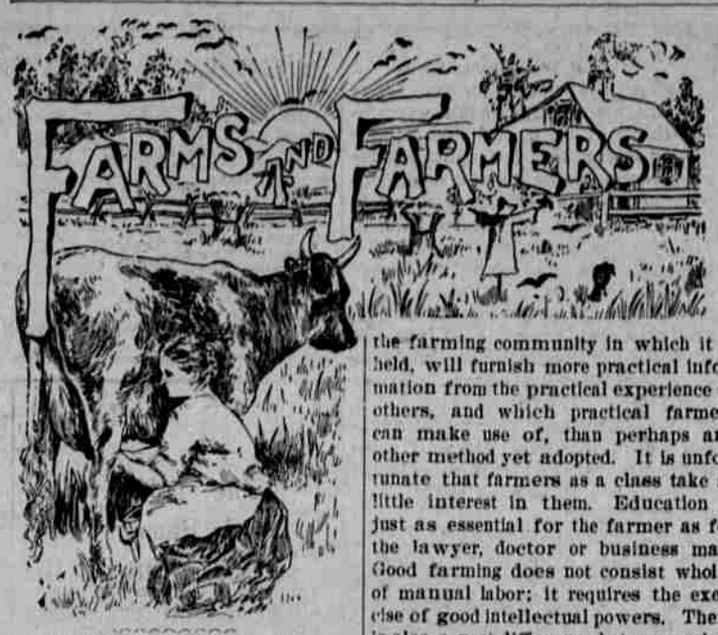

Vegetable Forcing House.

A good plan for securing a maximum of warmth at the least possible expenditure of internal heat is shown below. Such a house is, moreover, cheaply built wherever loose stones are abundant, whether the stones be irregularly faced, or simply rounded cobblestones. A cut is made into the bank and the wall laid up in cement, or cement and lime. The rear and end walls should have a tile drain laid just outside of their base,

BANK FORCING HOUSE.

coming out upon the surface at the front. The rear wall should rise a little above the ground, which should be graded a trifle higher in the middle at the rear than at the ends to turn aside the surface water. The tile drain will take care of all water that soaks down through the ground. The wall in front is extended a little beyond either end of the building to retain a full bank of earth against the end walls. The interior arrangement will of course be similar to any single-roofed forcing house. —Farm and Home.

Right and Wrong Way of Feeding.

The summer feeding of pigs is an important matter under present conditions. Doubtless pasture is the most healthful and profitable basis for the feeding, but as time is an element to be considered, it is advisable to feed grain with it to push on the growth as fast as possible. There is everything in good clover pasture needed for the sustenance of the pigs, but we want something more than this, for the most growth made in the least time is the indispensable requirement for profit; but whole grain is not a desirable food. A considerable portion of it is swallowed without mastication, and is voided whole. When waste milk is to be had, it will pay more value as food for pigs on pasture than used in any other way, and with this some mixed finely ground meal corn and buckwheat will produce more growth of a perfectly healthful character than any other kind of grain food.

Hens in the Orchard.

Many farmers and orchardists would like to have hens in the orchard for the good their presence would do to the trees, were it not that the fowls must be kept confined because of the damage they would do the adjacent garden and flower beds. The sketch shows a way to keep one or more flocks of hens in an orchard. A light, low house, made of half-inch matched stuff, has a wire run attached to the end, as shown in the illustration. The house has no floor. The eggs are gathered by opening the hinged board in the end. Low trucks are attached to the corners so that the whole can be moved occasionally to a new location. It can thus be moved up

MOVABLE POULTRY HOUSE.

and down beside the rows of trees, stopping for a day or two under each tree, scratching, fertilizing the ground and destroying insects. The fowls all do well under such conditions, and their presence will be of great value to the orchard. The lower sill of the sides of the house should continue out and form the base of the sides of the run.

Some Essentials to Success.

Farming is not a business where the failure of one adds to the success of another; on the contrary, the success of each individual is largely dependent upon the prosperity of all. The product from poorly farmed farms is of an inferior quality, for which it is difficult to find buyers. The best is cheap enough, and anything of an inferior quality is not only a drug on the market but interferes with the sale of better goods. When buyers are looking for farm produce, they go where they know they can get the best. The better the quality of the goods produced, the more buyers you will have for your product, and the competition upon the part of buyers will enable you to get good prices within easy distance of your own doors. Every help which tends in an economical manner to improve the quality of our productions should be eagerly sought. A well conducted institute, receiving support from the farming community in which it is held, will furnish more practical information from the practical experience of others, and which practical farmers can make use of, than perhaps any other method yet adopted. It is unfortunate that farmers as a class take so little interest in them. Education is just as essential for the farmer as for the lawyer, doctor or business man. Good farming does not consist wholly of manual labor; it requires the exercise of good intellectual powers. There is also a vast difference between scientific and theoretical farming. The theorist is in luck when he can pay the interest on his mortgage. But practical farming, backed by good judgment, pays well when prices are fair, and always will.

