

FARM, GARDEN AND HOUSEHOLD.

Seasonable Hints for the Farm.

Top dressing at this season, with anything but the very finest and best manure, except on sod for corn, is a waste of time and labor. The effect comes too late to benefit the crop. Some active commercial fertilizer should be used instead. For grass or wheat one hundred and fifty pounds of nitrate of soda, or the same of guano, per acre, would be a good dressing. In using commercial fertilizers, it is well to make experiments as to quantities and varieties for different soils and crops.

For the corn crop we have found the sooner the planting is done after the plowing, and while the soil is moist and fresh, the better. A top dressing of coarse manure upon the sod would be an excellent preparation for this crop.

Many Western farmers have made fowl a profitable crop, at good prices in demand at the oil mills as seed prices. It is a useful crop to sow and clean the soil, and may precede fall wheat with advantage. A bushel and a half of seed per acre may be sown this month upon a corn stubble.

Raise the best calves, and thus gradually raise the quality of their herds. A good calf is well worth a month's fresh milk, and if their coming was timed for April, they could have the April milk, and the dairymen be richer and they the better for it.

Early lambs should be pushed forward for market by giving extra food to the ewes and increasing the flow of milk. To feed the lambs meal or other food, for which their stomachs are as yet unprepared, hinders their growth.

You pigs may be pushed as fast as possible. When a week old they may be taught, without difficulty, to drink milk from a shallow pan, and in doing this the young animals may be tamed and rendered perfectly docile. To have tame and tractable animals about the farm will add much to their value, and the ease and comfort in tending them. Feed the nursing sows well, and keep them warm.

The roller should be used with judgment. It is a valuable implement, but sometimes it is used injuriously. It is most effective upon dry soils; when the soil is damp clods are easily crushed, but the surface is packed, and crusted. Meadows, or the pasture, should be rolled while moist and soft, that stones and rough places may be pressed into the soil, and the surface leveled for the mower. Fall grain may be rolled with advantage the day after it is harrowed, if rain has not fallen.

In purchasing tools and implements those that are lightest, other things being equal, should be chosen. To handle a heavy tool is a waste of muscle, now that steel is in universal use for the best kinds. Even a hoe should be sharp and bright to be most effective, and in a mower a dull knife will double the draft. This is equally true of horse power machines and of hand tools.

Packing Butter.

A well known dairy authority gives the following directions for packing butter so that it will keep sweet for eight or nine months: Make a brine with a saturated solution of the purest salt you can get, using one pound of saltpeter to about twenty pounds of salt. Scald the brine by bringing it to a boiling heat, skim, and apply when sufficiently cool. The casks should be carefully prepared as well as the brine. If the gum and sap in the wood are not removed before the casks are used, they will work out into the brine and affect the butter. To remove the woody flavor from the casks a thorough steaming with a high pressure is the quickest and best means. If soaked before the steam is applied, hot steam will cut the gum and woody flavor all out in a short time. If steam is not convenient, soak in brine a week or so, and then fill with boiling hot brine, and let it stand till it gets cool. By keeping the butter under the brine and the casks full and in a cool place, the butter can be kept safely. Some of the tin-lined packages which have recently been introduced, and which are easily hermetically sealed, would be much more convenient and probably fully as cheap as the oak casks and brine, and are claimed to be equally efficient in preserving.

Cure for Scab in Sheep.

A farmer discovered a year ago that a lot of his sheep had this disease. The first thing he knew, they lost their wool, so that by shearing time they were almost bare. Having heard of tobacco as a cure, and failing with other remedies, he procured some thirty or forty pounds of the leaves, and boiled it up in a great kettle. When cold, he poured the liquor into a large tub, and, after shearing, plunged each sheep that was affected by the scab into it up to the neck, and then turned them out to pasture. The liquor must be strong enough to change the color of the wool to a light red, and, according to the man's experience, they will be cured, not only of the scab, but if the lambs are dipped too, of all the ticks. Stalks of tobacco, cut up and boiled the same as the leaves, will do equally well.

