

like to suppose, Dear Dame, that any of your readers were like that.

Now, about seeds. I know how to make a scientific seed-bed all right, but as I said before, I was thinking of the average farmer's wife, who sometimes has neither the time, nor the inclination, nor the experience to go in for such, and as she may get it either too hot from below and have spindly plants, or neglect it and get it chilled, I for one would advocate not to be in too big a hurry, but wait till the growing season comes, when things can grow right along—at least for the general crop. But if a few women want to go in for early things, why let them.

Another thing I never do when I set out plants is to go along and stick up shingles to protect them from the sun. I wait till we have a dull day, when it looks like rain, or when there is a nice drizzly Scotch mist on.

As your other correspondents have said, thorough cultivation is the great secret of a successful garden. Frequent stirring of the soil is better than always to be watering, although water is necessary sometimes. I saw a good skit in "The Advocate" last year, which will bear repeating. The city man said, when his garden needed watering he just turned on the hose, and the farmer repeated, musingly, that was just what they did too, turned on the "hoses."

I intended to have said a little more about seeds, but I think I have said enough, only that my garden rows run north and south, which I think is best; also, that we who are strong and able to work should give a thought to poor Lankshire Lass, who is not able to share the same blessed benefit. I have often thought about her, and intended to write, but always let the good intentions remain unfulfilled. We have had a beautiful spring up here, but have snow again on the 11th of April. Who comes next in this discussion after

Grey Co. GRAYBIRD.

#### Drop Cakes (Good).

1 lb. sugar,  $\frac{1}{2}$  lb. butter (or 14 ozs. to some flour), 1 lb. currants,  $\frac{1}{2}$  lbs. flour, 4 teaspoons ammonia (well powdered and mixed in flour), 4 eggs, and 1 gill of brandy or whiskey. Beat butter to cream, add yolks of eggs and sugar, beat well, and add currants, part of flour, brandy, whites of eggs beaten stiff, and remainder of flour. Drop in pan and cook in rather a good oven.

This recipe makes six or seven dozen cakes. MRS. D. W. A. Lennox Co., Ont.

#### A Budget.

Dear Dame Durden,—I am a busy housewife—very busy, indeed, for we have two farms, with buildings on both. This year we have been putting a cement foundation under the barn, and we have had an "unlawful" dose of men working for us, and they kept me pretty busy.

This year I intend to do a "streak" of gardening, as we are getting a package of all the seeds in Eaton's "Spring and Summer" catalogue, and some flowers, too, as I love flowers. We have three kinds of lilacs, three kinds of roses, hilly of the valley, and another plant which I do not know the name of. Besides these, we have about twenty house plants.

Very many thanks to "Jack's Wife," "Wrinkles," and "Dora Farncomb." I love her piece in "The Quiet Hour."

Now, as Wrinkles says, "Just a few wrinkles and I am done."

Milk keeps from souring better in a shallow pan than in a pitcher. Deep pans make an equal amount of cream.

Sauce, plain, and for immediate use, should not be put into a jar and covered when warm, else it will change and ferment very quickly. It will keep for some days with care in the putting up. Let it stand till perfectly cold, then put into a stone jar.

Hash, smoothly plastered down, will sour more readily than if left in broken masses in the chopping bowl, each mass being well exposed to the air.

To Restore from Stroke of Lightning.—Shower with cold water for two hours; if the patient does not show signs of life, put salt in the water, and continue to shower an hour longer.

To Stop Bleeding.—A handful of flour bound on the cut.

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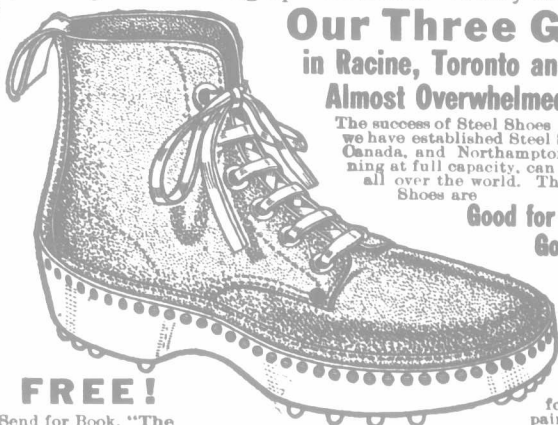
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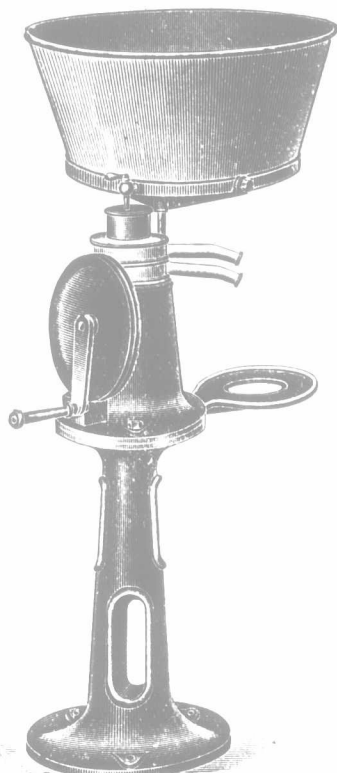
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