

THE ONION CROP.

How to Cultivate It and Subdue Its Maggot Enemies.

It is usual to get the onion crop in as soon as the frost leaves the ground, and it is not unusual to have the seeds or sets planted as early as March. No crop demands more careful preparation of the soil than the onion, as the most laborious period is when it is in its first stages of growth. The crop not only requires very rich soil, but must be kept free from weeds. It is not a summer crop, as it delights in a cool season, and the frosts do but little, if any, damage to the plants in this section. The best location for onions is a piece of ground that has been heavily manured the year previous. A poultry-yard in which large flocks have been kept answers well, and the soil should be mellow, so as to admit of easy cultivation.

In the North the crop is grown from seed the first year, the red varieties being preferred, but the gardeners and truckers in this latitude grow their crops from onion sets, which are produced by sowing the seed very thickly in the rows, and on moderately fertile soil. After the tops die down the sets are stored in thin layers in a cool place to be planted next spring, each set making a large onion the second year. The white silver-skin and yellow Danvers varieties are considered the best market varieties, but the potato onion, which grows in bunches from a single seed, is the earliest for table use, but is not now extensively grown. To get them in early is to escape weeds, which entail hand weeding, but as the onion is a gross feeder it delights in any kind of manure and good cultivation. The sets are simply planted in rows, about three inches apart, by lightly sticking them in the ground, though the truckers plant acres of them by covering them completely in the rows, in order to save labor.

The maggot is an enemy that gives trouble and is not easily subdued, but where the crop is grown on new beds, instead of on the same location every year, as was formerly the practice, the depredations of the maggot have been greatly reduced. The onion bed should receive only fine, well-rotted manure, free from any kind of litter, and well incorporated into the soil, which should be worked over until not a clod can be found, for upon the thorough preparation of the soil depends the yield of the crop, which may range anywhere from 100 to 600 bushels per acre, according to the soil and management. The crop is a paying one, as the supply is seldom equal to the demand.—Philadelphia Record.

LENGTH OF ROOTS.

Information That Will in All Probability Surprise Many Farmers.

"How long are potato roots anyway?" I can not tell, but judging from analogy, I should say that in a fine, rich, mellow soil under favorable conditions, they grow five or six feet long. The person who pulls up a hill of early potatoes while the tops are green, and shakes off the earth may suppose he has got nearly all the roots, but such is by no means the case. The same is true of onions. I once had an onion bed on a hill side garden, the soil of which was a fine sandy loam. The bed was about four feet wide, the onions about full-grown and the tops still green. There came a shower in the night and a stream ran down over the bed until the surface dirt was all washed away and the roots were left bare, extending unbroken in every direction, and generally remaining in the place where they grew. In the morning when I visited my garden to see the havoc that had been caused by the rain, I was surprised, beyond measure, to find that onion roots were so long. Some onions that stood near the middle of the bed had pushed their roots in both directions to the outside of the bed; in other words, their roots were extended two feet on all sides. I would not believe it if I had not seen it myself. It is the common opinion that the roots of trees extend about as far out in the ground as the branches project out above it; but the truth is that they extend much farther. I have seen large trees, as well as willows and alders, washed out by a flood in the creek, and in every case the roots were more than twice the length of the branches. The person who buys trees from the nurseryman may think he obtains about all the roots with the trees, but he does not get one-half of them. From what I know of other vegetables, I believe that potatoes of vigorous growth send out roots three feet in every direction where they are not opposed by some impediment, and that if there is richer soil or manure within four feet of where they are planted they will start for that the first thing, and reach it in a short time. The man who manures one row of potatoes and leaves the next without any manure as an experiment, to find out the value of commercial fertilizers, makes as great a mistake as the one who puts his money into a contribution box, thinking it a savings bank. If you manure one row of potatoes, the next row will stent part of the manure unless you interpose an impassable barrier of boiler plate or chilled iron.—Cor. Rural New Yorker.

