FARM, GARDEN AND HOME.

The Mowing of the Aftermath.

BY E. W. HAZEWELL.

In fields when autumn birds have flown,
And withered herbs stand tall and sere,
And many a sad'ning sign makes known
The passing of the wasted year;
Where quivering breezes take their path,
The mowers mow the aftermath.

When skies are free from cloud or haze,
And woods are steeped in red and gold,
When come the smiling, sad-eyed days,
Ere yet the breeze hath grown too cold,
While naught there is of winter wrath
The mowers mow the aftermath.

Gray fields, that erstwhile spread your wealth
Of golden flowers or rip'ning grass,
Old Time, with beauty-blasting stealth,
Ye've seen with your abundance pass;
And bending o'er each swinging snath,
The mowers mow the aftermath.

And standing in this leaf-swept lane,
To view the scene with dimming eyes,
I think, as joy contests with pain,
Of one who walks in Paradise.
The thought a dear attraction hath,
The mowers mow the aftermath.

Squashes for Feed.

The squash is very rich in flesh and fat-forming elements, consequently it is a valuable food for stock, and all the waste of the crop should be carefully saved and fed. The speckled and green ones, boiled up and mixed with meal and shorts, make excellent food for swine and poultry; and, cut up raw, they are valuable for cows and young stock. When feeding them to hens and cows giving milk, the seeds should be removed, as they have a diuretic effect, which tends to dry up the milk and cause hens to cease laying. Squashes are worth half as much per ton to feed as good hay.

Hauling Manure.

In drawing manure, I use no wagon box; with two or three stout planks for the bottom, and two wide boards for side pieces, the rigging is complete. Arrived in the field, take off a side board, and with a potato hook, pull off enough manure for a heap, starting the team, another heap is made from the other side, and then one from each end, making always five, and sometimes six heaps from the load. I rake off in heaps, because the manure is unloaded so much more rapidly than by pitching. If I had to pitch it over a wagon box, as is usually done, I should spread as I unloaded. It is in this rapid uloading that much of the saving is made. If the distance to draw is short, or the manure inconvenient to get at, I sometimes find it better have two men to load. The manure heaps afterward while the team is powing or engaged in other work. It is a material waste to allow horses to be idle while the manure is being spread.—*Cor. Rural New Yorker.*

Raising Rye.

A writer in the *Country Gentleman* thinks that the light sandy fields that are often left uncultivated should be devoted to an occasional crop of winter rye. Light sandy soils produce the best quality of rye, the grain giving a whiter and sweeter quality of flour than heavier soils, which are more valuable for other crops. For rye these thin soils should be ploughed early and harvested well when the grain is to be sown. A half bushel more of seed will be required to the acre. Early sowing will require less seed than late, as, if sown early, the plants spread so as to fill the soil, even if quite thin when they come up. Some manures will cause an increase of double that effected by others. Suitably prepared night soil, carefully applied and harrowed in with the seed, makes one of the best fertilizers for rye on any soil. In the early spring, when the grain is three or four inches high, a bushel of plaster and gypsum, if sown broadcast to the acre, will produce excellent results. Shell lime, harrowed in after the seed is sown, is also good. If sown late, one and three-fourths bushels of seed will be required to the acre. Rye may be sown at any time after the 1st of September up to the time for the ground to freeze, as if it does not sprout in the fall it will come in the spring, it being very hardy, but the earlier sowing is altogether best. If there is likely to be too much fall growth, feeding it off with calves or light stock does not injure it, while it furnishes an excellent fall pasture for calves or milch cows.

Steaming Fodder for Sheep.

