

## HOME AND FARM.

This department of THE CRITIC is devoted exclusively to the interests of the Farmers in the Maritime Provinces. Contributions upon Agricultural topics, or that in any way relate to Farm life, are cordially invited. Newsy notes of Farmers' gatherings or Grange meetings will be promptly inserted. Farmers' wives and daughters should make this department in THE CRITIC a medium for the exchange of ideas on such matters as more directly affect them.

We are in receipt of the advance sheets of the *American Agriculturist* for October, from which we extract the following:—

**CARE OF WORK HORSES.**—Frequently the farm horse suffers from over-feeding, and from being worked on a full stomach, for farm horses eat all the time, and look lean and wire-coated—two certain proofs of chronic indigestion. Horses which have passed many hours in work, when released from harness are allowed to drink all the water their exhausted systems crave for; then, with the material of a small iceberg in their distended inner organs, they are turned loose to further injure themselves by grazing in the pasture; or, if the farmer is well to do, they go to the barn, and there, tormented by flies, mosquitoes, and other winged pests, devour a carelessly prepared ration, after which the remainder of the night is passed in stamping and fighting insects. Farm horses are overfed, commonly, insufficiently groomed, and never judiciously either housed or clothed. In summer, farm work ought to commence with the rising of the sun, and cease at noon, when men and horses should seek the friendly shelter of the house and stable. The horses just from the field ought then to be stripped of all harness, have their eyes and nostrils washed out, the marks of the harness also washed off, and then be well rubbed with a "wisp"—which simple and inexpensive stable implement is far better for the horse than is a brush, whose coarse stalks irritate the skin and temper of the suffering beast. The wisp soothes and causes a healthy action of the skin, when the horses have been thus attended to, and they have cooled off.

The proper feeding of the orchard is yet a matter not generally understood. Circumstances, in this matter, as in all others, alter cases. Some soils contain a large amount of vegetable matter. The trees make a rapid growth and an excess of wood, but bear no fruit. Stop feeding them with stable manure. Mineral fertilizers and perhaps root pruning are needed to induce the trees to yield fruit instead of wood. I nosphorus and potash are the great remedies. Wood ashes contain both, and its application, even in large quantities, is always safe. Thin, hard soils, which contain little vegetable matter and produce only sickly, yellowish-looking trees and a small annual growth, are generally improved by the application of stable manure. An even coat of this should be spread over every foot of the orchard, and will have the best effect if thoroughly mixed with the surface soil. Even if left on top, however, it will improve the texture of the soil and stimulate the trees to more active growth.—*California Patron.*

A dairy expert, who ought to know whereof he affirms, declares that salt has little if anything to do with the keeping of butter. It has, he added, something to do with the retarding of the decomposition of the unexpelled buttermilk, and this for only a short time, as poorly made butter soon gets rancid—that is, the buttermilk does. It is skill that gives the butter its desirable keeping qualities, not salt. An apparently chemically correct conclusion and hence the logical lesson teaches that the expelling of buttermilk from butter is of more importance than salt in securing its salvation.—*California Patron.*

**THE NEWFOUNDLAND DOG.**—The recent past and the now present rage for pet dogs has served to give this noble breed of dogs, the Newfoundland, a back seat, and at the recent bench-shows we have found the Newfoundlands conspicuous by their absence. We found specimens of them in nearly every show, but the number of them were comparatively small, and the specimens were by no means always above the average. This should not be permitted, for this noble breed of dogs deserve a better fate, and it will be only a few years before they will again be eagerly sought for, and at high figures. Those who have extra strains of them are carefully hiding their time, and will be sure to receive a liberal recompense for the prank dame fashion has played upon them.

A first-class Newfoundland dog is not merely a handsome, noble animal, but is a useful one as well, and as a companion and guardian for children is unequalled. They seem to take to guarding their master's children as a matter of course, accompanying them on their rambles, and their skill in rescuing children from the water is proverbial. They are very cleanly in their habits, and at night will carefully guard the premises. They can readily be taught to pull children's wagons, giving the little folks a chance to "play horse" on a small scale, while they soon learn to carry bundles and baskets to and from market or store. They attain a weight of from 125 to 160 or 170 pounds. First-class pups readily bring from \$25 to \$30 each. In color the Newfoundland is either solid black or black in main color, with ring of white around neck, or with white on breast and toes. The hair should be strong and wavy and the coat heavy.—*Breeders Journal.*

There is no question but money can be made by every owner of a good sized, sound, well-made mare in breeding and selling colts.

