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SMUT ON WHEAT.

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Smut seems to be a parasitic fungus, of which there are several varieties, as on Indian corn, wheat, &c. The black dust of matured smut is to be regarded as its seeds, each particle of which, however light and evanescent, is capable of germinating and producing its kind when brought into favorable circumstances. It is difficult to say precisely how these seeds find their way into the receptacles of growing wheat; but it is probable they adhere to the kernels of wheat when sown, and we know that in some way they are carried upward with the growing plant, and are developed at the base of the newly forming kernels simultaneously with the bursting of the spike from its sheath, or perhaps a little before the head makes its appearance. From this time the fungus grows and develops itself more or less rapidly, as the weather favors or otherwise, drawing its nutriment from the plant, thus partially depriving the forming wheat of its appropriate food, as well as insinuating a hurtful ingredient.

Now, on the supposition that the smut in wheat comes from sporules (smut seeds) distributed with the seed wheat, which we suppose to be correct, it follows, that if you could wash the seed before sewing, perfectly clean, there would be no smut in the crop; for however warm, damp, or lowery the seasor, smut will not grow unless there is seed for it to grow from. But it is impossible to secure perfect cleanliness from these sporules or smut seeds: they are too minute to be all washed away, and their vitality is not destroyed by pure water. Hence the importance of washing seed wheat in some solution that will destroy the vitality of such of the sporules as fail to be washed out.

Salt, plaster, quick-lime, arsenic, sulphate of copper, and other things have been recommended. The first is always at hand, and the next two are seldom far absent from the farm; and we believe that these are sufficient. If the seed be first washed in pure water, then in a weak brine, of say one quart of salt to a pailful of water, and then dried in plaster or quick lime, (the latter not too be used to fresh, nor very freely, lest it injure the vitality of the wheat,) we think that there will be little danger from smut, and that the operation will be favorable rather than otherwise to the germination and early growth of the seed wheat.—American Farmer's Mayazine.

RENOVATING WORN APPAREL,

To remove grease spots from silks and satins, use fresh ox gall, or pure turpentine, camphene or burning fluid. Camphene is purified turpentine, and burning fluid is a mixture of three parts of alcohol to one of camphene, and is perhaps the best of all these. To remove acid stains, apply an alkali, as ammonia, (hartshorn), to the spot very carefully. With some colors ammonia will produce spots, hence it should be used sparingly, and applied only to the stain. Ink can be removed by being soaked or reapeatedly washed in solution of tartaric acid, or oxalic acid or salts of lemon. Woollen goods may be freed from grease by camphene, or burning fluid or alcohol, repeatedly applied, or even by soap applied libetally and well rubbed in. The cloth must afterwards be thorougly rinsed. Paint can be removed by the same process, or by covering it with a considerable quantity of magnesia, which will gradually absorb the greace, and at least very much improve the appearance of the carpet. This process may require several days, and perhaps more than one application. Dry French chalk, or powder, upon a grease spot, will also absorb the grease, whatever the material to be cleaned, woollen, silk, &c. It must be applied liberally, remain a day or two, and be thoroughly removed afterwards by a brush. This is on the principle of absorption.

Os gall may be prepared so as to be useful in this way, for an indefinite time, as follows :— Take one pint of gall, boil and skim, divide into two parts. To one add half-anounce of salt, and to the other half-an-ounce of powdered alum, both being heated till everything is dissolved. Pour into separate bottles, and let them stand in a quiet place for six or eight weeks, or till bright. Then pour off the clear portions and filter both through tissue or blotting paper into one vessel. In this state it will keep unchanged and free from odor.

To STOP HORSES FROTHING AT THE MOUTH.—I have completely stopped frothing at the mouth by washing my horse's mouth out with the following mixture:—Six drachms of alum dissolved in a quart of sage tea, using it in a wine bottle, as you would refresh a race-horse, after a race, each time you go out.—Cor. London Field.