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surface with the flannel; the effect will be the removal of all dust, greasy matter and dirt; the surface is next washed with a piece of wash-leather. This method does not injure the paint like soap, and produces a very good result.

BRUISES ON FURNITURE.—Wet the part with warm water; double a piece of brown paper five or six times, soak in warm water, and lay it on the place; apply on that a warm, but not hot, flat-iron till the moisture is evaporated. If the bruise be not gone, repeat the process. After two or three applications the dent or bruise will be raised to the surface. If the bruise be small, merely soak it with warm water, and hold a redhot iron near the surface, keeping the surface continually wet—the bruise will soon disappear.

TO RENDER INFLAMMABLE MATERIALS FIREPROOF.—A coating of a mixture of borax and sulphate of magnesia, (Epsom salts,) or of a mixture of sulphate of ammonia and sulphate of lime, is recommended by W. Braun Miller, of Vienna, in a recent published report concerning some practical experiments with preparations for preventing the spread of fire. The author's reputation as a metallurgist and chemist is a guarantee for the correctness of his opinion and the reliability of his experiments.—*Engineering and Mining Journal.*

TO MAKE BAR SOAP.—Six pounds soda ash, three pounds unslaked lime, eight gallons water; put into a kettle and when boiling hot strain and return the kettle; add twelve pounds clean grease, boil slowly three hours, add one-half pound of finely pulverized borax, dissolved in a little hot water, stir well and let cool in the kettle or turn into wooden moulds well soaked in water. Cracklings or meat trimmings will do for this soap if you allow for waste, but be careful not to allow too much, thereby getting too much grease in.

SAVE THIS FOR NEXT WINTER.—To mend rubber shoes, get a piece of pure rubber—an old shoe—vulcanized rubber will not do; cut it into small bits; put it into a bottle, and cover to twice its depth with spirits of turpentine or refined coal tar naphtha—not petroleum naphtha. Stop the bottle and set to one side, shaking it frequently. The rubber will soon dissolve—Then take the shoe and press the rip or cut close together, and put on the solution with a camel's hair brush. Continue to apply as fast as it dries, until a thorough coating is formed.

KEEPING TIN WARE BRIGHT.—It is a very good plan every washing day, before the hot suds are thrown out, to gather up the tin ware that is in daily use and wash it well with a woollen cloth in the tub or boiler. The brightness thus given to it is nicer than from scouring; besides, the ware is not worn out, and the seams, about the handles and spouts, can be made very clean. With careful usage, tin and britannia ware need not wear out or fall into disuse, hardly in one's life time. All such ware should be made dry about the kitchen stove before it is put away. Iron, or sheet iron ware, should be kept in good, presentable condition by stove blacking. There is no need of gray or dingy pots and tea kettles when they are so easily kept neat and in good order. Then the wash boiler should always be washed and wiped and dried before putting away.—*Rural New Yorker.*

SCRAMBLED EGGS.—Put in a spider enough sweet butter to oil the bottom of the pan; put in the eggs without breaking the yolks, add a bit of butter as large as a walnut to twelve eggs, season with very little salt and pepper; when the whites harden a little, stir the eggs from the bottom of the spider, and continue to do this until cooked to suit the family. The yolks and whites, when done, should be separate though stirred together, not mixed like beaten eggs.

VARIOUS WAYS OF MAKING OMELETTES.

OMELETTE.—Six eggs, beat the whites and yolks separately until very light, then stir together; add no salt as it will make it very heavy. Put on a hot griddle slightly greased with butter, when nicely browned turn—serve hot.

A NICE OMELETTE FOR BREAKFAST.—Beat two eggs, yolks and white together, in a bowl until very light. In a cup put one teaspoonful of corn starch; add slowly a half teaspoonful of milk (new milk is best); when well stired and smooth, pour this over the eggs, and beat them all well together for a few minutes; a little chopped parsley can be added if wished. Cook as other omelettes. In making any kind of omelette, salt and pepper should not be added until sent to table; and to have them perfectly light and not tough, the ingredients must be well and quickly beaten with the fork. The quantity for this omelette is enough for three persons.

OMELETTE, SOFT.—Put in a teaspoonful water a little salt and pepper, the yolks of and whites of four eggs, and beat the mixtures until very light. Have ready in an omelette or small frying pan butter very hot; pour in the mixture, move the pan constantly over the fire until the sides commence to harden, then roll it, and turn it out without soiling the dish; serve hot.

OMELETTE, HARD.—Proceed as above, using all the egg, and cook the omelette until the whole of the eggs are hard; serve hot. Omelettes fail if they stand after being dished.

A letter recently produced in a breach of promise suit as evidence contained the following sentence:—"Dearest love—I swallowed the postage stamp on your letter, because I knew your lips had touched it."

