*The matter which this page contains is carefully selected from various sources; and we guarantee that, to any intelligent farmer or housewife, the contents of this single page from week to week during the year, will be worth several times the subscription price of the paper.

FAVORITISM.

A little figure glided through the hall,
"Is that you, Pet?" the words came tenderly.
A sob,—suppressed to let the answer fall,—
"It isn't Pet, mamma, it's only me."

The quivering baby-lips! They had not meant
To utter any word could plant a sting,
But to that mother-heart a strange pang went;
She heard, and stood like a convicted thing.

One instant, and a happy little face
Thrilled 'neath unwonted kisses rained above;
And from that moment "Only Me" had place
And part with Pet in tender mother-love.

—Caroline A. Mason.

THE HOME.

DUST.

There are a great many housekeepers who think lightly of dust that is out of sight. Their carpets lay for years on the floor, their upholstered furniture stands about on every side, where it has stood for years, veritable dust traps. So long as the carpets are carefully swept and all dust brushed off the outside of the furniture, the housekeeper seems to consider that every requirement of neatness has been met. Few women reflect what these floating particles in the air that so easily become lodged in every nook and cranny mean. It has long ago been asserted by physicians that the earth in our great cities is filled with disease germs. An outbreak of malaria may follow the upheaval of any large quantity of earth in the more thickly settled parts of any large city. The floating dust of the city always contains germs which it is hazardous to introduce into the heated atmosphere of the dwelling house. Where dust is allowed to accumulate in any amount the danger is increased fourfold. Under the carpet lay the germs of disease with the dust. On some evil day when the vital powers of one of the household is at a low point he falls a victim to pneumonia, consumption or some other disease from this source. These foul germs have been growing up in the house, receiving fresh accessions of power from the dust and nurtured by artificial warmth when all the dust outside is laid under the snow and the air has been purified by frost.

Furniture that is upholstered with cushions that cannot be removed must be finally done away with along with nailed-down carpets and all the various devices that conceal dust. The hardwood floor with the movable rug is an immense improvement over the carpet, but the upholstered lounge and chair is almost as successful a trap for dust and disease germs as the carpet was.

TO CLEANSE BRIC-A-BRAC.

Bric-abrac should always be removed when the room is swept. If this is done regularly, and the articles be dusted daily, they will not need washing or special care more than three or four times a year, even when not kept under glass. For dirty bric-a-brac there is no excuse. It betokens an order of woman that would appear in torn and soiled lace. Some young housekeepers refrain from cleaning their china ornaments for fear of accident, but, with the exception of fine filigree, ordinary precautions are all that are required. In fact bric-a-brac is not so easily broken as tableware. For washing china ornaments, a wooden bowl is required. It should be half filled with warm water in which a tablespoonful of amonia has been poured, and thick suds should be plunged under the water quickly so that every part may be exposed to the same heat at the same instant. Soft cloths (cheesecloth dusters are admirable) are needed, and also brushes—a fine nail brush and a camel's hair brush for the fine ornamentation. Having soaked and washed and scrubbed the articles, they should be rinsed in clear water, slightly cooler than that in which they were first placed. Blood heat is sufficient. Dry the pieces with damask or fine hand-made towelling, which latter is to be had at all linen stores. It is made expressly for expensive china and glass, leaves no lint, nor does the thread come loose in any place, thus obviating all danger of catching.

RUSSET APPLES.

At this season of the year when all other winter apples have become stale and tasteless tne winter russet has attained that maximum mellowness that brings it to perfection. The russet is one of our oldest varieties of apples.

The "leather coats" which Justice Shallow served to Falstaff with a glass of wine in his garden were russets, authorities say. The must have been the fall russets, for our ordinary russets could not have been eaten from the tree, as these "feather coats" were. Even in the less luxurious days of Shakespeare, when men ate various things commonly which a beggar of today would despise, no one was likely to eat a hard russet. In some families the russet apple is neglected as of no value, except for eating occasionally out of hand. Thep make, however, the most excellent ginger apple we have. Weigh the apples, add about three-quarters of a pound of sugar to a pound of fruit. Slice in the yellow peel and the juice of three lemons for five pounds of fruit with a quarter of a pound of candied ginger root. Cook the apples after peeling and coring them till just tender. Make a syrup of the sugar, lemon juice and the liquor in which the apples are cooked. When the syrup boils add the lemon peel, which must be cut into little chips, and the ginger cut in small pieces. Let the apples boil for five minutes in this syrup, then take them up and boil the syrup down thick and pour it over them.