A farmer in Ohio who has experimented extensively in feeding sheep, as is reported, selected 300 ewes and divided them into two equal numbers, and as nearly equal in size, weight, age and condition as he could get them. One lot of 150 was placed in one shed and received liberal rations of clover, hay and sheaf oats. The other lot of 150 was placed in a neighboring shed, and fed twice a day with steamed corn-fodder, cut to three-quarters of an inch in length, mixed with two bushels of bran, and wet down with boiler-water—at the rate of one bushel of the mixed feed to ten sheep. Before beginning each lot was weighed on a set of stock scales conveniently near, and thereafter were weighed twice a week. Each lot received the same care in watering, bedding, exercise, protection against storms, &c. The experiments were continued over a period of eight weeks. The records of the details were so satisfactory as to seem to warrant the purchase of an engine and boiler, and the putting up of works and conveniences on a scale adequate to the wants of the flock. Since then he has fed this food almost exclusively. Last winter, owing to the failure of the hay crop, he kept over his entire stock, consisting of 20 horses, about 20 head of cattle, and between 1,600 and 1,700 sheep, without a pound of hay, and they came into spring in better condition than they have ever done on dry feed. The sheet-anchor of steam feeding, he believes, is the fodder of sowed corn, of which he cut and cured 500 tons last summer from eighty acres of upland clay sod.

Winter Wheat.

Sow wheat, if possible, (says the *Herald,*) upon land that is not quite level, so that ice cannot collect upon it in winter. The land must be well fertilized, but should not be manured with strong, fresh manure unless applied to some previous crop. It is best not to sow any kind of grass seed with the wheat, for land that will produce good wheat, will also raise a crop of grass which will interfere both with the growth and harvesting of the wheat. Soaking the seed in brine, it is said, will kill the smut-spores. By soaking it, many of the light kernels can be flooded and poured off. Generally enough care is not given to selecting the seed wheat.

A correspondent of the *Rural World,* writing upon the subject of selecting wheat for sowing, says: Although it is admitted that there is no decline in the fertility of the soil, but, on the contrary, a great improvement on the past, it is nevertheless acknowledged that there is a great falling off in the production per acre of wheat in the principal grain-growing sections. This degeneracy is attributed to the fly, rust, frost, dry weather, and wet, all of which undoubtedly have their influence, and in certain localities often do great damage. But a correspondent of the *Country Gentleman,* from Cleveland, Tenn. thinks that this deterioration is due chiefly to the careless selection of seed, and reports the following result of experiments in that direction:

"The result of my experience with at least thirty-eight different varieties of wheat for years, proves beyond a doubt that good, healthy, unadulterated seed selected and saved, as farmers select and save their seed corn, will not run out or deteriorate in the least, but grow better. To illustrate and prove this fact, I desire to give the result of an experiment made this season. Last June I picked seven pounds of the best center heads of my wheat, and drilled it eleven inches apart in rows, at the rate of only forty pounds to the acre. It grew most luxuriantly, and was entirely too thick for large heads. It attained a height of six and one-half feet, and much of it fell down. April 20th it commenced heading, was reaped June 11th, and to-day (June 23d) it was threshed, making, according to the report of a committee, over sixty-seven bushels per acre."

Winter House-Plants.

Pot plants that are to bloom in winter should be examined at once to see if they need shifting into larger pots. To get the plant out of its pot, lay the left hand over the top of the pot with the plant between the fingers. Then grasping the pot firmly with the right hand, invert it and tap the edge lightly against a window sill or any other projection until the ball of earth comes out, as you would turn a jelly out of a mould. If the roots have become matted closely around the sides and bottom, the plant needs a larger pot; for geraniums, one size larger is best, as they will bloom better in the house if their roots are restricted. Heliotropes, fuschias, roses and carnations will need pots two sizes larger. Put a little thoroughly decayed manure into the bottom of the pot, set the ball of earth into it, and fill up the sides with fresh soil, pressing it down gently around the roots. The surface of the soil should ne nearly half an inch below the level of the edge of the pot, so as to give room for water, and as the earth sinks down, a fresh supply can be added occasionally. A good compost for plants can be made out of one-third perfectly decayed manure, one-third sharp sand, and one-third garden soil. Mix this well together, and if a few spoonfuls of air-slacked lime can be stirred in with it, it will kill all the larvæ of insects.

Household Hints.

TINWARE looks much nicer when washed in hot water with milk instead of soap, and will not require the rough scouring which is so commonly used by the servants, and which soon wears off all the tin, leaving a rusty, useless article, neither iron nor tin.

