



CHAPTER XXV.—(CONTINUED.)
You will do well to keep your promise, my dear. There was a little harshness in the sweet voice about which all London was raving.

The concert at Covent Garden took place twice a week and the money-loving professor, yielding to urgent requests of many members of the nobility, produced his wonderful pupil at many aristocratic receptions.

One morning Prof. Desgoffes received a visit from a young Irish gentleman of great wealth, who had seen and heard Tiomane but once, and on this very slight acquaintance, if acquaintance it could be called, asked her hand in marriage.

He complained bitterly of his loneliness, while she turned over the leaves of her music books with great apparent interest.



On taking leave of Tiomane, however, all his resentment vanished. "Come back soon," he said, with his affectionate smile.

CHAPTER XXVI.
ON LEAVING ENGLAND, where Tiomane received one continued ovation, Prof. Desgoffes' stay in Paris was as short as possible.

Natalia tried, but in vain, to prolong their stay until Sunday, but her father and Tiomane seemed to be in league and thirsting for new triumphs.

On leaving the table Natalia slipped her arm into that of her friend and said affectionately: "Have you not some secret sorrow, dear?"

lover, who no doubt is as sad as yourself. Tiomane disengaged herself quickly, and answered with some asperity: "My dear, you jest very agreeably, but I am not in a humor to listen to jests today."

"Yes, I wager that I can guess your sorrow," she exclaimed, gaily; "you are weeping for your Apollo of the Green Isle; you regret your rigor; like all women, you think tenderly of the absent."

"No," continued the imperturbable Frenchwoman; "no, I will speak in spite of you. Well, ma mignonne, you seem to be possessed by imps, which in the foggy land we have just left are called blue devils."

"What an imagination you have!" she said, shrugging her shoulders; "I am perhaps a little capricious—a little old-maidish, for I do not like my ordinary routine to be disturbed. I have become imperious, if you will."

"Well! let me give you a little friendly advice, ma cherie—the resume of all my love and all my wisdom—do not be an old maid; and if another descendant of Brian Boru, or some other devoted lover, should present himself—"

"How mistaken you are," she said with a little nervous laugh. "How mistaken you are, in spite of your penetration of which you boast. Listen, Natalia, while I make a confession—a sincere one."

"Ah! now you are talking like yourself," said Natalia, triumphantly. "I am changed, I know—transformed. Success has intoxicated me. I consider myself made of very different clay from ordinary mortals."

"I assure you I have no reproaches to make to you," she replied coldly. "I am very much occupied, absorbed, indeed, in my art. If I have shown any ill-humor unconsciously, it is owing to the excitement of my present life."

On taking leave of Tiomane, however, all his resentment vanished. "Come back soon," he said, with his affectionate smile. "If you do not, I may make this journey, this 'absurd journey,' as you call it, again."

On leaving the table Natalia slipped her arm into that of her friend and said affectionately: "Have you not some secret sorrow, dear?" This pithy revolved the sensitive girl, and, drawing herself up proudly, she said: "A secret sorrow! What sorrow could I have?"

"Listen," resumed Natalia gently, pressing her arm, "I am afraid you are sighing for the handsome young Irish

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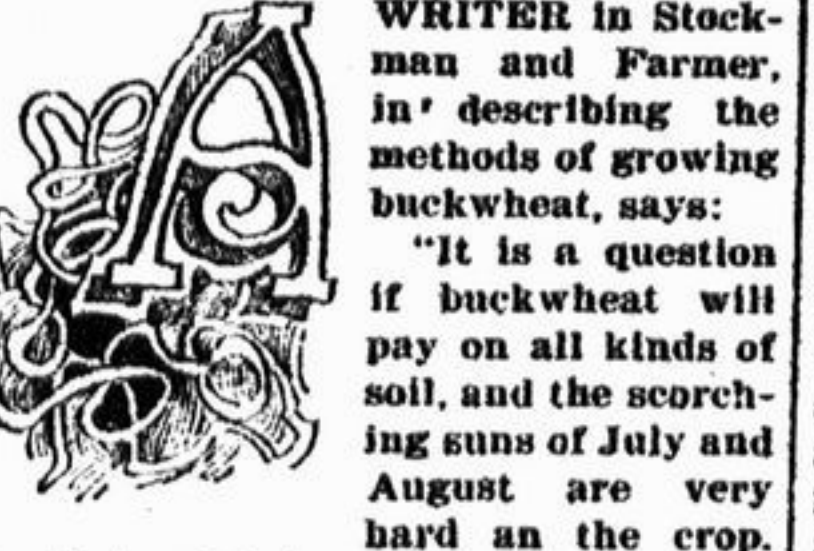
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FARM AND GARDEN. MATTERS OF INTEREST TO AGRICULTURISTS.

