TOPICS FOR FARMERS

A DEPARTMENT PREPARED FOR OUR RURAL FRIENDS.

The Action of Frost Favors Plant Growth—How to Select Eggs for Hatching—Better to Feed Corn Fodder in Full Length.

The Action of Frost.

The principle on which the frost acts favorably in improving tilth is in the rupturing of the soil particles by expansion. The action of the frost causes to expand the soil particles and the water with which the earth may be charged. The result is that the soil particles are broken and separated in somewhat the same manner as a bottle or jug in which water has frozen is broken. The further result is that in proportion as fineness of soil is more favorable to seed and plant growth, so the more completely the soil is divided by repeated freezings and thawings during the time between crops, the better for the coming crop.

It is noted in this connection that one need not, as in spring tillage, wait until the soil is quite dry before spading, for it is an advantage rather than otherwise to work it so wet that it leaves the spade in unbroken clods; the more interstices in the mass after it is thrown over the better. The difference in the following spring and summer between soil that has been fall-worked as outlined and that which has remained untouched until spring, is most marked. Beds that were thus thrown up roughly in the fall come out in the following spring a mass of earth as fine as an ash heap. To overlook the gain that comes from killing the larvae of various destructive insects by turning up the soil before winter would be a mistake. It is known by many actual tests that they die in large numbers by winter freezing. —American Gardening.

Eggs for Hatching.

Eggs for hatching should be very carefully gathered in the afternoon of each day and placed in a basket lined with soft paper. Keep the sitting eggs in the sitting room; the temperature of the room should be about fifty degrees. It is a good plan to mark the date of the month on each egg as it is brought in. To have fertile eggs the hens must be given a good range, and be fed a variety of food, such as wheat screenings, cracked corn, boiled vegetables, meat scraps and above all have a grass plot of a small patch of green rye to run over. Set the hens early, make the nest in a square box that can be pushed from the laying room into the sitting room. By this arrangement the hens will not be disturbed. A little daily looking after—to supply them with water and food is all that will be needed. I would not advise any one to buy an incubator unless he is going into the chicken business in earnest. You cannot make money in chickens taking it as a side issue. If you are after eggs and poultry for home consumption, and do not want much bother, leave the incubator alone. —The American.

Feeding Corn Fodder.

Instead of getting a hay-cutter for cutting all the corn fodder, I would advise feeding it long, and letting the animals eat what they will. If it were fairly well cured, a large part will be eaten, if not fed too freely. Then I would gather the stalks that are left and chop them fine enough to handle well, say three or four inches long, and put them in a large box or half-hogshead. Then pour boiling water over the mess, and sprinkle a quantity of meal and shorts over it, and cover it tightly, and let it remain over night. Feed in the morning, and, if the stalks are eaten with a relish, I would continue the practice as long as I found it satisfactory. A trial lot can be cut with an ax and block. Of course, nothing has been added to the nutritive value of the stalks, but the hot water will soften them, and, perhaps, make them palatable, so that more will be eaten.—North East Farmer.

How to Move Large Hogs.

Make a cage or box large enough to hold the hog, but without any bottom. To get the hog in, throw down an ear of corn, and while she is eating it let two men lift the cage and put it over her. One can do it by tipping it just right. Have a loose bottom (an old door will do very well) a little wider and longer than the cage; place this from the ground to the wagon or sleigh. Carry or drag the cage along the ground and up the slanting floor, and the hog will walk right on the sleigh or wagon herself, and there will be no lifting excepting the cage. Throw the bottom on top of cage, put a chain over and fasten to wagon. When unloading, just reverse the operation.—Massachusetts Ploughman.

Roots for Variety.

As spring time approaches, which is also the farrowing time for sheep, cows and hogs, the advantage of having a good supply of roots to promote milk flow becomes apparent. It is not true that roots are cheap nutrition, for their bulk and weight is very largely water. But as an appetizer and to increase milk flow they cannot be surpassed. Beets and mangel wurtzel are the best roots, the latter having the advantage of being good keepers, and can be used up to the time the grass is forward enough to furnish a good bite.

