

FARM AND ORCHARD.

The Sunflower, Its Cultivation and Usefulness.

Removing Tassels From Corn—About Gapes—Products of the Farm—Dried Apples—Eggs by the Pound—A Good Barn—Miscellaneous Items.

The oil of the sunflower, which is used not only for food, but in several important industries, has superseded other oils. Its bland quality and its freedom from injurious acids render it desirable in the lubrication of machinery, as for clocks and watches, and also for the uses of the artist as a medium for his colors.

The stalks make serviceable fuel, and are cheaper than wood where the plant is most easily grown, as on the broad plains of Europe, Asia, and in our Western States. The leaves are good fodder for cows. The cake left from the oil press is an excellent fattening food for hives and milk cows, and the seeds are a better food than any other grain, being high in protein, and containing twenty-seven per cent. of protein and twenty per cent. of fat.

The seed contains thirteen per cent. of protein and twenty per cent. of fat, and is therefore a valuable character for feeding, and its nutritive ratio is seven and two-tenths of carbonaceous matter to one of protein, and thus it is a rich source of energy.

An average yield is twenty-five bushels of seed per acre, and, at the common price of one dollar per bushel, this is quite profitable. The plant is a hardy one, and its leaves and stalks. There are two varieties of this plant, the mammoth and the small seed. The latter, being the richer in oil, is mostly cultivated for this purpose. The large-seeded kind is used for feeding, and also for eating as a nut, much as the chestnut with us.

The plant has spread from the province of that great Empire, and is continually spreading. It is a high tribute to pay to the oil that it is superior to any other seed oil known to us. It has displaced the best brands of the fine olive oils of Spain and Italy.

The plant succeeds to perfection in Western prairie States, where sheep may be kept with the most profit, and as the leaves and the whole heads are eaten by them and other animals, the cheapness of the plant is an important one in those States, this crop deserves special attention by the Western farmers.

The mode of culture is the simplest. The seeds are planted precisely as those of corn, and the land is simply cultivated so as to keep the weeds down and to keep the soil mellow and free from weeds. The harvest is in no way exacting as to time, as the heads drop and are protected from the rain, and the seeds are firmly held and do not blow out from the heads. The heads may be gathered and the stalks left in the fields, to be taken up at convenience for use as fuel. It is also possible, and even desirable, to seed the land with clover at the last cultivation of the crop, and make it a member of a larger rotation, to be followed by the clover, which affords the hay or pasture, or both, and then a rich contribution of plant food to the land.

The plant grows well in the South, and on the common micaceous soils, which receive in the sunlight by the innumerable scales of mica, and are also full of feldspar—another potash mineral. Each stalk will bear several bushels of seed, and a yield of fully sixty bushels of seeds to the acre may be counted upon under favorable conditions. —H. C. Stewart in American Agriculturist.

REMOVING TASSELS FROM CORN. The tassel-like male flowers of American corn discharge pollen which is carried by the air to the silky tassel flower which grow up from the grains and through the husks at the tip of the ear. The formation of this pollen is a great task, much of it is lost in the cornstalk to be used for the rapid growth of the tassels during a few days. The claim has been made that the removal of the young tassels would cause the stored plant food and entire strength of the stalk to be used in the production of more grain on one ear.

For experiment the tassels were removed from alternate rows of a part of the Cornell Experiment Station cornfield in New York. Each tasselled row yielded more than the perfect row between, but there are good reasons for believing that the field would have yielded more and all the tassels being allowed to blossom. At the Kansas Experiment Station when every fourth row was detached this method yielded least. When three alternate rows in the middle of a large cornfield were detached each of the three tasselled rows yielded more than either of the perfect rows between, but it is probable that a perfect row between perfect rows would have yielded still more.

