## FOR FARM AND GARDEN.

### POTATOES PRESERVED IN A SILO.

An English farmer writes to a London paper: Last year, when the price of potatoes was so exceedingly low that many farmers used them for feeding purposes, a farmer in Scotland resolved to make an experiment with a view of ascertaining whether potatoes can be preserved in a silo. He cut a quantity of potatoes, and placed them amongst chaff at the bottom of a silo, which was opened the other day, when it was found that the potatoes were as fresh as the day on which they were cut. The potatoes are now being used for feeding purposes, and the cattle are eating them greedily.

### WARM WATER FOR STOCK.

It has not yet been fully determined that it pays to warm water for stock. The preponderance of evidence is in favor of the tank heater, but there is opposing evidence from sources that must command respect. But there is no doubt of the loss arising from compelling animals to drink freezing cold water, especially when their shelters are anything less than the best. The man who chops through the ice on the pond or creek that his farm animals may drink is collecting upon his purse a severe loss. I would certainly be cheaper for him to provide well water for the animals, for it would be an agreeable temperature. This is another matter that should be considered by this time, for winter must be provided or attended to before winter comes to stay. —*Western Rural.*

### FALL PLANTING OF FRUIT TREES.

This, with the careful owner, depends much on the soil and climate. As a rule, in all severe climates it is seldom advisable and less safe in heavy soils than in light ones. The open exposure to the cold of Fall or Winter is apt to dry and chill the roots, and if they are not killed outright, the vitality is so much weakened that it is long before they recover. When trees are received in the Fall, the proper plan is to heel them in, packing them together in a trench in close order, slanting toward the south, that sun will have less effect on them, and cover all with at least a foot of dirt over the roots, and started to turn off at some time during the winter or early in the spring. Where soil and climate permit, Fall planting has much to recommend it. The soil by the freezing and thawing packs very closely around the roots, and as soon as the first warm days come, they at once take root long before Spring planting could be done. It has also some disadvantages, unless the surface soil in Spring is loosened around Fall planted trees, they will suffer more from drought set from the weather. The reader must study the circumstances that surround him, and be guided by the judgment as to whether Fall or Spring planting is best for him. —*Western Farmer.*

### EXPENSIVE EGGS.

Some economical managers, the days with economy to cause to brush them over with a solution of some sticky substance like glue or gum, others dip them in thick lime water, a method for closing the pores of the shells. All of these more are troublesome, and I have heard says a writer in the New York Ledger, that Indian corn is a small thing to put in the bottom of good place, and putting them, small end down in powdered charcoal, and this is thought to be much trouble in store, or anything of the kind that will hold them in the position. So long as the yolk does not settle down and stick to the shell, the egg will remain good, and by changing ends occasionally, they may be preserved for quite a long time. It is quite important that eggs which are put away to save in a time of scarcity should be fresh and good when laid down, and the more uniform the temperature of the place the longer they will keep. A cool place, not too wet, nor too dry, seems to be the best plan. Notwithstanding anything that may be done to them, time will tell on eggs as well as on cheese, and they will show it in spots on the outside, but in the eating. Still, it is a very nice thing to have eggs in the house that you can use for cooking, when the hens do not furnish a supply, for there is no such thing as keeping eggs as good as when they were fresh laid.

### CARE OF SWEET POTATOES.

The principal difficulty in keeping sweet potatoes, care without, is to store them away absolutely free from bruises or cuts. To accomplish this, pass out one side of the row and throw out the bunch of tubers by plunging the digging fork in at the opposite side. As soon as they are dried, sort carefully, rubbing them as free from dirt as possible, and put such as are to be stored away at once into the boxes or barrels where they are to remain. Lay them in by hand; do not pour them from baskets. Then lift the packages into the wagon, and when arrived at destination lift them out without tumbling or rolling, and set them down as carefully as if they were barrels of eggs. This is less trouble and expense than to pack them in sand, shavings or cotton-seed meal, and serves the same purpose. The reason why sweet potatoes are so difficult to keep is that they are so rich in sugar, containing, as compared with the common potato nearly seven per cent of soluble sugar, in place of a similar amount of starch, and whenever the cuticle is broken the omnipresent spores of fungi take root and rapidly produce discoloration and dry or wet rot. The best place for storing is a cool, dry, well ventilated room, where the temperature may be kept between forty and fifty degrees F. breadwit.

Last year, having one sweet potato ridge, about six hundred feet long, left after setting the last plants, I opened a drill along the top and sowed carrot seed in it. When harvest time came I plowed down one side of the ridge and threw out the carrots easily with the fork, instead of searching for them deep in the bowels of the earth. The long, smooth, well shaped roots obtained determined me to try the same method for the entire crop this year, and present indications are that I shall not be disappointed at the result.

