

FARM.

MIDSUMMER.

Oh to lie in the ripening grass
That graciously bends to the winds that pass.

APPLE TREE BORERS.

A writer in an exchange, says that there are three kinds of borers which assail the apple tree.

It appears during June and July, usually remaining in concealment, during the day, and becoming active at dusk.

The young ones lie for the first year in the sapwood and inner bark, excavating flat, shallow cavities, about the size of a silver dollar.

Their presence may be detected in young trees from the bark becoming dark colored, and sometimes dry and dead winter, it descends to the lower part of its burrow.

Do not place one roost higher than the other. When so arranged the hens will all crowd to the highest, leaving the lower ones unoccupied.

The Poultry Monthly says that when fowls form the habit of feather-eating it is hard to stop them.

Ducklings grow faster than chickens, and with proper care are ready for market at the age of from eight to ten weeks.

The turkey does not want to be "managed." It wants to be left alone.

Another borer, the long horned borer, is widely distributed, but is not a common insect, and does not cause much annoyance to the fruit grower.

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STOCK NOTES.

Don't for mercy sake, use a harsh bit, and then yank and jerk the poor horses until their mouths are raw.

Not one-half the injury to horses arises from the effects of their stables being too cold in winter.

The Rural World says that the great profits from sheep cannot be made by farmers who do everything in the grand wholesale way.

GARDEN NOTES.

If you are growing vegetables for exhibition at the county fair, thin them out to give room for development.

If every farmer would have a garden and take an interest in it, it would add greatly to the comfort and enjoyment of farming.

To grow nice carrots the land should be deeply cultivated, that the roots may grow straight and long.

The attention of the successful cultivator cannot be confined to mere routine of the direct means of rearing and gathering his crops.

As tomatoes should be cut off, not over three main vines to be left on each plant.

The kind of skilled labor most in demand just now is the kind that can make a garden, set out a hedge, repair a gravel walk or build a terrace.

A clergyman in North Carolina not only refused to marry an eloping couple, but arrested the bride and telegraphed her father that he held her subject to his orders.

The great Mexican volcano, Popocatepeti, has just been remeasured and found to be 17,800 feet above the sea.

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HOUSEHOLD.

CUTTING AND ARRANGING FOOD.

A writer in Good Housekeeping says it pays to be nice about it. Never use any but the bread knife to slice bread.

See to it also, that your knife is sharp or your slices will be ragged and irregular.

In putting a pie that is to grace the table before serving, it is well to bring geometrical fitness to bear.

Perhaps all housekeepers are not as careful to have a cake knife as one for bread.

Sauces for tea in a glass dish with glass preserve plates beside, adds to the tea table.

The butter plate also receives less attention in many homes than it should.

RHUBARB HOW TO PREPARE IT.—Cut the stems into pieces an inch in length.

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ABOUT WOMEN.

At a business meeting held in New York a few days ago, by the projectors of a new club house for women, the estimate for a billiard room was submitted.

After a moment of silence, one of the most conservative of the number rose, and, with great sweetness, suggested that the bar-room should be conveniently placed.

A Topeka woman made \$1400 recently without leaving her kitchen.

A professor of Harvard college said within the year, that women now have advantages which no man in the country had twelve years ago.

A Washington letter says: It may not be many years before a woman will be a rare sight in a department.

The washerwoman finds her occupation almost gone through the introduction of machinery.

Mrs. Logan says: It has happened that in cases of illness or disability of men clerks, the wives performed the duties of their husbands.

A young lady visited a jeweller and told him that her father was going to buy her a pair of diamond earrings.

A Russian officer, familiar with the subject, draws in Life, a London journal, a lurid picture of the inner life of the Russian court.

Despite the unceasing vigilance of the police, to which the Czar certainly owed his life.

The danger there is no greater than it is in his study, guarded though he be indoors.

It is never known in what bedroom the Czar will sleep.

Life.

What is the existence of man's life? But open war or slumbered strife?

It is a dream—where but the blood Outwires in rage the boiling food?

It is a flower—which buds, and grows, And withers as the leaves disclose?

It is a dial—which points out The sunset as it moves about?

It is a weary interlude— Which doth short joys, long woes include?

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"Off With His Head."

During our wanderings in the city our ears were assailed with the Cathy synonym of the Egyptian bak-ee-sh cry.

We were shown the instruments where bamboo chow chow is given to the nadal callosities of the chick.

Facing the potters' houses was a high wall, at whose base and leaning against it were some large crocks.

How do you use this sword? Where is the block? "We don't use a block.

"What class of criminals are condemned to the ling che?" "Parricides, matricides and women who have killed and mutilated their husbands form the majority."

"Do the executions interfere with your appetite and sleep?"

"How many persons have you executed in a day?" "I have chopped twenty heads off myself in two minutes."

"What is done with the bodies?" "The friends take the bodies away, but we keep the heads in the crocks over by the wall there, and when we have a large number which are no longer recognizable we bury them."

"Gentlemen, give twenty cents each, cumshaw, to the executioners," said the guide, which we gladly did to escape from the staring of the "boss" butcher's swivel eye.

The small town of Werda, India, is celebrated for its Temple of Serpents, a long building in which the priests keep upwards of 1,000 serpents.

These serpents, many of them of enormous size, may be seen hanging from the beams across the ceiling, with their heads downward.

It often happens that some of these serpents make their way out of the temple into the town, and the priests have the greatest difficulty in coaxing them back.

To kill a serpent intentionally is a crime punished with death; and if a foreigner were to kill one, the authority of the king himself would scarcely suffice to save his life.

The most dreaded insect invader is the white ant. In Africa, their houses are dome-shaped mounds often eighteen feet high.

These insects erect pyramids one thousand times higher than themselves! The ants on their travels so conceal their approach that their presence is not suspected until the damage is done.

They usually tunnel into any object which they attack, often reducing it to a mere shell. In this way they have been known to ascend within the leg of a table, devour the contents of a box upon it, and descend through a tunnel bored in another leg.

An officer of the English army while calling upon some ladies in Ceylon was startled by a rumbling sound. The ladies started with affright, and the next instant they stood with only the sky above them; the roof had fallen in and lay about, leaving them miraculously unharmed.

The ants had made their way up through the beams, having them out until a great part of the frame work was ready to fall at the slightest shock.

The most ordinary sombrero in the City of Mexico costs about \$15, while the most expensive ones range in price from \$50 to \$600.