

AGRICULTURAL.

TOPICS OF INTEREST RELATIVE TO FAIRM AND GARDEN.

Feeding for Strength. One of the remarkable results in the experiments made at the Wisconsin station was shown in the tests of the strength of hoes...

Loss of Wool in Sheep. Dry feeding and close penning have the effect of causing congestion of the skin, and this can be cured by the use of a loose and be pulled off or rubbed off by the sheep scratching themselves...

Farm and Garden Notes. Beets are relished by milk cows. Food oyster shells and ground bones to fowls. Fresh lime scattered around the cellar will help to keep it dry...

Salting Cows. A commission appointed by the French Government to inquire into the use of salt for domestic animals reported on the matter as follows: 1. Salt ought to be given to domestic animals to replace the saline matter washed out of their food...

Bucking Horses. One thing I have never been able to understand and that is the subject of bucking horses. I have given the question some study, and find that only in the Southern part of the United States...

Early Potatoes. Three years' experience convinced a Farmer and Gardener correspondent that his practice brings potatoes "several days sooner than if planted without manuring in the hill..."

Fish Living in Hot Water. There is a pond on the Lay ranch at Coalinga which is fed by the waters from the hot springs. This pond has an area of two or three acres...

Onions. Mr. Wm. H. Derby, of Revere, read a very practical paper before the meeting of the Boston Market Gardeners' Association on December 21. The general rules for growing crops are varied by different conditions of soil and climate...

One of the Sea's Dangers. A curious acoustic phenomenon, sometimes observed at sea, has been termed by M. Fizeau, the "mirage of sound," by applying in analogy to the general wave phenomena of light...

WOMAN'S WORLD.

PLEASANT LITERATURE FOR FEMININE READERS.

The Turquoise. Mrs. Langtry has the handsomest turquoise in America. It is set as a pendant with twenty diamonds, and valued at \$7,000...

The Czarina's Necklace. The Vienna Allgemeine Zeitung tells that on the Czarina's fortieth birthday anniversary the Zar gave her a necklace composed of forty emeralds. In order to collect forty stones of blameless perfection and sufficient size, Russian agents had been engaged for nine months in search of emeralds...

Sara Bernhardt's Costume. Usually the bride is the principal feature of a wedding, but when the Princess Jablonski married the son of Sara Bernhardt all eyes were turned to her mother-in-law...

Passive Beauty of Peasant Women. One sees very many beautiful women among the Croats and Slovians. It is quite surprising the number of lovely faces that are to be seen in a gathering of Croat peasants...

End of the Shore Hair Craze. "The short hair craze has sort of run out," said a Washington lady barber. "Some of the hair has got discouraged through being cut so often, and never given a chance to grow, so that now it won't..."

A Heroine of the Storm. Mr. J. H. Ager, of Ore. Neb., one of the Secretaries of the State Board of Transportation, tells an interesting tale of the pluck of a young lady school teacher of Valley County...

Green is in High Favor for Short Maquettes. A light felt bonnet noted recently had a fluted plating up the centre over the crown, which gradually widened into a fan-plated brim...

Among the occupants of the spaces of carriages were many ladies, of whom Mrs. General Willis was one, her husband being absent on account of illness. The lady, dressed in a costume of the Union Jack, and after all it is comparatively calm...

Life in Kansas. "There's quite a breeze sprung up within the last half-hour," said a Kansas man as he came into the house; "the roof has gone off the court house and the Episcopal's steeple just rolled by..."

BUDGET OF FUN.

HUMOROUS SKETCHES FROM VARIOUS SOURCES.

Earned His Money—Special Terms—She Had Read Up—A Familiar Face—A Leap Year Proposal, Etc., Etc.

She Had Read Up. "Can't you give a poor man something to eat? I got shot in the war and can't work." "Where was you shot?" "In the spinal column, mum."

A Familiar Face. Guest to hotel clerk—"I've met that gentleman who just went out before somewhere. His face is very familiar, but to save my life I can't call his name."

A Leap Year Proposal. "Harry, you must have noticed that you have grown very dear to me. I—I am useless to longer conceal the truth, my darling—love you!"

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The art of starching linen was introduced into England by a Mrs. Dingham, a Flemish woman, in 1593. Postmasters say that more letters are mailed in the month of September than in any other month in the year...

The harbor of Charleston, S. C., used to abound with blackfish, but the earthquake seems to have scared them away, for since the great shake up hardly one has been caught.

A Maine man who owns a big and shaggy black Newfoundland dog, cut off the dog's hair carefully, had it carded and spun, and got two and a quarter pounds of jet black yarn as soft as lamb's wool.

There are 300 private railroad cars in the United States, representing a value of nearly \$5,000,000. They are worth anywhere from \$1,000 to \$60,000 each, the most luxurious, probably, being that owned by George M. Pullman.

The petrified remains of a Buffalo of great size were dug up at Belleville, Kan., recently by workmen who were excavating for a coal shaft. The remains were found at a depth of 8 feet below the earth's surface and were in a state of preservation.

The first European settlements in India were those established by Vasco da Gama at Cochin in 1502. These were Portuguese settlements. The Dutch obtained a footing in India in 1602, the French in 1644. The English established factories at Surat and other places in 1613.

Mr. E. T. Hammond, of Summerville, Ga., cut down an old oak tree on his plantation the other day and found in the heart of the tree the blade of a knife. The rings on the tree show that it is at least fifty-eight years old, and the knife blade must have been broken off in it when it was a sapling.

One of the paying professions of Paris is said to be that of trunk packer. In many of the little trunk shops you can hire for forty cents an hour a man who will pack your trunk artistically, folding expensive gowns and other garments in tissue paper, and stowing away delicate bric-a-brac in the safest way.

CURIOUS FACTS.

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