

USEFUL RECIPES.

Antidote for Poison.—Two tea spoonfuls of mustard mixed in warm water, should be immediately administered to the patient. It acts as an instantaneous emetic. (The mustard should probably be ground.)—*N. E. Farmer.*

To Revive Gilt Frames.—Beat up three ounces of the whites of eggs, with one ounce of chloride of potash, or soda, and rub over the frame with a soft brush in this mixture. The gilding will immediately become bright and fresh. So it is said.

Oil Paint can be removed by rubbing it with very pure spirits of turpentine. The impure spirit leaves a greasy spot. Wax can be removed by scraping it off, and then holding a red hot poker near the spot. Spermaceti can be removed by scraping it off, then putting a paper over the spot and applying a warm iron. If this does not answer rub on spirits of wine.

Stains on Varnished Articles which are caused by hot water, may be removed by rubbing them with lamp oil and then with alcohol. Ink stains can be taken out of mahogany, by one tea spoonful of oil of vitrol mixed with one table spoonful of water, or by oxalic acid and water. These must be brushed off quickly, and then washed with milk.

Silk Handkerchiefs and Ribbons can be cleansed by using French chalk to take out the grease, and then sponging them, on both sides with luke warm fair water. Stiffen them with gum Arabic and press them between white paper, with an iron not very hot. A table spoonful of spirits of wine to three quarts of water improves it.

DYES.

Pink Dyes.—Buy a saucer of Carmine at the apothecary's. With it you will find directions for its use. It is cheap, easy to use and beautiful. Bala blossoms and Bergamot blossoms, with a little cream of tartar in the water, make a pritty pink.

Red Dye.—Take half a pound of wheat bran, three ounces of powdered alum, and two gallons of soft water. Boil these in a brass vessel and add an ounce of cream of tartar, and an ounce of cochineal, tied up together in a bag. Boil the mixture for fifteen minutes, then strain it, and dip the articles. Brazil wood set with alum makes another red dye.

Yellow Dye.—Fustic, tumeric powder, saffron, barberry bush, peach leaves, or marigold flowers, make a yellow dye. Set the dye with alum, putting a piece of a size of a hazlenut with each quart of water.

Light Blue Dye, for silks or woollens, is made with the "blue composition," to be procured of the hat makers; fifteen drops to a quart of water. Articles dipped in this must be thoroughly rinsed. For dark blue, boil four ounces of copperas in two gallons of water. Dip the articles in this, and then in a strong decoction of logwood bined and strained. Then wash them thoroughly in soap suds.

Green Dye.—First colour the articles yellow; and then, if silk or woolen, dip in blue composition. Instead of ironing, rub with flannel while drying.

Salmon Colour, is made by boiling annatto in soap suds.

Buff Colour, is made by putting one tea cup full of potash, tied in a bag, in two gallons of hot (not boiling) water and adding an ounce of annatto, also in a bag, keeping it

in for half an hour. First, wet the article in strong potash water. Dry and then rinse in soap suds. Birch bark and alum also makes a buff. Black alder, set with lye makes an orange colour.

Dove and Slate Colours, of all shades are made by boiling, in an iron vessel, a tea cup full of black tea, with a spoonful of copperas. Dilute this until you get the shade wanted. Purple sugar paper biled and set with alum, makes a similar Colour. So does black birch bark.

Brown Dye.—Boil half a pound of lamwood (in a bag) in two gallons of water for fifteen minutes, wet the articles and boil them for a few minutes in the dye. White walnut bark, the bark of sour sumach or of white maple, set with alum make a brown colour.

Olive Colour.—Boil fustic and yellow oak bark together. The more fustic, the brighter the colour, the more oak bark the darker the shade. Set the light shade with a few drops of oil vitrol and the dark shade with copperas.

Black Dye.—Let one pound of chopped logwood remain all night in one gallon of vinegar. Then boil them, and put in a piece of copperas as large as a hen's egg. Wet the articles in warm water and put them in the dye, boiling and stirring them for fifteen minutes. Dry them again, wet them in warm water and dip them again. Repeat the process until they are black enough.

