

HOUSE PLANT ADVICE.

"It does me good to see you look so carefully after your house plants, Mrs. Proons," said the Star Boarder at breakfast time.

"You are fond of flowers yourself, I suppose," replied the landlady, benignly.

"I am, and I recognize in you a kindred soul. There is in the similarity of our likes that which draws us together in bonds of—what shall I say—I mean in love for the beauties of nature. And what is there in nature more beautiful than flowers—always excepting, of course, the ladies!" and the Star Boarder made a gallant bow to Mrs. Proons, who graciously bent her stately neck in acknowledgment.

"What a wonderful command of language you have, Mr. Spatts!" she said.

"Thank you for that, Mrs. Proons. Coming from you, I heartily appreciate it, for I know you would not say it unless you really thought it. How excellent it is to have a friend whose words are always candid."

"Yes, you really have a wonderful command of language, Mr. Spatts."

"And yet how inadequate it is to express the thoughts which rise so tumultuously in my mind. My dear Mrs. Proons, language often fails me when I wish to give utterance to my noblest thoughts. Can you believe that?"

"What a pity, isn't it?"

"Undoubtedly—but I have wandered from my subject. Noticing your assiduous care for your flowers, I thought you would take it kindly if I cut out of a paper I was reading at the office yesterday some advice on the management of house plants by a very eminent professor in Germany. You know, those Germans know everything. They are so painstaking in their researches."

"How kind of you," said Mrs. Proons, as Mr. Spatts drew forth from his inside pocket a collection of envelopes with frayed edges and looked through them for the clipping.

"Ah, here it is," he said, and then he began to read: "To make house plants thrive," says Prof. Buosof, "saturate the earth around them every day with the coffee left over from breakfast. Now, that is very simple, but I have no doubt the results are very encouraging."

"I shall certainly try it, Mr. Spatts, and I am very grateful to you for your thoughtfulness in bringing me the paragraph."

"Do not mention it, I beg of you," added Mr. Spatts as he rose from the table. "I assure you it gives me pleasure to be of any service to you, Mrs. Proons."

"I say, Spatts," said Hunker, as the two passed out of the boarding-house into the street, "what makes you so dreadfully anxious for Mrs. Proons's flowers to thrive?"

"I am a great lover of the beautiful flowers, dear boy," replied Spatts, "and then, too, I am fond of coffee made fresh every morning for breakfast."

Explicit.



Uncle Harry—And did naughty Dada whacky-whack poor Medje!

Medje—Yes, Uncle!

Uncle Harry—Oh, poor old girl! And where did he whacky-whack you?

Medje—Er—er—on the b-b-back of my Tummy, Uncle!

Narrow Escape.

Judge—Prisoner, stand up. You are charged with taking a fence rail to this plaintiff and beating him over the head. You see the plight the man is in. One of his eyes is gone, his teeth are all missing, his nose looks as if a trolley car had run over it, one ear looks as if it had been used for a door mat, three of his ribs are broken, his voice is cracked, and it is feared that he has serious internal injuries. What have you to say in justification of your conduct?

The Prisoner—Not much, Your Honor. He was scorching, and I—

Judge—That will do. I'll discharge you this time, but if you ever come before me again in a case of this kind and don't have a good reason to give for not having killed your man I'll fine you the limit.—Cleveland Leader.

Hard Service.

"You think you ought to have a pension!" exclaimed the Spanish official.

"I do."

"In what battles did you serve?"

"I was in almost every engagement against the Cuban insurgents."

"It's rather early to be looking for a pension. That war is not over yet. What is the nature of your disability?"

"I'm palsy."

Theorizing.

They were discussing the new boarder. "He slips in and out of the house so quietly," said the grass-widow boarder, "that I think he must have been a married man once."

"Maybe it is that," said Mrs. Hashcroft, as a troubled look came over her face. "and maybe he is in the habit of getting behind with his board."

How It Happened.

Mr. Wickwire—I saw a woman pass a big mirror in a show window to-day without looking in.

Mrs. Wickwire—I suppose you are going to be funny now, and tell me that she was blind.

"Naps. She was looking across the street at another woman with a new hat."

VACCINATING LAND.

The Principle of Inoculation in the Domain of Agriculture.

