

On the Farm.

THE FARMER'S GARDEN.

It would seem but natural to conclude that farmers of all others would have a bountiful supply of all the garden will furnish. This, indeed, should be, but alas it is often the case that the farm garden is a miserable failure. I have known farmers with more land than they could properly cultivate, go to town and buy garden vegetables, such as onions, cabbages, cucumbers, etc. I cannot think, however, says a writer, this is a common practice, but it ought never to occur. There are very many farmers, however, who grow a supply of the common vegetables, but never think of such a thing as having a supply of home-grown strawberries, currants, gooseberries, blackcaps, etc. The question naturally arises, why do not farmers have these luxuries in their own gardens? Principally, I believe, through thoughtlessness. They have never thought that these luxuries could be grown upon the farm. I wish to say most emphatically, there is no spot of ground upon the farm that will pay half as well as a well fertilized, well cultivated garden. As in other things, there is a "know how" to gardening. In the first place, the garden plot should be long and narrow, covering such space as may be needed to grow all the vegetables and small fruits for the family. The advantage of its being long is that the rows may be long, and when being cultivated with a horse it makes less turning. Let us enumerate the things every farmer's garden should contain. About the first thing to put in will be a row of peas. If the garden strip is long enough, it may be a row of these one-half the length of the garden will be sufficient for first planting, and in a week or two fill out the balance of the row. This will give green peas a longer time, and even a third sowing may be best if one is an early variety. Peas should be covered not less than four inches deep, and I like best to put in the brush for them to run up on, at the time of planting. Next to the peas will come a row of black seed onions and both onions and peas should be put in as early as the condition of the soil will permit. These, and in fact everything in the garden, should be sown in perfectly straight lines, and do not crowd the rows too close together, but give plenty of room for sunlight and cultivation. Next may come a row of early beets; these the housewife will use mostly as greens for early cooking. Another row should be put in later for winter use, as beets for winter had better not be too long growing. This will apply to turnips. A little before the first of June in this climate, two or more varieties of beans should be planted. The butter bean is excellent for early picking. As soon as the ground is warm, but not before, half a dozen or more hills of cucumbers should be sown, and every week thereafter up to July, put in one or two hills. This will provide fresh cucumbers throughout the season. A hill or two of summer squash and a few hills of Hubbard squash, for fall and winter, should be planted. I have found it an excellent plan to get a rich sod in the fall of the year, large enough to cover the bottom of a tin pan, cut into four quarters and put one side in the cellar. Provide some good soil, and about the first of April sow one or two seeds, Hubbard squash, in the center of each of these quarters. They will take firm root in the sod and when the weather is warm enough each section with its plant, can be transplanted without injury and they will be much more likely to mature. These should be put somewhere at the outside of the garden, and vines trained to run along beside the fence. Some time in June is early enough to put in a row of parsnips. These will keep in the ground all winter and are both palatable and healthy in early spring. Several rows of sweet corn will be needed, beginning as early as the soil will permit, with one of the earlier varieties, and planting later varieties at different times. As early as May there should be a new strawberry bed planted. These, too, should be put in rows, and two rows twelve to fifteen rods long, will be ample for any family. These must be kept thoroughly cultivated during the entire season, should not be less than four feet apart between rows, and kept in hills or allowed to form matted rows about two feet wide. I prefer matted rows. The rows that were set last May should have been covered last November with leaves or some coarse manure, and during the winter a coating of wood ashes will be good. This spring the covering should be raked in between the rows when plants begin to start. This will serve as a mulch, keeping the ground moist and fruit clean, and keep down most of the weeds. After fruiting these should either be mowed down and a new lot of vines allowed to grow, or else turned down and reset with new plants. At any rate, set out a new bed every spring. Any one who has not tried it, will be surprised at the amount of strawberries they can grow on two rows fifteen rods long. Outside of these may be a row or two of black caps, one of red raspberries and a row of gooseberries. There are other things that may be grown, such as spinach, asparagus, etc., but a good bed of celery should not be forgotten. Now, if the farmer will lay out his ground in the fall, and during

the winter manure it thoroughly, and put in the things enumerated and then take the time he has been in the habit of spending gossiping with some neighbors, or it may be pitching quoits, he will find, in his little garden plot something that will tickle his palate and cause a broad smile of satisfaction to rest upon the countenance of the women folk. These ought to be considerations enough why an abundant supply of garden fruits and vegetables should be grown, but more than all, they are absolutely essential to health maintenance. Fruits and vegetables are cheaper than doctor's bills, and should form the principal part of our diet during the summer season. If any one who reads this has never had a first-class garden, I hope he will start one next spring.

