

AGRICULTURAL

TOPICS OF INTEREST RELATIVE TO FARM AND GARDEN.

BALING HAY AND STRAW.

The importance of having hay and straw baled for shipping long distances is now well understood. But with the improved baling machines operated by steam power, they may often be an advantage in baling hay and straw for use on the farm. In this compact form it takes so little room that more is left under cover for stock and for sheltering farm implements, now often left out of doors until the barn is sufficiently cleared to give them room. For home use these need not be so expensive or close binding, as the compress bound, however slightly, would not come undone with ordinary handling on the farm. Many farmers who sell hay and straw put it up in bales, and find advantage in it when they have to draw eight or ten miles. They can easily double their loads, and the bales can often be sold separately to those not having money or room for a full load.

EARLY-BEARING GRAPES.

Grape vines of two, three or more years old are often bought with the idea that they will come earlier into bearing than those younger and of moderate size. There are so many branches, each with several buds capable of producing a shoot for the coming year, that the planter supposes himself to have a sure thing on grapes if he can make the vine live. But with a top disproportioned in size to the root, as such a vine is sure to be, the result is always most unsatisfactory. Each bud will start, it is true; but the sap divided among so many shoots gives each only a feeble growth. If there are blossom buds hidden in the buds, they will blast either before or after blossoming, and produce no fruit. In fact, an old, overgrown vine will not so soon get into bearing, thus treated, as will the smallest yearling vine from which only one shoot is allowed to push the first year, and which is cut back to one or at most two buds the second season. Thus concentrated, the sap makes a strong cane, capable of supporting two or three clusters of grapes, and the year after becoming the trunk, from which large numbers of shoots, each with its burden of clusters, may be borne. A vine thus treated is much less liable to disease than one neglected in pruning. Trying to grow too many bunches is a frequent cause of mildew, and even if this is not the case, the bunches are small, and weight of fruit less than it would be with closer pruning and fewer bunches.—American Cultivator.

RESTING THE LAND.

It is true sometimes, as illustrated by the fable of the boy who grasped a full handful of nuts in a narrow-necked jar and could not withdraw his hand until he had let go the greater part of them, that men fail in their eager efforts to get too much out of their land. Constant cropping is now commonly advocated as the most useful and profitable method of growing crops. It is a reasonable outgrowth of the present restless spirit of the times which cannot wait for the results with any patience, but tries to gather fruits before they are ripe. To rest the land was a principle of agriculture enforced by Moses, sustained by every ancient writer upon agriculture, and insisted upon by the best farmers until within a score of years ago. Its purpose is to gain strength and renewed fertility for the soil, and its effectiveness has been proved by practice beyond any question. Its effects are to clean the land of parasites gathered during the previous rotation of crops and both animal and vegetable in kind—weeds and insects are both destroyed by it and some troublesome quadrupeds are also got rid of, such as moles, mice, etc. It is a serious question if at this time, when the great burden of agriculture is the too small produce raised on too great space of land, it would not be most profitable to summer fallow a field or two every year and so increase the fertility and productivity of the soil.—New York Times.

FARM AND GARDEN NOTES.

Begin to plan for a garden. Care well for your live stock. Unprofitable—using green fuel. Waste no forage that is feedable. Let no animal go cold or hungry. Raw meat for sickly, weak fowls. Cut cornstalks and straw for feed. Keep store pigs in good condition. How as to fresh eggs and broilers? Warm, dry quarters for the poultry. Only maximum crops are remunerative. Don't crowd the fowls too closely in their quarters. Intelligent industry is the ruling force in successful agriculture. Permit no smoking about the barn, haystacks, or strawstacks. The best cure for a fence-breaking animal is administered by the butcher. There is no profit in rearing or keeping cattle, except in good feeding in all seasons of the year. Good roads mean thrift, liberality and wealth. They mean the seat, is a convenience. One can work much easier and faster with this than with a hoe. A milking stool long enough to sit on and also hold the pail, the end for the pail only half as high as the seat, is a convenience. The pail will not get soiled, and is not so likely to be upset. Too many farmers have got into the habit of going to the store when they want anything especially nice for the table. The well-managed garden should give the farmer through the summer more delicacies than are possible with those who rely upon city markets. Those who breed poultry on quite a large scale, whether on a farm or in a regular poultry yard, will find a good incubator an almost indispensable adjunct in rearing large numbers of extra early chicks to secure the early sales and the big prices obtained for the first broilers.

