

The Sunflower and its Uses.

This common but beautiful plant is familiar to everybody, and grows wild over our whole country. It will grow in almost any soil and requires little in its cultivation. I shall endeavor to show in this article what a valuable plant it is, and what a profitable industry may be made by small farmers who have waste lands that could be profitably used for its cultivation at comparatively little expense. There are over fifty species of sunflowers known, but I shall refer more particularly to the giant flowered *Helianthus Annuus*. It is supposed to get its name from its head turning to the sun, from east to west, every day, hence its French name, "Toures;" or, more probably, it is from its resemblance to the old pictures of the sun surrounded by golden rays.

In the year 1596 Girard notices the plant in England, and calls it flower of the sun, or "Marigold of Peru," as it has quite a respectable antiquity even in civilized countries. An acre of land will contain 25,000 plants, at 15 to 20 inches apart. It has been found that they will produce from 80 to 100 bushels of seed, that will yield from seven to eight quarts of oil to the bushel. The refuse of the seeds, after the oil is expressed, can be made into oil cake for fattening animals. The stalks when burned for alkali give 10 per cent potassa. As the sunflower exhausts the potash in the land to a great extent, the ashes would be valuable to return to the ground with manure. The green leaves make good fodder or can be used as ensilage. If dried and burned to powder, they are good to mix with beans for milch cows. The seeds are said to be more oleaginous than those of the flax plant, and combine all the qualities of the best olive oil. It can be used for lamps, and burns as well as sperm oil, without its smoke. Painters say it is superior to linseed oil, as it dries rapidly and spreads easily.

The stalks are full of strong fiber, like that of flax or hemp, and is beginning to be used in the manufacture of paper. Machinery for all purposes has attained such excellence here, and much of it is so simplified and inexpensive, that machines for expressing the oil and separating the fiber can be produced at small cost. As the sunflower is less dependent on the weather than many plants, it is well worth trying by those who have waste lands, and the returns are quick and pretty sure.

There is another item where this plant can also be made most profitably available. Wherever a field of sunflowers is grown its owner should set up an apiary. It is one of the best bee pastures known. Its numerous luscious nectaries yield an abundance of the best and most palatable honey. Anyone who has passed near a clump of sunflowers in full bloom must have noticed what a buzzing the bees kept up round them, and what a strong scent of honey they exhale. I trust that this information may induce many to give this culture a fair trial, and that we may yet see fields of sunflowers as common as those of oats or rye.

The seed of the sunflower given to chickens in the winter answers as well as animal food for them, and helps to produce eggs early in the season when fresh ones are scarce, so profitable in every market. The young flower cups, when taken before the seeds are formed, and dressed like artichokes, are very palatable. One species, the *H. tuberosa*, a tall, wild plant, known as the Jerusalem artichoke, is also a useful plant when cultivated so as to increase the size of the tubers. They give a wholesome vegetable, and will prosper where potatoes fail and make a good substitute. Thus it will be seen that the sunflower is one of the most valuable crops the farmer can raise on his waste land, as it will grow where other crops fail.

A Pasture Pointer.

It is not uncommon for inexperienced stockmen to think they have secured excellent pasture because they can turn into a field where grass is a foot or more high. Except with clover, and not always with that, a large growth is not the sweetest and most nutritious. Very often indeed the untouched grass in the pasture field is left uneaten because it lacks the sweetness which cattle found in shorter and more nutritious grass. We have often seen the grass eaten down almost to the soil over an underdrain, while the grass grew green, and apparently just as good, but uneaten, a few feet away. Then, too, a dressing of mineral fertilizer, either potash or phosphate, will do much to sweeten this too large growth. Probably on most soils the potash adds phosphate also by making what the soil contains more soluble.

Gum arabic and gum tagacanth in equal parts, dissolved in hot water, make the best and most convenient mucilage to keep in the house.

When lamps are not in use for a week or more, the oil should be poured out, or the stale oil will cause an unpleasant odor when next it is lighted.

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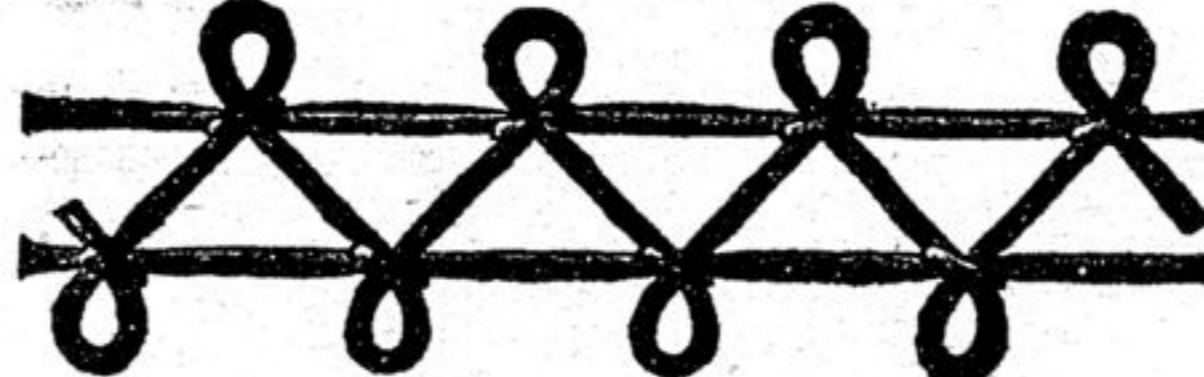
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JOS. HEARD.

