

FOR THE FARM AND HOME.

Keeping Peafowls.

Peafowls are not only ornamental but excellent for the table. They are slow in reaching maturity, and the hen seldom lays before she is two years old. The chicks, however, grow very rapidly at first, but as they begin to feather almost at the start of life they require frequent feeding or they will perish. They soon begin to fly, and roost on the highest positions they can find. The hen lays from ten to twenty eggs, according to age and treatment. The young chicks should be fed the same as young turkeys, but meat, finely chopped, should be given three times a week after the first week. The male is a quarrelsome bird in the barnyard, and often makes short work of young chicks. They are more ornamental than profitable, though the tail feathers may be pulled for sale as soon as the molting season begins.

Hints on Haying.

In general, says a *Cultivator* contributor, it is a good practice to keep close up with the scythe while haying. Or in other words to stop the mower, and proceed to getting in as soon as the hay is made enough for the purpose. Much unnecessary labor is often saved by so doing. Especially is this so late in the season, when the weather is likely to be showery. One need not fear to get hay in quite green rather than to have it wet with rain. The real juices of the grass will not be of much injury to the hay.

Water is a great damage to hay or grass after it is cut. When there is no water on the hay it will not be injured so much by three weeks' heating in the mow as by lying three days in hot, rainy weather upon the ground. The heating in the mow injures only a small portion, that being the top, where the vapor collects and cools, while that out in the rain is damaged all alike.

A good practice in haying is to mow in the morning what can be readily handled during the day. Early in the day air that which was out over night, and haul in before the dew falls. Rake and bunch the hay cut in the fore part of the day, during the hottest part of the afternoon. This will make very much during the night, and only needs turning up from the bottom to be in condition to get in early the next day. When the indications are for a dull day on the morrow, it is advisable to get in as much of the present day's mowing as possible. In bunching hay in good weather the horse rake will answer every purpose.

Protecting Young Trees.

Mr. W. D. Boynton, of Wisconsin, writes to *The Indiana Farmer*: Young trees need protection the first summer. It is, in fact, the most critical time with them. The winters are bad enough, but the summers are often worse. The sun and drying winds are fully as fatal in summer as the alternate freezing and thawing of winter. Mulching is a great thing for the roots, but the tops and the trunks of young trees taken from the thickly planted nursery are in no way protected, and they miss such protection very much. The greatly reduced root can not supply the top with the requisite moisture or sap, while the sun and wind make constant and heavy drafts upon it. I find that planting corn among young newly set trees is a great help to them the first summer. Trees four or five feet high will be well shaded by corn growth during the driest, hottest weather of summer. Growing corn also breaks the force of the wind. It prevents the stems from being wrenched about in the usual way of exposed trees. It may always be noticed, too, that thick corn growth gathers and retains moisture. The air is more vaporous and cool near the ground, which is a desirable condition for tree-growth. I think this is an excellent way

to shelter a hedge-row of young evergreen or other trees. Any plant with a mutilated root needs protection from the sun and wind; some need it much more than others; some for but a few days, as they quickly establish vigorous roots, while others need a whole season or more to recuperate in. To this latter class belong young trees. We may be sure that we have not done our part until all newly-set trees are in some manner protected from the scorching sun and drying winds of our intense midsummer. The young orchard may be regularly planted to corn and cultivated as any other field, omitting the horse cultivation in those spaces in which the roots of trees are located.

Household Hints.

To remove mildew, soak in buttermilk and spread on the grass in the sun.

If the oven is too hot when baking, place a small dish of cold water in it.

To prevent flat-irons from scorching, wipe them on a cloth wet with kerosene.

Sal volatile or hartshorn will restore colors taken out by acids. It may be dropped upon any garment without doing harm.

To cleanse spots from broadcloth or woolen goods take half an ounce each of glycerine, alcohol and sulphuric acid, two ounces of aqua ammonia, half an ounce of powdered castile soap and add water enough to make one quart of the mixture. Use with brush or sponge and rinse with pure water.

To clean marble the following is recommended: Common soda, two pounds, powdered pumicestone and finely-powdered chalk one pound each. Pass through a fine sieve and mix to a thin paste with water. Rub it well over the marble and the stains will be removed, then wash the marble over with soap and water and it will be as clean as it was at first.

Recipes.

Stewed Lamb and Peas.—Have the bones taken out of the under side of a shoulder and bind into a good shape with tape. Cover the bottom of a pot with chopped salt pork, strew with minced young onion, lay in the meat and pour in a quart of weak broth made from the extracted bones and other trimmings. Cover closely and stew tender. Take out the lamb, unbind it, and keep it hot, covered, over boiling water. Strain the gravy left in the pot, return to the fire with two quarts of green peas and cook until they are done. Strain and lay about the meat.

Potatoes Creamed With Parsley.—Peel the potatoes, cut them into dice and lay in cold water for half an hour or more. Put over the fire in cold salted water and stew tender; drain out the water and supply its place with a cup of hot milk in which has been stirred a tablespoonful of butter rolled in flour. Then, for each cupful of potato, allow two tablespoonfuls of green parsley, very finely minced. Bring to a hasty boil, pepper and salt to liking, and dish.

Lemon Cake.—One and one-half cups of sugar, one-half cup of butter, three eggs, one-half teaspoon of soda dissolved in milk, two heaping cups of sifted flour, a little salt, the grated peel and juice of one lemon; bake in two shallow pans and cut into squares.

Stewed Apples With Rice.—Scoop out the cores and peel some fine russet apples, and stew them in clarified sugar. Boil some rice in milk with a pinch of salt, a few strips of lemon peel and sugar enough to sweeten it. Leave on the fire until the rice is quite soft and has absorbed nearly all the milk, remove the lemon peel and place in a dish; arrange the stewed apples on the rice and put it in the oven until it is of a pretty golden color.

NO LADY

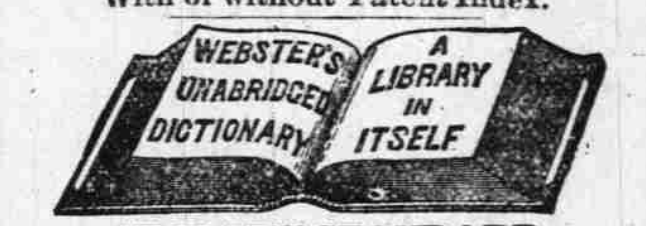


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