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## Eczema Tortured A Child.

About three years ago I had to leave school with sore hands. My teacher said it was Salt Rheum or Eczema and told me to see the doctor. Mother got some medicine, but it did me no good. After I had suffered with the itching and burning about three months, mother thought she would try Burdock Blood Bitters. I only took two bottles, when my hands got completely cured. —Emma Sheridan, Parry Sound, Ont.

## TORONTO Conservatory of Music

DR. EDWARD FISHER, Musical Director

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will be held at LINDSAY in June and July, in each department of study for which five or more candidates shall apply.

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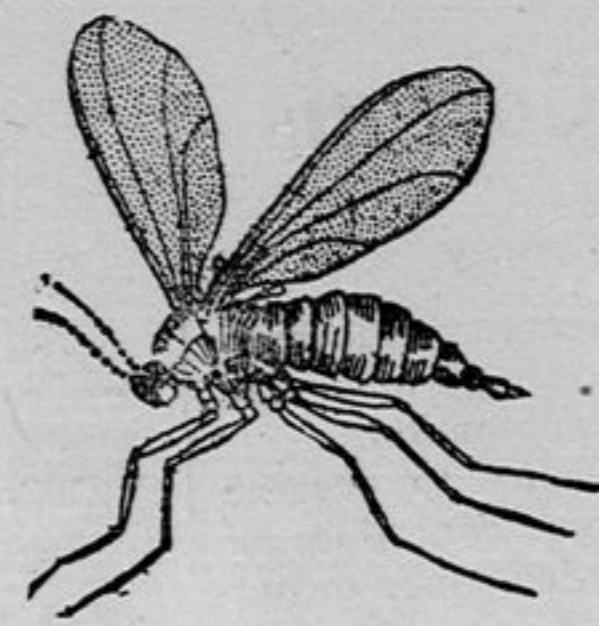
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### A FARM TERROR.

**Terrible Hessian Fly is at Work in Pennsylvania—Too Near Canada for Comfort.**

The Hessian fly, known to naturalists as *cecidomyia destructor*, has now positively made its appearance in great abundance near Newtown Square, Delaware County, Pennsylvania. The first notice of this pest was brought to the attention of local entomologists by Mr. Alfred Satterthwait, and it was hoped that a serious destruction of the wheat in the vicinity might be averted. At present the pest is assuming alarming proportions. All the wheat which was planted before October is being destroyed.

The creature which is causing such alarm is a mere midge in size, being not larger than a pin head, with two tiny wings of gauze. Notwithstanding its size, it is stated to be "the



**FEMALE HESSIAN FLY GREATLY ENLARGED.** most serious enemy of wheat," actually preventing its cultivation in some localities.

The adult appears late in the fall and lays its eggs on the young plants, and the larvae work their way into the stem at or near the surface of the ground, causing a slight gall or swelling and a deformity in the plant's growth. When winter sets in, full size has been reached, and the "flaxseed" stage is entered upon—so-called because of its superficial resemblance. In spring the pupae is formed, and soon afterwards the adult appears, ready to again lay eggs in the now rapidly growing wheat. This is the present condition of the crops in Delaware County. The flies, which are now huzzing around, will deposit their eggs so low down on the stalk that the "flaxseeds" will remain in the stubble after the wheat is cut. When the new wheat comes up in the fall, the whole story of devastation will be gone over again.

The injury done by the Hessian fly is in stunting and aborting the wheat plants in the spring, or so weakening them that they fall or "lodge" readily, preventing thereby the development of the "ear," or of the grain in it.

The remedy is not easy, the best probably being to "pasture" the growing wheat, which is now being done to some extent in the infected district. In some instances burning the stubble is effective, but as clover is usually grown with wheat in this section such a course is undesirable. The planting of decoy strips of wheat around the edges, which are afterwards plowed under, can also be used. Insecticides are useless.

### ORCHARD MANAGEMENT.

**Seeding Down to Clover is a Practice That Will Pay a Profit.**

When the character and lay of the land will admit, a very good plan of management is to keep in cultivation during the first four or five years after seeding out and then, after the trees begin to bear well and are reasonably well established, to seed down to clover. On account of the benefit to the soil in various ways, it will pay to use clover in seeding down in preference to grass.

