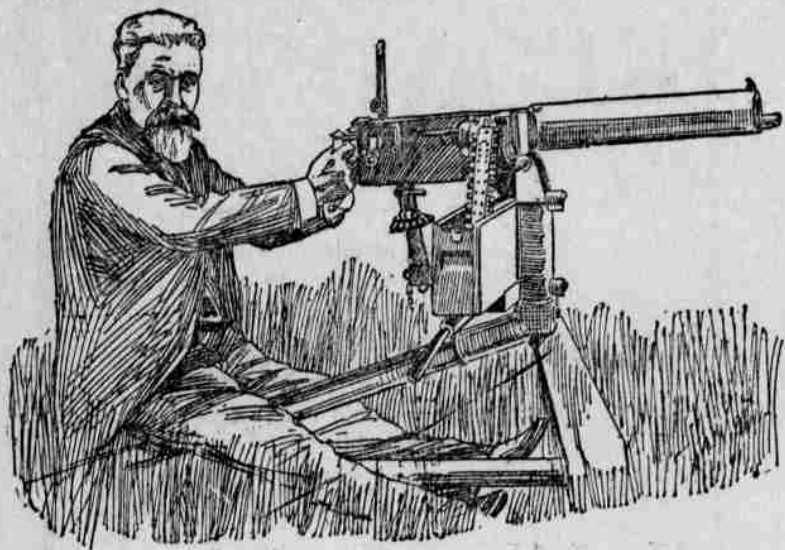


MAXIM AND HIS FAMOUS GUN.



INDIAN SWEAT BATHS.

Natives of British Columbia Parboil Themselves.

The N'ha-Kapmuh Indians of the Interior of British Columbia have sweathouses and indulge in a treat somewhat similar to our Turkish bath.

By the side of streams of melted snow, at some distance from the village, among the pines and firs, are two curious structures. One is made of small poles set up like the roof of a house. These are covered with fir boughs, and finally with earth, the door, facing the setting sun, has a blanket hanging over it. Within, on the south side, is a circular hole (in the ground) about two feet in diameter and one foot deep, filled with burned and cracked stones. The remainder of the floor is covered deep with a soft bed of fir twigs. In front of the door one will see traces of a good-sized fire, and many stones, both those that have been burned and blackened in the fire and those brought near, but still unused. This is the men's sweathouse, or part of the bathing outfit of the village.

The other structure is similar to this in essentials, but at this particular village it is not covered with soil. It is roofed with blanket mats or skins when in use. This is the sweathouse for the women.

When the N'ha-Kapmuh wants to take a bath he builds a fire and heats a number of stones. These he rolls into the hole in the floor of the village sweat

and most picturesque savages in existence, some of them being described as representing almost the lowest stage in the scale of human development. Their country, too, is more than ordinarily interesting, being associated since the earliest times with rumors of gigantic human inhabitants and an astonishing fauna. Quite recently some skeletons of birds that had heads as big as those of horses have actually been dug up. They stood at least nine feet high, and had short wings, claws like an eagle's and a beak like a condor's. It is likely that they attacked with success the largest mammals contemporary with them, being the biggest fowls of prey that ever lived; but they became extinct long ago, and so there was no opportunity for Professor Hatcher to secure a living specimen.

Italian Marriage Brokers.

In Genoa there are regular marriage brokers who have lists of marriageable girls of the different classes with notes of their personal attractions, fortunes and circumstances. These brokers go about endeavoring to arrange connections in the same off-hand way that they would a merchandise transaction. Marriages there are more often a simple matter of business calculation, generally settled by the relatives, who often draw up the contract before the parties have seen each other. It is only when everything has been arranged and a few days previous to the marriage ceremony that the future hus-



band is introduced to his intended wife. She should be found fault with her manners and appearance he may annul the contract on condition of defraying the brokerage and any other expenses incurred.



TURKISH BATH OF INDIANS.

**Ethology of Kissing.**  
The kiss was unknown among the aboriginal tribes of America and of Central Africa. From the most ancient times, however, it has been familiar to the Asiatic and European races. The Latins divided it into three forms—the osculum, the basium and the suaviolium—the first being the kiss of friendship and respect, the second of ceremony and the third of love. The Semites always employed the kiss, and Job speaks of it as part of their sacred rites, as it is to-day in the Roman Catholic Church.

The Mongolian kiss is not the same as that which prevails with us. In it the lips do not come into actual contact with those of the person kissed. The nose is brought into light contact with the cheek, forehead or hand; the breath is drawn slowly through the nostrils, and the act ends with a slight smack of the lips. The Chinese consider our mode of kissing most detestable. We on our part regard their method with equal disdain.

Darwin and other naturalists have attempted to trace back the kiss to the act of the lower animals who seize their prey with their teeth. The average man does not take a great deal of interest in the ethnology of the subject, however.—London Mail.

The Interior of Patagonia.

Professor J. B. Hatcher, of Princeton University, has newly returned from a remarkable trip of exploration in a hitherto unknown region of South Africa—namely, the wild interior of Patagonia. He visited Washington a few days ago for the purpose of depositing with the Bureau of Ethnology a rich collection of objects illustrating the mode of life of the various tribes of aborigines in that part of the world. These natives are among the strangest

and appearance he may annul the contract on condition of defraying the brokerage and any other expenses incurred.

