

At the annual show of cage birds at the Westminster Aquarium, London, the interesting fact developed that hundreds of canaries, wrens, finches, etc., on exhibition were bred by artisans of the East End.

Sir W. B. Richardson wants the British Government to establish a ministry of health, with six departments. Registration, local government, factory and industrial, analytical and chemical, veterinary and public works and prisons.

#### BIKCYCLE MODELS.

Bicycle models have become an adjunct to the high class furnishing establishments of New York. If wheeling itself is fashionable, it is considered equally important that the wheelwoman should be gowned in smart attire. The plump young models sit on bicycles in the dress departments of the big shops and try on bloomers, waists, jackets, and other furnishings, that the riding outfits may be seen by their purchasers as they will appear upon the road. The model must be an expert, and sit and ride her wheel in the store gracefully and easily. She must have that "trig" figure, neat of waist, long of limb, and of that peculiar build that can wear almost any size upon which can be draped the costume for the thin or rounded girl, the plump matron, or the fat woman of two hundred pounds with a forty-two inch bust. Many bicycles are sold to visitors who are first attracted by the pretty models and their neat suits. But the girls say theirs is an exacting, thankless task.—San Francisco Argonaut.

Costumes and accessories are much trimmed with straight rows and braided designs. Heracles and soutache braids in mohair and silk will be used in black and colors; single and two-toned effects, also gilt and steel, plain and mixed with a color.

The bolero jacket has again become a fashionable article of attire, and when worn over full vests of batiste, muslin, silk or linen, it makes an effective as well as dressy addition to a toilet, besides being useful in remodeling half worn waists.

Separate waists of silk will be extremely fashionable and very popular for general and fine wear. For this garment the figured changeable effect is the handsomest, though the ribbed velvety silks, in glaze colorings, are very effective and novel.

#### "WORN OUT."

A COMMON EXPRESSION USED BY AMERICAN WOMEN.

Many do not realize the Full Significance of These Two Words.

When a woman is nervous and irritable, head and back ache, feels tired all the time, loses sleep and appetite, has pains in groins, bearing-down sensation, whites and irregularities, she is not "worn out," but feels as if she were.



Such symptoms tell her that a womb trouble is imminent, and she cannot act too promptly if she values her future comfort and happiness.

The experience and testimony of some of the most noted women of America, go to prove beyond a question that Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound will correct all such trouble at once by removing the cause and restoring the organs to a healthy and normal condition. If in doubt, write Mrs. Pinkham, at Lynn, Mass., as thousands of women do.

Here is a lady who says:—"Let me add my name to your list of testimonials. For years I suffered with such a weakness of the back I could not stand straight. I had terrible pains in my womb. The doctor said an operation must be performed, as there was no other way to be cured. I was afraid to have the operation performed, and kept trying the medicines that I saw advertised. At last I tried yours. After taking three bottles I felt like a new woman. I recommend it to every woman, and cannot praise it enough, for it saved me from the surgeon's knife."—Mrs. MARY BUCH, Dolgeville, N. Y.

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#### FATTENING PIGS.

From the feeding experiments, which extended over three years, on the fattening of over 199 swine upon grain, the following general conclusions are reached by the Canadian Experiment Station:

1. On the average 4.38 pounds of grain (barley, rye, peas, wheat, frosted wheat, and wheat bran) was the quantity consumed per pound of increase in the live weight.

2. In the feeding of grain, considering quantity of feed consumed and the general health of the animals, it is profitable to feed the grain ground and soaked in water for an average of about thirty hours.

3. It is profitable to add about three or five pounds of skim milk or buttermilk per head per day to the grain fed to fattening swine.

#### GOOD FARMING.

I have gardened and farmed for seventeen years, and have grown 35,000 cabbages this season; they will average ten pounds per head, writes David W. Fox, of Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania. Some weigh twenty-two pounds. I can produce club root at every plant, if I so desire, and can avoid it entirely by exercising care. Too much decomposed vegetable matter will produce it, especially that of cabbage, but the worst of it can be righted by a good application of unslaked lime. I had ten acres of corn, producing 2150 bushels of ear corn. This corn has been crossed for seventeen years, always selecting the best for seed. I have grown fifty bushels of Martin's Amber wheat per acre, and really believe it to be the best wheat in the market to-day.

