

INDOORS AND OUT.

The Farm, Garden, Orchard and Household.

NOTES AND HINTS FOR ALL.

Housekeeping vs. Homekeeping - Brains a Necessity - Lemonade as a Medicine - Horse-breaking - Items.

The great painter being asked with what he mixed his colors replied, with brains. It appears to me that that is precisely what we women need to learn; work done intelligently is lighter, as well as better; and she who teaches the tired as better; and she who teaches the tired as better; and she who teaches the tired as better...

Let us so live that when our sons go from us to find new homes, they will remember mother's house not simply as a place where the bread was always white and light, the coffee clear, and where order reigned supreme; but as a real home, where the best books and papers were ever at hand, and where the talk around the winter fire, and about the family table, was a feast to the mind, and not at all idle gossip, or barest common place.

The fish commissioner of Iowa, gives this advice about cultivating carp: "For a still water wintering pond, the deeper a portion of it is the better. If there is plenty of mud in the bottom of the ponds in which the carp can bury itself during its period of hibernation, or winter sleep, a depth of five feet might answer and bring them safely. But a greater depth would please me much better. If spring water can be run steadily into the ponds during the winter, the depth is of much less consequence. In draining ponds great care should be taken to have it done slowly, so that the fish may not be too much frightened to gather in the deeper portions. They are quite likely to bury themselves in the mud of any part of the bottom when they take a sudden alarm, and might be left there to smother and die. The location and form of ponds should be such as to add to the beauty of its surroundings and to the convenience and pleasure of the owners. They may be needed to supply ice, or if stocked be kept they may be useful as a reservoir to supply water. Of course these points are to be settled by those who plan them, and their great importance should not be overlooked. Carp can be kept and fed, during the summer and made to grow rapidly in reservoirs, tanks, small ponds, or other small bodies of water that would not be safe from freezing during winter. And they are often so kept in the old countries.

A good deal has been said, through the papers, about the healthfulness of lemons. The latest advice is how to use them so that they will do the most good as follows: Most people know the benefits of lemonade before breakfast, but few people know that it is more than doubted by taking another at night also. The way to get the better of a bilious system, without blue pills or quinine, is to take the juice of one, two or three lemons as the appetite craves, in as much water as makes it pleasant to drink without sugar, before going to bed. In the morning, on rising, at least half an hour before breakfast, take the juice of one lemon in a goblet of water. This will clear the system of humors and give efficiency, without any of the weakening effects of calomel or Congress water. People should not irritate the stomach by eating lemons clear. The powerful acid of the juice which is always most corrosive, invariably produces inflammation, so that it does not burn or draw the throat, it does its medical work without harm, and when the stomach is clear of food, has abundant opportunity to work over the system thoroughly, says a medical authority.

An eminent physician has investigated and studied the recorded habits of two hundred persons who lived to the age of one hundred years and over. He finds that the following were the rules of their lives which conducted to their old age. They were remarkable for table moderation; in no case were they large eaters. Total abstinence, or moderation, in the use of intoxicating drinks. Retiring early at night, and rising early and living in the open air as much as possible. It is admitted by scientific men, that more persons die prematurely from over eating, or gluttony, than from any other known cause.

Turkeys do not require as warm quarters in winter as do other fowls. However cold the weather, they should be allowed to run out of doors every day, except perhaps in very stormy weather. If confined in warm quarters and not allowed to run out of doors, they usually show signs of indisposition, lose their appetite, become dumpy and inactive and not infrequently die. They are very hardy birds, and easily wintered. About all they require is a place to roost at night, plenty to eat and drink and their liberty during the day.

It is not a good practice to put a large amount of grease in axles at any one time. Never use lard, for it penetrates the hub and works its way out of the tenons of the spokes and spoils the wheel. Tallow is good for wooden axles, and castor oil for iron hubs. Wipe iron axles with a cloth wet with spirits of turpentine, and apply a few drops of the castor oil near the shoulder end.

Carrots, potatoes, parsnips and beets are heat-producing, while vegetables that form a base ground, such as asparagus, lettuce, peas, corn, cabbage and tomatoes, are cooling. The rhubarb, or pie-plant beds, should now receive a heavy top dressing of rich stable manure to ensure a good crop next season.

Mr. A. B. Allen thus relates, in one of our contemporaries, the manner in which he broke a spirited horse: "When a young man, and breeding horses, I found, on taking up a nearly thoroughbred filly to break to harness, that she was very high spirited and nervous and that, unless I was particularly careful, she might take to kicking and rearing during the process, with attempts to run away. I first bit her well by letting her walk around a short time for several days in succession, in a strong fenced yard with ample dimensions. I then gradually accustomed her to the harness, standing in the stable, letting her first look at it piece by piece, and then smell and rub her nose and head against it; then placed it upon her and lead her out and around the premises to look at the different vehicles and touch them with her nose. After a few days of such exercise, I hitched her up to a sleigh—in the open road so nothing could obstruct the start—alongside of quite a fast trotting and very gentle gelding. Some snow had fallen the night before, and only a few sleighs had passed over it—just enough to show the track. One man stood at her head to hold her, while another jumped into the sleigh to drive. All ready, he touched the gelding with his whip, and he instantly started at a rapid gait. The filly gave a wild jump, and then attempted to kick up behind, but her mate in the harness moved so rapidly that she had no time for such action—in fact had to gallop smartly to keep up to the other's rapid trot. After going a couple of miles in this way she began to tire a little, when the driver slacked up the gelding to a slower pace, and she settled into a square trot. Soon after this he turned the sleigh and returned home, gradually trotting slower and slower, till the last half mile, which he finished in a walk. The profuse sweat caused from her first rapid action had nearly dried up when unharnessed and put into the stable. She was then blanketed, and when well cooled, rubbed down. We used her with this fast horse alone—it being necessary because she herself had a fast natural gate—for over eight months before harnessing her single to a sleigh, and subsequently to a light wagon or buggy, and never had any trouble with her. She retained her high spirit, and wanted to move rapidly on the road, but was always gentle, never offered to kick or rear or run away in harness or under the saddle. She rarely shied, and then only slightly, and proved one of the safest and most serviceable road-horses I ever owned.

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