

✿ The Farm. ✿

Success with Cauliflowers.

In nearly every large village there is a market for a few hundred, or, it may be, a few thousand cauliflowers at remunerative prices. This demand is not generally supplied by the local market gardener, for he thinks cauliflowers are difficult to grow and he does not care to buy seed at \$40 per pound and fail to grow marketable cauliflowers. With my plan of growing cauliflowers the crop is as certain as any crop I grow in the garden. It was my success in growing celery that led me to practice a similar plan in growing cauliflowers. I did considerable experimenting with what is called the "new celery culture," i. e., the method of close planting. The method of culture that gave me the best results was to apply large quantities of stable manure to the soil, then, after planting the celery, and when it had grown to a height of several inches, to place a heavy mulch of manure between the rows and irrigate by pouring the water on the mulch with the hose. The expense of such heavy manuring was considerable, but the returns were large enough to make it profitable.

This plan, with some modifications, I am using in cauliflower culture. For a part of my crop I sow the seed early in a hot bed, and later prick the seedlings out in cold frames, but for the main crop I sow the seed in open ground about the middle of May. I want the larger part of the crop to mature in September, when there is a demand for them for making mixed pickles. I generally sow the Early Snowball for both early and late cauliflower. When selecting a place for making a seed bed for growing plants out of doors it should be made where cabbage has not been grown for several years or the soil may be infected with the fungus that causes the club root on cabbages and cauliflowers. A good place is where corn has been planted for two or three years. If one has any reason to fear that the fungus of the club root is in the soil where the plants are to be set, a dressing of thirty bushels per acre of air slacked lime, should also be placed around the plant when setting it in the spring. One can hardly make the soil too rich for cauliflowers, and I would advise an application of fifty to one hundred tons of stable manure per acre, according to the condition of the soil. This should be ploughed in, and the land finely pulverized and furrowed for the plants. I set the plants in rows two and one-half feet apart and eighteen inches apart in the row. I cultivate frequently until the plants are about half grown, then I place a mulch of manure between the rows and irrigate them by pouring the water on the mulch with a hose. The water is pumped from a brook near by into a large tank, which is elevated so as to carry the water over all parts of the garden. The water is taken from this tank and distributed with iron pipes and hose. When the heads of the cauliflowers are forming the leaves should be tied around them, so as to blanch them perfectly white. (W. H. Jenkins, Delaware County, N. Y.)

Good Late Strawberries.

A correspondent of The Tribune complains that the Michigan strawberry, which he bought for very late, I have in a recent note pronounced not late. He wishes a good late strawberry. He finds Cornelia the best so far among the late berries, but the Gandy is the very latest. I do not know that we can positively say of any berry that it is both a good berry and later than Gandy, except the Hunn. This berry is pronounced by all growers a really good berry and really late. I have not fruited it. This spring a new berry comes into prominence as an extra late berry, under the name of Rough Rider. It is endorsed by trustworthy men, and, I think, will prove what it is sent out to be—a large, good quality and very late berry. Among my seedlings I have two or three very late berries, but they need testing. The latest of all is a chance seedling which came up in a driveway under an elm tree. It should

not claim the highest rank, unless it proves to be, as it has been heretofore, uniformly some two weeks later than the rank and file. It has taken on that character admirably where it stands. I am now testing it in rich soil, and it is also in the hands of Mr. Matthew Crawford, who will pronounce on its desirability. Among the very earliest berries, I think, we may be very sure of Excelsior, and probably Gladstone, as two admirable berries. No one will go astray in planting for main crop Sample. I notice by all the catalogues of this spring that Nick Ohmer holds its own, while Maximus is gradually getting into higher favor. Mr. Crawford offers Emperor and Empress as two remarkably promising new varieties. The Bennett is another of the new claimants with the best endorsement. (E. P. P.)

GOOD, CHEAP PAINT.—A writer in one of our farm journals recently told of a cheap and durable paint made of butter-milk, or sour milk, and yellow ochre or Venetian red.

