

Variety.

HOW TO MAKE MAPLE SUGAR.

Last year several essays were received in response to our call for experience on this important topic. We embody here the principal suggestions contained in these letters.

The time for tapping of course varies with the locality and the character of the season. In many places in ordinary seasons a large amount of sugar is made during February. The business should commence as early as the sap will flow.

Where but few trees are attended to, the ordinary utensils and fixtures used for household purposes will be sufficient; but where sugar-making is a part of the business of the farm, the grove or "sap bush," numbering from a hundred to thousands of trees, special, and in some cases, extensive preparations are necessary.

For tapping, a 3-4 inch bit is generally preferred. The holes should be 1 1-2 to 2 inches deep, entering only the sap wood, and inclining slightly upwards, to prevent the sap remaining and souring in the orifice. "Boxing," or chipping, is condemned as injurious to the tree, and the gash being exposed to the light and air, the wood soon dries, so as to require additional cutting or "freshening."

Wooden tubes, of quill elder, sumach, or pine, as may be most convenient, are preferable to tin or sheet iron. They should be fitted closely into the opening. Pails or tubs of cedar or pine, the inside unpainted, with a board cover to exclude leaves and dust, are the best vessels for receiving the sap from the tree. They may be hooped with wood, and made quite cheaply. It is well to have the top of larger diameter than the bottom so that ice may be easily removed, in case the sap should freeze in them. An auger hole or notch cut in the edge of the cover, admits the sap into the pail.

When the trees are quite near each other, labor may be saved by using leading troughs, running from tree to tree, and all finally emptying into a receiving tub. Or a line of troughs from near the centre of the bush to the tub, may be made, into which the collecting vessels are emptied. There is more wasted in the manner from leaking, spilling, and evaporation, than in the common method of hauling the sap to the boiling place in a capacious covered tub, mounted on a sled.

Sheet iron pans, (Russia iron is best,) five or six inches deep, set in mason work, so that the bottom is exposed to the heat, will evaporate the sap much more rapidly than can be done in the old-fashioned arch kettle.

A brick wall built across the middle of the fire chamber, to within two inches of the bottom of the pan, will throw the heat against the bottom of the pan, and save much fuel.

Some of the most successful sugar makers say, it is of the greatest importance in sugar making, that the sap be reduced to syrup in the shortest possible time after being collected. Although the sap may not sour in several days, its properties are undoubtedly affected by light and air, and the amount of crystallizable matter considerably diminished, so that even if the "run" be light for a few days, it is best to reduce to syrup every 8 or 12 hours. The precaution is even more necessary in the latter part of the season, when the sap crystallizes with more difficulty. By judicious boiling the available run may be prolonged several days.

To "sugar off," the syrup should be strained through a thick woolen cloth into a medium sized kettle, and reduced slowly, carefully guarding against burning, as this would greatly injure the color, and quality of the sugar. It is sufficiently done, when threads of the thick syrup break off short like glass, after cooling quietly in water or on snow. Then remove it from the fire, stir it continually, and when it begins to "grain," immediately turn it into the moulds. Grained sugar is prepared in the same manner, only that the stirring is continued until the mass is dry.

We have said nothing of clarifying, for experience has proved that if proper care be taken to keep every article used in the various processes scrupulously clean, and to prevent leaves, insects, etc., from falling into the sap, no clarifying agents are needed. We have eaten maple sugar of the finest quality both as to flavor and color, made entirely without clarifying.

The best form for the city retail market, is in small cakes, weighing from two to four ounces, as these are more convenient for peddling out. [Am. Agriculturist]

"Can you tell me what are the wages here?" inquired a laborer of a boy. "I don't know, sir." "What does your father get at the end of the week?" "Get," said the boy, "why, he gets as tight as a brick."

SATURDAY NIGHT.

What blessed thing—Saturday nights are and what would the world do without them? Those breathing moments in the march of life, those little twilights in the broad and garish glare of noon when yesterday looked beautiful through the shadows, and faces, changed long ago, smiling sweetly—again in the hush, when one remembers "the old folks at home," and the old arm chair. Saturday nights make people human! set their hearts to beating softly, as they used to do before the world turned them into wax drums, and jarred them to pieces with tattoos.