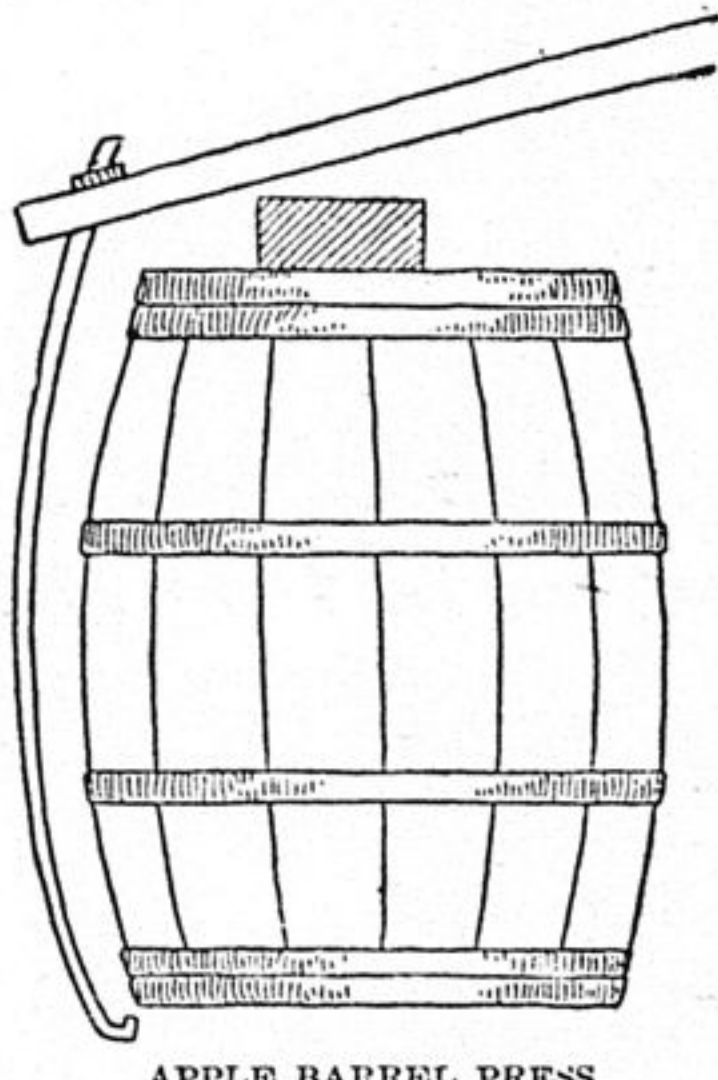
Research has demonstrated that the soil of our fields is literally teeming with bacteria, which, according to some recent experiments, may be present to the extent of 45,000,000 per gramme (the one-twenty-sixth part of an ounce) of soil; and that these bacteria are largely instrumental in conducting to the successful growth of vegetation by preparing, in forms suitable for assimilation by the plant, the different food substances it derives from the soil, says the Quarterly Review. The latest application, in the domain of agriculture, of the great principle of inoculation, is in many respects of a more striking nature than anything yet accomplished by this line of research, and consists of the inoculation of the soil with pure cultures of bacteria for the purpose of promoting plant growth.

Inoculation of a soil with these cultures, on a practical scale, may be effected in either of two ways. First, the seed of the crop it is desired to inoculate may be inoculated before it is sown. This is effected by making a watery solution of the pure cultivation, immersing the seed in it, and subsequently drying it; or, secondly, it may be effected by inoculating a quantity of fine sand or earth in the same way, and then spreading it over the field and subsequently working it into the soil to a depth of about three inches. Naturally, a point of considerable interest is the economic question of the cost of such treatment. It is interesting to learn that this is extremely moderate, as the expense of inoculating a field in this way amounts to the very moderate sum of five shillings per acre. This cannot be regarded as expensive, and contrasts favorably with the expense of nitrogenous fertilizers.

APPLE BARREL PRESS.

Home-Made Contrivance That Answers the Ordinary Purposes.

The press commonly used for heading barrels of apples in large orchards is too complicated for home manufacture and more expensive perhaps than many care to purchase where the output of the orchard is but a limited number of barrels. We find in American Gardening a sketch of a home-made press which



hardly needs to be described. An iron rod is bent to the curve of the barrel and its lower end turned over a hook under the lower edge of the barrel. The lever at the top and a block of wood, to be used first flatwise and then edgewise, complete the outfit. The lever can be raised or lowered by the nut on the end of the iron rod.

Poultry Gleanings.

No "condition powders," no medicine, no patent "egg food," no "nothing" but the same common sense applied to the hen as to the cow.

Steady growth is best secured by regular feeding. A feast to-day and a famine to-morrow is not good for man or fowl.

A little linseed (oil cake) meal—say a tablespoonful to each adult bird three times a week—will help to add gloss to the plumage.

Yellow corn give a yellow tinge to the flesh of dressed poultry. Wheat and buckwheat whiten it. Feed according to the demands of your market.

A Peking duck lays from 120 to 150 eggs in a year, and it is not hard to make a pair of young Pekings weigh 10 pounds when 10 weeks old. They are a profitable fowl.

Store Crops in Good Condition.

