



Priming a Sumatra Tobacco Crop.

Tobacco Under Cheese Cloth.

A CROP OF BIG PROFITS.

When raised under most favorable conditions, Sumatra or Cuban cigar leaf can be produced in Fla., which is as satisfactory in every way as the tobacco raised on the islands of that name. Fla. grown Cuban leaf has sold from 50c to \$2 p. lb., and Fla. grown Sumatra, under shade, has brought as much as \$4 p. lb. Two pounds of the finest selected Fla. Sumatra leaf will wrap 1000 cigars. Tobacco of this grade is raised under cheese cloth. In soil most carefully fertilized and cultivated, F. & H. Aug. 15 portrayed a 10 a tobacco field covered with cheesecloth, as seen in Fla. Experiments were also conducted with Sumatra seed-leaf from Fla. and with Ct. seed-leaf at 1 quonoc, Ct. the past summer. A patch 30x500 ft., or about 1-3 a., was covered with cheesecloth and the plants raised under it have made a most satisfactory growth. The cloth keeps off the burning sun, insects and hail.

This sort of farming requires a liberal working capital, more than most farmers have. Those native farmers who began the raising of tobacco in the open air a few years ago were inexperienced as to culture, harvesting and general care necessary for the production of fine tobacco, consequently their leaf did not meet with ready sale and many have given up the culture of this crop. Most of the finest leaf raised under cover, has been planted by a New York syndicate of tobaccoists.

Sumatra tobacco is planted in rows 4 ft. apart and plants 12 in. in the row. The soil must be liberally fertilized and plants kept growing steadily. Only the seed bud is removed from Sumatra tobacco; all the leaves being allowed to grow. As leaves of Sumatra tobacco cure lighter and are more elastic if harvested early, the leaves are removed four to six at a time, as illustrated, the field being gone over four or five times before the whole crop is harvested.

Large Flock of Ducklings—It is easier to manage one large flock of ducklings than several small flocks of different ages. Save your eggs until

you can set at least 50 at one time. Don't give more than to each hen, she may be able to cover more, but the shells grow very thin and fragile as hatching time approaches and if the nest is too full a number will be inevitably crushed.—[Mrs. Leonard Johnson, Delaware Co., Pa.]

Eat Honey for Good Health—Honey when diluted and used as a wash (though an unpleasant and sticky one), has always cured erysipelas. It is also good for bruises and will draw out inflammation. It is also one of the finest diets we can use for constipation and for indigestion or dyspepsia there is nothing better. Discard all other cheap sweets and use honey in place of sugar and molasses. For a cold or cough, its value is too well known, and if used with good judgment it is the most wholesome and cheapest sweet we can use, and also beneficial to good health. [J. H. D.]

Cowpeas as Fertilizer—Last summer I sowed a portion of a field in peas and mowed for hay; this year, put the entire field in corn, running the corn rows diagonally across the former pea ground. The line of the pea ground could be readily seen from the first plowing of the corn becoming more marked as the season advanced. The prospective yield of corn on the pea ground will be double that on the balance of the field.—[W. J. Prindle, Webster Co., Ky.]

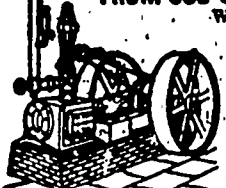
Growing Chickens need some kind of a low shelter for midday in summer. A roughly-made frame about 1 ft. high, covered with green brush, answers very well.

The Martha Washington Geranium, when properly grown, is a stocky plant that will flower profusely. It is one of the prettiest plants for pots or outdoor planting. Flowers are of many colors and foliage of a delicate form not possessed by other varieties.

There are said to be 880,900 Canadians in the U. S. of whom 400,200 are in the North Atlantic states, mostly French-Canadians, employed at lumbering, in mills, etc.

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CHAT WITH THE EDITOR.

H. W. M.: Hammond's Dog Training, price \$1, or Percy's Principles of Training, price 50c, will give you full directions on training your dog. They are both sold by the Orange-Judd Co. of 52 Lafayette place, New York.—J. E. G.: Hay presses are sold by the Collins Plow Co. of Quincy, Ill., Whitman Agr. Co. of St. Louis, Mo., Farmers Mfg. Co. of East Chicago, Ind., Sandwich Mfg. Co. of Sandwich, Ill.

A Commendable Feature of the great annual exhibition of the Royal agricultural society of England, is that there are no horse races or catch-penny side shows. One of the most popular features is the parade of horses and cattle which takes place each day during the show in the main show ring, the prize-winners leading the procession. Nowhere else in the world do the people appreciate a show of this kind. At the British people. On one day at this year's show, 52,000 were admitted.

For the Best Picture of a fair ground, building or exhibit at a fair held this fall, F. & H. offers three prizes of \$2, \$1 and 50c. The pictures may include live stock, fruits, garden products, household features, judging stock or a general survey of the grounds and people. We want pictures from every state and province. Write your name and address on back. This is a grand chance for our amateur photographer readers.

CATTLE FOR EXHIBITION.

HOW THEY ARE PREPARED SO AS TO LOOK THEIR BEST.

At the great show and auction sale held at Kansas City last year upward of 500 head of cattle from the finest herds in the world were entered for exhibition and for sale. A visitor gave the following account of the careful methods used in preparing the cattle for the show ring.

"After their trip on the cars, many having come hundreds of miles, they are more or less soiled by the accumulation of dust and dirt on the skin. The stock yard stables are provided with large wash rooms well supplied with brushes, scrubbers, scrapers, rubbers, cloths and soap, though many of the more prominent breeders will use nothing but their own brushes, etc. The animals are first well curried, then all the loose dust and hair is brushed out with a fine bristle brush. They are then copiously lathered from head to foot with warm water and soap. When carefully scrubbed they are rinsed with clean water, scraped, and rubbed dry with linen cloths.

"The horns are polished by first scraping the rough loose horn with glass; they are then sand-papered and rubbed with emery powder until they glisten like burnished brass, after which they are protected by flannel lined leather covers made expressly for each individual. When the polished horns need cleaning it is done with Ivory soap on a damp cloth; then they are again polished with a strip of almost dry flannel on which Ivory soap has been rubbed.

"When the toilet is complete they are blanketed with flannel-lined 'made-to-order' canvas blankets and placed in roomy box stalls, knee deep in clean straw.

"In conversation with a groom I learned that almost without exception Ivory soap is the only soap used for the purpose, and that no other soap leaves the skin in that cool looking, baby pink condition, or gives that much desired pearly, silky luster to the hair."

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