

THE HOUSE.

FRICASSEED RABBIT.—Clean two young rabbits, cut into joints, and soak in salt-and-water an hour; put into a saucepan with a pint of cold water, a bunch of sweet herbs, an onion finely minced, a pinch of mace, one of nutmeg, pepper, and half a pound of fat salt pork cut into slips; cover and stew until tender. Take out the rabbits and set them in a dish where they will keep warm. Add to the gravy a cup of milk, two well-beaten eggs stirred in a little at a time, and a tablespoonful of butter; boil up once—when you have thickened with flour wet in cold milk—and take the saucepan from the fire. Squeeze in the juice of a lemon, stirring all the while, and pour over the rabbits. Do not cook the head or neck.

FREEZING CLOTHES DRY.—Thick garments, and even thin ones, are injured by the customary hanging them out in winter to "freeze dry." The wet fibres, even if but a sixteenth of an inch long, are sufficiently expanded in freezing to greatly weaken, if not break them. The 1-112th-inch of expansion in a thread an eighth-long is enough to break the small fibres, however tough and strong.

KNITTING.—How many mothers realize that they can knit up as well as down? When children have reached the age when they wear out the knees of their stockings and the heels and toes also, the ingenuity of woman must be exercised. In the most hopeless-looking stocking there is usually a strip at least an eighth of a yard long which is too good to throw away, and yet it is too much worn to pay to ravel out and knit over; from this, then, cut off the ragged top and bottom, and knit up as well as down. If you cannot match the color use another shade, or color.

DRYING EGGS FOR WINTER USE.—The eggs are beaten to uniform consistency and spread out in thin cakes on butter-plates. This dries them into a thin paste, which is to be packed into close cans, and sealed. When required for use the paste can be dissolved in water, and beaten to a foam like fresh eggs. It is said eggs can be preserved for years in this way and retain their flavor.

To wash a carpet, spread it where you can use a brush, and scrub as you would a floor. Scrape one peck of Irish potatoes into two pails of water and let them stand over night; when ready to use add more water and two ounces of beef gall. When dry brush hard with a broom.

To renew a rusty and discoloured chandelier, apply a mixture of bronze powder and copal varnish. The druggist where they are purchased will tell you in what proportion they should be mixed.

To clean hair-brushes, use ammonia and hot water; after washing well, shake the water out and dry on a coarse towel; they will look as good as new.

HEALTH HINTS

TO CURE SNEEZING.—Surgeon Bradley says, in the British Medical Journal, that being tormented by one of the distressing symptoms of hay fever, incessant sneezing, and having tried all remedies suggested, in sheer desperation, he plugged his nostrils with raw cotton. The effect was instantaneous; sneezing ceased, and after repeatedly testing the remedy, he concludes that it is worth knowing and recommending.

TO WARM COLD FEET.—People who write or sew all day, or rather those who take but little exercise, may warm their cold feet without going to the fire. All that is necessary is to stand erect and very gradually to lift one's self up upon the tips of the toes, so as to put all the tendons of the foot at full strain. This is not to hop or to jump up and down, but simply to rise—the slower the better—upon tiptoe, and to remain standing on the point of the toes as long as possible, then gradually coming to the natural position. Repeat this

several times, and, by the amount of work the tips of the toes are made to do, in sustaining the body's weight, a sufficient and lively circulation is set up. Even the half-frozen car driver can carry this plan out. It is one rule of the 'Swedish movement' system, and, as motion warmth is much better than fire warming, persons who suffer with cold feet at night can try this plan just before retiring to rest.

A CURE FOR RHEUMATISM.—Obstinate cases of this disagreeable malady have been cured by the following: Take every night, till the trouble leaves you, two teaspoonfuls of gunguacum, diluted in half a tumbler of water. This is a dose for a grown person. If the stomach is weak, a less quantity. It acts as a powerful stimulant, and produces gentle perspiration. If the limbs are affected by it, they may be bathed in hot whiskey or rum, well seasoned with cayenne pepper.

To prevent discoloration from bruises, apply a cloth wrung out in very hot water, and renew frequently until the pain ceases.

THE FARM.

PEDIGREE OF COWS.—Pedigree is a very essential element in the value of cows. But it is also true and no less important to know that grade animals in a well-managed dairy can be made, as a rule, quite as productive as thorough-breeds, and often more so. Yet this does not at all imply that the latter can be dispensed with, for we can not have a good quality of grades without a good strain of blood to start from. While it is conceded that pedigree is one of the factors in the value of a good cow, it is not by any means the only factor. Maximum results in the dairy are not the sole outcome of any single condition. They depend not merely on the capacity and breed of the cow, but also and equally on the intelligence and good management of the owner; and what is equally true, but seldom considered, even the capacity of the cow is itself to a large extent the product of human skill.—Harper's Magazine.

