

HOUSEHOLD.

Castor oil or olive butter are recommended as a good waterproof dressing, and can be used to soften walking boots, especially the former. Begin by pouring the oil from the bottle all around the welt so that the angle between the sole and upper leather is quite filled with oil, and then proceed all over the boot, including the edges of the soles, rubbing it in with the hand. When one is done, have a turn at the other and so alternately until you have got in about a tablespoonful and a half to each boot. The tongues, being thinner leather, should be quite saturated. Subsequent dressing will not require so much oil. Shoes thus treated, it is said, take very little labour to polish and keep bright with blacking.

NUTCANDY.—Two pints of maple sugar and half a pint of water boiled together make a good body for nut candy. Pour it over the nuts spread on a buttered tin. Another way to prepare nut candy is to add chocolate to the maple sugar, prepared as above; then heat the white of an egg very light; add confectioners' sugar until you cannot work any more in; then take walnut meats and cover with this until like little balls; then, when the sugar has cooled, though before it is entirely cold, dip the balls with a fork into it; lay them on buttered paper to cool and harden.

DRIED APPLE PIE.—A well beaten egg is a great addition to a dried apple pie, giving lightness and a good flavour also.

BREAD FOR BREAKFAST.—In a great many households there is a demand for freshly-baked bread, also for variety, and, as it is considered healthful to use more than one kind of grain to vary the diet, study to have the principal change at the morning meal. But the great standby, wheat bread, is to be first considered, and this must be set over night. For a large family, make a yeast by peeling eight good-sized potatoes, and boiling till soft; they are then mashed, mixed with three tablespoonfuls of flour, a teaspoonful of salt, and the same of sugar. When lukewarm, put in a cup of yeast, let it stand twelve hours in a warm place, then put in a tight jar and keep well-corked. This will keep a month in cool weather. Regular bread is made by sifting four quarts of flour into the bread-bowl; a little salt is sprinkled over it, and in the center is put as much lukewarm water as will make it a soft dough, into which is put two cupfuls of the yeast. Let it rise over night. When kneaded in the morning, take out enough for a pan of biscuit, and mix with this a teaspoonful of lard. Work up well, and make into any shape you choose. The rest of the bread must be baked as soon as it rises again, and the more you knead it the whiter it will be.

A NICE PUDDING.—A cheap and easily prepared dessert may be made on any bread-making day with bread-dough. Into one pint of dough work one-quarter of a cup of butter three-quarters of a cup of sugar, 1 teaspoonful of cloves and cinnamon each; when well-mixed add three-quarters of a cup of raisins. Put it into a well-buttered dish and let it rise like bread, then steam it two hours. Serve hot with maple syrup or sauce.

SCIENCE.

A LESSON IN SWIMMING.—A seal-mother gives a curious display of maternal-solicitude in teaching her calf to swim. First taking hold of it by the flipper, and for a while supporting it above water, with a shove she sends the youngster adrift, leaving it to shift for itself. In a short time, the little creature becomes exhausted, when she takes a fresh grip on its flipper, and again supports it till it has recovered breath, after which there is another push off, followed by a new attempt to swim, the same process being several times repeated to the end of the lesson.—From 'The Land of Fire,' by Mayne Reid.

The weathering of brick walls into a friable state is usually attributed to the action of heat, wet and

frost; it would now appear, however, from more exact observations, that the destructive agent in this case is a microscopic creature, the action played by the weather being, in fact, only secondary. An examination in France of the red dust of crumbling bricks under the microscope showed that it consisted largely of minute living organisms, and a sample of brick dust taken from the centre of a solid brick also exhibited the same animalculæ, but in smaller numbers—the harder the brick the fewer being observable. The magnifying power of the instrument was 300 diameters.

Bronze needles have been found in Egyptian tombs, which must have been made 4,000 years ago. The Spanish needle made of steel was introduced into England in Queen Elizabeth's time, but the process of making was kept secret till 1650. The little English village, Redditch, makes the best quality, and supplies most of the world. An inferior kind is made in France. Though very simple in form, every needle passes through the hands of nearly a hundred workmen. The most difficult part is drilling the eye.

A CHEAP FILTER.—Directions for making a cheap filter for drinking water are given by one who has experimented with it. Take a large flower pot, put a piece of sponge or clean moss over the hole in the bottom, put in pieces of charcoal broken very fine, and also an equal quantity of clean sand; over this put a linen cloth, or a piece of new white flannel, and let the water drain through this.

