

# MICHIGAN FARMER

## AND STATE JOURNAL OF AGRICULTURE.

DETROIT, MARCH 18, 1884.

### THE HOUSEHOLD—Supplement.

#### MIRAGE.

We'll read that book, we'll sing that song,  
But when? Oh, when the days are long—  
When thoughts are free, and voices clear;  
Some happy time within the year:—  
The days troop by with noiseless tread,  
The song unsung, the book unread.

We'll see that friend, and make him feel  
The weight of friendship, true as steel;  
Some flower of sympathy bestow;  
But time sweeps on with steady flow,  
Until with quick, reproachful tear,  
We lay our flowers upon his bier.

And still we walk the desert sands,  
And still with trifles fill our hands,  
While ever just beyond our reach,  
A fairer purpose shows to each.  
The deeds we have not done, but willed,  
Remain to haunt us—unfulfilled.

#### FLOWERS FOR THE FARM.

The annual shower of seedmen's catalogues has fallen with unusual profusion upon the editorial table. It is seductive reading, this literature of fruits and flowers of imposing size and brilliant hues. It tends to increase the "spring fever," that longing for dalliance with the great mother of us all, which comes with the swelling of resinous buds and the bursting of chrysalids. And it all seems so easy—on paper! The neat packages of seeds the nurseryman furnishes us, seem capable of infinite possibilities; there are no suggestions of the drouth that scorches nor the worm that dieth not about them. We have only, of course, to "enrich and prepare the ground thoroughly," plant, and "cultivate," to be rewarded with just such beautiful blossoms and luscious fruits as are here represented by the artist. "He can do little who can't do that!" so we make our plans for spring.

With spring bulbs, perennials and annuals we may have a constant succession of bloom from the time the first crocus gets its yellow head from under the snow-drifts, till a "black frost" nips the verbenas, still keeping a brave heart through the chilly nights. Hyacinths, narcissus and tulips wait upon each other till the air is perfumed by lilac and almond tree, and all the perennials fall into line. No well regulated family should be without the border of perennials, whether annuals succeed them or not. Living on from year to year, they endure neglect with stoicism, and reward a little time and trouble with abundance of bloom. There is no prettier ornament for a lawn in June than a clump of old-fashioned red peonies, set in the vivid green of newly springing grass. The fragrant

white lily, and its pretty sister with Creole complexion, the branching candleabra of larkspur, nectar cups of columbine, purple spikes of foxglove and Canterbury bell, the tawny yellow and purple iris, the *fleur de lis* of France, are all fair to see, all worth cultivation. Pinks and pansies will need care in renewing. Clumps of sweet william and perennial phlox need sub-dividing occasionally. I was pleased last summer, when visiting A. L. L.'s pleasant home, to find the old fashioned grass pink, with its pretty, abundant and fragrant flowers, bordering the path; pleased, because it is one of the sweetest and most unassuming of flowers, and because it was one of the first I knew when a child.

The annuals, yet in the seed leaf while perennials are making the most of spring rains and sunshine, must be depended upon in July and August. To select a half dozen or a dozen sorts, from A to Z, is a perplexing matter; there are so many we know and admire, so many recommended and pictured which we would like to know better. But it is safest and best, and far less disappointing, to choose a few of the "ironclads" rather than the tender, half hardy sorts, that must be coddled to get into bloom before early frosts. Of course we must have asters for autumn bloom, they are a valuable flower both in the garden and in bouquets, because they last so long, and we could not spare the pretty, white, sweet Alyssum. The Amaranth family, especially the new Sunrise Amaranthus, give plants that are very effective in clumps against a dark background; they have a rich color which contrasts well with the tropical looking foliage of the Castor bean, yet they should not be planted side by side. The balsam, double camellia flowered, makes a fine plant in the garden and will aid greatly in making up floral designs of any nature. Candytuft we want of course, myosotis for sentiment, and mignonette for sweetness. Phlox, petunia, portulacca, peas, poppies and pansies, are a sextette of P's that will make a garden a delight; the single scarlet-satiny blossom, the poppy of European corn fields, is more popular than the large peony flowered sorts. Detroit belles add to their full dress toilettes a corsage bouquet of brilliant nasturtiums, slighting for the bizarre blooms, the choicest of greenhouse treasures. Verbenas are one of the most showy and constant of our bedding plants, and if not attacked by their special enemy, the "black rust," will keep the garden gay for months. It

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#### WHERE IS THE LINE?

The limit of woman's sphere, where is it located? It is purely imaginary, a trick of legendary legerdemain, and located in the nondescript land of Nowhere! Luckily the legerdemain is not, and never has been in the legend, but in the obtuse interpretation, applied to it by barbarous brains from the beginning. But brains do not handle electricity with such familiar freedom in this nineteenth century and remain barbarous. It is a curious study to trace the rapidity of their reach toward ripeness, and to note how one clear, level brain after another guides its strong, resolute, steady and humane hands in the work of breaking down and clearing away the stubborn old barriers of prejudice and custom, until it seems as though the most bigoted must begin to feel the glow of the light let in. It is at least amusing to see their bewilderment when its rays strike suddenly and sharp upon their mental vision, and to listen to their sharp denunciations or plaintive cry "Where is the line?" which when elicited by some new license to women, carries with it all the pathos of a dirge for a lost cause; the wailers always seem-

## Apiarian.

### What to Do with Weak Colonies in the Spring.

J. E. Pond, of Massachusetts, says in the *American Bee Journal*:

"We have been advised in days past to unite all weak colonies; this advice, which is good for fall management, is of no value in the spring, unless it should happen that queenless colonies are found, when, of course, union is strength. My experience teaches me that weak colonies united will live no longer than the same colonies would have done if they had been kept separate; the reason being that the bees are all old and can live but a short time after having borne the hardships of winter confinement. It is hardly possible to imagine that all colonies will be alike weak, if such should be the case, I should hardly know what to advise, for the beekeeper who finds his apiary in such a state would hardly be able to strengthen up colonies successfully.

