

JOURNAL OF HOME AND HOME.

Matters of Interest to the Farmer, Gardener, Horticulturist, Stock Raiser and Household.

FRUIT TREES FOR SHADE.

A happy thought is being worked out just now by a large number of gardeners who have planted fruit trees for shade this spring. The idea of placing cherry trees outside our lots for ornament, shade and fruit at the same time is a good one, and well in keeping with Salem's generous ways. The cherry tree is at once a handsome, clean and hardy tree; it is of quick growth and in every way adapted to the purpose. One friend of an artistic turn of mind makes the unique suggestion to plant the cherry and mountain ash alternately, and thus secure the red fruit in summer and red berries in winter. This is indeed worthy of consideration, and we trust will be followed by many home-seekers in the future. The one chief objection to this idea seems to be that the boys will rob the trees of fruit and thus the owner will have his sins for naught. This is truly a short-sighted objection. Suppose the boys do get part of the fruit, or even all of it. The owner is still well off as though he had an oak outside his gate. But there is a greater consideration which could be uppermost in the owner's mind, and that is to cultivate greater honesty on the part of the neighborhood boys by showing some confidence in them. Boys will be boys, and their treatment of the cherry trees will in a large measure depend upon your attitude toward them. By all means let us have more fruit trees in our orchards, if for nothing more than to cultivate greater confidence between ourselves and the boys.

LAYING CARPETS.

Lay the lengths on the floor, putting a small tack here and there to keep them in place. Put the carpet on the floor, unrolling it in the direction in which it is to be laid, again to tack it at the end of the room which is the most irregular, then a fireplace or bay window in the room, fit the carpet round these places first. Use tacks to hold the carpet temporarily in place; then can be withdrawn when the work is finished; then the carpet is fitted to a corner, use small tacks to keep it in. Tack one end of the carpet, stretching it well; then a side, on the other end, and finally the other side. Be certain to keep the carpet straight and to have the carpet fit tightly; for if it be loose it will not only look badly, but will wear off—Maria Parloa, in the Ladies Home Journal.

ELEMENTS OF DANGER.

The greatest element of danger to a woman's progress before she begins lies in this fact; that it takes men away from home who ought to be there and nowhere else. The sole platform is no place for a mother who has either sons or daughters to educate. If woman's progress is going to tend in that direction, then the sooner that advancement stops the better. The thought of a wife or a mother could be to her home; all things, matter how important are secondary to that. No matter how spartan may become certain public evils, let her see to it that she puts the evil out of her home, and performs her greatest duty to God, her family, and mankind. Edward W. Bok, in The Ladies' Home Journal.

You propose to grow any onions this season, plow the ground deep you will, but afterward roll and roll and roll again until the soil is thoroughly compacted through its whole depth. Then make the surface fine for a few inches on the top by means of a harrow and the hand rake. The bulb of a well-developed onion we near the surface, the true roots going down but a few inches, the soil is loose and open for considerable depth the roots of the bulb, which then grows long and slender, instead of becoming full and round.

Farmers, do not fail to put in a acre of ground to roots—the yellow globe or carrot—for your stock feed that is easily kept. It can be left in the field until late, dries no silo, keeps well and is a healthful feed. For small cattle it is economy to drop seed hand. It saves seed and saves labor of thinning.

WATER FOR HOGS.—Many fat hogs often suffer from lack of water. Milk is sometimes used as drink, but it is too solid, does not assuage thirst as well does. Dishwater that fills so much of the swill barrel is often salty, and makes them more thirsty than they were before.

An experiment at the New Hampshire Experiment Station showed that the cost of a quart of milk from the best cow was a little over one and a half cents, while a quart from the poorest cow on the same ration costs a little over four and a half cents.

The visible supply now includes 22,485,000 bushels of wheat, 2,611,000 of corn, 2,515,000 of oats, 4,514,000 of rye, and 1,275,000 of barley. The visible supply a year ago included 26,825,000 bushels of wheat, 21,412,000 of corn, 4,504,000 of oats, 1,375,000 rye, and 1,175,000 barley.

The overhead check-rein for the horse is refined and steady torture, not only for the strain backward of the neck, but because the animal cannot see the ground on which he is stepping. The swaying of his head from side to side is evidence of his trying to find relief.—Boston Transcript.

AMONG THE POULTRY.

Oats stand next to wheat as an egg-producing food.

Radical changes of feed often make the hens eat sparingly.

Wheat bran wet with hot water makes a good summer breakfast.

The fowls will not thrive if they are forced to stand in mud all day. Twenty-four hours after hatching is soon enough to begin feeding.

It is not necessary to coddle or pamper fowls to make them grow.

April is one of the very best months for hatching all kinds of poultry.

When the fowls are closely confined and fed too high they are liable to be affected with cramp.

Sulphur for nests; whitewash for the houses, coal oil for the roosts; cleanliness for the floors, and plenty of pure air and a variety of food for the fowls are essential in profitable poultry keeping.

