### AGRICULTURAL.

SUMMER MULCH.

Mulching is very often an excellent thing to preserve the moisture in the soil, and prevent evaporation. Before a crop has done much in the way of shading the soil with foliage, it also acts beneficially in keeping a uniform temperature in the soil. Then ber of the family had seen them in this place, again in poor soil if nearly rotten manure is used it is an excellent way of adding fertilizers. This spread on the top, a portion to light. Enough time was wasted in the carried down at every rain, is in just the hunt to use up at least half a day's work. position to be taken advantage of by the Here was a loss-an actual loss, for in this young roots. Mulching has a tendency to case, time was money, because the machine keep down weeds, which is another thing. | was a hired one-that might have been avoi-Trees newly planted, particularly if large ed if there had been a place in which to ones, are very apt to suffer in dry spell. keep these tools, and the head of the family A good mulch around such as far as the had made it a rule to return them to it, as roots extend will save them. One thorough soon as any one was done using them. watering, a loosening of the soil on the sur- Farmers, like other men, ought to have face and then a mulch, will keep the mois- some sort of system about their affairs, and ture in the ground double the time that it one cardinal point of the system should be a would if left thoroughly exposed to the sun place for everything, and everything in its and wind.

newly-planted shade trees. These have a a good deal of time in hunting for articles tendency to attract moisture from below that have been mislaid, simply because there and prevent evaporation. Very fine seeds, did not appear to be any particular place particularly among choice flower seeds are for them. If there is no place, make one, treated this way until germanation has tak- and insist on having the articles that belong en place. The object of the mulch in this there kept in it. This will save time and case is to keep a uniform moisture without much watering. Very fine seeds, almost like dust, have to be sown very close to the surface. It is difficult to keep this moist without continuous sprinkling, which again is not desirable. It is overcome by a mulch or a pane of glass. If the former, then very so many good qualities that his habit of fine sphagnum moss—the same as is used for occasionally "drawing the long bow" is packing the nurserymen's trees or filling the pardoned him by his friends. The habit, fore changes of wind these birds betake florists' baskets to set the flowers into, is sprinkled over the surface.

THE BRIGHT SIDE OF FARM LIFE.

The farm is "full of fun" to the open-eyed and open-hearted man, who is willing to be pleased. Objects of interest, curiosity and instruction surround him on every side. Not a faculty of his mind, not a power of his body, that cannot find sufficient scope and exercise; and surely it is in these that happiness resides, if their use is rightly apprehended and availed of. These things, joined with the resources of his spiritual nature, make up the man. We see how the little child joys in their dawning use ; and is there any reason why that joy should cease as the child grows up? Is not all its material still about it, and at our daily disposal? Does it not grow and increase, and more and more abound as we pursue our path through life, if we do so under that sense of responsibility, without which no man is in the right enjoyment of his manhood?

The "Bright Side of Farming" shines from every side of the compass by turns, and good it will be for us if we will take that stalwart posey, the broad-faced sunflower as an exemplar, which

"Turns to its god when he sets, The same face which it turned when it rose." And, to close the exercises, let us all join in singing Longfellow's brave doxology : " Let us then be up and doing,

With a heart for any fate; Sti'l achieving, still pursuing, Learn to LABOR and to WAIT !"

FOOD FOR APPLE TREES.

Apple trees are constantly taking up potash from the soil and storing a larger portion of it in the wood, says the Germantown Telegraph, and it is for this reason that in old orchards there is sometimes a dearth in fruitage, because of a scanty supply of this essential fertilizer available for use. Wnen trees have been standing for years drawing from the natural supply, if there is no application, it is not at all surprising that there should come a time when the available supply is exhausted; not only the potash, but all other mineral plant food. This and the decay of trees in old orchards. As orchards, and at the same time seem to fail years that pass exhaustion is constantly going on. For the supply of necessary food to trees there is nothing better nor more natural than ashes, and, unless supplied, a cause of failure may reasonably be anticipated. Spreading broadcast brings them where they will be carried to the roots of the trees and become at once available. A dressing in summer while fruit is forming in the lack of complete digestion and aswill greatly aid its development, as it seems to have a specific effect in the refreshing or less inflamed and congested and the

