

HOME AND THE FARM.

A DEPARTMENT MADE UP FOR OUR RURAL FRIENDS

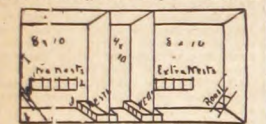
Farmers should indulge in periods of observation—A Bank Wall House for Foultry—Keeping Apples—General Hints on Horticulture.

Keep Out of the Rats.

Farmers, as a class, are very apt to get into rats and to keep in them, says an exchange. They get into the habit of doing certain things every day, and it seldom occurs to them that it might be a good thing to change. They are not, however, constituted differently from other people, and there is no good reason why the farmer, and especially his wife and daughters, should not be helped by an occasional outing as much as the dwellers in cities. It is true that the farmer's success depends largely upon the daily personal care of his stock and his crops, and that it is rather more difficult for him to leave his cares in charge of others than for most men of business. Still it is not by any means impossible to arrange matters in such a way as to leave home for a few days occasionally. Perhaps neighbor Jones would be willing to change work with you for a few days, and see that your work is done, or perhaps you might have who would be made to feel more manly if you left him in charge of things. It may help him to learn to love a farmer's life, if you give him the reins once in a while and let him try his hand at driving.

A Bank Wall Foultry House.

This building is 30x20 ft. with 7 ft. posts in front, a 3 ft. wall and 4 ft. posts in the rear. The doors at the ends should be boarded up and entrance made to the two rooms from the hallway, which may be used as a hatching-room. Still better, abolish all doors in front and enter through an end door. The following engraving shows the interior arrangement. The hatching room may be used to



store feed when not used for hatching. The hatching nests will be used for laying until a hen wishes to sit, when they may be closed to the roosting room and opened at the other end. These nests may be raised three inches from the ground. The extra nests are raised 15 inches. Coops may be built under them to shut up sitters.—Edward A. Atwater, in Home and Farm.

Peppermint Oil as a Crop.

Twenty pounds of peppermint oil per acre is considered a fair yield, but the yield is often greater. The producer realizes from two to four dollars per pound for his crop, which is better by far than any other crop would yield, and it must also be remembered that this revenue is derived from lands which a short time ago were considered a wilderness and wellnigh worthless. St. Joseph county's (Michigan) last year's crop of peppermint oil sold at ten dollars a pound and made the nice total of \$40,000 for the growers of the herb. There are thousands upon thousands of acres of such land in the Southern part of the same State that lie unclaimed, only waiting for intelligent and industrious cultivators of the soil, who have a little capital to be laid out in drainage when they will yield abundant harvests of this and other crops. The expense of drainage is the main one to be met, and this is not great when results are considered.—Western Rural.

Hanging a Gate to a Tree.

Bore a hole through the tree above the top rail of the gate with a 1 1/2 or 2 inch auger. Get young hickory of the size of auger, split it, take one half, bend it around the upright of gate, then pass the ends through the tree as shown, drive a wedge between the lower ends of upright acts as a pivot in the notch of spur root, or in impression made in stone buried there.

The tree is not injured, and soon heals up, holding it more secure. It will last as long as an iron hinge and cannot pull off or come out, until wanted out. It can be renewed without making new holes, as in the case of iron hinges.—Practical Farmer.

Effect of the Sun on Soil.

"Experiments made at the Maine Agricultural Station," says the Mirror and Farmer, "shows that the soil responds readily to the daily heat of the sun to the depth of three inches, less readily to the depth of six inches, in a moderate degree only to the depth of nine inches, and very slightly below twelve inches. To the depth of three inches the range between the morning and the midday observations has been as high as fifteen degrees.

Concerning Weeds.

