

# FARM AND GARDEN.

## REPAIRING ROADS.

Experience of One of the Overseers of Yates County, N. Y.

We have a great many different ideas of working roads here in Yates county, N. Y. Each town has a road commissioner, and he appoints an overseer for each district, and the appointed man must lay his plans and pick out his shade trees for the men to sit under and work out their road tax, and the man that can tell the best story gets the most praise. That is one way.

Then, in some districts we have road machines. Then the overseer gets two or three teams hitched to one and starts out with four or five men following after to throw out stones and stieks and turn soda over now and then; and when they get through there is a ridge in the center of the track! Of course a team can be driven with one horse each side of the ridge, but with a single horse one wheel will be in the ditch and the other on the ridge which has been left by the road grader—that is, by the man's lack of judgment in running the grader. If this is the only way a wheel scraper is to be used they had better stop the manufacture of them, as every person riding over such a road needs a bolster under one side of him to level him up.

I was talking with an overseer in the first part of April who had just been putting his district in the shape just mentioned, and when I remonstrated with him and told him it was too early to put fresh earth in the road he said it was all right, as you could not work roads too early in the spring. I thought at the time it would be worth throwing away. In what condition would the highway be after the spring rains? As the soil is clay, there was no earth to grade up with when the weather became settled. That is the way the work goes on in the different districts; and the bicycle rider comes along and wishes to make war on the farmer, and I do not blame him in some respects, for a great many do not care whether the roads are worked or not.

As I have been overseer in the past, and there are about 180 days in our district and one-half of that paid in cash, I have managed in the following manner with good results:

The first thing after the frost is out in the spring, I hire a man with a good team and plow furrows on the side of the road where it is necessary, and then, after the plowing is done, clean out all sluice ways and the last furrow; then, when the road is dry enough to scrape, we go over it with the old log-scraper, which is a saw-blade bolted to a log. This will smooth off the ruts. One man with a team can do it. And this is all that should be done early in the spring; if it gets rough again, go over it again, and keep on doing so until it is time to use the wheel-grader. When I start with that I manage to have three teams, and that makes a power that will keep the wheels turning. I set the grader blade to take furrows that were plowed early in the spring, and move the earth nearly to the center of the road, and go twice around this way. Then adjust the blade to move it to the center; then go to the ditch again and take all uneven places down, so that the water can run freely; when this is finished, move all loose earth to the center of the track; then adjust the blade again so as to move this ridge, and have teams driven so as to move it from high to low places. When this is all done, I clean out by sluice-ways where we cannot go with the grader.

Then, with a wagon, draw off all loose stones, and do not throw them back to the side, to be scraped up in the road again next year. Now, if gravel is wanted on the road, have two teams for three wagons and men enough to load as fast as the teams can draw.

In this way we have built our roads, and they have given good satisfaction, and no one gets credit for labor when sitting under shade trees.—Cor. Country Gentleman.

## PRACTICAL EVIDENCE.

Why the Good Roads Movement Should Be Popular in the South.

The southern road congress, which met lately in Atlanta, brought out the fact of the value of good roads, and the pecuniary advantage of them was fully recognized. Among the cases cited was the experiment made in building good roads by the people of Union and Essex counties, N. J. The pecuniary benefits resulting from this work are summed up in a report from the board of freeholders of the former county, which states that the total outlay has been nearly \$350,000, and there are now nearly forty miles of telford and macadam road in the county.

The beneficial effect of the roads is seen in the fact that property in Union county alone has appreciated in value far more than the cost of the roads, as the assessment shows. The county issued \$350,000 worth of road bonds, the interest on which must be met annually, yet there has been no increase in the county tax rate, because the increased assessment easily produces enough revenue to meet this charge. Very few of these roads have been built more than a year and most of them only a few months, but already the people appreciate the advantages flowing from them.

Such practical evidence as this will certainly encourage roadbuilding in the south. The movement so far has made little practical advance here and has been confined mainly to conventions, etc., but this is a step in the right direction. It is true that conventions in themselves do not accomplish much in the way of roadbuilding, but they show how the work can be done; they arouse the interest of the people in the matter; they prove the value of good highways, and they will, in the course of time, arouse the south to the necessity of building them.—N. O. Times-Democrat.

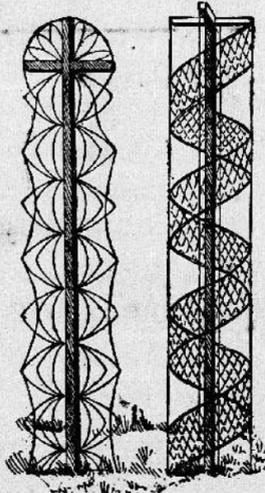
## NEAT WIRE TRELLIS.