The observed results of self-fertilization in plants make it probable that when all the alternate rows are detached each perfect stalk between them may have to use so much of its own pollen that it will be unable to breed either fails or is feeble in results. This may be the reason why there are only a few perfect rows in a field, and cobs of cornstalks standing alone, or on the edges of fields. The result may also be partly due to the decrease of pollen caused by detasseling. When the wind blows the tassels of corn in the Missouri Valley the cobs grow, but with many grains and rows missing, because they receive only a few pollen grains, and it is probable that nature grows too much pollen. The shock of cutting or breaking

of the corn tassel may decrease the yield of that stalk, even though it may produce more than the self-fertilized stalk in the next row.

Last summer at the Nebraska Experiment Station certain plots of corn had every other row detached, but these plots produced less per acre than the plots which grew naturally with all the tassels. More of such careful experiments are needed to find out the effect of detasseling a part of the corn-rows.

Every corn-grower can try the simple experiment. Beginning at the middle of the field, count off twenty rows and remove the young tassels from every other row of this first strip. Count of the second and the third strip of twenty rows each. On the other side of the middle of the field count off a fourth strip of twenty rows and detassel every third row. Count off the fifth and sixth strips of twenty rows each. Mark each strip with strong stakes and record the date and cost of detasseling. The yield of the first strip compared with the yield of the third strip and the yield of the fourth compared with the sixth, thus situated, should decide the question. Husk each strip separately.—Dise McLaren in American Agriculturist.

ALTHOUGH we have frequently alluded to this trouble, yet our readers are making further inquiries. They wish to know the cause of the gapes and its cure. The gapes are caused by the windpipe being clogged with a large number of minute, thread-like worms, the chicks suffocating as they breathe, being closed. It is difficult to dislodge them with remedies, as any severe remedy for destroying the gapes also destroys the chick. Gapes are due to the lack of clean air, and prevail mostly on old farms, the best preventive being a free use of air-slacked lime. When a chick has the gapes, give it a drop of spirits of turpentine on a bread crumb, and if no relief results, the worms must be removed by stripping a small leather, leaving a tuft at the end (or a straw may be used), and inserting it in the windpipe, giving it a quick twist, withdrawing it quickly also, and the worms will be drawn out. If the feather is pulled out, the market may be better before inserting, it will be an advantage. Feed the chicks on clean boards and dip every seven or eight days in air-slacked lime over the portion of the ground.—Farm and Fireside.

PRODUCTS OF THE FARM. In growing any sort of live stock there is one thing that should be kept in mind. It is to produce such stock as will bring buyers and not such as will compel search for them. A good special purpose breed is one that is in abundance in a certain class of buyers who are always on the watch for extra good cows. There are village and town residents of means and who are in the habit of visiting upon which they take pride in having the best of everything. So it is with any product of the farm. The market may be fully supplied with ordinary or even good butter, fruits, meats, etc., but let something a little better be offered, and it finds its way to the higher price. The business of farming can never be overdone so long as there is room at the top, and it is toward the top that everyone should aim by giving his best attention, industry and intelligence to whatever branch of the business seems best fitted to his special circumstances.

DRIED APPLES. Dried apples to the amount of 6,973,168 pounds were exported from the United States during the last fiscal year. These were nearly one-half of the population of France, Germany, Great Britain and Ireland, Belgium, Australia, East Indies, and other countries. In the United States, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Central America, Denmark, the Azores, Madeira and Cape Verde Islands and Mexico. The goods were valued at \$49,965, of which \$18,016 were received from France. Apples in their fresh state to the amount of 1,042,330 barrels were exported during the same time.

EGGS BY THE POUND. The proposal to sell eggs by weight instead of by count, as has been the practice heretofore, is finding great favor in the South, especially in St. Louis, Mo. A few years ago when the same proposal was made by shippers who had been accustomed to the plan in the East, and who liked it in consequence, the suggestion was ridiculed, but since then the practice of selling live poultry by weight has been found both practical and convenient, and the result is a revival of the egg-weighting idea. The chief gain would be in the expense of cases, which, under the count system, have to be made so as to hold exactly thirty dozen eggs. When the system of buying by weight comes into force it will be only necessary to weigh the eggs, and again when empty, and eggs can be shipped and packed in sawdust or any other cheap material.