# THE SEX IN EGGS.

of Horticulturel says, in reference to the of grain will not remedy the trouble, as the question of sex in eggs: Last winter an old poultry keeper told me he could distinguish should have a rest of a few days when the sex in eggs. I laughed at him, and was first turned to grass, but after it has benone the less skeptical when he told me the come used to the new diet it may be worked following secret: Eggs with the air bladder on the centre of the crown will produce it will heat up rapidly, and, as it cannot get cockerols; those with the bladder one side will produce pullets. The old man was so certain of the truth of this dogma, and his poultry yard so far confirmed it, that I determined to make experiments upon it this year. I have done so, registering the egg bladder vertical, or bladder on one side, and rejecting all in which it was not one or they were in the same physical condition the other, as in some it is only very slightly out of the center. The following is the result. Fifty-eight chickens were hatched, three are dead, eleven are yet too young to decide upon their sex; of the remaining bring about so well. The city man, who forty four, every one has turned out true to the old man's theory. This, of course, may be an accidental coincidence, but I shall certainly try the experiment again.

Sources of Honey Supply.

Bees will not be diverted from their natural pasturages; and the great sources of supply in early fruit blossoms, in bean and clover fields, in the woods, and in the wild flowers of our fields and meadows, must still be our dependence as honey-producing areas for our bees. But as food it is most valuable when most required, and supplies from these sources are not always available when most necessary, we must make use, largely and freely, of the materials which our travelers and botanists have placed within our reach. There are periods in the year when but few most instantly. Trial bottles 10 cents, large of our native plants appear in bloom, and we often see in very early Spring that bees everywhere. are tempted from their hives by a little sunshine, and many must have observed the

plants as possible, to meet the anxious craving of bees for their natural food.

HAVE A PLACE FOR EVERYTHING. A day or two ago, I was at a farmer friend's when a break-down in machinery occurred. The hammer and screw-driver were called for, and neither could be found. One memanother, in that, but they were not there now, and it took a long search to bring them

place. This rule should apply to the kitchen Some people place large stones around also. Often the women of the family spend temper, and the convenience of the plan will recommend it to all who give it a trial.

#### Uncle Ephraim's Story.

Uncle Ephraim, an aged colored man, has moreover, occasionally meets with a rebuke. Uncle Ephraim was sitting one evening on a barrel in the grocery store, in which the village postoffice is located. There was a little group in the store. Just as Uncle Ephraim began telling one of his stories a stranger came in, and after asking for his mail, paused to listen.

"Ye see," said Uncle Ephraim, "dey was a man, likely he was a turp'mtime buyer, was killed down in de Caff bert County woods for jist a dollah and a hahf-dat was de mos' money he had wid him. Day was fo' men dat tackled onter him; an' says he, 'Hol on ! I aint got but a dollah an' a hahf !' but they shot him wid a 'volva; and his las' words, jess befo' he heaved his las' was :

"'Oh you's done killed me for a dollah

"An' den he died, An' de stranges' part is, dat dey aint nevah done cotch dem fo murd'rers, an' dey don' know nuffin' 'bout who did it.'

"You say," said the stranger, breaking in, "that the turpentine man was killed on the spot, and not one of the four thieves

was ever caught?" " Nevah to dis day, sah." "Then how do they know there were

just four of them, and how do they know what the turpentine man's last words were ?" " Dat's de question, sah ?"

"Look here! You say that nobody saw the crime, and the theives haven't been caught, and the turpentine man was killed on the spot. Now who revealed all these interesting details that you have been telling us ?"

"How-how's I gwine ter know, sah, when de law itse'f don't know, sah?" "Well, when people don't know things," said the stranger, "they shouldn't attempt

to tell them. With that he left the store.

"It am mighty qu'ah," said Uncle Ephraim, rising from his seat on the barrel after a minute's total silence, " wot a heap ob unejjicated pussons dey is gettin' roun' dese pahts now' days !"

# Renovating Horses.

A month to grass will work a wondrous is undoubtedly one prolific cause of failure change with a horse which is feverish and getting stocked. We used to turn our a rule, farmers are averse to cultivating horses cut, at night, and keep them in the stable, if not at work, during the daytime. in realisation of the fact that during all the They would renew themselves in this way. And the run to the grass was just enough laxative to purify the blood and take all the fever out of them.