"The object of an apiarist should be, not to obtain the greatest possible yield from a single colony, but to equalize the whole apiary so that he may obtain a large and an average gain from each colony. To this end he should in early spring equalize his colonies in strength as nearly as possible, and this can best be done by taking frames of brood from those that are strong enough to bear the loss, and giving them to the weaker colonies. If he has, as he should have, average queens in all his hives, he will be able by careful management and judicious feeding to stimulate, to bring all his colonies up to prime condition, and to have a large force of foragers ready to take advantage of the first flow of honey that is secreted by the early flowers. Many, however, are not careful enough in this matter of stimulative feeding. We begin without reference to the strength of the colony to feed diluted syrups, and also spread the brood, the consequence being that a cold frosty night drives the bees into a cluster, the brood is exposed, chilled and dies, and the colony is either ruined completely or so injured that it becomes valueless for the whole season.

"In this whole matter of strengthening and equalizing colonies, there is an opportunity for exercise of the greatest care and judgment, and to know how to do it just right every time, can only be learned by experience. Many are apt to make the mistake of strengthening colonies too early. By so doing they lose a large amount of stores in feeding useless consumers. We want a large force of foragers when there is honey to be gathered, and at no other time.

"If any queenless colonies are found, when it is too early to raise queens with any prospect of their mating in time to be of any use, they must be united with some colony that has a good queen; this, I have found, can best be done by moving the hives close together, giving both colonies a little smoke, and when the bees are filled with honey removing the frames,

bees and all, from the queenless hive, and alternating them with the frames in the other hive. This united colony should be closely watched, and if any fighting takes place, another blast of smoke should be given them. If the union is made in this manner on a chilly day, no trouble need be anticipated, and no pains need be taken in regard to the queen. I have united many colonies in this manner without caging the queen, and find she is not troubled at all, and that the bees unite peaceably, and are friendly at once."

### Extracted Honey.

A very large part of the honey crop is now taken in the form of extracted honey. Comb-honey is good and beautiful, but it has the disadvantage of the wax, which is indigestible, and which nobody cares to eat. In the extracted honey we have no wax, it is honey in its purest form. Many people associate extracted honey with strained honey; they suppose that all honey out of the comb is strained honey, but this is great injustice to extracted honey. In getting strained honey all the combs from a hive, combs containing capped brood, and growing larvæ and pollen and honey, are mixed up together and then the liquid squeezed out. In this way there is obtained some honey, but there is also obtained the juice of the growing larvæ of the young bees and of pollen, so that the honey has a rank flavor, a dark color, and associations by no means appetizing. But extracted honey is as different from this strained honey as it is possible to be. In getting extracted honey we get no pollen, no juices of bees or larvæ. We get simply the pure honey, without any admixture whatever. He, who on a cold winter morning has never had pure, candied, white clover honey to spread on his hot cakes, has lived in vain! Life has lacked for him one of its chiefest charms!

### The Best Bee Veil.

James Heddon says: "I consider a black bobbinet veil the best face protector we have. The meshes are round, and the shape and color is best fitted to clear vision. To make one requires a yard of goods, twenty inches wide. When sewed up the veil will be twenty inches long, three feet in circumference, and one foot in diameter. The usual way of attaching this veil to the hat has been to have a cord "run" into the edge of one end and drawn up to the size of the crown of the hat. When drawn over, the veil comes out over rim and down over the face and inside the coat, vest or shirt collar. I have found that a much better way is to procure a new white chip hat (about fifteen to twenty cents is the price), and sew one end of the veil to the rim. This can be done whether the rim is just one foot in diameter or larger; for, if larger, it can be sewed to the rim a short distance back from its edge. The wide rim hat gives better shade. When so used, your hat and veil are always to be found at once, and the veil is practically about six inches longer than when used in the first way mentioned.

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St. Helen's Roscommon Co., Mich.

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ing to be impressed with the fear that woman in the role of the animated rib in petticoats, is going to play out. This fear, good souls, is borrowed trouble. She will never do it. The great body corporate of femininity prefers to pass through this vale of tears as a rib. Only that and nothing more.

So although the powers that be have granted, in due and legal form, a captain's license to Mary M. Miller, and she therefore is thereby thenceforth the seat of government on board a Mississippi steamer, instead of being a similar seat in a Dakota dugout, it does not follow that all the women in the romantic and adventurous west are going to rise up and cry for steamboats and captain's commissions; nor that all the old maids in the cultured and classic east are going to forsake their cats and crotchet to chase whales and hunt for the north pole. No, never! American infantry will continue to hold the home fort, while the peaceful pleasures of the "chimney corner" will lose none of their charms for women because of Mary's new deal, notwithstanding the dubious tone in which croakers pronounce it "dangerous." But there is a queer conundrum connected with it. 'Tis this:

No one ever said or will say "Queen Victoria unsexes herself in being the ruler of a large fraction of the earth's inhabitants," but a host are swift to exclaim "Mary Miller unsexes herself in being the ruler of one little steamboat." Therefore I ask of those who state it thus, "Where is the line?"

E. L. NYE.

METAMORA, March 9, '84.

### THE DRAINAGE QUESTION.

"C," in her letter in a late issue of the Household, has opened a subject of considerable interest to farmers' families. It is not in cities alone that typhoid fever and diphtheria are the results of imperfect drainage; or none at all. The sanitary part of the drainage problem is harder to manage in town than in country, notwithstanding our sewerage system with all its drains and "traps" to prevent the escape of that essence of death, sewer gas. When a system of sewerage is in good order and working perfectly, it is an excellent thing; when it is defective it breeds pestilence and death. Detroit's sewerage is uniformly good, yet only recently one large sewer discharging into the river was found to be clogged for a long distance back, and though the matter was "whitewashed" by that convenient method which proves a thing, though bad, is not as bad as it might be, we are fully aware that such a condition is not conducive to health, and should be remedied at once. I have been in houses here where every upstairs apartment seemed permeated with a peculiar odor, not powerful, but sufficiently pronounced to be unpleasant, and which there is every reason to suppose came from a fault in the trap in the water-closet, which permitted ever so slight a portion of the deadly gas to escape. None of the regular inmates of the house seemed to observe

it, yet I noted that nearly every one complained of lassitude and headache, and that several, who removed, bettered by the change. I mention this to show that when town residents do suffer from this cause, they usually take it on the homeopathic plan, small doses of very strong medicine.