**Marble in Australia.**  
Fine marbles of various colors have been found in several districts of New South Wales. A pure white is equal to the second-class Carrara; another species is black, with white streaks and gold markings. There are grays and browns of various tints and in the vicinity of Lucknow are immense deposits of green serpentine well worthy of attention.

**Indian Sharpshooters.**  
"Ojibway Joe," the Chippewa chief, who died in Superior, Wis., the other day, is said to have killed more Northerners than any other man in the Confederate armies. He was a sharpshooter, having joined the Confederacy because of a personal grievance against the Federal Government.

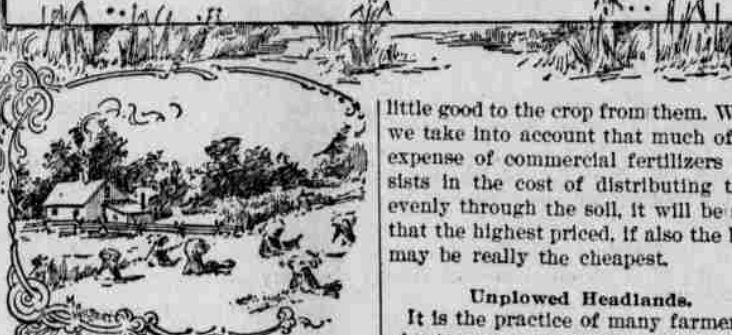
**Wonderful Loom.**  
Recent improvements in the Millar loom will, it is claimed, revolutionize the weaving industry, as, with less attention than ordinary, it will turn out from 140 to 200 yards of worsted coatings in ten hours.

Mr. Hunter—I have a speaking acquaintance with Miss Throckmorton. Mr. Spotts—you are very lucky. All her other acquaintances are listening acquaintances.—Judge.

The Uncle—Are you entirely satisfied with your lot? The Niece (still angry at her grandfather's will)—No, I'm not. It ought to have a house on it.—Harlem Life.

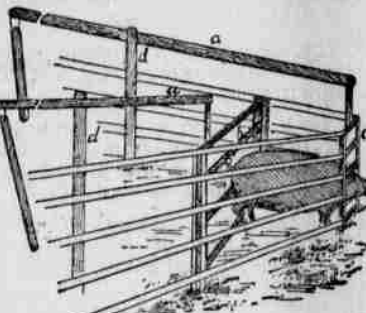
Cloves often savor of the spice of wickedness.

AGRICULTURAL



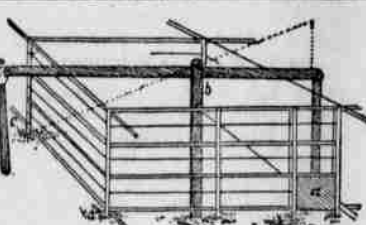
Gates for Handling Hogs.

The device shown in the accompanying illustration for handling hogs when they are to be rung or for other purposes, is very useful on the ordinary farm. The first picture represents a chute and gates which will shut behind



HOG CHUTE.

and before the hog and hold him in position. There is just room enough for him to stick his nose out and while in this position rings can be inserted. The sides of the chutes must be much closer together than shown in the engraving, so that the hog cannot turn about. In fact the width should be just sufficient to allow a hog to pass through. In the second illustration is represented the side view of another

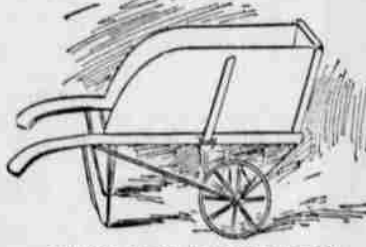


DEVICE FOR OPENING GATE.

gate and pen so arranged that the door can be opened and shut without getting into the pen. These devices are so convenient about the hog lots that it is a surprise that more of them are not in use.—Orange Judd Farmer.

**Manure for Strawberries.**  
The strawberry plantation requires very heavy manuring to produce its best yield. Every year on most plants there is a succession of berries, the first and second pickings being almost always larger and finer than those that ripen later. But if the later season is very wet, as it sometimes is, we have known the later crop to ripen up and be very nearly as good as the first. This suggests that in addition to the top dressing applied in winter there ought to be an additional fertilization, while the crop is forming, and this last should be always dissolved in water, so as to be readily available. Nitrate of potash is the best manure to be thus applied. This is saltpetre, and costs five to six cents per pound. But a very small lump dissolved in warm water and applied freely will keep the vines fresh and vigorous to the last, and will make a great increase in the size of the fruit. The labor of applying liquid manure is more than its cost, and is greater than can be generally afforded for any other crop than the strawberry.

**Handy Wheelbarrow.**  
The Iowa Homestead gives an illustration of a handy wheelbarrow that may be used about the farm. It is made from the two front or the two hind wheels of a little express wagon which has seen its better days. This wheelbarrow has the advantage of having the load over the wheels and sustained by them instead of being held by the one wheeling it. The design ex-



HANDY FARM WHEELBARROW.

plants itself, and the wheelbarrow can be made very easily if the wheels are at hand.

