NOTES AND COMMENTS

With the virtual decision of the Italian government to evacuate its remaining possessions on the Red sea coast, has begun the struggle between various powers for the Italian assets, der the treaty of Uccialli Italy claimed to cause fruitfulness. A thrifty, fasta protectorate over Abyssinia, while her growing tree is not apt to produce colony of Erythrea stretched on the much fruit. Anything that will dimnorth to Kassala and to Kaffa on the inish the flow of sap to the top of south, with the port of Massowah as the tree will check the exclusive limb the outlet of the whole; but since her growth and tend to the production of defeat at Adowa ,Erythrea has shrunk | fruit. This may be accomplished by to a small stretch of Red sea littoral, root pruning. The same result is obwithout hinterland, and Abyssinia has tained by some orchardists by running regained its independence. Even be- a thin-bladed knife entirely around the fore that disaster France and Russia | trunk of the tree, cutting clear through sought to establish their ascendancy in the bark. This will almost invariably the councils of King Menelek, and now cause a thrifty, barren tree to produce that the ne wtreaty, with Italy, follow- fruit without injury to the tree, if it ing Adowa, has left him free to manage | be done as soon in the spring as the his own foreign relations, they are tree has entered into vigorous growth making every effort to gain their end. and the wound is kept from the direct France would like to add Erythrea to rays of the sun. Obok, and claims its reversion on some | "June is said to be the best month obscure ground, and Russia which has in which to prune. April, May, July already entered into close relations with and October are fairly good. If prothe Negus, wants the Italian colony in | perly done in the spring or early sumorder to gain direct territorial con- mer months, the wound of a reasonnection with Abyssinia. (Both are, how- able-sized limb will heal over in about ever, opposed by England, whose claims | three years. It is not usually advisable to the reversion of Erythrea, and to to prune in the winter. If done during paramount influence in Abyssinia, are or shortly before severe freezing, the be utilized in many ways, and the dropparticularly strong, Massowah having bark about the wound will split and pings in the barnyard will be valubeen ceded by Egypt to Italy on the express stipulation that if she could it be impossible to prune at any other not retain it, it should be restored to time, it had better be done in winter Egypt. Moreover, while England was content with the arrangement which placed Abyssinia under the control of ed the collar by some. Cut as close to to the farm animals. Apples are nut-Italy, a friendly power, she cannot regard with the same complacency the passage of a strong kingdom on her under side of the limb first, sawing them is excellent for the health of the water route to India, and bordering for about as far as possible. Then finish a long distance the Egyptian Soudan, under the control of a power opposed to the British policy in Africa.

'Abyssinia, independent or hostile, would be a standing menace to Britthe Italian claims are to be abandoned and England is about to resume posed to recover Kassala and to assert her influence in Abyssinia. To the latter end a great mission, headed by Mr. extent a crooked tree by drawing a Rennell Rodd, recently in control at Zanzibar, and Colonel Wingate, chief of the intelligence department in Egypt, by ill-informed buyers has caused nuris being sent to King Menelek, in the serymen to cease the propagating of hope of convincing him that his own interests and those of his kingdom lie in a close alliance with Great Britain. reach several years of age. The Rhode Just what inducements will be offered for such an alliance are not made known, but possession of the port of Massowah, if evacuated by Italy, is evidently to be one of them, or failing that, some other arrangement which will give him what he greatly wants, pullets' eggs for hatching, or is it at a customs revenue. No doubt, too, he will be offered a subsidy, like that given the ruler of Afghanistan, with a what shall we find? Pullets begin to in internal administration. As the sea abandoned by the latter shall be occupied by the former, whether King claims of England to its reversion, and apt to be set. At the regular hatchstill more, whether he will again surrender his independence, remains to be then be eleven months old and in full seen. Should he not, there is little soubt that the Anglo-Egyptian government is prepared to declare war rather to produce first-class chicks, it is our pass into other than British hands, or to endure the menace of a possibly hostile kingdom on its border to its sup- like the Plymouth Rocks, we find their reme control of the Nile valley.

## THE BIG ALLIGATOR GETS LOOSE.

Lassoed and Hauled Back to its Tank.