#### EXPERIMENTS IN PIG FEEDING.

The Illinois Experiment Station has published the results of sixteen experiments made in feeding corn alone to pigs. These experiments were made in nine different months of the year, and show excellent work. The average of the sixteen lots showed 11 1/2 pounds live weight made from fifty-six pounds of corn; with corn worth thirty-five cents per bushel this would make pork cost a trifle over three cents per pound. The poorest results were obtained from work done in January, which showed 6.98 pounds from one bushel of corn fed to pigs weighing 108 pounds each. The next poorest results were obtained in June, July and August, and showed 8.28 pounds per bushel of corn fed to pigs weighing 208 pounds each. The third poorest result was in July, and showed 8.66 pounds per bushel fed to pigs of 223 pounds weight. The best work was done in December, and showed 16.81 pounds from one bushel of corn.—American Farmer.

#### THE PROFITABLE COW.

Size—Anywhere between 600 and 2000 pounds. An average cow of any breed will answer, other things being equal.

Conformation—Large barrel and great capacity, as shown by the deep middle and ribs well sprung. Neck, shoulders and thigh thin. Wide over hips and loins, and above all else thin in flesh and lacking beef form when well fed. She should show good health by having good heart girth, good appetite, and hair as smooth as silk.

Food—All she will habitually eat up clean and digest of a well balanced ration.

Production—Her annual butter product should never fall below 200 pounds and with butter at fifteen cents net there is little profit at 250 pounds.

To get such cows use only registered bulls of your favorite breed. Do not use a bull whose dam as a two-year-old will not produce 180 pounds or as a mature cow 300 pounds of butter fat. The best bull obtainable is none too good. Do not begrudge the \$50 or \$100 it will take to buy such a bull.—American Agriculturist.

#### SUNLIGHT FOR APPLE TREES.

In order to produce such a crop of apples as trees sometimes do they must do a large amount of work in collecting the crude materials required and in manufacturing them into such refined products as Gravensteins, Greenings and Baldwins. Sunlight, by its action upon its foliage, furnishes largely the power that runs the machinery of an apple tree. The amount of this power that a tree can use in a measure determines how much fruit the tree can bear.

The natural habit of the apple tree is to form a rounded top, with the branches bending low, to catch as much sunlight as possible. It is a too common practice to cut these limbs off, which may in the case of a well-grown tree represent from 400 to 800 square feet of the normal bearing surface of the top, and in this way to permanently injure the tree. It is as important for an apple tree that is to do its best work to have its top adjusted to use the light as it is for a sailing vessel to be trimmed to catch the wind.

Save the lower limbs, that increase the surface area of the top, for these, when the roots are well cared for, enlarge the bearing capacity of the tree; but thin out and when necessary shorten in the limbs, that the light may shine brighter on those that are left.—American Farmer.

#### POPULARITY OF POLAND-CHINAS.

There is no single breed of swine

that within the last twenty years has grown into such general favor in the corn-producing region of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Iowa, Missouri, Eastern Nebraska and Kansas, as the famous Poland-China. Ten years ago these hogs compared with the Berkshires and had eclipsed all other breeds, and they have since held their own in Wisconsin, Minnesota, the Dakotas and Michigan. About this time they were spotted or mottled. They are now bred, like the Berkshire, black with white points, though not with the white strip in the face. Their bone has been refined, the oval lightened, and the general contour lengthened, squared up, smoothed and finished so that they have become established as the equal of any known breed for carrying flesh in the superior parts, as backs, loins, hams, sides and shoulders.

The Poland-China is a good feeder and a good digester of food; is quiet, sufficiently strong of limb, well haired, and healthy, fattens easily, at say, eleven months, into a heavy profitable hog, and is eagerly sought after by the packers at the Union stock yards at Chicago. The flesh is sweet and well marbled with fat. When of full age, a weight equal to any of the superior breeds is attained. Nor is the popularity of this famous American breed—for it is as distinctively American as the trotting horse—confined to the United States. They have been exported as breeders to many foreign countries.