Two That Are Really Attractive and Very Easily Made at Home.

Attractive trellises add much to the pleasure of growing plants and vines. The ordinary wooden affairs that are commonly seen are usually heavy in appearance, and not particularly attractive in design. The illustrations show a couple made largely of wire, that are neat in shape and easily constructed.

One has a central support of wood 1 1/2 inches square, with cross-pieces at the top, and at the surface of the ground if desired. From the extremities of these cross-pieces four wires are stretched from top to bottom, and around these wires is wound, in spiral form, a strip of 6-inch wire netting, such as is used for yarding poultry. Small pieces of wire tie it firmly to the upright wires. The central support of wood should extend down into the ground 18 or 20 inches.

The only explanation needed in regard to the other trellis is that the central support of wood has small



WIRE TRELLISES.

holes through it at regular intervals, and through these are drawn fairly stout galvanized wire according to the design that is suggested, or according to any other regular design that the maker may elect.

It is singular that greater use is not made about the garden and lawn of this galvanized wire that is now so low in price. It may be used, in connection with light frame-works of wood as supports for large numbers of garden plants—peas, beans, tomatoes, berry bushes, etc., while it can be woven into almost any shape for the artistic support of flowers, sweet peas and a host of other climbers. In fact the various widths of poultry netting, and this smooth galvanized wire ought to be regarded as two of the most valuable assistants which the cultivator of fruits, vegetables and flowers, has at his command in giving nature a chance to do its best—and prettiest—in the growth of the plants under his care.—Country Gentleman.

## THE FARMER'S GARDEN.

It Should Consist of at Least One Acre of the Best Soil.

The farmer's garden should consist of not less than one acre of the best soil, eight by ten rods, and if it runs over a knoll so as to get north and south slope it will prolong the fruiting season. Fence it in from the chickens and have no shade trees in or about the garden; everything needs sunlight and culture. The ground should have ten or twenty loads of the best manure to the acre every year. All rows should run the entire length and be cultivated with the horse. If you don't want nineteen rods of any one vegetable fill it out with something else, and the same with fruit. But you do want a whole row of grapes on the sunny side, for you can buy two-year-old Concord vines at one dollar per dozen, and if you have more than you can eat they are worth more to give away than to sell, but your grocer will give you four or five cents a pound for them, and after four years planted ought to bear twenty to forty pounds. Eight feet from the grapes set a row of currants, gooseberry and pieplants, so you can drive over this row to mulch, then eight feet from this a row of blackberries, then a row of raspberries, next blackberries; now have two rows of strawberries the entire length of the garden, one row of pistillates, one row of perfect flowered varieties side by side, the rows four feet apart and the plants two to three feet.—G. J. Kellogg, in Homestead.

## Trees Pruned to Death.

In the last annual report of the park commissioners of the city of Louisville, Ky., a plate is given in which the damage done to the street trees by itinerant tree-trimmers is strikingly set forth. Some trees whose leading branches had been carelessly lopped off are shown, and their sickly, scarred and generally dilapidated look is in strong contrast with the picture of another tree of the same species which stands one hundred feet away from the first group and has been allowed to grow naturally. The plate teaches the lesson that bad pruning is worse than no pruning at all.

## The Quality of Cheese.

The quality of cheese will vary according to the quality of the milk from which it is made, and proportionately to the amount of fat present in that milk. The fat is the constituent which most affects the quality of the cheese, hence it is not possible to expect the same quality of cheese to be made from large quantities of poor milk as from small quantities of rich milk. But with due care, the larger yield of cheese which can be obtained from the poorer milk should balance in value that of the higher quality which can be made from the rich milk.

## THE ART OF SALTING.

Some Good Advice for Farmers Who Raise Small Dairies.

If those of our readers who are making store butter or any cheap grade could follow it to the consumer they would be able to see things from another standpoint. And as it is a fact that most of the butter is still made on the farm and also that it is inferior in quality as determined by the price received, the matter is surely worth looking into. Let us consider that portion of common dairy butter which is not classed as soap grease, but is clean and sweet and would have sold at creamery quotations but for defects which might have been remedied. The topic this time will be the salting. Of prime importance is the quality of the salt.

Ordinary barrel salt is unfit for butter. It is coarse, harsh, hard to dissolve and impure. This should be sufficient to banish it entirely from the dairy, but it does not, and thereby a great loss is sustained. When the wholesaler gets a load of this butter he shaves it up thin and shakes out the salt. He doesn't do this for nothing. He then rechlorates it in some skimming to impart a flavor, for the water which took out the salt left it flat flavored. Then he salts with good dairy salt, works and packs it and puts it on the market. All this is expensive, and even then the product is not as good as it would have been had this extra treatment been unnecessary.