THREE GLORIOUS LITTLE GIRLS.—There was a very pretty little scene enacted at the Southern Police Station to-day. On Friday last three little girls—Louise Niedhardt, Mamie Grefe, and Amelia Oblender living on South Paca street, conceived the idea of contributing something for the benefit of the yellow-fever sufferers. Their net capital at the outset was two cents. This, of course, could do very little good, but they soon found a way to increase the amount, and by great perseverance, not, however, unmixed with pleasure, they at last succeeded in raising $10.50. The two cents with which they began was invested in candies, and then a table was procured, covered neatly with a cloth, and the wares exposed for sale. The neighbours, seeing the persistence with which they laboured, went to work and helped them with a will. All sorts of things were contributed and quickly sold. The stock was exhausted yesterday, and to-day, with the results in hand, they went to the station and presented the proceeds to Captain Delanty, who made them a very pretty little speech in return. The money will be handed over to the Mayor by Captain Delanty in the name of the children.—*Baltimore Bulletin.*

MODERN WOMEN.—"An old fogy" writing to the London *Standard* has impressions of society and manners as they are, says, among other things:—"Then came dinner. I sat beside a very pretty girl, and old as I am I thought myself lucky—until she began to talk. What strange jargon is this, sir, that your modern ladies utter? What do they mean by all this chatter about 'exquisite harmonies of expression,' 'and almost rapturous sensuousness,' 'the divine ideality of man,' and so on? I listened in utter bewilderment while my pretty little friend used these and other phrases still more mysterious, and talked familiarly of the works of a number of our modern poets, of whom Mr. Swinburne was by far the most proper. I turned for relief to my neighbour on the other side. She, too, was young, but not pretty. Before I knew where I was she had mentioned the names of Herbert Spencer, John Stuart Mill, and Professor Clifford, and had said incidentally that she supposed, of course, that I considered God 'quite an exploded hypothesis.' After this I was hardly shocked when my pretty neighbour invited me to dine at 'her club,' to-morrow night, to meet a lady whose last volume of verse I happened to have burnt in disgust after reading half a dozen pages. Her club, indeed! And yet, learn that now-a-days it is quite 'good form' for a miss in her teens to invite half-a-dozen gentlemen to dine at the Albermarle.'

FARMERS' CLUB

COMMON AILMENTS OF LIVE STOCK.

THRUSH IN HORSES.

By this term is commonly indicated a dark-coloured or black and offensive discharge of fluid of variable consistency from the frog. In some localities it is called trush, running thrush, &c., and many carters and draymen use the expressive though inelegant term, "rotten frog." The condition in which the several parts are observed, when suffering from the disease in question, is somewhat as follows:—The cleft of the frog, *i.e.*, the triangular fissure extending from about its centre, backwards to the heel, is deep, open, ragged, soft, spongy, and tender. If the finger is inserted with moderate pressure, it may be caused to penetrate beneath the horny frog, portions of which may be raised from the sensitive surfaces beneath; and when withdrawn, the odour imparted to the finger is most offensive and characteristic of decomposing bony matter. Usually simple thrush consists of a mere crack, through which the discharge flows irregularly, but as described already, it is of an advanced stage; and beyond this a third variety consists of disintegration of the whole of the horny frog, with burrowing of matter beneath the horny sole, and considerable lameness. The disease originates in the secretory organs of the sensible or fibrous and fatty frog, and this prevents the formation of sound horn for a covering, the whole process becoming eventually one analogous to that of sloughing of soft parts, in which more or less solution or decomposition of horn takes place, and gives the characteristic odour of the disease.

The causes of the disease are various, viz., presence of moisture, together with such matters in solution which have a softening and solvent action upon the hoof; irritating substances acting upon the exposed sensitive structures, and malpractices in shoeing which tend to remove the frog from exercise of its natural functions. We will consider these in the order given. The prevalence of thrush among colts and horses turned upon wet pastures and into straw yards standing in much moisture, is well known. The softening effect of water is acknowledged by all who deal with their feet, as is proved by the ignorant groom and farrier who make use of stopping, &c., that the process of paring may be more easily accomplished. Practical test, however, fully supports scientific conclusions in reference to this point; hence we accept without doubt, that, in order to preserve hoofs in a state of soundness, and in their best capacity as a protection and weight bearers, they are best preserved in a state of dryness and hardness as much as possible. Water softens the hoofs and destroys their physical properties, and thus they fail in their offices. But the conditions are still worse when water or moisture, to which they are exposed, contains such ingredients as possess a solvent power on the hoof; therefore, we always observe that horses turned to grass for any time, or into wet straw yards, come up with diseased frogs or thrushes. The reason is obvious. The moisture and wet of these places contain a large amount of saline matter in solution, as ammonia, potash, and soda, and these act powerfully upon horny substances. In order to test this fact, let our readers make a solution of soda or potash in water, and put in a broken horn comb, or portions of an animal's hoof or horn, when they will find after a few days, in accordance with the strength of the solution, that the substance becomes soft and gelatinous. The same effect is produced when horse or cow dung is used as a stopping, and also when the animal is allowed to stand in his own manure.

