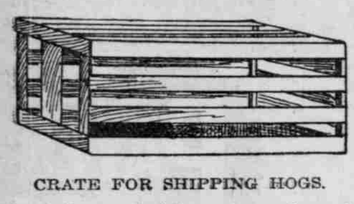
AGRICULTURAL HINTS

FOR SHIPPING HOGS.

A Crate That Will Keep the Porkers in Good Condition.

The first thing necessary in shipping hogs or pigs is a good crate, without which no breeder is certain of his shipment arriving at destination in safety and in as fine order as when placed on board of cars. The crate, illustrated herewith, is made of seasoned linden wood, a material at once very tough, hard to break and light, a requisite in shipping animals by express, especially when rates are inclined to be exorbitant. This crate is 18 inches wide, 24 inches high and four feet long, and can be made in like proportion to suit the largest hog. The material used is sawed expressly for this purpose direct from the logs. Before working into crates it is sorted and ricked up, as other lumber, in a sheltered place to season;



CRATE FOR SHIPPING HOGS.

then when made into crates each one is treated to a coating or two of paint. All saw fuzz is removed by a sharp jack plane. The crate is put together with wire nails.

For the sides and tops use one-half by four inches and four feet, 11 pieces, and equally divide the space. The bottom is in one piece one inch thick, 18 inches wide and four feet long less one inch. Front end contains one piece one-half by ten by 18 inches, and two half by four by 18 inches, each. The rear or door end has two pieces one-half by 2½ by 18 inches for inside cross strips top and bottom, and two outside top and bottom strips one-half by four by 18 inches, with two upright strips one-half by 2½ by 23 inches for each side of the movable door, and to which are fastened the side strips. The door is one-half by eight by 23 inches, and is held firmly to place by a wire nail driven partially in at top end. The corner posts in front end are one by two by 23 inches, and on the inside of them is fastened a board one half by eight by 18 inches, which forms with the outside board a feed space of two inches in width in front end of crate. The board on the inside comes within an inch of the bottom, where a trough is made by tacking in a piece of board one-half by four by 18 inches, at a slant of about the same degree as shown by one side of the letter V. When ready to ship, place crate in the wagon and back up to the driveway door in the hog house, which is on a level with the wagon bed, and you can load or crate the hogs with ease; then put feed in the box at end of crate, and it will drop down as it is eaten from the trough, thus affording plenty of food for the hog until the end of the journey. Water can be given in the trough, at intervals, by those having the animal in charge. In such a crate, bedded with straw, the hog should reach its destination O K.—Farm and Home.

SELECTING SEED CORN.

It Should Be Done as Soon as the Grain Is Hardened.

In many localities the hot, dry weather we had in July and the early part of August affected the quantity and yield of the corn to such an extent that it will be an item next spring to secure good seed corn. The safest and best plan is to lay in the needed supply this fall and store it away where it will keep in good condition.

The best time to select the seed corn is in the fall as soon as the grain is well hardened. In addition to making sure of a good supply, selecting in the field in the fall affords a better opportunity for making the best selection, as the stalk as well as the ear can be considered, which, of course, cannot be done after the corn is cribbed.

When the conditions of growth will admit the best seed corn is that which is selected from what is grown on the farm, provided, of course, that proper care is taken in the selection.

When the first selection is made it is always best to select rather a larger quantity than will be needed. This gives an opportunity of making a second selection. One item in selecting the ears is to choose those that are well filled both at the tip and at the butt. The grain should be sound and deep. While it is difficult to secure a very large ear without a fairly good-sized cob, yet getting ears with deep grains will make a considerable difference in the size of the cob. So far as can be done the ears should be uniform in color, shape, of grain and time of maturity.

After a sufficient quantity is secured it should be thoroughly dried, and then stored where it will keep dry and be safe from vermin. One of the most serious objections to taking seed corn from a crib in the spring is the risk that its vitality may have been injured by its being damp when thrown into the crib or while standing in the field and then being frozen. Exposure to cold does not injure the vitality when the grain is thoroughly dry, but if damp it is often seriously injured by frost.

Good seed is so essential to a good growth and yield that it will be good economy to use all reasonable care to secure a full supply.—St. Louis Republic.

Surface Water in Wells.

Wells are often dug in depressions, the idea being that in such places springs of water are most apt to be found. But if so dug the well should be stoned and cemented for 12 or more feet from the surface, so that shallow springs cannot find entrance. The deeper springs will generally be free from surface impurities. Then if the well is filled around about so as to turn surface water from it there will be little danger that it will be contaminated in any way.—American Cultivator.

