

they are too much matured to sprout from the root, and not mature enough to complete the germ for the next season. Mow them between these conditions and they die.

"As the ox-eye daisy cannot be easily exterminated, especially in strong soil, manure heavily and seed to such grasses as you prefer or as the soil is adapted to and they will choke out the daisy so that its appearance will be subdued and humble, and only a small per cent. of the crop.

"But what can be done with witch grass? Don't let it get a foothold on your premises if you can help it. It is not a pleasant thing to get acquainted with, and very difficult to exterminate. I think I have seen the following remedy recommended. While it looks reasonable, I cannot speak from actual test. Let your soil be in good condition and plant or sow some crop that will be sure to grow very rank. Sow or plant thick; let the ground be completely covered, overshadowing the witch grass. This is said to be an efficient remedy; it would kill anything else. I have observed the habits of a weed called in some localities pigeon grass. I think it nearly allied to the various kinds of millet. While it is not very difficult to exterminate, it has a way of providing next year's seed that is curious, to say the least. When this weed has good luck and nothing interferes with it it will make, in good soil, from two to three feet growth with heads full of seed.

"I sowed a piece of greensward last spring to barley. Grasshoppers and drought destroyed the barley and there sprung up pigeon grass, which I mowed just before the seed matured, and as the season was considerably advanced, and the weed had not time to sprout from the roots and make the usual growth, it seemed to reason the question and started up new shoots, and I saw many of them with perfectly formed heads and matured seeds, some two inches high and others not more than an inch; and this seed was ready to use the coming spring and would grow as well as seed matured in the usual way."

ATTRACTIVE FARMS.

Now that our pioneer days are over, it should be the aim and ambition of every farmer to make his farm and his home attractive. What can be more attractive than a well improved farm, well stocked with improved farm machinery and improved stock; broad acres of bountiful grass, with a home on the same liberal basis, a pleasant home, with music, books and papers, and good living from their own vine and fig tree; a garden and orchard, with an abundance of the best varieties of vegetables and fruits; poultry, eggs, butter, cream, milk and meat, all fresh for the farmer's table, the envy of every city resident; a beautiful lawn, handsome shade trees, and things generally kept in order. Such a home is the highest ambition of many of our most successful merchants and manufacturers. These attractive farm homes do not drive away the farmer's boys, but they become interested in the stock breeding and the farm improvement. The liberal progressive spirit of the West, we are glad to see, is developing rapidly in this direction. Such progress begets prosperity and brightens our homes. We give the following from the *Orange County Farmer*, published in the best improved portion of the State of New York:

"Make your rural home beautiful. Lay out spacious grounds about the farm house, plant shade trees, lay gravelled roads and plant flowers. Don't lay up all your net earnings for the benefit of your heirs and the lawyers, but spend some of it in beautifying your home. The farmer who always shuts his eyes to the æsthetic features of this life and screws himself down to the task of

making money, loses a large portion, and the best portion too, of his existence. His home should be attractive to himself, to his wife, and above all, to his children. Unpleasant homes in too many instances drive the sons of farmers to the towns, to excitement and dissipation, and to wreck. Such sons do not generally leave pleasant and beautiful homes."

MAXIMS OF THE MEADOW.

The old saying, no grass no cattle, no cattle no manure, no manure no crops, is as true to-day as when first spoken, remarks the *Western Agriculturist*. Grass takes care of him who sows it. "No meadow is the master mine of wealth. Strong meadows fill big barns. Fat pastures make fat pockets. The acre that will carry a steer carries wealth. Flush pastures make fat stock. Heavy meadows make happy farmers. Up to my ears in soft grass, laughs the fat ox. Sweet pastures make sound butter. Soft hay makes strong wool. These are some of the maxims of the meadow. The grass seed to sow depends upon the soil and here every man must be his own judge. Good pastures are so much cheaper than grain to raise stock. It is important to improve and preserve them. Improved stock and good grass will enrich the farmer, the state and the nation. Therefore, be sure to have good pastures.

WEATHER WISDOM.

When the weather is wet, we must not fret;
When the weather is dry, we must not cry;
When the weather is cold, we must not scold;
When the weather is warm, we must not storm;
But be thankful together, whatever the weather.

FRUIT DIET.

