

AGRICULTURAL

Level level is shed. Treat the depression in a same manner, except in this case...

Water forms an important part in making and retaining the perfect lawn, and the depth of the soil forming the seed bed for the grass should be in accordance with the water supply...

Small flocks of poultry usually do better than large ones, and there are several reasons why this should be so. They receive more care and attention in proportion to their number.

It is a well known fact that the striped cucumber beetle attacks the plants above ground and not only injures them in that way, but indirectly transmits disease germs from one part of the field to the other.

Ropiness is a fault of milk which does not necessarily depend for its cause upon the health of the cows. It is said to be caused by any one of several different species of bacteria.

Obtaining a Good Lawn. It is generally understood that good soil is one of the chief requisites in obtaining a perfect and lasting lawn, and as this feature is usually well provided for in directions are necessary.

Quite Moved to Pity. The young wife of a military man gained fresh notions last year as to the hardships endured by our soldiers when in camp.

How the Bubble Boy went into the kitchen and kissed Mrs. Truesdell and said, "I'm sorry I was naughty."

Self-Closing Gate and Doors. Self-closing gates and doors are almost a necessity where there are children constantly passing in and out, else pigs, chickens, etc., roaming at large, will pass just as freely and one can never feel secure against invasion.

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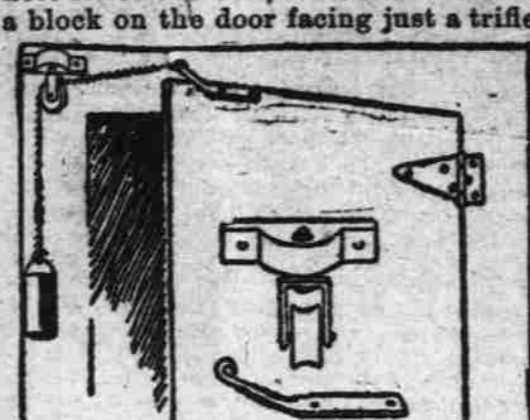


FIG. 1. SELF-CLOSING STABLE DOOR.

above the door. This bolt must fit loosely in the iron so the pulley will accommodate itself to the direction of the rope, which constantly changes in opening the door.

The gate devices illustrated in Figs. 1 and 2 are home inventions and have been in use about my yard for four or five years and have proved very satisfactory. Decidedly the best is made by attaching a half round piece of wood to the back piece of the gate in such a manner that a chain drawn across it will have the same leverage when the gate is open as when shut.

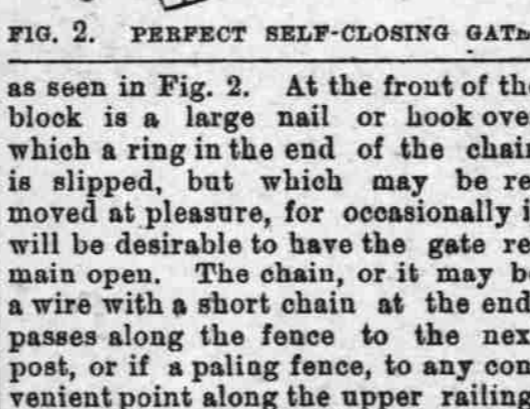


FIG. 2. PERFECT SELF-CLOSING GATE.

as seen in Fig. 2. At the front of the block is a large nail or hook over which a ring in the end of the chain is slipped, but which may be removed at pleasure, for occasionally it will be desirable to have the gate remain open.

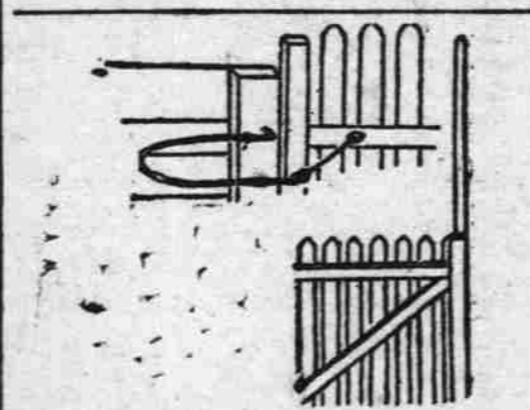


FIG. 3. RAKE TOOTH SPRING GATE.

but lies close to the fence; its pressure is nearly the same when the gate is closed as at any other point and can be made to be even greater if desired, while there is no danger, as with a spring, of losing its tension or snapping off in extremely cold weather.

OUR BUDGET OF HUMOR.

LAUGHTER-PROVOKING STORIES FOR LOVERS OF FUN.

After Announcement-Cautious Answer-A Victim of Tyranny-Very Classical-Quite Necessary, of Course-A Sure Sign-What He Could Tell, Etc., Etc.

Winkle grows smaller every day. "I should think he would. His wife sits on him so often." -Detroit Free Press.

"Is your daughter learning to play the violin?" "Er-well-she is practicing." -Indianapolis Journal.

"What do they mean by teaching the young idea how to shoot?" "Why, showing them how to have some skin in life, of course." -Philadelphia Bulletin.

"Are you superstitious about black cats?" "Yes, indeed; when I see one in my yard I know it is a sign that egotism is going to throw a broomstick and break a window." -Chicago Record.

"My wife never gets me up to cut the grass before breakfast." "Is that so?" "Yes; she tried it once, and I was so sleepy I ran the lawnmower all over her flower beds." -Chicago Record.