Cure for Corns.

According to the *Union Medicale*, corns may be cured with greater certainty and rapidly than in any other way by simply applying, morning and evening, a drop of perchloride of iron by means of a bit of straw. This treatment, continued for fifteen days, will, in most cases, effect a cure without involving any pain.

The Doctors and the Dyspeptic.

We receive, says the New York *Ledger*, a great many communications from correspondents who are suffering from dyspepsia, torpid liver, or some other disease caused by bad digestion, and who wish to know what to do to regain their health. Some of them have tried many doctors and many kinds of treatment, but find themselves to be no better. They are "tired of bothering with the doctors," they say, and would like to know if they "had better not let them alone altogether."

It seems that most of the doctors tell their patients to take out-door exercise, to be careful with their diet, and to eat slowly. But it is seldom that the patients, according to their own statements, strictly follow these simple rules. So the doctors cannot be as much at fault as they are generally supposed to be. The last rule, eat slowly, if carried out, would go a great way towards curing a dyspeptic. Almost all people troubled with dyspepsia, or any kindred disease, eat too fast. They hardly ever take time to masticate their food, but bolt it almost without chewing. Let them eat slowly, and when it has become a habit with them to do so, they will have better health, and find life to be sweeter and in every way more desirable.

The latest in the form of a parting salutation is: "Well, if I don't see you agin, hello."

A CHARLEY ROSS STORY.

A Plot to Kidnap Jay Gould and Fisk. Send them to Africa, and Sell them into Slavery.

A correspondent of the New York *Sun* tells that paper the following story: There has been a time when Jay Gould and a distinguished companion were in imminent danger of being kidnapped, not for a short period, as has been stated was the intention in the Drew-Robinson-Rubino case, but for a time which might only have terminated with their lives.

One evening Mr. Gould gave me the history of the affair while we were sitting in his office. He was in unusually good humor, and becoming talkative, began to relate many of the interesting incidents of his life. Finally he said: "Did I ever tell you about the plot which was formed to kidnap Fisk and myself and send us away to Africa?"

I expressed my ignorance of ever having heard anything about such a plot from him or anybody else, and Mr. Gould gave me the history of it something as follows:

"When Jim Fisk and myself began to do business together, his peculiar appearance and extraordinary actions attracted the attention of everybody in the country to ourselves, and a great deal of useless annoyance was the result. Everything that happened in Wall street was soon laid at our door, and no matter whether a speculation resulted fortunately or the reverse, we were credited with a hand in the manipulation of it. When people made money they would not thank us; when they lost it we received their maledictions. I preferred a more unobtrusive style of life, but Fisk was never contented unless he made a splash and dragged me into it. After a time detectives were continually shadowing us from one place to another by day, and when we went to bed they watched in front of the houses. It was a year or more before Fisk died that I was conscious of being followed constantly by a person very peculiar in his general appearance, who I judged was not a regular detective, as his face could be too easily remembered by one who had ever seen it. I therefore was puzzled to account for his actions, and was about to mention the matter to the police, when, as I was entering my residence late one night, he suddenly confronted me. There was nobody around, and at first I had a good notion to run away from him; he spoke quickly, however, and I decided to remain, and trust to luck to get away if he should make any hostile demonstration. He said he wanted to speak to me on the subject of my personal safety, which, he said, was in great peril. He had followed me for some time, and was in need of money; he had been urged to enlist in a desperate scheme, and thought if he could realize by disclosing the information, instead of committing crime, he would be glad to do it.

"I became satisfied after a short parley that he really possessed important information, and entered into negotiations for its possession. A price was agreed upon, and he revealed the facts that negotiations had been entered into by wealthy parties, who were anxious to obtain control of the Erie road, whereby Fisk and myself were to be kidnapped late at night and put on board a large schooner then anchored in the lower bay, and taken away to Africa. The person who was to do the job had been engaged in blockade running during the war, and was to receive \$100,000 in gold.

