



A PEACH TROUBLE.

"Little Peach" is its name—it appears to be similar to "Yellow." Some concern has been manifested by peach growers of late on account of the disease called "little peach," which has been reported from a number of orchards in Michigan. Some growers also call it "rosette" and others "a form of yellow."

The horticulturist of the Michigan station, treating of this trouble in a recent bulletin, states that the trees have, in general, an unhealthy appearance. The new growths are short and spindling, the leaves are small, yellowish green and inclined to roll, and when about an inch in diameter, the growth of the fruit stops. Instead of being premature as in the case of the yellow, the fruit, if it ripens at all, is much later. It shows no red spots and streaks and seldom reaches one-half its full size.

About midsummer the trees will send out numerous shoots from the main branches. As a rule they are short, but if the trees are young and growing in good soil, they may make a growth of several feet, forming what are commonly called "water sprouts." The bark on the growths two or three years old will be found dry and cracked, the cambium (or new ring of wood) very thin and the older wood dry and discolored beyond the normal. After a year or two, young and vigorous trees seem to recover, but the old and especially the neglected trees gradually succumb to the disease, although they generally live for several years.

The authority mentioned further says: While it is not considered certain that the disease is contagious, such may be the case, and, especially if the trees are old and the wood seems to be badly injured, it will certainly be advisable from an economical standpoint, as well as for safety, so far as the other trees are concerned, to immediately destroy them. In some instances the disease has been observed upon young trees, and even on older ones, where the trouble seemed confined to portions along the middle of the branches, and when cut back below the injured portions new and healthy growths were made. Unless the soil is fertile, it should be enriched with a liberal supply of wood ashes. Stable manure would be desirable to start a new growth, and a small amount may be used to advantage, but an excess should be avoided, as it will produce a soft watery growth that will be injured by the winter.

While some specific disease may be the cause of the trouble, in most cases it has every appearance of the effect of cold upon the unripe wood. In one case young trees were growing in a cornfield. After cultivation ceased the growth of the corn drew upon the moisture and plant food in the soil, causing the trees to ripen prematurely, and when the corn was cut a second growth could readily be started by the fall rains, and this would be injured by the winter. In other cases the wood may have been unripe in the fall or it may have started to grow early in the spring, and a few degrees of frost would in either case produce an injury to the wood similar to that found in "little peach."

The cells being injured the sap would not pass through them readily, and the new growth would naturally be short, the fruit would not reach its normal size and water sprouts would start from the branches.

New Hardy Evergreen Roses. Among several illustrations of the new and valuable type of hardy evergreen roses originated by W. A. Meacham, Meacham's Monthly selects the one here reproduced, of the Gardenia, as best showing traces of the male parent, Perla des Jardins, and says: It is difficult to portray the individuality of certain varieties of popular flowers, but in this case the softness of the petals shows the parentage from the Perla.

WINTER CATCH CROPS.

Oats and Peas Make a Fine Mixture For the Soil.

In explaining to a correspondent why he puts in peas and oats in the fall, John Gould of Ohio says in Country Gentleman: "Why do I sow oats and peas? First, they make a fine growth in the fall before snow comes and are about the only crop here that will amount to much drilled in after the corn crop is cut off. They fill the soil with growing roots, and the tops make a fine mulch to protect the soil and keep it from washing and hold fertility from leaching out. The peas are legumes, and so a nitrogen gatherer, and thus leave the soil better for the next crop than they found it. The oats add their share of humus to the soil when plowed under, and it gets from them carbon and warmth. So from the two we get soil protection, traps to hold fertility—if the peas catch more, and the mechanical effect they have upon our clay lands to make them looser and more easily worked.

"No, we do not feed the crop off. We sow both a main crop, one field the peas today are a mass upon the ground and white with blossoms, and it now looks as if they would have to be plowed under yet this fall. I use the Canadian peas—not your southern cowpeas. It is like any table pea, only a smaller sized grain. It is pretty nearly frostproof, and last winter it almost lived through many plants doing so. They sell here this fall at about 75 cents per 60 pounds. I now have ten acres in on corn stubble just coming up.

