

Agriculture.

ONION CULTURE.

There is a peculiarity in the cultivation of this crop that is the reverse of nearly every crop raised, and that is the succession of crops on the same field, which proves exceedingly beneficial, while with most others it is directly the reverse, prejudicial; so that while most crops prefer a healthy rotation, the successive croppings of the onion is beneficial, in that from the continual cultivation of the same field much labour is saved, if care is taken for the first few years to eradicate every foul plant, so that none shall be allowed to seed upon the field to furnish plants for the succeeding year. In the selection of a field for the cultivation of this crop the soil should be a light sandy one, so situated as to be thoroughly drained, and capable of becoming dry at the earliest possible time after the frost leaves the ground. When a new piece of ground is selected, the result not unfrequently proves a partial failure, notwithstanding great care and pains may have been taken in the cultivation.

The failure usually consists in an excessive stock growth at the expense of bottoming, so that a beginner need not be discouraged even though the first one or two efforts do not prove successful or remunerative. In no case should a field be taken for the growth of this crop that has not previously been under thorough cultivation and become well pulverized, and also in a high state of fertility. It is also very desirable, though not absolutely necessary, that the manuring and principal ploughing be done in the autumn, just previous to the freezing of the ground, since thereby the manure becomes more evenly distributed in the soil, and not only that, but being so loosened and more exposed, to the action of the frost, is more easily cultivated in the early spring. The manure used is not so essential, if it is well pulverized; some prefer horse manure, others that from the hog yard, and still others any that is well decomposed. The ploughing in the spring need not necessarily be very deep if the same was thoroughly done in the fall, since the onion is a root that grows and flourishes best on the surface. As soon as the frost leaves the ground, if previously manured, it should be lightly ploughed, say from three to four inches deep, and then thoroughly scarified, so that it shall be evenly and thoroughly pulverized; a great auxiliary to manure of whatever kind, and which appears to assist in the bottoming, is a good supply of ashes; in fact good crops have been grown from soil in good condition fertilized by ashes alone. If ashes are used, they should be strewn upon the surface after being smoothed, and then thoroughly raked in, at which time the surface should be raked smoothly. If ashes are not used after the surface is scarified, guano, superphosphate, or some other commercial fertilizer, should be evenly distributed upon the surface and raked in as before. When thus prepared, the field is ready for the seed.

After sowing, nothing further remains to be done until the little plant has made its appearance above ground, and then should commence the labour of destroying all weeds as fast as they make their appearance. Clean cultivation is absolutely necessary, as the growth of the onion is greatly retarded by the infringement of any foul and unnecessary growth of weeds.—*Canadian Farmer.*

DOSING HORSES.—Drenching a horse with fluid medicines, even if the doses are of an indifferent nature, like milk and molasses, is always very dangerous; but is extremely so, first, when the drench consists of substances,—for instance, oil or grease,—to which horses have a natural aversion; secondly, when the sick horse is suffering with a disease which is attended with fast breathing, like pneumonia, colic, etc.; and thirdly, when the fluid, as is often the case, is poured down in a forcible manner, for in such cases it frequently happens that a part of the fluid enters the larynx and goes down the windpipe into the lungs, and causes there an inflammation, which frequently becomes fatal.—*"Veterinarian," in Chicago Tribune.*

For mildew on rose bushes, dissolve a pound of soft-soap in a gallon of rain-water, and sprinkle the upper and under surface of the foliage with this solution.

MILKING IN SILENCE.

At the Farmers' Club in West Cornwall, Connecticut (U.S.) a farmer said that no talking should be allowed while milking was going on. He said he discharged one of his servants who persisted in talking during milking time and that in three days the increase of milk was equal to the man's weekly wages. We fear an increase to such an extent must have been due to other causes besides the one assigned. If the enlarged yield followed solely from the dismissal of the man, we suspect his presence affected the supply of milk in some way apart from his loquacity. We have frequently found a change of servants prove beneficial. It may be that talking prevents hens from laying also. We know we have often experienced a vast increase in the number of eggs brought into the house after the removal of a too officious individual from our employ. Besides, our cows have sometimes improved in produce by the same means, but we generally attributed it to cleaner milking by fresh and more industrious hands. It is, however, well known that cows are peculiarly sensitive to sights and sounds during the time they are milked. Unless they are at perfect ease they will not give their milk freely. They should be daily milked under the same conditions. Cows that are fed at milking time require their usual meal, or they become restless or dissatisfied, and put a stop to their bounty. Many of them will only allow some special favorite to milk them. In those parts of the country where women are solely employed to milk, we frequently find one or two tuneful lasses singing at their work, and many cows become so pleased with the rustic harmony as to show evident signs of their approval of the loud sweet voice, by giving their milk only by being sung to. Everything that distracts the attention of the cow and ruffles her placidity, should be avoided when she is called upon to yield her milk. Her nervous system should not be excited by strange noises, unwelcome objects or rough treatment, or the effect will be apparent in a diminished supply in the milk pail. It would no doubt be good advice, on the whole, to tell those who milk that they should hold their tongues and keep their tempers. The Connecticut farmer appears to have sufficient reason indeed to say, that speech is silver, but silence is golden.—*London Milk Journal.*