Dragging Corn Stubble Land.

So soon as frost is well out of the ground in spring, two horses with heavy drag should be run over the corn stubble of last year. It is an excellent preparation for plowing, lightening and drying the surface soil, so that when it is turned under the furrow it at once begins to ferment. Land thus treated makes an excellent seed bed for grain. The work also is just what horses need to break them in for the heavier work of plowing which must follow.

Horse Radish for Spring Use.

Horse radish needs to be dug early in spring to be of much value. So soon as green growth begins the root becomes tough and stringy. What is still worse, is that if the roots are not dug in spring, the next season's growth partakes of the woody character, and is of little value for market. Only by taking out the old growth every spring, and leaving a few small roots deep in the soil to make a new growth for next year, can the horse radish bed be kept in condition to produce every year a valuable crop.

Ventilation for Hotbeds.

Lack of ventilation and keeping the hotbed too warm is much more often the cause of plants dying off than is frost. Except in the very coldest weather, sash should be raised a portion of the day to give the plants air. This will make them hardy and fit to grow when set in the open air. By confining the plants too closely they are made tall and spindling, thus destroying their value for future growth and productiveness.

Snow Thawing Under Snow Banks.

It shows good drainage, either natural or by underdrains, when the snow banks thaw from below. It means that there is an outlet for water through the subsoil, and that, as the water goes down, the warm air below which it displaces rises to the surface.

Farm Notes.

The Canadian Experiment Station puts rape at the head of all green feeds for the growth of lambs in both carcass and fleece.

A reputation cannot be made in a day, but when the fruit grower makes a reputation it adds to his capital, as he will secure better prices and will always have a demand for his produce. All fruit marketed should be labeled with the name of the grower.

Grapes should be trimmed while the weather is cold. If they are trimmed in the spring they will bleed; that is, sap will run from the ends of the shoots that have been cut and the vines will be weakened. If cut now these ends will be healed by the time sap begins to flow and the liability of damage will be reduced.

That such plants as "Venus' fly-trap" actually catch and squeeze to death flies and other insects alighting on their leaves has long been known, but the discovery is comparatively recent that the plants digest the softer parts of their prey by means of a peptic ferment secreted by the leaves. These, then, are real instances of plants feeding upon animals.

Professor Plumb, of Purdue University, in his work on corn culture, says he finds it satisfactory to put seed corn on the ear in common brown coffee sacks, which are hung from the rafters to cure, away from rats and mice. The essentials in preserving seed corn are to dry it thoroughly before hard freezing weather and to keep it secure from rats and mice. Any plan that secures this will be satisfactory.

A correspondent of an exchange says the best method of killing Canada thistles is to cut the thistle when it is in blossom, one foot or more from the ground; take one-third salt and two-thirds saltpeter, grind fine, take a pinch with finger and thumb and place on top of each thistle stalk. After they are well withered set fire to the patch. The fire will go as far as the saltpetre has gone, which is known to be ten to twelve feet deep.

A combination of vegetables and fruit enables the farmer to have something to sell every month in the year from early spring to the approach of winter, and especially if he used hotbeds. When the farmer depends on staple grain crops he must wait for harvest before he has anything to sell. A variety of crops which include vegetables and fruits are also securities against total loss from drought.

JAMAICA'S MONGOOSE TRIAL.

To Free the Island from Rats—The Pest Exterminated.

The introduction of the mongoose into Jamaica marks one of the standard instances of unexpected results following upon an attempt to artificialize the process of natural selection, and takes rank as a warning with the plague of rabbits and thistles in Australia. The mongoose was introduced from India, in 1872, in order to abate the pest of rats, which infested the sugar canes, and after performing the salutary duty it increased and multiplied to such an extent that not only the rats and mice but most of the living species of the island were threatened with extinction. Poultry suffered first, but the depredations extended to young pigs, kids, lambs, newly dropped calves, puppies and kittens. Game of all kinds was attacked, both living and in the egg. The marauder ate even fish, and made such a specialty of snakes, ground lizards, frogs, turtles and land crabs that many kinds of these entirely disappeared. Finally the mongoose developed a ravenous desire for bananas, pineapples, young corn, avocado pears, cocoas, yams and the sugar canes which it had been called in to protect, winding up its tastes with an appetite for salt meat.

