LOOK AFTER THE WELL.

It Should Be Cleaned at Least Once a Year, Especially in the Fall.

Undoubtedly the well on the farm is a source from which come many diseases. Some wells are never cleaned. When dug, they are carefully boarded over, the pumps made tight and snug, with the ground sloping away on all sides so as to allow the surface water to flow from the opening. There is no well water that is pure. Something depends on the character. If sandy, and the water will disappear quickly from the surface after a rain, the well will drain the soil for a long distance around it, and the consequence will be that a large portion of the filth of the soil will find its way into the well, although the water may appear sparkling and bright. It is contended that the soil removes all the impurities from the water; but this depends upon whether the soil, by long continued absorption, be not already so thoroughly saturated with impurities as to refuse to take up more. That the soil does not remove all the impurities even from new ground where a well has been recently dug, has been demonstrated by saturating the surface earth at a distance from the well with kerosene oil, which gradually found its way to the well (having been washed down by the rains), and imparted its odor to the water. If the soil be of heavy clay the danger will be lessened; but on all porous soil the liability of pollution of the water is great. No manure heaps, privies, sinks or other receptacle for filth or refuse of any kind should be within one hundred and fifty feet of the well; the further off the better. No matter how tight the well may be, the toad will sometimes contrive to get in. Many wells contain toads that die and are swallowed up in the drinking water unknowingly, under the supposition that the well is tight and "toad proof." Wells should be cleansed at least once a year, and especially in the fall. For a distance of ten feet around the well the surface should be cemented, and the pump itself should be cleaned occasionally. Toads, flies, bugs, worms and even gnats will get in the water, while even a few drops of a solution from a filthy drain or sink, finding its way into the well carry bacteria enough rapidly to multiply and contaminate all of the water. Roots of trees and vines also serve as drains into the wells, as they loosen the soil, and for that reason they never should be planted near the source of drinking water.—Christian at Work.

ELEGANCE AND COMFORT.

They Are Found in Wraps Intended For Early Autumn Wear.

Cloth capes for light summer wraps are given a new effect by French modistes making the upper cape almost a ruffle in its fulness, and sewing it on below the collar, beginning on a point low on the bust, carrying it up over the tips of the shoulders and across the back. It is about eight inches deep in the back, and very full there and on the shoulder tips, giving an effect of greater breadth to the wearer; it then becomes more scant, and slopes almost to a point where it meets on the chest. The lower edges of this frill and of the cape proper are pinked. Bright red cloth capes are made in this way for sea-side, mountain and country use generally, while beige and tan-colored cloths are for more dressy capes for driving, visiting, and later in the season for city streets. White cloth and even white velvet capes, with gold or silver braiding, are made for evening wraps. French models have side pieces inserted in these capes to make them very high on the shoulders, puffing them up like mutton-leg sleeves, then adding a rolled wired collar that is very becoming. A bright red cloth shoulder cape has its high wired collar covered with black lace set on flat, and below the collar the lace takes a yoke shape; the sides of this cape are held in place by straps inside that pass under the arms. Black velvet braided with gold is used for the high rolling collar of other red capes.

Worth has improved the Irish peasant cloaks used as driving cloaks by making them less voluminous, dispensing with the mass of shirring on the shoulders, putting there instead a yoke of silk covered with lace, and adding a double cape or singe frill of pinked cloth like that just described. Thus a very dressy cloak is made of beige or Suede-colored ladies' cloth, with pinked cape, and a rolling collar and pointed yoke of repped silk entirely covered with Irish guipure lace. Such cloaks are long enough to cover the wearer from head to foot, and are a perfect protection from dust. A friar's gown like the monks' cloaks already noted, to be worn as a traveling cloak, is of dark blue serge with ecru silk lining, and monks' heads carved in ebony posed in front instead of buttons.—Harper's Bazar.

How to Clean Black Silks.

The most satisfactory way to cleanse an old black silk, or any dark silk, is to take a dark glove that is worn out, but not too much soiled, and boil it down in water from a quart to a pint, or till the glove is shrunken to a small piece and becomes a mere pulp. Add a teaspoonful of ammonia and sponge the silk on the wrong side with this liquid and rinse it off with clear water. Take out grease spots before beginning with gasoline. Wipe the silk as dry as possible, then hang it up to continue drying, then press it as dry as possible with a thin cloth laid over it.—N. Y. Tribune.

POISON IN CLOTHING.

Dyes Which Cause Skin Diseases—Dangerous Yellow Shoes.

The Berlin Medical Society at a recent meeting discussed at length the effects upon the skin of dyes used to color wearing apparel. Dr. Weyl, a general practitioner of high repute, told about his examination of a dress waist which had caused an obstinate and painful skin disease to the woman wearing it. He found the red cotton goods with which the collar and cuffs were lined saturated with a poisonous red dye, which came off whenever brought in contact with perspiring skin.

Another woman of Dr. Weyl's acquaintance poisoned her skin by wearing blue stockings which she herself knit. The first day she wore the stockings her feet began to swell, the second day the inflammation extended to the calf, and the third day to the knee. When Dr. Weyl was called the woman was in bed with large swellings and eruptions on both legs. She recovered after being treated for two weeks.

Dr. Weyl said that much of the velvet which, for instance, is often worn around the neck by young women, causes irritation of the skin and roughness of the whole face. One piece, which he procured directly from a dyer and manufacturer, produced eruptions after it had been worn but a few hours. Every bit of cotton or woolen underclothing, according to Dr. Weyl, should be thoroughly boiled, soaped and rubbed before it is put on for the first time. Colored silk underwear is not so dangerous as other colored underwear, because the fiber of silk holds the dye much more firmly than the fibers of other goods.

