

the successive ploughings. If after the weeds are turned under, they come to the surface in less than a month, the ploughing must be repeated oftener. If they appear in a week, the work must be repeated in less than a week. A neighbour destroyed in one season the quack grass which covered a large field, but he went over it as often as once a week. If he had slacked, or let the weeds peep, he might have worked at it unsuccessfully for fifty years to come. This mode will not do for slipshod farmers, and it would save them labour not to begin or undertake it.—*Acer, in Country Gentleman.*

HOW TO FORETELL WEATHER.

The Farmers' Club of the American Institute has issued the following rules for foretelling the weather. If farmers and others whose business is out of doors and depends upon the weather, will study them closely, they will be able to guess the weather more accurately than Wiggins or Venner:

First.—When the temperature falls suddenly, there is a storm forming south of you.

Second.—When the temperature rises suddenly, there is a storm forming north of you.

Third.—The wind blows from a region of fair weather toward a region where a storm is forming.

Fourth.—Cirrus clouds always move from a region where a storm is in process to a region of fair weather.

Fifth.—Cumulus clouds always move from a region of fair weather to a region where a storm is forming.

Sixth.—When cirrus clouds are moving rapidly from the north or the north-east, there will be rain inside of twenty-four hours, no matter how cold it is.

Seventh.—When cirrus clouds are moving rapidly from the south or south-east, there will be a cold rainstorm on the morrow, if it be summer, and if it be winter, there will be a snow storm.

Eighth.—The wind always blows in a circle around a storm; and when it blows from the north the heaviest rain is east of you; if it blows from the south the heaviest rain is west of you; if it blows from the east the heaviest rain is south; if it blows from the west the heaviest rain is north of you.

Ninth.—The wind never blows unless rain or snow is falling within one thousand miles of you.

Whenever heavy white frosts occur, a storm is forming within one thousand miles north or north-west of you.

THEORY OF CROP ROTATION.

It is now generally admitted that rotation of crops is rendered necessary, not as formerly supposed because the soil becomes exhausted of some necessary element, or becomes unwholesome for that particular plant, owing to poisonous excretions left by the roots, but because insects and diseases accompany the plant which are special to it, the eggs or spores of which are left in the soil to attack the same crop in the next following year with hundredfold increase of numbers and power. Prof. Bessy, of the Iowa Agricultural College, shows how this is the case with smut, which grows up through all the interior of a wheat plant, and finally develops its spores within the bran casing of the grain, filling it not with flour, but with innumerable black, stinking seeds of the parasite, which when set free float out and stick fast to sound grains of wheat, and also to particles of the soil, where they lie ready to enter into the circulation of the next year's growth of wheat-plants, unless killed by steeping the polluted seed in blue vitriol solution and drying off

with lime. As to the polluted soil, it is purified from the contamination only by using it for some other crop on which the smut-plant cannot take hold.

SOME THINGS THAT SCIENCE DON'T TEACH.

In scalding a hog, does science teach that if the water is a little too hot the hair will not slip, that it is set, and must be shaved off with a knife? Every farmer should know these things, and they must be taught. Do any of the graduates in any agricultural school know that in building a stack of grain or hay, it must be kept full—est in the middle, and well trod down? Do they know how to tie up and shock wheat? Do they know how to whet a scythe? Do they know that if the blade is whetted up and down, it will not cut off the straw clean, as it should be whetted from the heel to the point? Do they know how to lengthen or shorten the plough gear, so that the plough will not cut too deep or shallow? Do they know how to put up a rail fence, so that some of the rails will not project at the corners to snag the stock? Do they know how to put up a stone fence so it will stand, and that the long rocks ought to be put crosswise the fence to act as braces, and if this is done it will not tumble by settling? Do they know how to square a house? Science teaches them that the square of the hypotenuse of a right angled triangle is equal to the sum of the squares of the two sides; but they have never seen the application of this rule; thus they build a house pointing every way but the right way. Experience teaches us that with a ten-foot pole a house can be squared in five minutes. We measure eight feet on one sill and make a notch, six feet on the other sill and make a notch. If the ten-foot pole just reaches from notch to notch that corner is square. The other three corners treated in the same way will be square, and also the house.—“*Old Farmer,*” in *Southern Planter.*

DOES FARMING PAY?

