

Agriculture.

OBSTINATE HORSES.

A horse "balks" far oftener from some to him, good and sufficient reason than because he is obstinate, but occasionally a horse will make up his mind not to go past a certain place and it is very likely no amount of whipping will force him to go.

THE POTATO—MODE OF PLANTING, &c.—The extensive use of this excellent, and the important position that it occupies, not only in the household but in the economy of the farm, renders the consideration of its cultivation a subject of no inconsiderable consequence.

It was formerly believed to be necessary to simply divide a good sized tuber once or twice, and so plant two pieces in the hill. This did very well while potatoes were comparatively cheap; but upon the introduction to the notice of planters of those celebrated varieties of later times, which were sold at from four to fifty dollars per pound, most purse strings would forbid the excessive use of so expensive seed, and, as a consequence, there was a division of tubers into minimum proportions for the purpose of spreading the seed over a maximum surface of ground, so that in contrast with one division of a tuber and two pieces in each hill, was seen, even sub-division of the eyes, with pieces of the tuber of the size perhaps of a pea, and only one of these pieces to each hill.

And what has been the result? Instead of failure, both in size and quantity, as most would at first suppose, judging from the impression that the parent tuber is necessary to the early sustenance of the young plant, the result has been a perfect success both in size and quantity. Numerous instances might be cited, in which, from so dividing a single tuber of only good fair size, the yield was a bushel and over. Now, who supposed

that by taking the same potato, subdividing it, and planting both pieces in one hill, anything like such a yield could be exhibited? Thus we see how the force of circumstances will sometimes produce results that are of themselves exceedingly valuable. And as stated above, the practice of a few years has placed an entirely new phase upon the belief and practice of farmers as regards the quantity of seed to be used in the planting of potatoes; and the practice now is to scatter the seed more—that is sub-divide the potato much more, and place one piece for a hill, and the hills much nearer together. In this practice it has been found that, while perhaps the number of tubers is considerably less in a hill than by the old method, they are much more uniform in size, and from the increased number of hills the aggregate yield upon an acre is considerably increased, which is a matter of consequence in the cultivation of the crop.

Scientific.

CARBOLIC ACID paper, which is now much used for packing fresh meats, to preserve them against spoiling, is made by melting five parts of stearine at a gentle heat, and then stirring in thoroughly two parts of carbolic acid; after which five parts of melted paraffine are to be added. The whole should be well stirred together until it cools, after which it is again melted and applied with a brush to the paper, in quires, in the same way as in preparing the waxed paper so much used in Europe for wrapping various articles.

ACCORDING to a late writer, sunstroke is due to the action of light upon the brain exerted through the eye, and not, as generally believed, to an elevation of temperature; and it is asserted that, if the eye be properly shaded from the glare of the sun, any extra or unusual precaution in the way of protecting the head and back of the neck may be dispensed with.

Cold has a highly stimulating effect when judiciously employed. Cold baths, the douche, and cold sponging, stimulate the circulation, the respiration, and the action of the skin. The whole body is thus invigorated, and a good standard of health maintained, which renders us better able to resist disease. Fevers, consumption, and even simple colds, as a rule, affect those first whose general health is below par. At Biarritz, and some other French bathing-places, hot water is provided for the feet on returning from the bath. By this very simple and obvious means, delicate persons can enjoy sea-bathing without experiencing the depression and chilliness which often render this luxury a very hazardous one.—Good Health.

THE MICROSCOPE.—Lowenboeck tells us of an insect seen with the microscope, of which twenty-seven millions would only equal a mite.

Insects of various kinds may be seen in the cavities of a grain of sand. Mold is a forest of beautiful trees, with branches, leaves and fruit. Butterflies are fully feathered. Hairs are hollow tubes.

The surface of our bodies is covered with scales like a fish; a single grain of sand would cover one hundred and fifty of these scales, and yet a scale covers five hundred pores. Through these narrow openings the sweat forces itself like water through a sieve.

