

Horticultural.

It is said a farmer in Arkansas employs a force of monkeys to work in his fields and break and prepare the hemp for market.

A blackberry patch will last for twenty years or more, so that it is worth taking pains with. To prepare the ground manure freely and put in the best possible condition.

Potatoes for seed should be cut on the day of planting, and not several days beforehand. When kept even for a day considerable risk is run by the farmer.

To grow the Osier or basket-willow successfully, a deep and most alluvial soil is the best; the banks of our Southern interior rivers and bayous, provide a soil which is the natural home of the willow.

There are certain kinds of fruit, like black raspberries, that are profitable dried or evaporated, and of which one need not fear planting too many.

Shrubs are very easily grown and propagated, or can be cheaply bought and grow so rapidly as to produce almost immediate effect.

About Planting Corn.

It is a great mistake to plant corn so thickly as many do, with the notion that it brings a larger yield, and that it is better to have the stalks grow spindling.

Culture of Tomatoes.

The following interesting article on Tomato culture is by Mr. W. D. Philbrick, and published in the Cultivator of Boston, Massachusetts.

Tomatoes being tender plants, and requiring a long season to produce and ripen a full crop, are nearly always started under glass.

The plants will need to be pricked out when they show the third or fourth leaf, into a warm bed, having a temperature of 60 degrees to 70 degrees in the loam at night.

The season now prompts us to say once more: "Use only thoroughbred sires."

When the plants become well grown, so as to begin to crowd, which will usually be in about three weeks from the time they are first transplanted.

The beds will need to be covered with mats at night as long as the weather is severe and plants keep growing nicely.

As the time approaches for setting them out, which is from May 10 to June 1, they should be hardened by leaving the glass entirely off the bed when the weather will permit.

The land for tomatoes is often prepared by manuring in the hill, but many years' experience have satisfied the writer that far better crops can be grown, both as to quality and quantity.

A day or two before the plants are set, if the weather is not wet, the bed should be well soaked with water.

The picking should be attended to three times a week when they begin to ripen, and a couple of acres in good bearing will load a one-horse market wagon pretty well every day.

A Suggestion to the Traveling Public.

Tourists, emigrants and mariners find that Hostetter's Stomach Bitters is a medicinal safeguard against unhealthy influences.

A Deputy in Texas, in his report to the State Grange, says: "I have the honor to report that we have one Grange (Wheatland No. 70) that has victory perched upon her, and failure under foot."

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Grange Column.

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GRANGE NOTES.

An item in one of the great city daily papers tells the world that "the Hon. D. Wyatt Aiken, of South Carolina, is dead. * * Five times elected to Congress. * * He was one of the foremost scientific farmers of his State, and was probably better known in South Carolina as an advanced agriculturist than as a politician."

"God buries His workmen, but the work goes on." The work so ably assisted by D. Wyatt Aiken still goes forward. Let a few of his earnest words still continue their mission of good.

"Is it presumption to suggest that the world has never seen a better educator than the Grange? It takes care of its own, and makes them better men and better women, and wiser men and wiser women."

"Is it any wonder, then, that farmers are attracted to the Order? Nay, verily, the greater wonder is that every farmer in the Union is not an active co-laborer with those of us who are desirous to so impress the advantages of the Grange upon the agricultural mind of the country."

The keenest shafts of criticism failed to fell, or the boldest stroke of policy to weaken this new tree organization; even its rootlets sprang into life in the midst of the turbulent, surging waters of the nineteenth century, and at a time, too when from out her ripening years that stern fiat, "Nothing new under the sun," had gone forth to a questioning, doubting people.

"This people will never submit to being enslaved by a small minority, whose

only claim to authority is power obtained by bribery and ill-gotten wealth, but as the laws now are, such is the tendency. A few men wield, aye, use a power that would put to the blush the potentates of Europe, and unless a change is made anarchy and ruin will be the result.

In this organization of the farmers rest the hopes of all true friends of good government, of republican institutions, of the true philanthropist and the honest American statesman.

A Chicago dealer put a quart of water into a gallon of milk, and sold it for five quarts of milk. He was arrested and fined \$10.

A jeweller alloyed his gold one-half, then sold his goods for pure, and was sent to prison.

A half dozen railroad men issued stock to the amount of double the cost of their roads and equipments; then taxed the public to make the water milk and the pinchbeck gold, and everyone of them were sent to the United States Senate.

Referring to the recent organization of a Grange in its neighborhood the Northampton (Mass.) Journal says that it "heartily welcomes the new society to this vicinity. The organization of agriculturists is a growing necessity, and the increased attention being paid to the demands of this class signifies good and good only to the republic."

For the general purposes of the garden there is no better fertilizer than well-rotted stable manure.

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