The ledger closes with a clash; the iron doored vaults come to with a bang; up go the shutters with a will; click goes the key in the lock. It is Saturday night, and business branches free again. Homeward, ho! The door that has been ajar all the week, gently closes behind him, the world is shut out! Shut in rather. Here are the treasures after all, and not in the vault, not in the book—save the record in the old family Bible—and not in the bank.

The dim and dusty shops are swept up, the hammer is thrown down, and the apron is doffed and labor hastens with a light step homeward bound.

May be you are a bachelor, frosty and forty. Then, poor fellow, Saturday nights are nothing to you, just as you are nothing to anything. Get a wife, blue-eyed or black-eyed, but above all, a true-eyed—get a home, no matter how little—two or two and a half, and then get the two or two and a half in it on a Saturday night, and then read this paragraph by the light of your wife's eyes, and thank God and take courage.

EDUCATION.—If I were to reduce to a single maxim the concentrated wisdom of the world on the subject of practical education, I should but enunciate a proposition which, I fear, is not incorporated as it should be into the practice of schools and families. That principle is, that in educating the young, you serve them most effectually, not by what you do for them, but what you teach them to do for themselves. The popular opinion seems to be that education is putting something into the mind of a child, by exercising merely its power of receptivity, its memory. I say nay. The great principle on which a child should be educated, is not that of reception, but rather that of action, and it will ever remain uneducated, in the highest sense so long as its higher mental powers remain inert. It was well said by the eminent Dr. Mason, "Let the aim of education be to convert the mind into a living fountain, and not a reservoir." That which is filled by merely pumping in, will be emptied by pumping out.

PRaise YOUR WIFE.—Ay, praise your wife! and not by words only. Why do you praise any one? to please him, make him happy? Well, whom do you more wish to please and to make happy than she on whom your own happiness depends? So, praise your wife, man! For, "just in proportion as you render her happy, you increase your own happiness." Why not have your house filled with sunshine and beauty all the time, when you can do it by kind feelings and pleasant words, rather than shut out the cheering and health-giving light by clouds of churlishness? Your feelings may be good enough, and you may have enough of them: but how will they benefit your family while they are hidden? What good does the gold as long as it is concealed in the mine? Bring out the glittering metal, circulate it; it is blended with other tones. If you can smile, smile on your wife. You would be indignant, as you ought to be, if told you did not love her; then make yourself agreeable to her; when you praise her, do it in a delicate way; let her not think others more refined in heart than her husband. How came she to love you at first—to marry you? Did not you, by your words and your demeanor, show an appreciation of her excellencies, thus praising her? In this way, you attracted her, till she became, with you, one in heart and interest, one in purpose. Having drawn her to yourself by the exercise of attraction, strengthen the union by a continued exercise of affinity. Praise your wife!—Whom should you praise, if not her? How delicious, once, came to her ears words of

praise from your lips! How she treasured them in her heart, and lived on them! Is she less a woman by becoming your wife? If so, shame on you! Does she less need the expression of your love? Never!—Words of affection are as necessary to the perfection of her happiness, to positive enjoyment, as they ever were, and from you more so, as to you only she now looks for them. If she ever seek them from others—should your praise become indifferent to her—blame your own remissness. You are unpardonable if you do not prevent her love from declining by the same means which attracted her to you. If you respect her rights, regard her feelings, and give her the attention she ought to expect as well as to receive from you, your children will render her loving obedience, and be ready to anticipate her wishes. Praise your wife, then, and not by words only!