SMALL FRUITS ON THE FARM.

No one so fully appreciates the value of small fruits as the wife of a farmer, who has a household to supply with food of sufficient variety to keep monotony at bay from the daily bill of fare. Still, with a garden well stocked with small fruits, farmers' families ought never to complain of monotony in the bill of fare. Nothing is more healthful than fruit, and by the easy and cheap process of canning we can have it the whole year through in such delicacy and naturalness of flavor as to be almost equal to fresh fruit. I am glad to note that the old method of preserving is going out of fashion. On a small plot of ground enough fruit can be grown, if proper care is given, to supply a family of ordinary size three

A Tiger and Alligator Fight.

A small party were on a trip through the Sunderbans, India, a hot, sultry day, in fact, a regular griller. As they went on in their boat they had observed during the morning a large number of alligators asleep on the shore. As the day rose higher, the numbers gradually decreased, till at length only one or two solitary ones were to be seen. The tide turned, and the party anchored out in the stream, there being too little water to come close in. The shore for some distance was sandy and bare, but about a mile in the interior the thick jungle reared its myriad boughs to a cloudless sky. Opposite where they were one huge alligator, stretching out its scaly length on the sands, lay fast asleep. They had observed it for some time, when one of the party, touching his friend's hand, pointed to the jungle. Slowly issuing from the close brushwood was seen an immense tiger. Softly and with silent steps it advanced, raised up one foot, poised it some time in the air, then, quietly lowering it, raised the other, crouching till its body nearly touched the ground. In this way it advanced, exactly as a cat when stealing upon a mouse. Having come to within its bounding distance, it rose, lifted its tail and then, lashing it on ground, leapt. The next second it was on the alligator's back, and holding on by the nape of the neck. The monster of the deep, thus rudely shaken from his midday slumber, opened his terrific jaws, and tried to seize the tiger in vain. It then employed its sawlike tail, and lashed the sides of the forest denizen, but still the tiger held on. The contest thus kept on some time. At length the efforts of the alligator became weaker and weaker, till at last they ceased altogether. Still the tiger held on. After some time he let go his hold, got off the brute's back, and seizing it by the body dragged it some distance on the shore, and there sat over it exactly as a cat does over a mouse. For a while it sat thus, then, rising, dragged it into the jungle. But the strangest part is yet behind. About an hour after this what should be seen but the poor alligator crawling toward the water much lacerated but not killed, a proof that the tiger does not kill simply because he is hungry.—London Globe.

The Practical-Joke Fiend.

Every now and then the practical-joke fiend offers an additional argument in favor of his extraordinary without trial by jury. He is now to the fore with two reasons why Judge Lynch should give some of his most pressing attentions to Paris. One instance in point is reported from the D'Oyley family in that city. The other day some soulless scoundrel amused himself by inviting a mob of people, in the name of the family, to a ball at their house. At an early hour carriages filled with guests arrived. Many of the invited, thinking it a carnival ball, came in fancy dress. Kings, cardinals, clowns, merry andrews, Watteau shepherdesses and milkmaids swarmed to the house of mourning, and the procession of guests continued until nearly midnight before the police succeeded in dispersing it. At about the same time this was happening in Paris, another so-called joker was airing his criminal jocularity in New York. He inserted an advertisement in a newspaper calling in the name of a down town business man, for the services of several poor, but well educated girls as amanuenses. The result was that hundreds of poor creatures traveled miles to discover that they had been hoaxed. They wasted their time, spent their precious pennies, and suffered the pangs of cruel disappointment, in order to provide a scoundrel with the pleasure of making a fool of them and a blackguard of himself. To say that hanging is too good for such miscreants as these is to expose the just resentment their wanton doings provoke very mildly indeed. The only punishment which we can imagine as adequate to their offenses would be to slowly torture them to death with their own practical jokes.

The Most Disagreeable Climate.