POULTRY FOR MARKET.

How to Dress Chickens, Turkeys, Geese and Ducks.

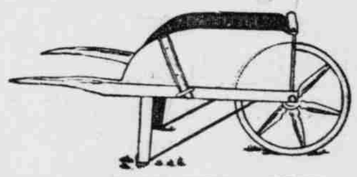
Keep from food 24 hours. Kill by bleding in the mouth or opening the veins in the neck; hang by the feet until properly bled; head and feet should be left on and the intestines and crop should not be drawn. For scalding poultry, the water should be as near the boiling point as possible without actually boiling; pick the legs dry beforse scalding; hold by the head and legs and immerse and lift up and down three times; if the head is immersed it turns the color of the comb and gives the eyes a shrunken appearance, which leads the buyers to think the fowl has been sick. The feathers and pin feathers should be removed immediately, very cleanly and without breaking the skin, then "plump" by dipping ten seconds in water nearly or quite boiling hot, and then immediately into cold water, hang in a cool place until the animal heat is entirely out, it should be entirely cold, but not frozen before being packed. Dry picked chickens and turkeys sell best, and we advise this way of dressing, as they sell better to shippers, scalded chickens and turkeys generally are sold to the local trade. To dry pick chickens and turkeys properly the work should be done while the bird is bleeding; do not wait and let the bodies get cold, dry picking is more easily done while the bodies are warm. Be careful and do not break and tear the skin. Pack in boxes or barrels, boxes holding 100 to 200 pounds are preferable, and pack snugly; straighten out the body and legs so that they will not arrive very much bent and twisted out of shape; fill the package as full as possible to prevent shuffling about on the way. Mark kind and weight and shipping directions neatly and plainly on the cover. Barrels answer better for chickens and ducks than for turkeys or geese. When convenient avoid putting more than one kind in a package. Endeavor to market all old and heavy cocks before January 1, as after the holidays the demand is for small, round, fat hen turkeys only, old toms being sold at a discount to canners.

For geese and ducks the water for scalding should be the same temperature as for other kinds of poultry, but it requires more time for it to penetrate and loosen the feathers. It is a good plan after scalding to wrap them in a blanket, providing they are not left long enough to partly cook the flesh. Another method, and no doubt the best for loosening the feathers, is to steam them, and whenever proper facilities are at hand, we advise this process. It is poor policy to undertake to save the feathers dry by picking them alive just before the killing, as it causes the skin to become very much inflamed, and greatly injures the sale. Do not pick the feathers off the head and it is well to leave them on the neck, close to the head, for a space of two or three inches. The feet should not be skinned, nor the bodies singed for the purpose of removing any down or hair, as the heat from the flame will cause them to look oily and bad. The process of plumping and cooling is the same as with turkeys and chickens. There is no kind of poultry harder to sell at satisfactory prices than poor, slovenly dressed geese and ducks, and those who send in such must not be disappointed at low prices. No poultry of any kind sent to city market should be drawn.—Rural World.

GARDEN WHEELBARROW.

How to Make a Wheel That Bears Its Share of Burden.

In market gardening, there is much work that can be done with a wheelbarrow. While resting my aching arms one day, I concluded that the wheel of the ordinary barrow was not bearing its share of the burden, so I made one in which the axle was placed up nearer the body of the barrow, the wheel extending inside. A cap was fitted over this, inside the body, and I



BARROW FOR THE GARDEN.

found that the wheeling was then much easier. The new barrow weighed 49 pounds. With 239 pounds of sand, there is a weight of 56 pounds on the handles, while with the ordinary barrow the weight is 99 pounds. The handles are five feet long, 1¼ by 1¾ inches at front and smaller toward the back. The wheel is 22 inches diameter with a two-inch tire. The barrow frame is 19 inches at front, two feet at back; the body is three feet by 13 inches, while the legs are two feet ten inches from the front. —R. Bingham, in Orange Judd Farmer.

FACTS FOR FARMERS.

Wash the harness with soap and water before oiling.

Do you waste your corn fodder? Must have money to burn.

Corn fodder may be shredded, but not perfectly, by running it through an old threshing machine.

A threshing machine boiler that is too small to do the work, is always dangerous from over-pressure.

A farmer says that he kills Canada thistles in the pasture by piling manure on them thick enough to smother them.

Put buggy beans or peas in a tight box and put a little cup of bisulphide of carbon on top, being careful that no fire is near.