At the school for telegraphy at Ann Arbor, Mich., one of the students has not the use of his arms, yet he sends and receives messages correctly. On the table in front of him are a pencil and a stick. Taking the pencil between his teeth, he can write well; and with the stick in his mouth and resting on the key, he can send messages at the rate of about seventeen words per minute.

The contamination of the water supply in city water-works, and in wells and cisterns, is one of the prolific causes of disease. The use of tea and coffee as beverages has this advantage, that the water is boiled in preparing them. But how to secure pure water for drinking is one of the gravest questions of domestic economy.

FARM AND GARDEN.

A farmer who last year grew 300 bushels of mangel wurtzels intends this year to grow 1,000 bushels. He grew them for cows, but finds them excellent for sheep, horses and pigs, as a change from dry or concentrated food. There is a considerable amount of sugar in mangels, and they possess the advantage over other beets of being in good condition for feeding till late in the winter.

Beet, parsnip, onion and dandelion seed are said to be among those which must be sown fresh, while cucumber and squash seed are better when old.

NEW VARIETIES OF POTATOES.—The tubers will sometimes, though rarely, 'sport,' and produce a different variety from the one planted giving the impression that they will 'mix in the hill.' The only way to be certain of producing new varieties is to plant the real seeds, those found in the fruit or ball, that succeeds the flower on the top of the vine. Each seed in a ball may produce a distinct variety. That wonderful seed ball which contained the seed from which came the Early Rose, also produced several other varieties, some of which were good enough to be propagated. People have been deterred from trying to raise potatoes from the seed by the statement in the books, copied from English writers, that the tubers first obtained were very small, and required several years of cultivation before their quality could be ascertained. Mr. Breeze, who was the fortunate originator of the Early Rose, and has had much experience in raising seedlings informed us that he treated the potato seeds in the same manner as he did those of the tomato, sowing the seeds in the same manner, setting

out the plants at the same time. If a seedling did not at the end of the first season show some tubers of an eatable size, he did not bother with it any further. Some seedsmen offer potato seeds, but unless it is known what varieties produced them, we should prefer to wait and procure seed next fall from known varieties, and thus be sure of the pedigree of the seedlings.

SILOS.—Thinking that my experience in the matter of silo and ensilage would be of some benefit to those farmers who intend engaging in this new branch of agriculture, I send you the following lines:

In the first place in regard to building the silo—it will depend pretty much on the way the farm is situated, in regard to stone or lumber, as there are few farmers who would care to go to the expense of concrete. Having plenty of stone handy, I commenced building my silo in the same manner as building a cellar for a house, using lime mortar for about six inches from the face of the wall all the way up, then dashing the wall with lime mortar, making it as smooth as possible. My silo is 19x15 feet inside; 17 feet high, which I expect, when properly filled, to hold 60 tons, counting 40 square feet to the ton, when pressed, which from the time the weights are put on allows one-third for shrinkage. In regard to the bottom—having levelled it, I spread lime mortar to the depth of two inches, allowing it to get dry enough to carry the weight of a person. I then covered it with cement to the depth of half an inch, which will take for that size about one and half barrels of Portland cement, allowing two-thirds good sharp sand to one-third of cement; also cementing the sides of the walls at least one foot from the bottom, to retain the juice, should there be any. I have also two doors, one for putting in, and the other for feeding out.

The land where the corn grew had been under potatoes the year before. I worked it in the same manner as if for a root crop, putting the drills about 20 inches apart, with a light coat of manure in the drill, scattering the corn about eight seeds to the foot, on top of the manure, then covering with the plough, taking care to have good seed, and soaking it in cold water not less than forty hours before planting, which should be about the first week in June. If put in the ground in good order it will require very little cultivation. I cut it about the time it commenced tasseling out; having weighed a row, it proved 29 tons to the acre. I put about 29 tons in the silo, tramping it well while being put in, then laying tar paper on top, then two-inch plank, with narrow boards between plank and paper to keep them even, then about two feet of stone on the top of the plank.

Having opened it on the 10th of January, I found it in good order, the cattle preferring it to the best hay. I fed two head on it alone, for ten days, with better results than from hay and roots, 20 lbs. to a feed or 60 lbs. per day being sufficient.—T. B. Smith, in Colchester Sun.