SPRING HOUSE CLEANING.

For our part we always enjoy the spring house cleaning—after it is done. When the paint and floors have been nicely scrubbed, the ceilings whitened, the carpets beaten and relaid, there is a delicious odor of cleanliness throughout the house, and you have, in addition to that, the moral satisfaction of knowing that things are just as they ought to be. But the process! We admit that we have no liking for it. The living on board floors, the hot water and suds, the improvised meal in dining-room or kitchen, the uncertainty whether Sambo will come with his kalsoming pail and brushes today, as he promised, or a week hence, the experience of putting down carpets and taking down stoves. But why prolong the dreadful list? Who does not know it by heart? It is whispered that at this season some men find that their business demands their presence in some distant city. Cowards that they are! But the women cannot get away. They have to face it, and do it or superintend it. We have no receipts or directions to give. We frankly say that we do not know whether it is better to begin with the cellar or the garret. On general principles there appear to be advantages in both methods. It is a good subject for a debating club. We have only one piece of advice: Get through the whole business as soon as you can, and while your are about it solace that pain in your back, and the smart of dust or suds in your eyes, by a vision of the promised land ahead when there will be a vision of the promised land ahead when there will be no more house cleaning—until next spring. We make no account of those over fastidious people who have to clean house in the autumn as well as the spring. Once a year is all our conscience demands. We have a strong conviction that the folks who have to clean house twice a year are not so clean as they should be, or are in love with the process.—Watchman.

FREEZING OUT DYSPEPSIA.

"Freeze, freeze, thou bitter sky, Thou dost not bite so nigh As appetite forgot" will be an appropriate new reading of the Shakespearean song, if Professor Piotet proves himself right in regarding extreme cold as an infallible receipt for that best of all sauces—hunger. The French scientists is said to be so confident of the merits of his cold cure in all cases of loss of appetite and dyspepsia that he is positively starting a freezing chamber for the special benefit of patients who suffer from these ailments. Fortunately he does not require them to enter the durative refrigerator in light attire. On the contrary, he allows them to wrap themselves up as warmly as they like, the benefit being derived entirely from breathing the frozen air.

The idea seems to be after all but a practical development of a familiar idea, for there can be no one who has not experienced the action of crisp, frosty air as a sharpener of the appetite. But if the effects of cold as a remedy for dyspepsia have not hitherto been so well recognized, and Professor Pictet's "frigotherapeucy," despite its awful name, may prove a boon and a blessing in these days of pantreatic permission.—Lady's Pictorial.

ONE'S FRIENDS.

Money can buy many things good and evil; all the wealth of the world could not buy you a friend, nor pay you for the loss of one. "I have wanted only one thing to make me happy," Hazlitt writes, "but wanting that, a true friend, I have wanted everything." And, again: "My heart, shut up in the prison house of this rude clay has never found, nor will it ever find, a heart to speak to."

We are the weakest of spendthrifts if we let one friend drop off, through inattention, or let one push away another.

One good friend is not to be weighed against the jewels of all the earth. If there is coolness or unkindness between us let us come face to face and have it out. Quick, before love grows cold! Life is too short to quarrel in, or to carry black thoughts of friends. If I was wrong I am sorry; if you, I am sorrier yet, for should I not grieve for my friend's misfortune?

The mending of your fault does not lie with me, but the forgiving it does, and that is the happier office. It is easy to lose a friend, but a new one will not come for calling, nor make up for the old one when he comes.—Robert South.

TORTURE UNTOLD

WAS SUFFERED.

A Well Known Gentleman in the District of Algoma Writes About His Sufferings.