A GOOD BARN. Without it there must always be considerable waste of crops and feed from exposure to the weather. And without a barn it is impossible to save the measure to the best advantage, although some who have the barn, are so sorry to say, neglect this important matter. But perhaps the greatest profit from the barn comes through the housing of stock, thus saving from exposure, in inclement weather, and ensuring to the stock constant growing and improving. The more we advance in agriculture the better barns we shall gradually build, and conform to the practice of keeping our stock housed more closely. Then we can carry more head to our acre, and then in more even condition and make our lands better by saving the whole manure product.

MISCELLANEOUS. Ground dried fish is a cheap and excellent fertilizer for corn. To give the corn a quick start use the fertilizer in the hill. Horses will get more benefit out of their Sunday's rest if they are given the rest in the stable, rather than left tied up in the fields. Because hogs will eat more or less of everything that is thrown to them is no reason for compelling them to eat filth that the other will refuse.

It is proposed to establish orange wineries in Florida to use up the surplus or unsalable fruit. The claim is made that it is a great demand would immediately create a large production. The oldest goose on record as now living belongs to John Ray of Craton Landing, N. Y. He bought it from Isaac Hill, who made an affidavit at the time the fowl was 52 years of age. This goose still lays fifty eggs a year, and Mr. Ray values it at \$100, and claims it to be 80 years of age. Some boarding-house keeper will prize this bird when it is a centaurian for destroying the jaws of her boarders.

The largest apple tree and largest story of an apple tree comes from Cheshire, Conn., says *Fruits and Flowers*. The tree is about 150 years old, has eight branches, of which bear one year and five the next year. Once there were 110 bushels gathered from the five limbs, and another time eighty-five bushels. The tree stands sixty feet high and is over thirteen feet in circumference one foot above the ground. It is a seedling. The fruit is a good flavor. The tree grows on an orchard, but the grass can be grown in an orchard, and the owner would be wise in not doing so. It encourages neglect and produces poor crops. The only way to grow two crops on the land at the same time is to manure heavily, more so than most farmers can be persuaded to do. Grass is one of the most profitable crops on an orchard, because it keeps the soil all year in a moist, moisture, and which search for it in all directions. In most of the fine and successful orchards of Colorado, lately visited by a Coloradoan, it was noticed that the orchards were kept singularly free from grass and weeds.

Robert Bonner, in one of his instructive letters, says: "I expect to see the day when horse-shoeing will assume its proper place as one of the professions, and doctors and lawyers keep the diplomas framed and hung in their offices. Why should not the farrier be compelled to pass an examination and do some of the most important parts of his body. He would have troubles which cannot be traced to them. And yet open colts,

WHY BUSINESS IS DULL.

More Farmers Needed to Build Up California.

The Cause of the General Business Depression and Cure—Short-sighted Policy of Land-Owners. [San Francisco Examiner, July 11th.] To the Editor of the Examiner:—Sir: Business men are complaining about the dullness of trade and thinking back fondly of the days during the '70s when stocks were booming and everybody had money.

There is no disguising the fact. California has not progressed in proportion to the tremendous natural advantages she possesses over other States. In 1875, and for some years before and after, the wealth of Nevada was pouring into this city, hydraulic mining was in full pitch of operation in the Sierra Nevada, and millions of dollars annually flowed into San Francisco. The trade of our merchants extended to Oregon, Washington and British Columbia to the north, and to Arizona and New Mexico on the south. What fruit was raised found a ready market at good prices here, and our wheat loaded fleets of vessels for Liverpool.

But after a while the Northern Pacific Railroad and the Oregon Short Line of the Northern Pacific Railroad cut the trade in the north, and the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe cut off the Arizona and Mexican trade. Thus were the markets destroyed and the trade of our wholesale merchants confined to this State alone.

True, some additions were made to our population by immigration, but not enough to compensate for the loss to us by reasons above given, and when once we had large numbers of enterprising wholesale merchants there are now only a few, and they are grumbling constantly about depression in business.