The secondary effects of these substances are those of irritation, for as the frog is softened, it become more porous, and absorption more complete; and when decomposing matters surround the foot, they act powerfully upon the sensitive parts which eventually are exposed; besides, sand, grit, and other solid substances also find their way through the various openings, and become mechanical agents of disturbance.

The third cause of thrush is the use of high-heeled shoes, allowing the horny heels to become too high, and paring away the frog, all of which faithfully remove the organ from the great pressure which, as a natural cushion, it is intended by Nature to bear continually. Loss of function, or illness and inactivity on the part of any organ brings on disorder, and that state only precedes disease. In this condition, moisture and alkaline solutions, as the water of straw yards and ponds into which drain the manure of the farm, only are needed to make the frogs as bad as they possibly can be; and when such are continually applied, together with bad management, generally in feeding, &c., we may expect to see the disease extend upwards in the legs, giving rise to complicated states. The whole foot becomes involved, first the soft, and secondly the hard parts, and the disease becomes *canker*; and it goes up the leg, the skin exhibits the principal signs in the shape of swellings and pustules, and confirmed *grease* is the result.

Thrushes do not produce lameness in their simplest states, but the frog is tender, and the animal will wince under pressure from the pincers, or when the part comes upon a loose stone on the road. When they become aggravated, decided lameness follows; and although it may appear insufficient to call for absolute rest, there is nevertheless great pain and inconvenience, and the process of cure is much facilitated by its being carried on in connection with cessation from work, at least until considerable improvement is made and tenderness removed, when pressure and contact with the ground is productive of great good.

When the disease is limited in simple thrush a single crack or opening in the cleft of the frog, the course is very plain. First, clear out the dirt carefully with the back of the knife, and pack moderately tight into the fissure some tow saturated with the following mixture:—Sulphate of zinc, one part; acetate (or the sugar) of lead, one part. These are to be reduced to powder and put into a small dish or cup, and covered with either sulphuric, nitric, or hydrochloric acid. A mixture of the first and second appear to be most useful and powerful. Usually one or two dressings are sufficient, but if needed, they may be repeated once in three days, the old tow being removed each time. In severe cases the ragged portions of horn may be detached before the dressing is applied, and it may be advisable to dilute it with one-fourth of water, especially when the sensitive frog is exposed. If matter has burrowed, horn must be taken away to the full extent, and poultices applied for a day or two. In addition, a dose of purgative medicine will be of great service.

KEEPING WINTER APPLES.

MR. EDITOR,—From a somewhat lengthened experience, I have come to the conclusion that two things are essential to preserving apples for the winter, or marketing them late in the fall. The first is, that after they are picked from the trees, they should remain in open bins, boxes or barrels until they have sweated and dried off, when they are ready for the packages, and should be put up for permanency only in cool, dry weather. For long keeping they should be put in clean, tight boxes or barrels, and placed in as cool a room or cellar as may be, without freezing.

I have a large number of boxes in which I market grapes, and holding two-thirds of a bushel each; into these I put winter apples for my own use, and very fine ones are wiped off with a cloth before being put up. In this way they keep better than in any other way which I have tried, and I had Newtown pippins and russets until last July.

I am satisfied that no package should be opened during the winter, until the contents are wanted for use, and I have found that when I have assorted apples in barrels during the winter, they did not keep so well thereafter as those which had not been opened.

Some recommend laying the apples on shelves, I have never tried this mode except by accident, and the few specimens so left have invariably wilted before they should have lost their solidity.

One of the advantages of my boxes is that only a few apples are exposed at any time when wanted for use. Formerly, when I kept them in barrels, I always found, when a barrel was opened and we began to use the apples, they rotted much faster than those not exposed.

One farmer habitually puts up his apples in good barrels, honestly packed, having picked out the inferior ones, and making the quality equal through the package. His mark becomes known to buyers, and always commands the best prices. Another farmer (and there are a good many of this kind) *very carefully* picks out the cider apples, puts a few good ones in the bottom of the barrels, puts in the cider apples and fills up with good ones, and then chuckles over his superior smartness (he should say rascality) in getting ahead of the ignoramuses.

The writer last fall saw a lot of Newtown pippins offered to a buyer who ships to England. A head was taken out of a barrel, and the fruit looked very well; the buyer asked to see the other end, so it was headed up and the bottom opened, when the fine shipping apples proved to be rather mean cider apples. They did not sell for a very high price. It is strange that men cannot be convinced by the testimony of all fruit buyers that it will pay best to put up fruit honestly.

