

Scientific.

A New Cure for Bronchial and Consumptive Complaints

Dr. Cartwright, of New Orleans, communicates to the Boston Medical and Surgical Journal an article, entitled—"The Sugar-House Cure for Bronchial, Dyspeptic and Consumptive Complaints." It is stated that a residence in a sugar house, during the rolling season, far surpasses any other known means of restoring flesh, strength and health, lost by chronic ailments of the chest, throat or stomach. The rolling season is the harvest when the canes are cut, the juice expressed and converted into sugar. In Louisiana it commences about the middle of October and ends at Christmas, but is sometimes protracted into January. Dr. C. says the vapor is most agreeable and soothing to the lungs, and in his own case entirely removed a distressing cough. He stood for hours in the sugar-house inhaling the vapor, and drinking occasionally a glass of the hot cane-juice. This is a fact interesting to invalids.

USEFUL SCIENTIFIC DISCOVERY.

A pharmacien at Rome, Signore Pagliare, has recently succeeded in discovering a liquid possessing so extraordinary a power of coagulating blood, that if to a large basin containing this fluid one drop of the styptic be added, complete solidification ensues, so that the basin may be inverted without causing any blood to be lost. The practical advantages of this styptic are consequently very great, inasmuch as by its timely application the bleeding from large and dangerous wounds may be immediately staunched. In addition to the other valuable qualities of the liquid, it is totally devoid of poisonous agency, and easily prepared, as follows: Take eight ounces of gum Benzoin, one pound of alum, and ten pints of water. Boil all together for the space of eight hours in an earthenware glazed vessel, frequently stirring the mass, and adding water sufficient to make up the original quantity of that lost by ebullition, taking care, however, to add the water so gradually that boiling may not be suspended. The liquid portion of the compound is now to be strained off, and preserved in well corked bottles. It is limped, like champagne, as to color, possessing a slightly styptic taste.

IMPORTANT NAUTICAL DISCOVERY.

It may not be generally known that the latitude of a ship cannot be taken if the sun and the horizon be not both visible at the same time, and that the artificial horizon used on land to obtain the latitude of a place, cannot be used at sea, owing to the constant motion of the ship destroying the horizontal surface. It is stated that Mr. BRINDEN, of Mont St. Hilaire, Canada East, has perfected a mode for using the artificial horizon at sea, so that it is perfectly uninfluenced by the motion of the ship, and the altitude may be taken at all times when the sun is visible. Such a discovery will tend much to the security of floating property, and preservation of the lives of our hardy sailors, and must command the attention of merchants owning ship property.

OUT-DOOR EXERCISE

One of the old-fashioned sons of Esculapius, on being asked by a patient what were the best means for preserving health, replied, "Out-door exercise." "And what," added the patient, "is the best way to avoid taking cold?" The Doctor again answered, "Out-door exercise." "And pray, Doctor, do tell me how I shall get an appetite." Why, by, "Out-door exercise." Nothing so true, because it is the voice of nature. Franklin, who well understood the rules of health, observed, "Dress moderately, and take plenty of exercise, and you won't blame the climate for the sins of your own making."

A PHENOMENON.

The water in the lead mines is said to be higher this year, than when the seasons have been wet. How can this be accounted for? Can it be on the presumption that moisture will ascend in a percolating process through the earth when it is parched for want of moisture. This may be one cause, but the phenomenon of higher water below the surface of the earth in a dry season than in a wet, cannot, we think, be attributed wholly if at all, to the suggested cause. What say Geologists on the subject? [Dubuque Her.

YEAST.

The bitterness of yeast, which is often the cause of complaint, may be removed by strain-

ing it through bran, or by dipping red hot charcoal in it. But the most effectual and easily available remedy is, to put the yeast in a large pan and cover it with well or spring water, changing it every three or four hours. The bran seems to impair the strength, and the coal sometimes stains it, but the water purifies it in color and taste.

The mode of using water for keeping and purifying yeast, has been adopted by some of the American housekeepers with entire success. So says the Gardener's Chronicle.

AFRICA.

M. Zucchi, a chemist in the employ of the Viceroy of Egypt, has discovered the means of clarifying the oil extracted from the grains of cotton, and rendering it of use in manufactures. The Viceroy has secured to the discoverer the exclusive right, for ten years, of clarifying and selling the oil.

WAVES.—The waves of the ocean are various in figure and dimensions, according to the force and direction of the winds, contending currents and other causes. The best account we have of the theory of waves, is that given by the learned Dr. Annot, in his work, "The Elements of Physics," from which we may quote a few passages. "The common cause of waves is the friction of the wind upon the surface of the water. Little ridges or elevations first appear, which, by a continuance of the force, gradually increase, until they become the rolling mountains seen where the winds sweep over a great extent of water. In rounding the Cape of Good Hope, waves are met with, or rather a swell, so vast that a few depressions occupy the extent of a mile. But these are not so dangerous to ships as a shorter sea, as it is termed, with more perpendicular waves. The slope in the former is so gentle that the rising and falling are scarcely felt; while the latter, by the sudden tossing of the vessel, is often destructive. When a ship is sailing before the wind and riding over the long swell, she advances as if by leaps; for while each wave passes, she is first descending headlong on its front, acquiring a velocity so wild that she can scarcely be steered; and soon after, when the wave has glided under her, she is climbing on its back, and her motion is slackened almost to rest before the following wave arrives."—Boston Journal.