IN cleaning paint, put to two quarts of hot water two tablespoonfuls of turpentine and one pint of skimmed milk, with only enough soap to make a weak soap suds and it will remove all stains from the paint and leave a fine lustre almost like varnish.

ONE of the most agreeable materials for curtaining windows is coarse unbleached cotton. The irregularity of the thread and the roughness of the surface gives its soft fold much the charm of a Russia crash, and its hue warms the light of cool windows almost to the glow of sunshine.

DO NOT waste your soap-suds. If the hogs will not drink, as it is very beneficial to them, give it to the grapevines. While stable manure is injurious, soap-suds is the best fertilizer yet discovered, except bone meal, for grapevines.

A CERTAIN way to keep ants from sugar barrels, lard cans and preserve jars, says one who has tried it, is to tie a string wet with kerosene around the barrel, can, or jar. Repeat the wetting of the string with the kerosene oil every few days.

MOLASSES FRUIT CAKE.—One pound of sugar and three-quarters of a pound of butter, beaten to a cream. Slightly warm two cups of molasses and mix well with the butter and sugar; next the well-beaten yolks of six eggs and half a cup of sour cream; one teaspoonful of cinnamon and one of cloves; one teaspoonful of ginger if desired; two pounds of sifted flour, with the well-beaten whites of six eggs; one heaping teaspoonful of soda, dissolved in hot water, and at the last one pound of raisins, seeded and chopped; one pound of currants, well washed and dried. Flour the fruit well before mixing. Bake in two bread pans in a slow oven.

A Remarkable Globe.

A monk of the Benedictine monastery at Raygern, between Brunn and Vienna, is a self-taught mechanician and artist. He has recently completed a mechanical curiosity in the shape of a self moving terrestrial globe, which the *Academy* describes in detail. A combination of wheels gives it a motion similar to that of the earth, and when once set going it will revolve for three weeks. At the north pole of the axis are dial-plates on which the days and months are indicated, and over these is a smaller globe, by means of which the motion of the earth around the sun is exhibited. The larger globe sets the smaller one in motion by the agency of twelve wheels. The construction of the mechanism took ten years of patient application, and was only completed after numerous experiments. As regards geographical details, the map on the globe is carefully drawn, and shows all the latest discoveries. The steamer routes, railway and telegraph lines, the heights of mountains and the depths of the ocean are all distinctly shown.

"Old Hickory" and International Law.

Ben Perley Poore recalls the following anecdote of General Jackson, when, as military commander of Florida during the administration of President Monroe, he tried at a drumhead, court-martialed and hanged two Englishmen who had incited, it is said, an insurrection among the Indians. President Monroe feared that Great Britain would make trouble about this, and summoned the General to Washington before the cabinet. John Quincy Adams, then secretary of state, who had instructed Jackson to govern with a firm hand in Florida, defended him, and read a long argument in which he quoted international law as expounded by Grotius, Vattel and Puffendorff. Jackson listened in sullen silence, but in the evening, when asked at a dinner party whether he was not comforted by Mr. Adams' citation of authorities. he exclaimed: "What do I care about those old musty chaps! Blast Grotius, blast Vattel, and blast the Puffenchap! This is a fight between Jim Monroe and me, and I propose to fight it out!"

A YOUNGSTER made a drawing of a team and wagon filled with boxes. He showed his work to his mother, who asked him what it represented. "It is a man peddling apples," said the boy. "But where is the man?" "Gone up the hill to see if they want any apples," said the boy.

A WOMAN who makes a practice of borrowing a quart of milk generally make a pint of returning it.

A ROMANTIC INFATUATION.

An Heir to a Throne Following the Travels of an American Songstress.

From the Pittsburg Leader.