Use Good Seed.

Many farmers make the mistake of arguing this way: "I have some good grain that will bring a good price on the market; I will sell that. I have some poor shriveled grain that grew down on low ground. I will keep that for seed." This is a great mistake. It is a very true principle in both animal and vegetable growth that "Like begets like," and if we sow poor seed we may expect a poor crop. In selecting our seed we should strive to select it from a field that has been uniform in both quality and quantity; then it should be thoroughly cleaned. Many of us used to think, when we were boys, that our fathers kept us busier than was really pleasant in cleaning grain. But this is a matter difficult to overdo. Clean, good seed is the one important thing.

A Pretty Lawn Table.

Stumps of old trees that have outlived their usefulness and been relegated to the wood pile are not uncommonly seen upon lawns, and many attempts are made to turn them to artistic and useful account. The simplicity of the plan illustrated in Farm and Home commends itself. The stump is first sawed to a flat surface and then fitted with a top of thick boards of the desired dimensions. Four rustic supports or brackets are placed underneath at the four corners. These should be as much as possible in their natural state, with any little crookedness or knots allowed to show, as they add much to the pretty effect on the

RUSTIC PLANT STAND.

whole. The edges, too, of the top board may be given a rustic tone by tacking to them strips of wood with the bark on them. When the little table is finished and "set" with its dishes and pots of plants, the owner of it is quite sure to stand a little way off and admire it audibly.

Poultry Notes.

Scrub chickens are out of date. They don't pay.

Persons who do not take a natural pleasure in fancy poultry are not likely to succeed with them.

The possibility of profit in raising turkeys comes from their ability to pick up a good part of their living.

Rubbing the heads and thighs of fowls with a rag dipped in oil is an excellent thing to keep off vermin.

From five geese can be picked a pound of feathers every six weeks. These will sell for 40 cents or more.

When the cockerels begin to pull the pullets about and worry them, the sexes should at once be separated.

When incubator chicks are put with a hen, always be sure that she has no lice. A little lard and sulphur applied under the wings and about the head will get away with any louse in two or three days.

Any attempt through the use of stimulants or any unnatural methods to increase the number or fertility of the egg, always brings disastrous results to the breeder, whether fancier or market man.

Horticultural Hints.

Cultivate a home-town market.

There is a form of blight working upon apple, cherry and quince trees, which is quite destructive.

Are the young trees in the orchard starting in the right position—leaning a little to the southwest?

The cultivation of the growing crops should be the principal occupation of the horticulturist in mid-summer.

Do you assort and grade your produce as well as you know how? You may be losing money because you don't do so.

If weeds have been kept down in the early part of the summer, it is usually sufficient to go over garden and flower beds once a week after the first of August.

WHOLE REGIMENT ON SKATES.

Soldiers of Norway Use Them in Their Winter Evolutions.

Norway, during a considerable portion of the year, is covered with snow, and her winters, which in other countries are of short duration, extend to five or six months, and in the most northern parts to a much longer period. During this time it is impossible to leave the beaten roads, for the purpose, at least, of traveling, and when fresh snow happens to fall even the communication by means of them is stopped until the sledging is able to be continued by means of a machine, which, by being dragged by horses along the road, restores the former track by clearing away the snow in part and flattening and leveling the remainder.

The thinness, however, of the population, widely scattered over such an immense extent of territory, renders it in many places impossible to keep the roads open by these means. It was natural, then, that the Norwegian should devise some mode by which to leave his hut, generally removed from roads, and traverse the forests in various directions with sufficient celerity to follow the chase, his favorite occupation.

For this purpose he devised the skies, or snow skates, which consist of two thin, narrow pieces of fir of unequal lengths, the foremost part being pointed and turned upward.

The longest, which measures about seven feet, is used on the left foot, and the other, which is about two feet shorter, on the right. The latter is called aander, from the right foot being used more than the left, particularly in turning. Both skates are about three inches in width and an inch in thickness in the center, where the foot is placed, which is firmly bound to the skie by loops at the side, made of willow or the fiber of fir roots, to which are fastened leather thongs. The skies are smeared with tar or pitch, and the under side is hollowed in the center into a groove to prevent their slipping laterally and to enable the skielober, or skater, to keep a straight course.