The Farm.

FARM WORK FOR OCTOBER.

Look to the directions for the last month, and complete those which have been neglected. Make composts industriously; use those made in August on your clayey lands, riding and back-furrowing them, running the sub-soil plough in the bottom of the open furrows. By this system the manures will occupy the centre of the ridges, and thus their gasses during decomposition will be absorbed, instead of passing off into the atmosphere. The sub-soiling between ridges will prevent the ridges from compacting by rains, and the subsoil will be rendered fit for sustaining plants another year from receiving the atmosphere and the carbonic acid and ammonia carried in by the rains. The frequent freezings and thawings in winter, will render the ridges pulverulent by spring, and suitable for early culture. Do not plough sandy lands in the fall.

Rake up leaves from the woods as they fall, and put them in the compost heaps. Cart headlands to the manure shed. Have a good supply of materials suitable for bedding, near the stables. Do not attempt to fatten more cattle than you can fully supply with food, or they will not afterwards flourish well, even if fully supplied. Young cattle cannot be brought up in flesh as an ontlay which will pay if neglected early.

Skin old woods of the surface-soil, and replace half its value as manure with lime and ashes in the woods, and both farm and woodland will gain by the exchange. Get all the night-soil you can, and mix it with headlands, &c., for the compost heaps. Wet the compost heaps with salt lye from the soap-boilers, if you can get it. Use half a bushel of refuse salt to every chard of compost, to prevent re-germination of weeds, grubs, &c., &c. If you have not sufficient cellar room, make piles of your root crops, beets, turnips, carrots, &c., on high places, and cover with one inch of dry straw; leave small openings at the top for escape of air, and dig a trench around the heap with a gutter leading off to a lower spot, thus keeping the pile dry. Do not forget that corn is more valuable when changed to fat than when found in the hog manure, and to secure the first condition, cook it before feeding to hogs or your manure will be very rich, at too high a cost. Mr. Ellsworth has satisfactorily proved, that one pound of cooked corn, will make more pork than two pounds fed in the raw state.

Have analysis made of your soils, so as to be able to provide the necessary manures during winter, for spring use.—[Warking Farmer.

From the New England Farmer SEED POTATOES.

MR. EDITOR;—I have a few words to say about seed potatoes. Though it may seem a little out of season—yet perhaps it may not be so much as it seems. I think that farmers should look out for their seed now, and will show my reasons as soon as possible.

There has been much discussion whether it is important or not to save large seed for planting. I think that the size of the potato as a whole is not to be looked at, as much as the condition of the eye—which is of course the germ of the plant; if you wish thrifty potatoes you should attend to this; cut potatoes with sound germs are better for seed than whole ones with what I shall call weak eyes. Let us look however at the office performed by the body or bulb of the potato. In the first place, it is the organ by which in the growth of the plant the germ is established, and the first stage in its existence completed; in the next place, it is a magazine of nourishment to supply material to support the growth of that germ when it starts on its second stage.

Whenever a potato is placed in a warm, damp place, the juices contained within it undergo a change. Electricity is developed, which starts the germ into action, the sprouts of the potato shoot out, and the nourishment contained in these fermenting juices in its body are taken up by the growing sprout and form its composition. As long as the potato is kept in a favorable situation for this change in its juices to continue, the sprout grows until it at length takes up all the capital it had to start with, all its fund supplied by nature; now, unless it is placed in the ground it can progress no farther, for it has emptied the bank. It is evident that if we plant potatoes early, before the ground is in a condition to supply a constant source of nourishment, it is best to plant large potatoes, and not to skin off the seed end too closely. And then again, it is a good plan to plant sound potatoes, not wilted ones that have sprouted and had the sprout broken off several times; why? Because every time that a sprout puts forth, it exhausts the electric power in the bulb and also takes up of its nourishment; large potatoes therefore that have sprouted several times, are no better to plant than small ones whose bulbs or bodies have not been exhausted; you know that when we dig potatoes, we find the old seed rotted and nothing left of it but a shell; all its power has gone its nutritive element gone, completely exhausted; you would never think of planting it again. Now the potato that has been sprouted several times in the spring, is in the same condition in quality; but not so far gone in degree; it is not wholly, but partially emptied. Seed potatoes should be kept, then where it is cool and dry, so that they shall not sprout until after they are planted; they should be kept in the dark also, that no evaporation may go in the juice.

