FARM ORCHARD&GARDEN



INPLUENCE OF NATURE.

Therefore an I still A lover of the meadows and the woods And mountains, and of all that we behold From this green oarth; of all the mighty Of eye and ear, both what they half cre-And what perceive; well pleased to recog-In nature, and the language of the sense The anchor of my purest thoughts, the The guide, the guardian of my heart, and soul, Of all my moral being. -- Wordsworth.

SCHOOL GARDENS.

One of the many striking evidences of the great changes wrought during the last century is in the pedagogical method employed at the present time. Many of the new departures proved to be fads and departed this life without leaving footprints on the sands of time, but no one can question the wisdom of incorporating in the curriculum of our common schools some practical knowledge of the nature that supplies us with our healthfest foods, and that is the purpose of the school garden, which is now being brought forward to the attention of the public.

The school garden idea adopts, in a manner, the practical mode of teaching so foreibly carried out by Mr. Squeers, of Dotaeby's hall. When a scholar has learned that botany means a knowledge of plants "he goes and knows 'em." in Leipsic the pupils are taught botany in the form of applied horticulture; that Is, they learn to graft, to plant and to transplant, and a special incentive is afforded to cultivate home gardens. In Sweden the idea is still further elaborated upon, and the garden includes hotheds, summer houses, fountains, etc., and the government gives a bonus for each warden established.

Manual training in this country has been confined mostly to the use of shop tools with a view of shortening the distance between the graduate's pocket and the great American dollar. This is an error The school garden would bring better results for the ame amount of time spent. It would urn out grafters of an entirely diferent kind from those with which the ord is now associated. It would help make horticultural ventures more ccessful financially, aid in the disluable varieties, and strengthen the dy as well as the mind.

The school garden would be nothing pre nor less than good, old-fashioned, common sense injected into the haste of cramming down senseless ts and jumbled figures.

KNOWING HOW TO MILK.

now how to milk? Of cour e we And yet, if the old cow could k, she might quite often say, that, humble opinion, you could

business for the cow to ba

not fair to sit down to a cow all and haul her until she steps peing shamefully hurt. Simew that does that is not com-

best for their musters. men have a way of Ediking pleases the cow that she shows that she enjoys the These are the men after should pattern.

ng them, we see that they matter in how much hurry be, and begin to draw the out pressing too hard, for that they are touching her it until the last drop is

> to be a very hard matter patrons of a creamery to ws. They may know that ws in their herd who are or their keep, but rather the trouble of we'ghin; taking samples to the be tested, they w'll let s continue to eat up the good ones.

depends upon how wawater, but if you let uable. et very dry and then ater you need a great

HORSE NOTES.

More vicious horses are made so by Ill and injudicious treatment and training than by inheritance. A good seasible horse possesses a high-strung nervous temperament that will not brook teasing, nagging and abuse, A horse controlled through fear will sooner or later break over such bounds and cause trouble. Kindness of action and word is much more efficacious for control of most horses than violent language and harsh treatment.

The well trained horse of whatever breed or type is much more desirable and possesses a higher market value than the wild, skittish and awkward animal of same size and quality. The best method of horse training on the farm is to begin handling the colt in infancy, make it "halter wise" and by persistent, patient and kind treatment secure its confidence and friendship. Prohibit all "monkey shines" by the boys among the colts-and horses,

The public watering trough-that most effective disseminator of glanders, distemper and other contagious horse ailments-is again in commission. When driving to and fro on the highways farmers would do well to use a bucket for watering their horses rather than risk exposure to contagious diseases. Watch the number and character of "crowbaits" that patronizez a public watering trough during a half day in warm weather and you will realize the force of this admoni-

Be very careful how you go into the stall by the side of a strange horse. Some horses are extremely sensitive when thus approached, and are like'y either to kica or to bite the one who does it. Never enter the stall of any horse, no matter how well you may be acquainted with it, without speaking to it.

IN FAVOR OF SHEEP.