VARIETIES.

CONTRASTS.

Man is strong; woman is beautiful. Man has science; woman has taste. Man shines abroad; woman at home. Man prevents misery; woman relieves it. Man has a rugged heart; woman a soft one. Man has judgement; woman has sensibility. Man is great in action; woman in suffering. Man is a being of justice; woman an angel of mercy.

ONE EGG FOR TEN PEOPLE.—One ostrich egg for ten persons is the pattern at the California ostrich farm. 'One, two, three, four, five, six, seven, eight, nine, ten,' said Dwight Whiting, counting the guests he had invited to spend the day at the ostrich farm with him. 'I guess one egg will be enough,' and having thus spoken he wended his way to the paddock and soon brought to the house an ostrich egg. The triumph of the feast was the egg. For an hour it was boiled, and though there was some misgiving as to its being cooked, the shell was broken, for curiosity could no longer be restrained, and a three-pound hard boiled egg laid upon the plate. But aside from its size, there was nothing peculiar about it. The white had a bluish tinge seen in ducks eggs, and the yolk was of the usual color. It tasted as it looked—like a duck egg—and had no flavor peculiar to itself. But it was immense. As it takes twenty-eight hen eggs to equal in weight the ostrich egg which was cooked, it is evident that the host knew what he was about in cooking only one. There was enough and to spare; and before leaving the table the party unanimously agreed that ostrich egg was good.—Anaheim Gazette.

ANALEPTICS

(RECUPERATIVE, RESTORATIVE.) ALL MEDICAL OBSERVERS are of one opinion in regard to the great value of COD LIVER OIL,

to be the best and most reliable, and (when uncombined with other medicines) when presented in a palatable and digestible form, of all recuperative medicines known, not only in CONSUMPTION but in other WASTING DISEASES, as SCROFULA, DISEASES OF THE JOINTS, SKIN ERUPTIONS, EMACIATION &c., and as

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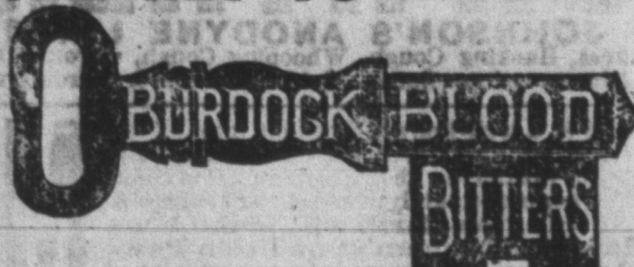
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Unlocks all the clogged avenues of the Bowels, Kidneys and Liver, carrying off gradually without weakening the system, all the impurities and foul humors of the secretions; at the same time Correcting Acidity of the Stomach, curing Bileousness, Dyspepsia, Headaches, Dizziness, Heartburn, Constipation, Dryness of the Skin, Dropsy, Dimness of Vision, Jaundice, Salt Rheum, Erysipelas, Scrofula, Eruption of the Heart, Nervousness and General Debility; all these and many other similar Complaints yield to the happy influence of BURDOCK BLOOD BITTERS.

Sample Bottles 10c; Regular size \$1. For sale by all dealers. W. H. MOORE, Proprietors, Toronto Oct. 4. year

AYER'S Sarsaparilla

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Inflammatory Rheumatism Cured. "AYER'S SARSAPARILLA has cured me of the Inflammatory rheumatism, with which I have suffered for many years." Durham, Ia., March 2, 1882.

"Eight years ago I had an attack of Rheumatism so severe that I could not move from the bed, or dress, without help. I tried several remedies without much if any relief, until I took AYER'S SARSAPARILLA, by the use of two bottles of which I was completely cured. I have not been troubled with the Rheumatism since. Have sold large quantities of your SARSAPARILLA, and it still retains its wonderful popularity. The many notable cures it has effected in this vicinity convince me that it is the best blood medicine ever offered to the public." E. F. HARRIS, River St., Buckland, Mass., May 13, 1882.

"Last March I was so weak from general debility that I could not walk without help. Following the advice of a friend, I commenced taking AYER'S SARSAPARILLA, and before I had used three bottles I felt as well as I ever did in my life. I have been at work now for two months, and think your SARSAPARILLA the greatest blood medicine in the world." JAMES MAYNARD, 220 West 42d St., New York, July 19, 1882.

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Feb. 7. 1y.

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