

On the Farm.

PLANTING STRAWBERRIES.

Any fairly good, well-drained soil will answer for strawberries. One holding moisture is preferable to one that is too dry, but hill land is preferable to bottom because of greater freedom from spring frosts. For distant shipping clay soil is better than sandy, as on such the berries are firmer and carry better. The proper mechanical condition is best obtained by ploughing under a crop of cow peas and supplementing this with acid phosphate or potash under the row. Much nitrogen is not desirable, as tending to give foliage instead of fruit.

The plough should be quickly followed by the harrow, not once, but three or four times, so as to pulverize all lumps before they harden into clods. This will give a cover that will keep the moisture from evaporating. Just before planting drag the beds down with the back of the harrow, or with a heavy plank drag so that the top of the bed will not be more than the water furrow. This will drag all trash or clods to the middles, and will leave a bed of moist, mellow, but slightly compacted soil to receive the plants.

When the plants are taken up, the old leaves, and runners should be pulled off, and the plants should be bunched with the roots all lying one way. Pack them closely side by side, if in a box, with the roots down, or if in a barrel, with the roots to the centre. Always keep plants covered with dampened sacks to prevent drying. When ready to begin planting, put an inch or two of water in an ordinary wooden bucket and pack in a layer of plants with their roots in the water. This keeps them fresh and also causes the soil to adhere more closely to the roots when planted.

The planting crew consists of a man with a bright, sharp spade, and a small boy with the bucket of plants. The man sets the spade in front of him, with the corner of the blade at the spot where the plant is to stand, throws his weight on it, driving the sharp blade full length in the mellow soil, and then pushes it from him so as to open a wedge-shaped hole behind the spade. The boy has a plant ready, holding it by the top, and with a slight swinging motion brings the plant to its place in the corner of the hole, with its roots extending full length, and the crown held just at the surface of the ground. The man with draws the spade, setting it forward ready for the next plant, and as the dirt falls back about the plant he puts his foot on it, pressing it closely about the roots. With a little practice plants can be set in this way very rapidly and satisfactorily.

There are just two points to keep in mind. First, the plant must be left at the right depth—not so deep as to cover the bud, nor so shallow as to expose the roots—and, second, the dirt must be packed closely about the roots. This last can be easily tested by taking hold of the plant by one leaf and trying to pull it up; if properly set, the leaf will break without loosening the roots. Directions are often seen in print for "spreading the roots out like a fan," or for making a hole with "a mound in the middle, round which the roots can be placed in a natural position," but time spent in such pastimes is simply wasted. New roots as they grow will quickly spread out in all directions. The office of the bundle of old roots is simply to hold the plant firmly in place and to supply it with moisture till the new roots are formed.

RANGE FOR THE TURKEYS.

One of the natural instincts of the turkey which has never been totally overcome by domestication, is its instinct to wander, says a writer. When this trait of character is entirely subdued, and it is possible to produce equally good stock in a common dooryard as where the turkeys have unlimited range to go as they please, there will have to come a radical change in the make-up and requirements of the turkey. Neither feed, water, nor care will produce as fine a flock of turkeys in confinement as those will be that are taken by the mother hen to the fields, to rough it and find their own living. Obviously this is one point where the turkey differs very radically from the domestic fowl.

During the first three or four years of my experience with turkeys I made several attempts to rear them by employing common hens, both as hatchers and mothers, but my efforts were never rewarded with striking success. While there was little or no trouble in using successfully the domestic hens in the former capacity, it became extremely difficult and practically impossible to do the latter. I do not wish to say that poulters cannot be reared with common hens, but with nothing like the success that can be attained where the poulters are given their natural mothers, and allowed to seek the conditions which their nature craves.

WHY FARMING DOESN'T PAY.