When a horse is kept on dry food and fed grain for more than a year, without change, the grain does not seem to have the effect in sustaining the system that it does after eating grass. The change is similation. The stomach becomes more food passes through it and is not absorbed and made into new blood. There is no sort of economy in this sort of management, as food is wasted, and the horse A correspondent of the London Journa is not benefited. Increasing the amount horse has too much already. Any horse carefully. It should be driven slowly, for rid of the water in its system by evaporation fast enough, it will sweat profusely. If it did not, it would die. The horse, fed grain, and full of fever and congestion, has no water in its body, comparatively, and of course it U.W DENNIS, 6 Arcare, Toronto, Ont. can stand harder usage. The truth is, cows and all animals would freeze in winter if they are in summer-when fed on grass. While this is true, it is nevertheless a ne) cessity that all animals should have this re newal which the succulent foods of summer cannot spare his team, wisely buys bunches of clover or green rye for his horses and this acts as an antidote to remove fever, and helps a little. In this way the city horses are made to do service longer than if entire. ly deprived of green food.

# Nerviline. What is it?

Nerviline is a com' ination of the mos powerful pain relieving substances known. Nerviline is not a nostrum, but a prepara tion which has received from members of the medical profession, clergymen, the press, and others most enthusiastic endorsation. If suffering from pain of any kind, external or local, give Nerviline a trial. Nerviline cures toothache, cramps, neuralgia, and albottles 25 cents, at druggists and dealers

A pairot owned in a suburb of Chicago enjoyment they have in visiting any chance hangs out in front of its owner's house, flowers they may find expanded. It is most Whenever a young lady and her beau are desirable to cultivate as many early blooming passing it shouts, "Papa! papa!"

#### Weather Wisdom.

The curious in such matters may always find wherewithal to amuse themselves in watching the instinct shown in the every-day proceedings of the birds and animals around us, as they provide against impending changes in the weather. It is provertial that pigs see the wind. These creatures become restless, and prepare their beds of straw before a severe storm, some hours earlier than human organs are aware of its approach.

A careful observer, the author of "Wild Sports of the Highlands," says that ducks go out to the grass-fields to search for the snails which they know will be found before the coming shower. The field-mouse covers up her hole in due time before the setting in of cold weather.

"Fish have the strongest instinct with regard to the changes of the weather, refusing obstinately to rise at the most tempting baits or flies when clouds charged with thunder or rain are passing through the air. Indeed, most birds and animals have a singular fore-knowledge of changes, shifting their quarters according as the coming rain or the dryness of the atmosphere warns

them. "The grouse foretell the approaching rains before the most weatherwise shepherd can do so, by betaking themselves to the dry heights, where they sit or walk about with erect heads and necks, in a manner quite different from their usual gait. So do the mountain sheep change their feedingground to the lee side of the hills before severe blasts of wind and rain.

"Warning of an approaching change in the weather may often be taken from the proceedings of ward fowl on the water. Bethemselves to those spots which will afford them the best shelter during the coming

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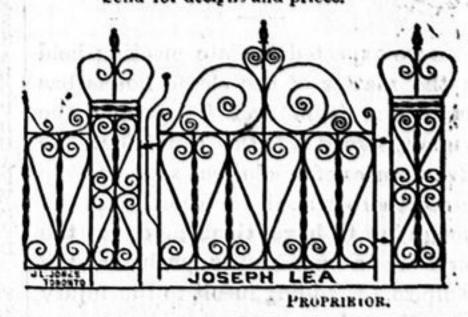
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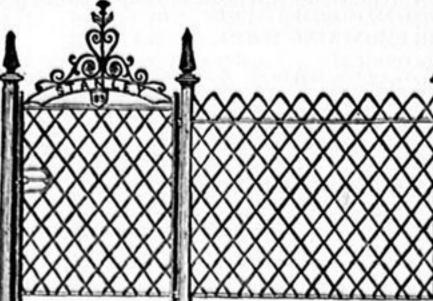
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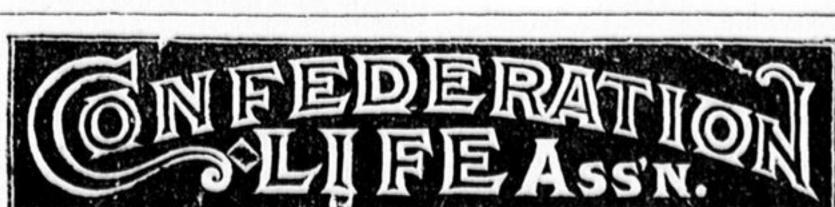
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