In the country, where every man must devise his own drainage plan, but is responsible only for his own refuse, a good many practice the plan "C" mentions, using the back door as a point of vantage. In summer, the washing suds, dishwater, and the like, can be well utilized by throwing it at the roots of young trees or shrubs, or watering the garden, but it is a back-breaking business to get it thus safely disposed of, and work no woman ought to do. The best home-made, cheap drain I ever saw in use conveyed the water from the kitchen sink, and a square opening in the floor, like a box set in below its level, into which water from tubs, etc., was to be turned, through an open V-shaped trough which carried it well from the house, and being open, was not liable to be clogged. But the house stood on a high foundation wall, and there was sufficient fall to carry off the surplus rapidly. From the point at which the drain discharged, it spread in all directions, but care was taken not to allow a basin for stagnant water to be formed by the wearing away of the earth. Chloride of lime was frequently used, especially in the spring of the year, or after long continued rains. But this scheme would probably not be practicable in winter, and I am free to confess that as regards drainage at that season, "I give it up." I have not a suggestion to offer, unless that if the "back door" plan is adopted, disinfectants be freely and frequently used in the spring.

One thing is sure, wherever the slops from the house are thrown, stagnant water should not be allowed to stand; and the earth, which does its best as a sponge to absorb our filth, should be occasionally watered with a solution of copperas, or sprinkled with chloride of lime. Nor should the same spot be used year after year, till the ground is saturated; try a fresh place. Farmers are too apt to neglect the use of disinfectants, but a bad smell is something to be got rid of as quickly as possible.

And since every well drains a larger or smaller area, according to the nature of the soil, it is *imperatively* necessary that the drain be not allowed to discharge near it, nor the slops be thrown on the ground about it, unless we would transform the contents of the well into unwholesome and fever bringing fluid, although it may retain its color and sparkle, and be odorless. The well and the drain must not be neighbors.

There are always a few people in a community who are careless about burying the carcasses of dead animals. Sometimes this negligence—which rather deserves the name of criminal carelessness,—leads directly to death. An instance of this came under my own observation a number of years ago. A farmer had a

number of sheep die during the winter and spring. He left them unburied, to poison the air—I had almost said for miles. July brought such an epidemic of typhoid fever in the neighborhood as had never been known before. For a mile and a half to the east, there was hardly a family which escaped the scourge of sickness; out of three homes nearest to this breeding-ground of pestilence, four persons died, others narrowly escaped. It passed for a "mysterious dispensation of Providence," till some one crossed this farmer's field, and discovered the fearful truth that from these unburied animals the western wind had passed, death laden. There is more than one who will read this who can testify to these facts. Every animal that dies on a farm, from a rat or a chicken to a horse, should be given decent burial, without delay.

"C's" plan of cremating refuse is a good one; one which city housekeepers much affect. It is in fact, in town, the only way of disposing of much refuse that would clog the drains, which the law forbids tossing into the alley, or which would draw a crowd of snarling cats and dogs.

Calcined bones, pounded up, are excellent for the chickens. If sandwiched between layers of unleached wood ashes, they are reduced to a first class fertilizer, worth from \$35 to \$40 per ton. Many farmers prefer to buy their bone-meal, and pave the back yard with the bones.

There is no better way of disposing of broken dishes, dilapidated tin-ware, old oyster cans, and such "bric-a-brac," than through the kindly oblivion of a pit, dug moderately deep, and so covered with rails that the children cannot fall in, while the rubbish is entirely out of sight. It is a good place for that most useless of all things, a worn out hoop-skirt. Edward Everett Hale traced the downfall of the Southern Confederacy to the indestructibility of a hoop-skirt. I have often mournfully felt there might have been a good deal of truth to the romance. I can throw a pair of old boots into the alley with a clear conscience, sure that in less than an hour some garbage collector will consider himself a lucky individual, but I feel emboldened to offer a tea-chest chromo to any one who will advise me as to the ultimate destination of cast-off crinoline.

BEATRIX.

### A WORD TO MOTHERS.

The winter schools are fast closing; and the children will soon be home all the time. In fancy I hear some mothers say: "Dear me, what will I do with them; I will be glad enough when school commences again." Kind, loving mothers they are, too, but they do not stop to think of the ever-varying round of excitement at school. It has been the aim of the teacher to keep the little mind active, and the brain busy with some new object of interest every day. This the child misses, and in consequence is often ill-tempered and annoying. The mothers should now take up the work. I do not mean the books, give them a rest, but try to keep the children



interested in something. Work can be made a pleasure instead of a task if only the right effort is made. Do not say to the little girl of ten or twelve years, "Now, my lady, school is out and you will have to sew carpet rags," but rather let her help you with the general work; and when that is done sit down with her and you will see how much more easily the task will be accomplished.

Mothers, too, can tell such splendid stories, which will serve to keep the children quiet for awhile, besides giving them something to think about. In short, try to keep them as bright and active as they now are; until you trust them to us again, the coming summer, and you will be well repaid for the trouble.

"Ah! what would the world be to us,  
If the children were no more?  
We should dread the desert behind us,  
Worse than the dark before."

BONNIE DOON.

HADLEY, March 5th.

## HOUSEHOLD HINTS.

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ing to be impressed with the fear that woman in the role of the animated rib in petticoats, is going to play out. This fear, good souls, is borrowed trouble. She will never do it. The great body corporate of femininity prefers to pass through this vale of tears as a rib. Only that and nothing more.

So although the powers that be have granted, in due and legal form, a captain's license to Mary M. Miller, and she therefore is thereby thenceforth the seat of government on board a Mississippi steamer, instead of being a similar seat in a Dakota dugout, it does not follow that all the women in the romantic and adventurous west are going to rise up and cry for steamboats and captain's commissions; nor that all the old maids in the cultured and classic east are going to forsake their cats and crotchet to chase whales and hunt for the north pole. No, never! American infantry will continue to hold the home fort, while the peaceful pleasures of the "chimney corner" will lose none of their charms for women because of Mary's new deal, notwithstanding the dubious tone in which croakers pronounce it "dangerous." But there is a queer conundrum connected with it. 'Tis this:

No one ever said or will say "Queen Victoria unsexes herself in being the ruler of a large fraction of the earth's inhabitants," but a host are swift to exclaim "Mary Miller unsexes herself in being the ruler of one little steamboat." Therefore I ask of those who state it thus, "Where is the line?"