The result was a wholesale disappearance of species. A few birds, like the ground dove, had the sense to shift their breeding places to the tops of the prickly cacti, where they were safe; but other animals, and the reptiles in particular, suffered so severely that many kinds were believed for years to be extinct. As a consequence, there arose yet another plague. Insects, like the ticks and "jiggers" (or chigors), which used to be kept down by the snakes, increased so overpoweringly that men and cattle were grievously infested. One could not walk without being covered with them.

The victory over the island remained with the tick and the mongoose, until, within the past year or two, a fresh stage set in. The mongoose suddenly began to be less plentiful, and it was found that he had fallen victim to the tick. The results of the diminution are shown in a gradual reappearance of other beasts, birds and reptiles. Among the snakes there is a very marked increase, and even the ground lizard, supposed to be quite extinct, has become common again. The balance of life has begun to reassert itself and naturalists will watch with curiosity for a complete reinstatement of the previous fauna. The renewed depredations of rats are hailed as an advent of salvation, and, odd as it may sound, the increase in numbers of the crocodile is taken as a happy omen. The Jamaicans are not likely to take further experiments in this interesting domain of natural history, but will adhere in future to such present evils as they have. For them, at any rate, it has been no "imaginary mongoose."—Academy.

Ill temper is much more apparent than the reasons for it.

WEEKLY MARKET LETTER.

Downing, Hopkins & Company's Review of Trade.

Wheat sold at above $1 per bushel in all Eastern markets during the past week and there are prospects for much higher prices in the future.

The marked and rapid advance in values during the week must be attributed to legitimate influences. Speculation played but a minor part in causing the advance. The export demand has been the principal factor in advancing values. The general position of supplies is considerably stronger than a week ago. The European requirements for American wheat as estimated by Bradstreet are now 192,000,000 bushels as compared with previous estimate of 160,000,000 bushels. Estimates of American exportable surplus have been somewhat reduced owing to general unfavorable thrashing returns from the spring wheat crop of the Northwest. In this connection while America must be congratulated upon having a bounteous crop of wheat with which to meet the increased export requirements, it must not be overlooked that reserves from previous crops of spring and winter wheat are almost entirely exhausted. It will be impossible to meet any such export demand as estimated by European statisticians and also establish normal reserves in America. Conditions of supply and demand therefore apparently warrant still higher values, but the rapidity of the advances has momentarily checked the export demand and some reaction is probable. There are several purely speculative conditions that may upset expectations and result in an unnatural advance. Stocks of wheat are abnormally small. The European shortage has encouraged large speculative purchases. The advance in values has reduced short selling. The result is a congested market, especially for September deliveries. The forward movement of the winter wheat crop has been small considering the large sales for export, and it is now too late for any material accumulation of wheat in this market until after September. We can only conclude after careful consideration that while temporary reaction is naturally to be expected, present values are fully warranted, higher values will obtain later and that wheat should be bought on all recessions.

Portland Markets.

Wheat—Walla Walla, 88@89c; Valley and Bluestem, 91@92c per bushel.

Flour—Best grades, $4.40; graham, $3.85; superfine, $2.50 per barrel.

Oats—Choice white, 38@40c; choice gray, 36@39c per bushel.

Barley—Feed barley, $17.50@18; brewing, $18@19 per ton.

Millstuffs—Bran, $14 per ton; middlings, $21; shorts, $15.50.

Hay—Timothy, $12@12.50; clover, $10@11; California wheat, $10@11; do oat, $11; Oregon wild hay, $9@10 per ton.

Eggs—10@12½c per dozen.

Butter—Fancy creamery, 40@45c; fair to good, 35c; dairy, 25@35c per roll.

Cheese—Oregon, 11½c; Young America, 12½c; California, 9@10c per pound.

Poultry—Chickens, mixed, $3.50@4.00 per dozen; broilers, $1.50@3.00; geese, $3@4; ducks, $2.50@3 per dozen; turkeys, live, 10@11c per pound.

