

HOME AND FARM.

HOW TO FORTTELL WEATHER.—The farmers' club of the American Institute has issued the following rules for fortelling the weather. If farmers and others whose business is out of doors and depends upon the weather, will study them closely they will be able to guess the weather more accurately than Wiggins and Vennor.

1. When the temperature falls suddenly there is a storm forming south of you. 2. When the temperature rises suddenly there is a storm forming north of you. 3. The wind always blows from a region of fair weather toward a region where a storm is forming. 4. Cirrus clouds always move from a region where a storm is forming. 5. Cumulus clouds always move from a region of fair weather to a region where a storm is forming. 6. Where cirrus clouds are moving rapidly from the north or north-east, there will be rain in a day or two. 7. When cirrus clouds are moving rapidly from the south or south-east there will be a cold rain storm on the morrow, if it be summer, and if it be winter there will be a snow storm. 8. The wind always blows in a circle around a storm, and when it blows from the north the heaviest rain is east of you; if it blows from the south, the heaviest rain is west of you; if it blows from the east the heaviest rain is south; if it blows from the west, the heaviest rain is north of you. The wind never blows unless snow is falling within 1,000 miles of you. 10. Whenever heavy white frost occurs, a storm is forming within 1,000 miles north or north-west of you.

HOW TO OIL HARNESS.—Take the harness apart, wherever it can be unhooked; give each strap a good wash, use lukewarm water with a little washing soda in it. Scrub well with a scrubbing brush, and be sure that you get all the grease and dirt off. Work well in the hands until soft and pliant, for it is no use to apply oil on dry, horny leather—it will never become soft. After this has been done, hang it in a room where they will not dry too rapidly, until about three-parts dry. Then apply plentifully on both sides pure cod oil, as this has more body and lasting quality than any other grease for leather tanned with bark. Besides, if you use neatfoot oil, rats and mice will eat your harness, while that greased with cod oil they will not touch. After giving a good coat of this oil, hang up until dry. Then I would go over them again with the oil, giving them but a light coat of it this time. After that dries in, wipe off with a dry, coarse cloth. For common work-harness nothing more is needed, but for carriage-harness go over with a sponge and castile soap, and wipe with a dry chamois skin, and you may depend upon it there will be no black to rub off on your hands.

Prof. Long says that in one year Great Britain imports 257,000,000 pounds of butter, requiring upon the ordinary estimate 773,000,000 gallons of milk to make it. This milk in its turn would require for its production 1,717,000 cows.

HOW TO BUY A HORSE.—An old horseman says: "If you want to buy a horse, don't believe your own brother. Take no man's word for it. Your eye is your market. Don't buy a horse in harness. Unhitch him and take everything off but his halter, and lead him around. If he has a corn, or is stiff, or has any other failing, you can see it. Let him go by himself a ways, and if he steps right into anything, you know that he is blind. Kick him, too. Some horses show their weakness or tricks in that way when they don't in any other. But, be as smart as you can, you'll get caught sometimes. Even an expert gets stuck. A horse may look ever so nice and go a great piece, and yet have fits. There isn't a man who could tell it until something happens. Or he may have a weak back. Give him the whip and off he goes for a mile or two, then all of a sudden he stops on the road. After a rest he starts again, but he soon stops for good, and nothing but a derrick can move him.

The weak points of a horse can be better discovered while standing than by moving. If he is sound he will stand firmly and squarely on his limbs without moving them, feet flatly upon the ground, with legs plump and naturally poised; if the foot is lifted from the ground and the weight taken from it, disease may be suspected, or at least tenderness, which is a precursor of disease. If the horse stands with his feet spread apart, or straddles with his hind legs, there is a weakness in the loins, and the kidneys are disordered. Heavy pulling bends the knees. Bluish, milky-cut eyes in horses indicate moon-blindness or something else. A bad tempered one keeps his ears thrown back; a kicking horse is apt to have scarred legs; a stumbling horse has blemished knees. When the skin is rough and harsh, and does not move easily to the touch, the horse is a heavy eater, and digestion is bad. Never buy a horse whose breathing organs are at all impaired. Place your ear at the heart, and if a wheezing sound is heard it is an indication of trouble."

SALTING BUTTER.—If fresh made butter be drained to some extent, and salt added in this wet condition we get perfect salting; for the moisture in the butter will saturate the salt and dissolve it, so that each little globule will be encased in this salt saturation, and when the butter is worked over, the surplus moisture will be pressed out, leaving the dissolved salt evenly distributed throughout the mass. Any more salt than can be dissolved in butter remains in the butter as salt crystals, and does not aid in preserving it. The film of dissolved salt about each globule seals it, so to speak, from the air, and holds its color fast for the time. The addition of more salt than this is to cater to the taste for a salt flavor acquired by habit. As soon as one becomes accustomed to the salt solution salting, about half an ounce to the pound, he discovers that the butter flavor, and the sharper salt flavor in the butter, are not in degree, but of kind, and so prefers the former. Butter,

like buckwheat cakes, should be eaten when young. The practice of making butter and keeping it for months in hopes of a "rise" is wrong. Butter never is as perfect as it is the first week; and, if possible, the production of butter should be so equalized that the consumption should keep pace with the production, and do away with the summer over-supply that loads down the market, brings low prices, and consigns thousands of tons of good butter—in its day—to the grease rendering factories.