To the Editor of The British American Cultivator.

SIR—The enclosed announcement has been handed to me, and has afforded me much gratification. I have long held the same opinions as are there expressed, and am so desirous that the proposed plan should be carried into effect, that I shall, (and I think, the whole Agricultural interest will likewise) be obliged by your early insertion of this, in order that those of my brother farmers who think as I do, may have an opportunity of forwarding so desirable an object.

I am, sir, your obedient servant,
AN OLD FARMER.
Home District, May 26th, 1843.

FIRE INSURANCE.

THE subject of Fire Insurance has hitherto met with but little attention on the part of the Agricultural population of this Province. Until these (comparatively) few years, the scanty produce of the scattered clearances, with their humble log houses and barns, were not of sufficient value to induce any portion of the narrow income arising therefrom, to be applied to any object beyond the immediate wants of the Settler, how important soever that object might be. But now the case is widely different. Respectable, well furnished houses with their spacious farm offices meet the eye in every direction, the produce of thousands of well cultivated acres is annually stored, and, from the measures proposed by the Legislature with regard to the importation of grain, an encouragement is offered to increased exertion in the prospect of our becoming, in some degree, the Granary of Britain.

Under these circumstances, it now becomes with every one, not only a matter of prudence, but one of duty, to look to the consequences of conflagration and to secure

his property from loss by accidents from which no one can effectually guard, how careful soever he or his family may be; the merest spark, the smallest particle of ashes apparently extinct, may, in one instant plunge a family from a state of affluence and comfort into the depths of destitution and misery.

There still exists another cause of Fire Insurance not being more extensively adopted than it is, namely, the high rate of premium which is unavoidably charged by the present Insurance Offices. By insuring property both in *Town and Country*, much greater risk is incurred than if their operations were confined to country situations alone; consequently, to cover the chance of loss, a high premium on each, is absolutely necessary. In consequence of the near proximity of the houses in Towns, when a fire takes place, it is scarcely ever confined to the premises where it commenced, but spreads its ravages around, often to a great extent. Not so in the country; a fire occurring there, cannot reach beyond the scene of its attack.

It has therefore been proposed to establish a Company in this City, upon Shares of Ten Pounds each, for the purpose of *Insuring Country Houses, Offices, and Stock alone*; confining its operations to buildings at a certain distance (to be fixed upon) from any other unconnected with those insured.—Upon this system, Insurances can be effected at a very trifling annual charge. It is conjectured that a premium of 10s. or 15s. only, according to circumstances, for every hundred pounds, will be sufficient, and that few persons will be found willing to run the risk of loss, when for so small a sum security can be obtained.

In order that this Establishment should be based on a sure and substantial foundation, it is desirable, before proceeding further, to ascertain as far as possible, how it is likely to be supported both as regards Shareholders and Insurers: it will be esteemed a favour therefore, if you will have the goodness to make this communication as public as possible, and transmit, at your earliest convenience, such opinions and intelligence upon the subject as you may be able to collect, to Mr. SAVIGNY, care of Messrs. Strachan and Cameron, Solicitors, Toronto.

Toronto, May, 1843.

TIME OF APPLYING MANURES.—Manure produced the greatest effect spread on grass land in the spring, as soon as the field appeared green.

When spread on either grass or plough land in the fall, and ploughed in, there was a loss of more than three fourths.

When spread on grass land, directly after the hay was taken off, in a very dry season, there was a loss, one half.

When spread on grass land at the same time, in a wet season, there was but little loss.

These experiments were made on a dry gravelly soil.—*Colonial Farmer.*

When the wash of the kitchen is thrown upon rotten chips or sawdust it makes an excellent manure for many purposes, but should not be used for potatoes, as it always contains a great number of the small hair-like worm, which by eating the skin from the potatoes makes them what is called "scabby." A mixture of decayed tanners bark has had the same bad effect upon potatoes.—*Id.*

In old gardens which abound with wire worms, sow beets as early as possible. If they are sowed late the wire worms will cut them to pieces after they have sprouted, and before they have reached the ground.—*Id.*