The Poland-China has good length of body, small head, ears thin and falling forward and well pointed, legs short and of fine bone, tail of medium length, small and with a white brush. They can be made to weigh two hundred and fifty to three hundred at eight to twelve months. They have broad, straight backs, deep sides with flanks well let down, hams and shoulders square, chest deep, and with full necks high and crested. The head is short and the chops fall. The muzzle is fine and the loins and hams are not surpassed by any breed.

There has been no admixture of foreign blood for fifty years, but, on the contrary, a constant refinement of breeding, carefully and systematically carried out by the most reputable breeders, has as an all around profitable breed it has not, I think, a superior in the Indian corn region of the West.—New England Homestead.

#### FARM AND GARDEN NOTES.

Plenty of exercise is a better stimulant for egg production than drugs.

Poultry manure is an excellent fertilizer. Gather it on rainy days and store in a dry place.

You cannot grow eggs and lice with the same fowl. The latter will soon kill the chances of the former.

As a precaution against the striped cucumber bugs next year rake off and burn all the rubbish on the patch.

The secret of feeding is to avoid getting the laying hens fat. Always keep them at work; a lazy hen is never a good layer.

Deep cultivation hastens the maturity of cabbage plants. Mulching tends to increase the size of the heads. The largest heads usually come from large seeds.

The essential requisites of a poultry house at this season are dryness, warmth and light. Never mind about ventilation—that will take care of itself during cold weather.

Those roses which are to be left in the ground over winter need some protection. A light covering of leaves, held in place by evergreen boughs, is probably as good as anything.

Dry picked fowls bring a little more per pound than those that are scalded. To dry pick to the best advantage the work should be done as soon as possible after the fowls are killed. If allowed to become cold, the task is not only tedious but often proves unsatisfactory.

There are some advantages in propagating your own plants. You can continue the varieties that do best in your particular locality and soil. You can transplant them as soon as your ground is properly prepared. You can use more care in transplanting and fill in the missing hills at leisure.

To manage a strawberry field well, divide it into thirds. One bed will be new, upon which to rely for the main crop; one old, from which to get what one can; the other set to new berries. As soon as the old bed has got through bearing, plow it up and set it to cabbage or some other crop which must be closely cultivated.

Seeds of annuals, like the poppy and petunia, may be sown in November, and be ready to come up early in spring. Any annual which self-sows may be sown now with a good prospect of success. There is a long list of these, including the phlox, verbena, calliopsis, portulaca, snow-on-the-mountain, antirrhinum, and others.

Bulbs need a well-drained, mellow spot in a rather sunny place. Only well-rotted manure should be used in enriching it. They should not be pressed down into the earth, as is so natural when one plants anything of the kind, but should be placed in holes three or four inches deep and the soil filled in around them. The November planted bulbs will be benefited even more than those which were planted earlier by a covering of rotted manure over the bed.

#### WORDS OF WISDOM.

Gossip is the language of pigmies.—Anon.

This sorrow, which has cut down to the root, has come, not as a spoiling of your life, but as a preparation for it.—George Eliot.

Every man has some peculiar train of thought which he falls back upon when he is alone. This, to a great degree, moulds the man.—Dugald Stewart.

No quality will ever get a man more friends than a sincere admiration of the qualities of others. It indicates generosity of nature, frankness, cordiality and cheerful recognition of merits.—Dr. Johnson.

I cannot praise a fugitive and cloistered virtue, unexercised and unbreathed, that never sallies out and sees her adversary, but sinks out of the race, when that immortal earland is to be run for, not without dust and heat.—John Milton.

Finish every day and be done with it. You have done what you could. Some blunders and absurdities, no doubt, crept in; forget them as soon as you can. To-morrow is a new day; begin it well and serenely, and with too high a spirit to be cumbered with your old nonsense. This day is all that is good and fair. It is too dear, with its hopes and invitations, to waste a moment on the yesterdays.—Emerson.

The difficulties of democracy are the opportunities of education. If our education be sound, if it lay due emphasis on individual responsibility for social and political progress, if it counteract the anarchistic tendencies that grow out of selfishness and greed, if it promote a patriotism that reaches further than militant jingoism and gunboats, then we may cease to have any doubts as to the perpetuity and integrity of our institutions.—Professor Nicholas Murray Butler.