But before seeding down good drainage should be provided, as trees cannot be kept healthy if water is allowed to stand around the roots. A very good plan is to throw the dirt to the trees, making the furrows in the middle between the trees. Care should be taken in running out the furrows to avoid washing. Then the soil can be prepared in good till, harrowing and dragging in order to secure a smooth surface, before sowing the seed. A little care in properly preparing the ground before the seeding will aid materially in securing better results.

Unless heavy applications of manure are given the average farm soil cannot grow other crops and a crop of fruit at the same time, and while cultivation is beneficial while the trees are growing, whenever they commence to bear they should have the soil to themselves. The growing of clover can be made beneficial to the soil rather than detrimental, hence it is a good plan to sow clover and either use a hog pasture or allow it to grow, mature and fall down and rot on the land. A good growth of clover will keep down the weeds and add to the fertility of the soil.

Early in the spring is a good time to sow clover, and if the orchard is to be seeded down it will pay to arrange so as to do the work in good season.—N. J. Shepherd, in Farmer's Voice.

### Nitrogen for Greenhouses.

The nitrogen of cotton seed meal, linseed meal, castor pomace, fish, tankage and horn meal is not so quick in its action as that of blood, for which reason it is not well adapted to exclusive use in supplying nitrogen in greenhouse work. For tobacco, or wherever crops enjoy a long period of growth, and in seeding land to grass, these materials are particularly applicable, provided they can be had at a reasonable price. Unless the price is very low, top-dressing with nitrate of potash is unprofitable.

### Good Work of a Woman.

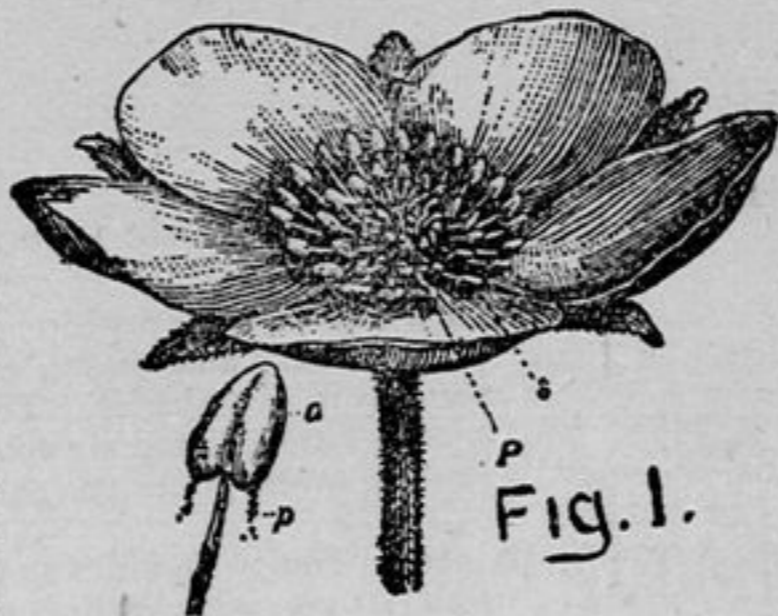
A year or two ago a vast amount of practical good-roads work was done in Missouri by forming county organizations, and the person chiefly instrumental in forming them was a woman—Miss Rella C. Harber. That lady travelled through the state, and in the course of a year organized 66 associations.

### STRAWBERRY PLANTS.

**R. M. Kellogg, of Michigan, gives Some Very Interesting and Valuable Information Concerning Them.**

The two figures in the illustration represent the perfect (having stamens and pistils), and pistillate strawberry blossoms, showing the sexual organs and their manner of producing and receiving pollen. Fig. 1 is a perfect flower, so-called because it is self-fertilizing, or one which has all the essential organs. In the centre at p are clustered the pistils of female organs, while on the outside are seen the stamens or male organs, s. On the left is a stamen greatly enlarged to show its manner of depositing its pollen, a represents the anther and p the pollen dropping from it.

