

ATTENDING PROPERTIES OF PEAS AND BEANS.

These articles have been found, by chemical analysis, rich in nitrogen. The inference has been that they would be specially useful in supporting the growth of the muscles of animals, and it has been suggested that they would be particularly useful in the production of wool. They are evidently valuable for these purposes, but no less valuable for the reduction of fat. Those persons who have used peas for fattening hogs consider them worth as much as Indian corn. In districts where that grain is not readily grown, very fine pork is produced from peas. Jackson, in his work "On the Breeding of Live Stock," states that a premium was entered into between five East Lothian Farmers, to be claimed by the who should be pronounced the best feeder of cattle. Forty cattle of the same breed and in equal condition, were divided between them, as fairly as possible. They were put up together the second week in September, and killed at Christmas following. The winner of the prize fed his animals wholly on dried beans with hay.

FLOWERS.

Flowers, of all created things, most innocently simple, and most superbly complex—playthings for childhood, ornaments of the grave, and companions of the cold corpse in the coffin! Flowers, beloved by the wandering idiot, and studied by the deep-thinking man of science! Flowers, that of perishing things are most perishing, yet of earthly things are the most heavenly. Flowers—that unceasingly extend to heaven their grateful and to man their cheerful looks, partners of human joy, soothers of human sorrow, fit emblems of the victor's triumphs, of the young bride's blushes—welcome to crowded halls, and graceful upon solitary graves! Are not flowers the stars of the earth, and are not stars the flowers of heaven? One cannot look closely at the structure of a flower without loving it. They are emblems and manifestations of God's love to the creation, and they are the means and ministrations of man's love to his fellow-creatures; for they first straken in his mind a sense of the beautiful and the good. The very inutility of flowers is their excellence and great beauty; for they lead us to thoughts of generosity and moral beauty, detached from and superior to all selfishness, so that they are pretty lessons in nature's book of instruction, teaching man that he liveth not by bread or from bread alone, but that he hath another than an animal life.

PIN MAKING.—The women and children who fix the heads are paid at the rate of 1s. 6d. for every twenty thousand. A skillful operator can with great exertion do twenty thousand per day; but from ten to fifteen thousand is the usual quantity; varying of course with the degree of their skill. The man who picks and tins the pins usually gets one penny per pound for the work, and employs himself during the tinning of one batch of pins with drying those previously tinned. He earns about 9s. per day; but out of this he pays about 3s. for his assistant. The arranging of pins side by side in paper is generally performed by women. The pins come from the last process in wooden bowls, with the points projecting in all directions. A woman takes up some, and places them on the teeth of a comb, whilst, by a few shakes, some of the pins fall back into the bowl, and the rest being caught by their heads are, detained between the teeth of the comb. Having thus arranged them in a parallel direction, she fixes the requisite number between two pieces of iron, having previously doubled the paper, she presses it against the points of the pins until they have passed through the folds which are to retain them. The pins are then relieved from the grasp of the tool, and the process repeated with others. A woman gains about 1s. 6. by papering; but children are sometimes employed, who can earn 6d. per day and upwards.—*Robb's Economy of Machinery and Manufac-*

PARODY.

ON A PAN-CAKE.

'Tis the last cake of supper,
Left steaming alone,
All its light brown companions
Are buttered and gone.
No cake of its kindred,
No cookie is nigh,
To steam on the platter,
Or near its mate lie.

I'll not leave thee, thou lone one,
To meet a cold fate;
Since thy mates are all eaten,
Come lie on my plate!
Thus kindly I'll butter
Thy streaming sides o'er,
And think of thy sweetness
When thou art no more.

Thus all cakes must follow,
Three times every day,
When breakfast is ready,
They vanish away.
When hunger is mighty,
And sickness has flown,
No cake can inhabit
The table alone.

COSMETICS.—There are schemers in London who profess to have got hold of a discovery by which "tan or freckles," hitherto "considered incurable," may be "removed without injury to the skin; and to prove this," say they in the newspapers "a person can be seen with one side of the face freckled, and the other side free, the freckles having been removed." This is a good idea, and might be extended. One side of the head might be macassarred into luxuriance, while the other remained bald; one cheek cosmeticked into bloom, the other left pale and wan; one side of the mouth ivoryed, the other stumped; one side of the body padded, the other rectangular; one-half of the whole mind and person Pecksniffed, the other abandoned to nature.

