AGRICULTURAL

Weed Flavors in Milk.

The milk is carefully examined when received, and all that is the least affected with the onion or weed flavor, is set aside by itself, and then run through a separator, and its cream kept separate. To this cream is added twice its own bulk of hot water, in which saltpetre, in the proportion of one ounce to three gallons of water, has been dissolved. This raises the temperature of the mixed cream and water to about 160 degrees, and it is immediately put through the separator again. The result is a fine, thick cream, with no trace of weed flavor in it, and withal thoroughly pasteurized, and the Babcock test shows no loss of fat in the operation. In order to ripen such cream for churning, a starter is needed. Pasteurizing has been tried for the purpose of eliminating bad flavors from cream with partial, though not perfect, success. The same may be said in reference to heating the milk and running it through the separator at a temperature of 155 degrees or 160 degrees. Washing cream has also been tried, with the water at the ordinary temperature of separating, and this has very materially reduced bad flavors.—Hoard's Dairyman.

Substitute for a Smokehouse.

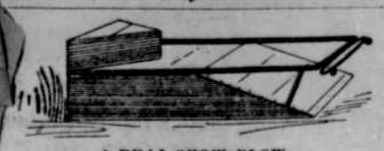
The illustration, which is from the American Agriculturist, shows a simple plan for smoking a small quantity of meat, without any expense whatever for a smokehouse. The lower barrel has a small door through which to replenish the smouldering fire in the iron kettle on the inside. The bottom of the box has holes in it similar to those in the top, the upper barrel being raised to show these. The front of the box is hinged to admit the meat. The upper barrel has neither top nor bottom and serves merely as a chimney to provide some little draft and to carry off the smoke. Two small holes in the lower barrel admit air to feed the smouldering fire.

Winter Squashes.

Squashes, unless ripened, will not keep well. Sometimes they are left out too long. After the frost has killed the vines the squashes are exposed to the cold and to freezing and thawing. Such squashes cannot keep well. Squashes must also be carefully handled. If the shell is bruised in getting them under cover, they are sure to rot early. They should be well ripened, gathered before heavy frosts, well dried, kept in an even temperature, and carefully handled. A warm, damp cellar is a bad place for storage. They should be kept in a dry room, where temperature is fairly even and not piled in a heap, but placed on open shelves. If there are only a few they may be spread on the floor. Sort them over and pick out the soft-shelled and unripe ones to be used first.

A Real Snow Plow.

This is not a wedge to push the snow to one side, but a plow that raises and delivers it above and upon the undisturbed snow at the side. Such a plow must have a strong frame, the bars reaching out in front being not less than 3x3, and they must be 6 ft long.



A REAL SNOW PLOW.

to reach back to the rear. Planks form the runners and top. The light frame above the top is for the driver to sit upon. His feet he rests upon the bars by which the plow is drawn. The front edge, the incline and the top are tinned to make the snow move up more easily. The edge is of the same width as the rear end, so there is no binding in the snow.—Farm and Fireside.

Large Potato Yield.

The largest potato [illegible] on record was produced in Northern Wyoming in 1890. According to sworn testimony, it amounted to 974 bushels and forty pounds per acre, of which 838 bushels were marketable. The expense of production was stated to have been $74.80. Such a crop anywhere in the country this year would have been pretty profitable. The average yield of potatoes in the United States is in ordinary years about one hundred bushels to the acre.

Lima Beans.

The introduction of the bush varieties of Lima beans was an important matter to those who make a specialty of Lima beans. The labor of cutting poles and the extra labor of caring for the pole Limas made the growing of them a risk should dry weather occur. At the West Virginia experiment station it has been found that beans grown in drills produced twice as much as those grown in hills. As the bush Limas may be planted with a seed drill, in rows, and require no poles, they can be grown more profitably than heretofore. There are also varieties of bush Limas that are as large as the pole kinds, and they bring good prices in market. These facts should be kept in view for next year.

Apples in Paper.