A sectional view of the pistillate flower or one having no stamens may be seen in Fig. 2. It shows how the pistils, p, are arranged on the outside of the fruit flesh where the seeds grow instead of on the inside, as is the case with most fruits. On the left is an enlarged pistil. At the upper end at a is the stigma where is deposited a sticky substance which catches the pollen grains carried to

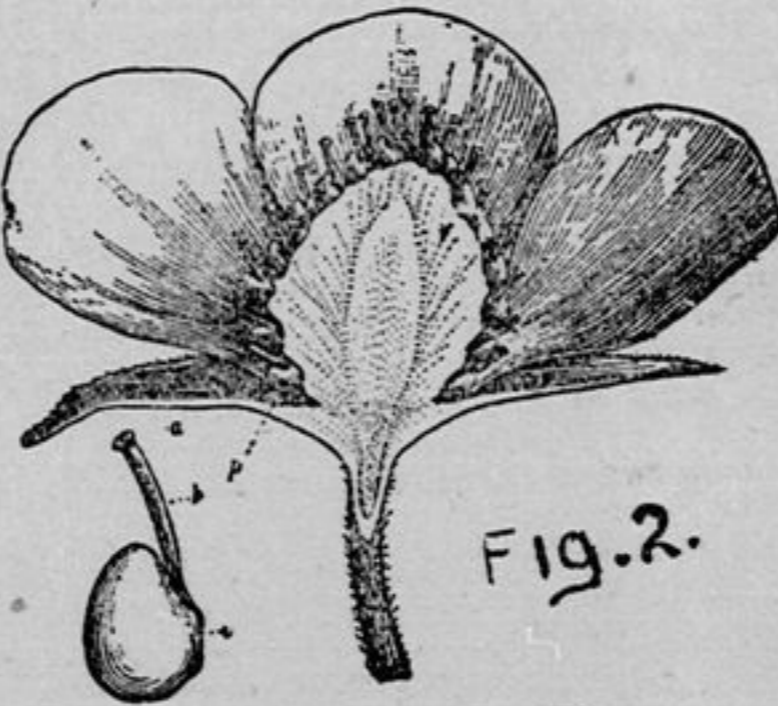


**STRAWBERRY PLANTS.**  
Fig. 1.—A Perfect Blossom.

it by the wind and insects. Here the pollen grain begins to grow, sending its tube down through the style, b, to the ovaries, c, in the bottom of which is the embryo egg to be fertilized. After the fertilization takes place the seeds begin to grow and the fruit flesh to develop. Every seed seen on the outside of the berry comes from a separate pistil and must have pollen or it will cause a hard, woody place in the berry. Aside from a mechanical injury, every deformed berry is the result of a lack of pollen. If we set a field of a pistillate variety it would bloom full, but no fruit would come from it. The process of secreting this pollen as well as the receiving wax on the pistil, is the most devitalizing process the plant is ever called upon to undergo. When a plant is allowed to produce an excessive amount, and this is followed by heavy seed formation, its vitality is so much lowered that the following year and often for several years the berries will be very much smaller and in every way inferior.

One plant grown in hills in my experimental garden produced 4 1/2 quarts of berries, three quarts of which were classed as large. These plants were given extra good culture, but the next year produced less than one quart of poorer berries, but threw out a great mass of runners. These new plants were then set and given the same tillage and treatment the mother plant had received and by the side of plants in full vigor, but they yielded scarcely half the amount of fruit. I have made repeated experiments along the same line, and am convinced beyond question that the development of fruit depends very largely on the physical condition of the plant in this respect. If the potency of life-giving element of the pollen is strong and plenty of food be given to sustain it, with congenial environments, the plant will throw its whole energies into the development of its seeds and consequent fruit, but if the plant is lacking in this vigor it will lose the habit of seed formation and fruit production.

I believe this to be the secret of success and failure in strawberry growing. Sometimes frost or excessive cold rains at blooming time will destroy the pollen and receiving wax and thus the crop will be greatly reduced, but all the more so if the plants be of low vitality. It sometimes happens that the second crop



**STRAWBERRY PLANTS.**  
Fig. 2.—Imperfect or Pistillate Blossom.

of berries is larger and better than the first. This often occurs if the first crop is injured by frost or storms, but never in all my experience, covering 17 years of strawberry growing, have I had a second very large crop following an enormous yield. Plants frequently vary in vigor, some exhausted in a degree and others seemingly strong, and so we find many barren plants and occasionally a vigorous one. Under these circumstances the yield will run low and about the same every year. Such plants cannot be made to yield maximum crops by any system of tillage.

