

FOR FARM AND GARDEN.

Manuring the Bean Crop.

Beans are bringing a pretty good price this year, mainly because of last season's drought, which lessened the potato crop and thus left an increased demand for them.

Corn and Cob Meal.

Among the recently reported experiments tried at the Iowa Agricultural college was one to test the relative value of corn meal and the meal of corn and cobs ground together in fattening swine.

The corn and cob meal, seventy pounds to the bushel, made 12.05 pounds of pork per bushel, and fifty pounds of the clear corn meal made 11.07 pounds of pork per bushel.

The hogs were sold at \$1.80 per cwt. and gave 45.79 cents per bushel for the corn ground with the cob, and 44.34 cents for the clear corn.

Feeding Straw to Cows.

Opinions of feeders differ pretty widely as to whether straw can be fed with profit or not. The best dairymen are strongly opposed to any straw feeding to cows giving milk.

It is used for bedding, and they will eat some, no matter how well fed, as it is a change; but I had much rather they would not.

Feeding straw successfully probably requires peculiar conditions not generally found. It is a dry feed, and therefore ill adapted to making milk.

There is a great difference in the quality of straw. That from early cut grain retains more freshness and becomes much less hard and woody.

Saving the Manure.

An exchange remarks that farmers will never be entirely agreed whether manure should be hauled out in the winter, the fall, or the spring, but one point may be regarded as settled, which is that every bit of manure in the barnyard should be used on the farm.

for handling, and it more rapidly mixes with and becomes part of the soil, so that its immediate effects are much greater.

The main reason for hauling the manure in the winter, however, is that there is then much more time to do it, and that it is much more easily drawn over the frozen ground in the winter, than over the soft ground in the spring.

Where a wagon is available that can be spared for that purpose, it is an excellent plan to keep it where the refuse from the barn and stable can be thrown on it and taken to the field as often as the wagon is loaded.

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"Hill land is generally the best for potatoes. This year I planted entirely on the low meadow, and had a luxuriant growth of tops and something over two hundred bushels of assorted potatoes to the acre, but they rotted considerably before and after digging."

"Potatoes are retailing among the farmers in this vicinity at \$1 a bushel. Some claim they can be shipped in for less money. It is queer if the time has come when Vermont farmers cannot raise their own potatoes, but must buy from other sections."

I planted mostly Beauty of Hebrons, about the 10th of May. The seed was small sized potatoes cut once or twice the same day they were planted. Every tuber seemed to grow. I select my seed from smooth, sound potatoes that have not sprouted.

"If the blight strikes a potato that is half grown it ruins it. However, I plant a few of late growth every year. Dry land is generally the best for potatoes. I plough in the fall and spread a coat of manure broadcast in the fall or spring, and plant as early as it will do and avoid frost."

Last July, Farmer Hathaway of Sierra County, Cal., sank an artesian well. At the depth of 300 feet he struck water which flowed at the rate of 200 gallons a minute; but it was hot water—hot enough to cook an egg in three minutes.

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A robber got into a farm house in Iowa without disturbing the sleeping people, but a big dog tackled him and tore his throat so that he had to die. He was identified as a Justice of the Peace.

QUAINT AND CURIOUS.

Alaska ships cranberries to Eastern markets. Licorice is made from a plant called glycyrrhiza.

A blind man has been admitted to the Buffalo (N. Y.) bar.

A music dealer says that the violin has not improved any since 1720.

The Cornish language is dead. The last man who spoke it is no more.

The Austrian Empire is party to a suit in the Cook County (Illinois) courts.

A Pennsylvania cat invariably bites off the feet of the rats she catches and then lets them go.

A firm of dentists in London advertise that they will purchase old sets of artificial teeth.

George Washington's own plans for Mount Vernon are in the Architectural Exhibition in New York.

Napoleon Bird is the name of a London pianist, who recently played eleven and a quarter hours steadily.

Nelson Carlwell, a colored man, died in Greensboro, N. C., recently from the effects of a spider bite on the neck.

Mrs. Charlotte Cain of Milton, Mass., is 94 years old, and has a green parrot which is not less than 55 years of age.

At a ball near Hot Springs, Ark., recently, a young lady, her mother, grandmother and great-grandmother danced in the same set.

A Brooklyn policeman who danced on a cellar door, fell through, sued the proprietor of the place, and recovered 6 cents damages.

Venus, the morning star, is brighter than it ever appeared to any man now living, and nearer the earth than it will be again for 340 years.

A toy balloon sent up from a town in Kentucky a month ago, was found the other day in a field in Connecticut, where it had just alighted.

James Adams of Pike, N. Y., kept eleven Leghorn hens the last year, a total of 2,265 eggs or an average of 295 eggs to a hen valued at \$21.

At the recent annual Board dinner at Queen's college, Oxford, the head, a magnificent specimen, weighing over eighty pounds, was borne in on the shoulders of four servants.

A sweet potato, measuring four feet and one inch in length and two inches in diameter, and grown in Mr. J. C. Townsend's garden in East Gainesville, Va., was exhibited in East Gainesville, Ga., recently.

A St. Louis game chicken fought an eagle and the bird of freedom was vanquished in very short order. The first pass made by the chicken cut the eagle's head nearly off and another blow settled him. The chicken did not lose a feather.

A prominent society lady in New York cannot go to sleep without putting her thumb in her mouth. She has tried in vain to cure herself of the habit. She got it in childhood and has kept it in mature years in spite of many attempts at a cure.

A Cincinnati man, whose favorite driving mare fell sick, turned her out to pasture among a lot of mules. While she lay, too feeble to care what was going on, they ate her mane and tail off as thoroughly as a barber could have cut them. The mare can still trot in 2.30, but she looks queer.

It is rare that a man dies laughing, but William H. Brown, a New Haven saloon-keeper, is said to have met death in that manner. He was sitting in his place in conversation with a friend, and just finishing a funny story at which both laughed heartily, was noticed to grow pale and then fall from his chair a corpse. The doctors said it was heart disease.

Worth Their Weight in Gold.

It is no unusual thing to see small volumes that you can hide almost in a vest pocket for from twenty dollars to eighty dollars. Some books, if they are rare enough, of the incunabula and black-letter kind, will bring hundreds of dollars.

"First editions" are especially stimulating to prices, as there are so many collectors who pride themselves on their possessions in this line. The editions, however, must be of books and authors themselves highly esteemed.

It is surprising to see how dingy and apparently worthless some of the rare books are that bring high prices. If you do not know the special charm that is bestowed on the air to the inhaled by one of these suspicious volumes, of course you can not rate it highly.

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Rather Unkind.

Tremendous efforts were made for months to create in England a boom for the Prince of Wales's silver wedding day, similar to that which marked Queen Victoria's jubilee year, but the scheme fell through ludicrously.

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