The arms of the skielober were a rifle, to which was attached a broad leathern strap passing over the shoulder, and a short sword. He carried with him besides a staff (skiestoken) seven feet in length and rather more than an inch in diameter. This, which was held in his right hand, was armed at one end with an iron spike, and above it was placed a circular piece of wood. The use of the former was to penetrate the fozen snow and of the latter to prevent the staff sinking in, giving thus a firm support to the bearer.

The skiestok, or skiestay, as it was called, was likewise, as has been before observed, of considerable use to the skielober in enabling him to moderate his speed, make certain wheels and preserve the necessary balance during the descent of steep declivities. The skielober to the skate exercise united that of the ordinary chausseurs, or light troops, of which it constituted a part, and it performed all the duties, differing from them only in marching on skates, which gave it a very great superiority. The skielober moved with singular agility, and from the depth of snow were safe from every pursuit of cavalry or infantry.

On the other hand, they could attack the enemy's column on march and harass them incessantly on both sides of the road without incurring any danger to themselves. Cannon shot produced little effect against them, dispersed as they were at the distance of 200 or 300 paces, and their movements were so rapid that at the very instant you would expect to see them a second time they had already disappeared, to reappear again in a quarter where you were not the least aware of them. The real superiority of the skating soldiers, however, was chiefly shown when the enemy halted after a long march. Whatever precautions might then be taken, they were in constant danger from troops which had no occasion for path or road, and traversed with indifference marshes, lakes, rivers and mountains. Even in those parts where the ice was too feeble to bear the weight of a man the skielober glided safely over by the mere rapidity of his motion.

Choate's Sympathy.

A tender feeling for the sufferings and misfortunes of the lower animals is a trait which seems quite in keeping with the nature of poets and other sensitive beings; but we do not expect to find it commonly in lawyers and politicians. Rufus Choate, if we may believe a story in "My Literary Two Hundred" by Kate Sanborn, had more sympathy with nature than knowledge of it.

During a summer morning's walk he found a dozen or more dor-beetles sprawling on their backs in the highway, enjoying the warm sunshine. With great care he tipped them all over into a normal position, when a friend coming along, asked curiously, "What are you doing, Mr. Choate?"

"Why, these poor creatures got overturned, and I am helping them to take a fresh start."

"But," said the other, "they do that on purpose. They are sunning themselves, and will go right back as they were."

This was a new idea to the puzzled pleader, but with one of those rare smiles which lit up his sad, dark face so wonderfully, he said:

"Never mind; I've put them right. If they go back, it is at their own risk."

Roof Garden.

She—What in the world is Clarence Elmore frizzing his hair so on top for?

He—I've no idea, unless he has heard that the roof garden idea is very popular in London just now.—Buffalo Times.

By Half.

"Skinner is a hustler from start to finish; he never does anything by halves."

"Oh, I don't know; he charges 50 per cent. interest."—Detroit News.

TEETH MAKE MANY ILLS.

The Evils Which Follow Imperfect Mastication May Be Avoided.

"It would take too long to enumerate the many ills which may spring from imperfect teeth," said Dr. Derby. "Of course one who has good teeth knows their value, but not enough people know what to do to keep them always in proper condition. Neither can you tell one just what is necessary at all times. The removal of all foreign susbtances from any contact with the dentine is of course the primary necessity in considering the preservation of the teeth.

"One of the first reasons why one should have perfect teeth is the influence they exert over the digestion. To secure proper assimilation the process of mastication should be thorough. Nothing less will accomplish the results intended. If this process is incomplete, all the attendant evils of indigestion are likely to follow. Thus the question of health is interposed as a primary one. Freedom from aches and pains and appearance take secondary places.

"Of the many forms of neuralgia which cause such excruciating suffering a great many owe their existence entirely to the presense of faulty teeth. They can be remedied only by the proper treatment of the diseased roots. When this is done, a number of nervous disorders respond readily to the ordinary medical treatment. Toothache, pure and simple, must be considered as an attendant of improperly cared for teeth. It is an old saying that the man who finds an absolute remedy for and preventive of toothache will make a big fortune.

"Of course the primary instruction to one who is suffering from bad teeth is to see a dentist. The exposed surface of the teeth, the enamel, must be kept perfect and whole. Any breaks in it must be immediately reparied and any wearing away or decaying of the structure must be built up if one expects to secure all the perfect results for which the teeth were designed by nature. Constant brushing and cleaning and any good nonacid wash will do much to keep the teeth in good repair.

"Of course you know the story of the man who, when his teeth were admired, gave the following reasons for their perfect condition: I always brush them, night and morning and after eating, and leave them in a glass of salt water while I am asleep."—San Francisco Examiner.

