

HOUSE, FARM, GARDEN.

Farm Notes.

Death to weeds is the motto of every good farmer.

A farmer should try to grow almost anything put poor.

In the San Joaquin valley, California, there are 1,000,000 acres in wheat, averaging 20 bushels to the acre.

Every enterprising farmer should make an experiment station of his farm, himself being the director.

Your farm is your fixed capital; improvements are your investments; and your crops over the cost of your production, are your dividends.

Tradition in agriculture is one of the greatest hindrances in the way of rural progress. This applies with special force to stock breeding and feeding. The same is essentially true in the departure of vegetable economy, where pedigree in seed raising is quite as important as pedigree in stock breeding.

Samuel D. Hale went from Boston to the Argentine Republic twenty years ago, and has become a considerable farmer there. His farm contains 28,000 acres of rich prairie land, enclosed with a heavy wire fence. He keeps an average of 110,000 sheep, from which the wool, tallow, and skins are enormous. He also has 3,000 bees, 500 horses, and 1,400 hogs.

Some men never do anything at all on their farms, because they stand like a little urchin in a big watermelon patch, dazed at the innumerable chances of choosing. They have so many good things to plant, and so many good ways to do, and no one to begin on, that the year glides from under their feet and they have made nothing but a failure.—Southern Planter and Grange.

It is estimated that the flax mills of Russia give employment 300,000 operatives and produce \$120,000,000 worth of goods per annum. During the past year America imported \$340,000,000 worth of flax and its manufactures. This, too, when it is so well settled that we can produce, if we would, enough flax to supply the world. California and Oregon alone are capable of producing enough of the commodity to supply the United States, but instead of doing it we prefer to sell our wheat in England and buy flax in Russia with the proceeds.—San Francisco Chronicle.

Weeds are like Banquo's ghost. They will not "down at your bidding." No matter how much you mutilate them, and disturb the soil under them, if you leave them on the surface in a rainy day they will still persist in growing. They cling to life like cats and some other animals, which, strange as it may seem, prefer to live rather than die. But no tender hearted sentimentalists must be allowed to come in to weaken the efforts of the agricultural army in its war of extermination against the weeds. No lopping off here and there of a leaf or a sprout will amount to anything. No half-way work will answer the purpose; the evil must be removed root and branch, prohibited, suppressed, obliterated. If you adopt the false theory that mild measures are best, and merely cut off the tops while the roots are left in the ground, you will soon find them springing up with more vigor and power for mischief than before. Radical measures and no others are in order among June weeds. It is not necessary for the legislature to proclaim a prohibitory law against them. The law of nature and self-preservation requires that they be excoriated, banished, put down, and this law must be enforced, or they will get the advantage of the corn and potatoes, and when harvest time comes there will be nothing but weeds to harvest.—Vermont Record and Farmer.

Facts.

This is a subject which cannot fail to interest all poultry breeders, for the amount of loss directly chargeable to their wholesale deprivations is almost incredible. It costs as much to feed the rats and mice of our country as it does to feed our poor, and even more. They are left until they become so numerous that something must be done to stop their ravages, when a raid is made on them with terriers, ferrets, and many are driven out of the runs or killed. This quiets them down a little, and peace is declared until the rats again become troublesome. The most effectual way to get rid of them is to poison them, for which purpose a preparation of phosphorous, spread on small crumbs of bread, is very effectual though nothing can be gotten in this line which is not dangerous to other beings. Small bits of cork fried in lard is also a "sure pop," while corn meal and plaster mixed dry and in equal parts, will get heavy on their stomachs, and ere long, cause a cessation of breathing. But all these things are alike destructive to dogs, cats, or poultry, and you run a great risk if you have any young folks running around, you may be sorry all your life that you ever used poison for rats. A trained ferret to drive them from their leads, with good terriers or shepherd dogs to catch them when they run out, will soon clean them up. A few farmers or fanciers could buy, own and use a trained ferret in partnership, and thus rid themselves of rats effectually.

Oleomargarine Under the Microscope.