"We were located once for quite a spell in one place," said the old circus man, "and we had things fitted up would very materially increase our permanently. The seats around the chances for strong, healthy chicks-a circus ring were on a terraced platone-year-old vigorous cock for pullets, form, built up like steps. The seats and a well-matured, lively cockerel for persons' obligations or the abrogation of themselves were not benches, but separate chairs, ranged along in rows on these wide rising steps. We had in strongest chickens, we think it rather per respect; and how to sign is scarcely the menagerie an alligator, a big alli-gator about 12 feet long. The alligator got out of its tank one night and worked its way over to the circus arena and crawled up on the lowest step of or three years old, but it is an excep- Mrs. or Miss as a prefix. A signature the seats, between the front row of tion and not the rule. Females of all should never be left carelessly on pieces chairs and the railing around the ring. the heavy breeds deteriorate materi- of blank paper where unscrupulous use "Of course it's about as important ally after their hen year. Of course might be made of it, and it should be to keep away from an alligator's tail there is occasionally an exceptional hen, distinctly legible. as it is to keep away from its jaws, but we never find her in large flocks! A woman should learn also to respect ender; it knocks a man down with one flocks have no time to study each old est kin. Messenger-boys say that they end and swallows him with the other. hen's peculiarities—this is left almost are daily asked by ladies if they shall As a matter of fact a good-sized alli- entirely to the back-yard fancier. gator can smash almost anything it can bring its tail to bear on. Of course a matter of care and feed. Pullets Tribune recently portrayed a pretty we knew that well enough, and what badly cared for and indifferently fed bride with no practical knowledge of we set out to do was to lasso him. Easy will not mature as they should, and a check-book. The deliverer of a choice enough to do it was, too. Some of hence their eggs will not be fit to pro- piece of bric-a-brac had insisted on payus stood in the ring and some on the duce chicks of any kind. Hens allow- ment at the door. The young woman seats up back of him, and we drew ed to sit around and grow fat will de- explained that evening to her husband the noose over his head without any velop into useless ornaments, and their that as she had fortunately remembertrouble at all, and then we dragged offspring will not be strong enough ed how he had drawn a check the prehim out and back to the tank. He to grow up. flopped his tail just once, as we started with him, that's all, but when he brought it down he smashed the four

end chairs in that row into small pieces.

that kind would have been rather cost-

or unough of house d

## THE FARM.

REASONS AND RULES FOR PRUN-

A fruit grower gives some good reasons and rules for pruning. He said: "We prune for two reasons-to pro-

die back to an uncertain extent, mak- able as a fertilizer Build up the home ing a wound slow to heal. And yet if dairy on a strong basis. than not at all. "At the base of each limb is an en-

largement more or less prominent, call- ue of the orchard for feeding its fruits this as possible and upon the same slant, whether that be straight across or at an angle. Use the saw upon the from the top, being sure to cut the bark entirely around before the limb breaks. Smooth with a knife or chisel if necessary and cover all large wounds | desirable; a peck of them chopped and with thick paint. Prune frequently, sprinkled with meal of any kind, will but never excessively. Excessive pruning tends to the production of water of the cows. Horses love this fruit, sprouts, which are not desirable. Never and they tend to help in the shedding ish control of the upper Nile region remove the "leader" or allow two or of the coat, by their gently laxative Khartoum to the lakes; and now that more branches to start from the same effect. When the selection is made for point of the trunk. Never remove a tree from another limb, as the latter summer to the winter, should not be session of the Soudan, she is determin- will almost invariably break off after forgotten for this use. We may begin a time at the point where the other with the early Sweet Bough for the imb was removed.

knife lengthwise, cutting through the and the Winesap, all productive sorts bark on the inside of the crook. The and unexcelled for this use as well as demand for beautifully straight trees trees of some of dur most desirable fruits because straight trees of those varieties cannot be grown until they Island greening and Belmont apples, the Winter Nellis pear and some varieties of plums are of this class."

HENS' OR PULLETS' EGGS FOR HATCHING.