E. L. NYE.

METAMORA, March 9, '84.

### THE DRAINAGE QUESTION.

"C," in her letter in a late issue of the Household, has opened a subject of considerable interest to farmers' families. It is not in cities alone that typhoid fever and diphtheria are the results of imperfect drainage; or none at all. The sanitary part of the drainage problem is harder to manage in town than in country, notwithstanding our sewerage system with all its drains and "traps" to prevent the escape of that essence of death, sewer gas. When a system of sewerage is in good order and working perfectly, it is an excellent thing; when it is defective it breeds pestilence and death. Detroit's sewerage is uniformly good, yet only recently one large sewer discharging into the river was found to be clogged for a long distance back, and though the matter was "whitewashed" by that convenient method which proves a thing, though bad, is not as bad as it might be, we are fully aware that such a condition is not conducive to health, and should be remedied at once. I have been in houses here where every upstairs apartment seemed permeated with a peculiar odor, not powerful, but sufficiently pronounced to be unpleasant, and which there is every reason to suppose came from a fault in the trap in the water-closet, which permitted ever so slight a portion of the deadly gas to escape. None of the regular inmates of the house seemed to observe

it, yet I noted that nearly every one complained of lassitude and headache, and that several, who removed, bettered by the change. I mention this to show that when town residents do suffer from this cause, they usually take it on the homeopathic plan, small doses of very strong medicine.

In the country, where every man must devise his own drainage plan, but is responsible only for his own refuse, a good many practice the plan "C" mentions, using the back door as a point of vantage. In summer, the washing suds, dishwater, and the like, can be well utilized by throwing it at the roots of young trees or shrubs, or watering the garden, but it is a back-breaking business to get it thus safely disposed of, and work no woman ought to do. The best home-made, cheap drain I ever saw in use conveyed the water from the kitchen sink, and a square opening in the floor, like a box set in below its level, into which water from tubs, etc., was to be turned, through an open V-shaped trough which carried it well from the house, and being open, was not liable to be clogged. But the house stood on a high foundation wall, and there was sufficient fall to carry off the surplus rapidly. From the point at which the drain discharged, it spread in all directions, but care was taken not to allow a basin for stagnant water to be formed by the wearing away of the earth. Chloride of lime was frequently used, especially in the spring of the year, or after long continued rains. But this scheme would probably not be practicable in winter, and I am free to confess that as regards drainage at that season, "I give it up." I have not a suggestion to offer, unless that if the "back door" plan is adopted, disinfectants be freely and frequently used in the spring.

One thing is sure, wherever the slops from the house are thrown, stagnant water should not be allowed to stand; and the earth, which does its best as a sponge to absorb our filth, should be occasionally watered with a solution of copperas, or sprinkled with chloride of lime. Nor should the same spot be used year after year, till the ground is saturated; try a fresh place. Farmers are too apt to neglect the use of disinfectants, but a bad smell is something to be got rid of as quickly as possible.

And since every well drains a larger or smaller area, according to the nature of the soil, it is *imperatively* necessary that the drain be not allowed to discharge near it, nor the slops be thrown on the ground about it, unless we would transform the contents of the well into unwholesome and fever bringing fluid, although it may retain its color and sparkle, and be odorless. The well and the drain must not be neighbors.

There are always a few people in a community who are careless about burying the carcasses of dead animals. Sometimes this negligence—which rather deserves the name of criminal carelessness,—leads directly to death. An instance of this came under my own observation a number of years ago. A farmer had a

number of sheep die during the winter and spring. He left them unburied, to poison the air—I had almost said for miles. July brought such an epidemic of typhoid fever in the neighborhood as had never been known before. For a mile and a half to the east, there was hardly a family which escaped the scourge of sickness; out of three homes nearest to this breeding-ground of pestilence, four persons died, others narrowly escaped. It passed for a "mysterious dispensation of Providence," till some one crossed this farmer's field, and discovered the fearful truth that from these unburied animals the western wind had passed, death laden. There is more than one who will read this who can testify to these facts. Every animal that dies on a farm, from a rat or a chicken to a horse, should be given decent burial, without delay.

"C's" plan of cremating refuse is a good one; one which city housekeepers much affect. It is in fact, in town, the only way of disposing of much refuse that would clog the drains, which the law forbids tossing into the alley, or which would draw a crowd of snarling cats and dogs.

Calced bones, pounded up, are excellent for the chickens. If sandwiched between layers of unleached wood ashes, they are reduced to a first class fertilizer, worth from \$35 to \$40 per ton. Many farmers prefer to buy their bone-meal, and pave the back yard with the bones.

There is no better way of disposing of broken dishes, dilapidated tin-ware, old oyster cans, and such "bric-a-brac," than through the kindly oblivion of a pit, dug moderately deep, and so covered with rails that the children cannot fall in, while the rubbish is entirely out of sight. It is a good place for that most useless of all things, a worn out hoop-skirt. Edward Everett Hale traced the downfall of the Southern Confederacy to the indestructibility of a hoop-skirt. I have often mournfully felt there might have been a good deal of truth to the romance. I can throw a pair of old boots into the alley with a clear conscience, sure that in less than an hour some garbage collector will consider himself a lucky individual, but I feel emboldened to offer a tea-chest chromo to any one who will advise me as to the ultimate destination of cast-off crinoline.

BEATRIX.

### A WORD TO MOTHERS.

The winter schools are fast closing; and the children will soon be home all the time. In fancy I hear some mothers say: "Dear me, what will I do with them; I will be glad enough when school commences again." Kind, loving mothers they are, too, but they do not stop to think of the ever-varying round of excitement at school. It has been the aim of the teacher to keep the little mind active, and the brain busy with some new object of interest every day. This the child misses, and in consequence is often ill-tempered and annoying. The mothers should now take up the work. I do not mean the books, give them a rest, but try to keep the children



## THE HOUSEHOLD.

interested in something. Work can be made a pleasure instead of a task if only the right effort is made. Do not say to the little girl of ten or twelve years, "Now, my lady, school is out and you will have to sew carpet rags," but rather let her help you with the general work; and when that is done sit down with her and you will see how much more easily the task will be accomplished.