"I of course went to Fisk immediately and gave him the particulars. He was incredulous, and it was not until we chartered a tug boat and proceeded to the lower bay in company with the informer that he was satisfied. We boarded the schooner, and found it fitted with every appliance for the successful confinement of ourselves. Directly in front of the cabin a room had been built of heavy plank, and accessible from the cabin only, in which we were to have been placed when captured. Rings were fixed to the floor, and the intention was evidently, as the man said, to keep us chained inside like a couple of wild beasts. We obtained every particular concerning the scheme, and were preparing to arrest the conspirators, when they found out that we were warned, and disappeared. Fisk thought we had better say nothing about the matter, because the feasibility of the scheme might suggest itself to other parties, and thereby put our persons in additional peril.

In response to a question as to the use to which they were to be put upon arrival in Africa, Mr. Gould stated that the intention was, he believed, to sell Fisk and himself to negro kings in the interior as slaves. The party who disclosed the kidnapping scheme was rewarded handsomely, and his whereabouts was known to Mr. Gould at the time he told me.

Such was the story, which seems almost incredible. It was, however, related to me substantially as above.

A Baby Smoker.

A most curious case of inherited tendencies is described as having occurred in the town of Bradford Junction, Ohio. The story is of a baby boy who was weaned, with considerable difficulty, at the age of two years. All the usual substitutes, provided to bamboozle robins in such cases, were indignantly rejected by this subject; he would not touch the nursing bottle; food was refused, and with hunger and constant fretting, he suffered nervously, and his health failed to such a degree as to occasion serious alarm. He suffered, too, from an excess of saliva on his little stomach. For the purpose of temporarily pacifying him, his father, an inveterate smoker, occasionally yielded to the child's entreaties by withdrawing the cigar from his own mouth and allowing the boy to puff at it for a short while at a time, in his own way.

It was observed from the beginning that the child was substituting for the maternal food, invariably given entire satisfaction—the stomach complaint disappeared, the child acquired an appetite for food and began to thrive. But the appetite for smoking increased even more rapidly. From a few little imitative puffs at beginning, the child grew into smoking a whole cigar a day, and increased the number until in a year or so he consumed from ten to twelve cigars daily. It was noticed then that he suffered in health, suffered nervously and lost flesh, and that mentally he had little of the healthy curiosity or fresh interest in the little things around him characteristic of children of his age.

Mixed Up.—It is well enough, says the *Norwich Bulletin*, to talk of elevating the tone of social conversation, but when a well meaning young man tries to introduce polite conversation as a subject, at a little gathering, and finds that everybody thinks he is referring to a new kind of plaster and considers him an idiot in doing so, he is apt to feel that the life of the reformer is a kind of perpetual picnic on an ant hill.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

Items of Interest from Home and Abroad.

The cable of the Direct company was cut by a fishing vessel, whose anchor got foul of it. Advice from Mexican sources state that a proclamation of martial law checked the revolutionary movements in nearly all the states except Oaxaca. The police of Mexico City killed one hundred sympathizers of the revolution, in breaking up a meeting held to express approbation of the insurgents. Prices have advanced twenty-five per cent. under the heavy taxation, and business is completely ruined. Great Britain's income tax has been increased a penny in the pound. The Delaware river being free of ice, millions of feet of lumber are being rafted to market. S. C. Parsons, druggist, of Northampton, Mass., while insane from brain fever, drowned himself. The president of the Haverhill (Mass.) bank, who had his pocket picked of a large amount, recently, has received \$13,000 in notes and checks by express. The Canada Pacific railway has succeeded in getting the Canadian parliament to appropriate \$1,810,000 toward it. The insurrection which broke out in the Bihac district of Albania is extending along the Orina and north Bosnian frontier. All the towns between Mogdane, Polje and Petrovatz have risen. Maurice Vignaux, the winner of the champion billiard match in Paris a few weeks since, challenges any man in America to a three-ball game for from \$1,000 to \$5,000. John Johns, Episcopal bishop of Virginia, died of the age of eighty years. Three thousand coal miners in North Derbyshire, England, struck work in consequence of a reduction of wages.

