Oh the Farm.

SPRING MANURING.

One of the old time practices in farming is the fall application of manures, being confined almost wholly to winter wheat. This is still a good plan so far as it goes though not economical, but spring applications are coming rapidly in favor, especially for clean cultivation crops. Coarse manure with clean cultivation, frequent tillage, rapidly becomes available as plant food. It no longer pays to use manures merely to enrich the soit, but it does pay to use them to grow immediate crops. Manure which stays in the soil two or three years before besoming fully available as plant food, is worth much less than the same amount in a quickly available form.

Spring manuring has its disadvantages, notwithstanding. In all farmyard manures the ammonia is first to become available, and unless potash and phosphates have been used freely previously, there is much risk that the ready supply of ammonia will encourage a rank growth of leaf at the expense of the stalk and grain. Another point is that with many crops a rank growth of foliage at the expense of other parts of the plant is not practicable; in this case the free ammonia is simply lost, it goes to waste. Farmers should constantly bear in mind that all manures or tertilizers, which

that all manures or tertilizers, which are the same thing, are merely just so much ammonia, potash and phosphates; not any one, nor any two, but all three taken together.

With clean cultivation crops such as corn, potatoes, etc., where farmyard manure is used potash and phosphates should always be applied at the same time, or even earlier in the spring, They will not waste except on very rolling ground where any form of manure would wash away. From 100 to 200 pounds of muriate of potash and from 200 to 400 pounds of acid phosphate should be used per acre, broadcasted or used is the drill as may suit individual preference. The object is to have the mineral fertilizer there ready for the ammonia as fast as the latter becomes available as plant food. Much time and trouble is given to securing catches of clovers or other legumes, marely for the nitrogen fertilizer stored up by such plants. A somewhat wiser plan is to take good care of the ammonia we already have on hand. To supply a soi, with ammonia without at the same time ensuring the potash and phosphates to go with it is to invite the loss of the ammonia. It is wiser to be on the safe side, especially as there is very little danger of loss through drainage.

APPLE TREE WOOD IS VALUABLE.

We never advise cutting down a healthy apple tree, even though it be long unproductive. So long as it is sound in the trunk it may be made to produce profitable crops. But there

for the stove when the branches are too large to cut rapidly. Even the twigs have their value. They make the very best of kindlings when dried, and if they are somewhat crooked they are all the better, because they will not pack closely together as the straight sticks are pretty sure to do. An old story is told of a farmer who once boasted among his companions what a good, patient wife he had. She never complained of anything he did. One of them suggested that the next time he drew up wood for the house, he should make a load of the crookedest sticks he could find. He did so, and as he drew up the load to the house his wife came out smiling to meet him, "Mary, how do you like this load of wood?" was the inquiry, while the farmer's companions stood by expecting a storm of abuse. Instead the reply was given in the sweetest tones, "Oh, John! that is capital wood. We always used it at home when I was a girl, and mother used to say that the rounded pieces made the hottest fire because they fitted so nicely around the kettles."

HEAVY OATS BEST FOR SEED.

HEAVY OATS BEST FOR SEED.

fall off in weight per bushel or "run pod. out," as farmers say, is probably owing to the hot, dry weather, which which almost equals this. It ewas a usually comes about the time the oat wedding gift from India, and is so fine erop is filling and ripening. That can- and light that the whole dress can be not be helped, as climatic changes are placed in small fan box. On this nine beyond human control. But the evil persons worked during ten years. Th may be lessened by sowing only the Queen's collection of laces is worth may be lessened by sowing only the eaviest oats, and sowing these early in the spring on fall-plowed ground. Then they will probably ripen before the hottest and dryest weather comes. We knew one old farmer who always attributed the decline in weight of oats to threshing by machines instead of by hand. The threshing machine takes out hand. The threshing machine takes out are flailed out many of the light oats do not fall out of their hull. They are do not fall out of their hull. They are

probably worth more to make the oat straw better than to go with the larger, heavier oats. This farmer used to beat out oats so as to get not more than one-half of these. There would be no light oats in them. He found that with these heavy oats two bushels of seeds was sufficient. So it may be if the oats are sown early, for then the oats will start and send up many shoots from a single seed. But if the shoots from a single seed. But if the seeding is delayed so that the oats can not stool much, we should advise sowthe usual amount, which is about see bushels per acre.