To the countries on the Strait of Magellan, Admiral Fitzroy gives the palm: "It is so disagreeable," he says, "that the country is almost uninhabitable. Clouds, wind and rain are continual in their annoyance. Perhaps there are not ten days in the year on which rain does not fall, and not thirty on which the wind does not blow strongly. The temperature of this ill-omened region is uniformly low, rarely falling below the freezing point, and seldom very much above it." The climate of the west coast of Africa, particularly Sierra Leone, is also most disagreeable. The shores and estuaries of the west coast are low and marshy; the chief characteristic of the climate is excessive moisture, the average annual fall of rain being 180 inches, and the mean temperature 81 degrees. The rainy season extends from June to September. After the rains, dense masses of vapor, termed "the smokes," envelop the land for days together. Every part of this coast, and of the adjacent islands, between the tropics, is most deleterious to the health of Europeans. The climate of the high tablelands of Central Asia, again, is very disagreeable, but from opposite causes. For here we find that there is insufficient moisture in the air to check the radiation to the earth by day, or from the earth by night, so that the range of temperature in the twenty-four hours is often more than the strongest constitution can bear.

Light on the Subject.

London journals, exultantly announce the introduction into the British Museum reading rooms of electricity as an illuminant. We fail to find anything so extraordinary in this. It has long been our impression that it was the vocation of a library to shed light upon any subject that might call for reference to it.

Apple Cream.

Boil six apples in water till soft, remove the peel and press the pulp through a hair sieve upon a quarter of a pound of sugar; whip the whites of two eggs, add them to the apples and whip all together till it becomes very stiff and looks quite white. Serve it heaped upon a dish.

Progress.

It is very important in this age of vast material progress that a remedy be pleasing to the taste and to the eye, easily taken, acceptable to the stomach and healthy in its nature and effects. Possessing these qualities, Syrup of Figs is the one perfect laxative and most gentle diuretic known.

It is a Fact.

It has been conceded by those who have tried it, by others who have witnessed its effect, by physicians who know its composition that Dr. Hall's Sarsaparilla is without a single exception the best remedy ever used for the cure of all diseases arising from a state of blood impurity and diseased condition of the body. Its effect is always sure. It prevents eruptive tendencies. It assists digestion and gives a healthy action to the bowels. It cures skin and ulcerative inclination whether of lungs, kidneys or liver. It cures eczema, scurvy, the system, rheumatism, indigestion, inactive liver, weak kidneys, neuralgia, urinary diseases, gonorrhoea, nervousness, general debility, sleeplessness, melancholia, neuralgia, loss of power, loss of memory, loss of appetite, loss of energy, etc. Give it a trial all who would assist nature in its efforts to maintain its health and strength until old age gently brings rest and quiet.

1000 Reward.

The readers of this paper will be pleased to learn that a case of syphilis, a dread disease that science has been able to cure in all its stages, was cured by Dr. Hall's Sarsaparilla. The cure is the only positive cure now known to the medical fraternity. Catarrh being a contagious disease, requires a constitutional treatment. Hall's Sarsaparilla is taken internally, acting directly upon the blood and purifying the system, thereby destroying the foundation of the disease, and giving the patient strength and health as the constitution and assisting nature in doing its work. The proprietors have no such plan as to offer a reward for any case that it fails to cure. Send for list of testimonials. Address: F. J. CHENEY & CO., Toledo, O. Sold by Druggists, etc.

It is the man who can't sing that seems anxious that every one should know it.

I have used Bull's Sarsaparilla with entire success in a case of syphilis, a dread disease and other skin and glandular diseases. It is the best medicine manufactured for that purpose.—James Moore, M. D., Louisville, Ky.

It is hard for a lady man to be truthful, for he is happiest when lying.

Hollow eyed little children, worms are gnawing at their vitals. Their pleading looks should make a mother quickly get them Dr. Bull's Worm Destroyer.

How to Buy Haggles.

The correct way to buy goods of any kind is from the manufacturer, when possible. For sixteen years the Elkhart Carriage and Harness Manufacturing Company, of Elkhart, Ind., have sold direct to the consumer at wholesale prices, saving the middleman's profit. As they ship anywhere, with perfect freedom of transit, they charge no freight. All charges if not satisfactory, the buyer runs no risk. See their advertisement, and send for catalogue.

Eric Railway.

This popular Eastern Line is running solid vestibuled trains, consisting of beautiful day coaches, Pullman dining and sleeping cars, and it will be returned.

People are a good deal like trees. Those who make the most of their talents are the most fruitful.

Dr. Pierce's Pills, the original and only genuine Little Liver Pills; 25 cents a vial; one a dose.

