THE FARM AND HOME

Something About Soils—How to Examine and Analyze Them.

Freezing of the Soil—Winter Care of Poultry—Management of Fairs.

Ensilage and Grain Together—Pig Feeding—Sowing Oats.

Game Traps—Ice Houses—Household Hints—Interesting and Practical Notes For the Farmer.

Ownership.

Youth's Companion

Old Farmer Boggs, of Boggy Brook,
Went to the county fair,
And with his wife he strolled around
To see the wonders there.
"That horse," he said, "Gray Eagle Wing,
Will take the highest prize;
But our old Dobbin looks as well
And better to my eyes.
He is, I know, what folks call slow,
It's far the safest way to go;
Some men, perhaps, might think it strange,
I really should not like to change.

"And those fat oxen, Buck and Bright,
Don't have so large a girth,
Nor match like them, just to a hair,
But I know what they're worth.
They're good to plough, and good to draw,
You stronger pullers never saw,
And always mind my 'gee' and 'haw.'
Some folks, perhaps, might think it strange,
I really shouldn't want to change.

"That Devon heifer cost, I heard,
A thousand dollars. Now,"
Said Mrs. Boggs, "my Crumple Horn
Is just as good a cow;
Her milk I'm sure's the very best,
Her butter is the yellowest;
Some folks, perhaps, might think it strange,
I really shouldn't want a change.

"These premium hogs," said Mrs. Boggs,
"My little Cheshire pig
Is better than the best of them,
Although he's not so big,
And that young Jersey is not half
So pretty as old Brindle's calf;
Nor is there in the poultry pen
As speckled Wings so good a hen!"

As Farmer Boggs to Boggy Brook
Rode homeward from the fair,
He said, "I wish my animals
Had all of them been there;
And if the judges had heed wise
I might have taken every prize!"

MARIAN DOUGLAS.

Something About Soils.

Soils are understood, in agriculture, to be those portions of the surface of the earth that are in texture and composition fitted for vegetation. Rocks are the original basis of all soils. By the convulsions of nature, or the long continued action of air, moisture, and frost, they have been broken into fragments more or less minute. These changes can be marked through a large number of gradations.

Some soils contain bowlders or large stones that are spread over the surface thickly and mingle with the earth beneath, giving it the name of a rocky soil. Where similar stones, but of smaller size abound, the earth is known as a stony soil. A third and still smaller division is known as a gravelly soil; a fourth is a sandy soil; a fifth is a loam; while a sixth, in which the character of the particles of the earth differ from those referred to above, is called a clay soil. To these we may add peat soils, which are composed almost entirely of vegetable matter.

Of the chemical caracter of soils, one of the most reliable classifications has been given by Professor Johnson. It is based, with much accuracy, on the elements that the soils contain, as follows:

"1. Pure clay (pipe clay), consisting of about 60 of silica and 40 of alumina and oxide of iron, for the most part chemically combined. It allows no silicious sand to subside when diffused through water, and rarely forms any extent of soil.

"2. Strongest clay soil (tile-clay, unctuous clay), consists of pure clay mixed with 5 to 15 per cent. of silicious sand, which cannot be separated from it by boiling and decantation.

"3. Clay loam differs from a clay soil, in allowing from 15 to 30 per cent. of fine sand to be separated from it by washing, as above described. By this admixture of sand, its parts are mechanically separated, and hence its freer and more friable nature.

"4. A loamy soil deposits from 30 to 60 per cent. of sand by mechanical washing.

"5. A sandy loam leaves from 60 to 90 per cent. of sand, and

"6. A sandy soil contains no more than 10 per cent. of pure clay."