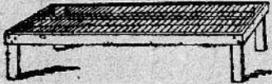
Under no circumstances use common salt. Get the best dairy salt. The Genesee is all right every time, and several other kinds are also good. Some experts have a preference for one kind, some for another, but in the private dairy a salt which is not only pure and soft (so it will not tear the grain), but dissolves quickly, is desirable. This is because the temperature of the common farm dairy room is not under control, and the butter may be injured by simply standing for the "slow" salt to dissolve. On this account, the writer advises the farm butter-maker to learn to salt in the churn. It saves time, saves work, saves exposure and keeps the churn sweet, for salt is a germ killer with a power to keep substances from decomposition.

Salt the butter as soon as washed. Sprinkle the salt over it, then slowly revolve the churn a few times and the salt and butter will be mixed. The moisture in the butter will speedily dissolve the salt, and then the surplus brine can be pressed out, and the butter "is finished." Salting in the churn saves working, for there will be no streaks to get rid of. But be sure the butter is in granular form when the salt is put in. If it is all in a lump then do as you please with it and be responsible for the result. It can be made good butter, perhaps, but it is a ticklish job, a job calling for hard work, and few there be that succeed. There is no sense in taking these risks, for it always means unnecessary work, and generally cheap butter. In churn salting, use more salt, because the butter is very moist, and a given amount of salt will be in a more diluted solution than it would with less water. About 1 1/2 ounces to the pound will give the same quantity of salt in the finished butter as one ounce to the pound when salted on a worker.—Orange Judd Farmer.

## FOR COOLING MILK.

A Bench Through Which the Air Can Circulate Freely.

Cooling the milk as soon as possible after it has been taken from the cow is essential to successful dairying. In well-equipped dairies this is done by means of aerators, or by setting the milk in vessels containing fresh cold water. Where none of these means are at hand the same effect may be produced, although to a less degree, by using a bench such as is shown in the illustration. It can be of any convenient length, and it will be handiest to



BENCH FOR COOLING MILK.

have it just wide enough to hold two rows of cans, pails or whatever vessels are used for cooling the milk. Make it as you would the frame of an ordinary home-made bench, putting in one support running lengthwise, half way between the two long pieces which connect the legs. Crosswise over this frame stretch heavy string wires about an inch apart and staple them to the side pieces and also to the center piece. Light, narrow strips of iron placed at regular intervals will also answer the purpose. The two rows of vessels will then be placed upon metal having no chance to touch the wooden frame and the air will come in contact with all sides of them. The bench must be kept in a cool place.—Orange Judd Farmer.

## DAIRY SUGGESTIONS.

A loss of appetite and a drooping head are among the first indications of illness in the cow.

REMEMBER, it is the very best butter that brings the highest price, not that which is only average in quality.

WHILE wheat bran is a good feed for milk cows, it should always be fed with stronger grain to secure the best results.

It is a point in handling cream not to allow it to become too sour, for the butter takes and keeps the flavor of the cream.

TO SECURE the best development with a young heifer she should not be bred for a second calf until her first calf is at least four months old.

THE temperature for churning, according to the standard rule, is from 58 to 62 degrees, but different cream often requires different temperature.

COWS that are imperfectly milked from whatever cause, either careless or imperfect milking from the fault of the milker, or from the difficult task by reason of the anatomical construction of the udder, soon degenerate into worthless animals.—Farmers Voice.

## THE LAND WE LOVE.

Drunkenness is a crime in Minnesota.

THE AVERAGE farm mortgage in America is for \$939.

THE largest park in the world is the Yellowstone. Its area is 3,575 acres.

THE most densely settled state is Rhode Island, the second is Massachusetts.

IN twenty states there are prohibitory laws against selling tobacco to minors.

THE total acreage of the United States exclusive of Alaska is 1,900,000,000.

THERE are eleven American cities that spread over more territory than Paris, while Berlin is exceeded in area by seventeen of our cities.

THE parent of the "Old Glory" of today may be said to be the "Grand Union Flag" which was hoisted January 2, 1776, the day which gave being to the fearless American army.

THE world's wheat crop for this year is estimated at four hundred and forty-seven million bushels.

THE sails of Chinese junks are shaped like the wings of an insect.