WATERING HORSES.—A traveller in Norway says that the horses in that country have a very sensible way of taking their food, which perhaps might be beneficially followed here. They have a bucket of water put down beside their allowance of hay. It is interesting to see with what relish they take a sip of the one and a mouthful of the other alternately, sometimes only moistening their mouths, as a rational being would do while eating a dinner of such dry food. A broken winded horse is scarcely ever seen in Norway, and the question is if the mode of feeding has not something to do with the preservation of the animal's respiratory organs.—*Scientific American.*

TRAINING A SHEEP DOG.—Tell the boy who wants to train his three-months-old shepherd pup not to be in any hurry for another three months. The first lesson should be to make the pup understand that the owner alone is his master, and not allow him to run with other parties on the farm, unless he wishes him to become frivolous and good for nothing. The next lesson should be to teach the pup to follow close at his master's heels when going to any place, and not allow him to do anything on his own account without being instructed. If there are no sheep on the farm, a flock of ducks is the next best thing; make an effort to drive the ducks somewhere, and if the pup is a pure bred sheep dog he will of his own accord wish to run round them. The boy should use few words, but to the point; the pup will soon understand them. Many shepherds work their dogs by signs; as the dog gets older and wiser he will understand what you want him to do with the fowls. It is better not to try him on cattle till he is over twelve months old.

Practice on the farm the Darwinian law of "the survival of the fittest." Kill off the scrubs and substitute thoroughbreds; burn up the old horse-killing, soul-destroying implements and substitute something modern and effective. Stop raising trash which debilitates the mind, and displace it with something strengthening. Then may your days be long in the land and full of joy.

OUR COSY CORNER.

JULIEN SOUP.—Cut in long, thin, match like strips two spring carrots, a young turnip, three small onions, and put them in a saucepan, with two tablespoons of butter, and a pinch of sugar. Stir over the fire till all are a nice brown, then add a quart of clean, well-flavored stock, and let the whole simmer gently for one hour. Before serving, add a blanched head of lettuce, cut in thin shreds.

CREAM PUFFS.—One and a half cups of flour, half pint water, five eggs, one cup of butter. Boil the water and butter together, pour in the flour and stir smooth; cool a little, then add the eggs well beaten; bake half an hour to a light brown. This quantity makes about twenty-four puffs. For the filling you require one and a half pints of milk, two eggs, a little gelatine or corn starch to make it stiffer; flavor with a little vanilla.

CORN MEAL WAFFLES.—One cup of corn meal, one of flour and one heaping teaspoonful of baking powder sifted together; add two teaspoonfuls of sugar and one of salt, the beaten yolks of three eggs, and one and a quarter cups of milk, then the beaten whites, and lastly, a tablespoonful of melted butter. Bake in waffle irons.

IVORY SOAP.—Four pounds of clean grease, one pound of Gabbett's potash, four ounces of borax, and two ounces of dry ammonia. Dissolve the potash in three quarts of hot water, then add to it the borax and ammonia. Warm the grease and add it to the hot mixture. Let the whole boil for five minutes. Set off in a cool place, and stir for half an hour. Cool in a square box or pan.

When your bright colored parasol looks a little faded, cover it with lace—black or white. Any young girl handy with needle and scissors can do it. Add some bows of bright ribbon to the top and handle. Wide lace flouncing is excellent for this purpose.

Secr-sucker makes the prettiest material for little folks' clothes. Dresses and petticoats, trousers and coats for the little brothers are made of it. It washes well, and requires no ironing. A good shaking before drying is sufficient. It comes in all colors, and at very low prices.

Some of the daintiest tea-cloths are of fine linen. The edges are hem-stitched, and a border of wild roses worked all around in white cotton thread. As great care is given to the workmanship, they are quite prominent, although the cotton is the exact shade of the linen.

ADVICE TO MOTHERS.—Are you disturbed at night and broken of your rest by a sick child suffering and crying with pain of cutting teeth? If so, send at once and get a bottle of "Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup," for Children Teething. Its value is incalculable. It will relieve the poor little sufferer immediately. Depend upon it, mother; there is no mistake about it. It cures Dysentery and Diarrhea, regulates the Stomach and Bowels, cures Wind Colic, softens the Gums, reduces Inflammation, and gives tone and energy to the whole system. "Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup" for children teething is pleasant to the taste, and is the prescription of one of the oldest and best female physicians and nurses in the United States, and is for sale by all druggists throughout the world. Price, 25 cents a bottle.