A word about packing apples (I mean winter apples) immediately after they have been picked, I have read of some noted fruit men who are reported to do so, but I must still insist upon it that there is no security for their keeping well. Thousands of barrels were shipped last fall to England put up in this way, and costing the shippers two dollars a barrel or more on shipboard, and returning them not more than half cost. They arrived wet and shrunken, and were sold very low, while the freight and charges were as much as if they had brought full prices.

COXSACKIE.

"BEST WOOD FOR BUTTER."

To be best for butter packages, wood should be so close-grained and solid as not to permit air to penetrate through it to reach the butter. It should also be as free as possible from flavour and odour, and little inclined to shrink or swell. White oak answers these requisitions the best of any wood we have, but other kinds of timber can be used with recommendation to a variety of wood, for butter packages that it is, "sweet," or has an agreeable flavour or odour, as an inquirer suggests might, perhaps be the case. Any effect whatever, which wood may impart to butter, will injure the taste of the butter, and, also, its keeping. Butter is best when uncontaminated with any substance foreign to itself, except salt, and that even should be used sparingly. Hemlock is objectionable, first, because of its prominent flavour; second; because porous or open-grained and third, from its susceptibility to shrinking and swelling. I am not able to name, in answer to question, any parties who are now making or using hemlock for butter packages, but it has been used for that purpose with good effect, and can be again, if good timber is selected and properly prepared.

Only such as is sound and free from knots should be used, and the timber should be worked so as to break as little as possible, the grains or layers of wood formed by the annual growth of the tree. Between these layers the wood is very spongy, soft, and porous, and presents but little obstruction to the passage of air or penetrating liquids like brine, or even acid. Hemlock and most kinds of wood make better butter packages, to work the timber so that the layers or grains, as they are called, shall run sidewise in the staves of the package, giving them a position similar to the one they have in the standing tree, rather than to divide the timber from bark to centre as is usually done in riving shingles. Then the sap should be taken out of the wood. This may be done with boiling hot brine. Fill the package with the hot brine and let it stand until cold. This will not only remove the sap, but it will fill the pores of the wood with salt and make it impervious to air and diminish the tendency to shrinking and swelling. The package should first be soaked with cold brine or subjected for a short time to super-heated steam. With such a preparation hemlock, and, indeed, most kinds of wood, will make very acceptable butter packages.

There is much prejudice, and a great deal of bitter complaint against wooden packages for butter, and it is certain that the cases in which butter will remain sound in them more than for a pretty short period, are very rare. The complaints, however, which are charged upon wooden packages are not always solely due to the use of that kind of package. The shortcomings in the keeping of butter are oftener due to the faulty method of manufacturing, or a faulty preparation of the package. Butter defectively made will not long resist change, no matter what kind of a vessel it may be put in, and then the package gets unjustly blamed for the sins of the manufacturer. But more blame comes to the wooden package from its defective preparation. Very few prepare wooden packages so that they will keep butter as well as they are capable of doing. They are generally soaked only in cold water, or with cold brine. Neither of these will remove all the sap and flavour from the wood, and no package is fit to put butter in for long keeping until this is done. They will only cleanse out a part of the sap.

A firkin made of the best white oak, after soaking several days in cold brine, as strong as it can be made, will in a few weeks impart a flavour to the butter next to the wood, and the longer it stands the farther will it creep into the butter. Timber which has more flavour than oak will produce a more rapid and marked effect. If, after being well soaked in cold brine, the firkin is filled with a boiling hot brine, made with a saturated solution of pure salt, and the brine left in till it gets cold, the sap and woody flavour will be so completely removed that the butter may lie next to the wood for any length of time, and be no more affected than in the middle of the package. This treatment with boiling hot brine should never be omitted for any wooden package in which butter is to be kept, and if it is well performed, wood for butter packages would be in much better repute than it is at present.—*Prof. L. B. Arnold in N. Y. Tribune.*

THE GRASSES.

Rye Grass, or Perennial Rye Grass, or Darnel—*Lolium perenne*, grows in spikes, and the spikelets are set alternately on the wavy orsiz-zag main stalk, with their *edges*, and not flat sides, towards the main stalk. It grows about two feet high. It has been long known and valued in *England*, and has been introduced into this country, but does not prove of equal value here. It is not cultivated, but has found its way into grass fields. Another species, called,

The Italian Rye-grass—*Lolium italicum*, has been more recently introduced, and is undergoing experiment, and high hopes are entertained of its value by some.

