

AGRICULTURAL



Hungarian Millet.

In sections where the hay crop is short, one of the best and quickest catch crops is Hungarian millet. The seed is comparatively cheap, ranging from \$2 to \$2.25 a bushel, and the crop does well on any good soil. In many localities farmers make a good business of sowing Hungarian millet for a hay crop on any ground from which a crop can be taken by the middle of August. If the crop was a cultivated one, but little preparation of the soil is necessary. Shallow plowing and a thorough harrowing will probably be sufficient in most cases. It is generally considered that this millet crop is worth all it costs to get it, and it is particularly valuable for cattle, or the grain may be saved and fed to poultry during the winter. One of the most



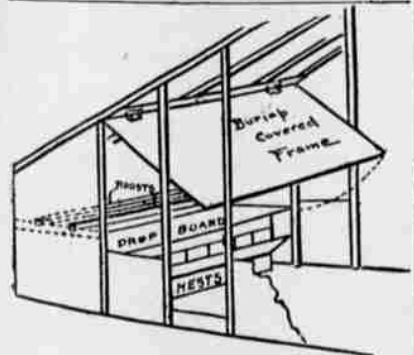
A LATE MILLET CROP.

successful poultrymen in the country has millet as a part of his winter ration for the laying hens, sowing it on the ground from which early potatoes have been harvested.

A Warm Roosting Pen.

In a bulletin issued by the Canadian Department of Agriculture, giving much valuable information for the benefit of Dominion poultry men, the following description and accompanying illustration of warm roosting quarters for winter are worthy of special attention:

The burlap curtain, which can be lowered in front of the fowls at night, should be tacked to a light wood frame



CONVENIENT AND COMFORTABLE.

and hinged to the roof of the house directly above the front edge of the drop board. This burlap-covered frame should extend across the pen and should fall an inch or so below the drop board. When not required in front of the fowls the frame should be hooked to the roof of the house. This frame when lowered, together with the board sides of the roosting quarters, form the warm roosting pen. The fowls will generate sufficient heat to keep themselves comfortable during a cold night.

Farm Notes.

Every farm should have a separate building where sick animals can receive special care and attention.

A real live farmer does not keep from making mistakes, but he does not keep on making the same mistake.

Potatoes should never be marketed unless assorted. Uniformity of size and appearance will benefit both the buyer and the seller. It is the small potatoes that injure sales and return low prices.

If you want something choice for yourself and not for market grow the Emerald Gem muskmelon and the Kleckley watermelon. There are other good varieties, used mostly on account of their excellent shipping qualities, but no varieties can compare with those mentioned for home use, as they excel all others in quality.

HE HAD HIS WAY.

Methods of Killing Were Not the Usual Ones.

Yes, I was all through the civil war," said the one-armed man, "and I had my own way of fighting when it came to a battle."

"Was it a peculiar way?" asked one of the passengers.

"Yes, they said it was. For instance, my first battle was that of Williamsburg. The first man I killed was an infantryman. They were driving us when we turned and charged. I seized him by the arm and foot and held him aloft for an instant and then flung him down head first and broke his neck. A dozen of us plainly heard the snap above the roar of battle. That man never knew what hurt him."

"But you had a musket," protested the man who had spoken before.

"Oh, of course. But I was fighting my own way, you see. So long as I could kill men and save cartridges it was all right. The second man I seized and broke his back over my knee, the third I drowned in the creek, the fourth I battered against a fence until I smashed in his skull and the fifth I chased around until he dropped dead of heart failure.

"I ought to have killed ten men in that battle, but I was new at the business and didn't know exactly how to go to work at it. They made me a sergeant, however, and our colonel seemed to think I had done fairly well."

"And did you keep up that style of fighting all through the war?"

"Well, no. In my next battle I had been fighting for half an hour before I got hold of a man. He was a young man and when I seized him by the ears he called out that he had a dear old mother at home. I have often wished that I had spared him, but the frenzy of blood was upon me at that moment. Having his ears as a lever I slowly turned his head until I broke his neck. It went clear around till he was looking backward.

"When I got hold of my second man I was cooler. I am not sure whether he offered to surrender or not. He called out something, but I seized him and flung him down and then opened the veins of his wrists with my jack-knife. He must have died very quietly, for there was a smile on his face as the burial parties found him. I have no doubt that he was thankful to me in his dying moments."

"And your third man?" was asked.

"There was no third man. Just as I finished the second one our brigadier came along and said that I was too strenuous and wanted to end the war too soon and I was ordered to the rear and sent home. As to how I lost my arm, that happened when I killed seven cowboys in Colorado, but I never relate the particulars of the affair. I am one who seeks no praise from his fellow men."

SCORES WOMEN'S CLUBS.

