

Agriculture, &c.,

STARTING PLANTS IN THE HOUSE.

Before long many of our readers will be thinking about sowing seeds of tomatoes, egg-plants, and the like, so that they may get them forward early, and have the comfort of them in advance of the general public.

And first a word of caution. In the great eagerness to get the plants forward very early, it is a common mistake to begin too soon. In our climate it is not generally safe to plant out tomato plants in the open ground before the tenth of June.

The seed should be sown in light friable soil, and placed in some sunny window. If there be any such window in the kitchen it will be the very best room in the house for the box of seeds.

The plants may be allowed to remain in the box until the weather will admit of their being removed to a cold frame, where they can be planted out in the soil, or potted off into separate pots, and protected from chilly storms and night frosts by a few boards, and freely exposed to the sun and air in pleasant weather.

A box may be very rapidly divided into compartments with strips of common pasteboard, and one plant be set in each separate division. This will be found very convenient in transplanting, as each plant can be taken out with its own ball of earth about the roots, without in the least disturbing its growth.

Water when the soil needs water, but not oftener, and use tepid water. Give plenty of light, and when the weather is mild enough, set the box out for a few hours in the open air on the sunny side of the house, until the plants can be safely placed in the cold frame.

The cold frame is merely a wall of boards, such as is placed on a hothead to protect the plants, which may be placed in some warm, sunny spot, and be covered with boards when needed to protect the plants from storm or cold.

In our climate the weather is usually mild enough to allow of the plants being placed in such a frame about the first of May, and if they have been freely exposed to light and air, they will be stocky and healthy. Here they will continue to grow, not rapidly, but gradually increasing in size and strength until the weather will admit of their being placed in the open ground. Treated in this way, any one of them will be worth a hundred long-drawn, puny, sickly things that have been grown in heat and crowd.

MUSIC FOR THE FARM.

To some the heading of this article may seem superfluous. Music, in their opinion, not wanted on the farm. To such I would say, why not on the farm, as well as in the mechanic's home? We all know that the middle or mechanic classes of England, France and Germany, especially the latter, are the very best performers, as a rule, and always attend most regularly at musical gatherings.

If a choir is wanted, it is of little use to expect that the more affluent class will do much towards forming its vocal or instrumental members. They may, it is true, buy, or assist in buying the instruments, but as to relying on them to form a choir for church or other purposes, it would never succeed. They will not attend regularly, or give the required attention to it, and often have not the talent if they would.

Why, then, should the farmer and his family be debarred a musical instrument, and the cultivation of musical talent, more than others of the same class, who so much delight in it? I am very much of opinion that all deprivation of such innocent household enjoyments as productive of anything but a love of home. The musical

faculty, especially, is a talent—often lavished on the poor and denied to the rich. How often do we hear a little uneducated boy in the streets whistling some new tune which he probably has heard only once or twice, or singing at the top of his voice some new popular song, heard only once at some circus or other place of amusement. I say that such musical talent is God's gift, and falls at least as often to the lot of the poor as the rich; and one reason for this is the rugged health such people usually possess—which is of itself a great assistant; and for this gift, combined with a healthy constitution, we ought to be most thankful. And where it exists, I say, shame on the man who says music is not wanted on the farm.—Cor. of Canada Farmer.

FECUNDITY OF DUCKS AND HENS.

Some interesting experiments have recently been made upon the comparative fecundity of ducks and hens, so as to determine from which of the two the larger number of eggs can be obtained in the same time. For this purpose three hens and three ducks were selected, all hatched in February, and nourished with suitable food. In the following autumn the ducks laid 225, while the hens laid none. In the next February, the laying season began again with the ducks, and continued uninterruptedly till August. They showed no inclination to set, but became very thin, although they afterward fattened up somewhat. The total number of eggs laid by the hens amounted to 257, or 86 eggs each, and 392, or 131 each for the ducks. Although the eggs of the ducks were rather smaller than those of the hens, yet they proved to be decidedly superior in nutritive material, so that the superiority in productiveness appears to be decidedly with the ducks.