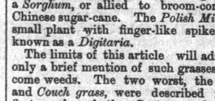
Sweet-Scented Vernal grass—*Anthoxanthum odoratum*, is distinguished from nearly every other grass by its fine perfume while drying. The panicle is contracted nearly to a spike, but in shady places is more spreading. It is of little value in agriculture, although recommended as a mixture for early pastures, and for lawns.

The Hungarian grass, or Hungarian millet—*Setaria italica, var. germanica*, being an annual crop, and not a grass for, meadows and pastures, hardly belongs here. A brief notice may, however, be useful. There are several varieties of this species,

RYE GRASS.

and this is regarded as one of the best. The large compound spike is well represented in the accompanying cut. It has been long cultivated in Hungary as grain for horses, and has been within a few years extensively introduced into this country, and is highly valued by many.

Another millet, wholly unlike this in appearance, which has been much cultivated in Germany and to so extent in England, as food for fowls, called the *Common Millet*,



is the *Panicum miliaceum*, and has a partly drooping and much branching panicle. It has a hard yellow seed.

Indian Millet is several feet high, and is a *Sorghum*, or allied to broom-corn and Chinese sugar-cane. The *Polish Millet* is a small plant with finger-like spikes, and known as a *Digitaria*.

The limits of this article will admit of only a brief mention of such grasses as become weeds. The two worst, the *Chess*, and *Couch grass*, were described in the first number of the *Register*, and a brief notice given given of the *Fox-tail grass*. several species the genus *Panicum* are weeds of more or less troublesome character, among which may be mentioned the *P. crus-galli* and the, *P. cappillare*, (or the cocks-foot and old-witch grasses;) the *Digitaria* or crab grass, which is more troublesome towards the South; and the *Andropogon furcutus* and *A. scoparius*, or Indian grass, coarse brown plants, growing in poor neglected fields, and of which Dr. Darlington remarks, "no further evidence is required to demonstrate the unprofitable condition of the land, or the miserable management of the occupant."

The Sedge grasses, of which the genus

ITALIAN RYE GRASS.

Carex forms the largest portion, grow mostly in wet places, and are coarse and of little value. Cattle eat them only when they can get nothing better. The sedges are eradicated by drainage and cultivation.

Of Forage plants, which are not grasses, the only ones cultivated successfully in this country, are Red and White clover. There are two or more varities of the Red—the larger, coarser and later flowering, and the smaller, finer and ealier flowering. The latter is best for hay, the former for ploughing in as green manure. The White clover is of little value in meadows, but forms a good mixture in pastures, and is especially valuable mixed with Red-top, for lawns requiring frequent mowing.

NUTRITIVE VALUE OF HAY.

According to the experiments of several eminent European agriculturists, 100 lbs. of good meadow hay are equal to about 90 lbs. of best cured clover hay, 300 to 500 lbs. of rye straw, (varying with time of cutting, &c.,) 200 to 400 lbs of oat straw, 200 to 300 lbs. of ruta bagas, 250 to 400 lbs. of mangold wurtzels, 200 to 300 lbs. of carrots, 150 to 200 lbs. of potatoes, 30 to 60 lbs of beans or peas, 50 to 60 lbs. of Indian corn, 65 lbs. of buckwheat, 35 to 75 lbs. of barley, 40 to 80 lbs. of oats, 30 to 70 lbs of rye, 30 to 60 lbs of wheat, and 40 to 100 lbs. of oil cake

MANAGEMENT OF GRASS LAND.

The limits of this article will allow only a brief outline of the essential requisites for growing heavy crops of good grass.

The *first*, is a rich soil. Every farmer has observed the great difference in the crop on a poor knoll, and on a manured, fertile, or moist spot. Land laid down to grass should, therefore, be in the best order; and as most grass roots do not run deep, a surface manuring on heavy soils, or a coating turned in with a gang-plough on lighter land, would be very useful before seeding.

Thick seeding is the next requisite. Many thickly seeded fields show bare spots, which are so much loss in land. If these spots constitute a third of a six acre field, then two acres are wasted. It has been found by careful counting that a foot square of rich old pasture, composed of mixed grasses, contains about a thousand plants; and some highly enriched and irrigated meadows have contained nearly twice that number. This is 7 to 12 plants to a square inch. Now, let us see how much of the different grass seeds will give this number of plants. There are in a bushel of clear seed, of

Timothy	40,000,000 seeds.
Orchard grass	7,000,000 seeds.
June grass	45,000,000 seeds.
Red-top	70,000,000 seeds.
Meadow Fescue	25,000,000 seeds.
Red clover	16,000,000 seeds.
White clover	25,000,000 seeds.