Some time in the spring of 1873 there appeared at the court of the Queen Dowager Josephine, of Sweden—then sojourning at the summer palace at Rosendal—four young and beautiful girls, whose remarkable talent as musicians had attracted the attention of musical connoisseurs of Europe, and through the mediumship of Ottillie Weigren, secured them the friendship as well as the patronage of royalty. It may be readily understood why the advent of these fair artists, who from childhood had been proteges of the King, created a great sensation among the susceptible youth attached to the court, and passing hours of idleness amid the beautiful scenery and charming pleasures of this favorite abode of the Queen Dowager. Among those attracted by the beauty either of the place or of its fair visitors, was a young noble who has since become prominent in European politics, and who stands next in succession to the throne of a kingdom. He had ever been a fourtunate lover; but at last he met his fate and suffered a defeat wounding to his pride, but more wounding to his heart. To one of his quartette of beauties he became deeply and devotedly attached; but though it was apparent his affections were not engaged elsewhere, she would give him no encouragement, and all his advances were met with the coldest indifference when they could not be avoided altogether. The talent of this quartette of beauties caused them to be invited to visit various European courts, and through Austria, Russia, Prussia, Holland and the Rhineland, the devoted Prince followed the object of his heart's affections. Presents of immense value, and letters, borne by the hands of embassadors. were alike quietly, but firmly refused, and the lovely girl, to all remonstrances of friends at the extremity of her coldness, declared herself "wedded to her art." At length, in the fall of 1876, she, in company with three fellow-graduates of the Conservatory of Music, Stockholm, left suddenly for the United States. Not even their nearest relatives knew of their intention to leave Europe. As to Prince Paul K——, he was nigh distracted. Compelled to remain in Europe, and not daring to relinquish the duties of his high station, he was forced to abandon the pursuit of the object of his adoration in propria personæ, but trusty messengers were sent in every direction to discover something of her whereabouts, when all doubts were set at rest by the arrival of dispatches from New York. After giving concerts in connection with the Ole Bull and Thomas orchestra, the quartette last spring secured the services of John D. Mishler, and commenced what is to be a musical tour of the United States, to be completed at San Francisco. During their vacation this summer they were continually followed to various watering-places by a tall, dark, foreign-looking gentleman, who seemed to be interested in their every movement. When they retired for a month to a quiet Berks county farm-house, he took board at the village hotel, and was observed to watch them at every opportunity. When they started on their concert tour, he was an attendant at every concert in every town, and invariably stopped at the same hotel as they did. His conduct was at last explained, and the whole story came out by his action at the Tift House, at Buffalo, where he seized the opportunity to have an interview with the lovely blonde who had rejected the Prince. What passed at that interview can only be surmised, but certain it is that this watchful emissiary had been sending regular reports to Europe to his royal master, and that he had obtained an interview under instructions. Whatever his instructions may have been, it is certain that the result of the interview was most unsatisfactory, for he immediately after left for New York. There can be no doubt that he was deputed to offer to the brilliant songstress the share of a throne, and there can be no doubt that she refused it. It will not be so very astonishing—since princes are but men—if the royal lover should come to press his suit in person. Nor will it be astonishing—since this cold beauty is after all a woman—if the persistence of a prince should at last persuade her to look with favor upon his suit.

A Faithful Friend.

A correspondent of the London *Field* gives the following history of an old horse of his acquaintance: "I have lately seen an old horse at Bourn, in Lincolnshire, on the history of which I can thoroughly rely, and is so remarkable that I think it worth publication. I have seen the horse myself, and as far as personal observation goes, I can thoroughly endorse the story. The horse is aged twenty-two, of the old short-legged cooching stamp, and hae been in the possession of the present owner upward of sixteen years, during which period he has only had three day's rest, not excluding even Sundays. His work has been to run a heavy mail-cart from Bourn to Swayfield, a distance of fourteen miles, including the return journey, every day, and one day a week two miles extra. The horse leaves Bouan between between six and seven in the morning, and reaches Bourn about seven in the evening. During his recreation at Swayfield, the horse is kept in further exercise by working at the plow and other work upon a farm. He is without blemish and in capital condition. His work for the last sixteen years has been so uniform that the horse knows the particular places he has to stop at on given days of the week; for instance, he persistently stops at the barber's shop on Tuesdays and Fridays, and six daysa week he stops at a draper's shop for parcels, and on Sundays he won't stop at either place. His owner is so fond of him that, with a sort of feeling of Tom Moody, he hopes that he and his horse may be buried together."