Words of a Noted Chicago Preacher Have Stirred Up Great Commotion.



REV. DR. LEACH.

Rev. William B. Leach, D. D., pastor of the fashionable Methodist Church in Wicker Park, a Chicago suburb, denounces women's clubs. In a recent sermon in the church Dr. Leach scored women's clubs for "aping" men's clubs in card-playing and even in gambling and drinking. He styled such clubs "a curse" and charged that they led inevitably to the neglect of children and the ruin of happy homes. "The women's clubs that I have in mind," he said, "are those mannish organizations in whose club rooms I am told the aroma of the strongest perfumes used by the ladies is not able to keep down the pungent odors of strong drink. In those clubs the women members are accustomed to stay out late at night, perhaps for the sufficient reason that they are in no condition to brave the inquisitive, staring glances of the multitudes in the streets and public places earlier in the night. Homes and children and all the household duties are neglected sadly. Such a state of affairs, I say, is disgraceful in a Christian country. I have reliable information that the drink habit and card-playing for money are fearfully on the increase in the club rooms of many of the most fashionable women's clubs of Chicago."

As a rule Dr. Leach preaches "gospel sermons" pure and simple, avoiding the more sensational topics of the day. But whenever he gets out "his big stick" for the evils of the current times he prods and pokes and hits in a way that stirs up a terrific commotion not only among the members of his fashionable congregation at Wicker Park, but among church-goers as well as non-churchgoers everywhere.

Proof of Insanity Shown.

Aubrey—Youah daughtah has consented to maw me, and—er—I'd like to know if there is any insanity in youah family?

Old Gentleman (emphatically)—There must be!—Boston Globe.

Science AND Invention

The changing of a river's channel is the greatest project now being considered by Italian engineers. The Sale flows into the Mediterranean near Salerno, but it is to be tapped in the hills, and the water taken across to the Adriatic watershed to irrigate the province of Puglia.

For measuring feeble illuminations, like the Zodiacal Light and Gegenschein, M. Touchet has devised a special instrument, resembling a theodolite in appearance. It is provided with a constant flame and a slit regulated in width by a screw with divided head, and when the illumination of the field through the slit exactly equals the light to be measured, a reading is obtained that is easily reduced to a standard.

Although there is a certain area of about three and a half acres on Manhattan Island where the density of population is at the rate of 630,000 to the square mile, yet the city of Paris shows a far greater average density of population than New York, the figures for Paris being 79,300 per square mile, and for New York City proper 40,000 per square mile. The average density of London's population is 37,000 per square mile, and that of Berlin 67,000.

The Finsen lamps are now credited with ten cures of cancer of the skin out of twenty-two cases treated, and with cures of obstinate acne and of baldness due to bacteria. Erysipelas and minor eruptions have been treated with good results. At the Finsen Institute are rooms for exposing patients to electric-light baths and to sun-baths, and an exhaustive and promising investigation of the influence of light in various nervous diseases and in insanity is in progress.

A New York man has invented a mirror that can be made translucent at will, so that when placed in a show-window it at first reflects the faces of people looking in, but suddenly turns transparent, whereupon the spectators see the contents of the window in place of their own reflections. This is effected by means of a thin film on the back of the glass, which, when the background is dark, reflects the light from in front like a mirror, but when the background is illuminated, becomes as invisible as a pane of clear glass.

One of the winter sights of St. Petersburg is a system of electric tramways on the ice in the Neva. One runs from the left shore of the river to the island of Petrovsky, and another from the English quay, opposite the Senate House, to the island of Basillo, near the Academy of Fine Arts. Wooden posts solidly embedded in the ice support the trolley wires. Besides these tramways many wooden roads, intended for pedestrians, cross the water in various directions. In summer bridges of boats take the place of the roads on the ice.

The smelting of steel by electricity is still an attractive problem. The two furnaces built in Sweden in 1900 reached a technical solution by producing steel of fine quality, but the furnaces were ruined by fire before commercial success had been attained. Another furnace planned by the same makers is to hold 3,970 pounds, with a yearly capacity of 1,500 tons, and is to receive the current of a three hundred horse-power dynamo. Though microscopically identical with crucible steel, the electric product is claimed to excel in strength, density, uniformity, toughness and ease of working when cold.

ERROR THAT COST DEARLY.

Millions Might Have Been Saved If Astor Had Been Backed Up.

When, back in 1811, John Jacob Astor, with his Pacific Fur Company, established the trading post of Astoria, at the mouth of the Columbia, he took a step which, if followed up by the support that he had a right to expect from the United States government, would soon have given this country possession of all the territory on the Pacific coast up to Russia's colony of Alaska, which came to us through purchase in 1867, and thus have shut England and Canada out of access to the great ocean.