#### Famous Wedding Cakes.

At royal weddings there are always chief cakes and a limited number of lesser cakes, says an article in Current Literature. At the Queen's wedding there were two of the former, one made by Messrs. Gunter and the other by John C. Manditt, yeoman confectioner to the Queen's household, and this latter was a big cake. It weighed nearly 300 pounds, and was fourteen inches thick and twelve feet in circumference. The topmost figure that surmounted this master tidbit of currants, spices, eggs and butter, was a representation of Britannia's blessing the bride and bridegroom, the Queen and Prince Albert being dressed in the costume of the ancient Romans. Besides these major cakes there were 100 minor ones.

For the Prince of Wales's wedding there were also two important cakes. M. Pagniez, her majesty's confectioner, made one, and Messrs. Bolland, of Chester, made the other. The Prince of Wales's plume very properly formed the peak, and the rose, shamrock and thistle no ineffective part of the sugar ornamentation, and five feet was the height of this pile of sweetmeat.

These wedding cakes were great, but there was even a greater—the cake made for the jubilee by Messrs. Gunter. This monster stood thirteen feet from the ground and weighed a quarter of a ton. Its value, not taking into account the fees paid to physicians on account of indigestion, etc., was \$1500. But the cake world is in no way different from the everyday universe.

If there are monsters, there are pigmies also. The smallest wedding cake made was ordered by a lady for a child. It was a doll's wedding cake, three inches high, and weighed about four ounces. Everything was as perfect as perfect could be, but it was like eating gold—sixty-two cents per ounce was the charge made for this special delicacy.

#### How Saddleback Ledge Light Was Kept Burning.

This is one of the wildest and bleakest of light stations of that savage region, and according to a story told there it was once the scene of a remarkable plucky adherence to duty on the part of a fifteen-year-old boy. He was the son of the keeper, and on this occasion was left alone in the tower while his father went ashore for provisions in their only boat. Before the latter could return a violent storm arose, and for the next three weeks there was no time in which the keeper's boat could have lived for a moment in the wild seas that raged about the lonely rock. Still the light was kept burning by that fifteen-year-old boy, who had little to eat, and but scant time to sleep. Night after night, for three weeks, his steady gleam shone through the blackness of the pitiless storm and gladdened the father's straining eyes. When the ordeal was ended the boy was so weak from exhaustion as to be barely able to speak. At the same time there was no prouder father, nor happier young light-keeper on the Maine coast, than those who met on the storm-swept Ledge of Saddleback that day.—Scribner.

#### Made Bloody Am

No many years ago, the annuals of the Queen's messenger injured in Cabul, and of course, with a reply was received last the Emir, 'The matter was thoroughly investigated here the rabbin been'.

#### COLORED DIAMONDS POPULAR.

The tickle tide of fashion has turned away from the once much prized pure white diamond to the colored varieties, and as diamonds are after all only an article of luxury, fashion to a great extent regulates their price; hence the most precious brilliants are not worth what they were before the De Beers and Kimberley mines began to produce at rare intervals the exquisite colored stones which are now the rage. It must be remembered that these are not "off color" diamonds—that is to say, stones of imperfect or cloudy color. On the contrary, when perfect they are of the purest water, and if they are of any respectable size they are exceedingly valuable. In the diamond room at De Beers' there is a velvet lined case which contains about a dozen diamonds of all colors, from the purest white to the deepest blue. The collection as a whole is practically priceless, and the gem of it is a round stone a little smaller than a 10-cent piece, absolutely flawless and pure, and of a deep rose color. It is believed to be the finest specimen of its kind in the world, and it is not for sale. Another curious and costly form of diamond found at Kimberley is the Maecle, or twin stone. This is found in the form of a perfect triangle, which consists of two diamonds, back to back. The sides slope off to the line of union, which may be seen running through the stone. They lose very little in cutting, for the edges and facets only want polishing. Pure white stones of perfect shape are very rare. They are sometimes split to make sleeve links.

