

## AGRICULTURAL.

### HOW I GROW MY PEAS.

My garden is not large enough to allow things to spread themselves to any great extent, and I have to content myself with certain kinds that are, like my garden, modeled on a small state of things. Yet I know the difference between a dish of peas picked some days, and exposed in the grocery window and such as are picked fresh from the garden the day they are to appear on my table. So to suit ends to means, I fall back on the dwarf varieties of peas that do not grow more than a couple of feet high, and may be sown twice as close, row to row, as the old-fashioned tall kinds. For the very first sowing I take a quart of an extra-early like the Gem, and sow in the warmest spot as early as the frost leaves the ground. They are earlier this year than usual, and commenced to break ground the 1st of April. These I sow just two feet apart between rows; that makes a couple of rows of 50 feet each. Then along about the first of May I get in my second crop of a quart of seed of a kind like the early Champion, which is the same or about the same as McLean's Advancer. Both of these crops come off in advance of time to get in the winter crop of celery. Indeed these can be planted between the rows of peas and thus afford a little shelter to the young plants of celery until they have taken well hold again. A few radish seeds scattered among the peas, give me a few dishes of these favorites off the same ground. A farm of 100 by 200 is only a small affair, but by making the most of every foot of land I am enabled to furnish the family with all the principal summer vegetables, and have a few small fruits. Besides, it affords me any amount of delight to superintend the more laborious part of the work, and do lots of the more easy part myself.—[Aunt Lucy.

### CLEVER PROPAGATING OF THE ROSE.

The American Florist is responsible for the following:  
In the spring of 1887, Mr. W. W. Coles, of Lansdowne, Pa., bought from Craig & Bro., for one dollar, a thrifty young plant of the celebrated rose, Mrs. John Laing. By skillful handling, it developed into a fine plant, and grew so satisfactorily that Walter could not resist the temptation of calculating how many young "Laings" he would have the following spring. One day in July '87, Mr. Coles met Mr. John Burton, and the subject came up in conversation as to how many young rose plants could be raised from one stock plant in one season. I forget how many Mr. Burton said he thought it was possible to raise, but Mr. Coles very emphatically asserted that he could raise 550 by the following April (1888). This was just as vigorously disputed until a wager was proposed—a champagne supper for those present—which was accepted and put on record.

The plant continued to improve, and as the time for operation approached, stocks suitable for grafting had to be secured, for there was no restriction as to how the propagating should be done, either by grafting, budding or on own roots. After some slight difficulty the necessary number of Manetti stocks were obtained, and on December 24 the first lot of plants were grafted, amounting in number to something less than 180; most of them grew and made a rapid growth. In the following February these plants yielded a number of scions—considerably over 1,000—and on the day specified, namely, April 15, 1888, Mr. Coles had the extreme satisfaction of pointing out to the referee, Mr. John Westcott, upwards of thirteen hundred plants fit to ship to any point in this country.

### ROOT GRAFTING VERSUS BUDDING.

A good many horticultural prejudices, brought over from the old country, have died out during the past 30 years, and others are following. It was some time before root grafting the apple was looked upon as quite a proper proceeding; while for pears and all the stone fruits budding was universal. It is not a great while since those who root grafted their apples would cut them back to a strong bud near the ground the second season, merely to give the trees the appearance of having been budded. Though done for that purpose at first, the practice recommends itself on other grounds, as giving a stronger, straighter and more vigorous stem for branching the third season.

There is a ground of objection urged against apple root grafting, that it is inferior to top grafting on hardy stocks for slightly tender varieties, like the Baldwin in Middle New England. But this objection is as strong against low budding as against root grafting.

After root grafting had become established as a legitimate method for the apple, it was still regarded as utterly inapplicable to the pear; while as to the plum and cherry, no one thought it possible as a practical operation. But recent experiences have shown me that as fine pear trees can be grown from root grafts as in any other way; while with plums and cherries, when both roots and cions are dormant, or even when not, if both stock and cion are in a like condition, union is rapid and complete, and growth luxuriant, under proper conditions. At least, I am finding this true with the Russian and North German varieties; and the same report comes from Prof. Budd of the Iowa Agricultural College. Small (yearling) stocks are best suited to this method of propagation.

### PROTECTION FOR ORCHARDS.

Pomologists are beginning to wake up to the eminent importance of establishing belts of deciduous and evergreen trees around their fruit orchards, to protect the tender trees and buds from the cold wintry winds.

Trees protected by timber on the north and west, annually produce bloom, while those not protected, do not come so near bearing as that. Had those orchards with belts on the north and west, had one also on the east, then they would have been productive; as an orchard within a few miles of this, with timber on the three sides mentioned, abundantly shows by its yearly yield of fruit and healthy trees.

By observation then extending through a number of years, to our mind at least, orchards must be belted with timber on three sides with a good osage orange hedge; some distance inside of this, plant hardy deciduous trees; further in, Norway firs, and inside of these, white pines. These should be planted at the time the orchard is set and well cultivated; then they will afford substantial

protection by the time the orchard is of bearing size.