Potatoes.—Oregon Burbanks, 35@40c per sack; new potatoes, 50c per sack; sweets, $1.75@2.00 per cental.

Onions—California, new, red, $1.25; yellow, $1.50 per cental.

Hops—10@11½c per pound for new crop; 1896 crop, 4@6c.

Wool—Valley, 14@15c per pound; Eastern Oregon, 10@12c; mohair, 20c per pound.

Mutton—Gross, best sheep, wethers and ewes, 2½@2½c; dressed mutton, 4½c; spring lambs, 5½ per pound.

Hogs—Gross, choice heavy, $4; light and feeders, $2.50@3; dressed, $3@4.25 per 100 pounds.

Beef—Gross, top steers, $2.75@3; cows $2.25; dressed beef, 4@5½c per pound.

Veal—Large, 3@3½c; small, 4½ per pound.

Seattle Markets.

Butter—Fancy native creamery, brick, 18c; ranch, 10@12c.

Cheese—Native Washington, 10@11c; California, 9½c.

Eggs—Fresh ranch, 19@20c.

Poultry—Chickens, live, per pound, hens, 10@11c; spring chickens, $2@3.50; ducks, $2.50@3.75.

Wheat—Feed wheat, $28 per ton.

Oats—Choice, per ton, $23.

Corn—Whole, $22; cracked, per ton, $22; feed meal, $22 per ton.

Barley—Rolled or ground, per ton, $22; whole, $21.

Fresh Meats—Choice dressed beef, steers, 6c; cows, 5½c; mutton sheep, 6c; pork, 7c; veal, small, 6.

Fresh Fish—Halibut, 4½c; salmon, 4@5c; salmon trout, 7@10c; flounders and sole, 3@4; ling cod, 4@5; rock cod, 5c; smelt, 2½@4c.

San Francisco Markets.

Wool—Choice foothill, 9@12c; San Joaquin, 6 months' 8@10c; do year's staple, 7@9c; mountain, 11@13c; Oregon, 10@13c per pound.

Hops—5@10c per pound.

Millstuffs—Middlings, $18.50@22; California bran, $14@15 per ton.

Onions—New red, 70@80c; do new silverskin, 75c@90c per cental.

Potatoes—New, in boxes, 40@60c.

Fresh fruit—Apples, 40@65c per large box; apricots, 20@40c; Fontainbleau grapes, 20@30c; muscats, 40@50c; black, 20@30c; tokay, 40@50c; peaches, 25@50c; pears, 20@40 per box; plums, 20@40c; crab apples, 15@35c.

Hay—Wheat, $12@15; wheat and oat, $11@14; oat, $10@12; river barley, $7@8; best barley, $9@12; alfalfa, $7@8.50 clover, $7.50@9.50.

Cheese—Fancy mild, new, 8c; fair to good, 7½c per pound.

Butter—Fancy creamery, 23½c; do seconds, 21@22c; fancy dairy, 20@21c; good to choice, 18@20c per pound.

Eggs—Store, 15½@18c; ranch, 19@24c; Eastern, 14@17; duck, 16c per dozen.

Citrus fruit—Oranges, Valencias, $3@3.50; Mexican limes, $5@6; California lemons, fancy, $3; do common, $1@2 per box.

At the last congress of German vineyardists, Professor Wortmann reported that he had found living bacteria in wine which had been bottled 25 to 30 years

A FREE EXPOSITION.

Manufacturers' Fair to Be Held in Portland September 22 to October 2.

The exposition to be held at Portland this fall will be along new lines, differing entirely from any fair ever held in that city. This year the manufacturers of Oregon will show the people what is made in the state, and with that end in view the exhibits will consist wholly of manufactured goods made in Oregon. Another new feature this year will be that no admission will be charged. From all sides we hear the report that the fair will be the most interesting and instructive exhibition ever held in the state. One wing of the large exposition building will be devoted exclusively to live exhibits, and a great many articles will be made right there in the building.

The fair is bound to be a grand success, as already the entire space of the two main floors is taken up by exhibitors, and we understand the manufacturers have the money on hand to pay all expenses.

