

AGRICULTURE.

KILL YOUR ANIMALS EARLY.—There is great economy in feeding animals for meat that they will mature early. It has been proved by experiment that less food is required to make a pound of meat in any animal the younger it is. Take, for example, a steer fed for beef, he will make a far greater gain on a bushel of meal, or a given quantity of any suitable feed, before he is a year old than when he has become two years old, and more at that age than when he is three. This being considered a fact it is economy to feed well, even to force the animal and have it at the shambles at the earliest possible period. Bullocks, as the English people call them, steers in our own vocabulary, can be made as fat and as meaty at two years thus as at others at three fed in the ordinary manner. This makes a saving of the food necessary to keep, not fatten, the animal of the third year, which is in itself a handsome gain. Besides this saving, the beef of a five-hundred pound steer at two is better than that of the same weight at three. Tender beef is that which is made young and rapidly. The reader will see the double profit in the course recommended. Not only is this the case with the steer, but with the lamb and the pig. In fact, the most successful pork-growers slaughter their animals before they reach the end of a year from birth to ten months being generally considered the most profitable limit. We are aware of the prejudice we are encountering by the assumed, but facts are stubborn, and will not yield to any preconceived opinions. The farmer, some times keeps his hog until it is eighteen months old, and then sells it on the ground of economy when the fact is if he would feed well from the first, and not starve the creature all the summer to make it fatten when he began to feed he would see a difference. To make good pork feed generously always, giving such feed as its nature requires to make growth, and to secure as much as the appetite demands. The pig will be better meat and larger profits.

THE HOUSEHOLD.

HERE is a recipe for coffee cake which is sure to please any one who is fond of coffee "as a beverage." Take one cup of strong coffee, one cup of molasses, one cup of butter, one cup of sugar, one of raisins, and one of currants, four cups of flour, one nutmeg grated, one teaspoonful of cinnamon, half a teaspoonful of soda or saleratus, mix the butter, molasses and sugar together, stir the spices into the flour, dissolve the soda, stir the coffee and flour in by degrees, and lastly put in the fruit. Bake in a slow oven, butter the tin well, and unless you are sure your oven will not bake too hard, you had better put a paper in the bottom of the tin. This cake keeps well. With more fruit it makes a good fruit cake.

HUMOROUS.

"Ain't she fine looking?" remarked a man as a lady passed along the street. "Yes," replied a young fellow; "regard her as the finest looking woman in Cleveland. In fact, I am in love with her." "Isn't she a married lady?" "Yes, but I fell in love with her some time ago, and I suppose that I shall always love her." "Did you ever tell her of your love?" "Oh, yes, and I know that she loves me." "Does her husband know it?" "Yes, for one day while I was visiting the lady he entered the room just as I put my arms around her." "What did he do?" "He didn't do anything." "Curious kind of a man." "No, for I did not expect him to do anything." "Why?" "Because the lady is my mother."

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THE HOUSEHOLD.

LAMB CUTLETS AUX PETITS POIS.—Take a pound of underdone round lamb cut in small pieces, then pound them in a mortar to make a smooth paste; season with pepper and salt, beat up the yolks of two eggs and mix smoothly with the mass. Press it out to the thickness of a lamb cutlet; with a sharp knife cut it into pieces shaped like cutlets, dip them in beaten egg, then in bread-crumbs and fry in hot lard. Serve on a hot platter surrounded by a pile of boiled green peas. This is one of the nicest ways of using up cold meat; cold chicken or turkey may be used instead of lamb or mutton—and even beef is possible.

THE HOUSEHOLD.

RICI CUSTARD OR CREAM CAKE.—Three-fourths cupful butter, two cups sugar, and one-fourth pint flour, five eggs, one teaspoonful baking powder, one cup milk. Rub the butter and sugar to a white light cream, add the eggs two at a time, beating five minutes between each addition. Then add the milk. Sift the flour with the baking powder and add it last thing. Mix this well, but not any more than is necessary. The second it is put into the oven after the addition of the baking powder and flour the better. Bake in jelly tins, in a hot oven fifteen minutes.

THE HOUSEHOLD.

LEMON PIE WITH CORN STARCH.—Make ready the following ingredients: One heaping tablespoonful of corn starch, one cupful of boiling water, one cupful of sugar, one egg, one tablespoonful of butter and one lemon. Moisten the corn starch with a little cold water, then add the boiling water; stir this over the fire for two or three minutes, allowing it to boil and cook the starch; add the butter and sugar. Remove the mixture from the fire, and when cooled enough so as not to cook the egg add a well-beaten one with the juice and grated rind of the lemon. This quantity makes one pie, and should be baked with the crust.

THE HOUSEHOLD.

THE OHIO BOY IS FULL OF GENIUS. He had been reading that Nero killed his mother, and the fancy was kindled by the mere thought of the sublime spectacle. How hard it is to repress the precocity that bespeaks the possession of heaven-born endowments. One afternoon this boy set fire to the wood-shed, and crawling up on an adjoining fence, covered his mother's hair comb with a bit of paper and played "Way Down Upon the Swanee River" while the conflagration proceeded. He took his meals standing for several days afterward.

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