Some Up-to-Date Hints About Cultivation of the Soil and Yields Thereof—Horticulture, Viticulture and Floriculture.



WRITER in Stockman and Farmer, in describing the methods of growing buckwheat, says: "It is a question if buckwheat will pay on all kinds of soil, and the scorching suns of July and August are very hard on the crop."

It will flourish best in moist weather. The soil here is clayey, with occasional gravelly patches, and on the creek bottoms black loam, but always a clay subsoil at various depths.

The ground should be plowed in the fore part of June and harrowed after showers until the 4th of July. No danger of getting too mellow or fine. Drill in about one bushel to the acre of the silver gray or old-fashioned black hull.

Early Plowing for Wheat.—It is hardly possible to plow too early for wheat, and the sooner this is done after the field to be sown is ready for the plow, the better for the crop if proper attention is given to it.

Botanical name, Spartina cynosuroides. Stems upright, stout, becoming hard and woody, three to seven feet high, from very large, scaly, perennial root-stocks; leaves two or three feet long, involute, pointed, tough and rigid, rough on the margins; spikes five to twenty, usually from one and one-half to three inches long, upright at first, but becoming somewhat spreading at maturity; spikelets nearly half an inch long, one-flowered, flattened, sessile and crowded closely together in two rows; glumes awn-pointed with minute bristles along the back.

The richer the ground the less seed needed. You can sow broadcast, but in a dry season it is better to drill quite deep, so the roots will be of uniform depth and will hold the moisture. It will be easier to harvest the crop if the land roller is used once after sowing.

When two-thirds of the grains are brown it is time to cut, which can be done best with side-rake reaper, though the binder can be used, leaving out the twine, or can be cut with grain cradle.

Leaf Mold.—If you want healthy, blooming plants for winter, start your slips this month and pot them in leaf mold. We never had finer house plants than we have now, and it is all due to our using the "leaf mold." We tried it first on our fuchsias, and it worked like a charm.

A San Luis Obispo bean grower gives an exchange his idea of bean harvesting in this way: Pull the beans after they shed their leaves. Instead of leaving them six or eight days exposed to the weather, they should be threshed the second or third day. This is usually done by selecting a piece of smooth, sandy ground and wetting the

surface, then putting on a light litter of straw and driving from three to ten horses abreast over the ground, describing a circle all the time. After the horses have thoroughly packed the ground the straw is raked off and the floor is leveled with a large mallet, then swept with a broom and allowed to stand a couple of days, when it is ready for use, and is nearly as hard as a wood floor.

The beans are then hauled to the floor to the depth of about three feet, and the horses put on the same as when building the floor. The vines have to be turned a couple of times and shaken up, then tramped again, when they will be clean. The beans are screened by throwing them up against the wind. They are usually put in sacks of eighty pounds each, and sell by the pound, the price ranging from one and one-half to four cents, according to kind and quality.

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Whenever you go among the summer retreats the average woman is sure to be found with a 25-cent paper-covered novel in her hands, trying to kill time by reading it. As a rule the worthless-ness of those stories is their chief characteristic. Most of them are so trashy that the only chance of their securing a reading is in the form of cheap novels for the warm days of the summer season.

At the hotels this literature is an exclusive. Nothing else sells. It has no rivals, and the publishers, accurately gauging the public taste, bring out nothing else till September. At other times the novel has to run the gauntlet with serious publications, but slow, in reverse proportion to its worthlessness, it has the field all to itself. Even the magazines have caught the infection, and are chiefly filled with short stories for the summer months, because these are most in demand.

Came to Himself. A negro brother while expostulating on that clause of the prodigal son where it says, "And when he came to himself he said," etc., explained it in this way: "Broder, after being long in want and hunger de son at last takes off his coat and sells it. When this fund has disappeared he takes off his next sells his shirt, and then, broder, he came to himself."—Ruth C. Kloster, Rib Lake, Wis.

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