CURIOUS HOBBY.

Thirty Years of a Russian's Life Spent in

An English paper tells of the hobby of Count Ricco Dianwitch, a Russian nobleman, for spending time in vari ous prisons in order to learn the methods in vogue at the institutions. It is claimed that he has spent more than 30 years in jails all over the world, to which he has himself volunteered for the purpose of learning, for some reason not quite clear, the different systems of the world.

For the furtherance of his extraordinary object he has made it his practice to visit different countries, and while there, commit such offenses as

INVOLVE HIS IMPRISONMENT. For sufficient time to enable him to pursue his investigations at the prisons which he most desires to visit. this manner he has found his way into most of the prisons of Russia, Germany, Poland, France, Spain and Belgium, which are open to criminals sentenced to short periods of imprisonment. He has also been incarcerated in some English prisons, and in Ireland, America, Australia, Italy, Egypt, China and Japan, so that he may well be considered as quite an expert jail bird, and few persons will envy him his selfimposed investigations, especially since he has been in some of the vilest prisons in existence. Horrible, indeed, were some of his experiences in China, Austria and Poland, particularly the former, and we venture to predict that his biography would form intensely interesting, as well as instructive reading.

teresting, as well as instructive reading.

There are some four or five men in the employ of the Russian Secret Police, whose duty it is to spend ten months of each year in just such a manner as that adopted by Count Ricco, except that they are only required to suffer imprisonment in the prisons of Russia and Poland. All these are gentlemen of undoubted integrity; it is demanded by the work they have to do that they should be absolutely incorruptible, for their duty in mixing with the criminal classes in prison and getting at their secrets, which, it is believed, enables the Chief of Secret Police to keep better in touch with the plots and schemes of the evily-intended criminals than any other plan will do.

Probably not one person in 5,000 is ware that our own Home Office em-

PROFESSIONAL JAIL BIRDS

sound in the trunk it may be made to produce profitable crops. But there are many old trees too far gone to be worth saving, and thousands such are sut up and burned for firewood every winter. Apple tree wood is worth too much to be put to such uses, though apple wood makes a hot fire and an ash rich in potash. It is a very tough wood, and even when full of knots its value for manufacturing purposes is rather enhanced than lessened. The factories will drive as hard a bargain with the farmer as they can, but sound apple wood cut in suitable shapes is worth many times its value as firewood and the farmers who have such wood should know the fact.

SAVING BRUSH FOR KINDLING.

In pruning orchards the branches cut out are often piled in heaps and when dried are burned, often injuring the trees in their vicinity. There is a much better way than this. Apple, pear or peach wood makes, when dried, a very hot fire, and should be saved for the stove when the branches are too large to cut rapidly. Even the twigs have their value. They make the very best of kindlings when dried, and the farmer should be saved for the stove when the branches are too large to cut rapidly. Even the twigs have their value. They make the very best of kindlings when dried, and the farmer should be saved for the stove when the branches are too large to cut rapidly. Even the twigs have their value. They make the very best of kindlings when dried, and the farmer should be saved for the stove when the branches are too large to cut rapidly. Even the wery best of kindlings when dried, and the farmer should be saved for the stove when the branches are too large to cut rapidly. Even the twigs have their value. They make the very best of kindlings when dried, and the farmer should be saved for the stove when the branches are too large to cut rapidly. Even the twigs have their value. They make the very best of kindlings when dried, and it was a store that the prison lagain. But such is the top in the object with which they are sent the tot, if possible, any

in a tiny jewel case of gold in the form The fact that oats in our climate and just the size of an ordinary bean

The Queen of England owns a dress

Tit-Bits.

WASTED.

Miss Topnot-Isn't it too bad about his book?
Miss Panhandle—Why, what is the Miss Topnot—Why, I didn't discover until I had finished it that I had read it before.

HE MIGHT HAVE KNOWN. Cholly, the idiot, told Ethel that to loved her so he wished there were wo of her.

I think that rather bright.
So did Cholly, but now she is je of the imaginary other.

SHADES OF MEANING.

The Growler—Confound these news-apers! Why can't they say a man was aralyzed instead of stricken with papers! Why can't they say a man was paralyzed instead of stricken with paralysis?