"USEFUL INFORMATION" is the title of a pamphlet just received from the Prickly Ash Bitters Co., of St. Louis, Mo. An examination will show it to be all its name implies. It is full of "Useful Information." The chapters on "What to Do in Case of Accidents," "Antidotes for Poisons," "Health Hints," etc., are most valuable and are written in a plain English, common-sense manner, avoiding medical terms as much as possible. It also contains "Useful Information for Farmers, Housewives," etc. It is a book that should be in every house in the land. Write the firm above named for a copy, and when you get it read it attentively and keep it where it can easily be found in time of need.

URSTRETT—"Do you take any stock in the saying that money talks?" Prouty—"I've known it to—er—have something to do with calls to preach."—Buffalo Courier.

## Banish Care.

But do it consistently, wisely, and not with alcoholic stimulants, but by the reinforcement of energy, the renewal of appetite and the ability to digest, which Hostetter's Stomach Bitters, foremost among tonics, produces. Malaria, rheumatism, kidney complaints, constipation and nervousness are conquered by this victor over many ailments.

"DE fast highway robber mentioned in de Bible," said Uncle "Rastus," "ain't a' be'n Moses. He held up a brazen serpent in de wildness."—Chicago Tribune.

"WHAT would you wish first if you had a great fortune?" Creedley—"A bigger one."—Inter Ocean.

## The Ladies.

The pleasant effect and perfect safety with which ladies may use the California Fig Syrup of Figs, under all conditions, makes it their favorite remedy. To get the true and genuine article, look for the name of the California Fig Syrup Co., printed near the bottom of the package.

THERE are two many people in the world who mistake laziness for dignity.—Cleveland Plaindealer.

SEA air roughens the skin. Use Glenn's Sulphur Soap.

WHEREVER there is love there will be trust.

## Hall's Catarrh Cure

Is a Constitutional Cure. Price 75c.

THE most expensive shoes cost two dollars a pair.—Puck.

A MIBER is known by the money he keeps.—Tammany Times.

We think the funniest thing in the world is a coy old thing.—Arlington Globe.

LIVE by the day, even though you work by the month. There are no to-morrows that you know of.—Tammany Times.

"WHAT'S the difference," said the professor, "between music and noise?" "Practice is noise and playing is music," said one of the afflicted.—Cincinnati Tribune.

MANY college boys can scan Latin who cannot Scandinavian.—Tammany Times.

"MY toes are asleep." "So? Then they are probably comatose." If you can see the point we'll put a period to this.

"MISS Twitter is one of the women who goes in for dress reform." "Dear me, now if she'd only never come out again!"

"IS there any affinity between you and your husband?" "I am not sure; but I suspect his stenographer."—Puck.

In order to get the wild oats out of a boy he must be thrashed.

The prison garb is designed to put a check on a criminal.—Tammany Times.

"SERIAL buildings" are what they call these high ones in Chicago, because they are continued stories.—Tammany Times.

WHEN a pretty girl begins to talk of her complaints it affects a man like an article in a newspaper that runs into a patent medicine advertisement.—Arlington Globe.

It often happens that fear is merely dread of being afraid.

SOME people are forever keeping down others. A man with chills and ague ought to have a fair shake.

"WE are discovered!" exclaimed the hair-pin. "Impossible," insisted the collar button.—Detroit Tribune.

## DIFFERENT TIMES

bring different methods. The big, bulky pills such as our grandfathers had to put up with won't do today. Medical science has gone beyond them. It has given us something better—Dr. Fergus's Pleasant Pellets; they are numbered seeds, but more effective than anything you can take. That's because their methods are more natural. They have a peculiar strengthening or tonic effect on the lining membranes of the intestines, which gives a permanent cure. They prevent, relieve, and put an end to Biliousness, Constipation, Jaundice, Dizziness, Sour Stomach, Sick or Bilious Headaches, Indigestion, and every like disorder.

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"I GUESS Jimmie Jones was mistaken about his brother being a college graduate." Mamma—"Why, what makes you think so?" "Well, papa said they always know every thing, and he couldn't even tell what our baby was cryin' about."—Inter Ocean.

LIFE IN PIZEN CREEK.—Barber—"Somehow my razor doesn't seem to cut well this morning." Col. Whipsaw (of the Battle-snake Ranch)—"Use my Bowie, podner; You'll find that all O. K. I tried the edge on Bill Chaparejo last night when he said I was er liar!"—Texas Siftings.

CUTAN THRUST—"That young Dumleigh has got more money than sense." Dunham Bluntly—"I didn't know he was rich." Cutan Thrust—"He isn't."—Puck.

CLERK—"Are you going to discharge me, then?" "Druggist—"Yes; I think we can dispense without you."—Harvard Lampoon.

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