

### HOME, FARM AND GARDEN.

—Borax water whitens and softens the hands.  
 —To freshen velvet hold the wrong side over boiling water.  
 —Small fruits are greatly benefited by a dressing of wood ashes.

—There is a brisk demand and good prices for feathers, eggs or flesh of ducks and geese, and these fowls are easily raised. Some deem them more profitable than chickens.

—Before using new earthenware place in a boiler with cold water, and heat gradually till it boils; then let it remain until the water is cold. It will not be liable to crack if treated in this manner.—*Indianapolis Journal*.

—White Cake: One cup butter, two cups sugar, three cups flour, whites of five eggs, one teaspoonful soda, two teaspoonfuls cream of tartar, one cup milk.—*Mother's Magazine*.

—Of all the callings of earth give us the life of the sturdy yeoman who tills the fruitful earth and has an appetite for three hearty meals 365 days in the year, and is in a measure independent of all other men.

—A cow with a big udder is not always an enormous milker, nor is a thick yellow skin an unfailing sign of rich milk, although these are among the indications respectively of abundance and richness of milk.

—Boiled sweet potatoes: Choose potatoes of uniform size, wash and boil twenty minutes; drain and lay in the oven, turning them several times to prevent burning, until they yield readily to the touch; serve without paring.—*Boston Budget*.

—Buttermilk biscuits: Three cups of buttermilk, one cup of butter, one teaspoon of cream of tartar, half a teaspoon of soda, a desertspoon of salt and flour enough to make the dough just stiff enough to be rolled out.—*Exchange*.

—Corn Bread: Take as much meal as you wish to make up; add a pinch of soda and salt, stir to a thin batter, using one-half water and one-half buttermilk. Bake in well-greased pans in a moderately hot oven, with or without shortening.—*Farmer and Manufacturer*.

—Potatoe salad: One quart of small potatoes, two teaspoonfuls chopped onions, two of chopped parsley, four of béets and enough of any of the salad dressings or clear vinegar to make it slightly moist; to the latter, if used, add a little butter. Keep in a cool place until ready to serve.—*Exchange*.

—Taffy: Three pounds of treacle, two pounds of moist sugar, one-half pound of butter, flavor with a few drops only of essence of lemon or of peppermint; boil it one and a half hours, watching all the time, that it does not boil over (as it is apt to do if not attended to and stirred now and then).—*Boston Budget*.

—An elastic mullage is made as follows: To twenty parts of alcohol add one part of salicylic acid, three parts of soft soap and three parts of glycerine. Shake well, and then add a mullage made of ninety-three parts of gum-arabic and one hundred and eighty parts of water. This is said to keep well and to be thoroughly elastic.

—The keeping of fruit requires a uniform, low temperature, just above the freezing point. Fruit, in ripening, gives off carbonic acid gas, which is deleterious, hence fruit should not be stored in the house cellar, if it can be avoided. Where there is no other place for the fruit, the ventilation of the cellar must be carefully looked to.

—Cream Cake: Three eggs, one and one-half cups of flour, one cup of sugar, two teaspoonfuls of cream of tartar, one teaspoonful of soda, and two tablespoonfuls of water; bake in jelly pans. Cream: One pint of milk (heat it in a double boiler), one egg, well beaten, one teaspoonful of corn starch, two tablespoonfuls of sugar; add the beaten egg, corn starch and sugar to the boiling milk, cook till smooth, add a teaspoonful of butter and any flavoring desired, and when cool spread between the cakes.—*Household*.

### FARM IMPLEMENTS.

What a Little Paint Properly Applied Will Accomplish.

Few things costing so little save so much as paint when applied to farm implements, including wagons and carts. A few pounds of paint properly applied will preserve a large number of implements from the action of the water during the entire season. The wood work of mowers, tadders and rakes should receive a coat of paint as often as the paint gets worn off so as to expose the wood. Before painting, all open joints should be tightened up, so when painted there will be no chance for the water to get into the mortises, for decay begins in such places. Paint should be applied when the wood is dry, for if applied when it is green or wet, it will not accomplish the desired object; but if applied when the wood is dry the oil penetrates the wood and remains there to harden and keep the water out.

