Plantains and Bananas. Of all plants which are the produce of the tropics, none are superior in interest to the plantains and bananas, two closely allied specimens of the genus Wasa. Of the several species of this genus, one has received the specifle name of paradisiaca, under the supposition t'at it was the tree of life," or the "tree of the knowledge of good and evil," spoken of in the scriptures. St. Pierre observes that the violet cones at the end of a branch of plantains, with the stigmas peering through like gleaming eyes, might well have suggested to the guilty imagination of Live the semblance of a serpent tempting her to pluck the forbidden fruit it bore, as an erect and golden crest. Though some ing up, flowering, fruiting, and then dying down to give place to other shoots from the same root. The fruit ripens in succession from the base to the apex of the flowering stem, so that will be found associated. One stalk of fruit will attain three feet, and bear from 120 to 150 and even 180 plantains, the entire weight of which would be from 50 to 70 pounds. Dried plantains form an article of internal commerce in India, and, in a few instances, have been exported. When deprived of their skin and dried in the sun, they are reduced to meal, in great demand in the West Indies for invalids. A recent French exchange states that efforts are being made in Venezuela to get up an export trade for meal of this sort, the supply being much greater than the home demand. Professor Johnson states that the fruit approaches most nearly in composition and nutritive value to that of the potato, and the meal to that of rice. All the species contain a large number of spiral vessels, and afford a strong and valuable fibre, from which cloth and cordage are made. The substance called manilla hemp, much employed for cordage in America and Europe, is obtained in one of the species (Musa textilus). Scarcely any parts of these useful plants are devoid of use to man. A limpid fluid issues from wounds in the body of the plant, which is used in medicine, as is also the root. It has been recently stated in a foreign medical journal that the property which these plants possess of keeping the surrounding soil moist (as pointed out by Boussingault) has been taken advantage of to afford shade and moisture to the coffee plant in Venezuela; and that the cultivation of the latter has therefore been very much increased. Still another industrial use has lately been proposed for the fruit in the latter country, this being the distillation of brandy. Banana brandy, even from the first distillation, is said to have a pleasant taste and smell, recalling that of the fruit. It contains fifty-two per cent, of alcohol. As two hundred weight of the fruit produces about ten quarts of

A Penguin Rookery.

the sugar cane.

In penguin rookeries the grass covers wide tracts with a dense growth like that of a field of standing corn but denover one's head. Most of the drove of penguins made for one landing place, where the beach surface was covered with a coating of dirt from their feet, forming a broad track leading to a lane in the tall grass about a yard wide at the bottom, and quite bare with a smoothly-beaten roadway; to is was the entrance to the main street of this part of the "rookery." Various lateral streets lead off on each side from the main road, and are often at their mouths as big as it; moreover, the road sometimes divides for a little and joins again; hence it is the easiest thing in the world to tose one's way. It is impossible to conceive the discomfort of making one's way through a big rookery, haphazard, or "across country," as one may say. You plunge into one of the lanes in the tall grass, which at once shuts out the surroundings from your view. You tread on a slimy, black, damp soil, composed of the birds' dung. The stench is overpowering, the yelling of the birds perfectly terrifying; I can call it nothing else. You lose the path, or perhaps are bent from the first in making direct for some s, ot on the other side of the rookery. Now you are, the instant you leave the road, on the actual breeding-grounds. The nests are placed so thickly that you can not help treading on eggs and young birds at almost every step. A parent bird sits on each nest, with its sharp beak erect and open ready to bite, yelling, savagely, "Caa, caa, urr, urr," its red eye gleaming and its plumes at half-cock and quivering with rage. No sooner are your legs within reach than they are furiously bitten, often by two or three at once-that is if you have not got on strong leather gaiters, as on the first occasion of visiting a rookery you probably have not. At first you try to avoid the nests, but soon find that impossible; then, maddened almost by the prin, stench and noise, you have recourse to brutality. Thump, thump, goes your stick, and at each blow down goes a bird. Thud, thud, you hear from the men behind, as they kick the birds off the nests, and so you go on for a bit, thump and smash. whack, thud, "caa, caa, urr, urr," and the path behind you is strewed with the dead, dying and bleeding. But you make miserable slow progress, and, worried to death, at last resort to the expediment of stampeding as far as your breath will carry you. You put down your head and make a rush through the grass treading on old and

-The city of Glasgow is supposed to have been founded in the year 500 by

fore they have time to bite

young haphazard, and rushing on be-

-The last great revolt of the natives of Poland against the authority of Russia was in 1863,

FARM AND GARDEN.