The Bibber—Because the meaning is

HIS ACKNOWLEDGMENT. You admit, said the Judge, severely that you married these two women? I did, said the unabashed bigamist. They are my better two-thirds.

HOW TO TELL IT. Have you ever read the article on ow to tell a bad egg? how to tell a bad egg?
No, I haven't; but my advice would
be, if you have anything important to
tell a bad egg, why break it gently.

AN UNGALLANT REPLY. She—Did you know that I am an actress now?
Why, no. All I heard was that you had gone on the stage.

A SUCKER

I went a-fishing with Dorothy, One May day, sweet and fair, I caught naught, but she caught me In the meshes of her hair.

IN THE DARK.

Wife, ominously,-I know where you were last night, sir! were last night, sirl Husband, irritably—Then why don't you tell me? Can't you see I'm in no mood to be kept in suspense?

NOT QUITE SURE.

Do you think bachelors ought to be I'm not quite sure yet, she answered dreamily. Give me another week and maybe I'll be able to land him without any outside help.

Young Hardhead-I don't see why am not invited to parties oftener. I am sure I always behave like a gen-tleman. tleman.
Young Lighthead—That's the trouble. You are so very gentlemanly that the girls think you stupid.

A PLEASANT THOUGHT.

Clara—I tried to console Sadie the loss of her fronttooth. Mand—What did you say? I told her I didn't think it wo make the slightest difference.

These eggs are not so good as the ones you sent last week.

They ought to be, mum. They're out of the same crate.

NO DIFFERENCE.

Yes. You heard him talk, didn't your Oh yas, I heard him.
What an astonishing vocabulary he leady Manual Property has for the

has!
Well, that may be what it is, said
Abner, doubtfully, but from the way
he had held his head I should judge it

ETON'S SWELL STUDENTS.

Finest Homes in England. Eton is without doubt the premier school of England, and to-day there is a small band of eighteen boys wearing Eton jackets who could walk all the way from Brighton to John O'Groat's on their own prospective acres, if sultably arranged, and find one of their own palatial homes awaiting them at the end of every fifteen minutes' walk. They might also receive a title of peerage every ten miles of their journey exhausting their future hon-

be an undiluted blessing, but if its pains can be alleviated by the prospect of coronets, of broad acres and lordly pleasure houses, there are at least thirty Eton boys whose lot is a comparatively happy one. Twenty-four of the pupils at Eton who are imbibing their early course of education are heirs to thirty earldoms, twenty-two viscounties and thirty-three baronies, in addition to other hereditary

These same boys are also destined to inherit forty-eight of the most beautiful houses in England, some of prince-ly magnificence, and almost as many acres as are in three English counties This, however, does not exhaust the glories of Eton schoolboys, for the famous school boasts

THREE ROYAL PRINCES.

one of whom may wear a crown, and there are many untitled boys whose millions would buy up half a dozen earls

The social king of "Young Eton." part from the princes, is the Marquis Conyngham, who was christened rath-

days' good walking. In addition to
this magnificent estate ne will have
title of peerage and one of the highest honors in England. His principal
seat will be Wilton House, Salisbury.
The future Earl of Annesley, now a
boy of fourteen, will be little poorer
in acres than Lord Herbert. His lands
will cover fifty-two thousand acres, or
an estate of a little more than ten
miles long and eight miles wide, while
be will have three titles of peerage
and

Lady Marcus Beresford has for the last fifteen years made quite a business of the breeding and rearing of cats. At Bishopsgate, near Egham, she has what is without doubt the finest cattery—as such establishments are called—in the world. "I have applications from all parts of the world for my cats and kittens," said Lady Marcus, in a chat about her hobby, "and I may tell you that it is largely because of this that I have founded the Cat Club, which has for its object the general welfare of the cat and the improvement of the breed. The presidents of the club are Lily, Duchess of Mariborough, the Duchess of Mariborough, the Duchess of Warriborough, the Duchess of Wellington, and Lord Marcus Beresford. There us a very strong working committee of the club, and the list of members is steadily increasing. I should be very glad to have all who are in some marriage is arranged by parente with little or no regard for the children's feelings or wishes. As a matter of fact, this condition of affairs obtain to a much greater extent in Greece, where such a thing as alove match is practically unknown. The Greek father is particular that the intended hus-audically unknown. The Greek father is particular that the intended hus-audically unknown. The Greek father is particular that the intended hus-audically unknown. The Greek father is particular that the intended hus-audically unknown. The Greek father is particular that the intended hus-audically unknown. The Greek father is particular that the intended hus-audically unknown. The Greek father is particular that the intended hus-audically unknown. The Greek father is particular that the intended hus-audically unknown. The Greek father is particular that the intended hus-audically unknown. The Greek father is particular that the intended hus-audically unknown. The Greek father is particular that the intended hus-audically unknown. The Greek father is particular that the intended hus-audically unknown. The ness of the breeding and rearing of