**The Asparagus Bed.**  
To make a new asparagus bed dig a trench two feet deep and fill it with rich, well-rotted manure to the depth of twelve inches. Over the manure scatter bone meal and sulphate of potash, any quantity preferred. Then cover with three inches of rich dirt, and on the dirt place the roots, using 2-year-old growth, about two feet apart, as they will thicken in the bed every year. Cover with rich dirt, and throw the soapuds over the bed whenever possible to do so. Once an asparagus bed is made it should last for twenty years.

**Buying Cheap Fertilizers.**  
There is no longer much desire among well-informed farmers to get the lowest priced fertilizers with the idea that these are therefore the cheapest. It is impossible to cheat nature. All the elements of fertility, mineral or nitrogenous, cost money, and if little money is given for fertilizers, we can expect but

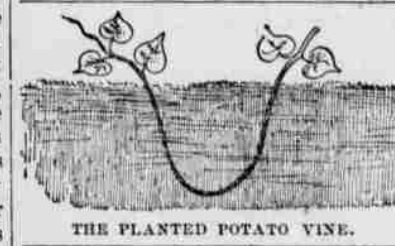
little good to the crop from them. When we take into account that much of the expense of commercial fertilizers consists in the cost of distributing them evenly through the soil, it will be seen that the highest priced, if also the best, may be really the cheapest.

**Unplowed Headlands.**  
It is the practice of many farmers in plowing grass land, especially for hoed crops, to leave an unplowed space, usually called a headland, on which the horse can turn when used in cultivating. But with a careful horse this care is not necessary in growing corn or potatoes, though the nurseryman's more valuable stock may justify it. In growing corn, some farmers plant two or three rows of potatoes next the fence. But these scattering rows of potatoes are difficult to harvest, as the wagon has to be drawn all around a field to gather a few potatoes. We used, in the later years of our farming, to plant corn out to the end of the row. If, while small, a hill of corn was stepped on, there it still time to plant a hill of beans. Yet we always noticed that the outside rows of corn ripened earlier and had better ears than those in the middle of the field. Most corn is planted too closely to yield the largest amounts of grain.—American Cultivator.

**Digestibility of Ensilage.**  
There can be no doubt that ensilaged food, being succulent, is much more digestible in winter than the dry food that it then supersedes. If there is a little fermentation in it, that shows that the food is already partly decomposed and more ready for the gastric juices to act on. But to effect this advantage the succulent ensilage has lost some of its carbonaceous and more of its nitrogenous matter. This is represented by the carbonic acid gas at the top of the silo, which is relied upon to keep it sweet by excluding oxygen and preventing further fermentation.

**New Cisterns.**  
It is a hard matter to use the water from a newly cemented cistern. The common way is to let it fill up and then stand awhile, then draw the water out and even then the next filling will taste of the cement. Instead of all this labor and waste of time and water, take pearline or salisoda, dissolve it, and scrub the cement thoroughly after it is hard. After scrubbing, rinse the cistern out clean and remove the water. The cistern will then be ready for the water and will taste very little of the cement, and can be used at once.

**Cheap Sweet Potato Plants.**  
A correspondent of the American Agriculturist says that when sweet potato vines are about 18 inches long, cut off 12 or 14 inches and set out as shown in the illustration. Treated in this way, this planted vine will raise the



THE PLANTED POTATO VINE.

best of potatoes and its removal will not injure the original plant.

**Kust in Carnations.**  
A writer in an English paper gives this recipe for preventing rust in carnations, which he received from a gardener in Germany, whose plants were unusually fine and in healthy condition. He mixes two pounds of vitriol and four of freshly slacked lime in twenty-seven gallons of water, and stirs well together, until it is clear, not blue, and then he adds two pounds of sugar and mixes all again. With this he syringes his plants once a week, early in the day. The syringing should be done quickly, finely and evenly.

**Arbor Vitae Hedges.**  
In order to have a full hedge the plants should be about two feet apart in the row and carefully trimmed once a year. In the fall loosen the top soil on both sides of the hedge and apply wood ashes. Keep a close watch for the basket worm, which does considerable damage to evergreen hedges of this kind. The plant is best known to some as "flat cedar," because the leaf is flat. It is one of the most beautiful ornamental plants grown.

**Peanuts.**  
Peanuts require a light soil, sandy loam being excellent. The seeds are planted about three inches deep and the soil kept loose. They seem to be benefited by lime or wood ashes on the soil. The plant is very pretty while growing, and a few of them in a garden add to its attractiveness. Plant the seeds in May, or as soon as possible after danger from frost is over. The seeds should be removed from the shells, and care should be taken not to break the crown skin covering of the seeds.

**When to Plant the Garden.**  
Do not be deceived by the advance warm weather of spring and put in the garden crops too soon. It will be time enough to complete the planting when the apple trees begin to bloom. A late frost will destroy all tender plants. Cool nights are also detrimental to the growth of such plants as squash, beans, melons, tomatoes and corn. The ground must be warm before plants will make headway in growth.

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