Wheat, independent of interest on land, ought to be grown at six dollars an acre at most. Eight, or even ten bushels, per acre, will not pay.

Be careful to sow only the cleanest timothy seed. Weeds in timothy make bad work, worse than clover, though they are bad enough there.—Western Plowman.

THE LAST OF COBB'S ISLAND.

The Sea Has Nearly Destroyed a Beloved Resort on the Virginia Coast.

Slowly but surely the sea is sweeping Cobb's island from the map of Virginia. Only a pitiful little sand spit remains, with a few straggling houses fighting with the fickle sand. Uncle Nathan Cobb, the sturdy noble Roman of the beach, has moved his last outhouse off, and only goes down every day or so to look for his heart that he has lost somewhere on that beautiful beach, and then comes wandering back with the tide, glancing over his shoulder through eyes that are wet with the dew of a great love.

They had the sale of all that is left of the hotel property down at the landing a few days ago and they sold for a trifle to white and black the beds that have brought sleep to thousands of this old world's tired travelers who from far-off steaming cities have come to its shining shores to breathe the sweet breath of the sea and feel the pulse of its mighty tides. Uncle Nathan only stopped a moment at the sale as he came up the creek from his day's pilgrimage to the island. As his eye caught the sight of the auctioneer crying off a piece of furniture and the joking jostling crowd he turned and said, with a voice full of pathos: "Well, it looks like the old island's gone this time. We can look on and long and hope, but the old ocean is unconquerable. She has her way. Ah! man, but it's hard for me." His eyes filled with tears and he pushed his little boat on up the creek to get away from the sound of the auctioneer's voice.

Uncle Nathan is not alone in his great sorrow. The hearts of thousands who love nature and who with him have felt the thrill of her close touch on those white sands and beautiful waters mourn their great loss also. They will dream of its cool breezes, its solemn marshes, its sands, its tides, its birds and fish, and wake in the world's fevered life with a sigh and tears at the realization of their loss. The earth is poorer for the ruin of that bit of sand. —Cape Charles Light.

DEEP HOLES IN THE OCEAN.

They Are Not Found in the Center But Always Near Land.

The deepest spots so far sounded in the ocean were found a year or two ago by the surveying ship Penguin while returning from the Tonga group to New Zealand. In three places a depth exceeding 5,000 fathoms was found. Till these soundings were made the deepest water found was to the northeast of Japan, where in 1874 the United States steamer Tuscarora obtained a cast of 4,655 fathoms.

The Penguin's soundings are 5,022, 5,147 and 5,155 fathoms. The increase is therefore 500 fathoms, or 3,000 feet.

The soundings are separated from one another by water much less deep, and the holes may not be connected. The distance from the two extreme soundings is 450 miles. Specimens of the bottom were recovered from the two deeper soundings, and prove to be the usual red clay found in all the deepest parts of the ocean.

These soundings afford additional evidence of the observed fact that the deepest holes are not in the centers of the ocean, but are near land, as two of them are within 100 miles of islands of the Kermandec group, and the other not far from a shoal.

Doubtless deeper depressions in the bed of the sea are yet to be found, but the fact that this sounding of 30,930 feet shows that the ocean contains depressions below the surface greater than the elevation of the highest known mountains is worthy of record.

A Short Time Hence.

Citizen—By the way, I have been told that the Klondike gold is not worth so much to the ounce as some other brands.

Returned Klondiker—I couldn't say as to that. We never measured by less than a ton. I have no idea as to ounce values.—Cincinnati Enquirer.

Babylon's Hanging Gardens.

The hanging gardens of Babylon were terraced on columns. The gardens were 400 feet square and over 400 feet high. The ascent from terrace to terrace was by flights of marble steps, and on the highest was a large reservoir.

THE MARKETS.

CINCINNATI, Oct. 11.