—Cranberry Dumplings.—Sift together one quart of flour and two and one-half teaspoons of baking powder; mix to a soft dough with sweet milk; roll out and spread with one quart of cranberry sauce; fold over, place in a pudding bag and steam one hour. Serve with sweet sauce.

—Nothing will trip the light fantastic with more ease than a loose brick in the sidewalk.—Merchant Traveler.

PERSONAL AND IMPERSONAL.

—A woman (Mrs. Broadway) has the monopoly of all the bill-posting done in Chicago. She covers 2,000,000 square feet of bill boards each week.

—Isaac Jennings, once a prosperous merchant of New Jersey, was lately sent to an almshouse, having squandered all his wealth in vain efforts to recover a mythical English fortune.

—A Mississippian boasts of having had the ague for twenty-seven straight years with only one break of three weeks. He set out to beat the shakes at their own game, and there are 150 pounds left of him yet.

—Old Boxem Brown, of New Mexico, is a coffin peddler. He travels with a big wagon, a team of mules and about twenty cheap assorted coffins. He says he knows a hundred men who already have their coffins in their houses.

—When he first became Prime Minister, Disraeli was advised by a friend "always to appoint moderate men to bishoprics." "Moderate men!" echoed the illustrious statesman, "ah, I see! You want me to appoint men without convictions!"

—There is a married man in Atlanta who wears eyeglasses with a gold rim. His wife wears eyeglasses, too, and the two pairs are just alike. They are the parents of three children—the youngest being ten years of age, and each of the children is near-sighted—so much so that they wear eyeglasses too.

—The late Benjamin B. Hotchkiss, of Bridgeport, inventor of the well known quick-firing cannons, now used in the military and naval services of nearly all nations, acquired an immense fortune as the result of his ingenious devices. He left an estate valued at over twelve millions of dollars.

—John Wanamaker, of Philadelphia, is a hard-working merchant. He is at his desk from eight o'clock in the morning until six or seven at night. Speaking of his business, he said recently: "During the ten days previous to Christmas our sales hovered about \$100,000 a day. The grand total for the ten days falls only a few dollars under \$1,000,000."

—A pleasant incident is told of Mme. Cohen, who recently received the cross of the Legion of Honor. After the Franco-German war she went three times to Germany to look after the wounded French soldiers. She was introduced to the old Empress Augusta, who talked to her for two hours, and said, when she took leave of her visitor, "Madame, I should like a link to exist between you and me," and taking her own red cross, she put it round Mme. Cohen's neck, saying: "The only value of this cross is that it is a sign of how we have both tried to mitigate the misery of our fellow creatures."

—"Oh, I do so love music," said the gushing Miss Ringlets. "Won't you play something for us, Mr. Thumpkin?" "Sartainly. I will play any Miss Ringlets may desire. What shall it be?" "Do you know that er—the Peek-a-Boo-langer march?"—American Musician.

—Colonel Steers (of Montana)—"It seems to me you New Yorkers are entirely too 'upplish' and on your dignity. If you only were out where I live you'd see what Western hospitality is." Mr. Manhattan—"I have. I once took a drink with Six-Toed Hank of your town at the point of a pistol!"—Puck.

—Sign painter—"You want a sign 'English Chop-House' over your door, do you?" Proprietor—"Yah, dot vas id—English Chop-House."—"Do you want any extracts from the bill of fare painted in?" "Yah, dot vas von goot idea. Baint on de board: 'Hot Sassage, Peer, und Limburger Cheese.'"—Philadelphia Record.

—An old physician, retired from practice, having had placed in his hands by an East India missionary the formula of a simple vegetable remedy for the speedy and permanent cure of Consumption, Bronchitis, Catarrh, Asthma, and all Throat and Lung Affections, also a positive and radical cure for Nervous Debility and all Nervous Complaints, after having tested its wonderful curative powers in thousands of cases, has felt it his duty to make it known to his suffering fellow-men. Actuated by this motive and a desire to relieve human suffering, I will send free of charge, to all who desire it, this recipe, in German, French or English, with full directions for preparing and using, sent by mail by addressing with stamp, naming this paper, W. A. NOYES, 129 Power's Block, Rochester, N. Y.

