk, and five and one-half times as much as exists in separated milk. The mineral matter, or bone growers, will be one-sixth to one-fifth greater, hence the urgency of full supplies of cut fodder and grain to supply the phosphoric acid and lime. A young sow must and does, when properly fed, provide in her milk a larger amount of dry matter for the growth of her young than a dairy cow three times her weight. Prof. Maply Miles found by experiment that Essex pigs consumed three and one-third pounds of milk each per day for the first week. A litter of ten pigs would therefore require the milk of two ordinary cows for their support during the second week, if the demands of their growth were properly supplied. Facts such as these claim from pig breeders great attention and careful observation to enable them to satisfy the sow suckling a large litter. No wonder the less observing men fail to rear large litters when in too many cases they are unable to comprehend the power of early growth in infant pigs. There is no greater test of skill, knowledge and sound judgment in the agriculturist than ability to understand and provide for the wants of plants and animals during the most trying and critical period of early infancy. It may be taken for granted that the secret of success is centered here, and that no amount of attention and food supplied at the later states of growth will at all compensate for what is lost or sacrificed during the first three weeks. We are very much indebted to the advance guard of American thinkers and workers for the patiency, perseverance and courage with which they have pursued rational ideas of feeding. I value very highly the work of the experiment stations in determining the rate of growth, the most economical period within which to make marketable hogs, and cheapest mode of feeding, having proper regard to the value of manurial residues.

Farm and Garden Notes.

It is for the dairyman's interest to excise as much heatness as possible in his business. Milk is one of the easiest things in the world to spoil from coming in too near proximity with impurities, and first-class butter cannot be made from such milk, and it does not pay to make butter other than first-class.

It does not take long to patch up and save a tree that has been completely girdled by mice. Take several cips of last year's growth of the required length, shave each of the ends to a fine point, and insert one above and the other below in the living bark. A union will be formed and the wound place will, after a few years, be grown over.

Some years ago a contemporary found that the grain grown after a patch of turnips was poorer than that following potatoes or corn in the same field. It is known that the turnip is a greater user of phosphate, and also of nitrogen. Some growers of turnips have found advantage from ploughing under in spring the turnip tops and small turnips left on the ground as a mulch during winter.

Sows devour their new-born pigs for various reasons. One is too high feeding on grain, especially corn, previously, by which the system is overheated and an unapproachable desire for nitrogenous food is produced. The remedy is to give the pigs skimmed milk for several weeks before the pigs appear, or if this is not easily procured, some waste from a slaughter house should be given. Wholly corn feeding is productive of a very unhealthy condition and causes a craving for other food.

New Cure for Malaria.

The boarders of a certain boarding house in Jersey City, N. J., were all recently prostrated with malaria. The doctor who was called in to treat them discovered that they were suffering from that worst type of malaria caused by sewer gas. On investigation he discovered that in each room was a stationary basin, and that foul gas was continually arising from them. To carry off this offensive gas he had the bowl filled with water and a board put over the mouths of the basins every night. The gas that then came up into the basin was concentrated about the sides of it, and in the morning when the basin was emptied it would be carried down into the sewer once more. This plan works admirably.—[New York Sun.

EVAPORATED FRUITS.

A Process Which Supersedes Drying and Keeps the Flavor.

An Industry Revolutionized by Scientific Methods.

Evaporated fruit to-day is entirely different from the dried fruit of a dozen years ago. Who doesn't remember the shriveled, dark-colored, wedge-shaped pieces of apple and peach that were sold by the family grocery? They possessed the tenacity of sole leather and were uninviting to look and smell. Before they could be used in the household pies they required to be boiled and stewed for hours at a time. The preparation of the dried fruits of those days was primitive. Farmers' wives and daughters pared and sliced the apple by hand and placed them on wooden trays, which were set out in the sun. It took days to dry the fruit, and exposure to showers and the night air had to be avoided or the lot would be spoiled. The advent of steam evaporators and scientific methods has wrought a great change in the business. Large evaporating establishments have been put up, thousands of men given employment, and a prosperous industry created. The superiority of the evaporated fruits to the sun-dried article has caused an immense demand for them, and aside from the consumption in this country, large amounts are shipped abroad. The new processes now in use produce fruit that retains much of its original color, and that is as palatable as though it were in its fresh and natural condition.

A large proportion of the evaporated fruit that is consumed in this city and exported is produced in the western part of this State. Within a radius of forty miles of Rochester there are four evaporators, from the small farmer's apparatus, with a capacity of twenty-five bushels per day, to the large steam evaporators driven from eight hundred to one thousand bushels of apples every twenty-four hours. These evaporators employ over thirty thousand hands during the fall and early winter months. Large quantities of apples of a quality that was formerly wasted are utilized, and the profits of fruit raising largely increased. The great care and scrupulous cleanliness observed, and the excellent quality of the fruit produced, have made the New York evaporated apples famous, and enabled them to command good prices. The product in this State is now estimated at 25,000,000 pounds, worth at first cost about $2,000,000. It takes to produce this quantity of dried fruit no less than 5,000,000 bushels of apples are required, and 15,000 men are employed. A constant attendance, night and day, of an army of men, women and children numbering 10,000 is necessary. The process of evaporation eliminates 225,000 tons of water, reducing the green fruit to about one-eighth of its original weight, each 100 pounds yielding, when properly evaporated, 12 pounds of fruit.

