

ridges he saw over fifty pounds of fish killed counting trout, white-fish and chubs. In places, after a blast, the whole surface of the water would be covered with minnows from an inch to three or four inches in length. At Elko they are practicing the same style of fishing, only that out there they tie the cartridge to the end of a pole and trust it into the water, holding it until the explosion occurs. This is the most destructive mode of fishing we have heard of—it is a regular wholesale slaughter of great and small, good and bad. Should the practice gain ground it will be necessary for the Legislature to put a stop to it by an act making it a criminal offence to fish with giant powder. Parties have already been talking of trying this process in Lake Tahoe, where by using large cartridges, they expect to bring up hundreds of trout at a single shot.—*Virginia City (Nevada) Enterprise.*

LEGAL HINTS TO FARMERS

We beg to call the particular attention of our readers to the article appearing in this number entitled "Legal Hints to Farmers," as well as to the articles of the same kind, to appear hereafter. We can assure our readers that the gentleman who has undertaken to furnish the articles in question, is every way competent to the task he has set himself. We would advise our readers to be careful of their papers, as the information given on the above subjects will more than repay any little trouble connected therewith.

A Queer Wedding.—Rev. D., a Methodist minister, stationed at Meadville some years ago, one evening received a note stating that a couple living in the suburbs of the city, desired to be united in the bonds of matrimony, and requested his services at nine o'clock the next morning. At the proper time, he went to the house designated, and entered. He inquired of a young lady who was busy washing dishes if there was a couple there wishing to be married, "I am the lady," said she, blushing; "John will be in in a moment." The minister was surprised to see no preparations, and stepped to the door to view the surroundings. Two men were hard at work grinding scythes in the yard, and another, who proved to be John, was tending a cow and a calf in the barnyard. The young lady came to the door pretty soon, and shouted, "John, John, hurry up, the preacher's here." John leaped the fence and rushed to the house; the girl wiped her hands on her apron, and, after joining hands, said they were ready. The minister proceeded, and had just got through questioning the young man, when the old lady rushed into the room shouting, "John, John, you didn't turn the cow away from the call." John let go his sweetheart's hand instantly, and rushed to the barnyard, put the old cow through the bars, and returned to the house, and again took his position, when the balance of the ceremony was gone through with. The minister went on his way, John went to the hay field, and the lady resumed her dish washing.—*Ex.*

Horses of great reputation have always commanded great prices. At Newmarket in 1805, a bay colt, by Pipato, sold for \$75,000. In the same year a two-year old by Volunteer, and a three-year old filly by Sir Peter, were sold for \$75,000 each. For the celebrated horse, Shark, \$50,000 were refused, and O'Kelly declined to accept an offer of \$100,000 for his stallion, Eclipse. Tradition says the Duke of Devonshire refused for Flying Childers, the weight of the horse in gold. A few years ago, the great sire Stockwell could not be bought for \$100,000, and we presume that when Gladiatus was carrying everything before him on the English Turf, the Count de La Grange would not have parted with him for \$150,000. Coming to America, we find that nearly \$15,000 were paid for Lexington, and that

his son, Kentucky, was sold for \$40,000. Mr. Bonner paid \$35,000 for Dexter, and offers \$100,000 for one that can equal Dexter's wagon time.

Proverbs by Billings.—It is human to err, but it is devilish to brag on it.

Blessed are the single for they can double at leisure.

Blessed is he who has a good wife, and knows how to sail her.

Blessed is he that has a good pile, and knows how to spread it.

Blessed is them who have no eye for a key-hole, no ere for a knot-hole.

Blessed is he that can pocket abuse, and feel it no disgrace to be bit by a dog.

If you want to learn a child to steal oats in a bundle, make him beg out of you everything you give him.

I never new anybody yet to get stung by hornets, who kep away from where they wuz. It is just so with bad luck.

I think every man and woman on earth ought to wear on their hat band these words, in large letters, "Lead us not into temptashun."

You kin judge ov a man's relijun very well by hearing him talk, but you can't judge of his piety by what he sez enny more than you can judge ov his amount ov linen by the stick out ov his collar and wrist bands.

Signs.—We don't go much on "signs," but the following are so clearly signs that will not fail in time of drought, that we give them for the benefit of our readers:

When you see the sun rising before you get out of bed, it is a sign that you would not do for a farmer.

When you see a man yawn and close his eyes during the sermon, it is a sign that he is getting sleepy.