The following excellent suggestion is from the Baltimore American: "There are a large number of farmers' clubs throughout the country, and a great deal might be done by hanging a weed chart upon the walls of these halls, where farmers, rather than from time to time for mutual improvement and a better understanding of the ways and means of a more profitable agriculture. Weeds have been neglected in more ways than one, and just so far as they are overlooked and left to themselves, the

greater will be the curse. As we look over the premium lists of our thousands of county and State fairs, we seldom see a prize offered for the best collection of weeds. It seems incompatible with our fitness of things to have a good collection of anything that is bad, and yet the fact remains that there is no class of plants about which an increase of knowledge is more imperative than these same ugly weeds. A few dollars expended in awards by each fair association would bring together lists of plant pests, the exhibition of which would not only surprise, but greatly instruct those who see them. It is not less important for the farmers of any district to know of the arrival of a new weed than of the advent of a new fruit or grain.

A Good Corn Knife.

Take the big end of an old hand-saw, and take off old handle, saving the screws. Make handle any length desired, and screw on, then grind back saw sharp and you have the boss corn knife.

Good Fences and Breeds Cattle.

It is to many a matter of wonder why cattle should show an instinctive desire to get into the next field. But if we consider that the next field always has a crop of very inviting corn, or small grain, or splendid grass to be cut for hay, the wonder ceases. Cattle are much like humans in their behavior; we all want to trespass on forbidden ground, and the greater the difference between that and our own quarters, the stronger our will "to get there." If grazing stock is put on first rate pasture, as it should be, there is no desire to break out. Pasture must be cultivated as well as plow land. All bare spots must be scratched up with a harrow and seeded to grass, and the whole field kept as nice and clean as a lawn. Prevention is better than cure, and it is no great trick to teach a cow to behave herself.

Variation in Quality of Fruit.

Fruits of the same nominal kind often differ much in quality. It has been supposed by some within a few years that as most fruits are now grafted or budded, thus variation in quality may depend on the original stock. But it is certain that so much depends on soil, access to sunshine and other conditions that little room remains for other factors. Manuring heavily with stable manures injures fruit quality. These are mainly nitrogenous, and they cause an excess of sap that the leaves cannot wholly assimilate. Excessive manuring with some mineral that injures the roots may also cause injury to or entire destruction of the leaf, in which case the fruit is worthless. A barrel of brine carelessly emptied near a plum tree in midsummer carried such a excess of salt to the leaves that they all fell off, while the half-grown plums remained on the tree, but never increased in size, and when bitten into gave a distinct salty taste in addition to that natural to green plums.

To Keep Apples.

A correspondent of the National Stockman gives his plan of keeping apples: "We made a board cave and covered it with earth. The ends of the cave we boarded up about sixteen or eighteen inches from the bottom and banked up to carry off the water, leaving open above to admit air until cold weather. The end from the storm should remain open all winter unless to severe freezing. Put a layer of straw in the bottom of the cave and put the apples in as soon as picked from the trees. Apples kept in this way retain their firmness and flavor better than when kept in a cellar. We have apples up to date, June 10, that were put in the cave early the previous fall."

Plums for Profit.

Those who have been longest engaged in plum growing say that it is the most certainly profitable fruit grown. The fact that curculio destroys the crop of those who do not give it care, makes it all the more profitable. If there were curculio every year, the careful plum grower would ask nothing better. The glut in the plum market occurs usually when the curculio fails to put in his appearance, and plums are grown by the careless and thorough cultivator alike. Low prices, paying very little to the grower, show what the plum business might be every year if the curculio did not make plum growing a business requiring skill rather than dependent on chance.

Horticultural Hints.

If you want your berry bushes to be productive, keep them cut back. Low growing vegetables may be cultivated between raspberry rows. Cut off and burn all the black knots on your cherry and plum trees. ALWAYS set out a few of the best varieties of early and late sweet apples. Fruit trees along the roadside are an invitation to all to help themselves. In starting an orchard, it is better to trust to old varieties than to experiment with new ones. The earlier varieties of fruits and vegetables are not usually as fine flavored as the later ones. One of the best of garden fruits is the currant, and it is easy to raise with the use of a little help. A GARDEN once laid out and planted, it comes easy and natural to keep it up year after year, and it pays. CELERY is now grown by planting it so thick on rich ground that it shades and bleaches itself much better than throwing soil around it.