With poultry, as with everything else on the farm, there is always an opportunity to sell at good prices fowls or eggs that are of little less quality than others are offering.

Pigeons will thrive in small lots from 12 to 20; plenty. They must be mated, as an extra male will often cause considerable trouble. Wire meshes makes a good covering for the yards.

FARM AND GARDEN NOTES.

Horses should be turned out for exercises every pleasant day.

Evergreen boughs make one of the best covering for strawberry beds.

How frequently the bulbous plants are lacking in the flower gardens of this country.

One-third each of corn, oats and barley ground together makes a good winter ration.

To get the best results handling and training should begin when the colt is very young.

Standing in wet pasture tends to make the feet of the horses tender. Keep the stable clean.

The wise fruit grower will cultivate the whole orchard and not merely a few feet next the trunks.

Colts will make a better growth and development if they are given a light feed of ground oats every day.

Change the feed often enough to keep all stock with good appetites. They will thrive better on less feed.

Professor Peck makes the calculation that one black knot on a plum tree will furnish 12,800,000 spores or seeds.

If you have the right kind of horses the buyer will come after them; if the wrong kind you will have to hunt a buyer.

The grass idea for orchards ruins many more than it benefits, though it may do well on certain soils, and with good management.

How absurd it is for farmers to plant trees and then neglect them! Why plant them if there is "no time" to treat them properly?

The farmer who will devote a part of his acres to nut trees will, if nothing else, establish that for which his children and grandchildren will ever bless him.

The sweepings from the hayloft, which contains the seed of clover and grasses, make excellent food for the early chicks that may be hatched, and should be sifted and saved for that purpose.

The possibilities of nut culture on many farms are worth serious consideration. A bearing grove of walnuts, hickory nuts or chestnuts on a farm, adds materially to its market price, should the owner desire to sell.

All plants which hold their green leaves through winter, are liable to be smothered if buried too closely, and hence the importance of caution in covering strawberry plants to see that they are not covered too deep.

If it does not add to the bearing qualities of a tree to keep the bark clean from scale, moss and insects, it adds much to the appearance of the tree. Furthermore, the orchardist who gives his trees that care, is very apt to give other needed care.

OREGON WEATHER BUREAU.

CENTRAL OFFICE, Portland, Oregon.
Compt. Weather Bulletin, No. 2.
For week ending Saturday April 15, 1891.

(This bulletin is based on reports received from 163 correspondents. Owing to a difference between Western and Eastern Oregon, this bulletin will hereafter be divided into two parts. One will treat entirely of that section west of the Cascades, the other of that section east of them.)

WESTERN OREGON—WEATHER.

The temperature has been from a normal condition in the southern part to three degrees above the normal in the northern part, the actual temperature ranging from 40 to 75 degrees. Showers occurred on several days on the 13th and 16th, thunder accompanying them. The winds have been light to fresh in force and variable in direction. No frosts have been reported. Cloudy or partly cloudy weather predominated, with warm, bright sunshine at intervals.

CROPS.

Marked growth in all vegetation during the week has been reported. Fall wheat has had rapid growth. Early sown spring wheat is above the ground and growing remarkably well. Oats are healthy and equal to wheat in growth. Spring seeding has been rapidly pushed and considerable progress has been made. The acreage has been generally largely increased. Fruit trees are all blooming and prospects were never better. Gardens are coming on. Early sown seed is showing above ground. Strawberries are in bloom and small berries size of pea are formed. Sheep shearing is in progress. Hops are being trained and growing rapidly.

EASTERN OREGON—WEATHER.

The weather has been about normal. A few showers fell, but not an average amount. The weather was generally partly cloudy or cloudless, with bright, warm sunshines.

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CROPS.

North of the Blue Mountains spring is well advanced. The ground is becoming dry. Fall wheat has a remarkably good growth, spring grain is all sown, and most of it is up and growing well. Grain prospects were never better. Fruit trees are in full bloom, and trees are leafing out; berry bushes are in full leaf. The grass is growing well. Farmers are busy plowing for summer fallow. Showers would prove beneficial for the section is very dusty and ground in fields is caking on top. South of the Blue Mountains spring is not so far advanced. The temperature is lower, but crops are doing well. Fruit is showing buds and bloom.

Sheep are in fine condition; shearing is in progress, but will be in full blast next week. Lambing has been remarkably successful. The increase will be from 30 to 100 per centum. The range is good, and stock is generally reported to be doing well.

B. S. PAGE,
Observer U. S. Signal Service.

ADVERTISED LETTERS.

The following is the list of letters remaining in the post office at Oregon City, April 22, 1891.

Miss Serena Bullard 2 Henry Leyner
Mr J Baker R P Miller
Mr Bushy H L Minkler
B Boyd James McCarthy
R Boston H W Mason
Warner Brown T McGraw
J C Barnes Miss Rachael Manus
Clark Campbell Harry Morret
Inez Mary Cooper Mrs Nellie Miller
Samuel J Curtis I N Miller 2
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