

FARM AND GARDEN



FOR LOVERS OF FLOWERS.

A Scientific Little Arrangement for Keeping Growing Plants Supplied with Moisture.

An effective, but simple, apparatus for keeping growing plants supplied with moisture may be easily contrived. This is particularly useful in cases where, owing to the absence of their owner or others, plants have for days, perhaps weeks, to be left without personal attention.

Nearly fill a large bowl with water, and place it upon a small table. At the



DEVICE FOR WATERING PLANTS.

foot of the table the plants to be supplied with water should be grouped, as our picture shows. For each plant take a length of worsted, at one end of which tie a small stone, or anything that will act as a weight. Soak the worsted a moment in the water, and then, leaving at the bottom of the bowl the end to which the weight is attached, let the other end of the length of worsted hang down over the bowl's edge. Particularly, however, take care that the end of the worsted hanging outside comes lower than the bottom of the bowl.

Doing this, you have in reality constructed a siphon, and as long as there is water in the bowl it will, by traveling first up the length of worsted that is inside the bowl—see dotted lines—and then down the hanging portion outside, slowly drip upon the plants below.

To be sure that all is in working order, it is well to set the appliance working, say, the day before leaving it. And, of course, the greater the volume of water originally provided, and the fewer the lengths of worsted draining from it, the longer the supply of water will last.—Cassell's Saturday Journal.

FALL PLOWING.

Opinion That It Tends to Rob the Land of Much of Its Fertility.

The fall-breaking question must be settled by every farmer to suit his own conditions, but we think it safe to lay down the general principle that fall-breaking tends to rob the land of much of its fertility, says the Farmers' Voice. The Rothamstead and other experiments have proved conclusively that the bare soil loses a great deal of nitrogen during the wet weather of winter and early spring, while unbroken land, that is even sparsely covered with any green crop, loses an inappreciable amount. This loss is not so easily detected on our rich prairie soils, nor is it so great where the land is hard frozen for long periods, but the question is, can we afford to lose any of that element of fertility that costs us 15 cents per pound to restore?

If we thought that we must break our lands very deeply, we would be very much inclined to do the work in the fall, early enough to permit of a seeding of wheat or rye. We would do this deep breaking preferably in the fall, so as to allow the frosts to help reestablish the connection between the upper and the subsoil, as regards water supply, and would sow the grain to preserve the nitrogen in the soil and would harrow or disk it under in spring.

As we come better to understand the problems connected with agriculture, we find that we have, in the past, done many things that were entirely unnecessary to the making of a good crop. Some of the best farmers, who grow corn after corn on very rich lands, have abandoned the practice of "breaking," as the term is understood to mean turning the soil with a plow, and merely disk and harrow the surface in the spring a few days before planting. In private experiments we have found this to be preferable to breaking the land with share and mold board plow.

A DISH DRAINER.

Device Which is Simple of Construction, But a Great Convenience.

A dish drainer which will hold all the dishes is of great convenience. Such a one is shown in the accompanying drawing. It is made of a frame of boards the size of the sink, on the under side of which is tacked firmly fine wire netting. The drainer may be placed upon the sink and the dishes placed bottom side up upon the netting, after they have been rinsed in hot water. In this way they will dry quickly and you will not be obliged to wipe them.—Farm and Home.

WASHING POTATOES.

It is an Excellent Practice if They are Thoroughly Dried Before Storing.

An extensive potato grower of northern Michigan, Mr. L. Van Winkle, in a recent contribution to the Chicago Packer, gives his experience in washing potatoes before storing as follows:

"I am a farmer plowing and working 2,000 acres of land, raising hogs, cattle and horses, and also hay, grain and vegetables. For five years I have washed all my potatoes, and have never lost a bushel by rot after I put them away in the cellars. I dig with a Hoover digger, and pick up the potatoes as fast as they are dug. They are then hauled to a suitable rack for washing, where a mill hose is turned on them with 40 pounds pressure. In this way 100 bushels are washed clean enough in ten minutes to bake or boil. I let them lie for a few minutes only, then pick up and put in one bushel crates, after which they stand in the sun or wind from two to three hours; long enough to dry nicely. The potatoes are then gacked away in a cool, dry cellar, where they remain until wanted for use or to sell.

