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GETINE.

Excellent Medicine. A. C. W. VANDERGRIFT, ...

Minister's Wife. ...

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House and Farm.

The army worm will not touch the tobacco fields. Here is an illustration for the reformers.

WHITE CAKE.—One cup butter, two cups sugar, three cups flour, white of five eggs, one teaspoonful soda, two teaspoonfuls cream of tartar, one cup milk.

Potatoes are frequently spoiled by being exposed to the sun too long after digging. They should only be opened to light and air long enough to dry them, and then stored away in as dark a place as soon as possible.

A farmer who has experimented with poultry, well rotted cow manure, barn manure and bone dust for melons, reports that the best yield was obtained when the bone dust was applied.

A correspondent asks how to kill a small patch of Canada thistles. If he will take a small bottle of sulphuric acid and cut the thistle, when in blossom at the surface of the ground, and pour a teaspoonful of the acid on each stalk, it will finish them, if Ohio thistles are not very much tougher than New York thistles. In this way he could have finished his forty thistles in ten minutes, at an expense not exceeding five cents.

HAY.—Recent investigations threaten to upset some popular notions. It has long been supposed that early cut hay is more valuable than cut later. If the judgment of the cows were a test, there would be no question about it. They will leave the riper hay, and even refuse to eat it all, if they can procure that which was cut earlier. In the writer's diary, the milk falls off more than 10 per cent. when the young hay is changed for that cut two weeks later. This is sufficient to support the general opinion in spite of chemical analyses, which go to show that riper hay is heavier, more bulky, and contains more nutritious substance than that cut earlier.—Perhaps the operation of the chemist can extract more nutriment from the riper hay than can the cow's stomach; but as young hay feeds more profitably, it seems best to cut early.

TO KEEP WAGON TIRES ON THE WHEELS.—A practical mechanic suggests a method of repairing tires of wagons that they will not get loose and require resetting. He says he ironed a wagon some years ago for his own use, and before putting on the tires he filled the felloes with lard oil, and the tires have worn out and were never loose. This method is as follows: He used a long cast-iron heater made for the purpose; the oil is brought to a boiling heat, the wheel is placed on a stick so as to hang in the oil, each felloe an hour. The timber should be dry, as green timber will not take oil. Care should be taken that the oil is not made hotter than a boiling heat, or the timber will be burned. Timber filled with oil is not susceptible of injury by water, and is much more durable by this process.

A CHEAP SMOKE-HOUSE.—Dig a narrow pit from twelve to eighteen inches deep, throwing the earth all out on one side. From near the bottom of the pit dig a trench of sufficient length to hold one or two joints of stove pipe, at such an angle as will bring the end away from the pit to the surface of the ground. Over the end of this pipe set a common flour barrel or large sack, as may be needed, and, having removed both heads, bank up around it with loose dirt, so that no smoke can escape at the bottom. Putting a cover on the sticks will leave space enough for draught to let the smoke pass freely. Build a smoke fire of corn-cobs, damp hardwood or sawdust in the pit, and you will have a cheap, safe and efficient smoke house with very little trouble.

HOUSE PLANTS.—House plants need plenty of air during warm days. The windows should be lowered from the top, so that a draught will not come directly on the plants. Sprinkle freely overhead when the sun is not shining on them and give water enough to keep from wilting. Blossoming plants need a liberal supply. Insects must be carefully watched for and guarded against. Red spiders thrive in a hot, dry atmosphere. They hate shower baths. For green fly nothing is better than tobacco smoke. If only a few plants are to be smoked, put them under a barrel, and with them a small tin box containing a live coal or two and some damp tobacco on top. The heliotrope and a few other soft-leaved plants will not stand this treatment. Sprinkle these with tobacco water and keep in the shade for twelve hours, after which sprinkle with clear water. Test the strength of the tobacco water with a leaf. If it turns brown, it is too strong and must be weakened.

PRESERVING FLOWERS AND FRUIT.—Fruit and flowers may be preserved from decay and fading by immersing them in a solution of gum arabic and water two or three times, waiting a sufficient time between each immersion to allow the gum to dry. This process covers the surfaces of the fruit with a thin coating of the gum, which is entirely impervious to the air, and thus prevents the decay of the fruit or the withering of the flower. Roses thus preserved have all the beauty of freshly-plucked ones, though they have been plucked from the parent stem for many months. To insure success in experiments of this kind, it should be borne in mind that the whole surface must be completely covered; for, if the air only gets entrance at a pin-hole, the labor will all be lost. In preserving specimens of fruit, particular care should be taken to cover the stem-end and all with the gum. A good way is to wind a thread of silk about the stem, and then sink it slowly in the solution, which should not be so strong as to leave a particle of the gum undissolved. The gum is so perfectly transparent that you can with difficulty detect its presence, except by the touch. Here we have another simple method of fixing the fleeting beauty of Nature.—Am. Cultivator.

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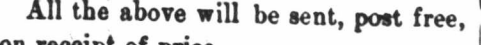
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