It was once thought that soda was not necessary to growth of a plant. Since then it has been found that no plant ever grew that did not contain it. CAREFULLY saw off broken branches of fruit trees, sharp-knife the wound smooth as possible, then paint over with any common paint. This preserves the wood, and prevents rot starting at that point.

Housekeeping Notes.

NEVER butter your pie plates, but dredge them lightly with flour. To SCOUR knives easily mix a small quantity of baking soda with the brick dust. To STONE raisins easily, pour on boiling water and let them remain in a short time. To TEST nutmegs, prick them with a pin, and if they are good the oil will instantly spread around the puncture. PUT salt on the clinkers in your stove or range while they are hot, after raking down the fire, and it will remove them. WET boots and shoes may be kept from shrinking out of shape when drying, if, as soon as taken off, they are tightly stuffed with newspapers. These form a sort of rude last and ought not to be removed until the boots are thoroughly dry. SOME good housekeepers on receiving lemons wash and dry them thoroughly, and then put those that are not needed soon into the big box, burying the fruit in the sugar. They say that lemons will thus keep fresh for a long time. VEAL "goes farther" than mutton, especially the fillet, being nearly all meat. The remainder after a dinner, will make a pie, with a slice of boiled ham or bit of boiled salt pork, and of the cutlets enough will usually remain for a small mince on toast for breakfast, to be perhaps supplemented by eggs or broiled bacon. FISH that is to be fried should be laid in a cloth to lose some of its moisture, then rolled in fine crumbs or corn meal. Those kinds that are liable to break must be dipped in beaten egg, then in crumbs. The fat in which it is fried, whether it be lard, butter, or oil, must be very hot. All fried fish should be garnished with parsley. To MAKE piecrust flaky, spread the crust when rolled out for the top of the pie with a thin layer of butter. Dredge with flour, and cover your pie with the crust as usual. When ready for the oven, tip the pie slanting, holding it in the left hand, and pour over the pie a glass of cold water to rise of the flour. Enough of the latter will stick to the butter to fry into the crust while baking and make it flaky.

Miscellaneous Recipes.

STEAMED OATMEAL.—Half a pint of oatmeal and one teaspoonful of salt; put in a two-quart basin and pour over it one quart of boiling water; put in a steamer and steam two hours. Do not remove the cover during this time. LEMON PUDDING.—Six ounces of melted butter; pour it over the same quantity of sugar; stir it well until cold. Grate the rind of a large lemon, and add to it eight eggs well beaten and the juice of two lemons; stir all together and bake with puff paste around the edges of dish. BUNS.—Break one egg into a cup, and mix with sweet milk a mix with it a cup of yeast, half a cup of butter, one cup of sugar, enough flour to make soft dough; flavor with cinnamon and nutmeg; let rise till very light, then mold into biscuits with a few currants; let rise a second time, and bake. GRAMM GEMS.—One egg, one cupful of sweet milk, one cupful of white flour, one cupful of Graham flour, two teaspoonfuls of baking powder, one tablespoonful of melted butter, one tablespoonful of sugar and a little salt. Beat well together, warm and grease the irons, and bake in a quick oven. HOMINY GRIDDLE CAKES.—Two cups cold boiled hominy, beaten smooth, one quart of milk and one teaspoonful of salt; stir together, then add one cup of flour, into which has been well mixed a teaspoonful of baking powder; lastly, add three eggs that have been well beaten. Cook immediately after mixing. RICE CULTURE. The best rice is that raised in South Carolina, where the rice is sown in benches, which are eighteen inches apart, and flooded to a depth of several inches. The water is then drawn off and later, the fields are flooded again, to stand nearly two weeks this time, and is not again turned into the field until the grain is almost ripe. Marshy places are not so good as level, level land. Most of the rice used in Europe is imported from India. There, and also in China, the hills are chosen rather than the plains, and are so well irrigated that often it is only with the greatest difficulty that the fields can be wooded on account of the water. In some districts canals are carried along the hillsides. Upland rice is especially cultivated in Ceylon, Persia and Hungary, which requires dry land, rotting if placed under water. The only States of North America which cultivate rice for market are South Carolina and Georgia. Rice will not grow as far north as Minnesota. What the Indians use there is Canadian or wild rice, which grows abundantly in the Northwest, in miry places, and often on the margin of the lakes. It reaches the height of seven or eight feet, and the long narrow seed makes a nourishing meal of which the Indians are very fond.—Inter Ocean.