Here is another paint that is said to be good, though more trouble to prepare: One pound of potatoes boiled in water and mashed through a colander or vegetable press, or they may be mashed with a pestle, diluted to a thin fluid and put through a fine sieve. Add two pounds of Spanish white, for milk white. Various other colors can be obtained by the use of ochres and minerals. This is said to adhere well to wood or plaster and does not peel. If these do not fill the bill, there is the famous White House whitewash, the durability of which can not be questioned. It would seem, with all these cheap paints at hand, there is no excuse for so many wood-colored buildings as are so conspicuously in evidence in the rural districts. —EX.

The Antics of "Bobs" on the Dead Line

The spectacle of Lord Roberts, shriveled and seventy, plunging into the smoke and struggle in South Africa and emerging with "the garter" in one hand and a dukedom in the other, is exhilarating and suggestive in view of the "dead-line-at-fifty" discussion. Roberts, as an old man, who had fought his battles and won his medals, who had all to lose and nothing to gain, stayed at home during the early weeks of the war. And younger fighters, Methuen and Buller, set out on the search for easy glory. What they got is painful history for England.

Roberts and Kitchener—the younger man was expected to do the big things—were sent out as an eleventh-hour hope. For a few weeks Kitchener's picture loomed large in the papers; then he drooped out of sight. And in the end it was Lord Roberts, twenty years past the dead line, who fought out the war.

It is futile to lay down general laws; folly to apply them to individuals. Yet the dead-line-at-fifty heresy has been accepted as gospel by so many people that it is worth following up, with "Bobs" as a beacon. Undoubtedly there is a dead line. Some men have already passed it at thirty; others never reach it till they follow a clergyman feet first out of church.

A young business man is naturally in touch with the new methods that revolutionize trade every few years in these rapid times; but the older one who keeps up with them is his equal and his superior by the weight of his added experience. For the professional man whose study lamp still burns, fifty is but a milestone on the road to greater power. And for him there is always something to be won and a new way to win it if the old one will not do. At seventy he is learning and planning and executing. He is climbing trees, like General Wheeler, to see what the enemy is up to; or drumming up wheat, like Mr. Armour, to freeze out the other youngsters; or planning a great Home Rule program like that lively octogenarian, Mr. Gladstone. The ability to see new conditions and to meet them is the secret of youth's power in the world to-day. And so long as a man has that ability, the years count for nothing. You can draw a dead-line behind him, but you can't catch and push him over it.—The Saturday Evening Post.

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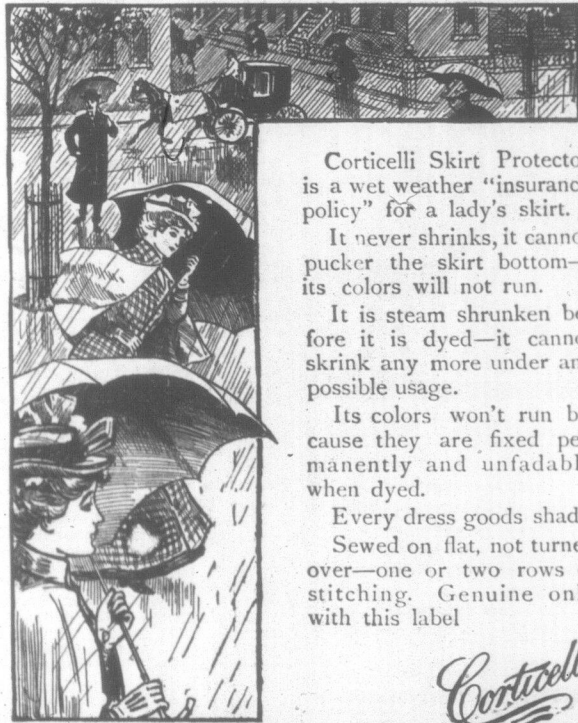
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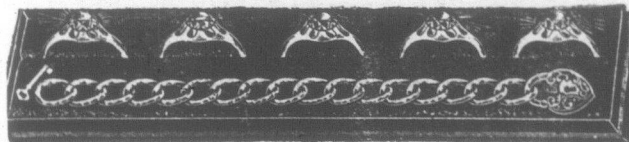
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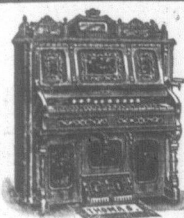
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