The fruit is packed in boxes holding 25 pounds each, and is shipped to all parts of the world. Aside from the fact that the evaporated apple can be transported to any clime without deterioration, the advantage in the cost of freight is great. A case of the concentrated product costs 31 cents for transportation to Liverpool; in the green state to the 8 1/2 bushels required to produce the 50 pounds would cost $2.25, and in the canned state the cost would be $2.10. The principal consuming countries abroad are Germany, England, France, Belgium, Holland and Scotland. There is also a growing demand for the apples in the Australian and West African trade. During 1887 there were shipped to France 10,000 barrels of chopped apples. These were dried without being pared or cored, and were used for the production of cider and cheap wine. The total exports of evaporated apples, now amount to 4,000,000 pounds per annum.—[Rural Express.

A Petrified Whale.

If you have ever traveled the road to Tamesea you will probably remember seeing a number of odd-looking rocks piled up at the cross-roads just this side of Pepper hill, on A. Hoag's place. You may not be aware, however, that those rocks are the fossil remains of some high member of the animal kingdom, but such is the interesting fact, and the interesting relics of the defunct monster are now removed to a place convenient for the inspection of any who may be curious to view them.

To O. A. Smith the public is indebted for the placing of those fossils in a more public place than they formerly occupied. Learning about them he obtained Mr. Hoag's consent to remove them to a more central location, but desiring to ascertain positively their value before incurring the expense of removing them Mr. Smith wrote to the state geologist for his opinion. That functionary in turn communicated with Dr. Stephen Rivers of Ventura, who being in this vicinity came, and after looking at the fossils pronounced them in all probability portions of a petrified whale. Being satisfied with the report Mr. Smith had the petrifications removed to the hotel grounds and placed at the intersection of driveways, where any one can see them who wishes.—[South Riverside (Cal.) Bee.

Energy Superfluous.

Customer (to grocer's boy).—You don't seem to be a very energetic little boy. Don't you feel well?

Boy.—Yes, I feel all right, but the boss is out to lunch.—[Life.

QUAINT AND CURIOUS.

To see nine magpies is extremely unlucky.

James Howe, of Baltimore ate five dozen raw eggs on a $5 wager.

The new English powder for small arms is white and almost smokeless.

Horticulturists are now endeavoring to breed out the troublesome cores from apples.

Mrs. Curenot is the name of a trained nurse advertising in one of the New York papers.

A man named Limburger in Newark, N. J., has applied to the court to have his name changed.

Marriage brokers are a distinct institution in Corea, and most alliances are arranged by them.

Many of the fruit growers of Fresno, Cal., are obliged to put in rabbit proof fences to protect their crops.

A Chinaman has been admitted to practice in the Supreme Court of the English colony at Hong Kong.

Spaniards, in the 16th century, believed that spiders indicated gold when they were found in abundance.

The writer of a book on dancing estimates that 18 waltzes are equal to about 14 miles of straight walk.

The phonograph was successfully used to give evidence in a trade-mark suit in a London (England) court.

The statutes of Great Britain are printed without any punctuation, except that a colon marks the end of each clause.

A well-known lawyer of San Diego, Cal., while in a barber's chair turned suddenly to speak to a friend, and a piece of his nose was sliced off.

Among the curiosities in General Harrison's consignment to Indianapolis is the cane with a plain ivory handle that Grandfather Harrison used carried.

A member of the Newark, N. J., baseball club died of blood poisoning following a wound inflicted by the spikes on the shoes of another baseball player.

Nebraska has its Pleasant Valley, Milk River, Honey Creek, Thunder Canyon, Lightning Fork, Deadwood Prairie, Bakers Roll and Cow Jacket Precinct.

The inventor of the railroad ticket has died in England. In the early days of Belgian railroading tickets were given for fares. Robert Scott, then a railroad employee at Birmingham, hit upon the idea of issuing tickets.

A candidate for the French Chambers of Deputies can stand for election wherever there is a vacancy. It is certain to come to one department he notifies the President of the Chamber which one he decides to represent, and new elections would be held in those he declined.

The term "sinews of war" as applied to money raised for war purposes was first used by Jacob Cats, a Dutch poet and statesman of the Seventeenth Century. In one of his works he says: "The Prowess of the soldier or power of the statesman counts for nothing unless the money to supply the sinews of war."

