FARM AND HOUSEHOLD.

Farm and Garden Notes.

Good fertilizers for grapes are bone meal and potash.

Crushed oats and bran make a capital ration for dairy cows.

If you want the flow of milk to keep up always milk clean.

Tomatoes may be trained to poles, so as to grow six feet high.

The proper weight for a turkey for the table is said by old market men to be eight pounds.

Trees may be protected from meadow mice by banking up with mound of earth a foot high.

The soaking of fence posts in blue vitriol is certified to be the best preparation for preserving them.

Know by test and not by guess which is the most profitable cow in your herd, and why she is the best.

The hogs which breed well and are popular in the market are the kinds farmers should try to raise.

It is an injury to cream to suffer it to rise where the surface of it is exposed freely to air much warmer than itself.

Dropping ears, lowing, hanging head, diarrhœa, vomiting, rapid breath and aversion to light are symptoms that point to hog cholera.

The "American Agriculturist" curtly remarks: "The poorest ensilage we have ever seen has been in the silos of agricultural colleges.

The "American Garden" says: "Most nuts will not sprout after they become thoroughly dry and should, therefore, be planted as soon as ripe.

A farmer who understands his business says: Land properly prepared and the crop managed to the best advantage is somewhat independent of rain after it has got its first start.

The 100 points which critics have asigned to butter are thus made up; flavor, twenty-five; keeping qualities, twenty; texture, twenty five; color, fifteen; appearance fifteen.

According to Benj. P. Ware, eminent authority upon fruit culture, the very high cultivation of the orchard, year after year will greatly increase crops but materially shorten the life of the trees.

Pigs not intended for slaughter will not require corn if kept well sheltered. Ground oats and middlings make a better food for them, and will keep them growing until the pasture is ready in the spring.

The 'National Stockman' assigns the following properties to the prize butter-maker: Clean mouth, sweet breath, clean cloths, clean apron, honesty, neatness, sweetness, level-headedness and ability to keep accounts.

In preparing food for stock, such as cooked vegetables, chopped feed, etc., always season with salt. Every animal craves it, and must have a certain amount of saline matter introdnced into its system to enable it to thrive.

There is a large field open for those who will make a specialty of flax. It is a quick-growing crop; is as easily grown as wheat, and improved machinery has made it more easily fitted for market. It gives a profit in both straw and seed.

A French cultivator gives his method of increasing the number of potato tubers: When the young stems have attained about four inches in height, all of them excepting two of the central ones are cut away, and the two only allowed to grow.

In no other country in the world are the feathers of the barnyard fowls so recklessly wasted as in our own. In France no part is wasted, unless, perhaps, it be the intestines. The feet and heads are used at the cheaper restaurants to give body to their soups, etc.

It is well to remember that butter held for any great length of time shrinks considerably in weight. A consignment of 3,323 pounds sent to New York by an Illinois creamery shrunk fifty pounds in a fortnight while a lot of 6,104 pounds sold in ten weeks showed a shrinkage of 151 pounds.

It is a very bad plan to use concrete, or any hard substance, for flooring to poultry houses, unless it be covered with earth. The fowls, of course, cannot scratch, and it keeps the feet constantly "on the stretch," owing to its unyielding nature. We should very much prefer the bare ground.

Pick over your fowls and avoid breeding from the poorer specimens. If you have not already culled your flocks attend to this very soon. Weed them out. Set the imperfect ones aside to fatten by and by. Select the best cockerels and the finest-shaped pullets for sale, or for future stock-birds as breeders.

The beauty of keeping cows where the cream can be sold for cash is that it brings in a continuous supply of money. The farmer can always have some money. If he has a special call, such as a note falling due, or taxes to pay, he can save up his sums for cream and meet it, in the place of his being compelled to sell his hogs or some other property at a sacrifice.

It is said that invalids who are largely confined to a diet of milk acquired such a delicacy of taste that they detect a change in the cows that produce it, and know the flavor of their favorite cow and the proportion of it they get each day. Some pick out the milk they relish, and when traced to the cow that yield it, will have no other so long as it is obtainable. They become as cranky as old topers are in regard to their wines.