Sheep have a way of utilizing byproducts which no other animals seem to have, says a publication of the Iowa Agricultural college. Of the 400 or 500 different plants which may be found in any locality sheep will very and propagation of new and eat all but a very small percentage, while cattle and other stock will touch only a little over one half. Even if sheep are turned into an ideal pasture they will now and then nibble at the weeds; extermination of the weeds results. When the grain is harvested and taken from the field the place for the sheep is the stubble. Rose bushes, wild buckwheat and the weeds and grasses to be found in the fence corners and fence rows fall victims to them and furnish fall feed, thereby fulfilling a two-fold purpose for their owners; that of destroying keeping are profitable lines to carry tably take a few lessons in that these pests and converting these wool. The lamb crop may be fattened rotation can be successfully applied Sae considers it so, and you and developed in the corn fields in the to all conditions of soil, climate and fall. If at the last cultivation of the corn dwarf essex rape is planted be tween the rows in the moist soll it in the stall and acts as if she will make very rapid growth and by weaning time it will be ready for the cow will stop eating and wa't lambs. Old sheep cannot be turned he ordeal is over before she in this way because they will pull sume operations in that lie down the corn; lambs, however, will do no damage, but on the other hand Uncomfortable cows do not they will eat much of the pigeon grass and other weeds.

THE SPREADER PAYS.

The manure spreader is one of the most important essentials in the economic handling of farm manures Il nor strike, nor otherwise as well as for the proper conserva-their cows. They sit down tion of their value. I feel competent ske hold of the cow's tests to say that they may be considered one of the most important implements on the farm, either large or small. I believe they will come nearer paying a dividend on the investler point, then they keep ment than any other farm tool. The expense of handling the manure is leasened by three-fourths at least, and as "manure hauling time" generally comes when other heavy work is pressing, the saving of time is considered as much of a gain as the saying of labor.

While the manure spreader can add nothing to the value of the manure it does, by the process of minute disintegration so consummately accomplished by this machine, put the material in a mechanical condition which renders its fertilizing content more If you begin your irri- immediately available, much more this very dry, you don't evenly distributed and therefore val-

When a cow shows signs of si kness immediately take her out of the herd and keep her milk separate from grops from wind, hall that delivered to customers; that's t'e to be overrated. Na- first thing. The next thing Is to give onderful recuperative her such remedies as her symptoms few days are past the indicate the neel of, being expre'ally to be much less than careful of her feeding in the meantime.

THE HONEY-BEE.

There is probably nothing produced on the farm to-day that is sold on the market so widely misunderstood as honey. Honey is not gathered by the bees, but is produced by the bees. Scientifically speaking, the bees gather nectar from the flower, which is no more honey than cream is butter. After the bees take it up into their pouch, it is converted by them into thin honey. This, after being deposited in the wax cells, is avaporated by a process of the bee's wings to nearly 50 per cent, and then becomes honey in a strict sense of the word.

It is one of the sweetest known articles naturally produced without the agency of man, and, therefore, pure honey commands a good price. every other article that, is of high value, in the past it has been largely imitated. No poor article is ever counterfeited. The very fact that imltations of various kinds have been on the market, would prove the value of real honey. The pure food laws of our various states have done wonders in weeding out from the market a great deal of adulterated honey.

One of the worst adulterations that we now have on the market is a plece of wax comb which contained honey and from which the honey has been extracted, placed in a jar and a composition of glucose and honey poured in around it, and sold on the market as honey. The public, seeing some of the wax comb in the center of the liquid, have been led to believe in buying it that they were getting the real article. This has led to the various newspaper reports and their exaggerations, which might lead the public to believe that comb-honey was adulterated. All honey, when gathered by the bees, is placed in little wax cells of a hexagonal form, and after being filled up by the bees, the comb is capped over by them in the same fashion as the housewice scals the preserves which she puts up in the summertime.

ROTATION AND SOIL FERTILITY

Only during recent years farmers are coming to more fully realize that systematic rotation secures the maintenance of fertility with increase in the production of crops. All plants do not equally draw the elements of plant food from the soil. Their roots are sent to different depths in the soil and have a different solvent action upon the constituents they reach. Rotation tends to disperse insects and fungous diseases are reduced materially. Weeds are more readily eliminated, the soil is maintained in good tilth, the humus compounds of the soil are increased and the work of the farm generally is more easily and naturally disturbed.