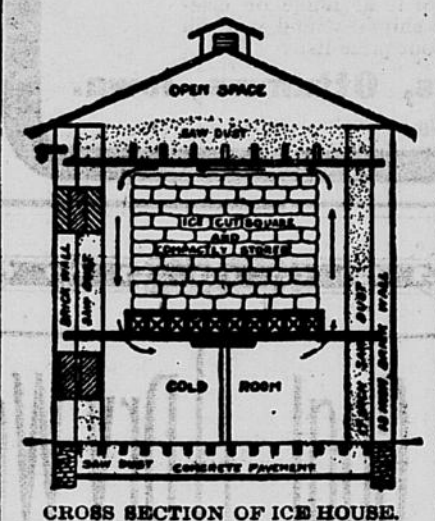
"I have found this to be the most practical way to care for potatoes, or other roots. The potatoes being in bushel crates are ready to sell by the load or bushel, and can be handled very quickly and cheaply. No measuring is necessary, no weighing is required—always ready to sell or plant. The crate, if cared for, will last for years. I have put potatoes in bins often when they were a little wet, or had some defective ones among them, and in a few weeks had to move and sort them. But since I have used crates for potatoes and other roots, I find that when put away the care and trouble is over, and no further attention is necessary.

"I would recommend this method to all farmers, large or small. All that old-fogism of storing potatoes with dirt and mud on them is nonsense. While we all know that potatoes will keep well if dry with a little dirt on them, I know they will keep if washed perfectly clean and dry, and they will come out in the spring good and sound. I had 3,000 bushels in my cellars this spring, the finest stock I ever saw."

HOUSE FOR ICE AND STORAGE

Plans for Building Which is Suitable for Use on the Average Farm.

A very effective cold storage room for farm use is shown by the accompanying engraving of a house 25 feet square and same height. It is built entirely above ground and is so perfectly insulated that the cold room is held at a temperature of 35 degrees in summer, while in constant use. The illustration shows the construction so well that little explanation is necessary.



CROSS SECTION OF ICE HOUSE.

The cold room is lighted by two windows, which have three sets of sash, cemented tightly in place. The drainage is carried off by a series of V-shaped iron troughs running between the joists, which carry the water to one pipe, where it is conveyed outside through a trap. The troughs between the joists are fastened together so there is no trap in the floor below.

By the arrangement shown, no sawdust or other material comes in contact with the ice, and the air of the room circulates around and over it. The atmosphere of the cool room is always dry, pure and sweet.—Farm and Home.

HANDY ROOF LADDER.

One That is Easily Made and is Indispensable in Repairing Roofs.

When making small repairs on roofs, the best kind of a ladder is one with a single large hook, as shown in the illustration.



THE ROOF LADDER.

These can be made in the farm forge and are better than the boughten ladders. They catch easily, hold the ladder flat on the roof and will hold it either straight or slanting to one side. The ladder in this case is also homemade and the rounds are of one-half-inch iron piping.—I. A. Fiske, in Farm and Home.

Surface Dressings.

Surface dressings for meadows are becoming more and more common, because effective. Good surface dressing is barnyard manure, put on with a manure spreader. It not only acts as a mulch, but supplies considerable quantities of plant food.—Orange Judd Farmer.

COUNTERFEITS OF CULTURE

Those Who Surround Themselves with Splendor Do Not Acquire Refinement Therewith.

Ten thousand people in the days of Louis XVI. were housed under the roof at Versailles during the royal fetes. Let us assume, says E. F. Benson, in the Fortnightly Review, that, take it all round, three servants waited on each, what hostess or host of to-day could make anything but a hurly-burly out of over 2,000 guests? Yet there were then no pearl fisheries, no banquets of delicacies out of season to tickle the palate jaded with pleasure and form the comble of the entertainment. What did they do to prevent themselves being hopelessly and entirely bored? It was not so much what they did, but what they were. For they were the flower of an old and noble civilization, men and women of wit and culture, to whom the splendor in which they lived was the natural milieu of their lives, to whom the sculpture of Jean Goujon, the canvases of Watteau, of Lancret, were vivid and interesting things, not merely to be hung up because "my husband paid £100,000 for the set at Duveen's." The minds of the guests of Louis XVI. were alert, artistic; wit was theirs, and the laughter that rang through the gardens the tribute of cultivated intelligences to the quick challenge and riposte. Cards were a diversion to them, not the serious occupation of eight hours a day, and, though it would be idle to deny that there was artificiality—witness the milkmaid parties of the queen at Petit Trianon—the gayety redeemed it, and the esprit of the guests flashes still through the volumes of a hundred memoirs. But what volume could be written, even one, and that how jejune, of the cotillions of to-day, or of the equestrian dinner party? All the accessories and more are here, wealth unlimited, the most beautiful women, the most distinguished men. What then is lacking? All. For to sign checks for the building of a house does not confer on you the power of living in it in the way it should be lived in; to give a party is not to be able to give that nameless distinction which alone makes pomp enjoyable or even endurable. For, to put it briefly, a woman without culture cannot walk across a finely furnished room without looking ridiculous. Once a Jackdaw got some jay's feathers to wear. They did not secure the success their plumes anticipated.