The French, who export more pears than any other nation cover the inside of the boxes with spongy paper or dry moss, which absorbs the moisture. Each pear is then wrapped in soft paper, add placed in layers in the boxes, the largest and least mature in the bottom, filling all interstices with dry moss. Thus they will keep a month or more. They are so closely packed that, though they cannot touch each other, all motion is prevented. If one decays the others are not harmed.

"Cosumption can be Cured."

Dr. J. S. Combs Owensville, Ohio says: "I have given Scotts Emulsion of cod liver Oil with Hypophosphites to four patients with better results than seemed possible with any remedy. All were hereditary cases of Lung disease, and advanced to that stage when Coughs, pain in the chest, frequent breathing, frequent pulse, fever and Emaciation. All these cases have increased in weight from 16 to 28 lbs., and are not now needing any medicine."

Says the 'Tribune and Farmer:' "No use to grow perishable fruits and vegetables, like peaches, onions, celery, more than the family can consume, unless you have access to a near market. It hardly ever pays to ship peaches to the large cities from way inland, except perhaps, from southern sections in order to catch the early trade. Work the home market for all it is worth. Still it is always better to grow these articles in excess of the home needs than not to grow enough. The surplus can always be put to some use."

Beans may be rather expensive feeding, but they are rich in nitrogen and are excellent for producing eggs, as they can be partially made to supply the place of meat. A quart of beans cooked to pieces and thickened with ground grain and chopped hay, makes a food that is as nearly complete as could be wished, and as the inferior beans and peas can sometimes be purchased at an advantage they may not be as expensive as expected. If the hens lay well on such food the expense will be lessened in proportion.

Boys' And Girls Clothing,

Many mothers like to cut and make their children's clothing and the consequence often is a bad fit which children dislike as much as grown. The articles in the Housekeeper on "Home Dresmaking" gives as much attention to garments for the little folks as for grown people, and any mother with the Moody Perfect Tailor System given as a premium with the Housekeeper one year at $1 and 20 cts for postage on premium, can cut any boy's or girl's garment without the slightest risk of a misfit. As the regular price of this system is $8, it is worth while for all ladies who care to know anything about the correct principles of dressmaking to order at once, as the $8 premiums cost practically nothing. Write for specimen copy of "Housekeeper" and full particulars. Address Buckeye Publishing Co., Minneapolis, Minn.

Always Reliable.

J. G. Jamison's drug stock is replenished daily from the largest wholesale houses in the country; you can feel assured that you are getting pure drugs at bottom prices; you will always find a full line of Holland Remedies. If you have any aches or pains apply Holland Balm, and be relieved. Price 50 cents.

Improving the Corn Crop.

The importance of the corn crop gives the greatest interest to any suggestions in regard to improved methods of culture and any possible increase in the yield A larger yield is tantamount to a decreased cost, for if but one bushel in a hundred can be added to the gross products it would make up the equivalent of 16,000,000 bushels, or the product of 500,000 acres, all of which might be spared for other crops. But it is quite possible to add at least twenty-five per cent. to the average yield, which is only twenty-five bushels per acre in a favorable year. No one will hesitate to affirm the easy possibility of raising this yield to thirty or thirty-five bushels per acre, and this would be equivalent to a reduction of the area in this crop of about 16,000,000 acres, all of which might be turned to pasture or forage crops, or, if any increase in these crops should be deemed unwise, the land so spared might be planted with timber and double benefit secured.

There are many ways in which the corn crop may be improved that are but little thought of. The cob or spike or rachis—to speak correctly—upon which the grain is borne is a considerable item in the yield of the crop. The percentage of cob to grain varies very much. Some varieties of corn, for instance, have no more than 12 to 13 per cent. of cob, or a weight of 9 pounds in the 70 pounds allowed for each bushel. This leaves nearly 61 pounds of grain to the bushel Other varieties have larger cobs, ranging up to 24 per cent of the weight, leaving less that 53 pounds to the bushel of grain, a difference of nearly 14 bushels in the 100 of grain in favor of the more productive ear. Thus, if the best kind of corn were grown, one seventh of the land, or about 10,000,000 acres could be spared, and the saving to the farmer in cost of crop would be more than $50,000,000 and this amount would be added to the profits.