Nothing on the farm is more benefited by painting than the wheels of

### Wanted Ten Thousand Live fleas.

London Trick: A singular advertisement attracted my attention the other day. It was a call for 10,000 live fleas, to be delivered in parcels of not less than 5,000 each to a certain address. I confess my curiosity to know what a

comes the moment these are loose the spokes loosen and open the joints, even if well painted; therefore, before painting, care should be taken to have the tires tight enough so there will be no loose joints. Wheels that are kept tight and well painted will last many years, and be made to carry heavy loads many thousands of miles; while wheels that are not kept well painted will soon decay and break down. One reason for this is they are required to stand both rain and sunshine. When the roads are wet they are required to run through mud and water, and in a dry time to run through the dry, hot sand.

Almost every farmer has skill enough to paint his farm implements, and as he can do it at his leisure, he will feel only the cost of the paint; and as this at the present time is very cheap, a single dollar's worth of paint will go over a large number of implements. Paint now can be bought in small cans ready mixed, and of any color desired. It is not good policy to put paint on very thick, as by so doing it is very likely to peel off; nor is it best to put on two coats within a few weeks of each other, for the same reason that it is not best to apply it thick.

—*Christian at Work*.

### SHELTER FOR STOCK.

Directions for Building a Cheap Structure of Prairie Sod.

The value of wind-breaks and shelter sheds in all open situations is generally acknowledged. Not all who are aware of the value of such shelter act fully up to their conviction. The farmer is too apt to wait until a substantial wooden or brick structure can be built. A practical man gives directions how to make a shelter of prairie sods, so far as the sides are concerned, and also suggests the covering as being adapted to the range. It is quite as well adapted to very many other localities, and is well worthy of study:

Select a slope to the south upon which to erect the corral; plow your sod from ten to twelve inches wide and as long as will make it convenient to handle—lay up a sod wall from twenty-four inches in thickness to the height of six or seven feet for the north side of the corral—length to suit the amount of stock to be sheltered—build up a like wall both on the east and west end of the main north wall, allowing the center to extend two or three feet above the level of the back wall; erect center-poles eight feet apart, place a good strong ridge-pole in the center, then put on two by four scantling for rafters four feet apart; across rafters stretch strong wire, about twelve inches apart, if you desire to cover with corn fodder or sorghum stalks, and six inches apart if covered with hay or other short grass laid on as to shed rain; fasten down with wire across the top to keep it from being blown off. To better protect the sod wall from being destroyed by cattle rubbing or horning against it light posts may be set in close to the sod wall on both sides of it, fastened together at the top with wire to make it more firm. To these posts, set about eight feet apart, if three or more fence boards be nailed at suitable height the wall is thoroughly protected from cattle either rubbing or hooking it down. The stockyard ought to be on the north side of the stable or corral. Openings ought to be placed in the north wall, for door or window or both, sufficiently large to admit hay or fodder. For a sheep-corral the height of the structure can be considerably lowered. The feeding-racks or troughs can be arranged either along the sides and ends of the sod walls as well as through the center of the sheds. If constructed in the center, numerous openings should be left for stock to pass from one side to the other so as to avoid crowding or being hemmed in by unruly stock. The reason given for stacking hay or fodder to the north side of such a shed or corral is to prevent the snow drifting over and around the south side of the shed, which is to be left open, or, at least, partly so.—*Farm, Field and Stockman*.

—A ghastly collection of clothes, linen hats, purses, rings, watches, chains, paintings, timepieces, daggers, knives, guns, revolvers, pistols, and other objects, which have helped to prove the guilt of the criminals who have been tried by the courts during the past year, were sold in Paris a few days ago, and bought up by amateur collectors of the horrible. The names of the criminals to whom the objects had belonged were withheld, and the purchasers had to exercise their own judgment or imagination in identifying their purchases. A knife, supposed to have been the one with which Franzini cut the throats of his victims, was bought at an exorbitant figure by an American; it is said.