"Several people went to sleep during that performance of Wagnerian opera," exclaimed the manager. "Well," answered the orchestra leader, reproachfully, "I told you you ought to give me more brass drums and cymbals." -Washington Star.

"Charles, dear, aren't you going in the wrong direction for violets?" -Life.

"Now, Miss Ethel, remember you promised to answer truthfully any question I might ask you." "Yes." "How many birthdays have you had?" "One." -Indianapolis Journal.

Constance (impatiently) - "Well, Clarence, can't you tell me whether my frock fits or not?" Clarence (stupidly) - "My dear, I know I can't ever tell you whether your frock fits, but I can tell you in a minute when it doesn't fit." -Life.

"I should say so! I never saw such inventive resources. Absolutely unlimited. Time, space and science have no terrors for him. He can reconnoiter all his points so as to make anything seem probable." "I don't see where you got that strange impression of him." "Why, from his books." "His books! Oh, you ought to have seen his inventive resources and what he managed to do one day when he was going to tell his wife how he had managed to forget a couple of spoons in the milk thread." -Washington

HOUSEHOLD MATTERS.

Nursery window shades are best made of buff or gray Scotch Holland. If the room has a southern exposure the gray may be used. While a glare should be avoided in summer the sunlight should be admitted during some part of the day.

Mirror For a Piano Back. One of the hardest things in a room to arrange artistically is the piano, now that fashion has decreed that it shall be dragged away from the wall. Many an otherwise perfect apartment has been spoiled by the inartistic arrangement of the piano back.

Keeping Fat in Condition. It should be remembered that while the same fat may be used repeatedly for frying, it needs special care to be kept in a suitable condition. It should always be carefully strained, in order to be sure that any crumbs or particles of whatever may have been fried in it are not retained.

Cheerful Parlor. The set, formal parlor, shut out from sunshine and fresh air for the greater part of the year, has long ago been abandoned by the greater number of sensible housekeepers.

Volapuk is Vanishing. In the later part of the sixties a German linguist, Johann Schleyer, was at work on a world language-an artificial language made out of the principal languages of the earth.

Recipes. Creamed Spinach-Cook the spinach till tender in salted water; drain thoroughly and chop as fine as velvet. Melt about a tablespoonful of butter; add spinach, a dash of nutmeg and enough cream to make it a consistency like that of cottage cheese.

Tomato Fritters-To one quart of stewed tomatoes, add one level teaspoonful of soda, sugar, pepper and salt to taste, one beaten egg and flour enough to make a batter as for griddle cakes. Drop by spoonfuls into boiling lard and fry until brown.

Jelly Sauce-Melt one-half cup of currant jelly in two-thirds of a cup of boiling water. Thicken with one tablespoonful of arrowroot, diluted with two tablespoonfuls of cold water, and add directly to the jelly water. Just before serving add to the sauce one and one-half tablespoonfuls of butter, and one teaspoonful of lemon juice.

Leek Salad-Cut the white part of young leeks into small pieces. Remove the skin from a large tomato and slice thin; arrange lettuce leaves in a salad bowl, put in the sliced tomato and lastly the leeks. Pour on a salad dressing of oil and vinegar and season with pepper and salt. Garnish with small tomatoes and tarragon leaves and serve.

Banana Cream-Mash eight bananas with one tablespoonful of sugar, three tablespoonfuls of any jam, apricot preferred, and one gill of orange juice; make a lemon jelly of half a package of gelatin, dissolved, one pint of hot water, juice of two lemons and half a cup of sugar. Heat it and add the banana puree. Turn into a mold, place on the ice until dinner time and serve with whipped cream.

CEMETERIES IN CUBA.

There is a question as to who has the right to control the cemeteries in Cuba. In most of the cities and towns of Cuba there is a contest pending over the control of the cemeteries.



OVENS FOR CORPSES IN A CUBAN CEMETERY.

from the cemeteries formed a considerable item in the revenues of each parish church. It cost all the way from seventy cents to \$70 to secure funeral services and a burial in these consecrated grounds.

Some of the cemeteries are distinguished by beautiful tombs and pieces of memorial statuary, imported from abroad and erected by the richer families of the communities.

Under the new order of affairs the city governments are claiming the cemeteries as municipal property and the church authorities are tenaciously pressing their title to them as the property of the church.

The set, formal parlor, shut out from sunshine and fresh air for the greater part of the year, has long ago been abandoned by the greater number of sensible housekeepers.

It is often a place for the temporary deposit of various belongings of other members of the family. It is not possible to always keep the sitting-room in as orderly a condition as the mother desires it should be.

Delicate hangings, especially dainty articles that would not last long in the every day use to which they would be exposed in the sitting-room, may be properly kept in the parlor.

Delicate bric-a-brac, such as so often tempts the fingers of little children who are not under the perpetually watchful eyes of their elders, and many other small treasures of decoration are better off in the parlor.

Hyacinth Fields of Haarlem. Holland is still the bulb-grower of the world. Supremacy in hyacinths and tulips is the one distinction left, which gains a niche for Holland among the world powers.

And if he is not skilled to bow with grace the flower will teach him, for the humility of natural beauty invariably saves the hyacinth from any arrogance of bearing. True, it has not the singular grace of the daffodil, which learns the lesson of humility and bends its head just at the crisis of its glory; still, the upright hyacinth left to its own devices, is never so stiff as to be proud of its past.

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FATHER JOHANN SCHLEYER. (The inventor of Volapuk.)