

melted scraps make a good, cheap food for fowls in Winter, by merely soaking it so the hens can eat it.

THE APPLE-PIE MELON.—L. Norris of Winsor, Ashtabula Co., O., a well-known experimenter with new varieties of fruits and rare vegetables, speaks highly of the new variety of melon, known as the apple-pie melon. He says with good cultivation the largest will attain to 30 to 50 lbs. each, and if gathered carefully when ripe, and kept in a dry, cool place, will keep sound a year, and will always prove a good substitute for fruit for pies, sweetmeats, &c. To use, peel off the skin, take out the pulp, cut fine, and stew three or four hours, when the substance will resemble stewed green apples; to which add sugar and lemon juice, and it will make pies that cannot easily be told from those made of apples.

SOFTENING HARD WATER.—We have seen a statement that a well of hard water was permanently cured by putting four feet of coarse gravel in the bottom, where the water oozed in through the blue clay. We recommend that a space at least a foot wide behind the wall should also be filled with gravel, as high as the water comes in.

MAMMOTH MUSTARD is another new plant which Mr. Norris thinks should be more extensively known.

THE HONOLULU SQUASH is another new fruit, highly spoken of, as very superior for pumpkin pies.

YOUNG MEN LEAVING THE FARM, — There are two influences under which farming and rural life are adopted by young people. One is the *bleak necessity of making a living*, which is indeed repulsive enough if nothing is added to make home attractive. The other is the fascinations which a country life can give; a comfortable house *within*, with a share of time devoted to books, making drawings, arranging collections in natural history, performing philosophical experiments, &c.; and making it as interesting outside as trees, shrubbery, flowers, gardens, fruit trees, and the study of nature can accomplish. I admit that those who have no taste for those things cannot impart it to young people; but this taste may be acquired, and the studies carried on during the time otherwise spent in reading the unprofitable part of political newspapers. Those who cannot spare the time to their children for this purpose, may lose their services altogether on the farm.

FLAXSEED AND OIL CAKE.—The finely ground flaxseed is to be preferred for feeding cattle, to that only crushed; either contains more oil than linsced cake, and on that account should be given cautiously at first, especially by those accustomed to feed liberally with the cake, lest it render the bowels too laxative; it will also take less of it than the cake to ensure the same results, and therefore more economical in price and the amount required, than oil cake.

CULTURE OF FLAX.—The entire flax crop produced in Ireland does not average over 30,000 tons a year, while the consumption of flax in the linen manufacture, exceeds 100,000 tons. Scarcely one-third, therefore, of the raw material is