NITROGEN IN AGRICULTURE. - Nitrogen, as is well known, is the most important element in plant food, it any, one element can be termed most important where all are essential. It is a very costly part of our lertilizers, for so small a part of what is applied seems to be available. The American Agriculturist for July, in reviewing a letter from the noted J. B. Lawes of England on this subject, says: We are paying, and usually with profit, fifteen to thirty cents per pound for nitrogen in our standard fertilizers, and yet the very soil on which it is used with profit contains thousands of pounds in every acre, within reach of the plants, but in liert forms so that the plants cannot use it. Mr. Lawes has been experimenting largely for thirty years, and has given much attention to the subject of applying nitrogen so as to of the species att in a height of 20 to 30 make the most of it. He observed that teet, they are herbaceous plants, grow-ing up. flowering, fruiting, and then like the amount of nitrogen applied. Where he had used fourteen tons of dung per acre every year for barley, the crop had at its disposal more than four times as much nitrogen as it used. What becomes of the rest? There are on the same plant flowers and ripe fruit several ways to account for it. Much stays and accumulates in the ground. Grass land manured in this way for eight years in succession had stored up enough nitrogen, and other ingredients of plant food, to keep up the full yield for five years longer, and now, after fifteen years cropping since any manare has been applied, the effect of the old supply still remains. On another field where fourteen tons of dung was applied every year to barley, analysis mplies that the nitrogen accumulated in the soil at the rate of about one hunfred pounds per acre annually. It is different wi h nitrogen in commercial ferdlizers. The nitrogen in sulphate of ammonia and nitrate of soda is realy to act at once, and one fourth as much as is supplied in stable manure will bring as good crops. The nitrogen in these lertilizers does not accumulate in the soil like that of dung. Part goes into the crops and the rest is lost by being converted into inert forms, escaping to the air, or leaching. A choice of the right kind of crops, and the use of lime and ashes, proper tillage, etc., are means that will economize the nitrogen in the soil.

A BRACE FOR A KICKING HORSE.-Those so unfortunate as to own a kicking horse know something of the patience it requires to get along with and will welcome anything which will prevent the kicking and finally effect a ure. The writer knew a horse which was so bad a kicker that after various trials, and after passing through many hands, and getting worse all the time, to be perfectly cured in the course of three months by the use of the device here given. This is a simple brace, which acts upon the fact that if the head be kept up, the horse cannot kick, A kicking horse is like a balance, when one end goes up the other must go down. The brace consists of a half inch iron rod, which may be straight, or, for the look, bent into a greceful curve. It is forked at both ends; the two divisions of the upper end are fastened to the two rings of the bis, while the lower end fits upon the lower pertion of the collar hames. The upper ends can best be fastened to the bit by winding with wire, which should be done smoothly, so as not to wear upon the mouth. The lower ends is secured by means of a strap fastened to the upper loop and passing around the collar is buckled through the hole in the lower alcohol of 96 degrees, banana brandy part of the end through the hole in the may yet be destined to play as imporlower part of the end of the brace. tant a part in economy as the alcohol of The brace need not be taken from the bit in unharnessing. Any blacksmith can make such a brace, taking care to have it of the proper length to fit the particular horse. Keep its head at about the height as when "checked up," and the horss will soon be cured.

MAKING TIMBER DURABLE.—An easy ser and higher, the grass reaching high and simple method of rendering timber unusually durable, if not practithe greatest value to the agricultural community. Fence posts, sills of buildings and other timber exposed lo influences which cause rapid decay, last but a few years under ordinary circumstances. It has leng been known that lime is an effective preservative, acting in this way by coagulating the albumen in the cellular tissue of the timber. An easy method of preparing the timber has been applied practically by a French mining engineer. A pit was made in which he timber was placed; quick lime was water. After being exposed a few days to the action of the lime, the timber was removed and used as supports for the roof of a mine. Where unprepared timber lasted but two years, that prepared in this way has been in use for several years without the least appearance of decay. This method of preservation commends itself for its simplicity and cheapness for farm use.

