#### PARE AND HOME. Meadow Lands.

When there is a meadow included in a farm it can be made very profitable. On a great many of these meadows the muck is so deep that it is almost an impossibility to cultivate it properly, even should it be drained. But the best thing to do with it is to take off the surface, and this is a good season of the year to do this work. Throw it into a heap and let it remain all winter, and next summer it will be found to be light and dry. If it is then drawn into the barn cellar, where it will absorb the moisture from the cows and where the hogs will incorporate it with the manure from the cows and the horses, there will be produced one of the best and most valuable composts which can be supplied to light, sandy and gravely soils or to stiff clays. One reason why so many fail in using muckiis because they cart it on to the land directly after it is dry, at which time it contains an acid which is injurious to vegetation. This, by the freezing of winter and the heat of summer, disappears; but even when dry in winter, if mixed immediately with lime and shoveled over a few times before applying it to grass land, it will be found to make an exceellent top-dressing. The removal of a certain amount of this peat is a great help in bringing the meadows into a state of cultivation, for it is much easier after a part has been removed to incorporate with the remainder a portion of the clay and sand which underlies it. This, in draining and subsoiling, can be brought to the surface, and, when properly mixed with the muck, forms a deep, rich soil, which will produce any kind of vegetation that one may wish to raise and some of the heaviest crops.

There is entertained by many persons very erroneous opinions about the yield idea that grass is grass everywhere, and | receive the water. stock. We may call grass by the term English, and suppose because at some indefinite period in the 'past we stocked down a piece of land with timothy and red-top, that the grass still remains the same, and that it is as good as the same kind of grass grown upon dry uplands. A short time ago our attention was called to a piece of land well adapted to the production of grass, which years ago had been seeded with good English grass; but the drains are now clogged up to a certain extent, and, if opened. the owner is of the opinion that his crop of hay would be greatly reduced. So strongly impressed was he with the efficacy of water that he turned the water on to the surface to irrigate it. The result was that this summer he had a very heavy crop of hay, but it was very little better than meadow hay. Reedy grass could be plainly seen interspersed, such as is always the product of lands suffering from want of under-drainage. It would be in vain that any one should endcavor to obtain good butter from cows fed upon such material; nor could they obtain a satisfactory amount, and the time spent in churning would be more than double that required when be sold on the market, the quantity produced from it would be so small that would be worth little more than if wanted for butter. If cut early, this hay might be eaten with a relish by young

In order to produce the best articles of the dairy it is absolutely necessary that our lowland meadow should be well drained. Perhaps if they were thus drained such a large quantity of hay would not be produced, but if value was considered then we could estimate the product at double that of this coarse, watery stuff, though in reality taking a series of years in succession it is very doubtful if they would produce as much weight, for we have been considering the crop produced in one of the most favorable seasons. Had there been a wet season, or one of average rain, the water in the ground would have prevented a large crop, while the present dry season was the most favorable for the increased quantity did not make it a paying crop to feed for either milk, butter or cheese. - Boston Cultivator.

English hay.

Healthful Labor. vantage.

supply eggs and chickens for market, a with their aprons and wept. cross of any of the large varieties with common fowls will prove very satisfac- both so old and faded and time-eaten tory. This branch of the undertaking that they had to be tenderly handled. will need more room and a closer atten- The women looked from them to the tion to the smaller details. There is no poor old white face on the bed and difficulty in making this business a whispered: profitable one if it is undertaken in the spirit that is required to make any vocation a success. For fancy stock only the poor, but her heart was pure." pure breeds can be used, and these should be carefully bred in succession of time itself, was a familiar toy-a

and strictly by themselves. Care must be used each year as the flocks increase, to select from among them the best hens for layers, and the finest cocks for sires.

- American Stockman.

Stones on Public Highways. A single loose stone, which might be thrown out in two seconds, is sometimes struck by wagon wheels fifty times a day, or more than 10,000 times a year. Ten thousand blows of a sledge hammer as hard on one wagon would probably demolish it entirely, and the stone does no less harm because it divides its blows among a hundred vehicles. There is, therefore, probably no investment that would pay a higher rate of profit than a few dollars' worth of work in clearing public highways of loose and fixed other: stones.-Practical Farmer.

Household Hints. Cut hot bread or cake with a hot knife, and it will not be clammy.

Camphor placed in drawers or trunks will prevent mice from doing them any injury.

Ceilings that have been smoked by a kerosene lamp should be washed off with soda water.

Soft soap should be kept in a dry place in the cellar, and not used until three months old. Cayenne pepper blown into the cracks

where ants congregate will drive them away. The same remedy is good also for mice. A lump of bread about the size of a

billiard ball, tied up in a linen bag and placed in the pot in which greens are boiling, will absorb the gases which oftentimes send such an unpleasant odor to the regions above.

A cheap water filter may be made as follows: Make a mattress of charcoal broken in'small bits to fit a large common flower-pot; put it in the bottom of the pot, with a mattress of sand over it. each about five inches thick; hang this of grass and its quality. Some have an pot on a faucet, with a vessel under it to

if a heavy crop is secured good results | Corned beef left over for the next day are sure to follow its use as feed for the | should be |put back linto the liquor it was boiled in. Instead of the hard, brown, woody substance, that is sometimes served as cold corned beef, kept in this way, it will always be juicy, as it reabsorbs much of the richness from the liquor itself. Skim the liquor, of course, before setting it away, and it will keep as well in the pot it was boiled in as anything else.