One farmer stated recently that, paying ten dollars for service, if he could sell the colt when weaned for fifty dollars, the margin of profit was greater than in any other branch of farm work. Another says if he can, by paying twenty to twenty-five dollars for service, get a colt that, when three years old, will sell for \$125 to \$150, it is as good business as he cares to engage in. These men are practical farmers who have a keen eye for profit, yet the prices they name are far below the average paid for such colts as they

raise. It is because of the experience of this class of farmers, rather than export breeders, that the *Farmer* urges horse breeding. If profit can be secured at these low prices, then surely it pays to sell weanlings for \$75 to \$100, and older ones in proportion. The great obstacle is the tenacity with which men hold to the old ruts.—*Farmer.*

So often we see accounts of the goring of some one by a bull, and three times out of four the account is extended to inform the reader that this is the first time the animal ever did such a thing, and that the victim never imagined the bull was capable of such action. The vicious bull is regarded with suspicion and handled with care. So he does no one any harm. Look out for the gentle bull. He may be a demon. It is as natural for a bull to be vicious as it is for him to push against a fence. He may not assert this particular characteristic so early in life, but it may develop fully in an instant and result fatally to his victim when least expected. So we repeat it—watch the bull with a vigilant eye. Always expect him to be just ready for an attack, and always be ready to foil his first attempt.

**A NEW TOMATO.**—The Garfield tomato, with its exceedingly rank, coarse, dark foliage and abundant fruit, has proven with many growers a favorite type. The best variety of the Garfield type of tomato, says one of New Jersey's trustworthy horticulturists, in *Orchard and Garden*, is the Potato Leaf, introduced this season by Mr. Livingston, whose skill has given to the public some of its most popular varieties of tomatoes. The Potato Leaf, in addition to the wonderfully vigorous foliage of its type, possesses the advantage of earliness and productiveness, while its fruit rivals in smoothness that of the Perfection or Acme.

If, as seems to be implied, this variety possesses the valuable property of early ripening, it is quite worth the attention of the Nova Scotia farmer.—*Ed. Critic.*

## OUR COSY CORNER.

Last evening, a lady was heard to remark, "I don't see how I could keep house without *Demorest's Monthly*", and as we found the October number of this publication on our desk this morning, we gave it a most careful examination than usual to see what makes it so popular. It is certainly very beautiful gotten up, and the handsome illustrations are chosen alone for their beauty, and to merely "fill up," but are made for a purpose, either to instruct or amuse. But even greater than its artistic merit is its helpfulness, and after going through its numerous departments, we can well see what a friend it must be in the household. For it has information and amusement for every member of the family. If you are undecided what to take the coming year, send 20 cents for a specimen copy of *Demorest's Monthly*, and let it speak for itself. Published by W. Jennings Demorest, 15 East 14th Street, New York.

The new shades are a trifle more brilliant in effect, and all of the favorite colors are intensified in the new tints.

The various brownish reds, the rose-tinted shades of gray, and many hues of plum are mostly favored among the latest importations of wools, and while it goes without saying, that all the new colors are seen in every class of goods, yet certain shades seem to have more prominence in some fabrics than in others.

For instance: plum, Carmolite (which is a deep grayish purple), dahlia, raisin, or grape, Marguerite, and similar shades of rich bluish purple or purplish blue are most frequently seen in cashmeres and other fine woollen goods; with the Gobelin blues and colder colors, such as serpent, sage, thyme, etc., all greenish olive grays, are most liked in silken textures, such as faille and moire.

The new reddish browns are about equally favored in silks and wools, and the newest shade appears as Morocco, a tint darker than Cuban brown, yet lighter than *acajou*, the popular mahogany color, and which combines more smoothly with moss green, fawn, and Gobelin blue in the material which show these colors in combination. *Ecureuil*, or squirrel, is another favorite shade of reddish brown, deeper yet than Morocco; and then there comes a whole gamut of colors in brownish reds, called Florantine reds, the deepest or brightest shade, which is almost free from the brown tint, is called cactus red, being used most effectively in combination with Havana brown, which has generalized its name a little and appears as Cate brown.

*Tulle*, brick-dust color, is a shade of red which takes for combination some dull green such as *terre*, a deep, dull olive; but most of the lighter reds, such as *terre d'Alsace*, or Alsatian soil, *Cendrillon*, *Cindorella*, *antique*, etc., have an ashen tint modifying the earthy red and softening the dull color to a delicate hue.

**VEAL LOAF.**—Two pounds of veal; one-quarter of a pound of butter; one cup of crushed cracker; one egg; two tablespoonsfuls of butter; half a teaspoonful each of pepper, salt, allspice, sweet marjoram, thyme, parsley, and summer savory. Chop the meat very fine, work in the butter, the raw egg, the cracker crumbs, and seasoning. Press all into a buttered bowl or dish, set in a pan of boiling water in the oven, and bake, covered, for two hours. Fill up the pan with hot water as fast as it boils away. When the loaf is done, set it aside under a heavy weight until it is cool. Turn it out on a flat dish, and slice as it is needed.

## A CARD

To all who are suffering from the errors and indiscretions of youth, nervous weakness, early decay, loss of manhood, etc., I will send a recipe that will cure you, FREE OF CHARGE. This great remedy was discovered by a missionary in South America. Send a self-addressed envelope to the Rev. JOSEPH T. INMAN, Station D, New York City.