WHAT PRECIOUS STONES ARE MADE OF.—And first, as to the diamond—which, though the king and chief of all, may be dismissed in two words—pure carbon. The diamond is the ultimate effort, the idealisation, the spiritual evolution of coal—the butterfly escaped from its antenatal tomb, the realisation of the coal's highest being. Then the ruby, the flaming red Oriental ruby side by side with the sapphire and the Oriental topaz—both rubies of different colors—what are they? Crystals of our commonest argillaceous earth, the earth which makes our potter's clay, our pipe-clay, and common roofing slate—mere bits of alumina. Yet these are among our best gems, the idealisation of common potter's clay. In every 100 grains of beautiful blue sapphire, 92 are pure alumina, with one grain of iron to make that glorious blue light within. The ruby is colored with chromic acid. The amethyst is only silica or flint. In 100 grains of amethyst 98 are simple pure flint—the same substance as that which made the old flint in the tinder-box, used before our phosphorus and sulphur-headed matches, and which, ground up and prepared, makes now the vehicle of artists' colors. Of this same silica are also cornelian, cat's-eye, rock crystal, Egyptian jasper, and opal. In 100 grains of opal 90 are pure silica, and 10 water. It is the water, then, which gives the gem that peculiar changeable and iridescent coloring which is so beautiful, and which renders the opal the moonlight queen of the kingly diamond. The garnet, the Brazilian—not the Oriental topaz, the accidental emerald, which is of the same species as the beryl, all these are compounds of silica and alumina. But the beryl and emerald are not composed exclusively of silica and alumina; they contain another earth, called glucina—from *glukos*, sweet, because its salts are sweet to the taste.—The hyacinth gem is composed of the earth, not so long discovered, called zirconia—first discovered in that species of hyacinth stone known as zircon. The zircon is found in Scotland. To every 100 parts of hyacinth 70 are pure zirconia. A chrysolite is a portion of pure silicate of magnesia. Without carbonate of copper there would be no malachite in Russia or at the Bura Bura mines; without carbonate of lime there would be no Carrara marble; the turquoise is nothing but a phosphate of alumina colored blue by copper; and the lapis lazuli is only a bit of earth painted throughout with sulphur of sodium.

GENTLEMEN AT HOME.—There are few families we imagine, any where, in which love is not abused as furnishing the license for impoliteness. A husband, father, or brother, will speak harsh words to those he loves best, and to those who love him best, simply because the security of love and family pride keeps him from getting his head broken. It is a shame that a man will speak more impolitely, at times, to his wife or sister, than he would to any other female, except a low and vicious one. It is thus that the honest affections of a man's nature prove to be a weaker protection to a woman in the family circle than the restraints of society, and that a woman usually is indebted for the kindest politeness of life to those not belonging to her own household. This ought not so to be. The man who, because it will not be resented, inflicts his spleen and bad temper upon those of his hearth-stone, is a small coward, and a very mean man. Kind words are a circulating medium between true gentlemen and ladies at home, and no polish exhibited in society can atone for the harsh language and disrespectful treatment too often indulged in between those bound together by God's own ties of blood, and the still more sacred bond of conjugal love.

Special Notices.

Mothers.

Don't fail to procure Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup for Children's Teething. It has no equal on earth. It greatly facilitates the process of teething, by softening the gums, reducing all inflammation—will allay all pain, and is sure to regulate the bowels. Depend upon it, mothers it will give rest to yourselves, and relief and health to your infants. Perfectly safe in all cases.

This valuable preparation is the prescription of one of the most experienced and skillful female Physicians in New England, and has been used with never-failing success in millions of cases.

We believe it the best and surest remedy in the world, in all cases of Dysentery and Diarrhoea in children whether it arises from teething or from any other cause. Positively safe to give immediate relief to infants suffering from Wind Cholice.

If life and health can be estimated by dollars and cents, it is worth its weight in gold. Millions of bottles are sold every year in the United States. It is an old and well-tried remedy.

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For sale by Dr. Smith, at Proprietor's prices.

Cramp & Pain Killer.

The cramp is attended at the wonderful cures performed by the CRAMP AND PAIN KILLER prepared by CURTIS & PERLANS. Its actual has never been known for removing pain in all cases, for the cure of Spinal Complaints, Cramp in the Limbs and Stomach, Rheumatism in all its forms, Bilious Colic, Sore Throat, and Gravel, it is decidedly the best remedy in the world. Evidence of the most wonderful cures performed by any medicine, is on circulars in the hands of Agents.