The loss of fruits and vegetables in storage is of not infrequent occurrence. To lose one's supply of potatoes or apples is a serious matter. Sometimes the loss is due to storing in bad condition. Potatoes and apples, in fact every fruit or vegetable, should not be stored away while damp. Dampness favors rot. Fruits and vegetables are best stored in some dry, airy outbuilding until the imminent approach of freezing weather makes it necessary to put them in the cellar. The building should have rather open sides, and there should be a free circulation of air under and around it. Seed corn should not be put away until it is thoroughly dried. To put it away damp is to give a cordial invitation to disaster, says the American Agriculturist.

Potato Croquettes.

Rub one pound of cooked potatoes through a wire sieve. Melt one ounce of butter in a clean saucepan. Put in the mashed potatoes, mix well, and season with salt and pepper. When the potatoes seem thoroughly hot, add the raw yolk of one egg; stir in thoroughly and cook again for another three or four minutes. If the mixture at this point seems too dry, as if it might crumble when being shaped, add about one tablespoonful of milk. Now put the potatoes on a plate to cool. Then roll them into small balls, brush over with beaten egg, roll in breadcrumbs and fry in fat, so hot that a smoke is rising from it. Hill they are a pretty brown color. Drain them on kitchen paper and serve hot.

If a calf is half fed when young it will never be the most profitable animal to keep.

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Joseph Heard.

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Fenelon Falls, May 20th, 1896.—14-ly.

DIRECTORY

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KNIGHTS OF TENTED MACCABEES.
Diamond Tent No. 208. Meets in the True Blue hall in McArthur's Block on the first and third Tuesday in each month.
H. E. AUSTIN, Com.
C. W. BURGONK, R. K.

MAPLE LEAF TRUE BLUE LODGE No. 42. Regular meetings held on the 2nd and 4th Wedn. day in each month. Hall in McArthur's Block.
H. E. AUSTIN, Master.
R. QUIBELL, Deputy Master.
JOHN MCGILVERAY, Rec-Secretary.

CANADIAN ORDER OF ODDFELLOWS
Treat Valley Lodge No. 71. Meet in the True Blue hall in McArthur's Block on the first and third Mondays in each month.
Wm. McKEOWN, N. G.
R. M. MASON, V. S., Sec.

O. L. No. 996. MEET IN THE ORANGE
Hall on Francis St. West on the second Tuesday in every month.
LEWIS DRYMAN, W. M.
J. T. THOMPSON, JR., Rec-Sec

INDEPENDENT ORDER OF FORESTERS.
Court Phoenix No. 182. Meet on the last Monday of each month, in the True Blue hall in McArthur's Block.
T. AUSTIN, Chief Ranger.
HERBERT SANDFORD, R. S.

CANADIAN HOME CIRCLES. FENELON Falls Circle No. 127, meets in the True Blue hall in McArthur's Block the first Wednesday in every month.
P. C. BURGESS, Leader.
R. B. SYLVESTER, Secretary.

A. F. AND A. M., G. R. C. THE SPRY
Lodge No. 406. Meets on the first Wednesday of each month, on or before the full of the moon, in the lodge room in Cunningham's Block.
R. FIZGERALD, W. M.
REV. W. FARNCOMB, Secretary

CHURCHES.

BAPTIST CHURCH—QUEEN-ST.—REV.
James Fraser, Pastor. Service every Sunday morning at 10.30. Sunday School every Sunday at 2.30 p. m. Prayer meeting on Thursday evening at 7.30; Minister's Bible-class on Tuesday (fortnightly) at 7.30.

METHODIST CHURCH—COLBORN
Street—Reverend T. P. Steel, Pastor. Sunday service at 10.30 a. m. and 7 p. m. Sabbath School at 2.30 p. m. Epworth League of Christian Endeavor, Tuesday evening at 8 o'clock. Prayer meeting on Thursday evening at 7.30.

ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH—COLBORN
Street—Reverend M. McKinnon, Pastor. Services every Sunday at 10.30 a. m. and 7 p. m. Sunday School every Sunday at 2.30 p. m. Christian Endeavor meeting every Tuesday at 8 p. m. Prayer meeting every Thursday at 7.30 p. m.

CALVATION ARMY—BARRACKS ON
Bond St. West—Adj. and Mrs. Miller. Service held every Thursday and Saturday evenings at 8 p. m., and on Sundays at 7 a. m., 11 a. m., 3 p. m. and 7 p. m.

ST. ALOYSIUS R. C. CHURCH—LOUISA
Street—Rev. Father Nolan, Pastor. Services every alternate Sunday at 10.30 a. m. Sunday School every Sunday at 2 p. m.

ST. JAMES'S CHURCH—BOND STREET
East—Rev. Wm. Farncomb, Pastor. Service every Sunday at 10.30 a. m. and 7 p. m. Sunday School every Sunday at 11.30 a. m. Bible class every Thursday evening at 7 o'clock.

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