







Agricultural.

Plant more Chestnut Trees. Owing to inexplicable causes, very little has yet been done to replace the fast disappearing native growth of the valuable chestnut. Its wood is one of the best for fence posts and rails on account of its great durability. It is also highly esteemed for wainscotings and other casings, and is often used for veneering. Its grain shows well when simply varnished instead of painted. Though not considered very valuable as fuel, it makes a brisk fire, and in heating power, dry chestnut wood falls only 15 per cent. or one-seventh, below hard maple, cord for cord, and is nearly equal to the soft maples.

For its fruit alone the chestnut is largely grown in many parts of Europe, and in this country the nuts almost always meet a ready sale at remunerative prices. In some northern provinces of Italy chestnuts are a chief article of diet, eaten not only boiled and roasted, but ground into meal and made into bread, puddings and cakes. The report just issued by the Italian Inspector General of Forests, states the chestnut crop at six hundred and six million pounds, grown on about half a million acres of chestnut forests, of which nearly eight million pounds were exported, bringing a return of nearly half a million dollars. In the Province of Lucca 18 1/2 per cent. of the entire land is devoted to growing the chestnut mainly for its fruit.

Single specimens, about dwellings and upon the road sides and in fields, make beautiful shade trees; they are little subject to disease or insects; they grow quickly, and live to a great age. Specimens in England and in Sicily are estimated at all the way from 800 to 4,000 years old. They grow best on sandy soil, but do well on any soil not wet and swampy.

The trees may be easily raised from the seed, if the nuts are not allowed to become dry before planting. Most nurseries supply young trees at moderate prices. There are millions of acres, especially on side hills and rocky land, fit for little else, which could be very profitably turned into chestnut orchards, and in a few years also supply a large amount of good timber. Let the reader look about and see if it is not worth while to start a lot of chestnut trees during the spring.

Pussley or Pigeon.

With the hot days comes the weed, which calls for active and thorough work. Those who are particular as to their speech, call it pussley, but every gardener knows it as "pussley." The weeds of earlier months could be kept in subjection, when small, merely by the use of a rake; when uprooted, they would shrivel and die. Give pussley this treatment and it does not die at all, but takes root anew, and thrives all the better for the transplanting. Nothing but hoeing up and carrying off will answer. Though such a pest, it has its uses. Pigs are fond of, and will thrive upon it, and it is excellent green food for poultry. Indeed, it is not to be despised as a table vegetable, when cooked and dressed like peas, with milk and butter. Did it not force itself upon us, we should no doubt cultivate it with as much care as do the French gardeners, who besides the common form, have three distinct varieties, the "Green," the "Golden," and the "Large-leaved" *poussier*, which is the French "Pussley."—Agriculturist.

The experience of a California stage proprietor in oiling wagons led me to try his plan for prolonging the usefulness and strength of wagons. He soaked in oil all the wood work of his vehicle before it was put together, and discovered that he had little need of repairs. The oil used is crude petroleum. I wash my wagons with it twice, even to the end of the pole. It is quick work with a good brush. An application once in six or eight weeks sufficed to save me from repairs, except of a slight character. I ascribe these results to the oil preventing the wood from shrinking or swelling. The cost of crude oil is but a trifle, and the application of it a very insignificant item compared with the cost of smith work and the increased durability of the wagon. Petroleum oil is better than other oils, because of its superior penetrating character.—K. O. Agriculturalist.

Polize Office E. A. F. Mears, 125 North Stricker street Baltimore, Md., says: "I used Brown's Iron Bitters for dyspepsia and loss of appetite and feel much better."

Miscellaneous.

Blunders of Speech. A German author has made a collection of metaphors, which he calls pearls of thought. Some of them are worth quoting, if only as a warning to high-flown orators not to allow their magniloquence to fly away with them altogether. "We will," cried an inspired democrat, "burn all our ships, and, with every sail unfurled, steer boldly out into the ocean of freedom!" Even that flight is surpassed by an effort of Justice Miller Hys, who, in 1848, in a speech to the Vienna students, impressively declared: "The chariot of the revolution is rolling along, and gushing its teeth as it rolls!" A pan-Germanist Mayor of a Rhineland corporation rose still higher in an address to the Emperor. He said: "No Austria, no Prussia, only one Germany; such were the words the mouth of your Imperial Majesty has always had in its eye!" We have heard of the mouth having an eye-tooth, but never before of the mouth's eye. But there are even literary men who cannot open their mouths "without putting their foot in it." Prof. Johannes Scherr is an example of such. In a criticism on Lepau's lyrics he writes: "Out of the dark regions of philosophical problems the poet suddenly lets swarms of song drive up, carrying fer-fashing peals of thought in their beaks." Songs and beaks are certainly related to one another, but were never seen in that incongruous connection before. A German preacher, speaking of a repentant girl, said: "She knelt in the temple of her interior, and prayed fervently," a feat no India-rubber doll could imitate. The German parliamentary oratory of the present day affords many examples of metaphor mixture; but two must suffice. Count Frankenberg is the author of them. A few years ago he pointed out to his countrymen the necessity of "seizing the stream of time by the fore-lock," and, in the last session, he told the Minister of War that if he really thought the French were seriously attached to peace, he had better resign office and "return to his paternal oxen." The Count had, no doubt, the poet's *paterna rura* in his mind at the time. But none of these pearls of thought and expression in Fatherland surpasses the speech of immortal Joseph Wildhomme, on being presented with a sword of honor by the company he commanded in the National Guard of France. "Gentlemen," said he, "this sword is the brightest day of my life!"