RAISING SPRING CALVES.

More than the usual attention should this season be paid to the raising of calves for the use of the dairy. Farmers should raise enough of their best heifer calves for the use of their own dairies, and if they can do more than this there will undoubtedly be a ready demand for them provided they are of the kind wanted. The raising of milking stock for the dairy is an important feature of the business and should receive more than ordinary attention. Care should be exercised in selecting the most promising animals for raising—that is from the best milk and butter producing stock—and if there is not enough of those on the farm, it will pay to get them from other sources. All should remember that it costs little if any more to raise a well-bred calf than an ordinary one, and it may prove to be worth twice or three times as much. There will also undoubtedly be a large demand for veal calves. This is generally the case when beef is scarce or high. In some parts of the country and particularly in the West, where there is a larger proportion of the beef breeds, should this be a profitable industry. But wherever the calves are raised they should be well cared for from the first and fed with special reference to the purpose to which they are to be devoted, whether for the dairy or for beef.

TREAT COWS LIKE HORSES.

Aim to keep the cows perfectly clean. Until you have tried it you don't know what an economical and paying policy it is. Clean, dry bedding for the milch cattle goes a long way but it does not do all. Cows should be daily carried the same as horses, which not only removes all stable compost and dirt from their flanks and legs, but keeps the skin stimulated and conduces to the animal's health. And, as regards neatness and auxiliary to milk purity, the procedure goes without saying. No thing looks so "penny wise and pound foolish" as to see a dairyman brush off the cow's udder preparatory to milking, while her flanks are covered with filth. Once get the cows' bodies clean and it is a comparatively easy matter to keep them so. With a daily change of bedding and a daily currying the feat is accomplished.

THROWING FEED AWAY.

There are many ways of reducing the cost of milk, but the one that should receive the first consideration is the cow. Is she a good one? If she is not, then the problem of how to make cheaper milk is a hard one to solve. I believe that one first-class cow in a herd of scrubs would, if the owner were an observing man, soon be the means of lessening the cost of the milk in that dairy by replacing the scrubs with good cows. When an observing man notices the difference in yield between a good cow and a poor one it sets him to thinking, and he soon finds out that it does not pay to keep poor cows. When one good cow will yield as much as three poor ones, it does not require much intelligence to see that the extra feed taken to support three cows instead of one is just that much feed thrown away.

BROKE THE RULE.

This coffee, my dear, said Kickle, reminds me of what mother used to make. Does it, really? exclaimed his wife, a pleased look coming into her face. Yes; and she used to make about the worst coffee I ever drank.

A SECRET OF THE FIRM.

Senior partner—We must discharge that traveler of ours. He told one of my customers that I was a fool. Junior ditto—I'll see him at once and insist upon his keeping the firm's secrets.

AN ABLE MAN.

Yes, sir. Bleeker would make money out of anything. Is he so lucky? I should say so. Why he married a penniless girl two years ago and he got her a position that brings him in \$1,200 a year.

TOO MUCH TO STAND.

Lawyer—Well, aunt, what can I do for you? Aunt Ebony—I want a dee-voice from my husband. Lawyer—What has been doing? Aunt Ebony—Do-in? Why, he done got religion, an' we ain't had a chicken on de table for a month.

CIRCUMSTANCES ALTER TEMPER.

They say Warnley's temper is absolutely uncontrollable. Well, that depends somewhat on the size of the other man.

HEALTH.

PNEUMONIA.