### REMEDY FOR HEAVES.

A veterinarian, in answer to an inquiry for a heave remedy, says:

"This disease is caused by debility of the paravagum nerves. Any measures you can take to improve the condition of your horse will relieve his complaint. You must give him food in light bulk, but little water at a time, and feed him but a small quantity of dry hay. My treatment is to give five grain doses of arsenic once in twenty-four hours, for two weeks; then omit the medicine for one week, and repeat as at first. It should be given in chopped feed, and there is no danger in its use as directed. It will often cure, and always relieve the horse."

Another recommends tar as a remedy. He says: "Put about a teaspoonful in the horse's mouth, once or twice a day. The best way is to use a paddle. First pull out the horse's tongue and put the tar in his mouth as far as you can. I knew one of my neighbors to try it for heaves, and it effected a perfect cure."

### TIMELY TALK.

Where the fruit garden consists of but few trees it is very easy to have a much more regular supply of fruit than is usually grown. Those varieties that bear heavily on alternate years can be made to produce fruit as readily on the off years by simply plucking all the fruit as soon as formed, in the bearing years, on those trees that we wish to bear on the off years. Thus with only two trees of a kind we may be reasonably sure of fruit in each year by this method. This habit of bearing will continue until a frost or storm destroys the fruit or blossom and we must then again, the following year, pluck the fruit as before, from those trees whose habit we wish to change. A little extra labor will add much to the value of a small fruit garden.

### PRESERVING FENCE POSTS.

Waldo F. Brown suggests in farmer's Review that the end posts, which must bear the strain of stretching the wires, be set with concrete. It will take but a few cents' worth of cement to a post, and will make it perfectly firm at the bottom, and also more durable than if set in the clay. It is almost impossible to set posts firm enough so that they will not yield to the strain when the land is wet and soft, but by digging a hole fifteen inches square and pounding it full of coarse cement grout around the post it will give base enough to the post to keep it in place.

### A Fast Mail Service.

Our Government has made up its mind to have a fast mail service across the Atlantic, and has assured the world of its willingness to subsidize very handsomely any company that will shoulder the undertaking. Late dispatches, however, indicate that there is some difficulty in persuading British capitalists that there will be "money in it," sufficient to justify them in subscribing to the very large amount that is needed to set the scheme afloat. Something like \$20,000,000 is said to be needed for such a service as the Dominion requires, and this large sum, reasons the John Bull capitalist, may prove inadequate for more than a few years. In these days, ocean greyhounds are as little likely to keep their supremacy for more than a few years at a time, as a racing mare is to keep hers, or a youthful beauty to resist the course of time and the competition of developing "buds." And our investments of to-day may prove unavailing against the competition of New York even five years hence. It is undeniable that there is some force in the reasoning. If Canada were a more populous and wealthy country there would, of course, be much more inducement to subscribe money for a first class mail service for her exclusive use. And it is a fact that ocean greyhounds nowadays soon become comparatively antiquated, so that a fast mail service of to-day may no longer be the fast mail service of to-morrow. But when the British money-bags have examined the ground a little more carefully and estimated the significance of our transcontinental railroad among other things, we hope that they will grow more sanguine, and not refuse the money which is needed. But we cannot wonder much at their caution: Twenty millions is a great deal of money, and they may well ask if it is reasonably certain that a population of five millions could assure a dividend on such a sum.

### Five Brothers.

The world is indebted to the brothers Siemens for many important electrical and metallurgical inventions. These five engineers and inventors were not born of inventive parents. They were sons of a German farmer, whose ancestors for three centuries before had been cultivators of the land.

This exception to the law of heredity was associated with another curious fact. Sir William Siemens became one of the best mechanics in England, yet as a boy he showed no fondness for mechanics. He made no windmills, sailed no boats, did no damage to the furniture by baby-carpentering, and did not pull the clock to pieces to see how "the wheels went round."

The Siemens brothers worked so harmoniously together that it is difficult to define the personal share of each in their many great inventions. A strong mutual feeling of affection and respect existed throughout the family. A "Siemens Stiff" (establishment) was formed for the promotion of good feeling in the family, and for the benefit of its poorer members.

Once every five years all the members of the Siemens family, rich and poor, met at a pleasant place in the Hartz Mountains to pass a day or two in social intercourse. At this gathering the affairs of applicants for help were inquired into, and the deserving relieved out of a fund kept up by the subscriptions of the more wealthy relatives. That was surely a much better way for a family to equalize its possessions than begging, or borrowing, or breaking wills would be.

### Why?

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## Bad Boys in Philadelphia.

Whatever the explanation may be, the facts about juvenile criminality in Philadelphia are certainly startling. According to the Press, between the April of 1888 and the April of 1889 [there was hardly a crime on the calendar which was not committed by mere children. Says the Press, "There are boys in prison for murder and attempted murder and there are boys in jail for assault. Girls in short dresses have committed suicide, and have been saved from suicide. Dual lives have been started before the teens began and in many a home robbers and burglars have slept in trundle beds. Juvenile highwaymen have stopped juvenile victims trembling at the points of their pistols and and fathers who remembered the excitement "hide and seek" gave them in childhood have suddenly been brought to realize that their sons were playing the game with the police and in dead earnest.