Capt. Kahn, of the Franconia, which sunk the *Strathelyne*, by which disaster so many persons lost their lives off the coast of England, has been found guilty of manslaughter. The European grain market has a downward tendency. The Turks violated the armistice by receiving two shipsloads of reinforcements and concentrating their army. In consequence the insurgents renounced the negotiations in progress. All Bosnia is now in open rebellion. The four-ball game of billiards between Cyrille Dion and A. P. Rudolph, in New York, for \$500 a side and the diamond championship coin, resulted in a victory for Dion by a score of 1,500 against 392. The Panama railway company has sent the Pacific Mail company for \$338,490, due for transportation across the isthmus. Samuel Evans, a colored sailor, who lived in a room in New York with two women, one white and the other colored, fatally stabbed the white girl for threatening to desert him. By the death of Miss Newberry, at Rome, between two and three million dollars, bequeathed by her father, revert to the city of Chicago for a free library. The estate is valued at \$5,000,000. Three men were killed and another fatally injured by a locomotive exploding near Bald Eagle, Pa.

Gen. Garibaldi has accepted a gift of 100,000 lire (\$20,000) offered him by the Italian nation and king some time ago. The prospects of the Ohio fruit crop are unpromising, because of the damage by bad weather. In view of the improved health of the czar of Russia, the abdication scheme has been abandoned. Intelligence has been received that the Amer of Cabul, Afghanistan, has defeated his rebellious feudatory, the Meer of Maimana. The latter lost three thousand men in the battle. Daniel O'Leary, the pedestrian from Chicago, walked five hundred miles in 139 hours and thirty-two minutes in San Francisco—being the shortest space of time that distance was ever walked in. Samuel Cowell, a railroad engineer, was shot and killed at Potomac, Md., by T. G. Settle, who had been removed from his position as station agent at Stewart's instigation. Settle then went home and committed suicide by shooting. Serious agrarian outbreaks have taken place in the Buxar district of Madras, India. Thirty thousand persons assembled, and troops were dispatched to restore order. The wholesale drug house of Wm. H. Brown & Bros., Baltimore, containing valuable stock, was destroyed by fire, and several adjoining buildings damaged. Loss about \$225,000. Athol, Mass., lost its Music Hall building and a dwelling by fire. Loss, \$75,000. The wife of Rev. George Gannett, of Boston, committed suicide by jumping from the bridge on Beacon street. James Brown, superintendent of the Avondale (Ind.) coal mines, was killed and terribly mangled by falling 280 feet down a shaft. Goldsmith Maid trotted a mile in 2:19 1/2 in San Francisco; b'g trot Golden Gate, which was to run a mile in 2:50 yards. While to be a roller maid for a steamboat, in front of the shop of S. J. J. Wells, at Binghamton, N. Y., a terrible explosion occurred, killing three men and wounding several persons on the street.

Forty-Fourth Congress.

The Business of General Interest Transacted.

SENATE.