> DON'T KNOW HALF THEIR VALUE." "They cared me of Ague, Biliousness and Kidney Complaint as recommended. I had a half bottle left which I used for my two little girls, who the doctors and neighbors said could not be cured. 1 would have lost both of them one night If I had not given them Hop Bitters. They did them so much good I continued their use until they were cured. That is why I say you do not know half the value of Hop Bitters, and do not recommend them high enough."-B., Rochester, N. Y. See other column.

All about Home. OTHE COMPLET: HOME" is the title of Mrs. Julia McNair Wright's new Book, which J. C. McCurdy & Co., of Philadelphia, have just published. As its title indicates, this is a companion of the many control of the control probensive manual of household affaire. In t every woman, young or old, married or single, rich or poor, can find much of interest and value. The city lady will find it a useful and pleasant companion, while the wife of the farmer and mechanic will secure a safe and sensible guide. By showing them how to use money to the best advantage, it will enable families of moderate means to secure many comforts and luxuries which they have not felt able to obtain and will enable the masses of industrients would be here wells beginning. of industrious people to have really beautifu

The every-day work and duties of life recoive full attention. The casiest and beat methods of doing housework are noted, the mysteries of good cooking are explained, and directions for the treatment of cases of sickness and accident are given. The management of infants in health and disease has received species, notes. ceived special notice. The great abject of Family Government is clearly and fully treated, and the principles upon which happiness in the home depends are clearly set forth.

The directions how to entertain company will insure the gratitude of a multitude of women we have just had the educators of women w o have not had the advantages of a society education; while in all the varied round of common and extraordinary circumstances by which every life is affected, the inexperienced housekeeper will find a guide and friend. In this book the young mother will find a wise and averaging the counseller while the every state of the property of the pr and sympathetic counsellor, while the over

worked and desponding may obtain encourage-ment and consolation from its pages.

The author has obeyed the apostolic com-man to "do good and communicate," and her work will exert a powerful influence for good. work will exert a powerful influence for good. The publishers have also done their part woll. The book is nicely printed on tinted paper, handsomely bound, and illustrated with several beautifully colored, full page plates. Both the press and the clergy have given this work their marked approbation, while from private sources many warm companies. from private sources many warm commenda-tons have been received.

Agents for its sale are wanted everywhere.

THE HOUSEHOLD.

ALL ABOUT MUSH .- Mush of allkinds needs more boiling than cooks usually give it. We should drop the name of hasty" pudding, for in this case "hasty" pudding, for in this case "haste makes waste," as the full nourishment of corn meal, even the finest, is not brought out by the very quick cooking usually given. It is wonderful how oatmeal improves with long boiling or steaming. There is a differ-ence in the quality. That which is fine or floury, needs less cooking and is palatable with half an hour's boiling, but the best oatmeal-that which is coarse and firmer and safer to buy in large quantities, as it keeps better-needs two hours steady boiling, and three or four hour's will not be in valu, if the mush is not scorched. To prevent this, put the oatmeal with four mes its bulk of cold water, and a little salt, in a tin pall or stone jar inside a kettle of lukewarm water. It can be cooked safely in a steamer or steam-cooker, or faring kettle. After it comes to bolling it should boil two ours. It can be cooked more quickly it soaked over night. Oatmeal mush is such a favorite dish with us now, that a day's supply is put upon the stove to cook, nearly every morning as soon as the fire is built, and it sometimes happens that one or the other of the family relishes it so much as to eat nothing but oatmeal and milk, for a reakfast or supper. Since we have learned to cook it so long, we have forgotten to use sugar on it, except as there is sugar with our berries, or other sauce eaten with it. It is very nice cooked with milk-as I have previously told-half milk and half water. A good sprinkling of raisins boiled in graham or oatmeal mush, makes a very pleasant variety.