The Providence *Democrat*, in answering this question, tells of a young farmer in that State who thought it did not pay, and therefore went to the city to look for a situation where he could make more money. He consulted an acquaintance, who had a good position in the city, and they compared notes. The farmer had supported his family on a hired farm, fed and clothed them well, but had only put by \$50 during the year. The clerk, whose family is not as large, had lived very prudently upon a salary of \$8 per day, and had accumulated a debt of \$75 in the same length of time. Nearly every dollar of his pay could be accounted for in house rent, car fare, food, fuel and necessary clothing, and the debt was caused by a purchase of needed furniture. It is unnecessary to state that the farmer returned to the farm with a different idea of the profits and of farming.

SOMETHING WORTH TRYING.

Thousands of weeds can be gathered during this month, and if dumped into chicken yards may be turned by the fowls into a good fertilizer. Three or four dozen fowls will pulverize a good many tons of vegetable rubbish during the fall, if given the opportunity. They are even better pulverizers of such stuff than hogs, though many people don't know it. Bog hay, marsh weeds, salt hay, potato tops, straw, corn stalks, buck-wheat straw, turnip tops, etc., are available, and, what is better still, the work gives the fowls employment and keeps them out of mischief.

HINTS FOR THE HOUSEHOLD.

POTATO PUDDING.—Two pounds of potatoes boiled and mashed, one-half pound sugar, one-half pound butter, six eggs, one nutmeg. Bake quick.

TAKE a white china plate and spread a thin covering of common lard over it; place it on the floor or shelf infested by ants, and you will be pleased with the result. Stirring them up every morning is all that is required to set the trap again.

After the dust has been thoroughly beaten out of carpets, and they are tacked down again, they can be brightened very much by scattering corn meal mixed with salt over them, and then sweeping it all off. Mix the salt and meal in equal proportions.

A PRETTY new jacket for housewear is gathered at the waist in the back and has a ribbon belt, which, beginning at the gathers, ties across the front precisely like the belts of the large wraps; in fact, the English description of this garment is “a dust cloak cut shorter.”

THERE is a way of using the small strips of crazy patchwork, to be found in the houses of many women, who, without sufficient deliberate wickedness to make a whole quilt, have yet had the naughtiness to think of it. They may be used to trim the ends of mantle scarfs and toilet covers.

To whiten flannels; a solution of one and a half pounds of white soap and two thirds of an ounce of spirits of ammonia dissolved in twelve gallons of soft water, will impart a beautiful and lasting whiteness to any flannels dipped in it, no matter how yellow they may have been previous to their immersion. After being well stirred around for a short time the articles should be taken out and well washed in clear cold water.

BOIL one smoked beef tongue until thoroughly done; when cold grate it fine. Take the yolks of four hard-boiled eggs, mashed fine, add two table-spoonfuls of olive oil to the eggs, beat well; then a dessert-spoonful of made mustard, half a tea-spoonful of salt, pepper to taste, and about a quarter of a pint of good vinegar; beat the dressing well; when the salad is wanted, mix the dressing with the beef tongue. This makes a nice sandwich.

TAKE small cucumbers and let them lie for thirty-six or forty-eight hours in a brine that will make them as salt as you like them for eating. Take two quarts good cider vinegar, with cinnamon red-pepper and horseradish to taste; boil hard for fifteen minutes, then throw in the pickles and put enough vinegar to cover them. Let them scald, not boil, set back and keep hot until they are green, then pack in jars. Scald fresh vinegar in the proportion of one pint of sugar to a gallon of vinegar, pour over them and seal tight.

A DRESSY little apron for afternoon wear can be made by taking a piece of cheese-cloth twenty-nine inches long by twenty-one wide, and after hemming the sides, fringing out the bottom to the depth of four inches; a couple of inches above the fringe draw the threads for two more, and run in either satin or ottoman ribbon of light weight. If the ribbon is pink, embroider in the left hand corner above it a spray of wild roses in natural colours in outline stitch. If blue, corn flowers are pretty. At the top of the apron make two small gores so that it will fit smoothly, and after binding with the cheese-cloth, tack on a piece of the ribbon long enough to tie in a bow at the back. For one it requires one yard of cheese-cloth and three of ribbon, two inches wide. The design for embroidering can be drawn or traced with a pencil from something else. These aprons are very pretty for fairs or little presents, and are both inexpensive and quickly made.