There are about 6,000,000, square inches to an acre; and allowing for one-third not growing, there ought to be 10 seeds to a square inch, or 6,000,000 per acre. It will be seen that this would require nearly a bushel of Red-top, and more than a bushel of June grass or Timothy. There are some grasses occupying more room; for example, a good sod of Meadow Fox-tail, six years old, was found to have about 80 plants to the foot, or less than one to each square inch; there are 6,000,000 seed of this grass to a bushel; consequently about two-thirds of a bushel would seed an acre, if all grew. Clover plants occupy as much space, and a peck to half a bushel is a good seeding.

The preceding table will show the proportions of each to take, in forming a mixture of several sorts.

The writer of this article has tried thick seeding to great advantage; from half a bushel to a bushel of mixed timothy and clover having nearly doubled the crop from ordinary qualities, ane rendered it finer and softer. The coarse and harsh character of hay from new meadows would be avoided by heavy seeding.

Depth of Burying. Much seed is lost by want of moisture and no covering, and much by burying too deep with the harrow. By careful experiments it appears that most of the common species of grass grow best when covered not over one-fourth of an inch deep; at a depth of about three-fourths to one inch only one-half grows; and nearly all kinds, including red clover, fail when buried two or three inches. The character of the soil would make much difference; for example, seed might be buried nearly twice as deep on light sandy as on strong loams. Seed sown on smooth mellow ground, and rolled, will generally be covered from a quarter half an inch, and will succeed well if not followed by drouth. On light and thin soils, a fine harrow, made of many large cut nails, driven through plank, sloping backwards, will do good service. Nothing is better to make seed "catch," and start the young grass speedily, than a top dressing of rotted manure or fine compost, just before seeding.

VERNAL GRASS.

Old and New Seed. Grass seed two or three years old is comparatively worthless; yet there is no ready way to detect it. The temptation in dealers to mix old with new, is no doubt sometimes great. The best way to test it, is to sprinkle the seed evenly and thinly between folds of cloth, and keep these constantly wet, but not soaked, and in a warm place, for a few days. If all or nearly all, will sprout, the seed is evidently of the best quality; if they are plump and only half germinate, it will lead to suspicion of mixture. In this case, twice the usual quantity should be sown.

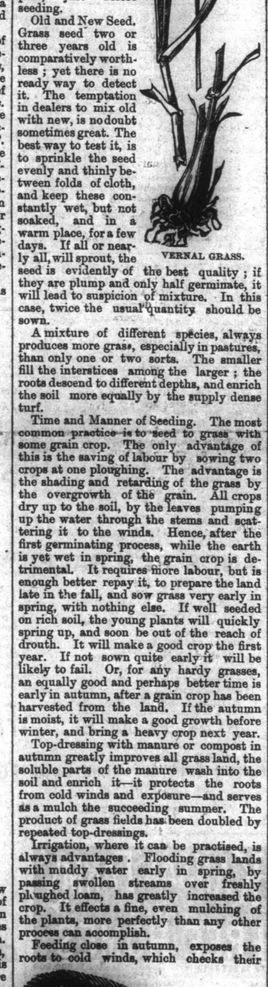
A mixture of different species, always produces more grass, especially in pastures, than only one or two sorts. The smaller fill the interstices among the larger; the roots descend to different depths, and enrich the soil more equally by the supply dense turf.

Time and Manner of Seeding. The most common practice is to seed to grass with some grain crop. The only advantage of this is the saving of labour by sowing two crops at one ploughing. The advantage is the shading and retarding of the grass by the overgrowth of the grain. All crops dry up to the soil, by the leaves pumping up the water through the stems and scattering it to the winds. Hence, after the first germinating process, while the earth is yet wet in spring, the grain crop is detrimental. It requires more labour, but is enough better repay it, to prepare the land late in the fall, and sow grass very early in spring, with nothing else. If well seeded on rich soil, the young plants will quickly spring up, and soon be out of the reach of drouth. It will make a good crop the first year. If not sown quite early it will be likely to fail. Or, for any hardy grasses, an equally good and perhaps better time is early in autumn, after a grain crop has been harvested from the land. If the autumn is moist, it will make a good growth before winter, and bring a heavy crop next year.

Top-dressing with manure or compost in autumn greatly improves all grass land, the soluble parts of the manure wash into the soil and enrich it—it protects the roots from cold winds and exposure—and serves as a mulch the succeeding summer. The product of grass fields has been doubled by repeated top-dressings.

Irrigation, where it can be practised, is always advantages. Flooding grass lands with muddy water early in spring, by passing swollen streams over freshly ploughed loam, has greatly increased the crop. It effects a fine, even mulching of the plants, more perfectly than any other process can accomplish.

Feeding close in autumn, exposes the roots to cold winds, which checks their



HUNGARIAN GRASS.

early growth in spring, while a good coating of grass serves as an excellent protection, and favours an early and abundant crop. Pastures or meadows which have been closely fed, will be greatly improved and saved by a top-dressing of litter or of compost, applied in autumn.