How to Case Harden Iron.-Case ardening of iron is a process by which a thin coating of steel may be placed on the surface of iron implements, tools, etc. In the first place, take any piece of iron and heat it to a redness, and then sprinkle on ita little powdered yellow prussiate of potash; then heat the iron again. The heat decomposes the prussiate of potash and the carbon combines with the iron, thus forming an endorable coating much harder than east-steel files. This covering admits of a very high and lasting polish. There are other methods of case-hardening, but this is the easiest and is not expensive. An iron drill thus case-hardened will penetrate the hardest steel. The coating will about one-sixteenth of an inch thick, but it can be made thicker by subjecting the ar icles to several treatments, as above stated.

How to Wash Glass .- Never use soap to glass Wash all wine glasses and tumblers in hot water and soda, and rinse in cold water. Soap is nec-essary for ground glass. You should wash ground glass globes or any ground glass in a lather of soap and water and soda with a brush, and rinse m cold water; and dry them immediately out of the cold water; do not let them drain. Ground glass is very apt to get a black look from exposure, and therefore all ground glass, such as ice plates for instance, that are not in daily use, should each be wrapped up in soft paper, so that it may keep its color. If ground glass has become discolored, the fol-lowing directions will cure it: Wash the glass in soap and water, and then pour a small quantity of spirits of salts into a saucer, dip a sponge or rag into it, and wash over the glass; then dunge it into cold water and then into hot water; dry it.

INDIAN DOUGHNUTS .-- A COTTESPONdent of the American Cultivator says. -- I send you a receipt for making Indian meal doughnuts, which are much nicer than those not initiated are aware of. A teacup and a half of boiling water poured over two teacupfuls of Indian meal: when it cools add two cupfuls wheat flour, one of butter, one and a half of

LIGHT RYE TEA CAKES .- One pint of milk, two eggs, a tablespoonful of brown sugar, and a large pinch of salt. Add enough flour to make a common griddle cake batter. Bake half an hour in a gem pan; serve hot or cold as dethe timber was placed; quick lime was sired. Always get your material for scattered over it, and then slaked with breakfast over night; fix the fire ready to light, fill the tea-kettle, grind the coffee, and prepare the potatoes, and thus you can sleep a half an bour longer in the morning.

A ROAST of beef is much nicer if, when you put it into the pan to bake, you set it on the hot stove; let it brown on one side, and turn and brown the other; then add the hot water and seasoning and bake in a hot oven and the juice is retained in the meat.

FRITTERS .- Two eggs, one pint butermilk, one teaspoonful saleratus, three-fourths teaspoonful salt, flour enough to make a stiff batter Fry in hot lard, putting in a teaspoonful at a time.

TO CLEAN SMOKY MARBLE .- Brush a paste of chloride of lime and water over the entire surface. Grease spots can be removed from marble by applying a paste of crude potash and whiting in this manner.

INDIAN CAKE,—Three cupfuls of meal, one cupful of flour, one pint of sour milk, soda to sweeten it, two eggs, two large spoonfuls of butter, one cupful of sugar.

ONE trial of Dobbins' Electric Soap, (I. L. Cragin & Co., Philadelphia, Pa.,) will make you a firm believer in its merits ever after. Give it that trial, please. Your grocer has it, or will get

rest. But how is this to be accomplished, when the baby is restless and ories constantly? Simply by using Dr. Bull's A WISE DEACON .- "Deacon Wilder,

A young mother must have some

I want you to tell me how you kept yourself and family well the past season, when all the rest of us have been sick so much, and have had the doctors visiting us so often.' "Bro. Taylor, the answer is very easy. I used Hop Bitters in time; kept my family well and saved the doctor

bills. Three dollars' worth of it kept us well and able to work all the time. I'll warrant it has cost, you and the neighbors one to two hundred dollars apiece to keep sick the same time," Deacon, I'll use your medleme here-

IT SHOULD be the business of every one having a cold to treat it promptly and properly until it is gotten rid of—intelligent experience fortunately presenting a curative in Dr. Jayne's Expectorant, ther ugh y adapted to remove speeding all Coughs and Colds—allay any exciting inflammation of the Throat or Lungs, and remove the distressing symptoms of Asthma or Pleurisy. WIT AND HUMOR.

A SAFE RULE .- After the conclusion of a lively horse-trade, a witness of the transaction asked one of the traders

what sort of a horse he had got by the exchange. "Oh, just medlum-just a common ort of a plug," was the reply.
"And how old is he?"