Schemes of rotation should have the growing of at least one leguminous crop. By this means large supplies of nitrogenous food are secured from the air. Potash and phosphoric acid, if lacking in available forms, must be supplied by manure or fertilizer, aunless caustic lime is used to break down these latent minerals and convert them into soluble plant food. Stock raising, dairying and poultry on in the scheme for improving the waste products into good mutton and fertility of soils. No one system of markets.

FREDING CATTLE ON GRASS.

Experience shows that greater gains in pounds of beef with less grain can be made on grass than with grain and roughage and with less labor involved. If corn is fed it should be soaked, and although a less quantity is necessary. The price is relatively higher in summer than in winter. Grain and grass finished steers show a greater shrinkage in going to market than when finished on grain and rough feed. lowever, summer feeding of grain with grass, to animals of proper age, is coming into popular favor and our best farmers are beginning to appreclate their grass lands as never before.

Plant sweet corn, potatoes or some other hoed crop between the rows of blackberries and raspberries the first season after setting. It will be a source of profit to you and an advantage to the young berry plants, for you will not be so likely to neglect their cultivation. Berry plants should never be mulched the first season, most berry growers prefer cultivating to mulening at all times. It insures a healthier cane growth, and the plantation will last longer than when mulched with straw, as the plants root deeper and are not so badly injured by long continued drouths.

Sometimes the fruit on a single tree is worth more than two or three acres of wheat. There is a tree in northern Delaware, 78 years old, that has produced an average of \$50 worth of fruit annually for nearly 20 years, One year the cherries sold for \$50. Six years ago this old patriarch bore 54 peach baskets of delicious fruit or about 1.100 pounds. And all of this fruit has been a free gift of nature, as the old tree has stood in a doorvard all these years unattended and un ared for except in cherry time.

GIVE THE BOY A ROOM.

Let the Boy Have a Retreat of His Own Which He May Arrange to Suit His Own Tastes.

You say it is too expensive to give each boy a room for his hobbles and belongings, but after all it will not cost as much as the Turkish rugs and costly furniture you are thinking of buying for the parlor this spring. Do you owe most to your neighbors, or to your own bright, noisy boys.

We wish that every boy might have a room of his own, and be responsible for its care. The floor should be of hardwood and uncarpeted, the furniture solid and substantial. Let the boy have it decorated according to his own fancy. It will be interesting to watch the growth of his articule ideas.

There should be a bookcase, or desk. a big solid table in the middle of the room, with plenty of space for Sam's printing press or Robert's box of tools or checkers and chessboards and other harmless games. The boys should be allowed to invite their friends to come to this room, and now and then a treat may be provided for them.

No doubt some one will ask what is the use of spoiling boys in this way, or of furnishing them with company and games.

Simply because they will have the amusement, the games and the company somewhere; and where is a more suitable place than under the parental roof? No money can be wasted which is spent in developing a boy's character or which makes his home and famfly more dear to him.

Can you expect your boy to be charitable when you do not hesitate to talk before him of your neighbor?

Can you expect your boy to be free from envy when, in a fault finding way you compare your circumstances with those of your richer neighbor? Can you expect your boy to tell the

truth, when to save a little trouble you tell a falsehood? Can you expect your boy to be re

spectful to you when he hears you laugh at another's peculiarities? Can you expect your boy's religion to be one to live by when he can see

that it has no part in your daily life? Boys brought up in a loving home, where they feel that they are important members of the family, seldom have bad habits.-Prairie Farmer.

NEEDLEWORK NOTES.

The newest pincushion has a pert little bow on top made of ribbon to harmonize with the color of the cushion, the latter being covered and ruffled with lace.

The little Japanese girl is appearing on many of the new pillows. She and her omnipresent parasol may be had on the heavier linens, tinted and ready to be worked with silk.

Butterfiles make beautiful dance favors, with their wings wide spread and sprinkled with gilt so that they glitter in the light, done in red, white or even black crepe paper and placed on the ends of wands finished in material

A charming set of buttons for a lace blouse may be made of superposed frills of valenciennes lace gathered to the center and stitched to a foundation of net, with a tiny button or flat bead on the center of each to hide the join. These are, of course, not intended for 'working" buttons, but only to serve for decoration.