Stop not, unthinking, every friend you meet, to spin your wordy fabric in the street. While you are emptying your colloquial pack the fiend lumbago jumps upon your back.—O. W. Holmes.

Men are so constituted that everybody undertakes what he sees another successful in, whether he has aptitude for it or not.—Goethe.

Clean, White Skirts.

The laundress will be gladdened by the news that the stiffest of white skirts are again to be worn, to simulate the frou frou of the silk petticoat, which, with the advent of summer, will be put aside, and the fresh, crisp white ones worn in their stead.

Their stiffness is about the only decoration, for a lace betrimmed petticoat is quite de trop for street wear, and no one with any pretense to good form would think of wearing one.

Made of the finest cambric, with a triple set of hemstitched ruffles set in together at the foot, they are beautiful. They do much, too, to give the skirt of the gown the correct swing, almost as if hoops are worn. When a fair one lifts her silk lined gown, the bewildering expanse of snowy linen is most refreshing.—St. Louis Republic.

They Disagreed.

Langley—Don't you think Jack treats things altogether too seriously?

Seaber—Not much! He took that $5 bill I was kind enough to loan him last month and has treated it as a joke ever since.—Detroit Free Press.

IF PESTERED DAY AND NIGHT

With nervousness, take Hostetter's Stomach Bitters, which invigorates and tranquillizes the nervous system. The basis of recovery is a reform in errors of digestion. The epigastric nerve and brain are united in the closest bond of sympathy, so that dyspeptic symptoms in the gastric region are always accompanied by hurtful reflex nervous action. Both are remedied by the Bitters, which also cures malaria, biliousness, rheumatism and kidney trouble.

It is estimated that one crow will destroy 700,000 insects every year.

There is more catarrh in this section of the country than all other diseases put together, and until the last few years was supposed to be incurable. For a great many years doctors pronounced it a local disease, and prescribed local remedies, and by constantly failing to cure with local treatment, pronounced it incurable. Science has proven catarrh to be a constitutional disease, and therefore requires constitutional treatment. Hall's Catarrh Cure, manufactured by F. J. Cheney & Co., Toledo, Ohio, is the only constitutional cure on the market. It is taken internally in doses from 10 drops to a teaspoonful. It acts directly on the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. They offer one hundred dollars for any case it fails to cure. Send for circulars and testimonials. Address,

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Hall's Family Pills are the best.

Chicago is to have a fat man's club, it is said.

FITS.—All fits stopped free by Dr. Kline's Great Nerve Restorer. No fits after first day's use. Marvelous cures. Treatise and $2 00 trial bottle free to Fit cases. Send to Dr. Kline, 931 Arch St., Philadelphia, Pa.

I believe my prompt use of Piso's cure prevented quick consumption.—Mrs. Lucy Wallace, Marquette, Kan., Dec. 12, '95.

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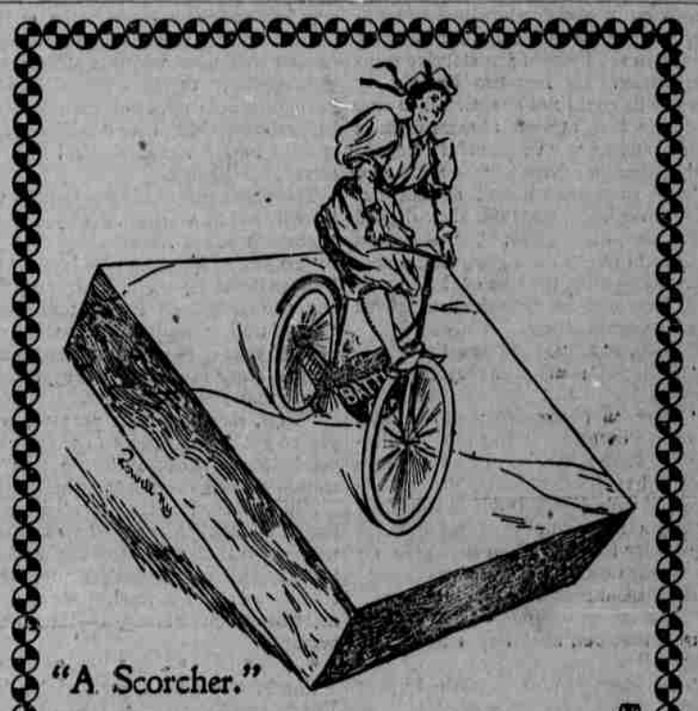

"A Scorcher."

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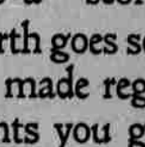

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