Mr. Sherman (Rep.), of Ohio, from the committee on finance, reported favorably on the House bill to provide for a deficiency in the engraving and printing bureau of the treasury department. Mr. Wright (Rep.), of Iowa, from the committee on the judiciary, reported adversely on the Senate bill to make persons chargeable with criminal offenses and insolent United States judges, and it was indefinitely postponed. Mr. Sherman (Rep.), of Ohio, called up the bill to provide for a deficiency in the printing and engraving bureau of the treasury department, and for the issue of silver coin of the United States in place of fractional currency. The bill was read a third time and passed. It was enacted, That there be, and hereby is appropriated out of any money in the treasury not otherwise appropriated, the sum of \$103,000, to provide for engraving and printing and other expenses of said bureau, and insuring United States notes, and the further sum of \$45,000, to provide for engraving and printing national banknotes, to be disbursed under the secretary of the treasury. The secretary of the treasury is hereby directed to issue silver coins of the United States of the denomination of ten, twenty, twenty-five, and fifty cents, of standard value, in redemption of fractional currency of the same currency, whether the same be in the treasury awaiting redemption, or wherever it may be presented for redemption, and the secretary of the treasury may, under regulations to be made by him, provide for the redemption and issue by substitution at the regular sub-treasuries and public depositories of the United States, until the whole amount of fractional currency provided for by this act, and the fractional currency redeemed under this act shall be held to be a part of the sinking fund provided for by the existing law, the interest to be computed thereon as in the case of bonds redeemed under the acts relating to the redemption of fractional currency. Mr. Edmunds, from the committee on the judiciary, reported adversely on the House bill to protect witnesses who shall be required to testify in certain cases, and the bill was placed on the calendar. Mr. Morrill (Rep.), of Vermont, called up the bill making appropriations to continue the work of improving the Capitol grounds, and reduced a bill for the appropriation of \$25,000 for the improvement of the Capitol grounds, the amount from \$25,000 to \$20,000, was agreed to, and the bill passed. The bill fixing the rate of postage on third-class mail matter, after several amendments, passed.

HOUSE.

Mr. Holman (Dem.), of Indiana, from the committee on appropriations, reported back the Senate bill fixing the Presidential salary, after the fourth of March, 1877, at \$25,000. The question was taken on a motion made by Mr. Holman to refer to the committee of the whole bill reported adversely from the committee on banking and currency to regulate the rate of interest throughout the country on national money (that is, greenbacks, national bank notes, etc.), and to make it five per cent. The motion was rejected—yeas, 75; nays, 135. The *World* (Dem.), of New York, from the committee on commerce, reported a bill exempting masters of vessels engaged in trade between the United States and British North America, or the West Indies, or Mexico, and the masters of vessels of less than seventy-five tons burden, bound from a port on the Atlantic to a port on the Pacific and vice versa, from the necessity of shipping a crew, and the masters of vessels to be signed before a shipping commissioner. Passed. Mr. Hereford (Dem.), of West Virginia, chairman of the committee on commerce, reported a bill for the appropriation of \$53,486. On motion of Mr. Holman (Dem.), of Indiana, the Senate bill appropriating \$25,000 for the improvement of the Capitol grounds was amended by reducing the amount to \$20,000, and the bill passed. The bill to supply the deficiency in the printing bureau of the Treasury department, and for the issue of subsidiary silver coin in place of the fractional currency, was taken up, the question being on the Senate amendment to strike out the third section, known as "the

Beagan amendment," making silver dollars legal tender to the amount of \$50, and lesser coins legal tender to the amount of \$25. The amendment was concurred in without division, as were the other amendments. The bill then reduced to the first and second sections (which supply the deficiency in the printing bureau and direct the issue of subsidiary silver coin) now goes to the President for his signature. The House took up the Deficiency bill, and Mr. Wells (Dem.), of Missouri, who had charge of it, made explanations as to the bill. The bill was amended in various minor particulars, and passed.

The Centennial Motive Power.

The great engine which runs the machinery in machinery hall on the Centennial grounds weighs eight hundred tons; will drive eight miles of shafting; has a fly-wheel thirty feet in diameter and weighing seventy tons; is of fourteen hundred horse-power, with a capacity of being forced to 2,500 horse-power; has two walking beams, weighing twenty-two tons each, and a forty-inch crank shaft nineteen inches in diameter and twelve feet in length, and piston-rods six and one-quarter inches in diameter. The platform upon which it rests is fifty-five feet in diameter and composed of polished iron plates, resting upon brick foundations that extend far down into the earth. The height from the floor to the top of the walking beams is thirty-nine feet. Mr. Corliss is the inventor, patentee, builder and owner, having had it erected for the double purpose of exhibition and furnishing motive power, which will be supplied gratuitously, but only for the purpose of exhibiting machinery in operation, no machinery being allowed to run longer than is necessary for that purpose, except by permission from the chief of the bureau. Of the eight lines of shafting (four on each side of the transept) seven will have a speed of 120 revolutions per minute and one of 240.