Mothers, too, can tell such splendid stories, which will serve to keep the children quiet for awhile, besides giving them something to think about. In short, try to keep them as bright and active as they now are; until you trust them to us again, the coming summer, and you will be well repaid for the trouble.

"Ah! what would the world be to us,  
If the children were no more?  
We should dread the desert behind us,  
Worse than the dark before."

BONNIE DOON.

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ant dresses are made with similar guimpes for tall girls who are too large to look well in a dress flowing loosely from the shoulders; the belt inserted in the full waist of these dresses must be of the white embroidery used for the guimpe. The large blocks and plaids of very gay Scotch gingham are employed for these larger girls, but are so showy that most mothers prefer the simpler small designs. The new shoulder capes of white embroidery are merely deep collars cut smooth and square behind, with a high rounded gore set in over each shoulder, and covered with two or three ruffles of muslin. These are the newest shapes for embroidered muslin collars, also, for children to wear over their outside coats, and may be bought separately in the shops.

"Box-pleated slips all in one piece will be made up for both boys and girls. These have three wide box-pleats the whole length of the front and the back, but the pleats are sewed only so far as the waist line, and are merely flattened by the iron below this. While colored dresses are made in this way, it is a design used more in white muslin and piques. When made of white nainsook, some Valenciennes insertions or embroidery or the French feather stitching above tucks may be placed in rows around the skirt near the bottom.

"Sailor dresses will have a box pleated skirt of the plaid stuff, with a sailor blouse waist of a plain color, trimmed with a sailor collar and cuffs of the plaid: such dresses of navy blue with red bars are very pretty. Jersey wool waists will also be made again for plaid or plain wool skirts, but must fasten behind instead of in front, and are buttoned instead of being laced. They have a standing collar that curves in front; a sash drapery of bias wool like the skirt passes around the hips, and has knotted loops behind. Separate Jersey jackets will be worn by larger girls over a box-pleated or kilt-pleated skirt.

#### THANKS TO E. S. B.

VOLINIA, March 10th, 1884.

To the Household Editor.

I wish to return thanks to E. S. B., of Brighton, for the excellent and never-failing receipt for making bread. It is worth more each week than the subscription price for the FARMER for one year. My neighbors have tried it with equal success. We like the Household Department very much, and think publishing it in its present form an improvement.

Yours truly,  
SUSAN GARD.

#### DEATH TO THE FLY.

I think probably the fly which annoys Mellesenda's house-plants is the Green Fly, a little fellow with gauzy wings and greenish body, which renders him almost invisible when on the plants. To rid the plants of the flies, set them in a tub, put some tobacco in a tin dish and set it on fire, put it in the tub with the plants, cover the tub with a blanket and let the smoke circulate over and among the

plants. Shake each one thoroughly before taking out. Sometimes the smoke only stupefies some of the flies and they revive afterwards. Usually about the second fumigation will rid the plants effectually.

Vick recommends sticking the heads of brimstone matches into soil filled with white worms. Two or three are sufficient to a pot.

L. C.  
DETROIT, Mich.

#### NATURAL TALENT IN HOUSE-KEEPING.

Being much interested in the Household, especially the articles written about health, I would like to ask Beatrix to please favor us with the name of some good medical work, such as she spoke of in an article written not long ago.

In regard to the housekeeping question, do you not think it depends much on the person "whether or no" it takes a lifetime to learn to keep house? It is not natural for all of us to be good housekeepers, any more than it is for all men to be good farmers, but happy are they who can adapt themselves to any work, if they cannot choose their own life-work. Wishing success to our new Household and thanking you for all past favors, I will give space for better articles.

MRS. A. H. D.

HADLEY, March 8th.

#### Contributed Recipes.

MISS MARY BURTCHAELL, of this city, kindly furnishes us the following recipes for brown bread and "Johnny cake," both of which we know to be excellent:

BOSTON BROWN BREAD.—Two cups of cornmeal; one cup of rye or graham flour; one cup wheat flour; two-thirds of a cup of molasses; one and a half pints of milk, either sweet or sour; one and a half teaspoonfuls of soda; bake two and a half hours.

CORN BREAD.—Half a cup of brown sugar; lump of butter the size of an egg; two eggs; one pint of sour milk; small teaspoonful soda; a little salt; one cup of wheat flour, and cornmeal enough to make a stiff batter.

MRS. MARY E. SMITH, of Eaton Rapids, contributes the following:

COFFEE CAKE.—One cup of boiling coffee; one cup of sugar; one cup of syrup; one cup of butter; one pint of raisins; two eggs; one teaspoonful cinnamon; one teaspoonful of soda; one teaspoonful nutmeg; one teaspoonful cream tartar.

JELLY CAKE.—One cup sugar; three eggs; four tablespoonfuls of sweet milk; three tablespoonfuls of butter; one teaspoonful of soda; two teaspoonfuls of cream tartar.

[Our correspondent has omitted the quantity of flour to be used in the above recipes. An experienced cook of course will be able to "use her judgment" as to the proper amount, but for the benefit of the novice, the directions for preparing any article of food should include the exact proportions of every ingredient.—HOUSEHOLD ED.]

From B. Frank Swan, Boston.

"I have been troubled with asthma for twelve years, and have employed skillful physicians of Boston, also two of the leading physicians of Augusta, without effect. I have felt nothing of this trouble since taking Adamson's Botanic Cough Balsam."



"SINGER"  
SEWING MACHINE  
AND THE  
Michigan Farmer  
ONE YEAR  
For Eighteen Dollars.

This cut is a fac simile of the Machine. Send orders to JOHNSTONE & GIBBONS, Detroit.

#### ARM & HAMMER BRAND



#### TO FARMERS:

It is important that the Soda or Saleratus they use should be white and pure, in common with all similar substances used for food.

In making bread with yeast it is well to use about half a teaspoonful of the "Arm and Hammer" Brand Soda or Saleratus at the same time, and thus make the bread rise better and prevent it becoming sour by correcting the natural acidity of the yeast.