COON meat is the leading delicacy for dinners both among the blacks and whites at Jefferson, Texas.

MOURNING FOR WHITTIER.

America's Loved Bard Is Called to His Father's Home.

John G. Whittier, the Quaker poet, died at 4:30 o'clock Wednesday morning, at Hampton Falls, N. H. The end was like his life, peaceful, and he passed away like one falling asleep. His nearest relatives and Dr. Douglass were at his bedside when death came, and he seemed to be conscious of his surroundings at the last moment. The funeral, at Amesbury, according to the Quaker custom, will be simple, with no sermon. John G. Whittier's latter years had been a beautiful ideal of old age. Long ago he laid aside the heavy cares of life to reap the reward of his labors for mankind, and beloved of a nation and the entire English-speaking race he awaited patiently the summons to his final home. He had been his custom of late years to spend his summers at Oak Knoll and his winters at his home in Amesbury, always among the books he so dearly loved. His birthplace, near Haverhill, Mass., still stands, only a little altered from what it was in 1807.

A farmer's son, born at a time when New England farm life was more frugal than it is nowadays, he had none of the "spoils" of culture which Holmes and Lowell enjoyed in their youth. His parents were intelligent and upright people of limited means, who lived in the simplicity of the Quaker faith, and there was but little in his early surroundings to encourage an devotion to literary taste. Whittier's only school instruction was at a district school and afterward at the Haverhill Academy,



JOHN G. WHITTIER.

where he paid for his tuition by work done out of study hours. But he began to rhyme almost as soon as he was able to read. His father frowned upon his efforts, which for a long time were kept secret, but his sister had faith in his work and encouraged it. One of his earliest poems, "The Waste of Time," was sent with out his knowledge to the Newburyport Free Press, signing it with his initials, "W. Haverhill, June 1, 1826." The publication of this poem led to the acquaintance and friendship of William Lloyd Garrison, through the medium of a paper, a friendship which lasted and increased until death ended it.

After this it was not long before Whittier's household lyrics gave him such a hold on the popular heart, and later, in the struggle for emancipation, made him a power in the land.

It is unnecessary to quote from works so familiar to almost every reader, but sufficient to mention such legends as "Skipper Truesdell's Little White Daughter," "Mary Garvin," "Memories," "The Playmate," and "Maud Muller." Probably the most popular quotation in poetry is the couplet from "Maud Muller":

For of all sad words of tongue or pen,
The saddest are these, "It might have been."

Despite his advanced years—he was two years older than Fenimore and twelve years the senior of Walt Whitman—he was until recently sturdy and active, and the most charming personality in the world of letters. His mental powers were keen and acute to the end. He gave but little time to literary effort, his eye being dimmed and his hand unsteady. His latest literary production was a poem in the Atlantic to Dr. Holmes, and the last verse he wrote was on the occasion of Dr. Holmes' recent birthday.

Mr. Whittier never married. Between his sister Elizabeth and himself there existed the rarest and most delicate love and friendship, which, doubtless, had no like to it with the poet's inspirations. His home was broken up at her death and his heart suffered in the same misfortune its greatest shock. His niece came to him at the death of his sister and always strove to make that great loss little as possible.

Mr. Whittier was not a rich man, nor was he poor. About fifty or sixty thousand copies of his works are sold every year, and on the revenues thus derived he was able to pass his declining years in ease and comfort.