Truth can be outraged by silence quite as cruelly as by speech.

Disgusting Skin Diseases.

What spectacle is more disgusting than that of a man or woman with a skin disease which shows itself in pimples or blotches on hands, arms, face and neck? It is simply impure blood. See what BRANDRETH'S PILLS did for a chronic case!

George Chapman, Pinesburg, Mich. says: "For four years I was in the Mounted Infantry in the U. S. Army, residing during that time principally in Texas. Almost all of this time I had a chronic skin disease, characterized by an eruption over the entire surface of my legs and thighs, arms and chest. The doctor termed it eczema. I had given up all hopes of ever being cured, when BRANDRETH'S PILLS were recommended to me. I concluded to try them, and did so, and I have thanked God daily since then that I did so. I think I used them altogether for about three months, and, by that time was completely cured and have never had any trouble since. My skin is as clear as any one's."

Many roads lead to happiness besides the one we take.

Consumption Surely Cured.

To THE EDITOR.—Please inform your readers that I have a positive remedy for the above named disease. By its timely use thousands of human lives have been permanently saved. I am glad to send two bottles of my remedy FREE to any of your readers who have consumption if they will send me their express and postage address. Respectfully,

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Consumption, Scrofula, General Debility, Wasting Diseases of Children, Chronic Coughs and Bronchitis, can be cured by the use of Scott's Emulsion of Pure Cod Liver Oil, with the Hygienic Remedies. Prominent physicians use it and testify to its great value. Please read the following: "I trust Scott's Emulsion for an obstinate Cough with Hemorrhage, Loss of Appetite, Emaciation, Sleeplessness, &c. All of these have now left, and I believe your Emulsion has saved a name and developed a constitution."—J. J. FINLEY, M. D., Lone Star, Texas.

When girls are old enough for a lover they are a match for any boy here.

Bright's Disease Cured.

About two years ago our daughter had congestion of the kidneys, which developed into Bright's Disease. Her body was swollen to an enormous size—measuring 45 inches around the waist, and 18 inches below the knee. After physicians had given up her case, I determined to treat her by Dr. Kennedy's "Favorite Kidney," of London, N. Y. Gradually the swelling was reduced from 45 to 29 inches. She began to gain strength and was able to walk without fatigue. We do not know how to express our gratitude for what it has done for our child, but we are ever ready to testify to its value. It will do all that is claimed for it—surely God has blessed it in this case, and we earnestly recommend it to all suffering from kidney disorders.—S. B. VAN HUNKLER, Downers Grove, N. Y.

Dr. Kennedy's Favorite Remedy, made at London, N. Y. It cures Kidney, Liver and Blood Disorders.

It takes two to tell a lie—one to speak and one to listen.

A Terrible Misfortune.

It is a calamity of the direst kind, to feel that one's physical energies are falling in the prime of life—to feel more nervous, more dispirited, weaker every day. Yet this is the unhappy lot of hundreds who surround us. A source of renewed strength which science approves, in behalf of which multitudes of the debilitated have sacrificed to other duties, surely cannot, in countless instances, have built up constitutions sapped by weakness and infirmity and long unprofitable and distressing years, without, in some measure, being able to do so. Hostetter's Stomach Bitters is such a medicine—pure, potent, soothing to the nerves, promoter of digestion and a fertilizer of the blood. Dyspepsia and nervousness—the first a cause, the second a consequence of lack of stimulation—depart when a course of the Bitters is tried. All forms of malarial disease, rheumatism, kidney and bladder trouble, constipation and biliousness are annihilated by this standard family medicine.

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