

The Farm.

Prevention of Potato Scab

Where this trouble has not been known and smooth tubers free from scab are used for seed there is not much liability of damage, but if the ground has at any time grown scabby potatoes it is best to change the potato field to some other part of the farm. If there is any likelihood of the seed being scabby the best plan is to treat it with corrosive sublimate solution. This is made by dissolving two and a half ounces corrosive sublimate in about two gallons of hot water. After an interval of ten or twelve hours dilute this to fifteen gallons. Place this mixture in a wooden or earthen vessel, and do not in any case allow it to come in contact with metal vessels.

Place the potatoes in some coarse bag or sack and immerse in this solution for about one and one-half hours. Take out of the solution, dry and plant in the usual manner. If the potatoes are at all dirty, all the soil must be removed by washing. Scabby potatoes should not in any event be used for seed, and, even those apparently free from it should be treated to prevent any possibility of the development of the disease. In some cases it may be necessary to plant on ground which has at one time or another grown scabby potatoes. In this case it has been recommended to sprinkle the furrows thoroughly with corrosive sublimate solution, as well as to soak the tubers. It must be remembered that this corrosive sublimate is a deadly poison and should not be handled by any one having sore hands or scratches of any kind. Keep it out of the way of children and animals. The new potato crop of course, will be entirely free from poison.—(American Agriculturist.)

The Japanese Persimmon.

Among the Oriental trees recently introduced not one is of more importance than the Japanese persimmon. These were I think, first introduced to American soil by the Rev. Dr. Loomis, of Yokohama. It was found that these were not reliably hardy north of the Ohio River. But Mr. Loomis took measures to secure varieties from Northern Japan and Corea, which he thought it probable would endure our more northern winters. He wrote me that he felt sure of success, and that he had placed the stock in the hands of the nurseryman (I think the Parsons Company). I also received from him some seeds of a choice sort, from which I secured two trees. These as yet I do not dare to trust to our winters, but am growing them in boxes. During the coming summer they will be used in budding some of our natives. The native is entirely hardy here, and so are all the choice scions which I have obtained from Missouri and Indiana. The size of the Japanese persimmon is about that of an average pear. A box of figs made of the seedless variety, and packed without sugar, proved to be most delicious. Mr. Loomis assures me that no sugar at all is used in pressing these, although sugar appears in abundant crystals all through the package. Our native persimmons dry very readily into figs, and are very sugary. I see no reason why this fruit shall not be very greatly developed as a food product.—F. P. Powell.

A Horse Appreciates Kindness.

The wagon was heavily laden with great bags of metal, too heavy for a single horse to draw, one would have thought. It turned into a side street and half way down the block again turned into an alley at the rear of a livery stable. It required considerable tugging on the part of the horse to pull the load up the incline of the alley driveway, but he did it, and the driver looked pleased when the back wheel had made the rise and settled down to level ground. At the barn door it was necessary to turn the wagon around completely and back in. Surely one horse could not do that. The turn was made easily enough, but there remained. "Back him up, Jim!" said the man, pulling lightly at the reins.

The horse braced his forefeet and shoved. The wagon didn't move.

The man got down from the seat and went around to the back of the truck and pulled. "Back!" he commanded. The horse put every muscle to the strain. "Back!" The wagon moved, this time at least a foot. Two more and the back wheels would be over the threshold of the barn door.

"Back!" The command moved the horse to exert his greatest effort. There was a crunch of splintering wood, and the wagon rolled back.

Not a blow had been struck the animal. Only gentle words had been spoken, and the horse had done the rest.

And when it was all over the man did not go on unloading the wagon without a further thought of the great, obedient animal standing still between the shafts. He went to him and took his nose in his hands and patted him between the eyes and said: "Good, old Jim! You did do it, didn't you? I knew you would."

And the horse rubbed his nose against the man's cheek.

It is pleasant now and then to see such things.—(American Farmer.)

America's Yellow Poultry.

It is an odd fact that the great American poultry consuming public is greatly prejudiced in favor of the yellow-legged, yellow-fleshed fowl. That it is merely a matter of fashion, or fad, is amply proved by the fact that in all other countries the preference is given to the white-meated birds. France is recognized as authority upon the edible qualities of all the foods devoted to the use of man, and in that sunny land the Houdan stands pre-eminent. They have been bred for generations for the express purpose of use as a table delicacy. They are a bird of medium weight and large breast predominance; being small boned and fine fleshed, with a small amount of offal, they are a profitable carcass for the consumer to purchase. In the great Paris markets huge piles of dressed Houdan and La Fleche fowls can be seen at the numerous stalls. These are reared in small flocks by the villagers adjacent to the city, and sold to professional dealers who make the daily or weekly tours.—(Inland Poultry.)

Feeding Stock at Pasture.

It is often desired to feed grain or some soiling crop to animals at pasture. A convenient way to accomplish this without crowding on the part of the stock, or waste of feed by the animals setting their feet upon it. The middle board in the pasture fence is taken off and upright boards nailed to the top and bottom boards, nailing these upright boards upon the side occupied by the animals, so they cannot press them off. The feed can be put in boxes, or on the ground, outside the fence, when each animal will take an opening and eat without quarrelling with its neighbor.—(D.)

Talk to Your Horse.

Some man, unknown to the writer hereof, has given to the world a saying that sticks: "Talk to your cow as you would to a lady." There is a world of common sense in it. There is more; there is good sound religion in it. What else is it but the language of the Bible applied to animals: "A soft answer turneth away wrath." A pleasant word to a horse in time of trouble has prevented many a disaster where the horse has learned that pleasant words mean a guaranty that danger from punishment is not imminent.

One morning a big, muscular groom said to his employer: "I can't exercise that horse any more. He will bolt and run at anything he sees." The owner, a small man and ill at the time, asked that the horse be hooked up. Stepping into the carriage he drove a couple of miles, and then asked the groom to station along the road such objects as the horse was afraid of. This was done and the horse was driven by them quietly, back and forth,

with loose lines slapping on his back. The whole secret was in a voice that inspired confidence. The man had been frightened at everything he saw that he supposed the horse would fear. The fear went to the horse like an electric message. Then came a punishing pull of the lines, with jerking and the whip. Talk to your horse as to your sweetheart.—Buffalo Horse World.

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Mrs. James Constable, Seaforth, Ont., writes:—"Ever since I can remember I have suffered from weak action of the heart. For some time past it grew constantly worse. I frequently had sharp pains under my heart that I was fearful if I drew a long breath it would cause death. In going up-stairs I had to stop to rest and regain breath. When my children made a noise while playing I would be so overcome with nervousness and weakness that I could not do anything and had to sit down to regain composure. My limbs were unnaturally cold and I was subject to nervous headaches and dizziness. My memory became uncertain and sleep deserted me. "I have been taking Milburn's Heart and Nerve Pills, and as a result am very much better. I have improved in health and strength rapidly. The blessing of sleep is restored to me. My heart is much stronger, and the oppressive sensation has vanished. I can now go up-stairs without stopping and with the greatest of ease, and I no longer suffer from dizziness or headache. It seems to me the circulation of my blood has become normal, thereby removing the coldness from my limbs. I can truly say that Milburn's Heart and Nerve Pills have done me a world of good."

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