LIVE STOCK—Cattle, common	2 25	@	3 25
Select butchers	4 00	@	4 40
CALVES—Fair to good light	5 75	@	6 50
HOGS—Common	3 00	@	3 70
Mixed packers	3 80	@	3 90
Light shippers	3 75	@	4 00
SHEEP—Choice	2 85	@	3 40
LAMBS—Good to choice	4 65	@	5 10
FLOUR—Winter family	3 60	@	3 90
GRAIN—Wheat—No. 2 red		@	93
No. 3 red		@	90
Corn—No. 2 mixed		@	30
Oats—No. 2		@	21
Rye—No. 2		@	47
HAY—Prime to choice		@	9 50
PROVISIONS—Mess pork		@	8 75
Lard—Prime steam		@	4 15
BUTTER—Choice dairy	13	@	14
Prime to choice creamery		@	24
APPLES—Per bbl	2 50	@	2 75
POTATOES—Per bbl	1 75	@	2 00
NEW YORK.			
FLOUR—Winter patent	5 10	@	5 25
No. 2 red		@	98⅞
CORN—No. 2 mixed		@	34⅛
RYE		@	41½
OATS—Mixed		@	23¾
PORK—New Mess	9 50	@	10 00
LARD—Western	4 60	@	4 62½
CHICAGO.			
FLOUR—Winter patents	5 00	@	5 10
GRAIN—Wheat—No. 2 red		@	94⅝
No. 2 Chicago spring		@	86⅝
CORN—No. 2	27⅜	@	27½
OATS—No. 2		@	19
PORK—Mess	7 70	@	7 75
LARD—Steam	4 20	@	4 22½
BALTIMORE.			
FLOUR—Family	4 60	@	4 85
GRAIN—Wheat—No. 2	96¾	@	97
Southern—Wheat	91	@	97½
Corn—Mixed	33	@	33⅛
Oats—No. 2 white		@	23
Rye—No. 2 western	52	@	52½
CATTLE—First quality	4 00	@	4 25
HOGS—Western	4 90	@	5 00
INDIANAPOLIS.			
GRAIN—Wheat—No. 2		@	92
Corn—No. 2 mixed		@	27½
Oats—No. 2 mixed		@	20
LOUISVILLE.			
FLOUR—Winter patent	3 75	@	4 00
GRAIN—Wheat—No. 2 red		@	93
Corn—Mixed		@	30
Oats—Mixed		@	21½
PORK—Mess		@	9 50
LARD—Steam		@	4 62½

A Home-Grown Experience.

A man went into an icehouse to cool off. An abrupt and impetuous hired man closed and locked the door and went away. The next day was Sunday and the hired man did not come back. While the man who yearned to cool off waited for the return of the hired man his object was accomplished in a very thorough manner. He cooled off. The muffled door gave back but echoes to his blows, and his voice could find no place to escape and sound the alarm. When he grew tired of walking and swinging his arms to keep warm the chunks of ice that were piled around him did not offer a tempting bed. Hunger gnawed at his vitals and refused to be satisfied with diet of raw air. Darkness settled down like a six months' Arctic night, and the only sound which broke the profound stillness was the man who wanted to cool off trying to swear. The hired man opened the door on Monday morning, and the man who wanted to cool off crawled out more dead than alive. When his tongue had thawed out he began to abuse the hired man. "Fool!" retorted the hired man. "Fool, you are a lucky dog and do not know it. Don't waste time in abusing me, your benefactor, but go and write a book of impressions on Alaska." Then the man who wanted to cool off saw that his fortune was made.—Chicago Record.

Daily Trains to Colorado, Utah and California.

At 10 every night the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway train leaves the Union Passenger Station (Canal and Adams streets, Chicago) with elegantly equipped Palace Sleeping Cars for Denver and other Colorado points, with through connections at Denver for Salt Lake City, Ogden, San Francisco, and points in Southern California. The route to Denver is via Omaha and Lincoln, Nebraska, and is first-class in every respect. All the modern facilities of travel are included in this direct route to Colorado—the Eldorado of the West. The allied lines composing the route, viz., the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway—Chicago to Omaha—and the Rock Island & Pacific—Omaha to Denver and Colorado Springs—have united to make this the most popular route to all points west of the Missouri river. For further details, time tables, etc., address Geo. H. Heafford, General Passenger and Ticket Agent C., M. & St. P. Ry., 410 Old Colony Building, Chicago, Ill.

Caught in the Rain.

Bill—Were you ever caught in the rain?

Jill—Yes; that's where I was caught. I was accepted while taking a girl home under my umbrella.—Whim Whams.

Try Grain-O! Try Grain-O!

Ask your grocer to-day to show you a package of GRAIN-O, the new food drink that takes the place of coffee. The children may drink it without injury as well as the adult. All who try it like it. GRAIN-O has that rich seal brown of Mocha or Java but it is made from pure grains, and the most delicate stomachs receive it without distress. 1-4 the price of coffee. 15c and 25 cts. per package. Sold by all grocers.

The Old Man.

A son is surprised sometimes, when his father unbends a little, to find what a good fellow the old man really is.—Somerville Journal.

Left Destitute!