A friend recently sent us a basket of handsome apples, each specimen of which was wrapped in strong manilla paper. After tasting these apples, we unwrapped a number to admire their beautiful color, after which they were forgotten for several weeks. Happening to discover them later, we found that those which had been unwrapped were partially decayed, while those that were wrapped were in prime condition, having scarcely ripened at all, and no decay appearing. Why do not fruitgrowers wrap their apples and pears in paper more frequently, to preserve them, not only for a few weeks in the fall, but through the entire winter? Orange growers have found it profitable to wrap every orange sent out to the markets. It is not expensive to wrap and pack away a barrel of apples. It might cost 50 cents, but think of the delight of opening such a barrel next April, and finding them in splendid condition.—Colman's Rural World.

Marketing Heavy Oats.

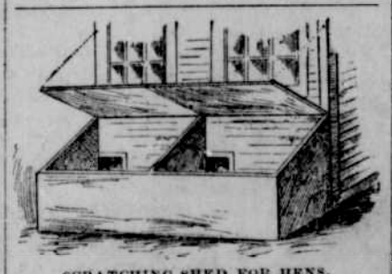
There is sometimes difficulty in finding a profitable market for grades of oats that weigh much above the standard, which is thirty-two pounds per bushel. In fact, most hostelries which deliver oats by measure would prefer to have the grain rather under than above the standard. We once grew some oats which weighed thirty-eight pounds per measured bushel. But they were of a new variety, and worth much more for seed than they could be to feed. In fact, there is not much advantage for feeding to have oats above the standard weight. Part of the advantage of the oats as feed is its safety, its greater amount of chaff preventing it from heating in the stomach as corn or other heavier grain is sure to do.

Lime, Plaster and Iron.

A Paris journal says that the disastrous effects exerted by lime and plaster on iron should be kept in mind when building. If iron is plunged into freshly prepared lime rapid oxidation takes place. This soon reaches the heart of the iron, which in a short time undergoes a profound alteration in its resisting qualities. To this result must be added the expansion caused by increase in volume of the mass. On the other hand, cement seems to be an excellent preservative against rust. Such a covering is preferable to painting with red lead.

Unique Scratching Shed.

Where snow lies thickly upon the ground for months it is almost impossible to get the hens out of doors, though fresh air and sunshine are specially



SCRATCHING SHED FOR HENS.

needed to promote winter laying. The illustration shows a simple addition to the southern side of the poultry house that will give the fowls the advantage of some hours each sunny day out of doors without being upon the snow. Put leaves, sand and a little grain into the bottom of these outside pens, and the fowls will work busily in them for hours. Such scratching sheds need not be large. They cost but a trifle and so can be afforded by everyone.—Orange Judd Farmer.

Keeping Milk from Odors.

One reason why much poor butter is made in the winter season is because the milk is set in some room adjoining the kitchen, where it is subjected to all the odors of the kitchen stove used in cooking meats and vegetables. These odors, with the heat from the stove, are absorbed by the milk, and as the cream has to be warmed so as to ripen, the germs thus admitted have the best possible chance to increase.

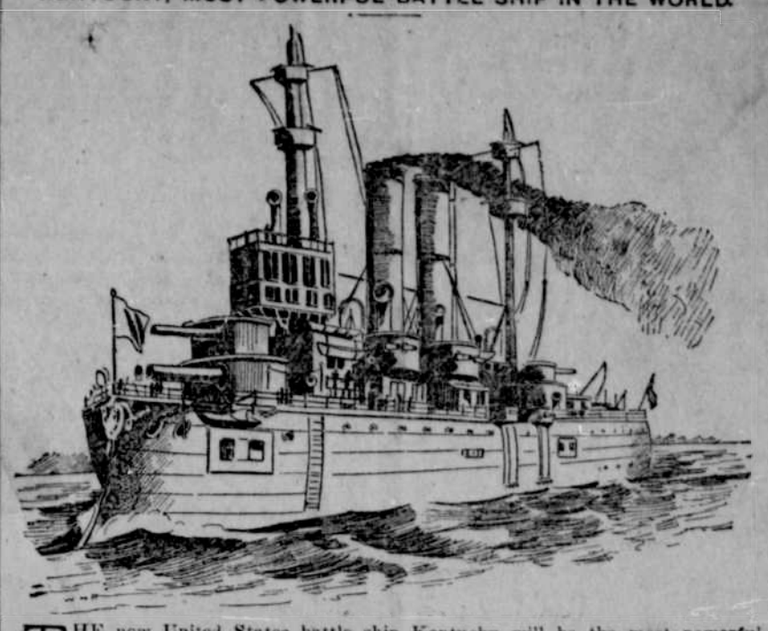
Ticks in Sheep.