Is there a difference in hens' or matter or fancy?

certain rectification of his frontiers; the lay first, naturally, and if we should object being to induce him to accept so use their eggs in October or November, coat. But used at any time it prostrict an alliance that Abyssinians may the chances are they would not produce motes the secretion of oil, which moistform a part oft he British army in Af- as strong chicks as we desire. Take ens the coat and makes it shine. A rica, while retaining his independence for instance the S. C. W. Leghorns. Theirs are the ideal hatching eggs, done at least once a day, the horse especially for an incubator. The new treaty between Abyssinia and Italy shells being thinner than the dark egg provides that any territory on the Red strains, the chicks free themselves quicker and hence seem, at the start, much more lively. But, as a rule, eggs from this breed are not used so early. Menelek will submit quietly to the hence the early pullets' eggs are not little muscular work. ing season for this breed, which is from April 1st to 15th, .the pullets would lay, meaning from ten to twelve eggs of great wealth the other day, "tell per day from about twenty head. their eggs are then not strong enough than permit Kassala and Massowah to opinion they never will be, for the birds are fully matured and are in the ment of a certain hour, I put my name pink of condition in all their qualities. If we take the heavier feathered breeds, pullets fully as matured at the regular hatching season as the White Leghorns, fore signing, I should have had fewer slower. Therefore it all hinges on Why did my father or my husband whether they are strong or not. Starts a Kindling Wood Factory, but Is for early broilers, we should prefer decidedly hens' eggs, as we feel quite sure of their maturity, but if for hatching phickens in the regular spring season we cannot see any particle of difference. A correct mating, however,

> one-year-old hens. As to the belief of some breeders that two and three-year-old hens hatch the have passed through their hen year. The White or Brown Leghorns fre- Women should use their Christian quently continue to lay well when two names, never their husbands', and omit for the reason that breeders of large | the signature of those of even her near-

In all such experiments it becomes names on receipt-books. The New York

LOCATING THE PEAR ORCHARD. "It made nice kindling wood, but favorable in order to precipitate drain-

be secured. Shelter from the rake of the wind is important. The pear is a companionable tree and will luxuriate when supported by other trees around it. In close garden culture a degree of humidity is preserved and there is less evaporation from the foliage where the strong winds are broken, the growth will be more vigorous and healthy. There must, however, be and for dominance over Abyssinia. Un- duce a symmetrical, long-lived tree, and sufficient air and sunlight to mature

THE HOME DAIRY.

If on every farm more attention is paid to the home dairy, a better product of butter will be turned out, and cow the greater the net profit.

Never try to do dairy work with fatness. beef cattle. Never trust alone to the seasons for good butter, the milk can | heads.

FEEDING VALUE OF APPLES.

We do not think enough of the valritious, and an aid to the good digestion of other food. The mild acid of stock and we all know how gratefully they will receive a feed of them at any time. For the cows they are especially help much to add to the flow of milk the spring planting, a few of some of limb that starts near the trunk of the the sweet varieties, ripening from the first, then the autumn Sweet Bough "It is possible to strengthen to some and the old Pumpkin Sweet, and for later use there are the Talman Sweet for market.

CURRY THE FARM HORSES.

Horses on the farm do not have the sleek look that horses in the city liveries have. Neither will they accomplish so much work. The difference is partly owing to the fact that the horse in the city has a large proportion of grain, while the farm horse, even while working, kets most of his nutrition from hay. But grooming has also a great deal to do with the superior slickness of the city horse's coat. The curry-comb is not so much used as it If we consider them separately, should be on farm horses.

We know many places where the brush and curry-comb are seldom used. well-groomed horse is usually well fed. But if the grooming were thoroughly would keep in good condition with less food than it now receives.

Good grooming undoubtedly aids digestion, as rubbing the body promotes digestion in people, and is an excellent substitute for exercise for those who do

ON SIGNING ONE'S NAME.

"Do tell the women," begged a lady If the women never to sign a paper the contents of which they do not fully understand. In the sorrow and exciteto a document which placed my money and my affairs at the mercy of a moneychanger for a dozen years. Had I only never tell me this?"

To think over a paper, or at least to read it carefully before signing! This precept should be taught every girl and woman as the alphabet of business affairs. Many things may be safely left her to learn by experience, but not this. Too often it means her gentle acquiescence in a man's "Sign here," with a consequent adoption of other

her own perquisites and property. A person's signature, standing before the law for one's self, is entitled to pro-

sign their own or their husbands'

check-book, she made one out for the merchant, adding: "You do not know how well Alonza B. Tomkins looked in my handwriting!" It is needless to say that no time was age and the discharge of surplus surface lost by the distracted young husband ly for every-day use, and so we put up water, but it is not essential that any in recovering that most innocently forgparticular point of the compass should ed check!

vious day, and where he had left his

QUEEN NATALIE.