A farmer who has a better farm than his father had, yet cannot lay up money as his father did, tells why. He says: I own a better farm than my

father did, and derive a greater income from it than he ever received, but he laid up money, and I do not. There are a lot of things for which I spend money that he never thought were necessary. He was satisfied to wear his old working clothes when he went to town, and they were worn as long as they would hold together, regardless of appearance. I want to appear as well dressed as anybody I meet, and it costs money. When my father drove to town—which didn't happen very often—the farm wagon and farm team were good enough for him, and they answered all right on Sunday, when the family attended church. I like to drive a nice rig, and I generally do it. Sometimes when I am in town I get a shave, or have my hair cut. The old-time farmers used to let their whiskers grow, and were satisfied with amateur hair cutting at home. The modern farmer's wife and daughters like to wear good clothes as well as he does, and they generally do it. When they come to town they don't wear calico dresses and sun-bonnets, as their mothers and grandmothers did, but they dress every bit as well as the women who live in town. These things all cost money, and they represent the progress the farmer has made in learning the art of living. It is entirely right and proper that he and his family should want to live as well and dress as well as everybody else, but the income isn't always sufficient, and that is what makes trouble.

PASTURE CROPS.

Solling crops need not mature if they are to be used from the start, and a judicious system of rotation will provide an abundance of green food for a large portion of the year. Rye sown in the fall gives the earliest green food in the spring. It will last for about two weeks, as it grows rapidly and becomes woody. Wheat will follow rye and will last two weeks more. The rye and wheat land may then be put in corn. Both crops are for pasturing only. Oats, clover, and Hungarian grass may follow in the spring. Rye, crimson clover, and wheat should be sown this fall, the crimson clover in winter, producing green food early and at a small cost.

HINTS FOR THE HENNERY.

Active hens are the best layers. Clean houses and runs are the best medicine. A nest egg will usually stop hens scratching the nest; if not, use shavings. A spoonful of oil of turpentine is a good remedy for tapeworm in poultry. If fowls leave part of their breakfast in the dish, remove it. If their appetites fail, a change of food is needed. A hen can be fed almost anything that a cow will eat, and many things besides. Anything that will make milk will make eggs, but don't feed much cottonseed meal or rye.

VICTORIA TO AN INDIAN CHIEF.

The Queen Has a Letter Sent to Chief Shakes Who Sent Her \$100.

A recent arrival in Ottawa from the Kitimaat district, B. C., tells a story concerning Queen Victoria and a chief of the Kitimaats. Chief Shakes, who has a very good house at Lowe Inlet, also owns the fishing privilege below the falls on a stream close by. The chief sold 60,000 fish, for which the manager of a cannery paid him \$5,000. In the exuberance of his spirits and loyalty the chief conceived the idea of sending \$100 as a present to Queen Victoria, and handed the sum to Indian Agent Todd to be forwarded, which was accordingly done. In due time the Queen caused to be sent to Chief Shakes a letter showing her appreciation of his loyalty, and she asked him to accept a steel engraving of herself, set in a handsome frame, together with two plaids of sheep's wool, just the kind to delight any native chief. Shakes called his people together on the day of presentation, and the Indian agent read and interpreted the Queen's letter. The venerable chief, in responding said that it made his heart glad to know that an humble being residing so far away from his good mother had not been forgotten by her, adding that, although he could never expect to see her on earth, he would try to lead such a life that would enable him to meet her in heaven. And then, overcome with emotion, the chief burst into tears.

WHY DO WE YAWN?

There can be little doubt that one of the objects of yawning is the exercise of muscles which have been for a long time quiescent, and the acceleration of the blood and lymph flow which has in consequence of this quiescence become sluggish. Hence its frequency after one has remained for some time in the same position—for example, when waking in the morning. Co-operating with this cause is sleepiness and the shallow breathing which it entails. This factor, as well as muscle quiescence, is apt to attend the sense of boredom which one experiences in listening to a dull sermon. Hence it is that the bored individual is apt to yawn. As in the case of sighing, the deep breath which accompanies the act of yawning compensates for the shallow breathing which is so apt to excite it.

THE NEWS IN A NUTSHELL.

THE VERY LATEST FROM ALL THE WORLD OVER.

Interesting Items About Our Own Country, Great Britain, the United States, and All Parts of the Globe, Condensed and Assorted for Easy Reading.

CANADA.

The wheat crop of Manitoba is now estimated to be 82,000,000 bushels.

Dr. Ryan is a candidate for the Mayoralty of Kingston for 1899.