The *Times* tells us how the great engine started up the first time. At precisely half-past six o'clock the director general raised his arm as a signal, Mr. Corliss pushed his huge iron pet as if it were a frisky nag that he was coaxing to move, when a slight puffing was heard, not near so loud as that of a railway locomotive when about to start, one of the cylinders began to expand and the fly-wheel to turn, and the engine was in motion. Without waiting for more, every spectator took his hat in his hand and swung it in the air, the action being accompanied by a cheer so deafening that nothing could exceed it in enthusiasm except the cheers that followed it. Everybody appeared to understand the significance of the moment, and the practical appreciation of it shown would be worthy of the opening day. The motion of the engine was astonishingly noiseless, nothing being heard above a uniform murmur, resembling the well known sound of a well set wheel in rapid revolution. There were but fourteen pounds of steam generated by the four boilers, and the revolutions of the fly-wheel at that speed, produced fifteen per minute. The shafting, cog-wheels, portions of which rise above the floor in distant parts of the building, though revolving with great rapidity, were even more noiseless than their gigantic motor. It was long before the spectators could turn away from the grand sight, and when they did it was to speak in admiration of that power in man which can invent the means of accomplishing the power of many giants with none of the bustle made by one child.

The Congregational churches of Connecticut will celebrate the national centennial on Sunday, July 9.

If you have a discharge from the nose, offensive or otherwise, partial loss of the sense of smell, taste or hearing, eyes watery or sore, feel dull and tired, or suffer from pain or pressure in the head, take cold easily, or may rest assured that you have the catarrh. Thousands annually, without manifesting half of the above symptoms, terminate in consumption and die in the grave. No disease is so common, more deceptive, or less understood by physicians. R. V. Pierce, M. D., of Buffalo, N. Y., is the proprietor of Dr. Sage's Catarrh Remedy—a perfect specific for catarrh, "cold in the head," or catarrhal headache.

Pimples on the face, rough skin, chapped hands, asthma and all cutaneous affections cured, the skin made soft and smooth, by the use of JEROME TAIL SOAP. That made by Jerome Tail Soap Co., New York. No matter what kind of skin you have, as there are many imitations, made from common tar, which are worthless.—Com.

Important to Persons Visiting New York or the Centennial.

The GRAND UNION HOTEL, New York, opposite the Grand Central depot, has over 350 elegantly furnished rooms. Elevator, steam, and all modern improvements. European plan. Carriage hire is saved, as baggage is taken to and from the depot free of charge. The restaurants supplied with the best. Guests can live better for less money at the Grand Union, than at any other first-class hotel. Stages and cars pass the hotel constantly to all parts of the city, and to Philadelphia depot.

The Markets.

Mr. Morrill (Rep., of Vermont, called up the bill (S. 100), for the relief of the Mr. McKim, a bankrupt, and for the relief of the several Capital grounds, and for an amendment of the House, reducing the same from \$25,000 to \$20,000, was agreed to, and the bill passed.

The bill fixing the rate of postage on third-class mail matter, after several amendments, passed.

HOUSE.

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The question was taken on the motion made by Mr. Holman to refer to the committee of the whole the bill reported adversely from the committee on the subject of the currency, to regulate the rate of interest throughout the country on national money (that is, greenbacks, national bank notes, etc.), to make it six or eight per cent. The bill was agreed to, year 75; the bill was tabled.

Mr. Ward (Dem.), of New York, from the committee on commerce, reported a bill exempting masters of vessels engaged in the coastwise trade from the laws of the United States, or the West Indies, or Mexico, and from a port on the Pacific and vice versa, from the necessity of shipping their crews or owning their shipping articles to be signed before a shipping commissioner. Passed.