

The Farm.

Forethought in Tree Planting.

We ought to use even more care in selecting ornamental trees than in choosing flowering plants. If the latter prove to be inferior or out of place, they can be dug up and something better planted in their place. Undersirable trees, however, are hard to get down, and their successors slow to grow. They are the most conspicuous objects in the home landscape, and give the stranger the first impression of our premises. The tiny sapling, set out to-day, lives to shelter our children's children. Each year it is grander and statelier, or its poor qualities become more and more developed. While a really good tree harmoniously unites size with symmetry and grace with ruggedness, a poor tree becomes with age but an eyesore, spoiling the first grounds with its presence.

To illustrate the latter point. The home grounds of a physician were his pride, and justly so. The wide lawn sloped down to a rippling brook, and was shaded by a half dozen luscious leaved pin oaks, *Quercus palustris*. There were walks and drives, rustic arbors, beds of flowers and belts of shrubbery. Half a dozen other shade trees were decided upon, and this gentleman who would have nothing but the best for all his other planting, simply set out a row of silver poplars from some sprouts that a neighbor gave him. Their home passed into the hands of those who neglected it.

Soon the place seemed more like a wilderness than a spacious country home. The wistaria still twined over the veranda, the honeysuckle wreathed the arbor, and gay peonies and stately lilies yet raised their heads above the surrounding weeds; but the house was hidden almost from sight and the lawn quite overgrown by a forest of young poplars, springing up by the hundreds everywhere. At last the owner proceeded to "clear out" his premises, which he did by cutting out the oaks, the only trees he had that had really fine foliage and were free from suckers. After that he hacked away in a half hearted way at the jungle of popular sprouts. As he left all the old poplar standing, and many of the young ones also, his grounds will soon be as unsightly as before. The moral of this incident is that if the good doctor had chosen his trees as carefully as he did his flowers such a complete change for the worse could not have been possible.

A first class ornamental tree is first of all a good, healthy grower. It should certainly have some foliage, and be of fine shape or outline. It should not be short lived, a scabby or scraggly grower, or one that continually sprouts by suckers from the roots. Our native elms, oaks and beeches, maples and birches, together with such foreign sorts as are carried in stock in every first class tree nursery, are all grand trees to shade our premises. Let us plant trees that will prove a delight, and let the wretched locusts and poplars alone.—Lora S. La Mance.

PUFFED UP. But She Got Over it.

It sometimes takes nerve to quit a habit even after it is plain that the habit is ruining the health.

A little woman who was sick from coffee poisoning (and there are thousands like her) writes, "I had become almost a coffee fiend, drinking it at each meal, then afterward I was so nervous and weak that I would drink more coffee. I was a great sufferer with stomach and heart trouble. Everything I ate distressed me. There would be great puffs beneath my eyes and my hands and feet were terribly swollen. I was reduced to 108 pounds and was really slowly dying.

A gentleman talked seriously to husband and myself about my giving up coffee and using Postum Food Coffee. He convinced me, from his own and others experiences, that probably coffee was the cause of my trouble, so we tried Postum, but at first it seemed so flat and tasteless that I was almost discouraged. However, I looked at the directions on the package and found I had not been boiling it long enough, so I followed the directions exactly and had a clear, rich beverage, with a strong ring of good coffee, and very delicious taste.

I began to sleep better and was not quite so nervous, my stomach and heart trouble slowly disappeared, and, of course, as I was getting well I stuck to Postum, and that was easy, because it tasted so good. Now after a year's using I can truly say I never felt better in my life, have no trouble whatever with my stomach, sleep well, eat well, and weigh 127 1/2 pounds. My nervous headaches have all disappeared. I feel like telling everybody that is ill to try leaving off coffee, and use Postum Food Coffee, for it will surely work a cure." Mrs. Ella Kitching, Selinas, Calif.

Some Belgian Hare Experiences.

One rabbit in this city in fourteen months raised 120 young. Indeed, a trivial number of hares in this vicinity two years ago has increased to from 50,000 to 75,000 in this county alone. A Whittier farmer who brought in 150 hares to sell for meat, but refused to sell the lot at 10 cents apiece—his best offer—returned home and turned the lot loose.

"As to the cost of raising hares," declares a breeder, "I have kept a close account of all my expenses, and have kept the cost down to the lowest possible figure, but I am certain that it is impossible to feed a rabbit for less than from 10 to 12 cents a month. This is over twice what they will bring for meat."

A breeder called upon the Hanniman Fish Company and offered to sell fifty fat Belgian hares, weighing from eight to twelve pounds each, and asked for an offer for the lot. The buyer for the firm said he could take six at four cents a pound, but would not take fifty at any figure. Mr. Zaizer, of the Zaizer Produce Company, offered three cents a pound for a few.—(Los Angeles Herald.)

Destruction of Rubbish

One of the most necessary things that a gardener should do about this time, is to gather up and destroy—best by fire—everything in the shape of waste and rubbish that lies about the premises. The time for general "house-cleaning" in the garden is just before winter. These rubbish piles are congenial harboring places for all sorts of insects, and if we carry all this stuff together in heaps, most of the insects with them, there will be far less trouble from that source next year.

If you have your eyes open when picking up old weeds, pieces of boards, old decayed crate stuff, barrel hoops and staves, etc., you will find a good work now in lessening the number of those who winter over successfully and breed trouble again next summer. Many other insects, even if not so conspicuous, can now be destroyed. Leave no old vines of any kind, old cabbage stalks, etc., to remain as a shelter for insect foes. Let all such stuff go upon the rubbish heap to be burned up.—(Practical Farm.)

The Season's Lessons for Dairymen.

The season just ending has many lessons for the thoughtful man. One of them is that general farming is in the long run most reliable. In many parts of the country dry weather has very materially shortened the hay crop. Where men did not foresee the coming trouble and put in liberal places of corn to supplement the shortage in hay, winter stares them in the face with empty mows and an abundance of stock on hand. This stock must either be carried through cold weather on grain or turned off at a loss. The result is, cattle are very low in price. Not once in a lifetime do we see cows selling as cheap as at the present time in those sections which were most seriously affected by the drought. Good cows coming into milk in the spring are to-day worth only from \$15 to \$20 per head, and many are selling for even less than that. Calves, sheep and lambs go along with cows in price.

If we had been a little more cautious about getting overstocked with cows, we would be better off. The pendulum has been swinging toward dairying for a few years back, and now we are caught. We must get out the best way we can. But should we not firmly resolve that hereafter we will not run so largely to one branch of farming? Mixed farming is the safest. Again, we should learn from the experience of this year that it is wise to be prepared for any kind of a season that may chance to come. It is said that any fool knows enough to carry an umbrella when it rains. It is a wise man who takes one along when the sky is fair. Who could have foretold last spring that the hay crop would be so nearly a failure in 1900? If we had all known that, we would surely have planted a good piece of corn. But we didn't know it, and many of us are sadly lamenting the fact now.

Prudence would have suggested that we should be on the lookout for just the thing which did happen. Corn is a splendid crop to raise every year, drought or no drought. No one ever was guilty of saying that he was sorry he had so much corn. The trouble is to get enough. Here is a chance to turn over a new leaf. If we err let it be on the right side, and plant corn. Experience ought to have taught us this long ago.—(E. L. Vincent, in American Agriculturist.)



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