#### DAIRYMEN AND FARMERS

should use only the "Arm and Hammer" brand for cleaning and keeping milk pans sweet and clean.

To insure obtaining only the "Arm and Hammer" brand Soda or Saleratus, buy it in POUND OR HALF-POUND PACKAGES which bear our name and trade mark, as inferior goods are sometimes substituted for the "Arm and Hammer" brand when bought in bulk.

JAMES PYLE'S



PEARLINE

THE BEST THING KNOWN

FOR

#### Washing and Bleaching

In Hard or Soft, Hot or Cold Water.

SAVES LABOR, TIME and SOAP AMAZINGLY, and gives universal satisfaction. No family, rich or poor, should be without it.

Sold by all Grocers. BEWARE of imitations well designed to mislead. PEARLINE is the ONLY SAFE labor-saving compound, and always bears the above symbol, and name of JAMES PYLE, NEW YORK.



THE  
Fairlamb System  
OF  
Gathering  
Cream.

Send for Catalogue to  
Davis & Rankin,  
SUCCESSORS TO  
Davis & Fairlamb,  
DEALERS IN  
Creamery Supplies.

24 to 28 Milwaukee Av.,  
Chicago, Ill.

#### THE DAVIS SWING CHURN.

The Most Popular Churn on the Market.

Because it makes the most butter. Because no other Churn works so easy. Because it makes the best grained butter. Because it is the easiest cleaned. It has no floats or paddles inside. Also the Eureka Butter Worker, the Nesbitt Butter Printer, and a full line of Butter Making Utensils for Dairies and Factories. Send for Illustrated Circulars. VERMONT FARM MACHINE CO. Bellows Falls, Vt.





## The Poultry Yard.

### Advice to the Novice in the Poultry Business.

A correspondent of the *Germantown Telegraph* gives the following good advice:

"Begin with one sort, no matter what that sort is, so long as that sort suits the fancy; breed them in their purity, take good care of both old and young, and you will be likely, at the end of the first year, to know enough about raising poultry to advantage. When you are posted try a second variety if you choose, and when you are thoroughly interested you will be content with a single variety to look after. The great error with the majority is they attempt at the outset to do too much, thus they pay too dear for the experience.

"Again; the question of numbers is an important one and depends largely upon the amount of space that can be devoted to their accommodations. Never have more than from forty to fifty at the most under one roof, and better less than thirty in one building unless it be a large one; they cannot live and remain healthy when crowded together in great numbers, the effluvia from their bodies generates disease, lice and fevers. Upon limited premises, a dozen or twenty may be kept comfortably, but the day you crowd fifty to one hundred fowls or chicks into one house you will find that they will begin to fall off in laying, the birds will get sick, vermin will congregate in myriads about their roosts, in their nests and upon their bodies—then farewell to your poultry keeping for profits. Too many in one house, don't attempt it. You will lose your time, your money, your fowls and your patience. This is true. They must be kept in small lots, on any place on the farm, big or little, and separated from any other community.

"We would urge all to get good pure bred stock. Begin with one sort at first, feed and water regular and judiciously, house them warm in winter, cool in summer, keep them free from vermin, and there will be but little trouble in realizing a handsome profit from a few birds."

### Spring Chickens.

Those who desire to have early chickens must now begin to make preparations. An early layer becomes an early brooder, and nests should be provided and a warm, quiet place prepared at once, to accommodate the first hen which desires to set. It is an excellent plan to have movable nest boxes which may be placed on the floor of the chicken-house for the hens to lay in. These nest boxes should be very shallow or made to open at the side, so that the hen can go in and out without breaking the eggs. A very convenient nest box is made of strips of half-inch stuff, two inches wide, nailed to one-inch square posts at the corners, open at one side, with one strip at the bottom to keep the nest in. The box is 16 inches long and 12 inches square at the

ends. The open lathed sides and ends make the nest airy and cool. These nests can be set in the house, and when a hen broods, the box with the hen in it can be removed to the barn and put in a quiet corner where it is warm and comfortable. The box can be covered with a bag and the hen kept in the dark, being let out for feed and water every morning and put back again in an hour if she does not go on voluntarily. In rearing early chickens it is a very great advantage to have quiet, docile hens, which will feed from the hand and submit to be handled. This kind of training is so useful in the management of poultry that every poultry-keeper should make a special point of it and familiarize the young chicks to these attentions, so that when they are old they will be handled without any trouble.

When the chicks are hatched they should be taken from the nest as they emerge from the eggs, and be put into a box or basket and kept near the kitchen fire; a small incubator, warmed by a tin box filled with hot water, might be kept in the barn for this purpose. The lives of the weaker chicks, which might be crushed and die in the nest, will thus be saved, and if the eggs are good and the hen has brooded well every chick in the brood will be saved. A young chick needs only warmth for the first day or two, and will begin to eat after 24 hours, and we have saved every chick hatched even in January by this careful method. If one desires early chickens the necessary care and attention to preserve them must be given. It pays well. As soon as the chicks are strong enough and all are out, the hen may be put in a roomy coop covered with a sack and exposed to the sun so as to get the warmth. Upon cold, windy, and cloudy days the coop may be covered with a sack for protection. A good bed of saw dust will be warm and dry and clean for the chicks. They should be fed four or five times a day with some crushed wheat, coarse oat-meal, or corn-meal. All three mixed and a little chopped meat added will be excellent food. On fine days the chicks may run out. Clean water should be provided in a shallow tin dish which cannot be upset.—*N. Y. Times.*

NEVER place the perches in the hen house one above another, or one higher than another. Fowls usually keep going up until they reach the highest perch. If there should not be room enough for all, the strong will crowd the weak ones off. Perches should not be more than three feet high. Heavy chickens often hurt themselves by jumping from high perches. Round smooth poles with legs to them make good perches and are easily moved to clean.

The pain and sorrow of a morning were turned into the comfort and pleasure of an evening, in the case of Mr. Edwin Sears, of Provincetown, Mass., by the use of *ATHLOPHOROS*. He writes: "I was troubled with Rheumatism so much that I resolved to try *ATHLOPHOROS*. In the morning I could not walk across the room alone. After taking three doses I was almost free from pain and could walk as well as ever."