### The Primary Use of Water.

Water was provided by the Creator for the purpose of driving mills. Its use as a beverage and for domestic purposes was an after thought, secondary and subordinate to the great original design. Those who divert this some-

consists of either total or partial lack of ability to distinguish color, while the sight may be faultless in every other respect. When total, the sensation of color is absolutely wanting, and the individual sees only different shades of white and black. These cases, however, are extremely rare. More common is partial color-blindness, where the sensation is defective in relation to certain colors, but not to all. This is of three kinds—red-blindness, green-blindness and violet-blindness. Cases of the last variety are so seldom met with that the term color-blindness, as commonly used, has reference to either red-blindness or green-blindness.

Persons who are red-blind see all red objects as a shade of gray, and the same is true of the green blind as to green. A mixture of white and black in proper proportions will give to the color-blind the same sensation as the different shades of red and green. It is somewhat singular that while there is no reason to doubt that color-blindness is as old as man, it was not distinctly recognized and accurately described until a little more than a hundred years ago.

The first case on record is that of a shoemaker named Harris, who lived in Mayport, England. It is said that his first suspicion of any peculiarity of vision on his part arose when he was about four years old. Having by accident found a child's stocking in the street he carried it to a house near by to inquire for the owner. He noticed that other people called it a red stocking, but could not understand why they did so, as it seemed to him completely described by calling it a stocking. He observed, also, that while the children with whom he played could distinguish the cherries on a tree by some pretended difference of color, he could only tell them from the leaves by their difference in size and shape. He found, too, that by means of this difference in color, or in some way which he could not understand, they could see the cherries at a greater distance than he could, though in cases where their sight was not assisted by the color, he could see objects at as great a distance as any of them.

This case was described in 1777. Seventeen years later the celebrated English chemist, Dalton, described his own case so accurately and minutely that color-blindness in general, and especially the form of it with which he was afflicted—namely, red blindness—has since been known as Daltonism. He says that he was never convinced of any peculiarity of his vision until he accidentally observed the color of the flower *geranium zonale* by candlelight. The flower was pink, but appeared to him almost an exact sky-blue by day. By the light of the candle, however, it seemed to him not to have any blue in it, being what he called red—a color which forms a striking contrast to blue. His friends, to whom he referred the matter, agreed that the color was not materially different from what it was by daylight, except his brother, who was subject to the same defect as himself. Two years afterward he began to investigate the subject of colors, or color-blindness. He found that he could distinguish but two, or at most three, colors in the rainbow. These were yellow and blue, or yellow, blue and purple. His yellow included the green, yellow, orange and red of others. This was the same Dr. Dalton who afterwards, though a Quaker and conscientiously opposed to wearing bright colors, when he had received the scarlet gown of a doctor of laws for presentation at court, not only donned it without objection, but also wore it for several days upon the street, in happy unconsciousness of the effect which he produced.

Color-blindness is largely hereditary, and affects males much more frequently than females. It exists from birth, and there is no means known by which it can be remedied. A temporary condition of color-blindness is occasionally met with, due to disease or injury, which passes away with the condition which produced it. The existence of color-blindness in persons occupying responsible positions in the railroad and marine services is a source of great danger to the traveling public, and in most countries examinations are provided by law, for the purpose of testing the color-perception of all applicants for these positions.—*Golden Days*.

### AMONG THE SWEETS.

How Sugar is Handled on the Famous Levee at New Orleans.

A hoghead of sugar is a huge arrangement of staves, hoops and heads weighing, when filled with sugar, from eleven hundred to fifteen hundred pounds. The cooper-shop and the plantation together produce the hoghead of sugar. When the cane has been cut and pressed, and the juice boiled into sugar, the sweet stuff is



### MEMORY

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where it is allowed to remain for twenty-four hours, and even longer when room is plentiful. Then, if not hauled away, it is rolled into the sugar-sheds at the expense of the owner.