The Medici surrounded themselves with beautiful things, and brought the great sculptors of the world to their courts, because beauty was to them a passion, a part of their life, bequeathed to their blood by a hundred ancestors, part of their atmosphere and environment. But the man who has yesterday, so to speak, made his millions in a shambles in Chicago is as much out of place if he ape the extravagance of French kings, buys by the yard books which he does not read and tapestries which he does not like, as would Louis XVI. be on the floor of the stock exchange. Give him and his wife an electric car or a drawing room furnished with a telephone. That is their proper equipment; it is not beautiful, nor are they.

SOME TRAITS OF THE CZAR

Represented as Amiable in One Quarter and Weak and Fickle in Another.

Much has been written lately concerning Nicholas Alexandrovitch. He is represented as amiable and well intentioned in one quarter; as weak and fickle in another; as obstinate and hysterical in a third. There is a certain amount of truth in each and all of these descriptions, says Carl Joubert, in the Nineteenth Century. A good deal depends on his humor and the time of day. In the morning he will arise, full of good intentions and amiability. An interview with his chief adviser, the procurator, will entirely alter his outlook, and his good intentions will be consigned to the usual destination. An audience given to another minister will bring out a fresh trait in his versatile nature. And so on throughout the day.

I have been blamed for denouncing the czar in "Russia as It Really Is" without regard for historical circumstances. It has been pointed out to me that the evils which exist in Russia are the creation of centuries. In that case, I reply, surely the time has arrived for steps to be taken to eradicate some of the more glaring evils. The state of a nation may be the inheritance of centuries; but the same cannot be said of the state of mind of any one individual in the nation, especially if that individual has had all the advantages that education, travel and a worldwide field of vision can give. For Russia we can only feel extreme pity. But for the man who is in the possession of absolute power, and who, by the stroke of a pen, could, but does not, make a beginning, at least, of a new and happier era for his country we must feel still more.

Kicked Him the Wrong Way. "You are an hour later this morning, Sam." "Yes, sah, I know it, sah." "Well, what excuse have you?" "I was kicked by a mule on my way here, sah."

"That ought not to have detained you an hour, Sam." "Well, you see, boss, it wouldn't have if he'd only have kicked me in the direction, but he kicked me de other way!"—Yonkers Statesman.

Taking Lessons. "Are you teaching that parrot to swear?" asked the benevolent-looking lady with unwonted indignation in her tone. "Bless you, ma'am!" answered the old sailor. "No, indeed, ma'am; I'm taking lessons."—Washington Star.

TOOK BOY'S SUGGESTION.

Flowboy Came Out of the Field and Told Railroaders How to Start Stalled Engine.

A traveling man relates that while riding on the new orient line between Harper and Anthony a few days ago, one of the side rods of the engine broke, and the other side stepped on a "dead center," so that when the repair was made it was impossible to start again. According to the Kansas City Star he says:

"The engineer, the conductor and all the passengers took turns going over the thing and trying to devise a way to make it run. Finally a boy came out of the field where he had been plowing to see what was going on. He crawled through the wire fence and sat down on the bank and fanned himself with his straw hat. 'If you'd back that last car up the grade an' let'er come down gershunk, that'd start'er,' he finally suggested, deliberately.

"The railroad men saided counter-sensibly, but the passengers sided with the boy. Finally the conductor gave orders that the rear car be uncoupled. No less than 50 passengers caught hold and pushed the car up the grade. Once at the top the car was let go. The loose coach gained momentum as it came down hill, and in spite of the engineer's admonition to 'let her come down easy,' the emergency battering ram crashed into the train with a tremendous thump. The engine was bumped off 'center' all right."