Little fellows have deliberately organized themselves into gangs of thieves and have planned and executed robberies that required days and weeks of detective work to explain and then the same authority adds words which make the record more horrible and mysterious. "Starting it is, too, that a majority of these children do not spring from the criminal classes. The police record shows that they have good homes, good training, and that their parents have suddenly been grieved, surprised and mortified beyond expression by the presence of the officers at their doors with warrants of arrest. "The three Cowboys," as they called themselves were between twelve and fourteen years of age. They carried on the most systematic operations of thievery, and when finally arrested confessed that they had formed the daring scheme of waylaying a bank messenger knocking him down and relieving him of his burden.

"The Black Diamonds" was another gang of boy robbers, none of whom were over seventeen. Any quantity of stolen goods was found at their headquarters when the police unearthed them. One day in November last, a small boy was set upon by a gang of five others, two of whom pointed revolvers at his head, while the others went through his pockets and took everything that was in them. None of the five were over thirteen. A sixteen-year-old boy named McGowan knocked a smaller lad down and robbed him of ten dollars. Several other gangs of thieves have been broken up by the police during the year mentioned. A sixteen-year-old boy named Drew tried to murder a fifteen-year-old one, because the latter had called him a liar. He drew a revolver and fired point blank at his head, wounding him severely. A thirteen-year-old boy served another one in the same way, because he refused to have anything to do with what he considered "a crooked business." Two boys in the House of Refuge secreted long knives about their persons and made a desperate attempt to escape. A ten-year-old boy was assaulted one evening by a band of youthful "white-caps." He was thrown violently down, was taken home in spasms and after some days of terrible suffering, died. Three boys were tried and sentenced for felonious assault upon three girls. All were under sixteen. Suicides also by mere children have been alarmingly frequent. Is it any wonder that, in the face of such facts, not the "Philadelphia Press" only, but all good citizens should pause and seriously question with themselves as to the causes which have led to such unnatural developments of crime in children who did not belong to the criminal class, but of the great majority of whom it might be said that they had everything in their favor for turning out good citizens, a credit to themselves and to their parents.

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## Brutality of the New York Police.

Some of the New York newspapers speak very harshly about the brutal conduct of some of the mounted policemen who were on duty during the Washington Centennial celebration. They charged the dense crowds who were pressing on the space reserved for the procession, and drove them back by the simple expedient of trampling them down with their horses. Old women and little children were ruthlessly over-riden. It was a disgraceful exhibition for a metropolis of Christendom. Had it been witnessed in old Rome during a "triumph" of one of the conquering generals of that iron age, it would have been bad enough, but that such things could take place in a city like New York, in the nineteenth century of the Christian era, and on such an occasion as the solemn installation of office of a great and good man, is shameful to think of. It is needless for Americans to execrate the brutalities of the Irish constabulary, when they have men among themselves hardened enough to ride over women and children who had given them no provocation.

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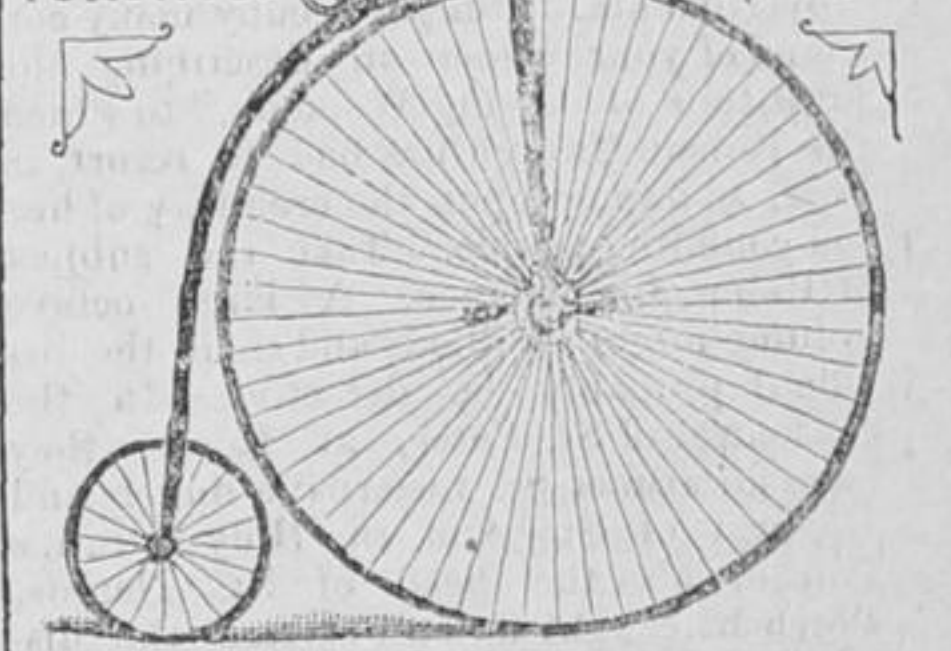
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