"Twenty years old."
"But I did not see you look at his ceth."

"No, you did not, young man. I have traded horses for the last thirty years, and I have owned as many as eight hundred different animals. rule has always been to mentally calculate the age of the other man's horse at twenty. In this way I make no mistakes and suffer no disappointments.'

"Didn' your rule ever fail?"
"Well, it did fail once. I was trading horses in Pontiac, and I made the usual estimate of twenty years, but the critter died of old age while I was trythe price of a peck of oats."

An amusing reply was given by girl, who, while at a London ball strayed away from the ball-room. He mother subsequently discovered her in a remote nook with a gentleman, who had his arm around her waist, while she rested the tips of her pretty little

fingers on his manly shoulder. "My dear, what's all this?" exclaimed the irate mamma. "Mamma, allow me to introduce couldn't keep my word, and I'm just giving him a sitting-still waltz in-

' exclaimed her true love (it was in Bridgetown, Conn..) "Sorush, what'l you take for that gold ring of yourn?" "Well, I don't know Jeremiah," said

she, "you know it's 18k." "Just let me have it," pleaded Jerry, morrow. As good a one as there is anywhere."

"Honest Injun, Jeremiah?"
"No mistake." He captured the ring, and just before he started far Texas next morning he sent her a jack of diamonds, bearing this inscription: "This is the best diamond out." Amen.

A BUG scientist says "the bumble-bee gives out two yery different sounds, which are an octave of each other—a grave sound when it flies and a sharp sound when it alights." The bug setentist is right. The sound given out when the bumble-bee alights—on a girl's neck—is about seventure outside the process of the sound given out when the bumble-bee alights—on a girl's neck—is about seventure outside the sound given out when the bumble-bee alights—on a girl's neck—is about seventure outside the sound given out in the general health. grave sound when it flies and a sharp sound when it alights." The bug scigirl's neck—is about seventeen octaves sharper than when the insect merely flies. And when it crawls up a young sound produced is all the way from which it is garnished makes it base.

Milk street at twelve o'clock, when not in a few years fail for \$50,000. he sound of a steam whistle from a neighboring manufacturing establishment pierced their ears. That is a public nuisance, Mr. Spicer," said one. responded the other, "it's a private tooter," and then the first man whistled.

An abundance of guests and limited odging rooms caused Jimmie to be 'slept out' at a neighbor's. On arisng in the morning he was invited to remain at breakfast. "Well, I guess not," he replied; "we have mighty good breakfasts at our house when we nave company

A Miss Gush was elected school superintendent in Mono county last Tuesday, on Wednesday appointed a male deputy and on Thursday married him. This shows how mean women can be when they have the advantage of a man.

rendering to his father an account of his term expenses, inserted; "To charity, thirty dollars," His father wrote back: "Charity covers a multitude of sins."

WHEN the old gentleman comes home and finds daughters have got his slippers and the easy chair and the evening paper ready for him, he realizes that it is the season for a Fall opening of his pocketbook.

A man's word is the main-spring of his character. Once break the mainspring and, like a watch, the man runs

IT is an old adage that the tongue cannot be easily bridled. But it is easily bit.

"I should like to see that goldmine," said Smythekins, as he watched them counting quarter-eagles in the treasury. No man is smart who exaggerates

lies when he can just as easilo amplify

the truth. THE early passenger catches the

How to manage a wife-Remain sin-

A single instance-A bachelor. Every mother-in-law should recommend Dr. Bull's Baby Syrup for her

grand-children and thus keep peace in

An Important Geological Fact.

Geology has shown us that nature accomplishes her greatest revolutions in the earth's surface conformation slowly. Every year the river makes its channel deeper, and the glacier wears a deeper gorge in the Alpine rock, and the ocean tide deposits the sand it has crumbled from the rocks upon which it breaks. We note the earthquake and the devastating hurricane; but these changes are so gradual men seldom observe them until the channel has become overhanging cliffs, or a mountain has disappeared before the icy stream, or the ocean has given us a Florida. Thus it is in disease. Our attention is attracted by acute diseases, as fevers, cholera, etc., while chronic diseases (often the most dangerous in result), being slow in their development, are seldom noticed until they have made an almost ineffaceable impression upon the system. Persons believing themselves comparatively healthful are oftlimes the victims of these diseases, and only become aware of their presence when relief is almost impossible. Disease of the liver and stomach are the commonest of these chronic affections. Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery and Pleasant Purgative Pellets are neverfalling remedies for these diseases. They produce a healthful secretion of bile, prevent indigestion by regulating the bowels, and impart a vigorous tone

to the whole system.