The estate of Sir J. Adolphe Chapleau has been probated at \$225,000.

The Department of Fisheries will stock with black bass a number of lakes along the Parry Sound Railway. The town of West Selkirk, Man., proposes to consolidate its indebtedness by a new issue of debentures.

An English syndicate have leased Mr. James Mispiceel's mine at Actinolite, Ont., and will operate it for arsenic.

Mr. C. Knox of Calgary has been appointed stock inspector of the Northwest Government, with headquarters at Winnipeg.

Joseph McShane, a youth, may lose his eyesight as a result of placing a fog signal on the track at Hamilton to let a train run over it.

Convict Murphy, an inmate of the insane department of the Kingston penitentiary, attacked and seriously injured Guard Hennessy.

There is said to be a movement on foot to invite the Marquis of Dufferin to come to Canada to unveil the Mackenzie monument at Ottawa on the completion thereof.

A rich find of molibdonite has been made on the Grand Calumet mining property, near Fort Coulogne, Que. Molibdonite is used in hardening steel and also in sheeting silk.

The Toronto City Council has decided to petition the Ontario Government to appoint a royal commission to investigate the charges of Mr. E. A. Macdonald as to the manner in which the Toronto Street Railway Company obtained its charter.

Mr. A. A. Clarke, of London, Eng., who secured a charter from the Federal Parliament for a tramway along Miles Canyon, has floated a scheme, and is now in Ottawa on the way to the Pacific coast. The line is now in operation and is doing a good business.

GREAT BRITAIN.

Sir George Grey, former Lieutenant-Governor of South Australia, is dead at London.

McDougall's flour mill and other warehouses on Millwall dock, London, have been destroyed by fire. Loss, £75,000.

The British steamer Milwaukee, from the Tyne for New Orleans, stranded at Portes Roll, Scotland, is likely to be a total wreck.

A telegram has been received by the British Foreign Office stating that Capt. Cooke has been shot dead in East Africa. He was a graduate of the Royal Military College, Kingston.

UNITED STATES.

Sir Julian Pauncefote, British Ambassador at Washington, has had his term extended to April next.

Governor Pingree, of Michigan, has been re-nominated by acclamation by the Republican State convention.

Forty thousand United States soldiers are to be sent to Cuba to do garrison duty, in addition to those now at Santiago under General Lawton.

Andrew Cassoque was strangled to death by three burglars in New York on Tuesday morning after he had been robbed of \$500, all his savings.

A number of workmen were injured, some perhaps fatally, by an attempt of non-union men to enter the American Wire Company's works at Cleveland, O., on Monday morning.

Nearly one-third of the entire population of Plainwell, a little village in Allegan County, Mich., is ill from eating canned pressed beef at a church social. Fifty-five persons were poisoned, twenty are dangerously ill and four are expected to die.

A cable message from Dr. Kranz, of the European Union of Astronomers, to Messrs. Chandler and Ritchie, of Boston, announces the discovery of a star-like condensation in the centre of nebulae of Andromeda by Seraphin of Pulkowa. If this indicates change in the condition of the well known object, the discovery will be of importance.

GENERAL.

The Queen Regent of Spain has promised to send a delegate to the Czar's peace convention.

About 2,000 of the United States soldiers in Porto Rico are officially reported to be sick.

The Governor of Buda Pest has resolved to expel all Anarchists, who are not citizens of Hungary.

Twelve hundred women and children and one thousand sick soldiers sailed from Havana for Spain on Wednesday.

The commissariat and supply departments of both the army and navy of the Argentine Republic are being actively re-organized.

The Government of Corea has been compelled to dismiss the Europeans engaged as an Imperial guard in consequence of a protest from Russia.

A destructive hurricane swept over northern Spain, doing great damage in the Provinces of Seville and Granada. Many persons were killed.

The Berlin National Zeitung says on the highest authority that the personal estate of Prince Bismarck does not represent as much as 2,500,000 marks, about \$500,000.

It is stated that the Rothschilds will loan Spain £4,000,000 or \$5,000,000

on the security of Almada quick silver mines, when the treaty of peace shall have been signed.