BOILING FISH.—Ten minutes to every pound of fish is a fair average; if large and thick, a few minutes longer; cover close; simmer rather than boil; take out immediately when done. A fresh cod, of four or five pounds, takes about twenty minutes to boil. Never put the fish in till the water is boiling hot. Salt fish should never boil for a moment, as it makes it hard; it should lie in scalding water two or three hours, and then be allowed to simmer, and the less water you use, and the longer it simmers, the better it will be. The fish is done when the meat is easily detached from the bones.

FRYING FISH.—Never put your fish in the pan till the fat is boiling hot. Always cut your pork small, and don't try it out, or otherwise cook it too fast, as it will lose much of its sweetness. Score the fish and roll them in flour before laying them in the sparkling fat. In using lard, a tablespoonful of salt to a pound is a fair average.

BRILING FISH.—Wipe your fish, and use as little water in cleaning it as possible. Put the inside of the fish to the fire first. Mix thoroughly in a dish a teaspoonful of salt and pepper with about four ounces of butter, and melt it. When your fish is done, turn each piece over and over in the butter; cover the dish, and keep it hot till ready to serve.

CORN-MEAL FRITTERS.—Beat three eggs very light; then mix them with a pint of milk, a teaspoon of salt, and enough yellow meal to make a thin batter with a large spoon, and fry each side brown; when done, put them in some dish where the fat on them can drip off.

LIVER AND KIDNEY BROCKET.—Split the kidney (if of beef) lengthways in four equal parts; then cut them crossways into pieces about half an inch thick. If they are of smaller animals, cut them crossways only, and in all cases remove the fat and the stringy parts; then out your liver and salt pork as near as may be of a size and thickness of the pieces of kidney; put a piece of kidney on a skewer or stiff piece of wire, then a piece of pork, then a piece of kidney, and so on till the skewer of wire is full; press them well together; bake them in an oven with the ends of the skewers resting on the edge of a tin dish. Either kidney or liver alone with pork is just as good.

Counting acres, taking mortgages, going over stock, and calculating interest, will not answer the question, "How rich is a man?" He is rich or poor according to what he is, not according to what he has.

MESSSENGER ALMANACK.

MARCH, 1871.

Full Moon, March 6th, 11h 21m. aftern. on. Last Quarter, " 13th, .6h. 5m. aftern. on. New Moon, " 20th, 11h. 46m. aftern. on. First Quarter, " 27th, 2h. 30m. mornng.

Table with columns for Day, SUN, MOON, and High Tide. Rows list days from 1st to 31st with corresponding times and tide heights.

THE TIDES.—The column of the Moon's Southern gives the time of high water at Parisboro', Cornwallis, Horton, Hanseport, Windsor, Newport, and Truro.

High water at Pictou and Cape Tormentine, 2 hours and 11 minutes later than at Halifax. At Annapolis, St. John, N. B., and Portland Maine, 3 hours and 23 minutes later, and at St. John's, Newfoundland 20 minutes earlier, than at Halifax. At Charlottetown, 2 hours 56 minutes later. At Westport, 2 hours 51 minutes later. At Yarmouth, 2 hours 20 minutes later.

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.

NEW MUSIC BOOKS. THE VOCALIST. LINTON'S INDUCTIVE METHOD. Musical Analysis and Teacher's Manual. Includes sheet music and descriptive text.

Superior Pianos. IN VARIOUS STYLES. UPRIGHT, OBLIQUE, SQUARE, &c. With all the latest improvements, manufactured by the subscribers, and especially adapted to this climate.

BRITISH AMERICAN BOOK AND TRACT DEPOSITORY. 66 GRANVILLE STREET, HALIFAX, N. S., Dec. 23rd, 1870. FOR THE CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS.

CHEAP Illustrated and handsomely bound Books in great variety, including all the religious Magazines at the Depository of the BRITISH AMERICAN BOOK AND TRACT SOCIETY, 66 Granville Street.

EAGAR'S Peruvian Bitters!

COMPOUND OF Peruvian Bark, Sarsaparilla, Dandelion, Wild Cherry, and other valuable remedies.

AN EXCELLENT TONIC, APPETIZER, & STIMULANT.

Cures LIVER COMPLAINT, DYSPEPSIA, ACIDITY of the STOMACH, DEBILITY and PAIN in the BACK, RESTORES the VITAL ENERGIES, when exhausted, braces up both the Nervous and Muscular System, PURIFIES the BLOOD, and Restores the Appetite.