GENTLEMEN,—About three months ago I was all used up with Rheumatism, suffering more than torture from it frequently. I took three bottles of your valuable medicine, Burdock Blood Bitters, and now feel all O.K. again. Some six years ago I took a few bottles of B.B.B. and found it the best medicine I had ever used. I had the very best of health until this attack of Rheumatism, but now I am glad to say that B.B.B. has made me as sound as a dollar. A. McCONACHIE,

Kenabutch, P.Q. Ont.

The first canal was made in England, when Henry I. joined the Trent to the Withan in 1134.

THE FARM.

TRIBULATIONS OF A NURSERYMAN.

We had a large delivery of nursery stock in our little city the other day, and we took a stand on the outside to watch the operation. The agent seemed a careful man. He had taken the trees out of the boxes and quickly heeled them in so the roots were exposed as little as possible. The parties who were to receive and pay for them soon began to arrive on foot, in buggies and wagons. The bills were ready and the agent was soon jumping about lively to get each party his bundles, and they were quickly dumped into the wagon or carried off in the hands. Some threw a little straw over the roots, others had a blanket thrown loosely over them; but not one in the whole lot had made proper provision to keep the roots from the bright sunshine and drying winds.

Two hours later, many of the bundles were lying unprotected in the wagons on the street while their owners were doing their trading, or enjoying the political harangues and neighborhood gossip on the sidewalks, and nearly all started homeward, merely bunching the straw upon them more closely.

It might be interesting to have followed them clear through to their final disposition. It is safe to say some remained in the wagon till next day; others were thrown on the ground with a little loose dirt put on the roots, where they remained for days and often weeks till other work was disposed of, the ground ploughed and fitted or small holes dug in the grass of the old orchard where they were to take the place of other trees which had died out from the same neglect. Depend upon it, half the stock cannot survive such treatment, and next year that poor agent will be savagely dealt with and held responsible for every failure.

People seem to have an idea that a tree is never injured or that it never, never can be killed after it leaves the nurseryman; at least their treatment of it seems based on that idea. It is the easiest thing in the world to tell whether a tree is dead or the roots are lifeless when delivered. Cut into them, and if the bark is fresh and reasonably moist and bright to the wood, and then properly imbedded in moist earth, it is sure to live, but every moment that it is exposed and left in a drying wind, the chances are multiplied against it.

The roots of a tree injured by exposure are always dry and shrivelled, and the centre devoid of sap. Examine them carefully before receiving them, and then see to it that the injury is not done to it afterward. If the trees are supplied with wet straw and closely wrapped with an old blanket or oilcloth to exclude currents of air, they can be carried any distance safely. When the tree is dormant, its blood (sap) circulates whether roots are in or out of the ground, and only needs moisture to live on like a hibernating animal. As long as there is fat on the ribs, air to breathe and sleep, the bear flourishes, but when active life returns, food must be forthcoming or it will perish. When the roots of a plant or tree become dry, the sap becomes waxy and fills the grain in the wood like a varnish, so that the impediment remains to bother the sap circulation to such an extent that I doubt if it ever regains the same vigor of the tree in which a thrifty growth has always been maintained.

The removal from the nursery to the final home is the critical time in the history of the tree. That there are nurserymen by hundreds who grow trees to sell cheap, conducting their business as downright swindlers, cannot be denied, but it is equally true that a large majority of nurserymen are conscientious and solicitous for the fullest success of all the stock sent out, and look carefully to the best interests of their customers. They know how to handle and protect stock, and would not permit such gross carelessness, and in nine times out of ten an investigation will show the failures arise from the outrageous slovenliness of planters. —R. M. Kellogg, in Farm, Field and Fireside.

ANTHRACNOSE IN RASPBERRIES.

Probably no disease of the raspberry has, within the past ten years, done more to lessen the crop and discourage the grower than this. It can undoubtedly be held in check by spraying with Bordeaux mixture. The difficulties attending this operation, however, will hinder its general use, especially in field culture. The height of the bushes, and the setting of the fruit at the time when the spraying should be done, will prevent the use of the home-power sprayer, and the hard labor necessary to use the knapsack sprayer will prevent the general use of that. I have yet to learn of a single case where it has been entirely successful.