One more point in this regard may be mentioned. Much is said about multiple ears on the stalks and a kind of corn which has the habit of bearing two ears upon a stalk is thought to be a most valuable acquisition. But one good ear is better than two inferior ones; just as shepherds consider one good single lamb more profitable than two smaller twins. The solid contents of a cylinder increases in proportion to diameter in the ratio of the square of the diameter; thus an ear of corn twice as thick as another will have four times the solid contents, and of course must have a much larger weight of corn. A multiple earing variety grown in Tennessee, which has small ears, produces less corn per acre with two ears to each stalk, than the large Chester County (Penn.) corn with less than one ear to each stalk. Some of these large ears have a quart of corn upon them, and thus thirty-two ears would produce a bushel of grain. This point is of great significance in regard to the improvement of the crop.—New York Times.

Are you going South

If so, it is of great importance to you to be fully informed as to the cheapest, most direct and most direct and most pleasant rout. You will wish to purchase your ticket via the route that will subject you to no delays and by which through trains are run. Before you start you should provide yourself with a map and time table of the Kansas City, Fort Scott & Gulf Railroad (Memphis Short Route South). The only direct route from and via Kansas City to all points in Eastern and Southern Kansas, Southwest Missouri and Texas- Practically the only route from the West to all Southern cities. Entire trains with Pullman Palace Sleeping Cars and free Reclining Chair Cars, Kansas City to Memphis; through Sleeping Car Kansas City to New Orleans. This is the direct route, and many miles the shortest line to Little Rock, Hot Springs Eureka Springs, Fort Smith, Van Buren, Fayetteville and all points in Arkansas. Send for a large map. Send for a copy of the Missouri and Kansas Farmer," an eight-page illustrated paper, containing full and reliable information in relation to the great States of Missouri and Kansas. Issued monthly and mailed free. Address.

J. E. LOCKWOOD.
G. P. & T. A. Kansas City

If you want to get at the circumference of a man, examine him among folks; but if you want to get at his actual diameter, measure him at his his fireside.

Live by the day; you will have trials and strength according to your need; leave to-morrow with the Lord. To-morrow may be eternity with you; therefore, live as on the margin of eternity, as next door to Heaven.

Another Fraud Upon Farmers.

This time it is the "Wire Fence Man." He calls upon a farmer, to ask of him permission to exhibit to the farmers of the vicinity his new fence wire stretcher, upon his farm. In consideration for this privelege he will build for the farmer thirty or forty rods of good fence, wherever he wants it. All that he asks of the farmer is, to board him, to go for the machine at the depot and pay the charges on the machine, not over three dollars. In order to have it all understood, the farmer is asked to sign a contract to the above things, written on a postal-card, which the fence man mails to his partner. After machine arrives, a new man turns up, to demand $200, the price of the machine. The farmer then learns to his astonishment, that the "contract" for board, etc., that he thought he was signing, was really an ordrr for the machine at the price of $200. This last comer claims to be the attorney for the company making the machine and by threats of bringing suit in the U. S. Court, forces some kind of a settlement of his fraudulent claim. Our injuction needs repeating once more: "Farmers sign nothing for strangers."—American Agriculturist.

Nothing is so fearful as a bad conscience.

Charity begins at home, but it ought not to lie down there and go into a trance.

Beware of signing any paper for a traveling agent or other stranger.

He who can suppress a moment's anger may prevent a day of sorrow.

Pleasure must first have the warrant that it is without sin; then the measure that is without excess.

Sir Walter Raleigh asked a favor Queen Elizabeth, which he frequently did, to which she replied: "Raleigh, when will you leave off begging? "When your Majesty leaves off giving," was his reply. So long must and may we continue to pray.—Wellspring