By the census of 1880 California had a population of 1,250,000 people. Of this number about 600,000 reside in San Francisco, Oakland and other towns around the bay, at least 300,000 more in Los Angeles and other cities and towns adjacent, and 250,000 more reside in the other towns throughout the State, leaving as the entire population in the valley for farmers less than 100,000 people, which would indicate that there are in the entire State less than 300,000 farmers.

Now, as all wealth comes from the soil in some measure what is needed are more workers and a more extensive cultivation of the soil. This result is not to be secured by resolutions, not by saying "ought to be done," but by putting into active operation such plans as will bring about the untiring and people of industry and intelligence.

People wonder why this State does not fill up more rapidly. In the ever-populous States the people are not so much of earnest, industrious and frugal people who want lands, and this is evident from the fact that when there was a prospect of land in the State, the people in Dakota a few months since to homestead and pre-emption thousands of people camped on the border and rushed in to secure lands when the signal for their move was given. So also at Oklahoma, where 20,000 or 30,000 people gathered and engaged in a rush for land.

They do not rush here because California has no nice Government land. If land suited to the plow could be had here for \$20 per acre the equipment of the Southern Pacific Company and other lines would be insufficient to carry the people who would come to California.

They do not rush here because instead of demanding \$100 per acre for unimproved land they offer it at \$40 or \$50 per acre, and a good annual crop of purchase and wise investment are numerous in the Eastern States and who want homes here.

The San Joaquin Valley can support a population of 3,000,000 more than the Sacramento Valley as many more. There are parties in San Francisco owning lands in the San Joaquin Valley which cost them \$12 per acre, but for this they now ask \$5 to \$10 per acre.

All over the State it is the same. Visalia that one year has prime tree near Tulare had a forty-acre tract of prunes which one year ago yielded \$24,000 worth of fruit; somebody in Fresno County got \$100 an acre for some raisins one year, and many landowners got \$200 per acre, because who own land in those countries say: "Our land must bring us \$100 per acre or we won't sell."

Well, they don't sell, and when the Assessor comes around to appraise the land is valued at from \$5 to \$20 per acre. DISCOUNTING THE FUTURE. The land-owner discounts the future and gives the "rentier-folk" no chance for some returns. Those who want to sell, who want to encourage immigration, must put their price low, and if only they offer one-half the value of the soil they will demonstrate its value and the other half may be sold high, and the products of the soil will put new life and vigor into the arteries of trade and send new life throughout the entire State.

H. M. VON ARMAN, San Francisco, July 10th. New Cook—I'm told the missus wants things in the high-toned, fashionable style. Sure, I'm afraid I won't suit for her daily cooking. I've done. Old Cook—It's aisy enough. Make every thing taste like something else.—Judge.

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FEDERATED TRADES.

The Council Elects Officers for the Next Term.

The Council of Federated Trades has elected officers for the ensuing term, as follows: President, John Hantzman; Vice-President, George Schafer; Secretary, H. N. Baumann; Treasurer, J. D. Jost; Sergeant-at-Arms, Frederick Birkenstock. Trustees—George A. Cassance, Chas. H. Joy and J. A. Sheehan. Legislative Committee—J. A. Sheehan, William H. Marshall, A. B. Sanborn, William F. Gormley and S. C. Hunt. Arbitration Committee—J. A. Sheehan, Frederick Birkenstock, Henry P. Casey, H. N. Baumann and William H. Hugo. Labor Statistics Committee—William N. Lines, William E. Platt, Alvy E. Gore and Al Rittinger.

The Trustees reported that for the term \$1,277.16 had been received, and \$1,253.84 expended. The Treasurer's report showed a balance in the treasury. Resolutions were adopted sympathizing with the Homestead (Pa.) strikers and denouncing the Carnegie Company.