Some of the handsomest buttons are are made in the ateliers of the dressmakers from original or imported designs. In this way the artistic gown has buttons in perfect harmony and buttons can almost make and easily mar a gown. The manufacture at home of original buttons is an easy and attractive task, the success of which depends on good eye for color, together with quick fingers and a due regard for exactitude of detail and finish.-Chicago Daily News,

Great Seaport. Antwerp is to spend \$40,000,000 in order to secure the most up-to-date port in the world.

THE LAWN MOWER.



(Cut the Grasica Sweatemupica.) Springs up on every lawn to the disquiet of the householder.

ON FORCH FURNITURE.

If Porch Is Small Use a Shelf for a Table and Chairs Without Rockers.

Few porches have room for a goodsized table, but this can be managed by having an oblong strip of wood fastened on the wall, between the windows, with hinger at the bottom, When this is not in use, it takes up no room, as it is firmly attached to the wall. One or more legs must be added for the end, and need not of necessity be unsightly.

Another way of doing would be to keep an ironing table with folding legs laid against the wall, all ready to be brought out when it was needed. The leks would have to be cut down to a convenient height for using while sitting, and it could be stained or painted to match the best of the furniture.

Where there is plenty of wall space the width of the table could be placed against the wall, and two firm Iron brackets could support the leaf when a table is required. It is often useful to have some place to stow away magazines and little articles, and a couple of shelves placed on the wall above the table would add much to the appearance of the porch, and be a very useful article of furniture. These boards should be just the length of the table, and placed on the wall at the right height, so that when the table is fastened up, the outside just reaches beneath the shelves. With the bench below, and the underneath part of the table forming a back, over-topred by some cunning little book shelves, what an attractive piece of furniture we should have. Some little curtains on rings would add a note of color, and the whole thing could be made by a member of the family. Sometimes an old church pew can be picked up in country places for a dollar, and in that case the table might hang down, and the pew go against the wall, beneath the book shelves.

Bamboo screens which roll up and down are often useful if the porch is very sunny. A more delightful screen is formed by vines running over wire across the sunny end, or where a neighbor's porch overlooks one's own. If the house stands alone, a porch is cooler if all the sides are left open for the air to blow through, and vines are only allowed to grow above the height of seven feet. So many small porches are too much overgrown, and not only kesp the air out in summer, but for the rest of the year darken the rooms that overlook the porch.

It is best not to have too many rockers on a small porch, as they take up too much room. Windsor chairs, stained or painted, are always liked, especially by men, and they can be used with chairs of other varieties.

A pretty Indian cotton held in place by a drawing pin, which can readily be taken out when the cloth is shaken, makes an admirable cover for the table. If matting or basket tables are used, it is best to have them uncovered. A whisk brush can be kept near by to brush off the tops daily .- Chicago Inter Ocean.

Rules of Health.

Don't worry. Laugh at yourself; look for funny things. Eat good, nourishing food regularly three times a day, and between meals drink a glass of cream. Drink plenty of good, pure water. Take all the rest you can, if possible an hour's sleep each afternoon. Be in the open air all you can without exercising too much. Massaging every night with cocoa butter will help considerably. Above all, do not be despondent. Get busy, Interest yourself in people and things, not inquisitively, but generously, and life will be worth living as your condition improves.

Encourages Temperance. The Bavarian government does not dare to forbid its railway employes to drink beer; but systematic efforts to discourage beer drinking are made by providing coffee, milk, lemonade and

Macaroni and Cheese.

mineral waters at cost price.

Into two quarts of boiling water break half a pound of macaroni. Add half a teaspoonful of salt and boil 20 minutes. Drain through a collander. Line your well-buttered baking dish with cracker crumbs, then add a layer of macaroni, a liberal sprinkling of grated cheese, dust with cracker crumbs, and use dabs of butter. Repeat this until your dish is full. Then pour over all a cupful of milk or cream if you have it. Brown in the oven before serving.

Envoy Recluse.

Viscount de Alte, the Portuguese envoy at Washington, leads the life of a recluse, and although credited to this country four years, he is known by but few residents of the capital. He rarely invites his colleagues in the corps to his home, and still more rarely accepts their invitations.

Popular Pastime.

As a revival of the old English custom of shooting at the butts after Divine worship, the Amberley (Eng.) miniature rifle club is open on Bunday afternoons, and is very popular,