

THE HOUSE.

HEAD-CHEESE.—The time of the year is at hand for head-cheese, sausages, and all such things, for that reason recipes for making will not be out of place.

For delicious apple-jelly, cut your apples in quarters (do not pare or core them), dip each quarter into clear water, and put them into a jar to cook in the oven until quite tender; then strain the juice as usual, and boil with a pound of sugar to a pint of the juice.

PASTE.—To every quart of paste put a tablespoonful of pulverized alum and a few drops of carbolic acid or oil of cloves, and the paste will not sour or be infested with insects.

All kinds of turnips that are for the home table ought to be packed in sand, so they will fully retain their plumpness and flavor.

A distinguished scholar says he owes his success to the faithful observance of this rule—always to believe that whatever could be done by any person could, if he would take sufficient pains, be done by him.

TO KEEP FROM FADING.—To prevent scarlet flannel or worsted goods of any description of this color from fading when washed, take this precaution. Mix half a cupful of flour with a quart of cold water, let it boil for ten or fifteen minutes, then mixed with warm suds in which the article is to be washed; squeeze and rinse up and down repeatedly instead of rubbing on a board.

THE FINE ART OF COOKING.—Good cooking is an important element in home life and happiness. Many people think that while a girl must go to school for years to accomplish a knowledge of her own and foreign languages, and must have masters for this and that accomplishment, she may be safely left to pick up an acquaintance with cooking after she has a household of her own.

To be a good cook, girls, one needs a light, firm hand, an accurate eye, and a patient temper. One needs, too, a few rules and a trustworthy recipe-book. We have all seen the easy way in which a good cook makes a cake. She tosses

three or four things together, gives a flirt of the spice box, and a feathery touch or two of her foamy eggs, pops the pan into the oven, and presto! there appears the perfect loaf. And if you ask her how she did this or the other part of her work, she will very likely smile and say: "Oh, I used my judgment."

The judgment is the quality which no novice in cooking can expect to possess, but if you are watchful and persevering, the judgment will surely come, and, by-and-by, you will be as independent.

Whatever else you omit, girls, do not omit to prepare food properly, for.

You may live without friends, you may live without books, But civilized men cannot live without cooks.

Harper's Young People.

PUMPKIN PIE.—Cut the pumpkin into as thin slices as possible, and in stewing it the less water you use the better; stir so that it shall not burn; when cooked and tender stir in two pinches of salt; mash thoroughly, and then stir through a sieve; while hot add a teaspoonful of butter; for every measured quart of milk and four eggs, beating yolks and whites separately, sweeten with white sugar and cinnamon and nutmeg to taste and a saltspoon of ground ginger. Before putting your pumpkin in your pies it should be scalding hot.

TO REMOVE THE TASTE OF NEW WOOD.—A new keg, churn, bucket, or wooden vessel will generally communicate a disagreeable taste to anything that is put into it. To prevent this inconvenience, first scald the vessel with boiling water, letting the water remain in it till cold. Then dissolve some pearlash, or soda, in lukewarm water, adding a little bit of lime to it, and wash the vessel well with this solution. Afterward scald it well with plain hot water, and rinse it well before you use it.

THE FARM.

The Winter protection of Plants.

BY C. A. MCBEAN.

It is generally believed that plants that have made a soft, succulent growth during a wet season are less susceptible to injury by frost than those which are of a woody, compact growth. But the very early and severe frost which followed an unprecedentedly dry and hot summer and fall seemed to injure growing plants very severely.

The protection required by garden plants depends mainly on the texture of the soil, and whether they are protected with snow. When the ground is not likely to be covered with snow, or when frequent freezing and thawing is to be expected, the coverings should not be of too compact material, or put on too thickly. In that case, such material as evergreen boughs or coarse hay or straw is well suited to the purpose. When considerable warmth of covering is required, a coating of long manure will do good service. If grapes, wistaria, or similar vines are to be protected, they should first be "pegged down," covered very slightly with straw, and then with a couple of inches of soil. When there is a continuous covering of snow much less protection is required, as a rule, than when the ground is bare.

