

Knoxville Weekly Chronicle.

WEDNESDAY, . . . JANUARY 29, 1873

FARM AND HOME.

Begin to Think About Hot Beds.

The time is rapidly approaching for gardeners to think about their hot beds. Look around you and have the materials necessary at hand. They ought to be ready in this latitude about the middle of February. A good and cheap one may be formed as follows: Make an excavation from two and a half to three feet deep; fill to within six inches of the surface with fresh stable manure; set or build around a frame made of plank (the frame like a box without top or bottom); the edges of the frame at the sides sloping toward the south so that the back, or north side, shall be six inches higher than the front, the front and back being three or four feet apart; cover with sash. Old widow sash may do, but it is much better to have sash made for the purpose. The bars to support the glass ought to run in but one direction, with the glass so arranged that rain water will readily run off, quite an essential point.

After the manure has been put in to the depth mentioned above, let it be wet with a few bucketsful of water; then let it be closely compacted by beating down with a good maul. After this add six inches of good, rich humus from the woods, the darker the better.

After about two days, mark off in rows four inches apart, and running north and south, and sow lettuce, radishes, early Yorks, egg plant, tomatoes and any other vegetables that you may desire to have early.

It is better to keep the surface of the bed a little below the surface of the ground outside of the frame, as in that case the plants are less liable to be affected by the changes of atmospheric temperature. Should cold freezing nights occur, a little straw, a piece of an old carpet, or a blanket may be thrown over the glass! The sash should be raised every warm day to give the plants fresh air. The bed should be watered daily, and the plants exposed to all warm gentle rains, but the sash should be carefully closed during drenching storms or chilling showers. Rural Sun.

To Remove Moles from the Face.

Our correspondents frequently inquire how to do this. We find the following in an exchange, and give it for their benefit and what it is worth:

"Ladies have a horror of those black eminences on the face called moles. Even homely men dislike them, but there they ordinarily remain as guides in giving a description of an applicant for a passport. A mole is a thickening of the epidermis, or outer skin, probably induced by an obstruction in the outward ends of a cluster of sudoric ducts or sweat tubes. To be clear of them readily, run a fine needle through one side to the other. Let an assistant take hold of both ends of the needle and pull, so as to make a neck of clear skin at its base. It is neither painful, difficult nor attended with hardly a tinge of blood. Next, ligate that neck behind the out-dragged mole with a delicate, strong, waxed silk thread that cuts off the circulation; clip away the unused thread and wait the result. A slight local inflammation ensues, which is the gluing together the new surface of the stretched skin. In a few days the old offense drops off, deprived of nutrition, leaving no scar. If a little reddish by the remains of a subsiding inflammation, wet the spot occasionally with cold water. Proceed to the next, and the next, *scilicet*. Before aware of it any mole-disfigured face may become as good as new."

Hog Manure.

A contributor to the *Germanium Telegraph* thus discourses about this manure: There is no manure on the farm equal to the excrements of swine. To what purpose soever it may be applied it will sustain its reputation as one of the best fertilizers. A single hog during the eighteen months of its existence will make more than twenty dollars worth of manure, if it be furnished with the materials, and all the urine and excrements saved; but to effect this purpose the floor of the pen should be made so that not a particle of the droppings can go to waste. For manuring corn in the hill the manure made by the fattening hogs stands pre-eminent above all other kinds; and the absorbents best to make manure for this purpose stands in point of excellence in the following order: First, sawdust; next, dried swamp muck; then leaves, straw and other rough materials, which must undergo fermentation before they can be made conveniently available to apply to corn-hills.

Farmers, try the hog on his own merits, give him plenty of sun, but no rain. Keep him decent by giving him a plentiful supply of the raw material to work upon; then apply the fruits of his labor to the corn-crop, and his ghost will be seen in the luxuriant crop, while his carcass is snugly stowed in the meat-barrel.

Sawing Down Timber.

There has been much discussion in the *Rural New Yorker* as to the best method of sawing down timber. For the benefit of Frank Batchelor and others, let me say: First commence on the side of the tree you want it to fall, sawing in six or eight inches (according to the size of the tree), and take out the saw and chop in on the lower side of the saw surf or stump as far as sawed; then commence on the opposite side of the tree and saw in directly opposite the first sawing. When you have sawed far enough, commence driving a wedge, and drive until the tree falls. Thus you secure a square end for your logs.—*J. R. Finch, in Rural New Yorker.*

Thread-Worms in Cattle.