Marion Harland's Opinion. Readers of the RECORD-UNION are familiar not only with the sprightly writings of Marion Harland, but also with her sound common sense upon matters of every day life and action. Her name, indeed, is a household word, and is equally well known in parlor and kitchen. Her celebrated cook-book, "Common Sense in the Household," is without a peer and shows that she has made a careful study of how to prepare good, wholesome food, in the best manner by the best materials. In this issue we produce a fac-simile letter from Marion Harland that speaks from her experience in the highest terms of the unequalled qualities of the Royal Baking Powder. Housewives everywhere should read the opinion of such an expert and act accordingly. All good cooks who have used the Royal, are of the same opinion also.

Waiter—Have a bit of spring chicken, sir? Guest—Yes, please. And, waiter, make it this spring, please.—Detroit Free Press.

Scrofula. In the Neck. The following is from Mrs. J. W. Tiltrook, wife of the Mayor of Mekeep, Penn.: "My little boy Willie, now six years old, two years ago had a scrofula of the neck, which under one ear which the doctor lanced and it discharged for some time. We then began giving him Hood's Sarsaparilla, and the sore healed in five weeks. He has never been very robust, but now seems healthy and daily growing stronger."

HOOD'S PILLS do not weaken, but aid digestion and tone the stomach. Try them. 2c.

Hotels and Restaurants. GOLDEN EAGLE HOTEL, Corner Seventh and K Streets. STRICTLY FIRST-CLASS. FREE BUS to and from the cars. W. O. BOWERS, Proprietor.

WESTERN HOTEL, THE LEADING HOUSE OF SACRAMENTO, Cal. Meals, 25 cents. WM. LAND, Proprietor. Free bus to and from hotel.

PACIFIC HOTEL, Corner K and Fifth Streets, Sacramento. (CENTRALLY LOCATED AND CONVENIENT) All places of amusement. The best family hotel in the city. The table always supplied with the best market afford. Strictly first-class. Free bus to and from the cars. C. F. SINGLETON, Proprietor.

THE SADDLE ROCK Restaurant and Oyster House. FIRST-CLASS HOUSE IN EVERY RESPECT. Ladies' dining-room separate. Open day and night. BUCKMANN & CARROLL, Proprietors. No. 101 1/2 Second street, between J and K Streets, Sacramento.

MAISON FAURE, FRENCH RESTAURANT, 613 K STREET, Sacramento. Family orders, banquets and wedding parties a specialty.

RESTAURANT AND OYSTER PARLOR, 712 1/2 K Street, Sacramento. Open day and night. J. M. MORRISON and A. M. GAULT, Proprietors.

THE DELMONICO'S. RESTAURANT AND OYSTER PARLOR, 712 1/2 K Street, Sacramento. Open day and night. J. M. MORRISON and A. M. GAULT, Proprietors.

RESTAURANT DE FRANCE, BECKER & WISSEMAN, PROPRIETORS. 427 Broadway, New York. Metropolitan Theatre. Family orders, banquets and wedding parties a specialty.

Rockaway Restaurant. MEALS AT ALL HOURS SERVED IN A first-class manner. Oysters in every style. 300 Broadway, New York, Cal. A. OJEN & J. KOVICH, Props.

Change of Proprietor. THE MISSISSIPPI KITCHEN, 1021 Third street, is conducted in first-class style. Meals, 15 cents. E. HIMMEL, Proprietor.

IMPORTANT NOTICE. ON AND AFTER JULY 10, 1892, THE RUSS HOUSE, San Francisco, formerly under the management of S. H. Seymore, has been purchased by Messrs. J. S. YOUNG and M. J. CONNELLY. These gentlemen are well known in hotel circles. They have been in the hotel business for the past nine years, conducted the Sotomayo house of HARBOR, in Sonoma County. Mr. Connelly has been connected with the Russ House for the past seventeen years, consequently needs no introduction. They will endeavor to conduct the house to meet the approval of their patrons, and will run a strictly first-class hotel on both the European and American plans. Terms, \$1.50 and \$2 per day. Rooms, 50 cents and upward. Special terms for families. Coaches to and from house. d & w.

BECKER & WISSEMAN, PROPRIETORS. 427 Broadway, New York. Metropolitan Theatre. Family orders, banquets and wedding parties a specialty.

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