The Japanese Government has replied to the circular of Count Mura-vieff, the Russian Foreign Minister, suggesting international disarmament. The reply supports the Czar's proposals.

The Berlin police authorities have prohibited the holding of five projected Socialist meetings in Hamburg, called for the purpose of discussing Emperor William's recent speech regarding the imprisoning of the provokers of strikes.

Typhoons on the Japanese coast, according to the latest advices, have done great damage. Many ports and towns have been totally devastated, and in the Tamsul district, where the great ruin is evident, over one hundred lives are said to have been lost.

The diplomatic representatives of Russia, France, Belgium, Spain and Holland, at Peking, have called upon Li Hung Chang to condole with him upon his dismissal from the Chinese Foreign Office. Much comment has been excited by the action of these Ministers.

The American soldiers in Honolulu are causing the good people of that once-peaceful community much worry. Acts of vandalism are becoming frequent, and General King has issued orders for a court of enquiry to investigate alleged lawless acts committed by soldiers, and to assess the amount of damage caused.

It is stated in St. Petersburg that Luchoni the assassin of the Empress of Austria, belongs to an Anarchist gang which went to North America two years and a half ago, leaving a few of their comrades in Europe. The gang issued orders from America, where the present plot was hatched. The members have now returned to Europe, but the chiefs remain in New York.

POINTED PARAGRAPHS.

Often an excuse is worse than the offense.

Life after all is but a big bundle of little things.

Men judge women by the things they fail to say.

Any man who is bilious is more or less a pessimist.

A charitable girl never gives her rival's age away.

All's fair in love except flirtation; that's only half fair.

Responsibility that carries no weight is not responsible.

Genius produces the inventions, while talent applies them.

Unguessy lies the feminine head that wears a last year's bonnet.

Some engagements end happily, while others end in marriage.

The experience a man buys is seldom up to the sample submitted.

Cold cash melts lots of hearts that are not affected by warm love.

No artist, however talented, has succeeded in painting a fragrant flower.

Some men are born liars, while others are compelled to acquire the art.

There is always something elevating about roof-garden entertainments.

Money cannot buy an ounce of love but it will purchase tons of sympathy.

Some men are born to rule and some acquire the art at a business college.

When a man gets in a hole he is always willing to be done by as he should do.

The realities of matrimony are usually less pleasing than the illusions of love.

Some bachelors voluntarily join the ranks of the benedicts and some are drafted.

The man who lies until he gets himself and his friends to believe it is an optimist.

Deliberation is a mighty good thing in its way, but it has broken mighty few records.

When a woman reaches a certain age there is no longer any uncertainty about it.

A man never looks so well as when he's looking for another man who owes him money.

Women would never make successful prize fighters; it would take them too long to put on the gloves.

There is a peculiar fascination about many things whose origin is attributed to his satanical majesty.

When a girl tells a young man that he may have a kiss if he can catch her, she always manages to get caught.

It never makes much difference to a woman where a man hails from just so she is permitted to reign over him.

The only difference between meddling and investigating is that you always investigate and the other fellow meddles.

ENGLAND'S HEAVIEST LOCOMOTIVE.

The Great Northern Railway Company are thoroughly testing a new engine of greater power than has yet run on their line. It is the heaviest engine in the kingdom, weighing 58 tons, or 99 tons with tender. It has ten wheels, four coupled wheels being 6 feet 6 inches in diameter, while the cylinders are 19 inches by 24 inches stroke. The boiler is 4 feet 8 inches in diameter, giving 1,442 square feet of heating surface and 28.75 square feet of grate area. The boiler pressure is 175 pounds, and the cylinder pressure is 181 pounds. This locomotive has made some runs on the fine road of the Great Northern between King's Cross and York, and the results obtained suggest that a number of that class will be built for next year. The performance of the Dunalastair, however, has not yet been equalled, the greatest speed got being a fraction over seventy-three miles per hour.

HORRORS OF SUDAN WARF.

No Wounded Dervish are Ever Brought to the Field-Hospital.