It is a well-known fact that more deaths are due to pneumonia than to any other disease. While the disease itself is not a fatal one, and can be cured, nevertheless its frequent occurrence makes its death rate a ghastly one, and the ease with which it can be caught should make every one extremely careful to avoid it.

The germs of pneumonia are frequently found in the mouth, the saliva, or in the nasal secretions of the very healthy person; but these germs alone are not sufficient to cause the disease. There must be in addition an exposure to cold to bring it on, and the many vicissitudes which the weather at this time of the year undergoes make it extremely easy to catch the necessary cold. Persons who fall into the water often develop pneumonia after the immersion. It seems as if the sudden chill enables the germs to effectually attack the lungs.

When a person once contracts pneumonia, the germs multiply with great rapidity and by their growth form a poisonous chemical products which poison the whole system. The symptoms generally come on suddenly. The patient, after the exposure, has a sharp chill. This is followed, by fever and great prostration, and he is usually obliged to take to his bed at once. His saliva takes a sort of bloody color and looks as though it had been used to wash the rust off some old iron.

The disease is more frequent in the city than in the country, and attacks most of its victims during the months of March and April. Now that we know the causes of the disease and its symptoms, it is easy to learn how to prevent it.

In the first place avoid catching a sudden chill or cold. This is easier contracted in damp weather, and we should therefore specially avoid exposure when the weather is damp. Avoid a sudden immersion into cold water during March and April, and when taking a bath be careful that the temperature of the bathroom be pleasant and equable.

Keep the mouth and nose clean. Eat nourishing food, get enough sleep, and keep the system in the best condition possible. In this way you will avoid pneumonia.

SPRING COLDS.

The coughs and colds of springtime seem more discouraging, often, than those of the changeable winter season, and every precaution should be taken now to keep out of draughts when overheated, and to avoid all the other unwise practices in regard to woolen underclothing, leaving off outdoor wraps, etc.

Many mothers appear to accept with resignation the repeated and violent colds from which their children suffer as providential and unavoidable. A cold is by no means always due to exposure. Indigestion, constipation, a lack of scrupulous cleanliness, the unwise habit of sleeping in much of the clothing worn during the day, un-aired bedchambers—all or any of these things may have far more to do with your child's tendency to cold, than the keenest breath of the bracing winter air.

Mothers should understand that it is a fact, whether they can see how it is or not, that numerous colds and sore throats are directly traceable to indigestion and dietetic errors. Quantities of greasy foods, fried meats, pastry and the like, ill-ventilated rooms, and continued constipation, have a powerful effect in producing a putrid sore throat. All these things weaken the system and render it far less able to resist changes of temperature.

Give every bedroom a thorough airing every day, more especially if several children are obliged to sleep together, or with their parents. This is to be avoided if possible; if not, always lower a window slightly from the top, as well as raise it from below. There is frequently bad air enough generated and brot in the sleeping apartment of a family with small children to supply them all not only with colds, but with a number of so-called "malarious" diseases to last a year—perhaps longer.

Neglect of bathing is another prolific source of colds. A child from three to ten years old should certainly receive an entire bath twice a week in winter. A warm bath at night, taking care to avoid any chill afterward, will frequently break up a sudden cold. Keep children from playing in chilly, unused rooms. Let them play out of doors as much as possible, taking care to have their feet warm and dry. A flannel suit and rubber overshoes will often save much cough medicine and doctor's bills. Keep them warmly clad, but do not be content with thick coats and worsted hoods, while short skirts barely cover their knees, leaving the limbs chilled.

MUMPS.

This is a very painful, but usually not dangerous, contagious disease affecting chiefly the young, though not sparing the middle-aged, or even the old, who may have escaped exposure in earlier life.

Usually one who has had the disease is safe from another attack, but this is not always so, and medical books tell us of unfortunate individuals who have suffered four and five attacks at intervals of a few years, seeming to catch the disease every time they were exposed to it.

Mumps is very contagious, and one who has never had it is almost sure to contract it on the first opportunity. A short time spent with a patient suffering from it will generally suffice, but at the same time the contagion does not extend far from the sick, so that it is easy to prevent the spread of the disease, by keeping the other members of the family away.