PERUVIAN BITTERS

are not an Alcoholic preparation, but simply a scientific combination of valuable Roots and Barks, which purifies the Blood and restores the waste, thereby bracing up both the Nervous and Muscular Systems, and giving that permanent HEALTH, STRENGTH and VIGOR, both of mind and body which nature intended man should possess.

This BITTERS is not sold as a specific for every disease, but in cases of GENERAL DEBILITY and its effects, such as Dyspepsia, Loss of Appetite, Weakness of the small of the Back, weak Memory, Indisposition for Exertion, Sense of Fullness after Eating, &c., caused by anxiety over exertion, mental or bodily, late hours, and excesses of every kind, it has no equal.

Although these BITTERS contain no Alcohol, they will most effectually wean the taste from Stimulants and enable the system to dispense with them at once.

The proprietor, although averse to the practice of puffing any medicine, feels it his duty to give publicity to the following certificates.—Hundreds could be added, but such names as Dr. How, Professor of Chemistry at King's College; Capt. Hardy, R. A.; Mr. Solomon, Lunenburg; and Dudley de Chair, Esq., Halifax, will be sufficient to establish its reputation as a reliable and valuable medicine.

CERTIFICATES: I have found Mr. Eggar's PERUVIAN BITTERS beneficial to myself and in my family, and have heard of their being used with good effect in another case in Windsor. (Signed) HENRY HOW, D.C.L. King's College, Windsor.

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

LUNENBURG, 28th June, 1869. MR. EGGAR.—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. Eggar's PERUVIAN BITTERS, and can strongly recommend them. (Signed) DUDLEY DE CHAIR, Halifax, June 3, 1869.

FOR SALE in large bottles at 37s. 6d. per bottle, and in one dozen and three dozen boxes. Orders from the country will receive immediate attention. Dealers Supplied on liberal terms.

TOOTH ACHE.

EGGAR'S ODONTINE ESSENCE

gives instantaneous relief in all cases of Tooth Ache arising from hollow teeth and exposure of the nerve. Thousands of bottles have been sold and in no case has it failed to give satisfaction. Be sure and obtain Eggar's Odontine Essence; take no other.

The money will be returned if it fails to give relief when used according to directions in cases of tooth, ache from exposed nerve. 25 CENTS PER BOTTLE.

If the above article cannot be obtained at the stores near where you live send the price in stamps to the subscriber's address and it will be forwarded immediately. Dealers supplied on liberal terms.

NEW WHOLESALE DRUG STORE, 149 Hollis St., Halifax.

The subscriber is prepared to execute orders for Drugs, Chemicals, Perfumery, Patent Medicines, Pain's, Varnishes, Oils, Toilet Articles, and all other articles usually supplied by Drug Houses. Being a gent for first class Surgical Instrument makers in London and Paris, their respective price lists can be seen at his establishment.

Prices of any articles will be given with pleasure when required. Should any article purchased at his establishment not prove to be what it is represented, it can be returned at his expense, if not otherwise made satisfactory.

WRIGHT'S Patent Sectional Spring Bed!

THE Subscriber having been appointed Sole Agents in the Province for the sale of this article, recommends it as being the easiest and most comfortable to rest upon, and together with its durability, and the facility with which it can be taken apart and cleaned, they feel certain that it will be found to be a most convenient article.

Agents for the Christian Messenger.

- NOVA SCOTIA. Amherst—W. F. Cutler, Esq. Antigonish—T. M. King, Esq. Aylesford—Rev. Dr. Tupper, J. Wheelock, Rev. J. L. Read. Barrington—Rev. W. H. Richan. Beaver River—Wm. S. Raymond, Esq. Berwick—John M. Parker, Esq. Bridgewater—Wesley J. Gates. Brighton, Digby County—N. B. Westcott. Brookfield—A. J. Leadbetter. Bled's Mountain—John Whitman. Caledonia—B. L. Telfer. Chester—Rev. I. J. Skinner. Chate's Cove—Rev. J. McIlbourn Parker. Clements—Jas. E. Potter, Esq. Canso—Spinnay Whitman, Esq. Cornwallis—J. E. L. Galloway. Do., Billtown—Gideon Cogswell, Esq. Do., Canning—Jas. S. Witter. Do., Lakeville—Melanah Kinsman. Do., Digby—Edwin Bent. Digby Joggins—Wm. Aymer, Esq. Digby Neck—Rev. J. C. Morse. Debert River—Wm. McCully, 4th. Economy—Thomas Fulton, Esq., Josiah Soley. Granville—Weston Hall, Esq. Guysborough—Christopher Jost, Esq. Hantsport—Wm. E. West. Hillsburgh—Nelson Miller. Kempt—Joseph D. Masters. Liverpool—Charles Bill, Esq. Long Island—Isaiah Thibault, Esq. Londonderry, Great Village—Ezra Layton. Maccan, River Hebert—Hance Mil's. Milton, Queen's—G. Whitfield Freeman, Esq. Mill Village—W. A. Reed. Musquodoboit—Edward McCabe. New Albany—Asaph Whitman, Esq. New Germany—Adam E. Durland, Rev. W. H. Hall.