Time of Cutting Grass for Hay. Early in its growth, grass is watery; as it approaches blossoming, the amount of sweet nourishing juice increaces after blossoming; and as the seed ripens, the sugar diminishes, and the hard woody fibre increases. The best time, therefore, generally is to cut within a few days after the principal portion of the crop has appeared in flower. For milch cows it should be cut a little earlier than for working oxen and horses. Hard stemmed grasses, as Orchard grass and Timothy, should be cut earlier than softer sorts.

CURRENT EVENTS IN MANITOBA.

A Local Militia Scandal—The French Reserve Scandal—Tortuous Policy.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

WINNIPEG, August 26th.

A very extraordinary scandal has occurred in connection with the Local Volunteer Force. The No. 1 Winnipeg Infantry company, organized scarce eighteen months ago, with its complement of men complete, was first of all denied an opportunity of performing annual training this year, though the regulations gave preference to city corps; then the two subalterns simultaneously sent in their resignations; next the arms of the company were ordered in; and finally the corps has been gazetted out of existence as being "ineffective" and "disorganized," though the captain, a first-class Military school cadet, had recommended another Military School cadet for the lieutenancy, and Governor Cauchon's private secretary for an appointment likewise. So soon as he was freed from the restraints of military etiquette, the captain at once wrote a letter to the *Free Press*, exposing the intrigues alleged to have been resorted to by Col. Osborne Smith, D.A.S., to break up the corps. It appears from the statement thus made that Col. Smith actually required the captain, a few weeks ago, to parade the company for his inspection between the hours of 11 a.m. and 6 p.m., at a place more than a mile from their armoury. The captain, apparently guessing this was done in order to make him turn out with a small muster, and thus furnish a pretext for the corps being declared ineffective, declined to assume the personal responsibility of rendering the service unpopular by calling upon the men without authority of law, to absent themselves from their avocations during business hours, while at the same time he expressed his readiness to obey the colonel's hests, provided he would issue an *order* instead of a *request* for such a parade as he required. It is pointed out as a significant fact that the lieutenant of the company began to canvass for a new company even previous to his resignation from his corps being gazetted, and it appears that Col. Smith has actually sanctioned his endeavours to regain an appointment in this way. The ex-captain, moreover, charges that Col. Smith offered inducements to the two subalterns to resign, by representing that the existing company was to be broken up, and that timely resignation was their only chance to secure re-appointment. He goes perhaps a little too far in venturing to assign motives for Col. Smith's action, by declaring that the purpose is to break up the volunteer corps one after the other, so that perchance a permanent garrison might be re-established, bringing additional emoluments to the D. A. G. Following upon the appearance of this letter, the gallant colonel wrote to the *Free Press*, threatening instant legal proceedings if the editor declined to make a prompt apology for, and disavowal of the statements in the letter thus published. This brought out an editorial article, declaring that the conduct of Col. Smith in requiring volunteers to parade during business hours was certainly calculated to destroy the force, and calling upon the authorities for an official investigation. It is reported that several serious charges against Col. Smith has been forwarded to the authorities at Ottawa, backed by influential representations, and it is thought that an enquiry will be ordered into the conduct of the D. A. S., even if that officer, for the satisfaction of his honour, does not demand one in view of the published accusations of misrepresentation to his superiors regarding the condition of the Winnipeg company which have appeared in the *Free Press*. The view generally taken by people here is that the captain was justified in declining to comply with a demand that he knew was illegal and contrary to the interests of his command, and that it was unreasonable of Col. Smith, who is said to be remiss in attending to militia matters, to expect 45 members of a company to make personal sacrifices in order that he might hold the inspection close to his own house, without interfering with his dinner hour, such inspection, moreover, not being usual in the service, as companies are, as a rule, only inspected at the termination of their annual training.

While touching on militia matters I should mention again that, while every member of the House who spoke on that item in the estimates last session was in favour of a reduction in the militia staff, and that two brigade majors have since been dispensed with; yet in this district, where there are not 200 volunteers all told, the Deputy Adjutant-General has since then been granted assistance in his duties by the appointment of an "acting orderly officer," at a higher rate of pay than the district paymaster and storekeeper, a veteran officer of the regular army, who has served for years in the Canadian militia, and who, while supply officer to the now abolished garrison, by his personal integrity, interposed an insurmountable obstacle to unscrupulous persons plundering the public. It will be interesting to note how Mr. Jones will undertake to defend this increase in the Manitoba staff when the estimates next come before the House of Commons.

