

CORRESPONDENCE

SUCH letters and queries as may be sent to us that will be of general interest, will be inserted here. Care will be taken to answer all questions of interest to our readers in an intelligent and satisfactory manner. Needless discussion and controversy will be excluded. Full name and address must accompany each communication as a pledge of good faith, though same will not be published.

Sir,—Since becoming a subscriber to your admirable journal, a few months ago, I have wondered why you did not have a column for correspondence. I am sure your readers would be only too glad to send a contribution, though it be ever so short, when they felt that by doing so they were making known to others something they had found of great help to themselves. This should prove one of the most interesting departments of your bright, little paper. Now I will show a good example. It often worries mothers how best to deal with croupy children. I have a "home remedy" which I have used with great benefit to my own children and those of my neighbors. I always keep on hand a bottle of equal parts camphorated oil and turpentine. When the child is croupy I apply the mixture to the throat and chest with my hand, then hold the same hand near the stove until it gets as hot as I can bear and press it lightly on the greased parts, repeating the heating until the patient is thoroughly heated. The effect is almost instantaneous and I fully believe it impossible for a case of pneumonia to develop when these directions are followed. Perhaps some of your readers may know of other "home remedies." Now after giving you this information, I would, woman-like, finish by asking you, if you could tell me how to make a polish for furniture?

Yours, etc.,

A LADY SUBSCRIBER.

ANSWER:—A housekeeper who uses this polish on the finest varnished furniture says it has no equal: Make a mixture of olive oil one part, and vinegar two parts; apply it to the furniture with a cotton flannel cloth and rub dry with another cloth of the same material.

HARRY D., Hamilton, Ont., (15 years of age) writes us:—The best way to keep plants in living-rooms during the winter is in boxes made to fit into the window casings. The box must be as long as the width inside the window frame, eighteen to twenty inches wide, and six inches deep. An inch of clay is packed hard in the bottom of the box, which is then filled to within an inch of the top with rich potting soil—leaf mold from the woods is best. The plants are set in this and half an inch of clean sand spread over the surface. Among plants for window culture geraniums come first, to be followed by selections from a large number of varieties, which can be selected from any greenhouse or florist's catalogue. It is important to avoid setting in the same box plants of widely varying wants as to temperature and moisture. For example, heaths and dracenas cannot flourish together, for the latter requires at least twenty degrees more of heat than the former.

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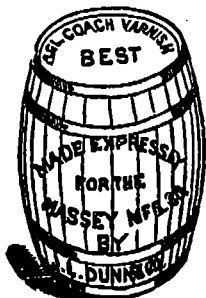
We offer \$15.00, \$10.00 and \$5.00 respectively to the three teachers who send in the three best stories before March 1st next. Story to occupy not less than six columns of **MASSEY'S ILLUSTRATED**, and should be in two parts.

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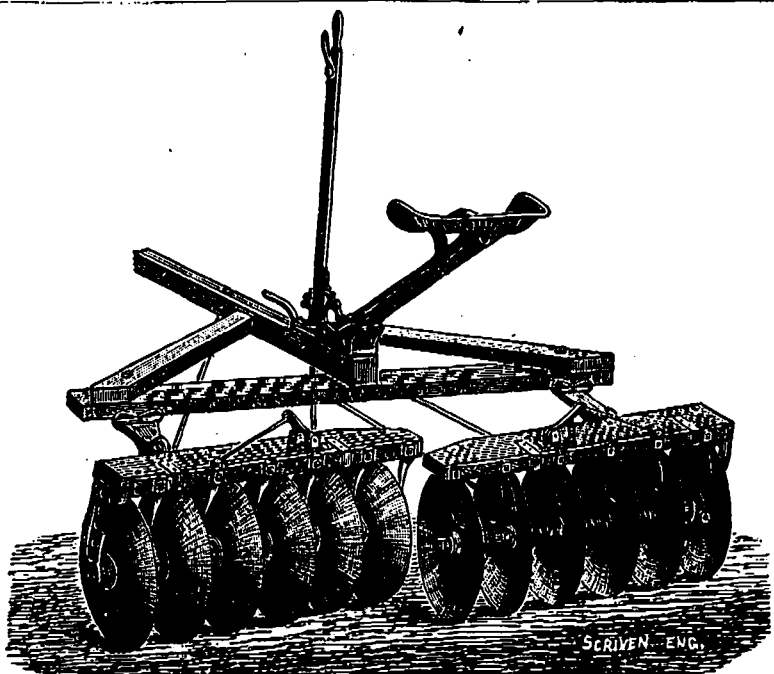
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