When you see a man trying to convince a lamp post that it is impolite to get in the way of a gentleman, it is a sign that he has been drinking something—lemonade, perhaps.

When you see a boy throwing stones in the streets, and speaking impudently to old people, it is a sign that his parents don't care much for him.

When you see a girl throwing kisses and winking at the boys as they pass her window, it is a sign that she is too young to be out of sight of her "maternal relative"

When you are traveling and see one farm in worse order than another, it is a sign no agricultural paper is taken there.

HANGING BASKETS

During the dreary winter months, a fresh green hanging basket in the hall will look very pretty and refreshing. Below our readers will find the necessary instruction for making and arranging these simple and tasteful ornaments. The credit is due the *Hearth and Home*.

Hanging baskets are within the reach of all, and the more simple their structure the more grateful their effect. We have seen one made of cocoanut shell, with the upper section nearly sawed off and scarlet cords attached, planted with moneywort. Its trailing stems, extending half way down the window, filled with its bright golden blossoms, might have graced a fifth avenue drawing-room, so exquisite were its proportions, as bright in coloring. For larger baskets, buy at the woodenware shops a wooden bowl twelve or sixteen inches in diameter. Bore three holes at regular distances for the cords to support it. Then ornament with rosettes, made of halves of the coffee-bean not roasted, grains of rice and small black soup beans. Any girl of common ingenuity can make a pretty one with these materials.

Attach them to the bowl with common glue dissolved in water or whisky. If dissolved in the latter it does not set or harden until used.

When it has dried, varnish with black varnish, which is readily procured at little expense at any paint shop or carriage manufactory.

When that is dry ornament the edges with allspice berries strung on wire. Now attach the cords, and you have as handsome a basket as the shops can furnish, and the expense is very small. A wooden bowl can be ornamented with the scales of the long pine cones. Each scale can be nailed on with upholster's tacks, first boring the holes, and after the bowl is covered, varnish with brown varnish. Even the varnish can be made at home, if one chooses. Buy two or three ounces of asphaltum and dissolve it in turpentine or kerosene, making it lighter or darker as one desires by adding more or less of the asphaltum.

MULCHING

All men have some hobby; I have several. One is *mulching*. Years ago spreading the refuse of a straw stack, partly rotted, upon a meadow, and reaping therefrom an unlooked-for benefit, led to a repetition, and always and ever with good results. Last winter I spread rye straw upon six acres of rye; result, an increased quantity upon that so mulched, over fourteen not so dealt by. This winter I shall cover thirty acres. The spring of 1867 I seeded seventy-five acres to timothy and clover. Twelve acres were very poor; upon that I drew, directly after the harvest of this year, straw, and covered the same; to-day it is the best aftermath I have. It would have cut in September double what it did the 20th of June, and promises a large return the coming year. Hundreds of straw stacks are slowly decaying—"wasting their sweetness on the desert air"—that should blanket all meadows, pastures and winter grain, as far as they could be spread. The spreading should be thin and even; the master's eye should be "there to see." This method has been tried by me in New York, upon the rich meadows of Herkimer county, and here in Wisconsin, upon soil quite different in composition—like results in both places. Farmers, try it and report.—*S. B. L., a Country Gentleman.*

What is lost by keeping Corn.

A correspondent of the Davenport (Ill.) Gazette put two hundred measured bushels of corn in a crib in November, 1868, which were recently marketed. The corn was kept in a well-protected crib, and was in excellent condition when sold. It was found to have shrunk forty-eight bushels, equal to twenty-four per cent. discount from the original amount. There was no unusual exposure to rats, bad weather &c., the corn was first quality, and he thinks the experiment was in all respects a fair test of the profit and loss of holding over.—*Carolina Farmer.*

Charcoal for Horses' Wind.

"Many years ago, I recollect," says a correspondent of a London paper, "a horse being brought into the yard of Joseph Bignal, a celebrated man for keeping hunters at Croyden. The horse was very much affected in the wind, and could hardly move, from distress. In a few days this animal did its regular work as a hunter with perfect ease and comfort to itself. Tar water was the cure. Tar is carbon, and charcoal is also carbon; charcoal in the powder is more easily given than tar water. I have tried it with the most beneficial effect, and I think it stands to reason that the removal of noxious gases and flatulence from the stomach of the horse must improve his wind and condition. Tar is frequently given with benefit in cases of chronic disease of the respiratory organs; but its effects are totally different from those produced by charcoal (carbon)." *Ex.*