### Potash and Peach Trees.

Peaches, like all other products of the soil, need feeding. Potash and phosphoric acid are the principal constituents required in making the fruit. An excess of nitrogen will produce rank growth at the expense of the fruit buds. Take, for instance, the peach tree near the kitchen door which gets plenty of soapy water, which contains a large amount of lye (potash). It always has a full crop. A few pounds of potash and phosphate around each tree during the later winter and you will be more than repaid for the trouble and expense.

### THE FREIGHT BUSINESS.

**Not the "Go as You Please," Haphazard Thing Many Suppose.**

Most people have an idea that freight is the last thing that railroads look after. Many profess to believe that a piece of freight once started on its journey is allowed to loaf along at its own sweet will and pleasure, stopping where it wishes and staying as long as it likes, and only bringing up at its destination when there is nowhere else to go.

When you have waited day after day for that piano which was shipped a month ago, you are ready to adopt that opinion. But don't be in a hurry. When that piano box shows up in Poughkeepsie at the time it should be in Portland, the Poughkeepsie agent does not uncase the instrument and give a series of box car recitals for the next two months. You may think he does, but he doesn't. Not a bit of it. There is no welcome anywhere for the wandering Willies of freightdom. No agent wishes to be caught with missing freight piled up in his yard or house. The truth of the matter is the railroads are continually punching laggard freight in the ribs and admonishing it to move on.

It is an interesting study to see how the railroads handle their immense freight business. Like confusion worse confounded, but to the men who have been trained to the work it is all as simple as a problem in short division. No matter how far from home a car is it is always in touch with the home office. If the car has had bad luck and one of its trucks is sprained, the home office knows about it and sends an order to have it placed in the nearest car hospital and doctored up to working condition. The office knows just what the car is earning, and if it thinks its traveling expenses are getting too big it shifts its route or calls it home. It is only once in awhile that a car gets away from the home office altogether, and when one does there is no sleep for any one till the runaway is found and started in the right direction.

But the man who is waiting for that piano knows that it does.—Lewiston Journal.

### A WILD STEEPLECHASE.

**That is the Term One Critic Applies to American Dinners.**

To realize how our "upper ten" scramble through existence, says Eliot Gregory in *The Atlantic*, one must contrast their frugal way of feeding with the bovine calm in which a German absorbs his nourishment and the hours an Italian can pass over his postprandial meal. An American dinner party affords us this opportunity.

From oysters to fruit dinners now are a breathless steeplechase, during which we take our viand hedges and champagne ditches at a dead run, with conversation pushed at such the same speed. To be silent would be to imply that one was not having a good time, so we rattle and gobble on toward the finger bowl winning post, only to find that rest is not there.

As the hostess pilots the ladies away to the drawing room she whispers to her spouse, "You won't smoke too long, will you?" So we are mute in the enjoyment of even that last resource of weary humanity, the cigar, and are hustled away from our smoke and coffee, to find our appearance is a signal for a general move.

One of the older ladies rises. The next moment the whole circle, like a flock of frightened birds, is up and off, crowding each other in the hallway, calling for their carriages and rattling the unfortunate servants who are attempting to cloak and overtake them. Bearing in mind that the guests have come as late as they dared without being absolutely uncivil, that the dinner has been served as rapidly as was materially possible and that the circle broke up as soon as the meal had ended, it asks oneself in wonder why, if dinner is such a bore that it has to be scrambled through, conte gute conte, people continue to dine out?

### A Story of Osman Pasha.

While Osman Pasha was one night making the rounds of the Plevna fortifications he happened upon three members of a guard off duty, who, each possessing the then rare luxury of a cigarette, had determined, with eastern logic, to play a game of cards for the lot. But while the game was in progress a Russian shell intruded, burst close by and killed one of the players.

Now a custom of the Turkish army decrees that a deceased man's comrade who is on sentry is entitled to a reversion of the dead man's interest, even in a gamble, so that Osman, who was unrecognizably muffled up, was at once invited to take the slain soldier's hand and finish the game. He accepted and won. Then, turning to the disconsolate players:

"Take the three cigarettes to the sentry I represented," he said. "They are really his by right," then, producing a well filled case, he proceeded, "and accept these from me."

### Patenting the Oortolan.

The height of luxurious living is a well cooked oortolan, the little bird celebrated for the exquisite delicacy of its flesh. The birds are kept in a room the floor of which is strewn plentifully with millet seed and corn and from which daylight gradually is excluded, and under these conditions they pass the last five or six weeks of their existence. Gradually the feathers of the body drop out, and the bird becomes a mere ball of fat with wings and a feathered head. Gently handling it, the operator picks up the bird and dips its beak into champagne, with the result that the bird dies suddenly and painlessly.