"Do not imagine this is a general practice up here. It is an experiment I am trying upon my farm, and so far I am pleased, especially so as I am becoming convinced that vegetable matter is what we want most on our clay lands and we need it faster than it can be had in regular rotation, unless we put in catch crops between the 'regulars' and plow them in. In the south you have all the advantage of the cowpeas, and if I could grow such a catch crop up here as I have seen it in the south, where the cowpeas grow to such perfection, I should think I was in 'tall legumes.' There is a rumor in the air that the Dwarf Essex rape plant is a better catch crop than oats or peas, about which I shall know later, and as it is a plant pretty rich in nitrogen, and a most rank grower, it may be the very thing that is being looked for to clothe the soil and desolate barren stubble fields of winter."

Saving Manure. It is too often the case that farmers do not begin the work of composting properly, but instead let their manures collect outside of barn in conical shape that half dries out, ferments and wastes the nitrogen we have expended. Many a farmer used to do this, and as it is a plant pretty rich in nitrogen, and a most rank grower, it may be the very thing that is being looked for to clothe the soil and desolate barren stubble fields of winter."

Two Ways of Composting. To avoid this, every time manures are thrown out we take time to spread evenly over a larger space and keep the composting heap in strata or layers resembling the illustration in Fig. 2. We occasionally sandwich with a coat of straw.

We appreciate this great fact that the crops we raise upon the farm are in feeding but slightly robbed of their manurial elements and when properly preserved after being fed are worth tenfold all the labor it costs to preserve and distribute them to the soil. This once gave them birth. It is the source from which the soil must secure its future ability to compensate the farmer.

The Giant East India Bee. According to the Chicago Tribune there is one race inhabiting the Philippines which will be a welcome addition to American citizenry, and will be afforded every facility and inducement to immigrate to the United States and engage in the skilled labor in which it has no peer. This is the giant East India honeybee.

To scientists this bee is known as apia dorsata, a species common throughout the tropical regions of the east, and in the Philippine islands the largest variety of this species is found. It is nearly one half larger than our native honeybee and builds a comb, heavy with wax and honey, five or six times as large as the ones that are found in American orchards and forests.

The giant of the east has a tongue nearly twice as long as our native bee. All these little workers get at the honey in the flowers with their tongues. But many blossoms have such deep wells that our native bees cannot reach it, and, knowing this through inherited tradition, never try. The principal honey bearing flower which our native bees find too hard a problem for their limited honey pumps is red clover. The long tongue of the big Philippine bee would find these clover blossoms a mine of sweetness, and thousands of tons of honey would be yielded up that is now practically a lost to the world.

Parnips and Salisfy. Parnips and salisfy may be left in the ground if desired, as they are perfectly hardy. But, as a writer in American Gardening suggests, a few inches of snow thrown over the surface of the ground before the frost has penetrated to any great depth will greatly facilitate matters when lifting is necessary. It is advantageous to lift a few more than are required for immediate use and have them stored away in cases of emergency.

THIS IS DEWEY.

Not the Admiral Himself, but One Who Grows For Him.

R. G. Smith of Elmira, N. Y., has a single comb White Leghorn cock named Dewey, of which he is justly proud. Of Dewey's tribe Mr. Smith writes in The American Poultry Journal: "The cock, numbering over 100, are beautiful, and a great many of them are marked as nearly perfect as birds can be—the same way with the pullets, of which, of this one strain alone, I have nearly 400. The yearling breeding stock looks exceptionally well. As the new feathers appear their plumage becomes



SINGLE COMB WHITE LEGHORN COCK DEWEY, a pure, clean white, and the birds are large, strong and healthy. They lay a large white egg, keeping up with the world's record single comb White Leghorns as best egg producers. "Two years ago I knew of a man who had 1,000 or more of single comb White Leghorns. I went to him and purchased 400 pullets from this large number. I then placed them on a farm near my own home and poultry yards where I could give my personal attention to mating and tending them occasionally. So today I have stock to please all. I should surely be glad to hear from every lover of this breed before he makes his purchase for fall and winter shows and this winter's breeding. This same stock won in hot competition at some of our great shows and today stands among the leaders of this particular breed."

