

HOME READING.

Domestic Reading.
Cowardice.—You are a coward if afraid to tell the truth when you should do so.

Hope lies about the cradle and the grave alike, lives with the rich and the poor alike, adds brightness to the smile and softens the sorrow of the present; glorifies the man's surroundings, and poises the magnificent.

Truth and when to speak it.—There are sealable truths and disagreeable truths, and the province of discretion or sound judgment is to make a selection from these, and not to say them all indiscriminately.

Water Grapes. It is two table-spoonsful of Indian meal, previous to a little cold water; add salt and be spoonful one-half hour.

Tea should not be infused for more than seven minutes. Leave the water boiling, and use a teaspoonful of tea for each person, and one ever.

Port Venison. Rub the venison all over with a little port wine, season it with pepper, salt and beaten mace, put it into an earthen dish and pour over it half a pint of port wine, add a pound of butter and place it in the oven.

Two pigeons into pieces, wash and clean them well, and put them into a stewpan with one pint of water and the same of claret, season it with pepper and salt, a blade of mace, an onion, a bunch of sweet herbs tied together, and an ounce and a half of butter rolled in flour.

This is a very fine sauce when all the ingredients used for it are thoroughly good, but it will prove an unpalatable compound to a delicate taste, unless it be made with oil of the purest quality.

The Governor-General's Expenses to Canada. The London correspondent of the Leeds Mercury remarks:—When the news of the appointment of the Marquis of Lorne to the Governor-Generalship of Canada was first promulgated there was a general expression of delight and self-satisfaction on both sides of the Atlantic.

This vegetable is spoiled by the manner in which it is served upon the table. It is not one time in a hundred more than half-cooked; it is simply scalded, and served as a soup porridge. It should be cooked three hours—it cannot be cooked in one.

AGRICULTURAL.

Hints for the Month of August. The stubbles are now idle upon most farms. This is not desirable; dry weather at this season seriously interferes with plowing, and the work can not be well done if it is delayed.

Wheat requires a fine and mellow soil, it is best if compact below and roughish on the top. If there are any clods, these should be brought up from below by repeated harrowings, and broken by the roller or the disk harrow.

Drilling Wheat.—Many farmers are testing the practice of cultivating wheat. We hear of frequent experiments in this direction, and these have generally turned out satisfactorily. Cultivating or hoeing is easily done by drilling the wheat in 10-inch rows, by stopping every alternate spout.

When the soil is not good enough for wheat, rye will be sown; but, as a general thing, soil that will make a good crop of rye can be made sufficiently rich for wheat by careful preparation, and the use of 250 or 300 lbs. of artificial fertilizer.

Lime Land.—Lime is an old-fashioned fertilizer, but it should not for that reason be neglected. It is cheap, and rarely fails to pay well for its use when the land is to be seeded to grass and clover.

Gas lime can often be procured for the taking away at any gas works. It is almost worth the cost of carting a moderate distance. But it should not be used while it is fresh.

Swamp Lands.—No better time than the present offers for the clearing of swamp lands. To cut off the thick growth of weeds and coarse grasses and sedges, and burn these on a dry wind; day, will leave the surface clear, while the soil is dry enough to plow or break-up.

Drains.—Cut these while the ground is dry. If they have been marked or laid out previously, the work can be done now, at half the cost of doing it when the ground is full of water. This season is better than any other for reclaiming swamp meadows.

The postmaster at Logansport, Ind., has been arraigned by the Presbyterian church to which he belongs because he keeps the post office open an hour every Sunday morning.

AGRICULTURAL.

Notes on Orchard and Garden Work. Harvesting the maturing crops, and weeding, are the chief occupations of the month. The killing of weeds is of as much importance now as earlier in the season, and is mentioned with special emphasis, for the reason that it is so often neglected.

Early apples, pears, etc., will be ready for market, and we wish that every one who sends fruit to distant markets to visit the places to which his produce goes. He would then learn by observation many things which he can not otherwise find out.

Over-ripe Fruit.—The visitors at the markets will learn the importance of picking fruit before it begins to ripen. This is especially to be guarded against in early sorts, both the character of the fruit, and the weather prevent a "dead ripe" fruit from keeping any length of time.

While barrels are the most convenient packages for late apples, crates early apples sell better in half-barrels, crates and baskets. The preference of the market should be consulted in this respect.

Early pears require still greater care as they ripen and decay so rapidly. They should be picked before they are at all mellow. The early pears, like the late sorts, are better if ripened in the house.

The success of a fruit grower depends upon the old reputation for honesty. Let every pack be as represented, and like every other of its grade. This will insure the confidence of the consumers, a ready sale of the fruit, and an inward satisfaction.

Let no one pick fruit who has no thought for the life of the tree, and the seasons that are to follow. We have seen orchards that looked at the picking, as if a hail storm had visited it, the limbs were so torn and broken.

Feed all the windfalls containing the Codling moth "worms" to hogs, or let these have an occasional run in the orchard. The bands so catch the worms should be looked to every week, and the worms killed. Borer should be probed and killed with a wire. Summertime lice and other plant lice can be killed by a wash of strong soft soap.

For home use the fruit should be fully ripe before picking, but for market pick earlier while firm. After fruiting clear out all old cases, and leave four of the strongest new ones for the next year, and keep these at six feet in height by pinching off the tips.

AGRICULTURAL.

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