### Not to Blame.

"Do you mean to say that it is through no fault of yours that you appear before me for the second time?" demanded the judge of the hard faced culprit. "Yes, I do," replied the latter. "I did my level best to defeat you the last time you ran."—Pittsburg Chronicle.

### A Queer English Epitaph.

Stephen Rumbold  
Born Feb. 1852 Dyed March 4 1887  
He lived to one hundred and five  
On Sanguine and strong  
An hundred to five you don't live so long.  
—Notes and Queries.

### Campaign Alcinity.

"What did that politician say first bluish when the office was proffered him?" "At first bluish? Lots you know about politics? There wasn't any bluish about it; he nabbed it."—Indianapolis Journal.

### The Primitive Method.

"I don't believe," said the young man, "that any man ever courted a woman without telling her lies."  
"There was such courtship once," said the middle aged man.  
"Huh! I'm young yet. I meant back in the early days of the race. In those days, you know, when a man loved a woman he sneaked up and knocked her over with a club and took her to his lonely home, and they lived happy ever after."  
—Indianapolis Journal.

### The Great Electioneer Stallion.



## ANTEAM

No. 30258, American Trotting Register,  
The Property of MR. JOHN ALDOUS,  
Fenelon Falls, Ont.

Anteam will make a Limited Season at his own Stable, McArthur House, Fenelon Falls.

### Description and Pedigree

ANTEAM, 80258, is a handsome seal brown stallion with white strip in face and three white legs. He is 16 hands high and weighs 1,00 lbs., and was foaled June 7, 1883. He is well proportioned and gives every indication of extreme speed, having shown a mile in 2:30 as a two year old. He is a trotter sure and will be worked later in the season. He is a full brother to Antea, 2291 at two years old and Antea Belle, 225. His sire Antevilla, 7645, is one of Elec-tioneer's greatest sires, that is breeding on year after year with great regularity. He is a full brother to Antea, sire of Antilode, 2104, and twenty-five others in 2:30 list.

Dam, Lucy (dam of Antea, at 2 years 2:59), and Antea Belle (dam of Antea, at 2 years 2:59), and Antea Belle (dam of Antea, at 2 years 2:59), and Antea Belle (dam of Antea, at 2 years 2:59).

The Chicago Horse Review, in a brief review of the mighty Electioneer, states: In 1881 Hinda Rose lowered the yearling record from 2:44 to 2:38, and Wildflower, the two-year-old, from 2:55 to 2:21. In 1883 Hinda Rose lowered the three-year-old record from 2:19 to 2:13; in 1885 Manzanita reduced the four-year-old record from 2:17 to 2:13; in 1886 she cut the two-year-old from 2:21 to 2:18; the next year she brought that for three-year-olds from 2:18 to 2:14, and in 1890 that for four-year-olds from 2:16 to 2:10. In 1891 the family were record-breaking record-breakers: Santol lowered the world's record by trotting a mile in 2:05; and in 1892 he lowered the record for the mile to 2:04. On November 17, 1891, when Palo Alto trotted in 2:03, the sons and daughters of Electioneer held the champion trotting records for one, two, three, four and five-year-olds, the world's records, respectively of age, sex, and stallion record. A shining with us a parallel, and one which will probably ever remain so.

In the season 1900, that is, we since elapsed the family prestige has been well sustained. It has steadily and heavily grown in numbers, while in quality it cannot be said to have retrograded. During the present season just closed it has furnished: Binger 2:09; and the Abbot 2:07; the fastest trotters of the year; Tommy Britton 2:05; Copeland 2:09; Serpol 2:10; Bouncer 2:09; the wonderful four-year-old champion Charley Herr 2:10; Idylls, 3:21; the heaviest money winner of the year; Borama, 3:21; winner of the Kentucky Futurity; and, who lowered the record for two-year-old geldings to 2:47; Noorah 2:11; the fastest four-year-old filly in 1890. Among the sires were the are four-year-old Billy Andrews 2:03; B B Fitz-Germond 4:20; and Lady of the Manor 2:04, the champion pac-g mare.

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