Poultry and the Farmer. The hen is the best help on the farm, and yet few farmers seem to realize that fact. The old rule was to keep a lot of hens all sizes, and conditions, running together. The nests were here, there and everywhere, and it took an hour to thoroughly scour about for the eggs, which seldom amounted to more than a dozen. The eggs, scarce as they were, were taken to the country store and traded off for goods. The eggs were bought by the merchant at the wholesale price, and the farmer never saw a cent of the money. It was a one-sided game, and no wonder the "peaky hen never paid." But when the farmer has given the hen the best of care, and she has built comfortable houses and big runs, and divided up his flock into small families, he has had a revelation. The hens not only soon proved that they were profitable, but demonstrated the fact that when given a chance they were veritable "mortgage lifters." More than one enterprising farmer has had a burden taken off his shoulders by the aid of a hen that he kept behind. Many a farmer used to be, and many still are sorely pressed during the winter for money to buy groceries and such things as they are unable to raise on the farm, and the hen has been the savior. It was either a question of going into debt or going without it. It will not be many years before every well regulated farm will have a substantial henry attached to it.—Poultry Farmer.

Breeding In Line. The considerable talk about breeding in line has been going on for some time, and we have not a few inquiries upon the subject, says Farm Poultry, as, for example, a letter from a Pennsylvania reader, which asks: "Will you please tell me what is meant by the expression, 'bred in line'?" Obviously the term means breeding from closely related stock, stock of the same line of ancestry, as, for example, mating of a hen with her daughter or a cockerel with his mother, and so on. This is breeding strictly within the family line. Some breeders practice breeding from a male bird of high excellence as to shape, color, plumage, etc., to two females, each as nearly as possible typical in shape and color and then working along these two lines of descent. Others would work from one sire and dam, mating within the lines of their offspring for three or four generations, thus bringing in new blood by outcrossing upon an unrelated dam selected for typical excellencies, and as nearly as possible perfect in shape, color, etc.

Warm Houses. "The melancholy days have come," and it is quite time that you take an intelligent look around the fowls' winter quarters. Stop up the cracks. If the house is old and the boards are sprung, line with building paper. Given extra coat of whitewash over all. It won't appreciably add to the warmth, but it will help "settle" the lice, provide plenty of leaves for the scratching pen this winter. There is nothing better. All this extra trouble means plenty of eggs when eggs are worth having.—Land and a Living.

Winter Care of Poultry. To care for fowls in winter first see that they have warm quarters. It is not necessary to have anything elaborate, but good roomy quarters, with south windows and free from draft of cold air. Keep plenty of litter on the floor and clean out about every ten days, using the litter for fertilizer.

THE MODE.

Fashions For Winter Are Becoming Permanently Established.

Applications of dark cloth on cloth of a light tint are a simple but effective decoration employed for the collar, cuffs, and the feet of the skirt. Little platings and puffings of gauze or satin continue to be used also, revers and collars being usually enriched by much trimming. The form of bodices and skirts seems to be fixed for the present and shows no indication of changing for some time. When it does change, it will doubtless be in the direction of increasing tightness. Sleeves will lose the amplitude at the shoulder which they still retain, skirts will become tight all the way down in-



stead of flaring below the knee, but this state of things has not yet arrived and need not be considered just yet therefore. The fact that plain skirts still hold their own is shown by the accompanying sketch of a winter model gown. It is of past gray cloth. The skirt is entirely untrimmed. The bodice consists of a helio velvet coming together in front under a velvet knot. The bolero worn over a lower bodice of russet lace. The collar and belt are of gray velvet, each fastening with a turquoise and gold clasp. The wrists of the plain sleeves are bordered with a velvet ruche. The black velvet has a trim with black plumes and pink flowers. JUDIC CHOLLET.

VARIOUS NOTES.

Straws Which Indicate the Direction of the Wind of Fashion. Chinchilla and astrakhan are the favorite furs for young girls.