Now, there is no braver, kinder man in the world than the army doctor. In his extemporized field-hospital, often under a heavy fire, with a hastily thrown-up screen of commensariat cases, pack-saddles, water-tanks or whatever came handy, he performed miracles; he was ready to minister to the wants of all wounded men. He was anxious to tend the wounded Dervish whenever one might be brought in. But no wounded Dervish ever was. It was as much as any one's life was worth to go near a wounded Dervish. He would lie on the ground glaring about him like a wild beast. Approach him, and out came his curved hamstringing knife. With it he would make vicious sweeps, any one of which would maim you for life.

It is not possible in the terrible stress of Sudan warfare to detail fatigue parties to overcome the resistance of wounded men and beat them to the field-hospital. Hundreds died of their wounds as they lay on the battlefield, and those that did not die of their wounds had to be put out of their misery.

TERRIBLE STORIES

are told of this dire necessity. Those know best who have been engaged in battle with the Dervish what happened after the fighting was over, and how the problem of dealing with the enemy's wounded was solved. In the campaign of 1895, parties of English soldiers commanded by English officers, used to go out to kill the wounded. One private prodded the helpless body between his shoulders with his bayonet. If there was no movement the party went on; if the Dervish proved alive and squirmed, another private instantly blew his brains out.

In one case, remarkable for its inevitable cold-blooded horror, it is said, the troops inside a zeriba, the night after one of the most desperate of battles, were driven to madness by the voice of a wounded warrior who lay outside amidst heaps of slain. All night, a groaning cry of "Allah! Allah!" rose into the silent night. Not the fierce sharp ring of the word when it is the war-cry for headlong charge, but an imploring, despairing moan; hour after hour that one word only, "For God's sake silence that man"—that was the feeling of all. Council was held as to how it could be done. Soon three men were told off to get upon the sand-bags of the little redoubt at the corner of the zeriba, and when the moon came out from behind the clouds, to fire volleys in the direction from which the cry came. The volleys were fired, but the cry went on. Finally it ceased. Whether the man was thus silenced or not was not ascertained, but in the morning there were only dead men in that part of the field. There were others, however, still alive. These could not be tended. Another story was current in

THOSE TERRIBLE DAYS

of how an officer, going up to a group of surgeons round a wounded Dervish and inquiring what was the matter, was told that nothing could be done with him no one could approach him. He lay there with his knife out, ready with one of those sweeping hamstringing cuts for any one who dared to come near. Whereupon the officer, still under the blood-madness of the fight, and "seeing red," whipped out his own knife, avoided the rapid sweep of the wounded man's weapon, and drove his own to his heart.

Such are some of the incidents of Sudan warfare. As said above, the Dervish has learned to know us better, and has become tamer; but the problem of dealing with his wounded must still remain. Was there any mention of Dervish wounded after the battle of the Atbara this year? And are there many of them in the hospitals in the rear? The correspondents have always remained strangely silent upon this subject. It has been denied in Parliament, we believe, that ever such things as we have described took place. Well, Ministers are not less hypocritical than the rest of us, and possibly some of them knew that these things did happen. Whether they knew it or not, there are dozens of men, like the writer of this article, who know that they happened—because we were there and saw them. They do not make pleasant reading. But our military commanders in Egypt cannot be blamed for them; they are the cost of going to war with such a people.

INDIA'S SCOURGE OF SNAKES.

Snakes are one of the scourges of India. Thousands of people die yearly from their bite. In the last twenty-two years the number of deaths attributed to this cause has reached the enormous total of 438,230. Snakes appear to be a much more deadly enemy to man than wild animals. In the same period wild animals have only killed 64,284 persons. On an average in India 20,000 people perish yearly by snakes and wild animals. The number of deaths in recent years has shown a marked increase. In 1875 the number killed was 21,206, in 1890, it had risen to 24,835. Bengal is the most dangerous province to live in, for the Bengal cobra snakes are responsible for half the deaths from snake bite. The loss of cattle has also been very great. Since 1875 about a million and a half animals have been destroyed. Wild animals are responsible for nine-tenths of the cattle killed. In 1898, for instance, 7,143 animals died from snake-bite, but 81,897 were killed by wild beasts.