Look out at this time of the year for sheep that are nibbling their sides. It is a sure indication of ticks, which should be got rid of at once. A general dipping this month would relieve the flock, both lambs and sheep, of this troublesome pest. Experience has shown that a fall dipping repays twice over for the cost of it, in the better condition of the fleece at the next shearing time.—American Cultivator.

Shying.

There is no better way to break a horse of shying than to stop him and gently lead or drive him up to the object of his fear each time, talking to him pleasantly meanwhile. Whipping and harshness only increase the difficulty. If persistent kindness be employed the horse will soon control himself under trying circumstances if spoken to by his driver in an ordinary tone of voice.

KENTUCKY, MOST POWERFUL BATTLE SHIP IN THE WORLD.



THE new United States battle ship Kentucky will be the most powerful war boat in the navy. The Kentucky is one of four sister ships, all of which will soon be finished. The Kentucky bears on her forward and after deck a double turret. Each of these turrets carries two thirteen-inch guns. No European power has placed on the deck of a war ship any gun more than twelve inches. Thus can the Kentucky strike a blow with which the power of no other ship can compare. A single blow of this kind would disable, if not sink, the strongest ship of battle afloat. From bow and stern the Kentucky can fire simultaneously a thirteen-inch gun. The Kentucky will draw only twenty-five feet of water, three feet less than the lightest boats now on the sea. She will be able to sail into all the harbors, and can be docked with less difficulty than the three other boats now building. The "waist-fire" consists of fourteen five-inch quick-firing guns and the second batteries will be composed of twenty six-pounder rapid-firing, six one-pounder and four machine guns. Two military tops, mounting guns, complete the ship's armament, which is far heavier than that of any ship of the Kentucky's displacement in the world. No war ship can deliver more metal at a broadside than can the Kentucky, and none will have the ready concentration of fire. The feature of the Kentucky is the form of her turrets, which is quite new. There is a large saving in weight, which gives the boat more room for heavy armament and more powerful machinery for propulsion. She will carry 1,210 tons of coal, which will enable her to steam 6,000 miles at the rate of ten knots an hour.

GIRL USHERS A SUCCESS.

Trenton, N. J., Pastor Introduces Them in His Church.

Because the members of his church were negligent in attending Sunday service and still more so in contributing to the support of himself and the church, Rev. Maurice Penfield Fikes, pastor of the First Baptist Church at Trenton, N. J., decided to try an innovation to attract people to hear him preach and their nickels and dimes from their unwilling pockets. He introduced pretty girls as ushers and is more than pleased with the results of the first experiment. Mr. Fikes had the sagacity to make announcement of the fact that the young women would show young folks to their seats and take up the collection. He was careful, too, to pick out six of the prettiest girls in his flock, so the church had more young men in its pews than had ever before been seen there. Every seat in the church was filled long before services were begun, and it was necessary to get chairs in the aisles. As ushers the girls were a grand success, but their best services was given when the time came to take up the collection. The innovation doesn't meet with the approval of the other preachers, who say that when people are drawn to a

GIRLS PASS THE BOX IN CHURCH

church simply for the privilege of looking upon a bevy of pretty girls there is no lasting good to be expected from it. But Mr. Fikes says that he believes in getting people into his church and he doesn't care how he does it, so long as the means are legitimate and honest. It took a long time to take up the collection, but when it was over and the money counted there was nearly $300 to add to the treasury of the church. Previous to the boxes going around Mr. Fikes announced that the Lord loves a cheerful giver. "Give freely and cheerfully," he said, "and the Lord, as well as these good girls, will appreciate it." Then the pretty ushers started out for the money. And they got it. Men who had always been very careful to select pennies for the contribution box recklessly tossed in quarters and half dollars that day, and not one went away from the church without the cheering assurance that the smile he got from the girl who took his money was the sweetest of them all.

Cleaning a Man's Heart.