One of the most salutary tendencies of domestic management in our day is that which aims at assigning to fruit a favoured place in our ordinary diet. The nutrient value of such food, in virtue of its component starches and saccharine materials, is generally admitted; and while these substances cannot be said to equal in accumulated force the more solid ingredients of meat and animal fat, they are similarly useful in their own degree, and have, moreover, the advantage of greater digestibility. Their conversion within the tissues is also attended with less friction and pressure on the constructive machinery. The locally stimulant action of many sub-acid fruits on the mucous membranes deserves mention. Its control of a too active peptic secretion, and its influence of attraction exercised upon the alkaline and aperient intestinal juice, are points of more than superficial importance. To this action further effects, which aid the maintenance of a pure and vigorous circulation, are indirectly due. Dyspeptic stomachs, on the other hand, are usually benefited by a moderate allowance of this light and stimulating fare. It must be remembered, moreover, that every fruit is not equally wholesome, let the digestion be as powerful as it may. Nuts, for example—consisting as they do, for the most part of condensed albuminoid and fatty matters—cannot compare in acceptance, either by the palate or the stomach, with other succulent kinds, even though they contain in the same bulk a far greater amount of nutriment. A little of such fruit is enough for digestion, and that little is best cooked. Nevertheless, if we take fruit as a whole, ripe and sound, of course, and consider the variety, its lightness and nourishing properties, whether eaten alone or with other food, and its cheap abundance, we cannot hesitate to add our voice in support of its just claim on public attention. In former articles we have shown why vegetable produce or fruit should enter largely into the food of children. Well-chosen fruits are consequently for them as safe and beneficial as agreeable.—*Lancet*.

HOUSEHOLD HINTS.

The keys of a piano may be cleaned with whiting, used nearly dry; but there is no really effectual remedy unless the key-board can be removed.

LADIES who are troubled with faint spells or a feeling of trembling in the stomach, will doubtless be pleased to know that half a teaspoonful of aromatic ammonia, in a little sweetened water, will act as a quick stimulant, and give immediate relief. This can be purchased at any drug store.

A PRETTY and convenient way to serve oranges is this: Cut the oranges in halves across the sections. With a sharp knife separate the pulp from the skin, and divide it into proper portions to eat with a spoon. It can be done so nicely that it will not look as if it had been disturbed until it is immediately under the eye. A little sugar sprinkled into it improves the fruit, unless it is very sweet.

A good wash for roofs and buildings is as follows: Slake lime in a close box to prevent the escape of steam, and when slaked pass it through a sieve. To every six quarts of this lime add one quart of rock salt and one gallon of water. After this boil and skim clean. To every five gallons of this add, by slow degrees, three-quarters of a pound of potash and four quarts of fine sand. Colouring matter may be added if desired. Apply with a paint or whitewash brush.

A CARPET in which all the colours are light never has a clean bright effect, from the want of dark tints to contrast and set off the light ones. Carpets of many gaudy colours do not last bright very long. Two colours only with the light and dark shades of each, will make a very handsome carpet. A very light blue ground, with the figure of shaded crimson or purple, looks extremely well; so does a salmon colour or buff ground, with a deep green figure; or a light yellow ground, with a shaded blue figure.

IN warm summer weather many persons feel an irresistible craving for something sour, and often gratify this desire by a free indulgence in pickles, or vegetables made acid with vinegar. This demand for acids indicates a deficiency in the acid secretions of the stomach, and the demand for an artificial supply is a natural one; but vinegar is not the best substitute. Lactic acid is one of the chief agents that give acidity to the gastric juice of the stomach in health. This is acid of sour milk, and therefore one of the best summer diet drinks that we can use is buttermilk. It satisfies the craving for acids by giving to the stomach a natural supply, and at the same time furnishing in its cheesy matter a good supply of wholesome nutrition. A man will endure fatigue in hot weather better on buttermilk than on any diet drink he can use.

A LADY writes to an exchange: "For three years I have lived in town, and during that time my sitting room has been free from flies, three only walking about my breakfast-table, while all my neighbours' rooms are crowded. I often congratulated myself on my escape, but never knew the reason of it until a few days ago. I then had occasion to remove my goods to another house, while I remained on for a few days longer. Among other things removed were two boxes of geraniums and calceolarias, which stood in my window, being open to its full extent, top and bottom. The boxes were not gone half an hour before my room was as full of flies as those of my neighbours around me. This, to me, was a new discovery, and perhaps it may serve to encourage others in that which is always a source of pleasure, namely, window gardening. Mignonette, planted in long, shallow boxes, placed on the window sill, will be found excellent for this purpose."