Open kettle sugar is sold to the dealer on the levee. The factor is the seller, whether he employs a broker or not. The majority of factors have the services of a broker to attend to the sales on the landing. The first-hand factor or broker only sells in lots, and the bids are either made openly, as the buyers gather around the hogsheds, or the sugar is sold on private offers if the price proffered is the highest.

The party selling the sugar generally does the sampling, either in person or through a clerk or other employe. This is done by means of a long steel instrument known as the gumlet, which is run through the bungle-hole down into the sugar, twisted about, and drawn out full of the saccharine matter. This operation is performed several times, until a sufficient quantity is obtained to clearly show the quality of the article. These samples are generally piled up for the time on the hoghead they are taken out of for the critical examination of the buyer. After they have answered the purpose they are put into little paper bags and kept by the broker or dealer as a type for reference, or sent to the consignee.

It is while the sampling process is going on that the buyers gather round, each in his turn making his offer. The buyer generally attends the sales to personally inspect his purchase, but sometimes sends for samples, and then, on receipt of his goods, compares them with the samples furnished him.

Although the first-hand broker sells but round lots, in case of damage of any portion of a lot or it showing up as an inferior grade, he takes a reduced price for it; still the buyer must take the entire lot. Second-hand brokers sell any way, by the whole or broken lots.

Clarified sugar is sold by sample in the sugar exchange. The supplies are collected and taken to the exchange, where they are spread out on the tables for the inspection of buyers.

After the sugar is sold it is weighed and gauged and is then ready for shipment after the first cooorage. It is swung from the scales by means of large hooks that catch on the chimes of hoghead so that when the beam is pulled down the hoghead is lifted from the ground and the weight ascertained. Four men usually constitute the weighing gang, together with the clerk taking the records of the weights. These hogheads as a general thing run from 1,100 to 1,500 pounds, but in weighing open-kettle sugar the figures give the 5 and 10 pounds. Thus, if a hoghead weighs 1,214 pounds it goes down as 1,210 pounds. Then 12 per cent is knocked off from the gross weight. In clarified sugar the actual weight goes.

When the hogheads have been coopered the boss drayman or his clerk, with his teams, appears on the scene. The sugar is marked, rolled on the floats, and hauled to its destination in the city or to the point of shipment, in case it is being forwarded to some other port, domestic or foreign. The low float is driven up close to the lots to be handled, a skid is hooked into the iron brackets at the side of the float, and the teamsters strain themselves in rolling up the great hogheads on to the bottom of the wagon. After this handling the sugar soon comes into use on the table or in the pantry.

Molasses is disposed of in the same way as sugar. The brokers always come down to the levee to see the samples of molasses, as they are not taken to the exchange. Immediately on their arrival the barrels of molasses are coopered by the first-hand cooper, so as to keep them tight and prevent leaking.—*N. O. Times-Democrat*.

—The surface of the Mediterranean has been found by accurate measurement to lie a little below that of the ocean, it resembling somewhat a shallow funnel with greatest depth coinciding with the region where the water is most salt. Variations in the apparent height of the shores are now thought to be due to changes in the level of the water, especially marked near the apex of the funnel, where the recorded changes in the coast line reach twenty to twenty-three feet. Recent observers also attribute the supposed oscillations in the shores of the Baltic and Black seas to changes in the volume of water caused by varying rainfall and outflow.—*Boston Budget*.

—Tennessee has an area of 5,100 square miles of coal, which covers twenty-two counties. During the past six years the output of coal in the State has grown from 494,000 tons to 1,000,000 tons, an increase of 400 per cent.

Boston & Albany railroad, has traveled 1,660,000 miles in the last forty-four years. He is now the oldest conductor on the road, but he is strong and vigorous, and expects to make a record of 2,000,000 miles before he retires.