Four leaved clover continue to be a fashionable trinket. There are the gold, silver and enamelled brooches, stickpins and pendants made in that form, and also the real clover leaves, placed under crystal and used in the same manner. Circular ruffles are almost the only kind now seen. They are used in profusion in both wide and narrow widths, and singly in superimposed rows. Fur is exceedingly fashionable. It is never worth while to buy cheap fur, as it does not last. In order to keep fur in good condition and prevent it from becoming matted and moth eaten it should be frequently shaken, but neither brushed nor combed. Beating it with a thin rod cleans and does not injure it. Fur appears upon house gowns as well as upon wraps, hats and street costumes. The sea gown illustrated consists of a redingote of mauve and gold brocade silk, surrounded by a circular flounce headed with a band of sable. The flounce is of plain mauve silk, and the redingote opens over a bloused front of mauve silk. The flounces of the redingote are gathered slightly at the waist, and there is a belt of mandarin satin, terminating at the side in loops and an end and fastened there by a jeweled buckle. The sleeves of brocade silk have bands of fur at the wrists, and there is a large cravat of mauve silk. JUDIC CHOLLET.

Two More of Them. A crack cavalry corps had as adjutant an enthusiastic footman whose groom was a cockney, but as he bore the Gaelic cognomen of McLeod he had been appointed to the office. The regiment having been ordered to India the man had embarked on board a troopship. As the cargo was being distributed, two genuine specimens of Scotland's national emblem—thistles to wit—disclosed themselves among the hay. McLeod, with an outburst of exclamation, with a view that his master was just behind him, exclaimed and not a note was heard but: "Two more blooming footmen! McLeod 'on overboard!" The adjutant is now in want of a groom.—Spice Moments.

FASHION ITEMS.

Interesting Details Concerning the Up to Date Wardrobe.

The basques of the new coats and long bodices are by no means modelled flat to the figure, but they must not be full enough to form godets, which have entirely disappeared from fashionable favor. Sleeves are very tight to the arm. At the top only, where they are sewed in to



the bodice, they are a little wide, being gathered in at the seam and having enough fullness to increase the breadth of the shoulders more or less. Collars, even of the flaring class, are less curved than they were, although they continue to be very high. Close collars are really close—very tall and straight. A charming millinery novelty has been produced as a result of the legislation with respect to theater hats. It is not possible to go to the theater bareheaded, and it is not pleasant to remove the hat after one has arrived. As a consequence, there are now to be had most attractive little head-dresses, consisting of a wired bow of lace or ribbon, some small ostrich tips or a jeweled butterfly with a bit of tulle. These cover the hair as respects something to wear upon the head, but do not obstruct the view. They are fastened to the hair by a shell hairpin or are mounted upon a little wire band, covered with satin, velvet or mousseline de soie. The novel cape illustrated is of black velvet lined with quilted satin. It is bordered by a wide band of sable, and above this are seven narrow bands placed at regular intervals. The valois collar is edged with sable, and the front of the cape is trimmed with black plumes and white satin choix. JUDIC CHOLLET.

LITTLE BOYS' CLOTHING.

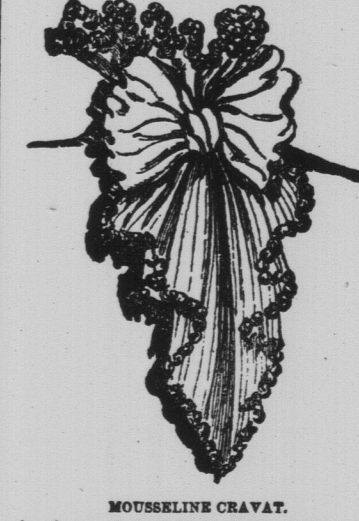
Fashions For Very Little Gentlemen. A Striking Bodice. The jockey costume is something new for little boys. It consists of tight draw corded breeches, with long gaiters, a short overcoat of drab cloth and a light brown derby hat. Dark blue serge and chevrot are much used for school suits for small boys and dark blue cloth for better occasions. Blouse waists like the brooches with a white sailor collar of white plique or galatee are, as usual, a favorite style, the collar being made removable. For cool weather little overcoats of very heavy blue chevrot or cloth are seen. They are double breasted, with two rows of buttons, and lined with bright plaid flannel and have astrakhan collars and cuffs. Bare legs—their legs clothed below the knee in shoes and short stockings—are a fashionable style for little boys, but in a cold climate a fashion is an extremely dangerous one for winter, even for the house. Long underdrawers, concealed by long woolen stockings, are far more sensible, and as long as boys or girls are small long gaiters should be worn out of doors as an additional protection. The cut shows a bodice of white cloth entirely lined with black. It is cut away over a plastron of amaranth velvet and has a sort of vest of plain white cloth crossed by black cord looped over buttons. The waist is cut of cloth is braided. The neck of collar is of amaranth velvet. JUDIC CHOLLET.