The news of the death of John G. Whittier was received at Haverhill with universal feelings of sadness and regret. The city hall bell was struck eighty-four times at 8 o'clock in indicating the age of the deceased, and flags on the public buildings and school houses were displayed at half mast as tokens of respect for the dead poet.

Throughout the literary world the event, though not unexpected, evokes the profoundest regret.

How Famous Rulers Died.

PHILIP of Macedon was assassinated by his own guards when about to start on the conquest of Greece, by the hands of his nephew.

FERRUCS II. of Scotland was stabbed by his jealous queen, who immediately afterward committed suicide.

CONSTANTINE XII., the last Emperor of the East, was killed in the storming of Constantinople by the Turks.

IVAN VI. was imprisoned for eighteen years and finally murdered. Mary Queen of Scots was beheaded.

AROUND A GREAT STATE.

BRIEF COMPILATION OF ILLINOIS NEWS.

Freight Wreck on the Hannibal and St. Joe.—Disastrous Switchmen.—Dragged to Death by a Team.—Slain Tragedy in Fayette County.

SIXTY THOUSAND children are without school accommodations in Chicago. GOVERNOR FIFER has offered a reward of \$200 for the arrest of the person or persons who killed William H. Napier in Pulaski County, August 23. NOTWITHSTANDING the warning and efforts of the State Board of Health to protect the commonwealth against small-pox, the disease is now reported in two different counties in Illinois. The Secretary of the Board left for a personal visit of inspection to the two localities.

GOVERNOR FIFER ordered the issue of an election writ for an election to be held Nov. 8, 1892, for two additional judges of the Superior Court in Cook County. Also an order to be held on the same day to fill the vacancies in the office of judges in the Circuit Court of Cook County, caused by the death of George Briggs and the resignation of Judge Thomas A. Moran.

NEAR Mascoutah, Frank Martin, a farmer of Smithton township, was dragged to death. He was unbiting his team when the traces of a cow came loose. The horses became frightened. In his efforts to stop them the farmer became entangled in the harness, and was horribly bruised and life was extinct when it was recovered.

FRIDAY morning about 5:40 o'clock, on the Hannibal and St. Joe track, about half past twelve, a West Quaker and Moody, a "K" line freight train bound east and a Hannibal and St. Joe freight train bound west collided. The injured are: A. D. Arnold, Hannibal and St. Joe engineer, Henry Walker, "K" line brakeman, right foot hurt; two colored tramps in a car of brick, both bruised. The trains came together just out of what is known as Dead Man's Curve, about two miles out of West Quincy.

A SICKENING tragedy occurred near Avena, in Fayette County, in which John D. Fralley was stabbed to death by Charles Chandler, his brother-in-law. Both were well-to-do farmers of London Township. They went to Vandalia to transact some real estate business, accompanied by Mrs. Chandler, mother of the murderer. Both men had been drinking and they quarreled all along the road over politics. Chandler finally got out of the wagon and said he would walk. Fralley declared he should ride and climbed out and began pulling the whip to Chandler. Chandler drew his knife and stabbed Fralley once in the back and twice in the left side. During the altercation the horses became frightened and started to run. Fralley called to Chandler to stop, and he did not stop until the horses. Fralley got up and started with Chandler after the horses when he complained of being sick and sank down by the roadside and expired in the presence of Chandler and his mother. Chandler is 35 years old, his victim is five years his senior and both have families.

CONTRACTS for State supplies were awarded by the Commissioners of State Contracts, consisting of Gov. Fifer, Secretary of State Pearson, Auditor Pavey, Attorney General Hunt, and State Treasurer Wilson. Generally the prices named in the awards are lower than those of last year, and in some instances lower than ever before. The awards are as follows: Class 1, print and cover paper, George L. Barndon, of Kalamazoo, Mich., \$9,445; book paper, \$2,300 per ream; cover paper, \$175 per ream. Class 2, flat paper, Graham paper Co., St. Louis, for \$4,251.78. Class 3, stationery, John Morris Paper Company, of Chicago, for \$4,348.54. Class 4, steel engraving, E. C. Franching, etc., of St. Paul, Minn., for \$3,000. Class 5, 957.50. Coal, Starnes Coal Mining Company, Springfield, \$1.07 per ton; distributing law journals, etc., George E. Paulen, Springfield, \$120; copying law journals, etc., General Assembly, etc., Catherine L. Brown, Springfield, 14 cents per 100 words. For printing legislative bills, Phillips Bros., \$3,640; and State reports, H. W. Rokker, \$20,000; for binding, H. W. Rokker, \$10,467.50.