BACK AGAIN.

HENRY PEARCE

respectfully informs his numerous old customers and the public generally that he has returned to Fenelon Falls and resumed

The Boot and Shoe Business

in the store lately occupied by Mr. S. Nevison on the east side of Colborne street, and hopes by turning out

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NOTICE.

To the residents of Fenelon Falls.

Take notice that any person or persons removing from any village or district infected with diphtheria to Fenelon Falls will be quarantined for a period of 14 days or longer, at the discretion of the Board of Health. The citizens of Fenelon Falls who do not wish to be so inconvenienced will govern themselves accordingly. By order of the Board of Health.

A. WILSON, M. D.,

Medical Health Officer Fenelon Falls, Feb'y 22nd, 1893. 1-t. f.

The "Fenelon Falls Gazette"

is printed every Friday at the office, on the corner of May and Francis streets.

SUBSCRIPTION \$1 A YEAR IN ADVANCE, or one cent per week will be added as long as it remains unpaid.

Advertising Rates.

Professional or business cards, 50 cents per line per annum. Casual advertisements, 8 cents per line for the first insertion, and 2 cents per line for every subsequent insertion. Contracts by the year, half year or less, upon reasonable terms.

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of all ordinary kinds executed neatly, correctly and at moderate prices. } E. D. HAND, Proprietor.

Her Personal Property.

SHE WANTED THE NEIGHBORS TO KNOW WHAT SHE HAD.

A deputy assessor called at a suburban residence a few days ago and asked the lady of the house to fill out her statement of assessable personal property. She had never made out a statement before, this public duty having been attended to by her husband in previous years.

In some way she was under the impression that the statement of her effects would be published in the daily papers, and she was anxious to let her neighbors know what she had.

"Have you a piano, madam?" asked the deputy assessor.

"I have that, and a fine one, too."

"What is it worth?"

"Not a cent less than \$1,000."

"What is your other household furniture worth?"

"At least \$2,500." The assessor glanced at the rag carpet doubtfully, but put it down at that.

"I see you have some pictures," he said. There were a few cheap chromes hanging on the wall.

"Have nine oil paintings, worth \$50 apiece."

"Do you keep any poultry?"

"Yes, sir, I have about 500 young chickens."

"What are they worth?"

"They are of a very fine breed and I wouldn't take a cent less than \$1 a chick."

"Chickens, \$500," he replied, as he filled out the blank.

"Do you keep a cow or a horse?"

"No, but I have a fine goat."

"What do you value it at?"

"About \$100. Nannie's better than any cow."

"You have no franchises to assess, have you?"

"No-o," she responded doubtfully.

"But I think my husband has three or four. You can put them in at \$100 apiece, can't you?"

"Certainly, madam. The total is \$4950. Is that almost right?"

"You might make it a round \$5000."

Her husband has been haunting the assessor's office ever since in an effort to convince that official that his wife was playing a joke on the deputy when she swore to that statement.—*San Francisco Post.*

A Doubtful Insurer.

THE DUTCHMAN'S EXPERIENCE HAD MADE HIM VERY CAUTIOUS.

A certain Dutchman, owner of a small house, had effected an insurance on it of £800, although it had been built for much less. The house was burned down, and the Dutchman then claimed the full amount for which it had been insured, but the officers of the company refused to pay more than its actual value—about £600. He expressed his dissatisfaction in powerful broken English, interlarding his remarks with some choice Teutonic language.

"If you wish it," said the agent of the insurance company, "we will build you a house, larger and better than the one burned down, as we are positive it can be done for even less than £600." To this proposition the Dutchman objected, and at last was compelled to take the £600.

Some weeks after he received the money he was waited upon by the same agent, who wanted him to take out a policy of life insurance on himself or his wife. "If you insure your wife for £2,000," the agent said, "and she should die, you will have the sum to solace your heart."

"Donner und blitzen," exclaimed the Dutchman; "you 'surance fellows ish all tiefs. If I insure my wife, and my wife dies, and if I goes to the office to get my two thousand pound, do I gets all de money? No, no quite. You vill say to me, 'She vas not worth two thousand pound, she vas vorth about six pound. If you don't like de six pound, ve vill gif you a bigger and better wife.'"

A Very Effective Hint.

"Don't you think earrings would become you?" inquired Kosciusko Jones of Birdie McInnis, the belle of Harlem. Kosciusko had been paying birdie very assiduous attention of late.

"I don't know," replied Birdie, demurely.

"I suppose the reason you don't wear them is because it will hurt so to have your ears bored."

"Oh, not in the least," said Birdie, with animation. "I've had that done already quite often—almost every evening, in fact, for the last three weeks."

Then Kosciusko reached around to the piano, pulled his hat off the cover, and commenced to fade gradually from the room. He fairly melted away into obscurity, and now a wide chasm separates the gallant Kosciusko and the charming Birdie.—*Texas Siftings.*

"Oh! if you please, 'm. is the children insured, 'm?' " "Good gracious! why?" "Cause th' nursery's afire, 'm."