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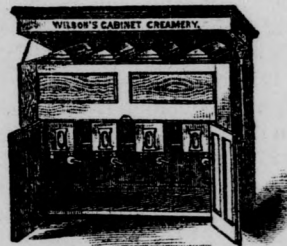
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### The Skimmer.

By a skimmer is understood a circular piece of tin, concave on one side, convex on the other, with holes more or less numerous in the center, having a handle of the same material attached, for convenience in holding and manipulating. This is an ancient dairy implement. It is old enough to be venerable, but, like some other old things, it is too faulty to be entitled to much veneration or respect where economy is of any importance. What did the inventor put holes in it for? "Why," says a dairy-maid, "to let the milk drip away when the cream is lifted from it."

Doubtless that was the reason, but that is just what should not be done, for, if the milk is liquid enough to run through the holes in a skimmer, a part, at least, of the cream will be thin enough to run through too, and occasion loss. In the ordinary manner of setting milk in dairies, the top of the milk, or that which lies next to the cream, always contains more or less cream, and should be taken in and churned with the cream. If, in skimming, this is allowed to run through the skimmer, it is lost, or at most, goes away for pig feed. Skimming is best done by taking in the top of the milk, so that from 20 to 25 per cent of the original bulk of milk will be churned. Where large bodies of milk are creamed, the cream is best separated from the milk by drawing it out from under the cream through a faucet, leaving the cream in the vessel, but where the milk is to be left in the vessel and the cream removed, it is much better to dip it off than to skim it off. As the economy of this made is better appreciated, the skimmer goes out of use, being regarded only as a source of waste. It is often said that the dairy is full of leaks, which empty the pockets of the owner. The holes in a skimmer constitute one of them.—*National Live-Stock Journal*.

### In Case of Accident.

Bruises frequently follow falls and blows with stones or missiles, and may be quite serious in their nature, even though the outer skin may not be broken. The swelling which usually follows a bruise sometimes conceals a fracture, or a severe injury to the soft tissues. The immediate application of cold water, ice or some evaporating lotion, such as water of ammonia, camphor, weak tincture of arnica, etc., is the best treatment for alleviating pain and hastening the absorption of the effused blood.

In an age when nearly everything is done by machinery, accidents from this source are of frequent occurrence. Fingers may be cut off, limbs crushed, skin and muscles torn, etc., rendering immediate aid necessary to prevent the person from bleeding to death. In case of hemorrhage from any limb or part, follow the instructions given in the preceding paper. After the bleeding has been arrested, apply clean linen or cotton pads wet with cold water, and bandage lightly, to support the wounded limb or muscle.

The flashing of loose powder, the explosion of fireworks, the bursting of powder

flasks, guns and small cannon, give rise to accidents more or less serious. In many cases the treatment of such injuries differs little from that of ordinary burns, except where powder has been blown into the face, when an effort should be made to remove it. In case of hemorrhage, stop it as soon as possible by means of cold applications, ligatures, bandages, etc., as previously directed. If fingers or limbs have been blown off, draw the surrounding tissues together, and cover the wound with linen or cotton cloth saturated with clean water.

In case of gunshot wounds, the treatment depends upon the extent of the injury. A rifle bullet, a charge of shot or a blank cartridge will produce different effects, depending upon the distance from which they were fired. At short range, the bullet and shot make a similar wound; at a longer distance the shot scatters and make several small wounds. When fired at short range, a blank cartridge makes the ugliest kind of wound, because both the wadding and powder enter the flesh and tear up larger surfaces.

Where a bullet, shot, or some wadding has entered the body it is necessary that it should be extracted. But this is a task that had better be left to the physician. The immediate treatment of gunshot wounds, however, should be similar to that of the wounds described. Stop the hemorrhage, if any, and cover the wound with cloth wet with clean water.—*Dr. Sargent in Wide Awake*.

### How Wooden Spools are Made.

The birch is first sawed into sticks four or five feet long and seven-eighths of an inch to three inches square, according to the size of the spool to be produced. These sticks are thoroughly seasoned. They are sawed into short blocks and the blocks are dried in a hot air kiln. At the time they are sawed a hole is bored through them. One whirl of the little block against the sharp knives, shaped by a pattern, makes the spool at the rate of one per second. A small boy feeds the spool machine, simply placing the blocks in a spout and throwing out the knotty or defective stock. The machine is automatic, but cannot do the sorting. The spools are revolved rapidly in drums, and polish themselves. For some purposes they are dyed yellow, red or black. They are made in thousands of shapes and sizes. When one sees on a spool of thread "100 yards" or "200 yards," these words do not signify that the thread has been measured, but that the spool has been gauged and contains so much thread. When a silk or linen or cotton firm wants a spool made it sends a pattern to the spoolmaker. This pattern gives the size and shape of the barrel and the head and bevel. These patterns determine the amount of thread that the spool will hold. One Maine factory turns out 100,000 gross of spools per day and consumes 2,500 cords of birch annually.—*Scientific American*.

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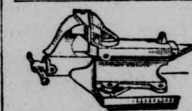
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## Apiarian.

For the MICHIGAN FARMER.

### ARE YOUR BEES SELF-SUSTAINING?

Or do you pay out more for bees and fixtures than you could buy your honey for?

I find that if you would keep a just and accurate account of your expenditures that you pay out more money than you get for your honey. Now this does not apply to all, but it does to many, and it is all wrong. If you keep bees make them pay or don't bother with them.

I find that the average farmer bee-keeper pays out too much for "experimental hives" and other fixtures. If you would take one or more of our bee publications and read carefully to get the ideas of others who have gone over the road before you, you would save many a dollar that you pay out to some one who comes along and tells you he has a good thing in the way of a patent beehive or some non-swarming attachment. If you want to make money out of your bees you should make your own hives and fixtures as far as you can. If you have no facilities to do your own sawing, get your material sawed out at some good establishment where they do good work, put them together and paint them at your leisure during the winter months. Have everything ready before warm weather, because if you do not by that time you never will, for you will have too much farm work on your hands by that time to bother with bees. The person who makes it his business to make hives and other fixtures must be paid for his time, and if you can do it as well for your purpose then you get paid for your time. There are a few things connected with bee-keeping that you can buy cheaper than you can make yourself, such as section-boxes for comb-honey, comb foundation or honey extractors. Don't buy everything you see advertised, for you don't need them.