ton, and Lord Marcus Beresford. There us a very strong working committee of the club, and the list of members is steadily increasing. I should be very glad to have all who are interested write to the hon. secretary of the club, at 55 West Kensington Mansions, London.

"My catteries were established in 1890, and at one time I had as many as 160 cats and kittens. They were a source of great amusement to both my guests and myself, especially if tead was served on the lawn, for the lawn, was made their playground.

"Some of my pets live in a pretty cottage covered with creepers, which might well be called Cat Cottage. No expense has been spared in the fittings of the rooms, and every provision is made for warmth and ventilation. One room is set apart for the girl who takes entire charge of and feeds the pussies. She has a boy works with her and performs the rougher tasks. There is a small kitchen for cooking the meals for the cats, and this is fitted with every requisite. On the walls are racks to hold the white enamelled bowls and plates used for the food. There is a medicine chest, which contains everything that is needful for prompt and efficacious treatment in case pussy becomes sick. On the wall are a list of the names and a full description of all the immates of the cattery, and a set of rules to be observed by both the names and a full description of all the immates of the cattery, and a set of rules to be observed by both the names and a full description of the intelligence of the cattery. It is to the intelligence of the cat to see how carefully pussy can become amenable to discipline, if once given to understand of what that discipline consists.

"The German middle-class girl avow another as are so much like one another as are so many peas, and en majority are put together by her own hands. She knows and gets the full value of every kreutzer she sunsurpsasble. For recreations she can summer evenings

apart from the princes, is the Marquis conyngham, who was christened rather strangely Victoria, and who is a Marquis in his own right. He is also twice an Earl and Baron and a triple Viscount, while five mansions in England and Ireland call him lord. The young Marquis is sixteen years of age, and his seats include Siane Castle, county Meath; The Hall, Mount Charles, county Donegal; The Lodge, Glenties, county Donegal, and Bifrons, near Canterbury.

The future lord of most acres is Lord Herbert, a big boy of eighteen, who will sit in the House of Lords as the fifteenth Earl of Pembroke. His estates will cover no less than twentyfour square miles, or more than a third of the county of Middlesex, and if he were disposed to walk once around them he would have to do two days' good walking. In addition to this magnificent estate he will have title of peerage and one of the highest this magnificent estate he will be Wilton House, Salisbury. The future Earl of Annesley, now a boy of fourteen, will be little poorer in acres than Lord Herbert. His lands will cover fifty-two thousand acres, or an estate of a little more than ten the would have to do two days' good walking. In addition to the magnificent estate he will have title of peerage and one of the highest title of the county of the male cats are most complete, for the male cats are most complete, f

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There is a general but mistaken belief that France is the only country where marriage is arranged by parents

general knowledge of which it is governed.

A recent article in a French magazine upon famous diplomats and their wives relates a suggestive little ancedete of relates a suggestive little ancedete of how Prince Clemens Metternich, when Austrian chancellor of state, slipped out of a difficulty that threatened to be quite a formidable one. His wife the erratic Princess Melaine, had grievously offended the French ambassador, the Count de Flahault, by the abruptness and discourtesy with which, in one of her moods of whimsical ill temper, she had chosen to treat him. Her tongue was notably sharp, and some of her remarks stung so deeply that the aggrieved official went formally to her husband to complain of her, asserting that he could not, in his quality of ambassador, submit to such insulting treatment. Prince Metternich was not at all disconcerted. With a generally apologetic shrug, but in a tone of voice expressive of the most gallant devotion to his consort, he exclaimed: "What would have, my dear count? I met the princess; I loved her; I have married her; but it was not I who brought her up." how Prince Clemens Metternich, when The latest court gossip insinuates

These eggs are not on good as the construction of the construction

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and p all Sk earth. teed. Die (F Her D