Mr. Thomas Taylor, microscopist of the Department of Agriculture, has incidentally made a few examinations of market butter, pure butter and oleomargarine, or butter made by churning fat with cream. He finds that pure, dairy butter, when viewed under the microscope, presents a uniform appearance so far as color is concerned. The forms seen consist of oil globules and the crystals of common salt. When viewed by polarized light, every little change of color is observed; but when a specimen of oleomargarine is examined in the same manner, the field un-

der view is speckled all over with shining particles, which change color with every quarter's turn of the analyzer, and Mr. Taylor has demonstrated that these glistening points consist of crystallized fat.

In using a power of about two hundred and fifty diameter, animal tissue is also seen more or less over the whole field, and a thin sheet of fat, placed under a power of about seventy-five diameters exhibits the polarized light beautifully, each solid fat cell showing all the colors of the rainbow, and, on turning the analyzer or polarizer, the changing, complementary colors are exhibited.

The process of grinding the fat by means of rollers destroys the solid, crystalline, cell contents, but the glistening appearance, under polarized light, remains the same, only subdivided, as a natural consequence. Pure butter may therefore be easily detected from oleomargarine by the means proposed by Mr Taylor.

One specimen of butter examined by him was highly charged with animal tissue and the urate of magnesia, the crystals of which were well defined, showing that the fat used in this case was impure, and probably that of a diseased animal. Such practical illustration of the uses of the microscope cannot fail to convince the public and the government of the value of such investigations. Since the government is a large purchaser of butter, microscopic examination should be made by it to ascertain in what portion the solid fats are used, but more especially to ascertain the purity of the fats used in the manufacture of oleomargarine.

Soot vs. Wireworms.

He found the wireworm so abundant in every part of the garden he was set to cultivate that he could scarcely grow a potato or a carrot without its being rendered useless by it; and, among the various things he was led to adopt as preventives, soot appeared to be the only effectual remedy. This he applied to potato crops in the following manner: The drills were got ready in their usual way and the sets laid in at the end of each drill. The soot was then put down upon them, in quantity sufficient to cause the drills to assume quite a black appearance. This being done, the drills were closed in the ordinary manner to the natural level, and the work was finished. Wherever soot was applied the crops turned out clean and good; scarcely a trace of the wireworm's ravages was to be seen, while those from rows not dressed with soot were quite the reverse, the potatoes being pierced through in every direction and fit only for feeding pigs.—London Land and Water.

Cooked Icing.—One cup of coffee sugar, water enough to melt the sugar; put on the stove and let it boil; beat the whites of two eggs to a stiff froth and stir in the boiling syrup; continue the beating until nearly cold, add flavoring and you have it ready for a cake.

FACTS OF GREAT INTEREST TO ALL—TIME AND MONEY SAVED.

All families are interested in their family physicians. They may take quack medicines for slight ailments, but when true sickness comes, then must come the family doctor. All are interested then in this matter, and every family newspaper should give them valuable information and advice.

Every one knows that, in times gone by, the great family doctors were educated in New York and Philadelphia, but that in these days such is no longer the case. The great cities of the West, Louisville, Chicago, Cincinnati, all contain medical colleges in which the very best education is to be obtained.

The cost of this education is far less than it is in Eastern cities; a fact of great interest to parents and guardians, and to all interested in medical students. Indeed, so important is this money question to our readers, that we must give them information which will save for themselves and their friends both time and money.

In the Atlantic cities a student has to pay for two courses of lectures \$155 each; or \$310 for the two. His diploma fee is \$30; all fees amounting to \$340. His board for two sessions is \$280, or \$140 for each. His fees and board costing \$620. These facts and figures are official.