ASKED A PERSONAL FAVOR.

Lawyer Wanted Judge to Believe Him of a Somewhat Dangerous Duty.

One of the most picturesque figures of the New York bar was the late Thomas Nolan, a lawyer, whose witty retorts furnished subjects for merriment at many a lawyers' gathering. Now, Nolan was at one time counsel for a poor widow who was suing a construction company for the death of her husband, relates Success. The case had been placed upon the "day calendar," but had been frequently postponed, and Mrs. Moriarity, by the time she had made her fifth appeal, was in an exceedingly disturbed frame of mind, consequently the tones of Nolan's rich brogue were more than usually fervid as he fought against the sixth adjournment.

"I am sorry," said Justice Dugro, "but your opponent has shown me good cause for the adjournment, Mr. Nolan, and the case will therefore go over until to-morrow."

"Very well, sor," said the barrister, sweetly, "but might I ask you personal favor of this court?"

"Certainly, sir, with pleasure." "Will you honor kindly step down to my office and just tell Mrs. Moriarity that you have adjourned the case?"

Best in the World. Cream, Ark., Nov. 7 (Special).—After eighteen months' suffering from Epilepsy, Backache and Kidney Complaint, Mr. W. H. Smith, of this place, is a well man again and thanks the medicine which he has used for his health unhesitatingly give all the credit to Dodd's Kidney Pills. In an interview regarding his cure, Mr. Smith says:

"I had been low for eighteen months with my back and kidneys and also Epilepsy. I had taken everything I knew of and nothing seemed to do me any good till a friend of mine got me to send for Dodd's Kidney Pills. I find that they are the greatest medicine in the world, for now I am able to work and am in fact as stout and strong as before I took sick."

"Dodd's Kidney Pills cure the Kidneys. Cured Kidneys cleanse the blood of all impurities. Pure blood means good health."

A southern newspaper complains that "there is always a bar at the mouth of the Mississippi." If it will help our contemporary to bear his lot with greater fortitude, we will demonstrate to him that there are many bars at the head of the Mississippi.—St. Paul Globe.

Santa Fe Engines at World's Fair. All the world loves a locomotive. There is something lifelike about the iron monster that whisks us at a mile a minute pace across the country. It seems to be a person, not a thing. The crowds who have been recently watching the test of Santa Fe engine No. 507 (a Baldwin of 175 tons weight) in Machinery Hall, World's Fair grounds, St. Louis, will testify to fascination unexplainable. Not merely the size, nor the wheels going around, nor the throbbing steam—but all these and more. The engineer at the throttle and the fireman at the furnace door share the general admiration.

The test showed conclusively that the prairie type used by the Santa Fe in hauling its fastest passenger flyers represents the best achievement of modern engine building.

A convincing orator is one who has sense enough to shut up before his audience acquires that tired feeling.—Chicago Daily News.

I am sure Piso's Cure for Consumption saved my life three years ago.—Mrs. Thos. Robbins, Norwich, N. Y., Feb. 17, 1900.

Some men are so anxious to avoid doing wrong that they neglect to do right.—The Commoner.

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For Infants and Children

Bears The Signature Of *Dr. J. C. Fletcher* Use For Over Thirty Years

The Kind You Have Always Bought

THE CASTOR COMPANY, 77 BROADWAY, NEW YORK CITY.

W. L. DOUGLAS

W. L. Douglas makes and sells more men's \$3.50 shoes than any other manufacturer in the world.

The reason W. L. Douglas shoes are the greatest sellers in the world is because of their excellent style, easy fitting and superior wearing qualities. If you could show me the difference between the shoes made in my factory and those of other makers and the high-grade leathers used, you would understand why W. L. Douglas shoes show more to make, why they hold their shape, fit better, wear longer, and are a greater value than any other shoes made on the market to-day, and why the sales for the year ending July 1, 1900, were \$6,000,000.

W. L. Douglas shoes are made by employing the same name and price on the bottom. Look for the trade mark on the bottom of the shoe.

SUPERIOR IN FIT, COMFORT AND WEAR.