Prevent Forest Fires. There is great loss every season by individuals owning wo lots, and to the public, from carelessness or design in handling fire. In the summer drouths, the leaves and fallen limbs become like tinder, and the cigar stump or emptied pipe, the brands from a camp fire or picnic party, are enough to kindle a great conflagration. Fires are often started from the sparks of a rail road engine, from carelessness in burning brush, or from mischievous boys, just to see the blaze. There is much loss to the owner of the forest burnt over, in trees killed, in fuel and fences consumed, and in the vegetable wealth of leaves and mould burned and dissipated. The forest does not recover, as when it is cut with the axe. It remains for years a blackened desolation in the landscape. In most cases, the whole neighborhood suffers from the reduction of the area of forest, already too small to husband the rain fall, and protect the springs and rivulets, that feed the rivers. This great public evil should have the immediate attention of all our law makers.—American Agriculturist for July.

THE secret of the universal success of Brown's Iron Bitters is owing to the fact that it is the very best iron preparation made. By a thorough and rapid assimilation with the blood it reaches every part of the body, giving health, strength and endurance to every portion. Thus beginning at the foundation it builds up and restores lost health. It does not contain whiskey or alcohol. It will not blacken the teeth. It does not constipate or cause headache. It will cure dyspepsia, indigestion, heartburn, sleeplessness, dizziness, nervous debility, weakness, etc.

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Humorous.

THE most useful thing in a long run—Breath.

It takes some head work to manage a "scull."—Boston Courier.

"I see through it," as the washerwoman said when the bottom of the tub fell out.

A MAN whose best works are always trampled under foot—A carpet manufacturer.

"THE art that conceals art," as the thief remarked when he hid an expensive oil-painting under his coat.

MISS McCREA 2 N. Carrollton avenue, Baltimore, Md., says: "I used Brown's Iron Bitters for loss of appetite and nervousness and it did me good."

NOTHING so strongly tests a man's veracity as to be summoned to the door and to be confronted with the question: "Ate you the head of the house?"

"Did you dust the furniture this morning Mary?" asked the mistress. "No, ma'am," replied Mary; "it didn't need it; it had all the dust on it that it could easily hold."

THERE is a Boston pastor who so often incites his people to larger contributions that the *Congregationalist* suggests as a text for his funeral sermon: "Last of all the beggar died also."

A MEMPHIS man visited seven different doctors and no two could agree as to what ailed him. The eighth asked him if anything at all was the matter, and was promptly told no.

Literary Matron—"What does Shakespeare mean by his frequent use of the phrase, 'Go to?' Matter-of-fact Husband—Well, perhaps he thought it wouldn't be polite or proper to finish the sentence."

A PHILANTHROPIC butcher evidently means to give the doves a chance for investment in something other than bangs, green coats, and tight trousers. He modestly advertises, "Brains for sale."

A VIGILANT sentinel is posted at the door of a picture gallery with strict orders of the customary character.

A sightseer happens along and is promptly halted.

"Here, sir, you must leave your case at the door!"

"But, my friend, I haven't got any case!"

"Then go back and get one! No one is allowed to pass in here unless he leaves his case at the door. Orders is orders!"

GREASE.

When he had called the meeting to order Brother Gardner arose and said: "Gen'lren, if it wasn't for de wheels on a wagon de wagon wouldn't move. When de wheel am on, den what!" "Grease," solemnly exclaimed an old man. "K'rect" whispered the president, softly, rubbing his hands together. "We haz de wagon an de wheels. We will now pagge the hat aroun' for de grease."

Spare Legs.

A little girl was standing at the depot to see her father and a gentleman friend off, when she suddenly observed to her father, referring to his friend, who was tall and lank, "If the cars run off the track and any legs must be broke, I hope they'll be Mr. H's." "What's that for?" said the startled H. "Because," she added, artlessly, "Aunt Mary says you have a pair of spare legs." The "All aboard?" of the conductor prevented any explanation.

Little Folk's Dictionary.

A writer in the School-day Magazine has gathered together the following dictionary words as defined by certain small people here and there:

- Back biter—A flea.
Bed-time—Shut eye time.
Dust—Mud, with the juice all squeezed out.
Fan—A thing to brush warm off with.
Fing—A fish's wings.
Ice—Water that stayed out in the gold and went to sleep.
Monkey—A very little boy with a tail.
Nest-egg—The egg that the old hen measures by to make new ones.
Pig—A hog's little boy.
Salt—What makes your potatoes taste bad when you don't put any on.
Snoring—Letting off sleep.
Stars—The moon's eggs.
Wakefulness—Eyes all the time coming unbuttoned.

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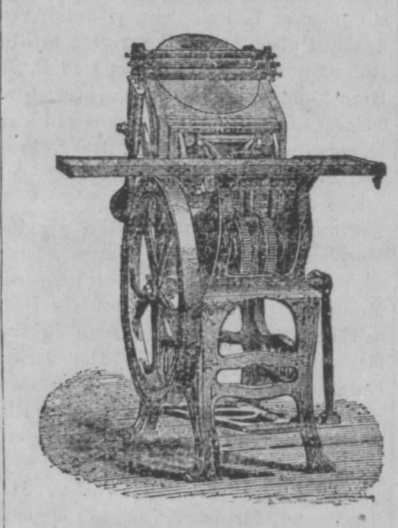
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