Denied by President Madison the slight measure of military aid which he asked for the defense of his post on the Pacific in the war of 1812-15 with England, and with his appeal to the same President for letters of marque to equip an armed vessel at his own expense to defend the mouth of the Columbia ignored, Mr. Astor lost his post, which was sold by his treacherous British subordinates, who were temporarily in control, in 1813 to Canada's Northwest Fur Company for a third of its value and the place was captured by a British war vessel shortly afterward. In the settlement at the close of the war the place was given back to the Americans, but here again Madison, and subsequently Monroe, denied to Mr. Astor the protection

of the few soldiers which he asked and he declined to re-establish the post.

This lack of courage and foresight on the part of these two Presidents in this case was fatal to American interests on the Pacific. Here are some of the few things which would have come to pass had Mr. Astor been sustained by the government: He would easily have held his ground against the British warship which captured the post in 1813 and the transfer to the Canadian company, which took place before the capture, would have been averted. With the advantage of his sea-base and his Russian affiliations in Alaska, both of which had been firmly established before the news of the war arrived on the coast, he could readily have excluded England's Hudson Bay Company and Canada's Northwest Fur Company from all the territory west of the Rocky mountains. That dispute about the ownership of the present States of Oregon, Washington and Idaho, which did not end until England gave up all claims in 1846 to the territory, would never have taken place, for England through her fur traders would never have obtained a foothold there. All the present Canadian territory of British Columbia and Yukon, which are west of the great mountain chain, would have been secured for the United States. And then, when the transfer of Alaska to us by Russia came—and it would have come earlier than 1867 in that event—we would have an unbroken stretch of territory from the northern border of Mexico up to beyond the arctic circle. —Leslie's Weekly.

NEW STORY OF EBEN HOLDEN.

Little Girl Who Loved a Doll Better Than She Did Herself.

"Wal," said Uncle Eb, thoughtfully, "I 'member one year, the day before Christmas, my father gin me 2 shillin'. I walked all the way t' Salem with it. I went in a big store when I come t' the city. See s' many things couldn't make up my mind t' buy nuthin'. I stud there feelin' uv a pair o' skates. They wuz grand—all shiny with new straps an' buckles—I did want 'em awful—but I didn't hev enough money. Purty soon I see a leetle bit uv a girl in a red jacket lookin' at a lot o' dolls. She wuz ragged an' there were holes in her shoes an' she did look awful poor an' sickly. She'd go up an' put her hand on one o' them dolls' dresses and whisper:

"'Some day,' she'll say, 'some day.'"

"Then she'd go to another an' fuss a minnit with its clothes an' whisper 'some day.' Purty soon she as t' if they had any doll with a blue dress on fer 3 pennies.

"'No,' says a woman, says she, 'the lowest price for a doll with a dress on it is one shillin'.'"

"The little gal she jes looked es if she wuz goin' t' cry. Her lips trembled.

"'Some day I'm goin' t' hev one,' said she.

"I couldn't stan' it, an' so I slipped up an' bought one an' put it in her arms. I never'll fergit the look that come into her face then. Wal, she went away an' set down all by herself, an' it come cold an' that night they found her asleep in a dark alley. She wuz holdin' the little doll with a blue dress on. The girl was half dead with the cold an' there was one thing about it all that made her famous. She hed took off her red jacket an' wrapped it 'round the little doll."

"It's one of those good old stories," said I. "Of course she died and went to heaven."

"No," said he quickly, "she lived an' went there. Ye don't hev t' die t' go to heaven. Ye've crossed the boundary when ye begin t' love somebody more 'n ye do yerself, if it ain't nobody better 'n a rag doll."—Irving Bacheller, in Leslie's Monthly.

Good Supply.

During the early years of his career as an evangelist the late D. L. Moody was not quite the practical man of affairs which he became as he grew older and his judgment ripened. A characteristic incident of this period of his life is vouched for by a correspondent. He was holding a series of meetings in a small town in central Illinois, where, with his wife, he enjoyed the hospitality of a prominent citizen. At dinner one day his fancy was particularly taken with some cucumber pickles.

"I am very fond of pickles," he said, "and these are certainly the finest I ever tasted. I wish I could get some like them in our market at home."

"I can give you all you want to take home with you, Mr. Moody," said his generous hostess.

"But I don't want them as a gift. I would like to buy them."

"Well, of course, if you would rather have them that way I can pickle a lot of them from our garden and the neighbors, and my husband can send them to you. What quantity would you want?"

"I think a barrel would be enough," said Mr. Moody, without a moment's hesitation. "Send me a barrel of them."

But here his more practical wife interfered, and the order was cut down to a small keg.