### The Old Blue thest.

One day last week five or six women with serious faces and hushed voices were gathered in a room in a house on Fort street east. For two years a poor old woman had lived there, not exactly a beggar nor an object of charity, but certainly in want. She had a husband when she first moved there-a poor old man whose days could not be long; but one day he was missing. He may have fallen into the river, or he may have wandered out into the country and died. This left the old woman alone, and there were days and days in which no one went near her or addressed her. The other day when she felt the chill of death approaching she wanted some one with her. She had lived alone, but the cows were fed on good early-cut she could not die that way. She went upland hay. For any one desiring as tender hands clasped hers and kind to make good butter and a fair average voices addressed her. Death had alquantity, such hay would be of little ready placed its mark on her face, and value, and even for milk, which had to the women could do nothing. While their tears fell upon her wrinkled hand, she passed away as a child sleeps.

There was but little in the room beyond an old blue chest-battered and bruised and splintered, but yet holding stock or cows that were dry; but it together. It had seen strange times, would not, even for these purposes, be that old blue chest. It had held silks worth more than half as much as good and broadcloths perhaps—it had surely held rags. It had been moved from house to house and from town to town. It had listened to laughter, and had heard sobs and moans. It had grown old no faster than the woman whose hands had so often lifted its lid. It had doubtless kept the company of good carpets and furniture and crockery, and laughing, romping children had climbed over it or hidden in it. It had faded, and its hinges were rusty and weak, but it had outlived its owner.

The women looked about for garments in which to enshroud the dead. Nothing was in sight. One of them lifted the lid of the old blue chest, and called the others to help drag it out from its dark corner. It held treasure-such treasure as men could not buy nor poverty steal production both in quantity and quality, away. There was a dress of fine maand yet the quality was so inferior that | terial, cut after a fashion of long years ago. For twenty years the chest had been its guardian. In would have sold for a few dollars, but though the gnawings of hunger had come often and the There is both satisfaction and re- cold had fought its way to her marrow, nuneration in the business of poultry that poor old woman would not part breeding. When the work is performed with that relic of better days. It may With system and intelligence the steady have been a link to connect her with Worker will be gratified, and for the wealth and love. Beneath it was treasure amount of labor required, will find him- still more priceless. Carefully wrapped self (or herself) amply rewarded by the in paper was a silver dime more than product returned. But little capital is fifty years old. A week's fast would not required to start a hennery; if the in- have sent her to the baker's with that tention is to raise fancy stock for the relic. A child, dead in its young years, purpose of furnishing eggs to breeders, had worn that dime around its neck as small quarters and a few fowls of pure a gift or talisman. There was a child's breeds will do to begin with. In a mitten, stained and worn, but a mitten single year the amateur imay raise suffi knit by a proud young mother for her cient numbers to stock his yards to ad- child. It could not speak to tell the dim past, but it had power. As the On the other hand, if the desire be to women saw it they covered their faces

There was a boy's cap and a girl's hat,

"None but a good mother would have treasured these relics. She was old and

Deeper down, as if to baffle the search

child's dumb watch. Hands were broken and gone, face scratched and case battered, but the women handled it as if a touch would shiver it. There was a doll's head, a boy's fish-line, some toy chairs, a yarn ball, and other things to show that in the long ago that dead woman had felt the soft kisses of children, heard their "good nights" and thanked God that she was blessed. Each relic was wept over-each was replaced with fresh tear stains. They asked the old blue chest no questions. Its relics might have been voiceless to a man, but to a woman and mother each one had a tale in words as plain as print. They shed more tears as they bent again over the poor old dead, and they said to each

"If she had only told us of this how we would have loved her and sought to lighten her sorrows."

But she had gone. She had come and gone as a mystery, and but for the old blue chest in the corner few would have cared, and none would have sorroweds -Detroit Free Press.

What One New York Girl Did. When a girl concludes to put up her hair and make herself look sweet, the best policy is to let her have her own vay. She can't be drawn away from her mirror by any of the ordinary things of this life. A fire will sometimes do it, but it has been shown that even a fire may fail to excite some girls. The other night a New York lodging. house took fire, and at a most uncomfortable hour, when most girls probably have their back hair down. One of the young ladies heard that the place was burning down, but she dian't feel like making her appearance before the crowd which had gathered in the street looking like a perfect fright. She shut the door leading into the hall to keep out the flames and went to her mirror to fix her hair. Anybody who has waited for a girl to fix her hair knows that it takes time and a great deal of it. This girl wasn't any quicker than the average. and she was very particular about hav ing her hair done up exactly as it should be. The fire had cut off her chances of escape by the stairs, and her lover, after appealing to her for some time, finally lost his patience and got away without her. A fireman got up to the room on a ladder and she made him sit on the edge of the window and wait until she had arranged her hairpins and ribbons for a right sort of public appearance, then she threw herself into his arms-it was so romantic-and slid down the ladder with him, looking just sweet. The whole thing was a tremendous success, but when the careful young girl was safely landed on the pavement she found that she had forgotten her

stockings.-Philadelphia Times. Effect of Fright on the Hair. The Gazette des Hopitaux gave an account, lately, of a singular case of complete loss of hair. A girl, age seventeen, who had always enjoyed good health, had, one day, a narrow escape from being crushed by a floor giving way beneath her. She was very much frightened, and the same night began to complain of headache and chills; the next morning she felt restless, and had itching of the scalp; during the few following days she steadily improved, with the exception of the itching. One day, in combing her hair, she noticed that it came out in great quantities; three days later she was perfectly bald. Her general health was good, but her head continued bald, and was still so when seen two years later by the re-

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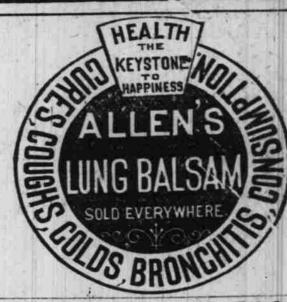
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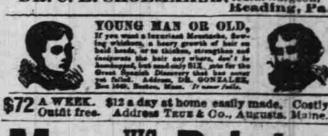
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