Where the Rags Go.

Housewives must often have wondered where the rags go to after they pass under the wagon of any one of the several hundred ragsmen who pass through the alleys with their monotonous cries. These gatherers of old rags take them to warehouses where they are bought in bulk, and then assorted by girls according to quality. There was a time when most of the rags were sent to paper mills. Now a very small proportion of rags are made into paper, straw and clay being the chief ingredients. Fine linen paper, so called, is made of rags. Ninety per cent. of the rags collected, however, go into the manufacture of "shoddy," of which cheap ready-made clothing is manufactured. This stuff is now made up into the brightest and most attractive patterns, and can only be told when new from wool by the expert, and by experience with the wearer. "Shoddy is King," say the wool men, and this accounts for mercurial condition of the wool market. Globe-Democrat.

Good Health of Glass-Blowers.

Glass-blowers have hard lives, you think? Doubtless you would say they burn out in a few years, and such cruel employment ought to be prohibited by law. The fact is that glass-blowers live as long as the average of mankind, and instead of being burned out, develop larger lungs than anybody else. Most glass-blowers can expand his chest five or six inches, and there is not one who can expand twelve.—Atlanta Constitution.



A BAD SPELL.

A merchant's clerk wrote a check for forty dollars, and spelled the numerical adjective "forty" "f-o-r-t-y." His employer directed his attention to the error, with the remark, "You seem to have had a bad spell this morning." To which the clerk replied, "Sure enough; I've left out the 'g-h.' Let us hope the clerk will still further amend his orthography, meanwhile, if anybody is suffering from a 'bad spell' of headache, superinduced by constipation, over-study or other indiscretion, let that person ask his druggist for Dr. Pierce's Pleasant Purgative Pills. They are entirely vegetable in composition, and are prompt and effective in action. They are specific in all derangements of the liver, stomach and bowels. They are strongly cathartic or mildly laxative according to size of dose. Unquestioned as a Liver Pill. Smallest, cheapest, easiest to take. One tiny, Sugar-coated Pellet a dose.

WHAT AILS YOU?

Do you feel dull, languid, low-spirited, lifeless, and indescribably miserable, both physically and mentally; experience a sense of fullness or bloating after eating, or "gases," or emptiness of stomach in the morning, tongue coated, bitter or bad taste in mouth, irregular appetite, dizziness, frequent headaches, blurred eyesight, "floating specks" before the eyes, nervous prostration or exhaustion, irritability of temper, hot flushes, alternating with chilly sensations, sharp, biting, transient pains here and there, cold feet, drooping after meals, weakness, or disagreeable feeling of drowsiness, or of impending calamity? If you have all, or any considerable number of these symptoms, you are suffering from that most common of American maladies—Bilious Dyspepsia, or Indigestion. The more complicated your disease has become, the greater the number and diversity of symptoms. No matter what stage it has reached, Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery will subdue it, if taken according to directions for a reasonable length of time. One or two of Dr. Pierce's Pills taken daily with the "Discovery" will add to its efficacy in cases where the liver is very torpid and the bowels constipated. "Golden Medical Discovery" is the only medicine of its class guaranteed to do all it is represented to accomplish, or money paid for it will be refunded. WORLD'S DISPENSARY MEDICAL ASSOCIATION, PROPRIETORS, 635 Main Street, Buffalo, N. Y.

La Grippe has Left the System badly debilitated in millions of Cases.

Take Ayer's Sarsaparilla and restore Tone and Strength. It never fails. Prepared by Dr. J. C. Ayer & Co., Lowell, Mass.

Advertisement for DR. SCHENCK'S PULMONIC SYRUP, featuring an illustration of a bottle and text describing its benefits for coughs and colds.

Advertisement for CATARRH EL'S CREAM BALM, featuring an illustration of a bottle and text describing its uses for various ailments.

Advertisement for STEVENS PATENT IMPROVED WATCHES, featuring an illustration of a watch and text describing its accuracy and durability.

Advertisement for THE ELKHART CARRIAGE & HARNESS MFG. CO., featuring an illustration of a carriage and text describing their products.

Advertisement for HOOD'S SARSAPARILLA, featuring an illustration of a bottle and text describing its benefits for various ailments.

Advertisement for MURRAY BUGGIES, featuring an illustration of a carriage and text describing its quality and price.