Dr. Weyl also describes the case of a young man in Munich who had been poisoned by the yellow dyeing matter used in coloring russet shoes. After wearing these shoes for one week the young man's feet were covered with small yellow blisters, which, in the middle of the second week, began to spread to his ankles. His doctor had him give up the shoes, and cured the eruptions in ten days. The yellow leather was subsequently examined at the Munich Hygienic Institute, and was found to be saturated with a dangerous yellow dye. Dr. Weyl's advice to his colleagues was: "Don't wear russet shoes."—N. Y. Sun.

FIFTY YEARS AGO.

Great Strides Made Since That Time in Domestic Comforts.

In fifty years the household has come out of darkness into light. There were no machine-made pins with firm heads a half-century ago. There were no envelopes, no postage stamps, no blotting paper and no steel pens fit to use. The housekeeper had no canned fruits, meats and vegetables. She could get no condensed milk, no cocoa and but little chocolate. Fire was kindled with the tinder box, and candles and pipes were usually lighted with live coals from the fire-place. Tomatoes were not eaten, and neither ice nor refrigerator were known in domestic life.

No photograph of any kind had ever been taken; garden hose and waterproof garments were unknown, and overshoes were but just thought of fifty years ago. Cooling soda water and ice cream were not at hand, sewing was done by hand and household linen was spun and woven at home. There was no gas nor electric light nor kerosene. Whale oil and tallow candles were the sole reliance for light. Coal was hardly known and wood was every body's fuel.

Table forks were made of steel, and had but two prongs. Every body put food into his mouth with his knife, and the bandanna was the predecessor of the napkin. No one had thought of an individual butter plate, and stoves were a rarity. The news of the day was a long time in being disseminated among the people, for the newspapers were scarce and unenterprising, and published hardly any but political news, and this had to come by slow stage coach, for the telegraph and the railroad had hardly come into being.

"The good old times" sounds a great deal better in sentiment than in reality. They were never so good that any one would now want to exchange the present for them; and as good as the present is, there is a future upon which we are rushing that offers to the imagination all the splendors of the fancy.—Good Housekeeping.

India Rubber Stone.

What is described as a geological curiosity is in the office of the Acting Chief Clerk of the United States War Department, Washington. It is a piece of stone weighing about one pound, thirteen inches in length, two and a half inches in width and one-third inch thick. There is no doubt about its being a genuine stone, but it nevertheless possesses the flexibility of a piece of India rubber. When taken in the hand and shaken in the direction of the flat surface it will bend backward and forward with a dull sound. This is what is known as itacolumnite or elastic sandstone. It is stated that a whole mountain of it exists in Southern Nevada, a short distance east of Death Valley. It is found in California, Georgia and other localities in the United States.—Chicago Tribune.

—In twelve cases out of twenty-two of importance in the last three years experts in chirography have gone wrong in their deductions. There are a hundred men in every State who write precisely the same hand.

PERSONAL AND IMPERSONAL.

—At a New York wedding the other day the bride received $1,000,000 worth of presents.

—A titled lady in London has formed a guild of clear-starchers and ironers of fine linens and laces.

—The head roller in a Pittsburgh iron mill makes fifty dollars a day. His family ride behind a spanking team.

—William O. Fitzgerald, a deaf mute, has been a clerk in the New York Custom House for twenty-eight years.

—Annie Perkins, of Cleveland, wears boys' clothes, subsists on oatmeal and sells papers for a living. She is thirty years of age and a poetess.

—M. Eiffel, whose name has been exalted by his great tower, is fifty-seven years old. His real name is said to be Bonickhausen, and his reasons for changing it are unknown.

—The trophy which Mary Anderson is said to most value in her collection is a dagger given her by Lady Martin (Helen Faucit), which the latter always used when she played Juliet.

—Oscar II., King of Sweden, is said to be a manly-looking monarch. He stands six feet two inches in his stockings, is well proportioned, and has gray hair and short, full beard. He is a gifted orator and is a poet and musician as well.

—Mrs. Harrison has been asked by mail if she approves of dancing, whether she wears a bustle, what she thinks of Mrs. Rives-Chanler's novels, what is her opinion of "Robert Elsmere," how much time she devotes to her toilet and other questions equally impertinent.

—Mr. Newrich (to his lately acquired typewriter)—"I want you to write me a letter on that machine you've got there." Typewriter—"Well, sir. How shall it begin?" Mr. Newrich (dictating)—"I take my pen in hand to write you a few words."—Boston Herald.

—Mr. Shawmut—"I understand, Miss Kakrus, that there was something in the nature of a personal altercation between your escort and young Mr. Outfit at the Red Fork ball last evening." Miss Kaktus—"Nothing more than a passing scrap, Mr. Shawmut. Neither gentleman had his gun."—Puck.

The world has no sympathy with any but positive griefs: it will pity you for what you lose, never for what you lack.

White Elephant of Siam, Lion of England, Dragon of China, Cross of Switzerland, Banner of Persia, Crescent of Egypt, Double Eagle of Russia, Star of Chili, The Circle of Japan, Harp of Erin.

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Is a very distressing affection, generally arising from stomach troubles, biliousness and dyspepsia, and we frequently find persons of both sexes subject to periodic headaches for which they can ascribe no direct cause. But the headache is a sure indication that there is something wrong somewhere, and whatever the cause Hood's Sarsaparilla is a reliable remedy for headache, and for all troubles which seem to require a corrective and regulator. It cures dyspepsia, biliousness, malaria, tones the stomach, creates an appetite, and gives strength to the nerves.

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