There is no good reason why Oregon should not be more of a manufacturing state than she is, and if the people will call for goods made at home, instead of using goods of Eastern manufacture, home pay-rolls will increase in a wonderful way, making work and happy homes for all. We sincerely believe the fair will do more to enthuse the people than anything else that could be done in creating a demand for home products, and showing the necessity of patronizing home manufacturers. The Manufacturers Association of the Northwest, under whose auspices the fair will be held, deserves great credit for the work it is doing.

The fair will be open from September 22 to October 2, and all railroads have made a reduced rate of one and one-fifth fare for the round trip.

A Simple Fire Extinguisher.

One of the most useful things for the extinction of incipient fires is the hand grenade. This can be made at home easily and cheaply. Twenty pounds of common salt and ten pounds of sal ammoniac (nitrate of ammonia, to be had of any druggist) should be dissolved in seven gallons of water. Quart bottles of thin glass, such as ordinarily used by druggists, should be filled with the concoction, corked tightly and sealed to prevent evaporation. In case of fire, the bottle should be thrown so as to break in or near the flame. If the fire is in such a place as to prevent the bottle from breaking, as in wool or cotton, the neck of the bottle should be knocked off and the contents scattered. The breaking of the bottle liberates a certain amount of gas, and the heat of the fire generates more, thus working its own destruction.

Cost of Tunneling.

About 30 years ago the Mont Cenis tunnel, nearly eight miles long, was constructed at the rate of one kilometer per year, and each kilometer cost $1,200,000. Nearly ten years ater the St. Gotthard tunnel, nine and one-fourth miles long, was constructed at the rate of two kilometers a year, and cost $800,000 per kilometer. The Simplon tunnel, which when completed will be the third to perforate the Alps, is to be 12¼ miles long, will advance four kilometers a year and cost but $600,000 per kilometer.

The normal temperature of man is about 98½ degrees, of the snail, 70; oyster, 82; porpoise, 100; rat, cat and ox, 102; sheep, 104; hog, 105; chicken, 111.

There are more Greeks in Turkey than there are in Greece. Turkey in Europe contains 3,500,000 Greeks; Greece, 2,200,000, and Asia Minor 2,000,000.

A new speaking tube for steamers has the pipe insulated by a waterproof textile covering which makes it easy to hear speech in the engine room from a distance of 300 feet.

One of the most curious results of the investigations made by doctors in the Russian jails is the statement that each group of criminals has its own peculiar color of the eye.

Detectives detailed to look after professional shoplifters always look to see if their suspects are wearing gloves. A "professional" it is declared, never works with his gloves on.

The longest distance that a shot has been fired is a few yards more than 15 miles, which was the range of Krupp's 130-ton steel gun, firing a shot weighing 2,600 pounds.

A German statistician says that of every 10,000 chimneys, three are struck by lightning, while of the same number of towers and windmills, 60 and 80 respectively are struck.

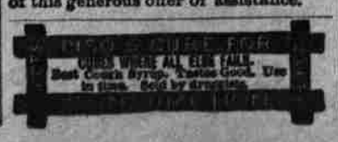
Stop! Women,

And consider that in addressing Mrs. Pinkham you are confiding your private ills to a woman—a woman whose experience in treating woman's diseases is greater than that of any living physician, male or female.

You can talk freely to a woman when it is revolting to relate your private troubles to a man; besides, a man does not understand, simply because he is a man.

MRS. PINKHAM'S STANDING INVITATION.

Women suffering from any form of female weakness are invited to promptly communicate with Mrs. Pinkham, at Lynn, Mass. All letters are received, opened, read, and answered by women only. A woman can freely talk of her private illness to a woman. Thus has been established the eternal confidence between Mrs. Pinkham and the women of America which has never been broken. Out of the vast volume of experience which she has to draw from, it is more than possible that she has gained the very knowledge that will help your case. She asks nothing in return except your good will, and her advice has relieved thousands. Surely any woman, rich or poor, is very foolish if she does not take advantage of this generous offer of assistance.



BOUGHT A WIFE.

