

FARM AND HOUSEHOLD.

A little Janesville girl lived till she was nine years old, and then kindled a fire with kerosene.
A writer in a German paper says that a great deal of fine flavor of fresh butter is destroyed by the usual mode of washing, and he recommends a thorough kneading for the removal of buttermilk, and a subsequent pressing in a linen cloth.

Preserved Rhubarb.—Cut the rhubarb into pieces an inch and a half long, but do not peel it; allow equal weight of sugar; put the sugar on the rhubarb three days before you are going to boil it; then make a syrup from the juice of the rhubarb and the remainder of the sugar; boil for half an hour; add the rhubarb, the juice and peel of a lemon, and some sliced ginger; boil the whole three-quarters of an hour, stirring as little as possible.

A new corn plague has been discovered in Woodford county, Illinois. The El Paso Journal learns from Mr. Richard Asay that a peculiar sort of worm, resembling a maggot, is at work upon the corn, making great havoc. It attacks the roots, eats them entirely away, the stalks and leaves dry up and topple over.

Cucumber Salad.—A lady correspondent of Health and Home says: "We have just prepared our winter's supply of cucumber salad, and this is how we made it: There were about a dozen ripe 'white spine' cucumbers lying on our vines, and those we picked, washed, pared, cut into strips, taking out the seeds, and then, to each dozen cucumbers, which we cut into small pieces like small dice, we put twelve large white onions, chopped; six large green peppers, also chopped; one quarter pound each of black and white mustard seed, and a gill of celery seed. These were all mixed together, a teaspoon of salt added, and they were then hung up in a cotton bag to drain for twenty-four hours. Then the salad, with enough clear, cold vinegar added to cover it, was put into stone jars and fastened nearly air tight. In six weeks it will be fit for use. It looks as well as it tastes—so white and crisp—and makes an elegant salad for a joint of cold meat. It is not like the Spanish salad that requires a oenosefor salt, a miser for vinegar, a spendthrift for oil, and a madman to stir it up, but it is quite as good in its way, and not very troublesome to make."

Dark Stables. There are too many miserably dark horse stables, when it is so well known that light exercises a most important and salutary influence on the whole animal as well as vegetable kingdom. We are too apt to think that any place will do for a stable that is sufficiently dry, though the only opening for the admission of light be the entering door. This is all wrong. The eye of the horse is an exceedingly sensitive organ and always suffers from long continued darkness as when from partial sickness or disease he is kept a longer time than usual within doors, or in stables where the broad light of day is excluded.

Most diseases to which the animal is subject are more virulent in dark stables than where a full flood of light can be admitted. Darkness is said to favor rest and sleep, and this is doubtless true, but it can be of no possible benefit to the animal during those long hours of wakeful incarceration, to which it is sometimes subjected, unless it be to enable the jockey to take advantage of the effects. A horse brought from a dark stable into the glare of the sunlight, is confused and startled from the imperfect vision of surrounding objects, and by his high stepping and uncertain action, impresses the novice with an idea of his spirit and action.

Even though fat may be induced by darkness, it is not conducive to muscular strength; for muscles deprived of the stimulus of light, become flaccid and the apparent high condition induced by this means, is soon lost by active exertion. Men whose employments confine them to poorly lighted apartments, soon lose the color and the energy of full health, and the same results follow similar treatment of animals. Light and thorough ventilation should be the governing points in the erection of stabling for all domestic animals, and particularly for the horse.

Voracity at Meals. It was Mr. J. Ross Brown, we believe, who first called the attention of the world to the voracity of the American at his meals. The Latin, whether he dines upon snails and Bordeaux in Paris, or macaroni and vin d'Asi in Italy, or on beans and valdepenas in Seville, is always gay and courteous, and the poorest man will offer to share his dinner with a Duke if addressed while eating. The German is gemitlich in his plates as well as his cups and even the Englishman is a trifle less splanetic at meal times than at other hours. It is the American alone who finds all the destructive passions of his nature aroused by contact with baked meats. A man at the Galt House some years ago killed a stranger for looking at him while he was engaged in stripping the dainty kernels from an ear of green corn, an operation well worth observing when practised by a true son of the boundless West. No one has forgotten how a California Congressman killed a waiter at Willard's for not being brisk

enough with buckwheat cakes. The other day, as an additional confirmation of this observation, a man in Williamsburgh who was eating a hasty plate of soup broke his wife's skull for suggesting that the children might like a little of it. Every one will remember the rage of the London Alderman who sat next to Hook at dinner, and afterward spoke of him as a loquacious nuisance "who made me swallow two pieces of green turtle fat without tasting them." But even he would scarcely have thought of branding the humorist for embarrassing the process of deglutition with irrelevant remarks. Discipline in the family circle is doubtless a good thing, but the euppetic Williamsburgher was, perhaps, inclined to carry it too far.—New York Tribune.

Rural Park Seminary, at Alton, Ill., which has hitherto been merely a girls' boarding-school, has become the female department of Shurtleff College.

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