Every day we hear of some wonderful doing by the doctors. So strange are the achievements at times that people apparently sick unto death will take all sorts of chances in the hope that the wizards of the scalpel may save their lives. Joseph Davenne, a Frenchman, was in such a condition when he allowed the doctors to clean his heart. He had long been a sufferer from fatty degeneration of that organ. He knew he could not live much longer when he took the chance the scientists proposed. They cut Joseph's ribs apart, showing the lungs, with all their fine, shining membranes. These were thrust aside and four swiftly moving hands were busily engaged in scraping the fat from the sides of the heart. The entire process covered only a few moments. But it was enough. The man was dead. The surgeons engaged sent a full account of the affair to a medical journal. The law did not hold them to account because Davenne had left a paper stating that the experiment was tried at his own request.

Paper Making in Corea.

The best quality of paper used in China and Japan is made in Corea. The Coreans gather the bark of the broussonetia padhyrifera tree in the spring. They soak the bark in lye made from wood ashes and water, beating the bark until it becomes a soft pulp. They then remove the pulp to large bamboo frames, spreading it very thin, and let it dry in the sun. When dry they cut the pulp in squares and press it with their feet. The paper is very tough, as the fibres of the wood are not broken but beaten soft. All this work is done by hand. Poorer qualities of paper are made in the same way from the scraps of wood.—Earth and Man.

The Minister's Salary.

Deacon Skinflint—We've failed again this year, Mr. Dominie. Can't raise half your salary.

Good minister—No matter. I have had myself appointed a missionary to the heathen, and will soon be in the pay of the Board of Missions.

Deacon Skinflint—Air ye goin' to Africa?

Good minister—No; I shall stay right here.—New York Weekly.

Wanted an Heirloom.

Clerk—I wouldn't like to cut this piece of lace just for one yard, madam; and, besides, that isn't enough to trim anything.

Shopper—Oh, I didn't want it for trimming; but it's so nice to have a piece of lace about the house as an heirloom, you know.—Puck.

Any girl who raves over a foot-ball player would prove to be fond of gritty gooseberry pie.

NEVER CONTENT.

Some people are never content with anything. They will not find exactly what they want even in Heaven, if they know some one is there ahead of them. For instance, some are great sufferers from neuralgia. Friends have told them what is best and certain to cure them. Not content with what is said, they suffer on. Pain ravages and devastates the system, and leaves it a barren waste. St. Jacobs Oil has cured thousands. Just try it.

John E. Redmond, M. P., the well-known Irish leader, will sail for this country on December 30. He is coming to America at the invitation of prominent workers in the Irish cause to speak on the rebellion of 1798, to arouse the enthusiasm of Irish-Americans in the pilgrimage to Ireland next July to celebrate the rising.

WHALING FLEET IN DANGER.

It is predicted that the vessels of the whaling fleet, most of whose underwriters are in San Francisco, have been caught in the ice and some may not last through the siege. Danger also threatens those who neglect what are called "trifling" ailments, for they may not last through the crisis. Resort to Hostetter's Stomach Bitters at once for incipient rheumatism, malaria, constipation, nervousness and kidney complaint.

In Japanese saws, the teeth point toward the handle, and both saws and planes cut toward the workman.

AN OPEN LETTER TO MOTHERS.

We are asserting in the courts our right to the exclusive use of the word "CASTORIA," and "PITCHER'S CASTORIA," as our Trade Mark.

I, Dr. Samuel Pitcher, of Hyannis, Massachusetts, was the originator of "PITCHER'S CASTORIA," the same that has borne and does now bear the fac-simile signature of CHAS. H. FLETCHER on every wrapper. This is the original "PITCHER'S CASTORIA" which has been used in the homes of the mothers of America for over thirty years. Look Carefully at the wrapper and see that it is *the kind you have always bought*, and has the signature of CHAS. H. FLETCHER on the wrapper. No one has authority from me to use my name except The Centaur Company of which Chas. H. Fletcher is President.

March 8, 1897. SAMUEL PITCHER, M.D.

Three drops of a black cat's blood is a sovereign cure for croup in the folk lore of some people.

After being swindled by all others, send us stamp for particulars of King Solomon's Treasure, the ONLY renewer of manly strength. MASON CHEMICAL CO., P. O. Box 747, Philadelphia, Pa.

Piso's Cure for Consumption is the best of all cough cures.—George W. Lotz, Fabuchier, La., August 26, 1895.