One of the fairest queens in Europe is Queen Natalie, of Servia, and her greatest beauty is her neck. The Queen takes frequent and regular exercise with a heavy pitcher on her head. The result of this is to straighten and strengthen the neck, and to the wood and the fruit. If the site give it the form which the highest is high, it will be an advantage to standard of female beauty requires. plant an evergreen belt to the wind- | Not only does the exercise add to preward, both for the health of the trees | sent beauty, but it arrests the ravand also to prevent the falling of the ages which time makes more quickly fruit during high winds. On the other in the female neck than in any other hand, a low, cold and peaty position, place. She appears in the park sursubject to fogs and frosty nights, is rounding her castle at about 8 o'clock objectionable. A strong, retentive each morning, taking a brisk walk loam inclined to clay is a preferable with her pitcher on her shapely head. Queen Natalie has abundant black hair, and a rich coloring. Her figure

is very strong and erect, and her carriage is perfect, for her favorite exercise tends to develop the latter quality as well as to beautify the neck and shoulders. Her flesh has the firmness of marble. Her head is placed on her a greater yield per cow will be realized. shoulders after the manner of that of The better the article the more sure the Venus of Milo. There are no prothe sale; and the larger the yield per | truding bones, no wrinkles, no hollows, but neither is there any superfluous

The exercise to which Natalie owes pasture to supply the food. Be sure so much of her charm is one which to have necessary conveniences of the has been practised by women of the best kind for securing the full quantity poorer classes in many countries. of butter fat from the milk. Every Rachel, it may be remembered, met home dairy should raise its choicest Jacob when she was going to the well heifer calves, in order that the supply with her pitcher. The women of the of good dairy cows may be kept up. Oriental countries, of Greece, and of It will pay for the trouble and ex- Italy, have always been accustomed to pense. Esside the ready sale at all carry pitchers and burdens on their

## RESCUED.

They had been driffting about in the open boat for seven days, and had almost given up hope, when the lookout cried wildly: A sail! a sail! The only woman passenger looked up and asked anxiously: Oh, is it a bargain sale?



Fifty Years Ago.

This is the way it was bound to look When grandfather had his "pieter took." These were the shadows cast before The coming of Conjurer Daguerre And his art; like a girl in a pinafore Some day to bloom to a goddess fair. Men certainly were not as black, we know As they pictured them, 50 years ago. min

Ayer's Sarsaparilla

began to make new men, just as the new pictures of men began to be made. Thousands of people fronted the camera, with skins made clean from blotch and blemish, because they had purified the blood with Ayer's Sarsaparilla. It is as powerful now as then. Its record proves it. Others imitate the remedy; they can't imitate the record:

50 Years of Cures.

a Cure for Diabetes.

The following sworn statement is the best proof that diabetes is not incurable, and that Horse Hides. Cow Hiles, Dog there is a remedy which will cure it. Ontario, County of Carleton, to wit:

I, Charles Moss, of the City of Ottawa, in the County of Carleton, Blacksmith, do hereby solemnly declare as follows:

1. I reside at 180 Bell Street, in the said City of Ottawa.

2. For the past fifteen years I have been a great sufferer from kidney disease; among the prominent symptoms of which were severe pains in my back, hot flashes extending from the base of the spine up between my shoulders, dizziness, headaches, etc. I was in a bad state generally and suffered great agony at times. The intense pain prevented my sleeping, and I seemed to get worse continually. The doctors tho were called in pronounced my disease diabetes, but their treatment did no good, and they held out but slight hope of my recovery. I was then so far gone with the disease that I could not turn in bed without help. My urine was of a dark wine color, and full of sediment. 3. I took all kinds of medicine, but without

4. Hearing of Doan's Kidney Pills I got a box at H. F. MacCarthy's drug store, but having been so often disappointed I had no faith in them. However, I started taking them, and they struck the right spot at once, and I com-menced to get better. From that time on improvement was continuous until I am now, after five weeks use of Doan's Kidney Pills, entirely free from pain of any kind. The urine is natural, and I am now working right along every day in my shop.