Tender plants, such as sea-roses, may be protected either by laying down and covering with straw or earth, or by binding long straw around them when in a standing position.

There are a good many kinds of vines, plants, &c., that do not actually require winter protection in order to preserve life; yet they come out in so much finer and stronger condition in the spring, that the trouble of protecting them is amply repaid. This is notably the case with the red varieties of raspberries, some kinds of blackberries, &c. Strawberries are also greatly benefited by liberal mulching. For covering raspberry and blackberry canes, earth alone will be sufficient; for grapes, earth alone or a little straw and then earth; and for garden plants of various kinds, coarse hay, long manure or evergreen boughs.

TRAINING A RAM.—The editor of the Texas Wool-Grower has been telling an inquiring friend how to train that intractable creature, a belligerently inclined ram. The editor says he once had a ram that would fight any and everything. He fastened a cloth over his eyes so that he could not see in front of him. This put a stop to his fighting, but placed him at a sad disadvantage when attacked by other rams. Finally a buck herder was put on his back with a raw hide "quilt," and gave him a good five-minutes' thrashing, whereupon he seemed to conclude that discretion was the better part of valor, and gave no further trouble. This, the editor says, has been his plan of dealing with fractious rams ever since, and he finds it to work well. A ram will respond to a thrashing, he thinks, about as readily as any other animal.

A new cereal called millo-maize is receiving much attention in the South. It was introduced by Rev. H. H. Pratt, of South Carolina for some time a missionary in South America. In nutritive qualities it is said to be superior to wheat, and it has great power to withstand a drought. The plant is allied to the Sorghum and Guinea corn families. We should be glad of any information in regard to it.

SCIENCE.

A LARGE TELESCOPE.—A refracting telescope, ranking fourth amongst the large instruments in use in the United States, has recently been completed and erected in the Halsted Observatory attached to the College of New Jersey. The diameter of the object glass is 23 inches. The tube of the telescope is of steel, 33 inches diameter in the middle, and tapering towards both ends; its total length is 28 feet. The total weight of telescope and mounting is about 7 tons.

Very extensive operations have been for some years past carried on in different parts of Russia for draining and reclaiming marsh land. According to the Moscow Gazette, the area, which has now been made available for agriculture, is 790,000 decaitines (1 decaitine = 2 1/2 acres), of which 150,000 are crown lands. In addition to these, 360,000 have been brought into cultivation in the Central and Western districts of Polesia. These results have been obtained by means of a system of canals varying in breadth from 5 to 18 archines (3 archines = 18 feet) and in depth from 1 1/2 to 4 archines, while a few are as much as 80 archines broad. A large proportion of these canals are adapted for the floating of timber, so that there is not a single forest farm which is now more than 7 versts from its waterway. It is hoped that by the end of 1884 the reclaimed land in Polesia alone will amount to 1,400,000 decaitines.

Those who are troubled by having their potatoes rot in the cellar, will find that sorting them out and then sprinkling some air-slacked lime over them will effectually put a stop to all decay.

VARIETIES.

"Uncle John," said little Emily "do you know that a baby that was fed on elephant's milk gained twenty pounds in one week?" "Nonsense! impossible!" exclaimed Uncle John, and then he asked, "Whose baby was it?" "The elephant's" said the little girl.

A man had a woman's tooth grafted into his jaw, and now every time he passes a millinery store that tooth fairly aches to drag him up to the window.

A man who wants his wife to love and respect him will never make the mistake of putting his feet into her slippers. Years of devotion will not wipe out the insult.

AN EXPLANATION.—Anxious to explain the meaning of hyperbole, a Presbyterian minister said, "Perhaps you do not understand the meaning of the word hyperbole. This word, my friends, increases or diminishes a thing beyond the exact truth. Suppose I should say the whole of this congregation is fast asleep. That would be a hyperbole, for there are not above one-half of you sleeping."

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