How Can I Express My Thanks?

Mrs. Meeks, of Yorkville, New York, writes It affords me great pleasure to write these few lines to let the public know the value of Anakesis, the great External Pile Remedy. I have suffered the last 14 years everything but death; in that time I have spont hundreds of dollars. I have tried everything I ever heard of; I have had four different dectors, but found very little relief. I at last heard of Anakesis; I tried them and in one hour's time I found relief and have not been troubled with them since. How can I express my thanks to you? No tongue can praise them too highly, and I would say to all those who are afflicted with Piles Jiemorrhoids or fissures, internal or external, give Anakesis a trial and you will or external, give Anakesis a trial and you will no longer be a sufferer.

MRS. MEEKS. Samples of Anakesis are sout free to all suf-forers on application to P. Neussecdtor & Co., Box 3946, New York.

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AT VERY LOW PRICES.

A number of interesting observations made during a recent cruise of the French frigate La Magicienne to various ing to beat a grocer down two cents on parts of the Pacific have just been communicated says Nature, by Admiral Serres to the Paris Academy Among other points attention had been drawn, while at San Francisco, to the swift, tall-masted elipper ships which convey wheat to the European market, The modern practice of increasing the upper sails at the expense of the lower seems to be justified by science. During the voyage of the Magicienne an nemomeler was observed daily at an Captain X, to you. I had promised altitude of eight metres, and twice him a dance, but I was so tired that I every day at an altitude of 36 metres. every day at an altitude of 36 metres. With rare exceptions the velocity of the wind was always found to be much greater in the lattee case than in the THE BEST DIAMOND OUT .- "Jerush- former. The average ratio, deduced from thousands of observations, was about 12 to 10, and there was good reasons, therefore, for seeking motive force in the upper regions.

The North Pole and Equator. Are not more widely distinct than the standard tonic, stimulant and alterative, Hostetter's Stomach B tters, and the cheap and fiery local bitters which unserupulous vendors foist upon the unwary as medicated preparations with remedial properties. The latter are usually composed in the main of half rectified alcoholic averaging the with some weekled drug combeing section to the main of half rectified alcoholic excitants, with some wretched drug combenation to disguise their real flavor, and are
perfectly ruinous to the coats of the stomach.
Hostetter's Bittere, on the contrary, has for
its basis choice spirits of absolute purity, and
this is modified and combined with medicinal

FOND parent to his son; "Yes, Sar Francisco is the place to get on in. man's trouser's leg at a pienie the Look at James; he started without a sound produced is all the way from penny, and has lately failed for \$100, tenor to bass. The profanity with 000. Of course, that's not an extreme M. PETTENGILL & CO., Advertising agents, 37 Park how, New York, and 701 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia, receive advertisements for publication in any part of the world at lowest rates.

ADVIGE as to the most judicious advertising and the best mediums and the manner of doing it.—ESTIMATES for one or m re insertions of an advertisionent, in any number of papers, torwarded on application. case. I don't expect you to do as well as that. Still with honesty and indus-THEY were standing on the corner of try, I see no reason why you should

For PIMPLES on the Face, use Hieskell's Teter Ointment.

Ir You Would Enjoy Good Health Take Hoofand's German Bitters. Hieskell's Tetter Outment Will cure every

orm of Tetter. If Troubled with Constipation, take Hoofland's German Bitters.

Ir You are Dyspeptic Hoofland's German Bitters will cure you.

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New Operas!

Carmen. Opera by Bizot "What have you been doin'?" asked a boy of his playmate, whom he saw coming out of the house with tears in dollar book." It is got up in elegant style, with music and all the words, English and foreign, for \$2.00.

> Doctor of Alcantara. By Eichberg. A famous opera, now brought, by the popular price, within the reach of all. Orchestral parts \$15. Bells of Corneville. By Planquette,

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