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To all persons suffering from Rheumatism, Neuralgia, Cramp in the Limbs or Stomach, Bilious Colic, or Toothache, we say Curtis & Perlans' Cramp and Pain Killer is, of all others, the remedy you want. It operates like magic; it has cured the above complaints in thousands of cases after long pain, or suffering, and when all other remedies that have been tried have failed.

BUY ME AND I'LL DO YOU GOOD. Now is the time to use the Great Spring and Summer Medicine.

Dr. Langley's Root & Herb BITTERS.

Composed of Sarsaparilla, Wild Cherry, Yellow Dock, Prickly Ash, Thoroughwort, Rhubarb, Mandrake, Dandelion, &c., all of which are so compounded as to act in concert, and assist Nature in eradicating disease.

The effect of this medicine is most wonderful—it acts directly upon the bowels and blood by removing all obstructions from the internal organs, stimulating them into healthy action, renovating the fountains of life and vigor, purifying the blood, cleansing it from all humors, and causing it to course anew through every part of the body. They cure and eradicate from the system Liver Complaint—the main cause of so many diseases—Jaundice in its worst form, all Bilious Diseases and Foul Stomach, Dyspepsia, Costiveness, Humors of the blood and Skin Indigestion, Headache, Dizziness, Piles, Heartburn, Weakness, Pain in the side and bowels, Flatulency, Loss of appetite, and all kindred complaints caused by a torpid or diseased liver, a disordered stomach, or bad blood, to which all are more or less subject in spring and summer.

It taken in large doses, Fever and Ague may be broken up and cured at once. This has become a standard medicine, and is decidedly the best the world ever saw.

Price only 25 cts. for the pint, and 37 1/2 cts. for the quart bottle.

For sale in Woodstock by all dealers in medicines. Orders addressed to GEORGE C. GOODWIN & CO., wholesale dealers in Patent Medicines, Perfumery, Cigars, &c., Nos. 11 & 12 Marshall-street, Boston, Mass.

AN OLD INDIAN DOCTOR

Who has made his fortune and retired from business, will spend the remainder of his days in curing that dreadful disease—Consumption—FREE OF CHARGE; his earnest desire being to communicate to the world his remedies that have proved successful in more than 3,000 cases. He recites each applicant to send him a minute description of the symptoms, with two Stamps, (6 cts.) to pay the return letter, in which he will return them his advice prescription, with directions for preparing the medicines &c.

The Old Doctor hopes that those afflicted will not, on account of delicacy, refrain from consulting him because he makes *No Charge*. His sole object in advertising is to do all the good he can, before he dies. He feels that he is justly celebrated for cure of Consumption, Asthma, Nervous Affections, Coughs, Colds, &c.

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THE subscriber has for sale at Upper Woodstock a stock of seasoned pine Plank, Boards & Clapboards, which he offers for sale at a low rate. R. B. KETCHUM, Upper Woodstock, August 12th, 1858.

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THE Subscribers have commenced running a Line of Stages on the Nerepis Road, leaving Saint John every Tuesday, Thursday & Saturday, at 7 o'clock, A. M., and Fredericton every Monday, Wednesday & Friday, at the same hour.

Books kept at the Waverly House, and Saint John Hotel, St. John, and at the Barker House, Fredericton. The subscribers' Mail Line will leave at the usual time, and all light freight and parcels left at R. Armstrong's, Dock Street, will be delivered as soon as possible after the arrival of the Stage in Fredericton.

It is the intention of the proprietors to make passengers as comfortable as possible, when they travel by either of the above lines. JAMES GREENE, THOS. E. GREENE, St. John, Dec. 17, 1858.

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Offer for Sale Low for Cash

80 HDS Superior Muscovado

Molasses, Duty paid at St. Stephen, 10 bbls. Burning Fluid, Albertine Oil, with a large assortment of Lamps, Chimneys, Wicks, and Shades, A large assortment of

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Agent for W. Adams & Co's Fireproof SAFES, Fairbanks' SCALES, and for Bibbee, Marble & Co's Powder Manufactory.

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MAIN STREET, CALAIS, MAINE.

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4 HDS choice Brandy. (Hennessy),

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ALSO, PARAFFINE LAMPS VERY CHEAP,

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