In Louisville, Chicago, etc., where the medical colleges are equally as good as they are in New York, the student pays for his two courses \$65 each, or \$130 for the two. His diploma fees cost \$30. All fees amounting to \$160 for two sessions. His board for two sessions cost \$160, or \$80 for each. The entire fees and board costing \$320. These figures are also official, and show that the student who goes to the great colleges of the West saves fully \$300 in the cost of a first-class medical education. If to this amount be added that of the increased cost of travel, it is evident that \$400 would be a moderate estimate of the amount saved by him. Indeed, students residing in the New England and Atlantic States can, by going to first-class medical colleges in the West, save from \$200 to \$300 in the cost of a medical education. Surely these great money facts cannot fail to interest every reader, and cause him to bring them to the attention of all studying or about to study medicine. Parents and preceptors will, we feel sure, thank us for this valuable information.

But there are other facts now to be given of even greater interest; facts which show that a student can not only save \$300 in the cost of his medical education, but that he can gain one full additional course of lectures. That is to say, the student will, in seventeen months, obtain three instead of two courses of lectures, and save also \$300.

Among the many new catalogues of medical colleges recently issued, that of the Louisville Medical College (Louisville, Ky.) is exceedingly interesting. Indeed, the facts presented therein are so important that we must present them to our readers.

It appears that the Faculty of the Louisville Medical College have been also elected

to fill vacant chairs in the Kentucky School of Medicine—one of the oldest and best medical colleges in this country; this great compliment having been extended to this Faculty on account of the triumphant success of the Louisville Medical College. As the result, this Faculty teach in the Louisville Medical College from September to March, and in the Kentucky School of Medicine from March to July.

Both of these colleges are first-class institutions, both being connected, we see, with the Association of American Medical Colleges, of which the colleges at New York and Philadelphia are also members.

From the fact of this Faculty teaching in these two great medical colleges, there spring some curious and interesting results.

Students who enter the Louisville Medical in September or October, can, at the close of that session in February, at once enter the Kentucky School of Medicine, which commences its session in March and closes at the end of June. In the following September or October, these students can again enter the Louisville Medical college and graduate in February. Thus having, in seventeen months, passed three complete courses of lectures; whereas, in seventeen months, any other Faculty can give but two courses of lectures.

The student's entire fees for the three courses in these two Louisville colleges are, we see, but \$187, and his board for seventeen months but \$300, or \$387 for the entire cost of his medical education, board, and all fees included.

When it is remembered that in Eastern colleges the student gets but two courses of lectures and has to pay for these \$340, with \$280 or his board (\$620 in all), it will be seen that in Louisville he gets one full course of lectures more in the same time, and saves in fees and travel fully \$300. A GREAT ECONOMY OF TIME, A GREAT SAVING OF MONEY, AND THE GAINING OF AN ENTIRE COURSE OF LECTURES. Indeed, it is evident from the facts and figures afforded to the public in these catalogues, that IN NO OTHER WAY, IN NO OTHER CITY, AND IN NO OTHER MEDICAL COLLEGE, CAN A STUDENT IN SEVENTEEN MONTHS OBTAIN THREE FULL COURSES OF LECTURES AND YET SAVE IN MONEY FULLY \$300.

Every student or guardian or parent who reaps these remarkable facts should send at once for catalogues. It is stated in the catalogues just issued, that all applications for them should be addressed simply to the Dean of the Louisville Medical College, Louisville, Ky.

We see that five per cent. of the class are granted beneficiary privileges.

We also see in the catalogues issued, that students who desire it will be educated by the graded system adopted at Harvard, Massachusetts.

One is not surprised to read, after learning these remarkable advantages offered by this Faculty, that ninety-five students have been graduated by it in the last year.

The class list as published shows students from almost every State; the best evidence of the fact that the public throughout this country is rapidly obtaining and appreciating the valuable information here given our readers.

It seems only natural that so many students from the Northern States should seek in winter the mild and temperate climate of Kentucky; for thus they escape their harsh winter weather, and return home in time for the cool Northern summer.

Louisville, the geographical center of this country, bids fair to be one of its greatest medical centers.

While newspapers seldom furnish the information which we have herein given, we are satisfied that our readers will value these interesting and profitable facts, and will agree with us in saying that all which is of interest to the family circle belongs of right to the family newspaper.

Milestones on the Road to Health.

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