

**Scientific and Useful.**

**BLACK INK POWDER.**—Sulphate of copper, one dram; gum arabic, quarter ounce; copperas, one ounce; nut galls and extract of logwood, four ounces each, all to be well pulverized and mixed. About one ounce of the powder will be required to each pint of boiling water used.

**TO GRILL A SHOULDER OF LAMB.**—Half boil it; score it with a sharp knife, and cover with egg, crumbs and parsley; season as for cutlets; then broil over a very clear, slow fire, or put into a Dutch oven, and brown it. Serve with any sauce that is agreeable. A breast of lamb may be cooked the same way; and this mode makes both very nice.

**TO REMOVE INK FROM PAPER.**—Put one pound of chloride of lime to four quarts of soft water. Shake well together and let it stand twenty-four hours; then strain through a clean cotton cloth. Add one teaspoonful of acetic acid to an ounce of this prepared limewater, and apply to the blot, and the ink will disappear. Absorb the moisture with blotting paper. The remainder may be bottled, closely corked, and set aside for future use.

**BOSTON BROWN BREAD.**—Take of Indian and rye meals one quart each, brown sugar an even cupful, and salt a scant teaspoonful. Stir well together while dry; then add a tea-cupful of home-made yeast and a quart of warm (not hot) water. Mix thoroughly and put in an iron or earthen pan, smoothing the top with a wooden spoon wet in cold water. Put in a warm place to rise, until the top begins to crack; bake in a moderate oven from three to four hours, or steam five hours and dry the crust in an oven a short time.—*Am. Agriculturist.*

**A POULTRY HOUSE FOR FIFTY DOLLARS.**—Build on a southerly slope, if you can. Dig out for a back wall to be cemented up. Then lay upon it a shed-roof, the roof and sides to be shingled, with tarred paper between the boards and shingles. It should be ten feet high in the front and five in the rear. On the inside have a walk three feet wide running the whole length, high enough from the ground to let fowls under to scratch and go out into the yard. Lay a floor over the rest; put roosts in the back part, with shelves under them to catch the droppings, so arranged as to be removed and cleaned once a week. The nests for large hens should be a foot high, and small at the entrance, running back two feet. With such nests as these hens seldom learn to eat eggs. Fasten the nest on the partition which separates the walk from the coop. A building thirty feet long and fifteen feet wide may be separated into three rooms, large enough for twenty-five fowls to a room.—*W. Rural.*

**BORERS ON APPLE TREES.**—In relation to orchard culture, it may be alleged that with good stocks properly planted, and vigilant cultivation, the soil being good, the trees will succeed; but we have two insects in particular that need watching, and must be watched, or the labor will be in vain. First, with regard to the flat-headed borer, a little policy or engineering is essential; in setting the trees, lean fifteen degrees to the south-west; in three years they will stand about right. If not so set, then the borer, ever ready for an opportunity, preys upon the tree. When the bark is once killed, the tree is ruined. The other borer, *Saperda*, works at the collar of the tree, and occupies his place a part of three years. This borer is more under the control of the orchardist than any other known insect. Vigilant inspection of the trees twice a year will save them from being bored and honey-combed near the roots.—*Transactions Ills. Horticultural Society.*

**THE BENEFIT OF LAUGHING.**—In his "Problem of Health," Dr. Green says that there is not the remotest corner or little inlet of the minute blood-vessels of the human body that does not feel some wavelet from the convulsion occasioned by good, hearty laughter. The life principle, or the central man, is shaken to its innermost depths, sending new tides of life and strength to the surface, thus materially tending to insure good health to the persons who indulge therein. The blood moves more rapidly, and conveys a different impression to all the organs of the body, as it visits them on that particular, mystic journey when the man is laughing, from what it does at other times. For this reason every good, hearty laugh in which a person indulges, tends to lengthen his life, conveying, as it does, new and distinct stimulus to the vital forces. Doubtless the time will come when physicians, conceding more importance than they now do to the influence of the mind upon the vital forces of the body, will make their prescriptions more with reference to the mind, and less to drugs for the body; and will, in so doing, find the best and most effective method of producing the required effect upon the patient.

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