Not of worldly goods, but of all earthly comfort, is the poor wretch tormented by malaria. The fell scourge is, however, shorn of its thong in advance by Hostetter's Stomach Bitters, its only sure preventive and remedy. Dyspepsia, biliousness, constipation, rheumatism, nervousness and kidney complaints are also among the bodily afflictions which this beneficent medicine overcomes with certainty. Use it systematically.

Lady (engaging servant)—"I ought to tell you that we are all strict teetotallers here. I suppose you won't mind that?" Mary Jane—"Oh, no, mum! I've been in a reformed drunkard's family before!"—Punch.

Take the Air Line

To St. Louis and the West, 53 miles the shortest from Louisville, makes the quickest time, Pullman Sleepers, Parlor and Dining Cars. For complete information address J. P. Maffett, Traveling Passenger Agent, Knoxville, Tenn. R. A. Campbell, General Passenger Agent, St. Louis, Mo.

An Uneventful Life.—"Ever buy a gold brick at half price, uncle?" asked the fresh city boarder. "No," said the innocent old ruralist, "I never had no chance of that kind yit."—Indianapolis Journal.

Star Plug Is Strictly High Grade.

No expense is saved—no false economy is practiced—in the manufacture of Star plug tobacco. It is strictly high-grade in every particular.

Tibbs—"She is not only a fine-looking girl, but they say she has £50,000 in her own right." Nibbs—"What would you do if you had a wife like that?" Squibbs—"Nothing."—Judy.

From any cause a bruise is cured
By St. Jacobs Oil. Use it promptly.

A woman who has a nice house worships it like a miser worships his gold.—Atchison Globe.

Can't cure? Try it. That means
Rheumatism cured by St. Jacobs Oil.

When some people smile they seem to say: "When I smile they all love me."—Atchison Globe.

The worst? It is—sciatica's pain.
But St. Jacobs Oil cures it.

Do brides put a piece of their wedding cake under their pillow to dream on?—Atchison Globe.

MRS. ELLA M'GARVY,

Writing to Mrs. Pinkham.

She says:—I have been using your Vegetable Compound and find that it does all that it is recommended to do. I have been a sufferer for the last four years with womb trouble, weak back and excretions. I was hardly able to do my household duties, and while about my work was so nervous that I was miserable. I had also given up in despair, when I was persuaded to try Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound, and to-day, I am feeling like a new woman.—MRS. ELLA MCGARVY, Neebe Road Station, Cincinnati, O.

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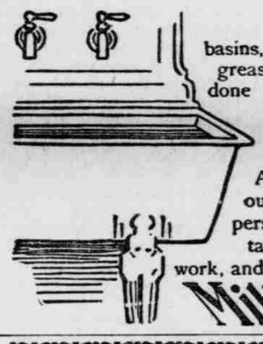
Costs Less than ONE CENT a cup.

Be sure that the package bears our Trade-Mark.

Walter Baker & Co. Limited, (Established 1780.) Dorchester, Mass.

Your sink,



basins, tubs, etc., never become clogged with grease, if the washing that's done in them is done with Pearline.

A small matter perhaps—but remember that Pearline (use no soap) saves trouble and annoyance in a great many just such small matters. And the truth is that these little things alone ought to be enough to lead any quick-witted person to use Pearline (use without soap)—even without taking into account the big things, the saving in work, and wear and tear, and time, and money 473

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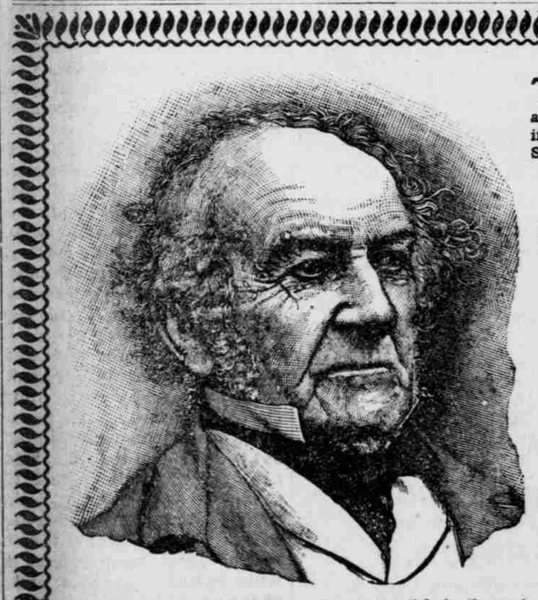

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