—Mr. Edward Earle, of New York, has on his place at Narragansett Pier a water tower seventy-five feet high containing 18,000 gallons. On the top of this tower is a wooden dragon twenty-one feet long, with spread wings measuring twelve feet from tip to tip.

—Just before Mrs. Langtry left New York City she became the possessor of what is pronounced by experts to be the largest and finest turquoise in America. It is set in twenty-seven diamonds, and may be worn as a pin or as a pendant. It is worth over \$5,000.—*Public Opinion*.

—Joseph Chamberlain is an enthusiast on the subject of orchids, on which he spends immense sums. He has the finest collection in England, always wears one in his buttonhole, and frequently displays \$6,000 to \$7,000 worth of these costly flowers on his dining-room table.

—Chief Justice Waite at the age of seventy-two is the most energetic member of the United States Supreme Court. He is the only one of the justices who has not availed himself of the act of Congress giving him a private secretary at \$1,800 a year. "I don't want one," says the Chief Justice, "he'd only be in the way." Waite is a hard-headed practical man who reads nothing but law books, works twelve hours a day, and has little or no imaginative power.

—The Garfield monument, though not completed, has been opened for the inspection of the public. The foolish statements made in regard to its alleged instability, and widely published throughout the country, have no foundation whatever. The height of the structure was lessened solely to save the cost. The foundations are strong, substantial, and enduring. The style of the monument may or may not please the general public. That is largely a matter of taste.—*Cleveland Leader*.

—Potter Palmer, of Chicago, is one of those men who always seem to be in a hurry, and whose faces carry about a permanent look of fatigue. When he is wandering about his hotel he tugs away nervously at the whiskers on his chin, and seems to be absorbed by some mighty problem. When he talks his sentences are short and to the point. He never looks his hearer in the eye, and always seems anxious to get away. He is seldom seen behind the counter of his business office. He manages, however, to run his affairs most successfully, though it be in a peculiar way.—*N. Y. World*.

### HUMOROUS.

—Miss De Smith, who wants the sugar—Prof. Gray, will you please pass me some article on the table which typifies my character? Prof. Gray, abstractedly, continuing his conversation with Mme. T.—, passes the vinegar.—*Chicago Tribune*.

—Old Party—"I've got a sure tip on the first race; you can have it for a V." Young Party—"Why don't you play it yourself, instead of selling it?" Old Party—"Well, you see, young feller, I've got a ter-ribble thirst on me, and the race ain't to be run for two hours yet."—*Judge*.

—Lament of the Old Rocking-Chair.—

"Tis a shame, now I'm old,  
 The great weight I must hold,  
 At an hour when all wise folks retire;  
 Since the evenings grow chill  
 A most wearisome pill  
 Became mine, holding John and Maria."  
 —*Boston Budget*.

—"Do you find your evangelical labors pleasant?" was asked of a Dakota minister. "Not altogether so, at times," was the reply. "For instance, last Sunday, a newly-converted member of the church, who sits near the door, threatened to fill me full of holes if I didn't speak louder."—*Life*.

—"Say, what are you doing?" demanded the hall-boy of the countryman who was working away at the electric button in his room with a pen-knife. "O, ye're here, air ye?" was the response. "Just lend me a hand, will ye? I want'er git the stopper out o' this speakin' tube. S'pose'n the house sh'd catch fire and I couldn't let the landlord know."—*Tid-Bits*.

—A Fall That Would Prove Too Costly.—Mose Schauburg and Mrs. S. went to the Austin Opera-house. They got seats in the gallery. Just before the performance began Mrs. S. recognized a friend in the orchestra and leaned over the railing. Mose seized her by the arm and pulled her back, exclaiming in an agonized tone of voice: "Vat for you vants to fall down in dot orchestra, Repecca, vere it cost a tollar and a haluf a seat?"—*Texas Siftings*.