The process of whitening sugar was discovered in a curious way. A hen that had gone through a clay puddle went with her muddy feet into a sugar house. She left footprints on a piece of sugar. It was noticed that wherever her tracks were the sugar was whitened. Experiments were instituted, and the result was that white clay came to be used in refining sugar.

Mysterious Volcano Fish.

In 1802 Von Humboldt was fortunate enough to witness an eruption of Mount Cotopaxi, a well known peak in the northern Andes, during which, among other products, a large number of fish were ejected. The inquiries immediately instituted and the investigations of more recent travelers have brought to light the astounding fact that, from time to time, though at irregular periods, fishes are cast up from the interior of the mountain during volcanic eruptions. The phenomenon is not confined to Cotopaxi, but has been observed also in other craters of volcanic action, viz., Tungurahua, Sangay, Imbaburu, Carguairazo, etc., all in the same range. From the craters of these volcanoes, or from fissures in their sides, it is an ascertained fact that fish are vomited to a height of some 16,000 feet above the level of the sea and about half that height above the surrounding plains. They are ejected in such countless shoals that on more than one occasion the fetid exhalations proceeding from their putrid bodies have spread disease and death over the neighboring regions.

As far as the external world is concerned, the fish is known to exist in some lakes on the sides of these mountains, and it is possible that these lakes communicate with reservoirs in the interior, where the pregnant fish are generated, and thus find their way through the crater. But this is mere conjecture.

Speed of Telegraphy.

When the first electric telegraph was established the speed of transmission was from four to five words a minute with the five needle instruments. In 1849 the average rate for newspaper messages was seventeen words a minute; the present pace of the electric telegraph between London and Dublin, where the Wheatstone instrument is employed, is 464 words; and thus what was regarded as miraculous sixty years ago has multiplied a hundred fold in half a century.—[Journal of the Telegraph.

The Young Kaiser in the Field.

And the appearance of the young Kaiser does nothing to discourage the admiration evoked by what we hear of his military performances. He is above the average of his officers in height, carries himself with a grace seldom allied to the profession of arms, and in proportion he is of full body, though suggesting muscular development rather than stoutness. His left arm has not developed normally, but it is not unless one's attention is called to it that its impotency becomes striking. With his left arm, however, he holds his horse's reins, and once, at least I saw him take a ditch which three of his officers refused, a feat that does not harmonize with the current stories about his feeble powers. His right arm, on the other hand, has absorbed all the vigor which was denied its mate, as is evidenced by all who experience the powerful grasp he applies when shaking hands, a grasp which in Berlin has passed into a proverb. How little his left arm has interfered with his love of sport may be judged from the fact that he is an excellent shot and a good oarsman with the single right arm alone. He is also a very strong fencer. His subjects, at least about Berlin, admiration, if features and voices can ever be the index to the thought, for as I looked from the saddle into the faces of the people that flocked about us, the feeling that was depicted there was not mere curiosity, it was the loyal ecstasy of usually cold dispositions, never stirred except in the depth of their natures, which threw into their eyes and the glowed their cheeks an expression of self-scrutiny devotion that cannot be counterfeited.—[Army and Navy Journal.

For Round Shoulders.

I have seen a sleeping dream and a halting gait, accompanied by the unavoidable weakness of lung, incidental to a narrow chest, entirely cured by a very simple and easily performed exercise of stretching one's self upon the toes lengthwise in a perfect perpendicular several times daily. To take this exercise properly one must take a perfect position with the heels together and the toes at an angle of 45deg. Then drop the arms limpidly by the sides, inhaling and raising the chest to its full capacity mechanically, the chin well drawn in and the crown of the head inclining, as one prepared to put it, as if attached to a string suspended from the eighth sphere. Slowly raise upon the balls of both feet to the greatest possible height, thereby exercising all the muscles of the legs and body; come again into the standing position without swaying the body backward out of the perfect line. Repeat this same exercise, first on one foot and then on the other. It is wonderful what a straightening out power this exercise has upon round shoulders and crooked backs, and one will be surprised to note how soon the lungs begin to show the effect of such expansive development.—[Home Science and Art.

Had Them to Loan.

Mrs. Smith—I came over, Mrs. McCarty, to see if you had a sausage stuffer you would loan.

Mrs. McCarty—An' faith an' O! how that. Oye! half a dozen sausage stuffers when the children come home from school. O'll lend you every wan av them.—[Texas Siftings.

Is I put some touches of a rosy sunset into the life of any man or woman, then I feel that I have walked with God.—[George MacDonald.

Many People Refuse to Take Cod Liver

Oil on account of its unpleasant taste. This difficulty has been overcome in Scott's Emulsion of Cod Liver Oil with Hypophosphites. It is palatable as milk, and the most valuable remedy known for the treatment of Consumption, Scrofula and Bronchitis, General Debility, Wasting Diseases of Children, Chronic Coughs and Colds, have caused physicians in all parts of the world to use it. Physicians report that patients take it with pleasure. The Scott's Emulsion and be convinced.

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