#### Canned Soup.

There is enough canned soup sold each year to float half a hundred warships. At least that is what a man in the business of preparing the stuff says. This season promises to be a record-breaker, and for the last five months the full force has been engaged on an average of eleven hours a day turning out soup. "In 1895," he remarked, in giving details of the great industry, "we canned 2,550,000 gallons of it. This season, judging by the way we have started off, our output will be over 3,000,000 gallons."

#### HOW FASHIONS ARE "SET."

A great French millinery house, which "makes" fashions, let an American woman, recently, into the secret of how it is done. There is nothing at all mysterious in it. The artists study old fashion books and the styles of by-gone days, and getting their inspiration therefrom, produce designs. The finished results are put in the show room and the action of the public with regard to them decides what is going to be "the style."

The traveler in Mexico is seldom out of sight of mountains.

#### False Witnesses.

There are knaves now and then met with who represent certain bitter and poisonous stimulants as identical with or possessing properties akin to those of Hostetter's Stomach Bitters. These scampis only succeed in raising their trashy compounds upon people unacquainted with the genuine article, which is much their opposite as day is to night. Ask and take no substitute for the grand remedy for malaria, dyspepsia, constipation, rheumatism and kidney trouble.

Patti is now writing reminiscences and says she was born in 1844. She is therefore 52 years old.

CENTREVILLE, R. I., March 6, 1892. I enclose two dollars to get some of your TERRIBLES. It has done wonders on three persons to whom I had given a little of my small supply. They were radically cured of eczema. Yours respectfully,

Rev. C. P. GABOURY, J. T. SUTHERLAND, Savannah, Ga.

The most remarkable canal in the world is the one between Worsley and St. Helen's, in Lancashire. It is sixteen miles long and is wholly underground.

If you are doubtful as to the use of Dobbin's Electric Soap, and cannot accept the experience of millions who use it, after the 25 years it has been on the market, one trial will convince you. Ask your grocer for it. Take no imitation.

Only one marble statue of the human figure with the eyelashes is known. It is one of the gems of the Vatican, the sleeping Ariadne, and was found in 1593.

Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup for children teething, softens the gums, reduces inflammation, allays pain, cures wind colic, 25c a bottle.

Glass houses of a very substantial kind can now be built.

FIT stopped free and permanently cured. No fits after first day's use of Dr. Kline's Great Nerve Restorer. Free 24 trial bottles and treatment. Send to Dr. Kline, 301 Arch St., Phila., Pa.

Novelties in satin corsets are among the late arrivals from Paris.

The world's population is said to average 169 women to every 100 men, while eight-ninths of the sudden deaths are of males.

An apple, according to the Druggists' Circular, contains as much nutriment as a potato and in pleasant and more wholesome form.

The rural districts of Spain are in distress, drained of men and short of the usual crops. Twenty thousand men have been withdrawn from the plows and mills in the past twenty months.



#### Gladness Comes

With a better understanding of the transient nature of the many physical ills which vanish before efforts—gentle efforts—pleasant efforts—rightly directed. There is comfort in the knowledge that so many forms of sickness are not due to any actual disease, but simply to a constipated condition of the system, which the pleasant family laxative, Syrup of Figs, promptly removes. That is why it is the only remedy with millions of families, and everywhere esteemed so highly by all who value good health. Its beneficial effects are due to the fact, that it is the one remedy which promotes internal cleanliness, without debilitating the organs on which it acts. It is therefore all important, in order to get its beneficial effects, to note when you purchase, that you have the genuine article, which is manufactured by the California Fig Syrup Co. only, and sold by all reputable druggists.

If in the enjoyment of good health, and the system is regular, then laxatives or other remedies are not needed. If afflicted with any actual disease, one may be commended to the most skillful physicians, but if in need of a laxative, then one should have the best, and with the well-informed everywhere, Syrup of Figs stands highest and is most largely used and gives most general satisfaction.

#### Cotton.

With careful rotation of crops and liberal fertilizations, cotton lands will improve. The application of a proper fertilizer containing sufficient Potash often makes the difference between a profitable crop and failure. Use fertilizers containing not less than 3 to 4%

#### Actual Potash.

Kainit is a complete specific against "Rust."

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