I have worn W. L. Douglas shoes for the last twelve years with absolute satisfaction. I find them superior to all other shoes and wear to others cutting from \$1.00 to \$2.00. I have never worn any other shoes since. W. L. Douglas shoes are made in the United States. W. L. Douglas uses Corvina Colletkin in his \$3.50 shoes. Corvina Colt is considered to be the finest Patent Leather made. Best Color Bicycle used exclusively. W. L. DOUGLAS, Brockton, Massachusetts.



Miss Rose Hennessy, well known as a poetess and elocutionist, of Lexington, Ky., tells how she was cured of uterine inflammation and ovaritis by the use of Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound.

"DEAR MRS. PINKHAM:—I have been so blessedly helped through the use of Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound that I feel it but just to acknowledge it, hoping that it may help some other woman suffering as I did. For years I enjoyed the best of health and thought that I would always do so. I attended parties and receptions thinly clad, and would be suddenly chilled, but I did not think of the results. I caught a bad cold eighteen months ago while menstruating, and this caused inflammation of the womb and congested ovaries. I suffered excruciating pains and kept getting worse. My attention was called to your Vegetable Compound and the wonderful cures it had performed, and I made up my mind to try it for two months and see what it would do for me. Within one month I felt much better, and at the close of the second I was entirely well. I have advised a number of my lady friends to use it, and all express themselves as well satisfied with the results as I was."—Miss Rose NOVA HENNESSY, 410 S. Broadway, Lexington, Ky.

The experience and testimony of some of the most noted women of America go to prove beyond a question that Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound will correct all such trouble and at once, by removing the cause, and restoring the organs to a normal and healthy condition.

"DEAR MRS. PINKHAM:—About two years ago I consulted a physician about my health which had become so wretched that I was no longer able to be about. I had severe backache, bearing-down pains, pains across the abdomen, was very nervous and irritable, and this trouble grew worse each month. The physician prescribed for me, but I soon discovered that he was unable to help me, and I then decided to try Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound, and soon found that it was doing me good. My appetite was returning, the pains disappearing, and the general benefits were well marked.

"You cannot realize how pleased I was, and after taking the medicine for only three months, I found that I was completely cured of my trouble, and have been well and hearty ever since, and no more fear the monthly period, as it now passes without pain to me. Yours very truly, Miss PEARL ACKERS, 327 North Summer St., Nashville, Tenn."

When a medicine has been successful in restoring to health more than a million women, you cannot well say without trying it "I do not believe it will help me." If you are ill, do not hesitate to get a bottle of Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound and write Mrs. Pinkham at Lynn, Mass., for special advice. Her advice is free and helpful. Write to-day. Delay may be fatal.

\$5000 FORFEIT if we cannot forth with produce the original letters and signatures of above testimonials, which will prove their absolute genuineness. Lydia E. Pinkham Med. Co., Lynn, Mass.

Easiest Way Out of It.

The prisoner looked at the dull, sodden faces of the jury men who had been selected to try his case.

"Judge," he said, "is that a jury of my peers?"

"You may so consider them," replied his honor. "That is the presumption of the law."

"I'm guilty, judge," said the prisoner, drawing a long breath. "I'm the feller that set the barn afire."—Chicago Tribune.

"De man dat goes through de world findin' fault," said Uncle Eben, "has picked out sech an easy job for hisse'f dat he can't expect much appreciation."—Washington Star.

WET WEATHER COMFORT

"I have used your FISH BRAND Slicker for five years and can truthfully say that I never had anything give me so much comfort and satisfaction. Enclosed find my order for another one."

(NAME AND ADDRESS ON APPLICATION.)

You can defy the hardest storm with Tower's Waterproof Oiled Clothing and Hats

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TOWER CANADIAN CO. Limited TORONTO, CANADA

OLD MEXICO

If you travel at all you cannot afford to miss Old Mexico. You could not select a better time than now. As a winter resort, Old Mexico is about as nearly perfect as climate and environment can make it. The quiet customs and characteristics of the people, the interesting associations with every place you visit, all combine to make each minute of your trip an enjoyable one.

The rates are reasonable and many privileges in the way of stop-overs and side trips are permissible.

I have some very attractive literature about "Sights and Scenes in Old Mexico" that I would like to send you. May I?

I would like to talk to you and tell you more about Old Mexico, but if that is impossible, drop me a line and I'll be pleased to give you the desired information.

There are other inducements, too, in the way of through Katy sleepers from St. Louis to Mexico City that I would like you to know about. Write me to-day.

"KATY" ST. LOUIS, MO.

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