

## AGRICULTURE.

**LILY OF THE VALLEY INDOORS.**—A correspondent informs us that she had splendid luck in blooming lilies of the valley without any special culture or pains being taken. She simply bought good strong imported single pips, planted them in boxes six inches deep, filled with soil composed of one-third loam, one-third peat, and the balance well-rotted manure and sand; after a good watering and pressing down of the roots they were placed in a cellar and covered with four inches of ashes. This was on October 1st. They were not seen until January 15th when some of them were brought up into a warmer place, where they gradually came up nicely, not one failing to bloom. Within the last few years the fashion for the flowers of the lily of the valley has increased to such an extent, that though the importation of roots has probably trebled each year, the price of the flowers is still quite as high as when the forcing first began. The failures which attend the winter flowering of this plant are due, mainly, to the use of improperly developed roots. As with similar plants, a certain size or development of the crown, or underground bud, is essential to produce the flower. What that size should be is not always, even with the most experienced, easy to determine. In the tube-rose, the Japan, and other lilies we find that bulbs that are less than an inch in diameter are not certain to flower. The crown, or "pip," as the florists sometimes call it, of the lily of the valley, when sufficiently developed to flower, should be at least an inch and a quarter in length and one inch in diameter. This, however, is not the extreme limit, as much smaller pips have been bloomers. *Farm and Garden.*

**MANAGING HORSES.**—I don't believe that there is one horse in a thousand that cannot be driven without blinders to a top-buggy, provided he is properly managed from the first. Besides, the use of the blind-bridle does not ensure safety. A horse that had thus been driven for years, and was considered perfectly safe, being left standing with the buggy, turning his head and seeing the top, took fright and ran away. That a young horse at first sight should be frightened by a buggy top is perfectly natural. It might not be prudent to hitch him in on the instant. But the fact that the horse's fear would make it unsafe to drive him at nine o'clock, is no reason why he should not be driven with perfect safety before ten, or at any time afterwards. The same may be said of carrying an umbrella, or a rattling bucket, or firing a gun on the horse's back. Whatever the sights or sounds that frighten the horse now, his fear of them may be readily removed with a little patience and kind treatment. A man rode up to a store and bought a broom. The horse at sight of the broom showed signs of fear, and the man amused himself by thrusting the broom into the horse's face. He then mounted, and asked a bystander to hand him the broom, sneering at the friendly warning of danger. He took the broom and was quickly thrown off into the mud. Served him right, too. Had he given the horse a little time to study the broom, spoken kindly to the animal, carried the broom gently over the horse, touching him with it on both sides, he might have carried the broom and kept his seat in the saddle. To drive the horse with open bridle to a top-buggy, bring him to the buggy and introduce him to it in a straightforward manner. Raise and lower the top, let the horse see it in all positions, smell of it; lead him into the shafts head foremost; raise the shafts, and play them up and down and against the animal's body; move and shake the buggy; in a little while you will perceive that his fear is going, and you can hitch him in and drive him. The best drivers now-a-days discard blinders entirely.—*Evangelist.*

**DIFFERENCE IN EGGS.**—We witnessed the weighing of 12 eggs, taken from a basket of them produced by Brahma pullets only 9 months old, which weighed 2 pounds 2 ounces, and 12 eggs taken from a basket of Cape eggs, so called, that weighed 1 pound 2 ounces. Now here is a whole pound of difference. Where is the justice in selling eggs by the dozen? Farmers would have to hold their eggs but a single week to drive dealers to comply with the law now on our statute books.

Bantam eggs weigh 15 to the pound. They are over 100 per cent. larger according to the weight of the producer than the average.

Brahmas of 7½ pounds (average weight) produce.....2 lbs. 2 oz. per dozen.  
Common fowls of 4½ pounds (average weight) produce. 1 lb. 2 oz. "  
Brahmas of 22 oz. (average weight) produce.....12 oz. "

Were eggs sold by the pound it would be an easy matter to settle that Brahmas and Bantams would become the most profitable of all the fowls as egg producers. Brahmas produce their eggs in winter in a greater proportion, which would more than balance the greater number from Leghorns in summer.—*Our Country Home.*

It is an unusual home that does not have trees about it, either fruit or shade. These must soon cast their leaves, and though agreeable in their season in the shade which they produce, they are unsightly when left to be blown about by the wind, and when so left they seldom go to decay where they are of any benefit to the soil, so far as any advantage to the farm is concerned. But if collected together and saved in some dry and convenient place, they may be made to serve a valuable purpose in furnishing bedding for hogs, cows, or horses. Nor is there anything better for banking houses to protect cold cellars than leaves closely packed.

Mr. C. V. McGugor, of the Osborne House, has just killed two hogs, eighteen months old, which tipped the scale at the splendid weights of 538 and 488 pounds. Another hog, 6½ months old, weighed 265 pounds.—*Badddeck Reporter.*

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under a proposed contract for four years, from the 1st April next.

Printed notices containing further information as to conditions of proposed Contract may be seen, and blank forms of Tender may be obtained, at the Post Offices of Erikville and Roman Valley and at this office.

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Post Office Inspector.  
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For sale by

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SPECIAL LINES OF NEW

**Fancy Goods.**

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**JUST RECEIVED.**

Boys' Suits from \$1.25 upwards.  
Infants' Robes, with Bonnet, \$2.25.

—ALSO—  
Children's Dresses, Trims, Pinafores, Aprons,  
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212 Argyle Street North Colonial Market.

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Wholesale Rates

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**TO FARMERS.  
LOBSTER GUANO.**

This concentrated, powerful and valuable fertilizer is now shipped, unscreened, at \$25, and fine screened, \$30 per ton of 2000 lbs., ex barrels or bags f. o. b. from wharf at Cape Canso. Orders for next season are booked from this date at Halifax, No. 67 Hollis Street. One ton of this Guano spread broadcast on a field with a sowing drill or otherwise, is equal in effect to fifty tons of common lobster waste as now used, but has no pernicious emanation nor unpleasant odor. It being a fine, dry and soluble powder, its action and assimilation are immediate.

For further particulars apply to above address or P.O. Box 33.

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Shirts, with Collars, 12 Cents.  
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