

Farm and Garden.

How Garden Mold is Formed.

Everybody knows the name of Charles Darwin. One class of people praise him as the discoverer of great laws in the world of science; by another class his name is held as synonymous with all that is atheistic and irreligious.

The theories that are summed up by the word "Darwinism" has been the subject of praise and censure in about equal proportions. But there is one thing about him that is recognized even by those who most strongly denounce his views, and that is his patient and unvarying industry.

THE ACTION OF WORMS. and is the result of near fifty years' observation. In 1837 he first presented a paper on vegetable mold to the Geological Society of London, and ever since he has kept up his investigations into the life and movements and habits of those little duck worms that the boys find so useful for fishing purposes.

THE LUMBER'S VIEW. is the name of the best known genus of worms, with a large number of species, only some of which, however, are engaged in the work of forming mold. They are found wherever there is moist earth containing vegetable matter.

THEIR DIGESTIVE CAPABILITIES. They are omnivorous, and swallow everything. They are continually swallowing earth to extract any nutritive matter it may contain, and the residue of the swallowed and "digested" earth is ejected in the form of what is called "castings."

THE AMOUNT OF EARTH. brought up in this way has been estimated by observing the rate of which stones and other scattered objects have been buried. A piece of waste, swampy land, drained and plowed then covered with burned manure and cinders, had, in twenty-one years, a covering of vegetable mold four inches thick, on top of which was a soil of an inch and a-half in thickness.

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portant a part in the history of the world as these lowly-organized creature. To sum up.

THE EARTH-WORM'S WORK. by triturating the earth, by subjecting its minerals to the action of acids, and by periodically exposure to mold to the air, they prepare the ground for the growth of fibrous rooted plants and seedlings.

ENTRANCE EXAMINATION.—The following is the list of the successful candidates at the late entrance examination held here, with the school in which each attended, and the number of marks taken.

Table with columns: NAME, SCHOOL, NO. MARKS. Includes names like Wm. Ball, Clinton, Geo. Bean, C. H. B. Wiers, John Coll, Alex. Galbraith, Wingham, Wm. Gauley, Clinton, Wesley Hamilton, Clinton, Geo. Hart, No. 14, Stanley, Alden Jones, No. 14, Stanley, Robt. McConnell, Wingham, Wm. McDonagh, Clinton, Wm. McTaggart, No. 284, Geo. Mosgrove, Bluevale, Wm. Short, Wingham, Lewis Thompson, Wingham, Samuel L. Taylor, Clinton, Edith Combe, Clinton, Filina Floody, No. 7, Hullett, Bella Scott, No. 7, Hullett, Mary Hessian, Clinton, Recommended—Isa Hamilton, Clinton, 229; Robt. Richardson, No. 3, Turnberry, 298.

A Toronto Girl at Whose Birth Her Majesty was Present.

In the year 1860 Her Majesty Queen Victoria paid a visit to such of her military forces as were then quartered in the great camp at Aldershot, England. She was present at the grand review, made a thorough inspection of the soldiers' huts, tasted the food of the rank and file as it was prepared for dinner, and, finally, visited the women's hospital, erected specially for the accommodation of soldiers' wives.

While passing through one of the wards, the nurse in charge informed Her Majesty that one of the patients was then momentarily expecting to be confined. The Queen desired that if the child was born before she left the building she should be informed of the fact. Five minutes later the expected information was brought. Her Majesty then enquired what regiment the woman's husband belonged to, and was told the 1st battalion of the 6th. Desiring to know the woman's name, she learned that it was Mrs. Stinson. The Queen then requested that the child should be named Victoria, and upon leaving the hospital sent down a box of clothing for the infant, a christening cap and dress being among the articles contained therein. The box was brought to the hospital by General Pennefather. Her Majesty also lodged five pounds in the bank to the credit of the child, with instructions that it was to remain therein, with interest accruing, until Victoria Stinson was twenty-one years of age. Two years later the regiment came to Canada, and in course of time Stinson, leaving the army, settled in Toronto with his wife and family. In this city he remained for many years, but finally removed to Clinton, where he died a short time ago. His widow re-married, remaining in Clinton. A few days ago the daughter, Victoria Stinson, attained the age of twenty-one years, and, with her mother, visited Toronto for the purpose of learning how the money awaiting her order could be obtained. The amount will now reach about twelve pounds.

While the subject of knighthood is up for discussion, it is worth recalling the fact that on one occasion an English king knighted a surloin of beef. It is claimed that this is the way the portion formerly called "surloin" came to be called "sirloin." It was at an entertainment given to James I., at Houghton Tower, near Blackburn, Lancashire. The king being in a fit of good humor, or as somebody else phrased it, in one of his merry moods, whilst he sat at meat, casting his eyes upon a noble sirloin at the end of the table, cried out, "tis worthy of a more honorable part, being, as I may say, not surloin but sirloin, the noblest joint of all." It is recorded that the royal beef-eater thereupon drew out his sword and knighted it, and the historian says that his ridiculous and capricious pun at once raised the wisdom and reputation of England's Solomon to the highest.

The Mail, as the organ of the lords and dukes of Canada, savagely attacks Mr. Edward Blake for respectfully declining to be put on the same level with a round of beef. It accuses him of insulting the Queen, the Queen being the fountain of honor from which these titles flow. Of course nobody in his senses imagines for a moment that Mr. Blake insulted the gauzy honor of knighthood. To make such a statement shows the Mail to be either grossly ignorant of history or wilfully mendacious. Pitt, who was for twenty years the single hope and pilot of his country, declined the honor of a title, as Mr. Gladstone, the greatest living Englishman, declines it to this day. Are we to suppose that the Prime Ministers of England insulted the Queen when they declined to have showy handles prefixed to their names? The thing is absurd.

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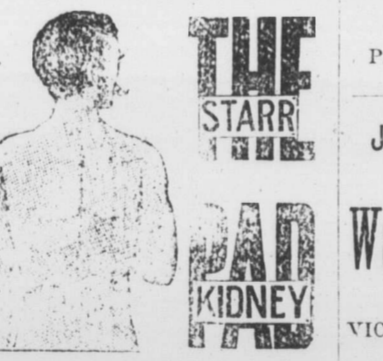
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