

cakes. A dozen such boxes would soon furnish a family supply of ice; they might be serviceable to several families. If filled at once with water the bottoms would bulge out and spoil, but run in three inches of water and as soon as that is frozen, three inches more, and in this gradual way they may be safely filled with ice.—Z. E. Jameson, in *Tribune*.

**HOT WATER FOR PLANTS.**—Water at a heat of 100 degrees will not injure pot plants, but it will prove very uncomfortable to earth-worms and root-lice, or the white worms which so often damage the roots of these plants. These small white worms are the larvæ of black flies, smaller than house-flies, which may be found crawling about the soil in the pot. A good plan is to fill a pail with water so hot that the hand can be dipped into it for a minute, and no more, and plunge the pots in this water so that the surface of the earth is covered and the soil is soaked. A hot-water bath thus given once a week, and the pot set to drain awhile, is an excellent treatment for the plants.

**SELLING BUTTERMILK.**—It may be remarked that if the practice of churning the milk were adopted in this country, more especially near the cities and towns, more butter would be obtained than by merely churning the cream, while a considerable revenue could be derived from selling the buttermilk in the cities, where it is almost impossible for families to obtain it good and fresh.

On the west of Scotland near the large cities of Glasgow and Paisley, and we believe, elsewhere, the farmers all churned the milk, bringing into the towns the buttermilk in large casks with a tap at the end, on carts made for the purpose, driving through the streets selling it at a penny sterling the Scotch pint (about two quarts), the women and children coming out to get it at the call of the milkman's shrill whistle. It was a great boon to the poorer people to get so nutritious a beverage so cheap and easily, and would be the same in this country, where it would bring two cents a quart.

Those who save their own seeds, whether of vegetables or flowers, are apt to gather the pods or other seed vessels, lay them away on papers, or in shallow boxes, in some unoccupied room. Such seeds should now be cleaned and put away at once. Amateurs often trust to memory, feeling sure that they will recollect the name of the variety. When they come to clean and put away the seeds, there will probably be several lots, all trace of which is lost. Seeds, after they are taken from the plant which bore them, should never be without a distinguishing-label. While they are spread to dry, use a wooden label, heavy enough not to be readily displaced. No time should now be lost in cleaning up last season's seeds. If there are any about which there is a doubt, the best way is to burn them at once. Take a clear dry day for the work, and by the use of sieves and winnowing, the chaff may be removed very readily. Strong paper bags are best for small seeds; larger ones may be stored in bags of some coarse fabric, or in wooden boxes. Label each kind with name and date. Seeds should not be exposed to extremes of temperature. A uniform temperature, a little above the freezing point, is best. Dryness is essential.—*American Agriculturist* for December.

**SELECTING HEIFERS.**—Raising heifers sounds well in theory, but breeding cattle is a separate art from dairying, and unless followed with great judgment is a losing business, as not every heifer raised becomes a first-class milk cow. The best plan is to buy heifers heavy with their first calves—called "springers;" and in this there is much more room for judgment and skill in making these selections than most men are willing to admit. The mistake usually made is, in being misled by a fancy for certain shapes, colors and fashionable points, to the neglect of others relating immediately to the usefulness of the matured cow.

The first point to consider is, that the heifer is strong, with a deep flank, indicating constitutional vigor; then see that her teats are large and set wide apart. Viewed from behind the twist should be open and wide, with her rudimentary udder well displayed and teats far apart. As secondary and fancy points, a slim neck, and long head with small horns are good features. Above all things, avoid those heifers that show very small rudimentary teats, or those with large ones set close together. Such a heifer never can make a first-class cow. There are enough risks to run before securing a good one, without starting out with those that never can improve. Even the best of pedigrees cannot make a good cow out of a heifer with a deformed udder. Those who have studied Guenon's method, while they do not rely upon it to the exclusion of other points, find it a great aid, and feel that they cannot ignore the escutcheon.—*American Agriculturist*.

A farmer told us that he would not be without Dr. Bull's Cough Syrup if it cost \$5.00 a bottle.

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