

THISTLES AND PEAS FOR SWINE.—*Mr. Editor*—Last August while passing through the eastern part of this state, I observed a field in which were growing peas and Canada thistles, in about equal proportions. A man had been mowing and was carrying out some of them. I inquired what he did with them, to which he replied, that he had for several weeks fed six swine on them and he never had hogs do better. He said in the spring the piece of ground was so entirely covered with thistles that he gave up all hopes of getting a crop from it, and concluded to turn it out for a hog-pasture; but seeing it recommended in the Farmer to sow peas for hogs, he concluded to try the experiment with this field. He procured the small early peas and sowed them upon the furrow and harrowed them once over.—The thistles grew luxuriantly and answered a much better purpose than oats or barley to support the vines. As soon as the peas begun to get full he began to mow them and feed them to his hogs, considering this better economy than to turn the hogs into them; for they were every day growing and becoming better. He says the hogs eat the thistles with greater avidity than they do the pea vines, and he thinks they are equally nutritious. This is certainly a useful way of managing a thistle patch, inasmuch as you not only turn them to use and profit, but get them entirely out of the way before the seed ripens so as to produce a new crop the next year.—*Farmers Monthly Visitor*.

The Litter of a horse should be frequently removed, for when it gets moistened with urine, putrefaction takes place rapidly, and the vapours of ammonia, or hartshorn are disengaged, which are apt to injure the eyes and the lungs of the animal. No heap of fermenting dung should be left in the stable during the day. The stall should slant gently, so as to allow the urine to flow from it; care however should be taken to prevent a slant sufficient to cause an uneasy posture with the horse, as this constant strain on the back sinews has been the unsuspected cause of lameness. This position upon too great a slant has caused contraction of the heel, by throwing to much and constant weight upon the toe. Gratings and traps leading the urine into reservoirs have been made for horses by those who are very cautious in this matter. It is well to keep a little litter under the feet during the day: the prejudice against this upon the principle that it heats the hoof is incorrect—there should be just sufficient to take off the hardness of the stall. The horse derives comfort from such a practice, and the farmer derives gain, as this litter, moistened with urine is so much added to the compost heap. Straw forms the best litter, as it does not ferment so soon as other substances which are occasionally used. Litter should never be allowed to accumulate under the horse—this is sometimes done, and the animal lays upon a wet fermenting mass, endangering his health.

NEW MODE OF PLANTING APPLE TREES.—A horticulturist in Bohemia has a beautiful plantation of the best apple trees, which have neither sprung from seeds or grafting. His plan is to take shoots from the choicest sorts, insert them in a potato, and plunge both into the ground, having put an inch or two of the shoot above the surface. The potato nourishes the shoot whilst it pushes out roots, and the shoot gradually springs up, and becomes a beautiful tree, bearing the best fruit, without requiring to be grafted.—*Canada Newspaper*.

ADVANTAGES OF TOTAL ABSTINENCE to him whose farm is conducted upon strict Temperance principles.

1. The men do their work in a satisfactory manner, and at a small expense of tools.
2. He can, with much greater ease, have a place for every thing, and every thing in its place.
3. When a stone has fallen from the wall, it is laid up, as the men are passing by, without his mentioning it. The gates are locked, and the bars put up; so that the cattle do not get in and destroy the crops.
4. His summer work is done in such season, that earth, loam, &c. are carted into the yard in the fall. The consequence is when carried out, they are richer, and render the farm more productive.
5. His barns, in winter, are kept clean, and less fodder is wasted. The cattle and horses are daily curried, and appear in good order.
6. When his men go into the forests, instead of cutting down the nearest, thriftiest and largest trees, they cut those that are decayed, crooked, and not likely to grow any better; pick up those that are blown down, and thus leave the forests in a better state.
7. The men are uniform, still, and peaceable; are less troublesome in the house, and more contented with their manner of living.
8. On the Sabbath, instead of wishing to stay at home; or spend the day in roving about the fields, rivers, and forests, they choose stately and punctually to attend public worship.

CEMENT FOR GRAFTING.—Two pounds and two ounces of rosin, six ounces of tallow, and ten ounces of beeswax. Melt them together, and turn the mixture into cold water, and let it remain till cold enough to handle; then work it as shoemaker's wax. We have used cement thus made and found that it remained on the stock for years. It is not so soft as to turn it in hot weather, nor so hard as to crack in cold weather. All of the ingredients for making cement must be of a good quality.

GRAFTING.—We think better of late grafting than early. We have known grafts set as late as blossoming time of the apple tree and succeed to a charm. Cherry trees must be grafted early or the scions will be likely to perish. Many prefer March for this purpose.

Apple trees are not in full bloom here, in general, before the middle of May. Probably the last of April or the fore part of May will be found as good a time as any for setting scions in the apple and pear tree.

We prefer clay mortar, with a little manure and hair in it, to any wax that has ever been used. The wax in common use is poisonous to the limb when it is put on in any considerable quantity.—*American Paper*.

POTATOES.—Ought Potatoes to be cut or planted whole? [By A. C. Hornecastle.] I am in the habit of planting five or six acres of potatoes yearly, and for the last two years I have planted the greater part with whole potatoes, and find they produce as good crops as with cut seeds, from this great advantage—I have scarcely a potato miss growing, whereas in cut seeds I have often had a great loss from dry rot. When taking up the general crop, I pick up my seed potatoes of a uniform size, each weighing about one and a half ounce. I plant them in rows two feet apart, and one foot in the row, and have exceeding good crops.—*English Periodical*.