She Consented on Consideration of a $10,000 Policy.

In 1893 Mrs. Anna B. Zimmerman was a widow, living at Hutchinson, Kan. She was charming, as all good-looking widows are, and she was wise, as all Kansas women are. Judge Almerin Gillett, of Kansas City, Kan., who, by the way, was the first Railroad Commissioner of Kansas, met the widow, loved her, and wooed her. It seems that the Judge knew how to woo a widow, for he won her. But the widow knew a thing or two herself, and when she said "yes" it was not an unqualified drop-in-the-arms "yes," but a conditional "yes."

The condition was that the Judge should insure his life in her favor for $10,000. The widow did not intend to take any chances in the matter either. If she was to become Mrs. Gillett the policy must be taken out before the marriage, so that she would be sure about it. Judge Gillett hunted up an insurance agent and took out the policy, and three days later the widow Zimmerman became Mrs. Gillett. She took charge of the policy and that policy was kept paid up.

Last year Judge Gillett died insolvent. One of his creditors was the American National Bank of Kansas City. The bank sued the estate and promptly sought an injunction against the Northwestern Life Insurance Company to prevent the payment of the insurance policy which had bought Judge Gillett a wife. The case was heard before Judge Foster recently. The Widow Gillett took the stand and told the story of her business venture when she was the Widow Zimmerman. She said she had married Judge Gillett for the consideration of a $10,000 insurance policy, and she told how the policy had been written before the marriage, so that there might not be the proverbial slip.

Judge Foster listened to the evidence, and as it appeared that, had it not been for the policy, the name of Zimmerman would not have been exchanged for that of Gillett, he decided that the money called for by the policy was never the property of Judge Gillett; that he paid that in advance for a wife in point of fact, and he decided in favor of Mrs. Gillett. The insurance company promptly paid over the money to Judge Horton, Mrs. Gillett's attorney.—Kansas City Times.

Aqua Pura.

"This is an outrage!" The druggist strode angrily up and down behind his counter, and as he gradually worked himself into a rage he ran his long, thin fingers through his hair and stormed and fumed like a wild animal.

"What's the matter?" inquired the man from next door, who ran in to learn the cause of the disturbance.

"Matter enough," cried the druggist, offering his neighbor a 10-cent cigar which cost $2.50 a hundred at wholesale. "The confounded authorities came around here this morning and put a water meter down in the cellar. Just as if a man with a store wasn't under enough expense in these hard times. I'm glad you came in, for I want some advice as to what I'd better do. I was thinking of either writing a hopping letter to the newspapers or else going down to the Water Department and laying them out cold, or if both these failed of the desired result I thought I would hunt up a lawyer and make a test case of it."

"Take my advice and do none of these things," cautioned his neighbor. "They will merely put you to more trouble and expense and do you no good."

"But what am I to do?" queried the druggist.

"Grin and bear it," returned his friend. "A man making as much money as you should be able to stand a water bill. What does it amount to, anyway?"

"'About $20 a year,' the inspector said," replied the druggist.

"Well, if you don't feel like paying it the best thing for you to do is to tell them to shut you off."

"Cut off the water!" almost shrieked the druggist. "Why, man, you must be crazy. Do you know what that water is worth to me in my prescription department? Not a cent less than $25 a day!"

The Teacher's Predicament.

There were three morning glories on the teacher's desk—a pink, a white, and a purple one—tied together with a pretty little cotton ribbon of the kind used to fasten new handkerchiefs together. The flowers were very fresh and pretty, and the teacher smiled as she looked from them to little Leon, who stood near the desk. "Where did you get them, Leon?" she asked, for she knew that there was not so much as a spear of grass in the yard of Leon's house. "I climbed over a fence and stole them for you, Miss Blank," said Leon. "And when I had picked them I knocked on the window to the servant girl and she gave me the ribbon to tie them with." And what was Miss Blank to say?

Compressed Air as a Cocktail.