The expense of raising a 1,200-pound steer in Nebraska is placed at \$6, and the entire cost of the animal delivered in Chicago at \$11. During the past year 90,000 steers were shipped East from that State, and there are now, it is said, 300,000 head of cattle in the western part of the State.

Mr. N. T. Sprague, of Vermont, says he has found that he can by the ensilage system keep seven-head of cattle with the corn grown on one acre of land, at an expense of \$7 each, while the usual cost of keeping one cow over winter in that State is estimated to be \$20.

It is said that the regular currying of cows will increase the milk flow and the butter product by 10 to 20 per cent. Practical dairymen are aware of this, and act on the knowledge, to their great profit, and the comfort and health of the cows.

The best fertilizer for house-plants is ammoniated water, just enough ammonia being added to rain-water to give a distinct odor—say a tablespoonful of ordinary liquid ammonia to two gallons of water. It should be administered sparingly, not oftener than twice a week.

One of the best forms for a churn is a simple rectangular box, of a size sufficient, when made to rotate, to cause a thud when the cream drops from side to side. The cream is acted upon much more evenly and promptly than when beaters are used, and more butter is obtained in a shorter time than by the older methods. It is said that the box-churn is the one most in use in the districts where fancy butter is made.

CUTTING SCIENS.—There is no better time to cut sciens for use next spring than the present. They are often very much injured if left all winter. Cut them and pack away in the cellar in moist—not very wet—meadow moss. We have never found any substance so good for this purpose as moss. It often happens that great loss ensues from

grafting if the sciens are not in good condition. When they have been injured the wood often turns black and it is very little use to set such sciens. Those who have never adopted this plan of cutting and keeping sciens should do so.

MILK AS FOOD FOR FOWLS.—Fowls may be kept with great profit in confinement, if judiciously fed. Their diet must be varied and changed often. When milk forms a portion of their daily rations, as well as vegetables, the fowls will always be found to be doing much better than when at large, with scant food or none at all. Skimmed milk in any form is relished and the fowls prefer it for drink before anything else; but when it is coagulated it is food and drink at the same time and is greatly relished. During the hot months the fowls will almost subsist and lay on it alone. Since some kind of animal food is absolutely necessary for the good of the fowls when in confinement, milk answers well, and also does well in place of green food, when that cannot be given with regularity. For young, growing fowls it is the very best of food, making bone and muscle. Give corn twice each day, morning and afternoon, and the other food between, as time and convenience permit.

In no case permit the fowls to become poor or even thin in flesh. A poor hen will not lay; neither will one that is overburdened with fat produce any eggs. Wheat bran, moistened with water, made thin, but not thin enough for the milky substance to run, is also relished. Boiled potatoes, chopped and mingled with salt and grease, are good food for confined fowls. This diet may be given warm in cold weather. Chopped onions should be added twice in a week, and serve as a substitute for green food.—Country Gentleman.

VARIETIES.

Teacher—'Feminine of friar? First bright boy—'Hass'n't any.' Teacher—'Next.' Second bright boy—'Nan.' Teacher—'That's right.' First bright boy (indignantly)—'That's just what I said.'

A Scotch pedlar, without the remotest intention on his part of getting into a quarrel with any man, put up (with his pack) for the night at a country alehouse on the border of Wales, where, as the fates would have it, he found in the kitchen of the inn a motley assemblage of not the most desirable companions, and among the rest a Welshman, whose aim from the very first seemed to be to get into hot water with poor Sawney. The latter, sagaciously appreciating the true character of his tormentor, determined to get rid of him in the quietest way possible, and told him 'that he did not want to fight.' This only excited to a still higher pitch the Welshman, and he told the Scotchman that he would 'make him fight.' 'Well,' said Sawney, 'if I must fight, let me say my prayers first,' which the Welshman conceding, the Scotchman fell upon his knees and implored his Maker to pardon him for the 'two men he had already killed, and for the one that was about to die.' The Scotchman slowly rose from his knees, but not before the Welshman had made a precipitate retreat.

Mr. Spurgeon, in his 'Lectures to my Students,' says:—"In my former chapel in Park-street, I mentioned to my deacons several times my opinion that the upper panes of the iron-framed windows had better be taken out, as the windows were not made to open. I mentioned this several times, and nothing came of it; but it providentially happened one Monday that somebody removed most of those panes in a masterly manner, almost as well as if they had been taken out by a glazier. There was considerable consternation, and much conjecture as to who had committed the crime, and I proposed that a reward of five pounds should be offered for the discovery of the offender, who when found should receive the amount as a present. The reward was not forthcoming, and, therefore, I have not felt it to be my duty to inform against the individual. I trust none of you will suspect me, for if you do I shall have to confess that I have walked with the stick which let the oxygen into that stifling structure."

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