The above classification refers only to the clay and sand in soils, leaving out the important constituent of lime, of which they are seldom entirely destitute. Professor Johnston adds, therefore:

"7. Marly soils, in which the proportion of lime is more than 5, but does not exceed 20 per cent. of the whole weight of the dry soil. The marl is a sandy, loamy or clay marl, accordingly as the proportion of clay it contains would place under the one or the other denomination, supposing it to be entirely free from lime, or not to contain more than 5 per cent; and,

"8. Calcareous soils, in which the lime exceeding 20 per cent. becomes the distinguishing constituent. These are also calcareous clays, calcareous loams, or calcareous sand, according to the proportion of clay and sand which are present in them.

"Lastly, vegetable matter is sometimes a main characteristic of a soil, which gives rise to a further division of

"9. Vegetable molds, which are of various kinds from the garden mold, which contains from 5 to 10 per cent, to the peaty soil in which the organic matter may amount to 60 or 70. These soils are also clayey, loamy, or sandy, according to the predominant character of the earthy admixtures."

The method of examining soils with the view to naming them is given as follows: "Spread a weighed quantity of the soil in a thin layer upon writing paper and dry it for an hour or two in an oven or upon a hot plate, the heat of which is not sufficient to discolor the paper—the loss of weight gives the water it contained. While this is drying a second weighed portion may be boiled or otherwise thoroughly incorporated with water and the whole then poured into a vessel, in which the heavy sandy parts are allowed to subside until the fine clay is beginning to settle also. This point must be carefully watched, the liquid then poured off, the sand collected, dried as before upon paper, and again weighed. This weight is the quantity of sand in the known weight of the moist soil, which, by the previous experiment, has been found to contain a certain quantity of water. Thus, suppose two portions, each of 200 grains, are weighed, and the one in the oven loses 50 grains of water and the other 60 grains of sand—then the 200 grains of moist soil are equal to 150 of dry, and this 150 grains of dry soil contains 60 grains of dry sand, or 40 in 100 (40 per cent). It would, therefore, properly be called a loam, or loamy soil."

To determine the proportion of lime in soil, when it exceeds 5 per cent, proceed on the following plan:

"To 100 grains of dry soil, diffused through half a pint of cold water, add half a wineglassful of muriatic acid; stir it occasionally during the day, and let it stand over night to settle. Pour off the clear liquor in the morning, and fill up the vessel with water to wash away the excess of acid. When the water is again clear, pour it off, dry the soil and weigh it—the loss will amount generally to about 1 per cent. more than the quantity of lime present. The result will be sufficiently near, however, for the purposes of clasification. If the loss exceeds five grains from 100 of the dry soil, it may be classed among the marls; if more than twenty grains, among the calcareous soils. To determine the amount of vegetable matter for the purposes of clasification, dry the soil well in an oven, and weigh it; then heat it to dull redness over a lamp or bright fire till the combustible matter is burned away. The loss on again weighing is the quantity of organic matter."

Freezing of the Soil.

American Cultivator.

The philosophy of freezing is important in many ways to the farmer. It is readily understood why deep banks of new fleecy snow do not injure the vegetation beneath them. They are porous and admit enough air to sustain life, and also enough light for plants in that semi-dormant stage. Gradually, however, the fleecy character of the bank changes. The outer edges of the flakes melt away; the bank settles as the snow becomes less bulky, though heavier in proportion to its bulk. If the ground is unfrozen beneath, its warmth changes the under part where the weight is greatest, into almost solid ice. And if the ground is unfrozen winter wheat or grass will often begin to grow under the snow banks. Then it needs both air and light, and if neither is afforded the plant is said to be, and is, smothered. The time to guard against this danger is when the snow-bank beside some fence begins to lessen in bulk. Make a few holes down to the soil at regular intervals. These may temporarily fill again with snow, but it will be so light that it cannot compact as the bank has done. Usually after a day or two the internal heat of the soil will warm up and keep these breathing places open. It always will if the soil is properly underdrained. An accidental opening to an underdrain three feet deep has kept the soil over it free from snow during an entire winter. The drain was fed by springs, and had water in it all through the severest cold weather.

Winter Care for Poultry.

Rural New Yorker.

I notice that much interest is shown in the matter of winter-laying of hens. As I have had good success in that line this year, your readers may be interested to know what has been done.