For three years hundreds of workmen have been living in compressed air during the construction of the Blackwell tunnel, each carrying a hundredweight of air to every square inch of the body, while the people on the surface bear but fifteen pounds to the square inch. A feeling of exhilaration, amounting almost to intoxication, is produced at times. A cigar in this atmosphere burns out with the rapidity of a cigarette.—Kansas City Journal.

Bathing.

The Japanese in their out-of-the-way mountain resorts indulge their passion for bathing to an incredible extent. In one place, where the water is just above blood-heat, a man will stay in practically for a whole month, taking care, however, to place a heavy stone on his knees to keep him from floating or turning over in his sleep. The caretaker of this particular establishment, a cheery old man of some seventy summers, himself stays in the bath through the whole winter.

Italy Trade.

Italy's exports for the first four months of 1897 were 385,953,370 francs, while her imports were 379,794,130 francs. This is the first time in twenty-six years that the exports exceeded the imports.

Smokeless Furnace.

A patent has been granted for furnace doors of such construction that the smoke of the furnace is disintegrated and disseminated over the whole fire surface, and those elements which are of value are consumed and utilized. The advantages claimed for the invention, says the St. Louis Globe-Democrat, are: Superior efficiency by securing the abolition of all coal smoke and other noxious and poisonous products caused through imperfect combustion; great saving in fuel, as smaller and cheaper coal may be used; the method is cheap and can be easily applied; the doors can be fitted to any type of furnace; the invention requires no alteration of furnaces already in use beyond the removal of the existing doors and the substitution of the patent furnace door, which change can be effected in five minutes while the boiler is still at work. It is understood that the invention has already been applied to mercantile, naval and marine boilers, as well as to innumerable furnaces employed in various metal, pottery, brick and other works.

VENOM INHALED WITH THE AIR,

And imbibed with the water of a malarious locality, has still a certain antidote. Experience sanctions confidence in Hostetter's Stomach Bitters as a preventive of this scourge. All over this continent and in the tropics it has proved itself a certain means of defense, and an eradicant of intermittent and remittent fevers, and other forms of miasma-born disease. Nor is it less effective for kidney troubles, constipation, rheumatism and nervousness.

Public story tellers still earn a good livelihood in Japan. In Tokio six hundred of them ply their trade, provided with a small table, a fan and a paper wrapper to illustrate and emphasize the points of their tales.

AN OPEN LETTER TO MOTHERS.

We are asserting in the courts our right to the exclusive use of the word "CASTORIA," and "PITCHER'S CASTORIA," as our Trade Mark.

I, Dr. Samuel Pitcher, of Hyannis, Massachusetts, was the originator of "PITCHER'S CASTORIA," the same that has borne and does now bear the fac-simile signature of CHAS. H. FLETCHER on every wrapper. This is the original "PITCHER'S CASTORIA" which has been used in the homes of the mothers of America for over thirty years. Look Carefully at the wrapper and see that it is *the kind you have always bought*, and has the signature of CHAS. H. FLETCHER on the wrapper. No one has authority from me to use my name except The Centaur Company of which Chas. H. Fletcher is President.

March 5, 1897. SAMUEL PITCHER, M.D.

Leopard skins are used for rugs and manufactured into trappings for the officers and bandsmen of the British cavalry regiments, as well as the aprons of the drummers of the English infantry.

Piso's Cure for Consumption is the only cough medicine used in my house.—D. C. Albright, Middleburg, Pa., Dec. 11, '95.

The highest waterfall in the world is Cholock cascade, at Yosemite, Cal., which is 2,634 feet high, or just half a mile.

A large Dussand microphonograph, now being constructed for the Paris exhibition of 1900, is expected to make the voice heard by 10,000 people.

DEAFNESS CANNOT BE CURED

by local applications, as they cannot reach the diseased portion of the ear. There is only one way to cure deafness, and that is by constitutional remedies. Deafness is caused by an inflamed condition of the mucous lining of the Eustachian tube. When this tube gets inflamed you have a rumbling sound or imperfect hearing, and when it is entirely closed deafness is the result, and unless the inflammation can be taken out and this tube restored to its normal condition, hearing will be destroyed forever; nine cases out of ten are caused by catarrh, which is nothing but an inflamed condition of the mucous surfaces.

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