Mumps usually occur in small epidemics, in schools, armies, factories, and wherever many persons are brought into close relations with each other daily.

Mumps is a general disease, similar in its nature to scarlet fever, or measles, but the swelling of the salivary glands is such a striking feature that the other symptoms, mild fever, loss of appetite, etc., are apt to be forced into the background and overlooked. The glands affected are generally the parotid glands, and the swelling appears beneath the ear just behind the jaw. The enlargement may be very great, and when both sides are affected, the poor sufferer is so transformed as hardly to be recognizable. At the same time the glands are exceedingly painful. The other salivary glands may be affected together with parotids or alone.

A peculiarity of mumps is that it is very prone to leave the parts first attacked and invade other glands in the body. This is a serious danger, almost the only one, and can be prevented best by keeping the patient in bed, or at least in the room, even if he feels perfectly well, for several days after the swelling has gone down. This is about the only treatment called for, except perhaps soothing applications, such as soap liniment, for instance, to the skin over the swelling. The diet should be fluid, and, indeed, it must be, for chewing is so painful that solids are out of the question.

GRIP.

There is in every individual a natural protective tendency against disease, and this tendency is more or less developed, according to the health of the individual. The person whose resistance against the attack of disease is weakest will be the first to succumb to its ravages, while he whose constitution is strongest can keep it at bay all his life. It is therefore necessary that the person who is most susceptible to disease should be the most careful to avoid it, and especially so during the months of April and May. The instability of the weather during these months is particularly enervating to the human system, and consequently makes it more susceptible to the attack of all forms of disease.

Among the more common ones which are likely to find their beginning in a slight cold, caught at this time of the year, is the grip. This disease was at one time thought to be epidemic, imported from foreign shores, but it has now become recognized as a sort of settled invader, to be easily contracted by exposing one's self to the inclemency of March and April weather. Therefore the way to avoid it is not to expose one's self to it. Of course in many cases it is not due to the failure of the person to properly protect himself against it.

A REVERENT LISTENER.

Mark Twain's Experience Aboard a British Ship.

While steaming in the Arundel Castle through the Mozambique Channel, which separates Madagascar from South Africa, Mark Twain saw an unconscious exhibition of English reverence for the national anthem. He describes the scene in "Following the Equator," as follows:

Last night the burly chief engineer, middle-aged, was standing telling a spirited sea-faring tale, and had reached the most exciting place, where a man overboard was washing swiftly astern on the great seas and uplifting despairing cries, everybody racing aft in a frenzy of excitement and fading hope, when the band, which had been silent a moment, began impressively its closing piece, and English national anthem.

As simply as if unconscious of what he was doing, he stopped his story, uncovered, laid his head against his breast, and slightly bent his grizzled head. The few bars finished, he put on his cap and took up his tale again as naturally as if that interjection of music had been a part of it.

There was something touching and fine about it, and it was moving to reflect that he was one of a myriad, scattered over every part of the globe, who by turn was doing as he was doing every hour of the twenty-four, those awake doing it while the others slept—those impressive bars forever floating up out of the various chimes, never silent and never lacking reverent listeners.

A SMOOTH ONE.

That old Smoother is a fraud, she declared, slapping the coffee pot down so hard that the table cloth suffered. What's he been doing? Our society, said she, is trying to help a poor family that is in dire distress, and I was among those chosen to solicit subscriptions to help them. I called on Smoother, and he was so sympathetic that we both got to crying. He talked beautifully, and I never recalled till I got home that he hadn't given me a cent. The old skinflint!

MANLY PRIDE.

Ah, dear Mabel's Easter bonnet—He admires it with a will; They are only three months married And his money paid the bill.

FROM BRITISH COLUMBIA.

STATEMENT OF THE OUTPUT OF HER MINES FOR 1897.

Up to 1898 British Columbia has Produced \$112,413,485 in Minerals—Good Effect of the New Companies Act.