FRUIT CULTURE.—The *Country Gentleman* sums up a few leading points in fruit culture in the following comprehensive remarks:

1. Instead of "trimming up" trees according to the old fashion, to make them long-legged and long-rimmed, trim them down, so as to make them even, snug and symmetrical.
2. Instead of manuring heavily in a small circle, and at the foot of the tree spread the manure, if needed at all, broadcast over the whole surface.
3. Instead of spading a small circle about the stem, cultivate the whole surface broadcast.
4. Prefer a well pulverized, clean surface in an orchard, with a moderately rich soil, to heavy manuring, and a surface covered with a hard crust and weeds or grass.
5. Remember it is better to set out ten trees with all the necessary care to make them live and flourish than to set out a hundred trees and have them all die from carelessness.
6. Remember that tobacco is a poison, and will kill insects rapidly if properly applied to them, and is one of the best drugs for freeing trees rapidly of small vermin; and is better used in this way than to make men repulsive and diseased.

FRESH FRUITS.—Very few fruits, however well grown and however perfectly ripened, are so good if eaten instantly upon being gathered, as they are when kept in a cool, dark place for twenty-four hours or more. Strawberries plucked when the sun shines fiercely are simply unfit to eat, for they are warm; ditto peaches, and all else. To obtain the full, true, delicious flavor of a strawberry or peach, gather the fruit one day in advance, and shut it up closely in the fruit room, and it will then be fit for the dessert and a credit to the cultivator. A second-class fruit, prepared by this course of procedure, will actually surpass a first-class fruit, eaten freshly gathered. Yet the current notion is that soft fruits cannot be eaten too fresh, and the keeping of them deteriorates their flavor.

MESSENGER ALMANACK.

NOVEMBER, 1871.

Last Quarter, Nov. 5th, 8h. 41m. morning.
New Moon, " 12th, 0h. 54m. afternoon.
First Quarter, " 19th, 4h. 32m. morning.
Full Moon, " 26th, 4h. 39m. afternoon.

Day	SUN.	MOON.	High Tide
Wk	Rise	Set	at Halifax
1 W.	6 41	4 47	7 48
2 Th.	6 42	4 45	8 37
3 F.	6 44	4 44	9 32
4 Sa.	6 45	4 42	10 32
5 Su.	6 46	4 41	11 35
6 M.	6 48	4 40	mor.
7 Tu.	6 49	4 38	0 42
8 W.	6 51	4 37	1 53
9 Th.	6 52	4 36	3 0
10 F.	6 54	4 35	4 11
11 Sa.	6 55	4 34	5 26
12 Su.	6 56	4 33	6 41
13 M.	6 57	4 32	8 4
14 Tu.	6 59	4 30	9 22
15 W.	7 0	4 29	10 34
16 Th.	7 2	4 28	11 36
17 F.	7 3	4 27	12 45
18 Sa.	7 4	4 26	1 5
19 Su.	7 5	4 25	2 5
20 M.	7 7	4 25	3 7
21 Tu.	7 8	4 24	3 12
22 W.	7 10	4 23	3 59
23 Th.	7 11	4 22	4 56
24 F.	7 12	4 21	5 53
25 Sa.	7 14	4 21	6 50
26 Su.	7 15	4 21	7 53
27 M.	7 16	4 20	8 56
28 Tu.	7 18	4 19	9 58
29 W.	7 19	4 19	10 59
30 Th.	7 20	4 19	11 6

THE TIDES.—The column of the Moon's Southings gives the time of high water at Pictou, Cornwallis, Horton, Hantsport, 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 25 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.

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. Also, Archibald's Cough Mixture for Coughs, Colds, and all Lung Diseases.

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PERUVIAN BITTERS

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(Signed) HENRY HOW, D.C.L.
King's College, Windsor.

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(Signed) C. HARDY.
Capt. R. A.

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(Signed) EDWARD H. SOLOMON,
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(Signed) DUDLEY DE CHAIR.
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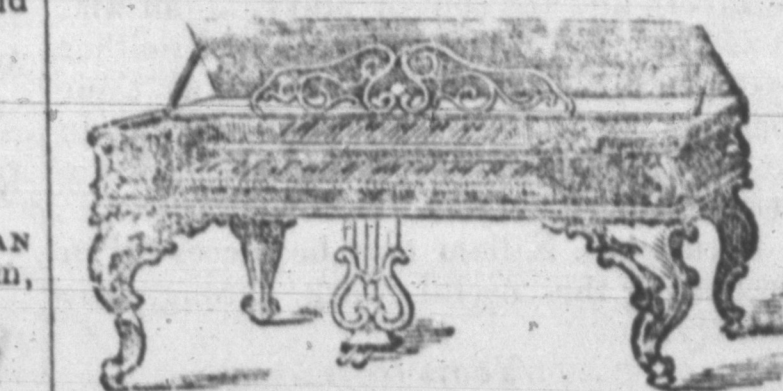
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