The mites make five hundred steps a second. Each drop of stagnant water contains a world of animated beings, swimming with as much liberty as whales in the sea.

Each leaf has a colony of insects grazing on it, like cows in a meadow.

SPRING OF INFLAMMABLE GAS IN KENTUCKY.—In Lincoln county, near the Cumberland mountains, Ky., there is a spring of water, kept in a constant state of agitation by the ascent of carburetted hydrogen. The well overflows once a day, and the gas is highly inflammable. No satisfactory explanation of the overflow of the water, which occurs about two hours after the maximum heat of the day, has yet been given.

He that blows the coals in quarrels he has nothing to do with, has no right to complain if the sparks fly in his face.

MESS-NGER ALMA-ACK.

NOVEMBER, 1871.

Last Quarter, Nov. 5th, 8h. 41m. morning. New Moon, " 12h, 0h. 4m. afternoon. First Quarter, " 19h, 4h. 32m. morning. Full Moon, " 26th, 4h. 39m. afternoon.

Table with columns for Day, Sun, Moon, High Tide, and Low Tide. Rows list dates from 1st to 30th with corresponding times.

THE TIDES.—The column of the Moon's Position gives the time of high water at Pictou, Cornwallis, Horton, Hantsport, Windsor, Newport, and Truro.

High water at Pictou and Cape Tormentine, 2 hours 11 minutes later than at Halifax. At St. John, N. B., and Portland, 1 hour and 25 minutes later, and at St. John's, Newfoundland 20 minutes earlier.

FOR THE LENGTH OF THE DAY.—Add 12 hours to the time of the sun's setting, and from the sum subtract the time of rising.

FOR THE LENGTH OF THE NIGHT.—Subtract the time of the sun's setting from 12 hours and to the remainder add the time of rising next morning.

A. V. P. B.

ARCHIBALD'S VEGETABLE PAIN-BALSAM is an article worthy of patronage and should be found in every house. It is equal if not superior to any other Pain-Killer now in use.

The Proprietor has removed to Truro, Colchester Co., N. S., is now extending his business, and will be prepared to furnish his numerous patrons with the above, as well as many other valuable remedies compounded by him.

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MR. EAGAR, I have used your PERUVIAN BITTERS in a personal case of Dyspepsia, and have derived the greatest benefit therefrom. (Signed) C. H. ANDY, Capt. R. A.

MR. EAGAR, I have used your PERUVIAN BITTERS and can highly recommend them, as I have derived great benefit therefrom. (Signed) EDWARD H. SOLOMON, Dy. Surveyor, Co. Lunenburg.

I have tried Mr. Eagar's PERUVIAN BITTERS, and can strongly recommend them. (Signed) DUDLEY DE CHAIR, Halifax, June 3, 1869.

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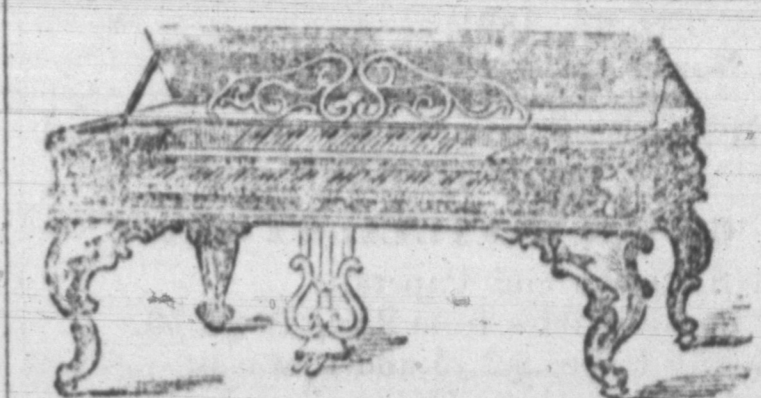
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