The disease is of fungous growth, and develops faster in damp weather than in dry. Where fogs prevail, its destructiveness is the greatest. This is undoubtedly the chief cause of failure to grow the black raspberry successfully on low grounds near the sea coast.

The disease is detected by the blotched appearance of the canes. The bark has the appearance of being eaten by grasshoppers. When these blotches are numerous, it injures the bark to such an extent that there is not enough healthy bark to carry the sap to perfect the fruit.

How can we best prevent it?—is the question. There are several things that can be done to help hold it in check. If a field is badly affected, it would be well to dig out and burn all the bushes, and not allow any bushes to grow in fence corners or other places for a year. Set out a new field, and be sure your plants are free from the disease. Cut off all the canes from the plants before setting, and then (to be doubly sure) dip the plants in Bordeaux mixture. Burn all the pieces you cut from the plants, for if left on the ground they breed the disease.

This disease is caused by leaving a foot or more of stalk on the plants for convenience in shipping and handling. This practice should be discontinued, as this piece of cane is unnecessary to to the growth of the plant and increases the bulk in shipping, requiring extra freight charges. Growers should look to this, and order the canes cut off. They can be handled as well in baskets as to be carried by the canes, when setting. This disease will be carried to all parts of the country as long as plants are shipped with canes on them.

I saw a statement in a paper blaming a nurseryman for selling diseased plants—the purchaser would hereafter buy direct of the grower. I cannot see that he would have better protection, as the nurseryman buys of the grower. No grower is safe to warrant against the disease, for it does not always show on the plants; and then it may strike his plants from a neighbor's field. I have known a field so badly diseased that the owner cut the bushes and burnt them, intending to plough the field, but did not plough. The following season it produced a large crop of fruit. As soon as the berries are picked, cut out the old canes and burn them; they are no longer of any use, but are much in the way of after culture. The older the bushes, the more liable they are to disease. It is well to set often, and as far from the older fields as possible. A rank-growing variety is less liable to the disease than one of less growth. Red raspberries are less liable to it than black.—Charles Mills, in Country Gentleman.

THE VENTILATION OF SEWERS.

The modern sanitarians agree that there is little dependence to be placed on the ordinary sewer trap as a means of keeping sewer gas out of the house. The chief means of surety lie in thorough ventilation. The ordinary house sewer should measure four inches and no more, because a larger pipe is not so easily or thoroughly flushed out in every part as a smaller pipe. This pipe should be ventilated just outside the house or at its lower end, and the pipe should be extended its full length to at least eight or nine inches above the peak of the roof, and capped by a regular ventilating cowl. By this means air will be continually pumped through the pipe. There are a multitude of patent devices that save plumbers work, and are supposed to take the place of this simple method of ventilation, but all are makeshifts. Do not let the plumber persuade you that it is not necessary to extend the pipe its full size, but that a two-inch pipe will do for ventilation. It costs but a little more to extend the pipe to the roof in full four-inch size. Now that nearly every village has a system of sewerage and a water supply, it is especially necessary that all persons understand that safety from sewer gas is not in shutting it out by water trap, but in purifying it by the introduction of a current of pure air. Main sewers should be as thoroughly ventilated as house sewers, as the simplest precaution against the dangerous accumulation of gas. Yet this is too often neglected.

RECLAIMING A MUCK SWAMP.

Serious mistakes have been made by the attempt to break up and cultivate a muck bed and putting in ordinary field crops. The first step in reclaiming such swamp is to thoroughly drain it to the depth of three feet, removing surplus water and causing the muck to settle and consolidate, changing its spongy texture and making a firm soil. In this way it becomes capable of holding moisture, and loses its "frostiness" by becoming a better conductor of heat from the subsoil. This drainage and consolidation of mucky lands are necessary conditions for reclaiming and preparing for successful cultivation. The evidence of improvement is seen in the setting of the soil, the gradual disappearance of wild grasses and sedges, and the appearance of bonceet and red top and June grass. These changes are promoted by a top-dressing of woodashes; even leached ashes, if applied in liberal doses, will make a great improvement. Sometimes by sowing seed of red top on the surface of such consolidated swamp and lightly scratching it with a light harrow a good meadow may be secured, giving a fair crop of hay for a number of years.