You can raise or produce as much comb honey in a hive casting you one dollar as you can in any five dollar hive, the same with the production of extracted honey, but if you want to produce both comb and extracted honey, then you had better give a little more and use a hive adapted to that purpose. I think the average farmer keeping a few colonies of bees can produce comb honey as cheaply as to extract for this one reason: You can put your boxes on when you put your bees in the hives and your work is done for that time; you don't have to lie awake nights thinking how you are going to get those boxes on without being stung to death. It takes less fussing to produce comb honey, and more of the work can be done out of the regular season. You can, as a general thing, make more money from extracted than from comb if you will give it your time and attention; but just at that time you are hard pressed with other farm work and you cannot give it the required attention. You will

consume more extracted honey in your families than comb, and there you will make a great gain, for it is the most healthful sweet you can use, and the more of it you will use of your own producing the better off you will be as far as health is concerned.

If you have a son of suitable age and disposition that can take full care of your bees let him have them by all means, give him all he can make from them and ten to one he will make them pay and pay well. It will be a great inducement to keep him at home, and in that one direction it will pay you more than anything else. On page 7 of Prof. A. J. Cook's new book "The Bee-Keepers' Guide," he says, among other good things: "Once get our youth, with their susceptible natures, engaged in such wholesome study and we shall have less reason to fear the vicious tendencies of the street, or the luring vices and damning influences of the saloon." The above work should be in the hands of and read by every farmer owning but a single colony of bees.

I also find a great drawback to the bee-keeping farmer that after he has procured a small amount of comb honey and wants to sell, he does not know how to put it up and get it in proper shape to make it attractive so as to bring a good price. In a future article I will give some of the best methods of putting up comb honey for market.

H. D. CUTTING.

CLINTON, Mich.

A CORRESPONDENT of the *Bee Journal*, writing from Peru, Ill., says: "To be honest about sweet clover, while it is one of the best honey plants to my knowledge, I must own up that as a pasture plant for cattle it is almost worthless. With us they will not eat it if they can get anything else, and for hay, I would not suppose any one could recommend it, for the stems are coarse and hard, almost of a woody nature, so utterly different from all other clovers that I do not see how any one could recommend it for fodder. There is, however, one other use for sweet clover besides honey-producing, and that is its fertilizing qualities. I believe that from its enormous growth and extremely deep rooting nature, it can be classed among one, if not the best for fertilizing worn out soils. I have known it to root two feet deep, and it generally makes a growth of six feet high, and of the rankiest kind on our poorest soils."

J. E. VAN ETEN, of Kingston, N. Y., says he is convinced bees can stand almost any degree of cold if free from dampness. He keeps away chaff and everything that can draw moisture, and recommends covering with corn-stalks set on end and tied at the top.

F. M. TAINTOR, in the *Bee Journal*, advises every one who has twenty or more colonies to own a foundation machine, giving it as his opinion that foundation fresh from the mill is worth nearly double that two or three months old.

Hood's Sarsaparilla vitalizes the blood.

## STATE SAVINGS BANK,

No. 88 Griswold Street.

Detroit, - Mich.

Organized under the general banking law of the State. Cash capital \$150,000. Stockholders liable for another \$150,000, making a guarantee fund of \$300,000 for depositors.

Four per cent interest, compounded semi-annually, paid off deposits represented by pass books.

On pass book plan deposits made on or before the 5th of the month draw interest from 1st. If made after the 5th interest begins 1st of following month.

To persons desiring interest to begin immediately our certificates of deposit bearing interest from date of deposit commend themselves. They are payable, principal and interest, at end of a stipulated period, as follows:

2 months at 2 per cent per annum.  
3 or 4 months at 4 per cent per annum.  
6 months at 4 1-2 per cent per annum.  
12 months at 5 per cent per annum.

If money is drawn before expiration of period, no interest paid on amount drawn out.

We keep confidential all business with our customers.

Will occupy new Buhl Building next door north of Post Office as soon as completed.

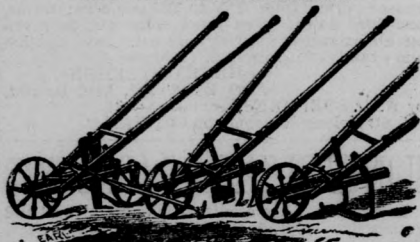
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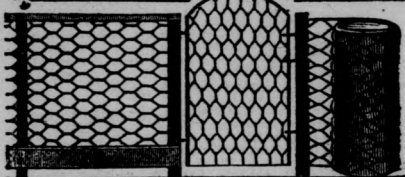
### MOSHER'S

Hand Seed Drill, Hand Wheel Harrow and Wheel Hoe Combined.



This drill is for the garden or the field. It plants in hills or sows in drills. Invented and made only by E. MOSHER, HOLLY, MICH. Circulars free. f5eow3m

### SEDGWICK STEEL WIRE FENCE



It is the only general-purpose Wire Fence in use, being a strong net work without barbs. It will turn dogs, pigs, sheep and poultry, as well as the most vicious stock, without injury to either fence or stock. It is just the fence for farms, gardens, stock ranges, and railroads, and very neat for lawns, parks, school lots and cemeteries. Covered with rust-proof paint (or galvanized) it will last a lifetime. It is superior to boards or barbed wire in every respect. We ask for a fair trial, knowing it will wear itself into favor. The Sedgwick Gates, made of wrought iron pipe and steel wire, defy all competition in neatness, strength, and durability. We also make the best and cheapest all iron automatic or self-opening gates also cheapest and neatest all iron fence. Best Wire Stretcher and Post Auger. For prices and particulars ask hardware dealers, or address, mentioning paper, SEDGWICK BROS., Manufacturers, Richmond, Ind.

mr20eow41

### WANTED.

A good farmer to take a farm in Monroe County Mich. Must be a man that understands stock and the wife a gilt-edge butter-maker. Stock and tools furnished. References required. Address m11-4e B. E. BULLOCK, Toledo, O.