Try Schilling's Best tea and baking powder.

The oldest married couple in the United States are Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Manuel of Cape Porpoise, Mass. She is 98 and he is 101 years of age, and they have been married 77 years.

Money back if you don't like *Schilling's Best.* Tea and money at your grocer's.

A Schilling & Co San Francisco

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YOUR LIVER Is it Wrong? Get it Right. Keep it Right. Moore's Revealed Remedy will do it. Three doses will make you feel better. Get it from your druggist or any wholesale drug house, or from Stewart & Holmes Drug Co., Seattle.

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FREE TO ALL MEN

"If you dumped a cart-load of gold at my feet it would not bring such joy and gladness into my life." So writes a prominent man after using the method of self-treatment that has restored so many men who had been wrecked by excesses, over-work or evil habits of youth. A little book that makes it all plain may be had without charge by writing THE ERIE MEDICAL CO., 64 Niagara St., Buffalo, N. Y.

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BRAVE SPIRITS BROKE

How often women wake up in the morning cheerful and happy, determined to do so much before the day ends, and yet:—

Before the morning is very old, the dreadful BACKACHE appears, the brave spirit sinks back in affright; no matter how hard she struggles, the "clutch" is upon her, she falls upon the couch, crying:—"Why should I suffer so? What can I do?"

Lydia E. Pinkham's "Vegetable Compound" will stop the torture and restore courage. All such pains come from a deranged uterus. Trouble in the womb blots out the light of the sun at midday to a vast number of women. You should procure Mrs. Pinkham's Compound at once and obtain relief.

Mrs. F. M. Knapp, 563 Wentworth Ave., Milwaukee, Wis., says: "I suffered with congestion of the ovuries and inflammation of the womb. Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound cured me as it will others."

Travelers in Sweden report that the street cars in that country seldom stop for passengers. Both men and women jump on and off while they are moving, and accidents are scarcely ever heard of.

DEAFNESS CANNOT BE CURED

By local applications as they cannot reach the diseased portion of the ear. There is only one way to cure deafness, and that is by constitutional remedies. Deafness is caused by an inflamed condition of the mucous lining of the Eustachian Tube. When this tube is inflamed you have a rumbling sound or imperfect hearing, and when it is entirely closed, deafness is the result, and unless the inflammation can be taken out and this tube restored to its normal condition, hearing will be destroyed forever; nine cases out of ten are caused by Catarrh, which is nothing but an inflamed condition of the mucous surfaces.

We will give One Hundred Dollars for any case of deafness (caused by catarrh) that cannot be cured by Hall's Catarrh Cure. Send for circulars; free.

F. J. CHENEY & CO., Toledo, O.

Sold by druggists, 75c.

Hall's Family Pills are the best.

Authorities of the Kansas university dismissed all the natural history classes on circus day recently to enable the students to study the animals.

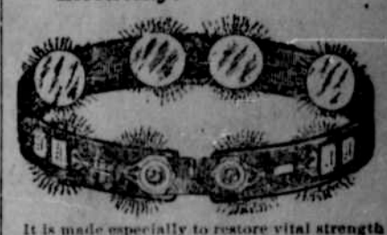
HOME PRODUCTS AND PURE FOOD.

All Eastern Syrup, so-called, usually very light colored and of heavy body, is made from glucose. "Tea Garden Drips" is made from Sugar Cane and is strictly pure. It is for sale by first-class grocers, in cans only. Manufactured by the PACIFIC COAST SYRUP CO. All genuine "Tea Garden Drips" have the manufacturer's name lithographed on every can.

C. E. Green of Effingham, Kans., has the Continental currency his great-grand-father received for his services in the Revolution.

BROKEN DOWN MEN

Men Who Have Wasted the Vital Power of Youth—Who Lack Vigor—Can Be Cured by Electricity.



It is made especially to restore vital strength to men. Sparks of life come from it to the weakened parts.

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In buying seeds "economy is extravagance," because the cost of cultivation wasted on inferior seeds always largely exceeds the original cost of the best and dearest seeds to be had. The best is always the cheapest. Pay a trifle more for FERRY'S SEEDS and always get your money's worth. Five cents per paper everywhere. Always the best. Seed Annual free. D. M. FERRY & CO., Detroit, Mich.