When it is decided to plough up a partially reclaimed muck swamp this should be done late in the fall, and only a thin slice of the cheesy muck brought to the surface; thirty bushels of slaked lime should be scattered over each acre and this incorporated with the soil by harrowing.—Professor R. G. Kedzie, Michigan Agricultural Experiment Station.

A GREY COUNTY MIRACLE.

An Important Statement from a Well Farmer.

He Tells the Story of Eight Years of Suffering and Vain Efforts to Regain Health—How This Great Boon was Finally Obtained.

From the Meaford Monitor.

Knowing the Dr. Williams Medicine Co. to be an honorable and reliable firm we had never any reason to doubt the entire truthfulness of the articles appearing from time to time setting forth the particulars of remarkable cures affected by the use of their Pink Pills. There is scarcely a locality in Canada which has not furnished a case of more or less prominence, and if the particulars, as stated, were not accurate, it would be impossible that the public would not find it out and thus the remedy would be discredited. There is therefore every ground to believe that the statements are accurate, in every particular. We have now been put in a position to verify one of these cases for ourselves, and we give the result faithfully, giving Pink Pills no word of praise not merited in the case. Messrs. F. Clarke & Co., druggists, of Meaford, who have sold very large quantities of these famous pills, drew our attention to the case, giving us the name of Mr. Henry Lamb, a well known and respected farmer of St. Vincent township. Having some acquaintance with Mr. Lamb we sought an interview, and the following is the substance of his testimony: "About 8 years ago I suffered from an attack of inflamation of the stomach, causing me extreme pain and uneasiness. I was attended by Dr. Clarke, of Meaford, who brought me around, and I have always given him the credit of saving my life on that occasion. The effects of the attack, however remained and I fell into a state of chronic poor health, which completely unfitted me for my ordinary work. I was really dragging out a miserable existance. I suffered for over seven years from a constant pain in my stomach, as well as from weakeness and continued debility. I tried many advertised remedies which I thought might be suited to my case, but without relief. I at length decided to try Dr. Williams' Pink Pills. I soon felt the pain in my stomach relieved, and after I had used ten boxes the pain was entirely gone and I now feel like a new man. I can now work half a day at a time without fatigue, and as I am still using the pills I confidently expect, as I have every right to do from the results thus far, to be able to do my work as formerly. I am 57 years of age, and before the attack eight years ago, I always enjoyed good health. I have stated my experience to many people and invariably recommend a trial of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills."

The above is the substance of Mr. Lamb's story, to which the Monitor may add that we consider him a reliable and trustworthy person who would make no statement which he did not know to be correct and truthful.

Dr. Williams' Pink Pills contain all the elements necessary to give new life and richness to the blood, and restore shattered nerves. They are an unfailing specific for such diseases as locomotor ataxia, partial paralysis, St. Vitus' dance, sciatica, neuralgia, rheumatism, nervous headache, the after affects of la grippe, palpitation of the heart, nervous prostration, all diseases depending upon vitiated humors in the blood, such as scrofula, chronic erysipelas, etc. They are also a specific for troubles peculiar to females, such as suppressions, irregularities, and all forms of weakness. They build up the blood, and restore the glow of health to pale and sallow checks. In men they effect a radical cure in all cases arising from mental worry, overwork or excesses of whatever nature.

Dr. Williams' Pink Pills are manufactured by the Dr. Williams Medicine Co., Brockville, Ont., and Schenectady, N. Y., and are sold only in boxes bearing their trade mark and wrapper printed in red ink, at 50c. a box, or six boxes for $2.50, and may be had of all druggists, or direct by mail from Dr. Williams' Medicine Company, from either address.—Advertisement.

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