DIRECTIONS FOR BOILING RICE.—Take one pint of clean sound rice, wash it well in several waters, rub it well between the hands, and pour off the water at each washing as soon as possible, to take off all the small particles that would be likely to color the rice. This done, take one quart of water to one pint of rice, put in one-half teaspoonful of fine salt, put it over the fire, let it boil fifteen minutes without stirring, and then take it off. If the rice has not taken up all the water, pour it off, if it is good rice it take it all up. When this is done, give the rice one good stirring, and the only one; place the kettle on some hot embers where it will simmer for fifteen minutes longer. When this is done, your rice will come on the table, each grain separate, as white as snow, and well cooked.

TO CLEAN PEWTER AND TIN.—Pewter and tin utensils should always be kept dry and free from steam and dampness when not in use. When the polish is gone, rub them with a little sweet oil, laid on a piece of soft, fine linen cloth and clean off with whiteing. There is a grape polish in use which gives great brilliancy to tin and pewter articles, but as it removes the coating from tin, is perhaps a less desirable article for ordinary use.

ORIGIN OF WHEAT.—A most curious and able dissertation upon the origin of wheat completely justifies the views we have held; for although it does not show that oats change into rye, as many believe, and offers no support to some other speculations of the same kind, nevertheless demonstrates, beyond all further question, that wheat is itself a transmutation of a kind of wild grass. M. Esprit Fabre, of Agde, well known to botanists as an acute observer and patient experimentalist, has made the discovery, which has been introduced to public notice by Professor Dana, of Montpellier.—*Gardner's Chronicle.*

THE WEATHER.—During the past ten days we have had very unusual weather for this season of the year. In the early part of last week the bright sun-shine and balmy air called to mind the beautiful spring, nor could we well credit the reality, when reflecting that for the previous fortnight our friends and neighbours have revelled in the enjoyments of sleighing. Such, however, was the case, and an incident which came under our notice fairly tended to confirm the belief that time had dealt leniently with us for the past seven months;—we allude to the swarming of a hive in the grounds of H. Bacon Gowan, Esq., of this town. Such an occurrence in the month of December almost borders on the fabulous, yet having witnessed it we are in a position to speak of the equal warmth of the season. Since Sunday last we have had frequent showers, yet still the air has all the mildness of spring.—*Huron H. Aid 8th Decmber.*

OPUM EATING IN NEW YORK.—Dr. Schofield, in a letter to the "Daily Times," asserts that 1,000 lbs. of opium are sold by retail, weekly in New York. This amounts to 52,000 lbs. per annum and does not embrace the quantities that may be purchased wholesale by some of those who daily use it. He states that "its use is fearfully on the increase in this city, and it is constantly receiving recruits from the alcoholic ranks as a cheap means of producing intoxication. Opium inebriation is productive of the greatest of evils: it is a fearful species of drunkenness. It drowns care for a while, and is therefore very seductive in its influence, but it brings forth tears, disease, and death. It is to be regretted that its use should be on the increase among us; something should at once be done to meet and arrest this evil.

LARGE CALF.—We have often heard it remarked that the cattle of Lower Canada are miserably small, especially when compared with those raised by our friends in Upper Canada. However this rule may apply in general, like all other rules it is not without exception. On Friday last, an inhabitant from the Parish of St. Laurent, Island of Orleans, named Godbout, brought to St. Paul's Market a calf, only four months and a half old, which weighed no less than four hundred and seven pounds! It was purchased by Mr. Charre of the Upper Town market, and by him slaughtered and exposed for sale on Saturday morning. The veal looked remarkably well.—*Quebec Gazette*

GRINDING BOXES FOR MANURE.—Mr. P. R. Lamb, of this city has erected machinery for grinding bones, for manure. It is the first enterprise of the kind ever attempted in this country. The annual value of the ground bones used in England, principally for turnips, is said to be £200,000 sterling. Professors Croft and Buckland, of Toronto University, have published in an agricultural periodical, a joint letter in which they call public attention to the importance of bones as a manure. The fact of machinery being now in existence for grinding bones, will doubtless cause farmers to collect and preserve them for the purpose of applying them, in a prepared state, as manure to the soil.—*Toronto Leader.*

KEEPING HIS PROMISE.—Farmer's boy.—Mr. Blacksmith, did I tell you how we broke the chain, and John slipped one broken link through the oxer, and put his finger in for a toggle, and the oxen started a bird and got his finger off, and John felt badder at making a fool of himself than he did about the loss of his finger.

Blacksmith.—No, you didn't tell of that.
Farmer's boy.—No, nor I ain't a going to, neither, for I promised John I wouldn't.

France has an army of 404,000 men, 828 ships of war, including 102 steamers, and 27,000 cannon. Austria has 314,000 men; Prussia 225,000, and Russia 750,000.