### FEEDING HOGS FOR MARKET.

The following from Professor Henry, of Wisconsin Experiment Station, has come to our hands. It is in reply to an inquirer who wants to know the best method of feeding young hogs for market, evidently written in reply to a newspaper question:

To hogs of the age mentioned would feed a ration of one-third shorts and middlings or skimmed, a fourth corn meal, and two-third corn. This can sell at fifty to pay $28 or even $29 a ton for this feed, when corn is 50 cents a bushel. The ration can be fed dry, but for variety it can be made into a slop economically. If shorts are hard to get, mix bran with the feed instead, though bran is generally considered as belonging to the cows. Ground corn alone is a wasteful process, and now it is too costly to feed exclusively. May be, if I can be with my advice to "D" for fattening hogs, I am still a property of time to use a opportunity to give his feeding a trial too much corn this winter. Corn seemed in this position, for it is so easy to the world a bushel of corn, one can put and think the hogs are satisfied. Corn is more proper food for young hogs, for it takes it than cooked, proper food for a adult hog, as it is candy rather than bread and meat. The corn process is not quite a fair one, for it is just as good for a bushel of corn, and for fattening hogs it may form the greater part of the ration. The breed now that next spring marketing hogs, to be fed, some have the most [illegible] make their [illegible] and [illegible] supply it with [illegible]. That is the new well [illegible] the good [illegible] the [illegible] squeal.

To the breed [illegible] pigs, [illegible] wool, hides, tea, dandelion [illegible] and a little corn. Of course roots, such as beets, if cooked, will be a great [illegible] [illegible] in the [illegible] I wish to note, will keep the hogs loose rather than keep the [illegible] tied and cramped. The young pigs, too, need the pasture for growth. I [illegible] the sow, and pigs that we must look after rather than the following hogs.

When I see how weak the hogs of [illegible] hogs [illegible] with [illegible] [illegible] I [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] that are alive of birth. If these young hogs [illegible] must begin now to properly be [illegible] for [illegible]. —*Western Farmer.*

### FARM CONVENIENCES, SUPPLY.

In a good season the market is often overstocked with poor fruit, while at the same time that of a better quality will be a thing at profitable prices.

Early maturity is essential to profit in hogs. Feed enough to develop bone and muscle and keep for fattening, and it will be found the hogs will mature early.

How short that days are seem to fly up before [illegible]! Here you have all. Winter will be here before you are ready unless you hurry up. Bees take one or two fine days to do it in.

It is a pretty sight to see weeds growing by the roadside beside a farmer's fields, especially as of the fields themselves are clear of weeds. Roadside weeds grows by the roadside are a nuisance to the property of others.

We believe in letting the boys have all the milk they wish to drink, but they should not come to the milk pan and help themselves to milk that has been set for skimming. Let them take out their supply before the milk is set."

### Commodore Vanderbilt.

Commodore Vanderbilt made $100 out out, beginning with no money and very little education. He could write his name, and that was about the extent of his scholastic acquirements. His name which was spelled by his father on the Ms was not much to look at. He could not pronounce the letter V, and always called himself Wanderbilt. A new clerk at the postoffice greatly amused himself by looking for letters under the W's. "Don't look among the W's; look among the Wan's," said the millionaire. At the age of 80 the Commodore was a match for the whole street. He opened all his own letters, dictated his answers on the margin, spent an hour in transacting business involving many millions, and then went to his stables. He was very proud of his horses and liked to lead the road—and he generally did. —*Chicago Mail.*

# COLOMBIA.

## Natural Richness of This South American State.

### Good Government Required to Make it Prosperous.

The country for the most part, owing to the inequalities of its surface, presents to the eye magnificent and beautiful panoramas. Here are steep mountains, there deep and extensive valleys, and further on broad plateaus, the inhabitants of Colombia thus enjoying in the tropics every variety of temperature, for, as the savant Caldas says in speaking of the different climates of this region, "It is only necessary to descend a distance of from ten to fourteen leagues in order to pass from polar snows to the heat of Senegal."

The forests of Colombia abound in trees which are used for building purposes, for dyeing, and for cabinet work, and balsamic plants and gums, medicinal and otherwise useful to man, are no less abundant. In the exhibition of natural products which took place in the capital of the republic in 1872 there were more than seven hundred kinds of the above mentioned woods.

The country also abounds in rich mines of gold and silver, in which are found, emeralds, amethysts, rubies, rock crystal, marble, porphyry, jasper, jet, salt, coal, sulphur, lime, gypsum and other mineral products. On the coast, especially on the coasts of the Islands of Taverna and of the bay of Rio Hacha, are found pearls and corals. Notwithstanding the abundance of these and other, however, the development of the material resources of the country has hitherto been almost completely neglected, and it may be affirmed that, with the exception of Ecuador and Bolivia, Colombia, of all the political divisions of Spanish America, supplies the smallest contingent to the wealth of the world. Various causes have contributed to produce so deplorable a state of backwardness, combined disorders, and the revolutions that have been their result without either prejudiced it possible this far from [illegible] the problem of combining order and liberty, and thus hitherto [illegible] apply the blessing of a properly [illegible] government. The [illegible] of [illegible] adopted by the [illegible], which tends to [illegible] the [illegible] of the [illegible] and [illegible] the system of [illegible], which is one of the greatest [illegible] of [illegible]. The little [illegible] [illegible] scientific expeditions and to [illegible] in [illegible] applications, [illegible] the discovery of [illegible] of the [illegible] of the [illegible] of the [illegible] of the [illegible] of the Andes, presenting [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]. The [illegible] of [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]