1. Stock. My brood consists of eight pure Brahma hens, two years old; ten Plymouth Rocks, and ten of a cross between a pure brown Leghorn cockerel and white Brahma hens, of which twelve are eight and the balance six months old. One Plymouth Rock and one brown Leghorn cockerel.

2. Feed. First thing in the morning a medium feed of three parts wheat and one of corn. In the middle of the morning, the table-scraps from breakfast warmed up and a tablespoonful of concentrated chicken-feed from the grocer's stirred in. In the middle of the afternoon the dinner scraps are fed as they run. We give no feed at night. Water given in an open iron baking pan every morning.

3. House. Moderate size, wood floor, two small windows, floor raised a foot from the ground, shelter shed on one side. No artificial heat. Well ventilated.

4. The run. Since the middle of October they have been free of forage in lawn and garden.

5. General care. House cleaned weekly in summer, and once a month white washed with carbolic acid in very thin lime wash, fresh hay in nests and roosts rubbed with kerosene. The run spaded up twice in the year.

6. Results. But two chickens or hens lost from sickness in two years. Pullets began to lay at six months of age—the cross-bred laying first—nine to twelve eggs a day through December and January, thus far.

Management of Fairs.

Ohio Farmer.

As time is at hand for making arrangements for holding fairs next year, perhaps it would not be out of place to criticise the way some of them are run. Take our own county fair. We have an excellent corps of managers as a general thing, but I think it would be an improvement, and a benefit to the majority of the exhibitors, to sell the hay stands out to one or more parties, and let the stall rents be free. The exhibiters could by hay as they wanted, in small or large quantities. Also, why is it that the premiums on Short-horns are larger than on all other breeds? I consider that it is as much trouble to fix up a herd of Jerseys, Holsteins, Devons, or Herefords, as it is one of Short-horns. I think all breeds ought to be encouraged, and have the premiums all the same on full blooded cattle, and make no distinction at the fair. Even if the board has a preference for Short-horns, they should not show it before the whole county, but keep it to themselves. According to the statistics there are three dollors spent for milk and butter in the United States where there is one dollar spent for beef, and I think it is a great oversight to prop one certain breed up, and make exhibitors of other breeds feel as though they had an inferior breed. I hope our board will take this matter under consideration at their meeting, and not be so one-sided. Do not understand me as being a breeder of any one kind of cattle, but I do like to see justice done, especially when the whole country is more or less interested.

W. L. H.

Ensilage and Grain Together.

If one wants a crop of corn (grain) and also a crop of ensilage, and does not care to have the ears go to the silo, there can be little doubt about it. The crop can be raised in the usual ways, in hills or drills, the ears plucked from the stalks "while in the milk," and of course without husking, and thrown in small piles, or spread a foot deep under a shed, to cure, and the stalks then cut and ensilaged. In this way the usual crop of ear corn can be obtained, and from six to eight and sometimes ten tons of ensilage thus made usually comes as near to being "sweet" as any I have ever seen. Ordinarily, however, a special kind of corn will be specially grown for ensilage to secure the greatest possible tonnage per acre. For this purpose select a strong soil, in good heart, and manure heavily with stable manure, broadcast or in drills. I prefer the manure broadcasted, ploughed under lightly, if green, and, if well composted, harrowed in after ploughing. Use suitable seed, and plant in drills from two and a half to three and a half feet apart, according to size of corn, condition of soil and mode or facilities of cultivation. Hand labor must be avoided as much as possible, and may be entirely superseded on good land until the cutting. The plants should grow from three to five or six inches apart in the row. The aim is to have every plant receive light and air enough to grow rapidly and reach maturity if allowed time. It is economy to stimulate the young plant and crowd the growth by feeding generously. Superphosphate or any good commercial fertilizer may be applied in the drill. But I have never succeeded in growing a large crop of ensilage corn without plenty of ammonia, and that, too, in the form of animal manure. Commercial fertilizers alone, even when largely used, have not, in my experience, produced satisfactory results with corn grown for the greatest possible weight per acre. The quantity for seed corn will vary from half a bushel to a bushel for an acre.—Prof. Alvord, in Farm and Home.