The annual report of the Minister of Mines of British Columbia has appeared. The report was prepared by Mr. W. A. Carlyle, now of the British Canadian Gold Fields Company, but until a few weeks ago Provincial mineralogist. He was greatly aided in compiling his statistics by the clauses of the inspection of the metalliferous mines act (1897) that makes it obligatory for mine owners to send in detailed statements of production, and the consequence is that the tables he gives are very nearly exact and the report is the best and most complete ever got out by the Province. The first table shows that up to 1898 British Columbia has produced in minerals no less than \$112,413,485; gold and coal being the two principal features, as the table shows:—

Gold, placer.....	\$ 59,317,473
Gold, lode.....	4,300,689
Silver.....	7,301,060
Lead.....	2,971,618
Copper.....	521,060
Coal and coke.....	36,628,585
Building stone, brick, etc.....	1,350,000
Other metals.....	25,000

Total.....\$112,413,485

The rapid increase during the past seven years is in itself a succinct history of the growth of Provincial mines. In 1892 the influence of lode mines first began to be felt, since which the increase has been wholly due to metalliferous mines, the coal output not increasing:—

Year.	Amount.	Yearly Inc. p.c.
1890.....	\$ 2,608,803	...
1891.....	3,521,102	35
1892.....	2,978,530	...
1893.....	3,588,413	21
1894.....	4,225,717	18
1895.....	5,648,042	33
1896.....	7,507,956	34
1897.....	10,455,268	40

Compared with 1896:—

	1896	1897
Gold, placer.....	\$ 544,026	\$ 513,520
Gold, lode.....	1,244,180	2,122,320
Copper.....	190,923	266,295
Silver.....	2,100,689	3,272,836
Lead.....	721,834	1,390,517
Coal, tons 2,240 lbs.	2,638,666	2,648,582
Coke.....	3,075	89,155
Other materials.....	15,000	151,600

Production by districts:—

	1896	1897
Cariboo.....	\$ 82,900	\$ 65,000
Barkerville.....	51,100	35,000
Quesnelle Mouth.....	53,000	25,000
Lightning Creek.....	197,050	200,000
Keithley Creek.....

Total for Cariboo.....	\$ 384,050	\$ 325,000
*Cassiar.....	21,000	37,060
Kootenay, East.....	154,427	153,796
West Kootenay.....
Ainsworth.....	345,626	440,545
Nelson.....	525,529	769,215
Slocan.....	1,854,911	3,280,681
Trail Creek.....	1,243,360	2,067,280
Other parts.....	14,209	157,977

Total West Kootenay.....	\$4,002,735	\$6,765,703
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Lillooet.....	\$ 33,665	\$ 39,840
Yale.....
Osoyoos.....	131,220	142,982
Similkameen.....	9,009	25,100
Yale.....	65,108	58,630

Total Yale.....	\$ 206,078	\$ 226,762
Other districts.....	15,000	9,390

Grand Total.....	\$4,816,955	\$7,567,551
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*For Cassiar the production of \$25,000 in 1896, from Omineca was lately reported.

While the results are not phenomenal, the increase of the output of lode mines from \$100,000 in 1892 to \$7,050,000 in 1897, and with an increase of 65 per cent. in the past year, commands attention. That 1898 will see a substantial increase is now assured from the amount of ore now in sight in the different districts, and from the fact that the amount of customs returns for shipments of ore for January, 1898, were \$1,193,458, as compared with \$675,506 in 1897 (these shipments from West Kootenay only).

The report notes also the increased increase of capital in the Province.

ANOTHER NEW FAD.

Twenty-five years ago it was the fashion to have your photograph taken with the young man you were engaged to, and that was placed on your dressing table. Now there is a new fad. You must not, of course be photographed with your fiancé—that is not considered good form. Nor must you even have your picture in the same frame with his. The new fad is to have a frame holding four cabinet-sized photographs, and in this you must put four pictures of your fiancé in four different positions—one full face, one side face, one three quarters face and one profile. It is rather an interesting idea, as it is astonishing how changed a person's expression is with the face in different positions. This is one of the latest fads for engaged men as well as girls.

WHERE DUSE WAS BORN.

The celebrated Italian actress, Eleonora Duse, cannot positively give the name of her place of birth, for she first saw the light in a railway carriage between Padua and Venica.