What the Travelling Was Like. Of the railway between Nice and Genoa there are numerous tunnels. The gentleman who told us the following story was once sitting in the smoking room of the Hotel Paradis, Nice, when an American asked, very tired and complaining of the journey he had just taken. On being asked where he had come from he said, "Genoa." "Well," was the next remark, "you have come through a lovely country, you are not?" "That may be," he replied, "but it was uncommonly like travelling through a tunnel."—London Telegraph.

VARIOUS NOTES.

Items of Interest With Regard to the Fashionable Wardrobe.

Petticoats follow the fashion of outside skirts and are very tight around the top, flaring below the knee and much trimmed around the foot in order the better to sustain the gown. The flounces with which they are adorned rise higher at the back than in front, and the body of the petticoat is cut in circular form, in order not to increase the size of the hips. Several flounces, one over another, are used around the foot and additional trimming of bows, ruffles and lace. A new bicycle hat is of soft felt with a wide brim, trimmed simply with one argus feather curled around the crown. Short corsets covers in the bolero style are dainty and pleasing and have the merit of not enlarging the waist. They are usually tied in a little knot at the bosom and may be made of mullin, muslin or silk to match the petticoat and waist. Hosiery, once so indispensable, is now rarely seen, even in their least effem-



MOUSSINE CRAVAT. five form, that of little studs sitting close to the ear. Jewels formerly worn as earrings are now reset as brooches, stickpins and the clasps of bracelets, and the perforations in women's ears are allowed to close up as far as is possible. Whether the earring has gone to join the nose ring as a permanently discarded personal ornament is, however, a doubtful question. A revival is quite possible. There are so many pretty designs for neckwear this season that it is difficult to select any special one for illustration. The cravat illustrated is, however, simple and pretty. It is made of pale pink moussine de soie edged with ostrich plumes and has a high ruffled collar and a bow with ends which form choix. JUDIC CHOLLET.

DRESS DECORATIONS.

Proper Method of Applying Fashionable Adornments. The elegance of trimming lies largely in the correctness and neatness with which it is applied. Bands of galloon and ribbon or little ruches, supposed to be placed at regular intervals or to follow a pattern, should be sewed on with exactitude, and otherwise the charm of their appearance is lost. Passementerie and applications of embroidery require to be sewed very carefully, each portion of the motif being attached to the ground by close, invisible stitches. If the motif is large, the sewing should begin at the middle, in order that it may be kept perfectly flat. It is hardly

SILK COSTUME. Necessary to say that all applications should be basted into place before they are sewed down. Trimmings applied to skirts, bodices, jackets, etc., should never be sewed through to the lining, but should be secured to the garment before the lining is added. If the decoration is heavy, that portion of the goods where it is to appear may be re-entered by thin canvas or stiffening. The cut shows a costume of striped silk in two tones of green, combined with plain green silk. The skirt has a pointed tablier of striped silk upon which is mounted a circular flounce of plain silk, headed by a band of fur. The striped bodice has a blouse front opening over a plastron of white satin embroidered with gold. There is a cable collar forming revers, and the plain silk sleeves, plaited at the top, have a band of sable at the wrist. The collar is of white satin, and the white satin belt is fastened by an enamelled buckle. JUDIC CHOLLET.

Letters and the Blues. To write a letter when one is suffering from a fit of the blues, from temporary or chronic depression, thus sending Turkish melancholy to become the chilly, wet blanket which can smother another's happiness, is equally shortsighted. Out comes the bright sunshine, and your cloud vanishes, but your dainty and wretchedly conceived letter has gone beyond your reach, and you cannot recall it, and 'tis busy about the bahamas around whom you are in no frame of mind to own that you sent it out. Years afterward it may fall into the hands of your heirs and may lay at your door the charge of a handy way to insanity or be quoted in evidence of your spiritual or mental weakness and infidelity. Bewain from writing letters when you are in a low mood.—Harper's Bazar.