Field Marshal Wrangel.

With Field Marshal Count Friedrich Hienrich Ernst Wrangel, who died recently at Berlin, passes away one of the chief relics of the old Prussian military system. To him, as the "Grandfather of the Army," his subordinates looked up with the utmost reverence, and his sovereign lent a willing and respectful ear. His character was cast in that heroic mould which glorified, in the eyes of the admiring people, the physical frame weakened and broken by the storms of more than ninety years; and as he rode through the public squares of the German capital, strapped to the saddle of a steed almost as worn out as himself, the hat of every patriot would be doffed, and the children, who aspired to wear a helmet at some future time would crowd about him with huzzas.

Wrangel was born in 1874, and entered the Prussian army at an early age. For distinguished service in several campaigns he rose to the rank of general in 1824. In his domestic affairs he showed the same iron courage and the same notions of honor which marked his military career; and it is said that when his only son, who was a subordinate officer in the army, was implicated in some misdemeanor, the general paid whatever money as forfeit the lad had incurred, and then, handing him a pistol said tersely;

"For a Prussian officer who has disgraced himself there is no way but this." Obedient to the suggestion, young Wrangel put the muzzle of the weapon to his head and blew his brains out before his father's eyes. The general witnessed the deed outwardly unmoved, and never mentioned the offender's name again. March 30, 1873, Wrangel finished his fiftieth year as general in the service, and the emperor sent him, as a token of personal regard, his own portrait set in diamonds, to be worn as a decoration. The old officer has always enjoyed the confidence and intimacy of the present emperor, and at one time presumed upon his master's affection to such an extent as to advise the arrest of the prince imperial for a breach of etiquette. The papers were drawn up accordingly, but for private reasons were never served. Wrangel has been possessed for some years of the suspicion that the Berliners thought he had lived too long. As an evidence that there was one among them who did not share that opinion, the emperor raised him to a field marshalship; and the old man has gone down to his grave with all the content that earthly honors, a money competence and a sense of duty never shirked can bring to a mortal who has seen the friends of three generations pass away before him.

The Jolly Cobblers.

In Flanders the company of cobblers not only take precedence of the company of shoemakers, but bear for their arms a boot with an imperial crown upon it. They ascribe this honor to the Emperor Charles V., who was fond of wandering incognitio, and on a certain night strolled into a cobbler's stall to get his boot mended. He found the cobbler making merry with his friends; and, when he preferred his request, was told that they were keeping the festival of Crispin, and that no work could be done on that day for any man, even though he were Charles himself; but that he was welcome to come in and join them in drinking to St. Crispin, for they were as merry as the Emperor himself could be. As this invitation jumped with the Emperor's humor, he accepted it, and joined them in their drinking.

"Here's Charles V.'s health," said the cobbler.

"Do you love him?" asked the Emperor.

"Love him?" said the cobbler, "aye, I love his long-noseship well enough, but I should love him more if he would tax us less."

They finished St. Crispin's day very pleasantly, and on the morrow the Emperor sent for the cobbler to the palace and mightily surprised him by thanking him for his hospitality on the previous evensng, asking him to name what reward he would like best. The amazed cobbler took the night to think of it, and on the next day appeared before the Emperor, and requested that the cobblers of Flanders might bear their coat-of-arms a boot with a crown upon it. It was such a moderate request that the Emperor told him he would not only grant that but another also; whereupon the son of Crispin asked that the cobblers might also take precedence of the shoemakers, a request which was also granted to him.

Successful Mind Reading.

Before she could utter the "Where have you been till this hour of the morning, anyhow?" which was trembling on her lips, he said: "Bin t'ther mind readin'; bet yer seven dollars I can read yer mind this very minnit." Well, you old fool, what am I thinking of now?" she said in a tone of sadness. "Thinkin' of! Why, I can read yer msnd like ther open pages of 'er book; yer thinkin' I'm drunker'n a biled owl, but yer never was worse fooled in yer life." She only said that there must be something in mind-reading after all, for he had hit the nail right square on the head.

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