The difficulty in Township Tache has become yet more aggravated, owing to another change in the policy of Mr. Mills. That very bright and conscientious Minister, after first of all permitting English-speaking squatters to take possession of claims on the French reserve without let or hindrance, declined to interfere when the French immigrants complained that they were not allowed to enter upon their homesteads, and had been driven off with violence, officially notifying the injured parties to take their action for trespass. Next, finding this course would embitter the feelings of the entire French-speaking population, which would be obviously inconvenient in view of a general election, Mr. Mills sent a Dominion Lands office official from Winnipeg to notify the squatters that they must pay one dollar per acre for their claims within thirty days or clear out, and the money thus obtained, instead of going into the Treasury, was to be handed over to the repatriated French Canadians from Massachusetts as compensation for their deprivation of the claims for which they held official entry certificates. This most flagitious proposal was promptly rejected by the Manitoba Colonization Society (French), whose hostility became still more intensified at the idea of the Government condoning—for a consideration—the illegal acts and personal violence of the squatters, by permitting them still to intrude in a community where their presence was not desired. It is absolutely amusing to observe the time-serving policy of Mr. Mills. Finding that the French would not accept the above settlement, he has now determined to eject the English-speaking squatters, and the same official has accordingly just returned from a trip to Township Taché, where he had been sent again to undo the work of a month ago, his instructions being to insist that the squatters should take back their money already paid, give back the entry certificates promising them letters patent for the claims in their occupation, and clear out bag and baggage. I cannot yet ascertain how this latest "message of peace" was received; but, if the English have any spirit at all, I should think they they would now stick to their claims and insist upon receiving their patents.

Rev. J. S. Sykes, port chaplain of Quebec and pastor of Trinity Church congregation, died on Friday afternoon of congestion of the lungs, caused by a cold contracted by him in visiting a patient on Saturday in the marine hospital.

GENERAL.

At a recent sale at Middleburg (Cape Colony), twenty pairs of breeding ostriches realized an average of $1,000 the pair.

The present cheapness of fodder is said to make a difference of $2,500 per week in feeding the 6,000 horses of the London General Omnibus Company.

The Pope is about to send a massive gold crown, decorated with jewels, to King Menelek, of Shoa, Abyssinia, the "rightful heir" whom King John has *not* recognized.

A tavern keeper in Bristol, England, has relinquished selling beer and strong liquors over his bar, and confines himself to milk. He does a good business, and has no license to pay.

The next meeting of the International Congress on Prisons, which has just adjourned in Stockholm, will take place in Rome. Amelioration of prison life is its object.

Leo XIII. has ordered a census of the clergy residing in Rome, with full details as to where and how they live, their fortunes and church functions, in order to institute certain reforms.

Gambling has been largely on the increase in London this season. The sales of one of the leading manufacturers of playing cards show an increase of eleven hundred dozen packs over last year.

The theatre at Xivry, in the department of Charente-Inférieure, recently played "Cartouche." On the play bill it was announced that "the rôles of thieves would be played by amateurs of the town."

A new style of purse has been contrived for European tourists. It appears like an ordinary portemonnaie, but there is in one side of it a spring which drops a trigger and the other end of it opens the muzzle of a revolver.

A boy of fifteen has been brought before the magistrates of Bristol, England, charged with several burglaries. A waggon-load of plunder, valued at from $2,000 to $3,000, was produced in court, as also the young gentleman's kit of housebreaking tools and a library of exciting fiction of the "penny dreadful" sort.

Mrs. George Dixon went to Mr. Dameron, a Cincinnati dentist, to have an aching tooth pulled. He extracted the wrong tooth. She went away very angry, and on the following day, when he said "Good morning" to her in the street, she retorted, "You'd better say good morning to my tooth." At that he lost his temper and choked her, but she pulled out part of his beard and had him arrested.

The steamship Great Eastern has, it is said, been purchased by a company, who intend using her as a cattle-boat to ply between Texas and London. She is now being fitted out at Milford Haven, and is to have new engines and boilers, manufactured by the Clyde Iron Works, at a cost of $500,000. Refrigerators will be built in her for the purpose of carrying fresh beef. It is estimated that she will carry 2,200 head of cattle and 3,000 head of mutton.

A woman was recently seen going through the streets of Birkenhead, England, covered with flour and treacle. It seems she had been too intimate with her sister's husband, and a letter from her addressed to him, making an appointment, fell into the wife's hands. Instead of the husband meeting his sister-in-law, the wife made arrangements with about forty or fifty of her friends, and money was freely spent in flour and treacle which, having been applied to the person of the sister, rendered her a pitiful object as she made her way through the streets, followed by a crowd of jeering women.

A court-martial assembled at Genoa recently to try Paolini, a private soldier, who on being let out of his cell had hurled a volley of foul epithets at Corporal Cazzaniga, and Mariani, another soldier of bad character, was a witness for him. Mariani had secreted an awl in his clothing, and watching his chance fell on Cazzaniga and stabbed oim thrice in the ribs; meanw