I think I have settled the question of large or small seed; however I should like to hear the views of others on the subject. If my views are correct, this article is proved not out of season, as now is the time to look to the preservation of seed potatoes so as to have them right in planting time. OSCAR MELLISH.

COWS HOLDING UP THEIR MILK.

A gentleman at Huntingdon, L. I., writes as follows:—

It is known to many farmers that when cows first come in, when the calves are taken away, they will hold up their milk for a short time, and some will almost dry themselves before they will give it down. A few years ago I bought a young cow, which proved to be very wild, and when I took away her first calf, she would not give her milk. I heard it remarked that putting a weight on the cow's back would make her give milk down, I accordingly drove her into a stable, got a bushel of grain and put it on her back. While kept in this position she had no power to hold up her milk, for it came down freely. After doing this a few times, and afterward putting my hand on the back of the cow, it would give way, and she would immediately give down her milk.

CORN FODDER.

In the course of the last six or eight years, much has been said and written upon sowing corn for fodder. Few farmers have practiced this method of securing feed, but in a dry sea-

son like the present, many would would do well to avail themselves of it. Every farmer who keeps any number of cattle, should sow a little for feeding out in "dog-days," as green food for milch cows, or to other stock when necessary.

The plan usually adopted is to sow broadcast, and when of sufficient growth to mow, and cure for winter feed as we do hay, or to feed green in the yard or field. When sown broadcast I think it should be fed green; for when made into dry fodder, the chances are that the crop will be weather beaten and spoiled before it can be sufficiently cured for storing in the barn. A sudden shower, or long rain, will almost invariably ruin the fodder. Corn stalks require a great deal of curing before they become dry enough to keep as well as hay. Should they be carried into the barn with a little moisture on them, and stowed away compactly, they will be almost sure to heat and spoil. And if kept in the sun long enough to cure perfectly, the leaves become dry and crumble, before the stalk is sufficiently cured. When the crop is intended for winter fodder, a better plan is to prepare the ground properly, and sow the corn in drills with a seed sower, some twenty inches or two feet apart. The weeds may be kept down by passing a horse cultivator two or three times between the rows. In harvesting this crop, the same course may be pursued as in securing the corn crop in the fall—cut up at the bottom with a corn knife and stack it, by gathering the stalks around a bunch of standing corn till the stook is of good size, then turn down the tops and confine with a band of straw, and the work is done. The stooks may stand till the fodder is well cured, which will take from six weeks to two months, as the case may be, and if the stooks are well put up, there will be no danger of the fodder being injured by the weather.

When sown broadcast, the corn should be thickly scattered, so as to prevent the weeds from growing. The best time for cutting the corn for green feed, is after the stalk has attained its full growth, or when the ear is beginning to form. However, those who have more experience, may know better about the time of cutting. Let every farmer make a trial of half an acre of corn fodder, and after one experiment they will continue to raise it.

L. DURAND. Derby, Ct., July 28, 1852.

FARMING.—If one half the zeal, energy, and expense that blots so many gazettes with low and coarse abuse, setting the whole community by the ears for the vain and paltry purpose of a few demagogues and office seekers, were bestowed on the advancement of agriculture; if the people were half as ambitious to improve and beautify their fields, as they are to settle the affairs of the nation; and half as angry with thistles, thorns and poor fences, as they are with their political opponents, who probably wish as well to the country as they, we should have more productive fields, less complaints of poverty, more ability to be charitable and munificent, and abundantly more good feelings. From Pittsburgh to New Orleans the son ploughs as his father did before him, and the great mass of farmers are as stationary in theory as they are in practice. Nine in ten believe at this moment, that book farming is the mere useless, visionary dreaming of men that know nothing about practical agriculture.

We would tell them that England is the garden of Europe simply because almost every acre of the ground is cultivated scientifically, and on principles which have been brought to the test of the most rigid and exact experiment. We would tell them that New England, of whose soil and climate they are accustomed to think as consigned, by Providence, to sterility and inclemency, is the garden of the United States, only because the industrious and calculating people do not throw away their efforts in the exertion of mere brute strength—but bring mind, pain, system and experience to bear upon their naturally hard and thankless soil.

On every side the passing traveller sees verdure, grass and orchards in the small and frequent enclosures of imperishable rock, and remarks fertility won from the opposition of the elements and nature. After an absence of ten years, on our return to our country, we were struck with this proud and noble triumph conspicuous over the whole region.

The real benefactors of mankind, as St. Pierre so beautifully said, are those who cause two blades of wheat to mature where one did before. The fields ought to be the morning and evening theme of Americans that love their country. To fertilize and improve his farm, ought to be the main object of the owner of the substantial soil. All national aggrandizement, power and wealth may be traced to agriculture, as its ultimate source. Commerce and manufactures are only subordinate results of this main spring.

We consider agriculture as very subsidiary not only to abundance, industry, comfort and health, but to good morals and ultimately even to religion. We shall always say and sing, "Speed the plough."—Rev. T. Flint.