5. It is a great source of pleasure for me to testify to the world of the curative powers of Doan's Kidney Pills, and I make this solemn declaration conscientiously believing it to be true, and knowing that it is of the same force and effect as if made under oath and by virtue of the Canada Evidence Act.

CHARLES MOSS, Declared before me at the City of Ottawa, in the County of Carleton, this 4th day of April,

JOHN E. O'MEARA,

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In CONSUMPTION and all LUNC 1 Diseases, spitting of blood, 2 COUGH, LOSS OF APPETITE, DEBILITY, the benefits of this article are most manifest.

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# HOUSEHOLD.

OUR FONDEST LOVE.

Only a baby !- so say you, And yet those eyes so bright and blu Can pierce our hearts-yes, throug and through, With love-their love.

Our every smile and every glance They seem to watch, and then pe They wound us with a Cupid glance A baby's love.

Only a baby !- to recline, Or round a mother's neck entwine But, oh! what innocence divine, What love-pure love!

When tiny rosebud lips invite We kiss them, and our hearts unite And so we to the baby plight Our fondest love.

CHATS WITH MOTHERS. Occupation for children means ha ness; the little ones who have not to do are inevitably fretful and

chievous, so it behooves mothers to suitable and varied employment their young folks. A favorite pu becomes monotonous if indulged in long, and the guiding spirit of the sery and school-room must rack brains for a change of occupation the children are confined to the

by bad weather. Silver paper, which comes from late, packets of tobacco, and else is generally prized; though the ones don't know what to do wi if a tiny ball is formed of the piece, and other portions are snowhall fashion, a very young can make for itself a capital ball of paper neatly folded for fat light his cigar are another sou delight, and the boy or girl a these has the additional pleas knowing it is love's labor.

It is always advisable to inculo lessons of good nature and un ness when the children set to Let the older ones paint pictu fill scrapbooks for the hospitals the wee ones can tear up pap stuffing for simple charity Well-to-do little people are so ly and thoughtfully treated no that they are in danger of that everything is theirs by ri it is all important to teach share their playthings really at fully and to be ready to git

others less fortunate than the Children's colds should nevel lected. It is a great mistake a little one out in the Winter incipient or a developed cold. are mothers who fear to co weaken the child by keeping the house, and so let him a increase the mischief, which haps end in an attack on t

"Prevention is better than as soon as a cold shows itself, patient should be given rem day spent entirely in one roo the tempeature is evenly k effects a cure, while freque of warm lemonade, made wit, are efficacious; the addition renders the beverage somew and less toothsome, but it is I of a medicine than the plain

Dry rubbing the chest, bac of the body with a handful and flour, in about equal p is another good remedy for the chest. The mustard d tle, but not nearly so much tice, whilst it is a far mor application than any sort of makes the little patient da clothes greasy.

One of the worst things th pen to a child is to be frig mischief that has resulted den shock cannot be overs ing fits, weak nerves, ill brain, hysteria and St. Vita often be traced to a seven is not, however, an eas fear, but parents must try their children so that the

good and steady. Teach the little ones to and whilst discouraging petting and stroking stra them have no fear if one ing. One of the greatest child-life is the darkness, little hearts sink down t left alone in the dark h boy or girl from babyho room where there is no lis nothing to the contrar will not exist, unless son or ignorant person succes ing him or her, a contin ly to be guarded agains

HINTS FOR THE HO Salted popcorn is a nor place of the always w almonds at some recent kernels of popcorn and lightly browned in hot b galted. This brown of

serves a favor. "Sugaring off" parties adays. The delicious n is cooked until it is like / in place of the pure w up in bright tin pany by country cousins for clear, even blocks of ice and the hot liquid w them. This wax is ea and toasted crackers served at the same tin making and pulling a the evening's amusen For serving a soft-

shell pretty holders of delicate silver wire in such a manner as ful egg-shaped holder the top is a tiny circ smoothly cuts the sh of the egg. This is ment over the ugly le cups so long in use. When purchasing

kerchiefs, those that may be readily recog