THE Adjutant General confirmed the election of James H. Walker as Second Lieutenant of Company G, Fourth Infantry, located at Effingham.

At Jacksonville, Labor Day was celebrated in great style, with a procession one and a half miles in length. Fully 5,000 people were at the fair grounds and listened to addresses by the Rev. S. B. Moore, Cornelius Sullivan, of Indianapolis, Miss Lavinia Roberts of Pike County, and the Rev. D. F. Howe.

THE Illinois Weather Bureau bulletin says: The temperature of the last week has been below the normal throughout. The percentage of sunshine has been much above a reasonable average. The rainfall for the week, except in central and southern counties, has been below a reasonable amount and unevenly distributed. Notwithstanding the cold nights which prevailed during the last week the early corn is reported as maturing rapidly, and it is thought that it will be safe from frost in a few days. Late corn is reported generally in good condition, but needs warm weather and will not be safe from frost before Oct. 1. The condition of oats and wheat, except in some of the northern counties, is practically completed. The yield generally is below what was anticipated. Plowing is progressing slowly, owing to the dry and hard condition of the ground. It is probable that a large area will be plowed this week and that early planting. Rain is badly needed for pastures, which are reported generally in poor condition. In some counties stock water is scarce. Grapes and melons will be an average crop, while the yield of plums, apples and peaches will be light.

FREY EAGER, a Chicago and Alton brakeman, was killed at Sherman while coupling cars.

THE Adjutant General confirmed the election of Frederick W. Pearson as First Lieutenant of Company G, Fourth Infantry, Second Lieutenant of Company G, Third Infantry. The following named enlisted men are honorably discharged: Privates James Oliver, B. B. Beal, Clarence O'Dell, Thomas Hudson, Otis Hubbard, Ira Snyder, Thomas J. McAdams, Elbert Oliver, Thomas Mabry, Charles A. Higgeas, and John H. Johnson, Company I, Fourth Infantry.

J. C. LEWIS,



Watchmaker and JEWELER.

All work done promptly and satisfaction guaranteed. East St. DWIGHT, ILL.

J. SCHOTT, Merchant Tailor.

A Fine Line of Samples of the Best Quality of Piece Goods. All work guaranteed to give satisfaction. Give me a call before buying elsewhere. Over Reeder's Barber Shop. DWIGHT, ILL.

For a First-Class Shave SHAMPOOR HAIRCUT, GO TO ANTON J. DIFFENBACH'S Barber Shop.

Special attention given to Ladies' and Children's Hair Cutting. Razors and Scissors sharpened in a first-class manner. CIGARS, TOBACCO and PIPES at all styles always on hand.

KEEP SHADY.

You can do this by purchasing some Fine Shade and Fruit Trees, Also Floral Stock and Shrubbery, DWIGHT MILLS. He has everything you need in his line.

TOCK BROS., Blacksmith & Wagon SHOP.

Wagons, Carriages, Road Carts, Buggies. The best workmanship. Satisfaction guaranteed. Prices very reasonable.

REPAIRING A SPECIALTY.

All work done promptly and guaranteed to give satisfaction. Dwight, Ill.

Charles Waters, DEALER IN

HARDWARE, AND ALL KINDS OF Agricultural Implements.

Buggies, Road Carts, Carriages, Reapers, Mowers, Binders, Cultivators, Harrows, Corn Planters, Ect.

Double Store on Franklin Street, DWIGHT, ILL.