- Newport—Joseph Dimock. Wm. H. Knowles. Nictaux—W. A. Morse. Onslow—J. B. McNutt, Esq. Paradise—Asaph Marshall, Esq. Parsboro—Chas. Y. Snell. Port Medway—James T. Foster. Pugwash—Angus McDonnell. Pubnico—John C. Anderson, Esq. Rawdon—John McLearn, Esq. River Philip—Thomas H. Patton. Rosette, Annapolis—Richardson Harris, Esq. Locke's Island—Xerxes Z. Chipman, Esq. St. Mary's Bay, Digby Co.—Charles McNeill. Sherbrook West—James Lantz. Springfield—Israel McNayr, Esq. Stewacke—Rev. O. Chute. Sydney, North, C. B.—A. G. Musgrave. Sydney Town, C. B.—G. H. Harrington, Esq. Truro—Robt. Chambers, Esq. Rev. D. W. C. Dimock. Windsor—Andrew F. Shand. Walton—F. Parker, Esq. Westport—Holland K. Fayson, Esq. Weymouth—Rev. C. Randall. Wilmot—Dr. J. Woodbury. Wilmet, Canaan Road—Samuel Wheelock. Wilmot Mountain—Rev. J. M. Parker. Wolfville—G. V. Rand. Yarmouth—William Churchill. Do., Carleton—Rev. J. A. Stubbart. Do., Hebron—Wm. R. Doty. Do., Richmond—B. B. Mosas, Esq. St. John, N. B.—John F. Masters, Esq. PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND. Bedeque—Rev. J. B. McDonald. Charlottetown—James Desbrisay, Esq. East Point—Jos. McVane. Summersville—Dimock Archibald. Three Rivers—Rev. John Shaw. West River—Rev. Malcolm Ross.

GREAT CLOSING SALE OF English and American BOOTS AND SHOES! AT AND BELOW COST.

THE Subscriber will offer from this date the balance on hand of the above mentioned Goods at REDUCED PRICES. And will continue the sale until the whole is disposed of.

WHOLESALE BUYERS Will find in this STOCK, some Very Cheap Job Lots.

TERMS CASH. GEORGE S. YATES, 22 & 23 George Street.

N. B.—This Stock has no reference to Home Manufactured Goods.

To Parents and Sabbath School Teachers.

JUST PUBLISHED. SECOND EDITION—REVISED.

A SCRIPTURE CATECHISM, for the Family, the Bible Class, and the Sabbath School, BY S. SELDEN.

Price 8 cents or \$6.00 per 100

TRY NELSON'S CHEROKEE VERMIFUGE.

THIS valuable Indian combination has been successfully used by physicians, and found to be safe and sure in eradicating worms in persons of all ages. Prepared by W. J. NELSON, Bridgewater, N. S.

Sold everywhere. Sept. 14. 1y. c&3 mths.

THE CHRISTIAN MESSENGER

Is published every WEDNESDAY. Terms—Two Dollars a year, when paid in advance; if payment is delayed over three months \$2.25 when over six months \$2.50. Subscribers beyond the Dominion of Canada, must send in addition to the above, 20 cents a year for prepayment of postage.

ADVERTISING at usual rates. STEPHEN SELDEN, Proprietor. OFFICE No. 59 GRANVILLE STREET, HALIFAX, N. S.

PRINTING of Books, Pamphlets, Cards, Handbills, Blank forms, &c., &c., on reasonable terms. Magistrates Blanks always on hand.