A correspondent of *Turf, Field, and Farm* asks for a remedy for white worms in cattle, he having several that are troubled. He says the sheep lean, with flatulent rumbling in the abdomen; they seem feeble and sweat easily. To this the editor responds: "The ordinary remedy for these worms is a mixture every morning for a week of one part of linseed oil, containing two grains of spirits of turpentine. A good powder, as well as a remedy, is a mixture of powdered copperas and wood ashes, placed where the horse can lick it, or a small tea-spoonful of powdered copperas given three times a day."

What to do in Case of Accident.

Prof. Wilder, of Cornell University, gives the following short rules for action in cases of accident, which it will be found useful to preserve or remember:

For dust in the eyes avoid rubbing; dash water into them; remove cinders, etc., with the round point of a lead pencil.

Remove water from the ear by tepid water; never put a hard instrument into the ear.

If any artery is cut, compress above the wound; if a vein is cut, compress below.

If choked, get upon all fours and cough. For slight burns, dip the part in cold water; if the skin is destroyed, cover with varnish.

Smother a fire with carpets, &c.; water will often spread burning oil, and increase danger. Before passing through smoke, take a full breath and then stoop low; but if carbonic acid gas is suspected, walk erect.

Suck poisoned wounds, unless your mouth is sore; enlarge the wound, or, better cut out the part without delay; hold the wounded part as long as can be borne to a hot coal or end of a cigar.

In case of poisoning, excite vomiting by tickling the throat or by warm water and mustard.

For acid poisons, give alkalis; for alkaline poisons, give acids—white egg is good in most cases; in a case of opium poisoning give strong coffee and keep moving.

If in water, float on the back, with the nose and mouth projecting.

For apoplexy, raise the head and body; for fainting, lay the person flat.

Royal Corn Bread and Batter-Cakes.

Make a pint of batter of nice corn meal and coarse flour stirred in water; let it stand in a warm place until it ferments well; then add warm water, two or three spoonfuls of molasses, a spoonful of salt, and soda enough to counteract the acid (a teaspoonful or more) then thicken with corn meal and coarse flour, about equal proportions, making the batter about the consistency as for griddle cakes; oil your baking dish and fill; always leaving about a pint of your batter for seed.

Place your bread in your steamer and steam steady two hours for a two quart loaf; and bake in oven thirty minutes to brown.

Keep your seed good in quantity by adding a little meal and water each time when set away. Use the same mode in the same way as for bread for your griddle cakes.

In this way you can have a nice loaf of steamed bread for your dinner, and griddle cakes for your breakfast—nice enough to set before a king. I have used this receipt for four years, and think I can not keep house without it.

MRS. J. CHANDLER.

Why the Generality of Farmers do not Succeed.

The generality of farmers are not systematic—adopting no rule to go by. We've been on a farm for ten years, and can not clothe and educate our children. Because my husband does not economize in feeding; keeps bad stock; allows hogs to grow mangy; has poor fencing, and puts in more crops than he can well cultivate. Neglects work that is pressing for something less important. (A few examples), did not sow wheat in proper time; soaked in blue-stone to prevent rust, and had to go through a process of drying and sprouting before finishing. If there is an ash-hopper put up it rests in a leaky trough, losing half the lye. The cattle are fed with the hogs, for "want of time" to make a good trough, which I have repeatedly begged for. Occasionally we lose our garden by a few pigs and geese straying into it—no "me" to stop the crevices.

Farmers, a cessation of such farming is a "consummation most devoutly to be wished," which can be accomplished by subscribing for the *Rural Sun*.

A FARMER'S WIFE.

To Color Sheep Skins.

Will you inform me how to color sheep skins with the wool on some light color?—E. V. Eyer.

Unslaked lime and litharge equal parts, mixed to a thin paste with water, will color buff—several coats will make it a dark brown; by adding a little ammonia and nitrate of silver a fine black is produced. Terra japonica will impart a "tan color" to wool, and the red shade is deepened by sponging with a solution of lime and water, using a strong solution of alum water to "set" the colors; 1 part crystallized nitrate silver, 8 parts carbonate ammonia, and 11 parts of soft water dyes brown; every additional coat darkens the color until a black is obtained.—*Moore's Rural.*

A Cheap Disinfectant.

The following is highly commended by those who have used it: Dissolve a bushel of salt in a barrel of water, and with the salt water slack a barrel of lime, which should be wet enough to form a kind of paste. For the purpose of a disinfectant, this home-made chloride of lime is nearly as good as that purchased at the shops and drug stores. Use it freely about sinks, cellars, gutters and outhouses, and in this way prevents sickness, suffering and expense.

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