Facts in Pig Feeding.

Each of three neighbors is fattening a pen of August pigs. All are well housed. One feeds rye and barley meal, one corn in the ear, and the other wheat bran and middlings. The last are doing the best, and the corn-fed pigs the poorest. Another neighbor is feeding twenty-seven small pigs for market, and although he has corn in abundance, he buys middlings for feed for profit. In March, two years ago, I saw a pen of pigs slaughtered which had been fattened on barley meal. The barley paid about $1.25 a bushel in pork, but the latter was not fit to enter a human stomach. Most of these pigs were afflicted with tapeworms, and on opening them the ugly vermin could be seen through the entrails. It is not known that the barley caused the trouble, but all who became aware of the incident lost faith in feeding barley to pigs. It seems to be settled here, at least, that winter pig feeding is as profitable as at any other time of the year, provided always that the pigs are kept warm. This is done by double-boarding the pen, filling in with straw and laying the plank floor on the ground. Warm drinks are usually given. Perhaps no animals are so fond of having their backs scratched as pigs, and persons who scratch the backs of these animals habitually always have the fattest and best pigs. Reason: If a person is interested in his pigs enough to scratch their backs, he will invariably see that they are well fed and have everything for their comfort.—Correspondence New York Tribune.

Sowing Oats.

I will send you my mode of sowing oats, as it may be of use to others. I think it is the best I have yet seen; have tried it two seasons. We sow on corn stubble every year. We use a force of men, and six or a dozen horses. Work the ground crossways from the way the corn was plowed last. One man does the sowing, the other two take the horses, two cultivators and a slanting tooth harrow. We set cultivator shovels so as to leave the ground as level as possible. We let one man go ahead with one plow, the other follows with plow and leads team to harrow. Straddle rows, same as plowing corn; lay off lands from twelve to twenty rows—any even number will do—so as to not lose time finishing up lands. Three horses to harrow is best, as they and harrow just cover what two plows cut, and lap a little over. We average twelve to fifteen acres a day this way, sowed, plowed and harrowed. When we get a field all sown we cross-harrow, and it is in fine shape, never fails to make a good crop. Don't care to plow deep; just enough to cover grain good. Sow as early as possible in spring; no matter if ground does freeze some after sowing. Put them down thick, and they are all right. Success to the Journal and the cause it advocates.—D S. Cumming, of Clinton, Mo., in Journal of Agriculture.

Game Traps for Boys.

Commercial Gazette.

In last week's edition of your valuable paper, I saw a question asking about trapping, which I will try to answer. For catching mink, skunks, etc., a box about three feet long and six inches square. A trap-door should be placed in both ends, made by taking a hard piece of wood and inserting good stiff wire about one inch apart, forming something like a long-toothed comb, which can be fastened near the top of the trap by the axel with a staple driven over it, or it is better to bore hole near the top and let it in. The doors at the end should stand at an angle, so that a pressure from without will raise them and let the animal pass in, but not out again. This trap may also be used to catch muskrats, and in this case it should be placed at the main entrance of the den, which is generally under water. It is much the best for the trap, as the game will drown before they can damage it to any extent. Old weather-beaten boards are the best to make these traps of, as the animals are afraid of anything new. Daub the trap over with mud, so that the animal may not suspect anything amiss. A capital substitute for boards is found in an old stovepipe, a joint of which may be squared by pounding it over the edge of a wooden beam. The doors are then put in and you will have a trap that will need nothing to sink it, and that will be proof against the teeth of the animal. A very simple but effective skunk trap is an old barrel placed on its side, under the center of which is placed a three-cornered stick about seven inches high. The barrel will rest on one edge of this stick, with the open end just touching the ground; the bait is thrown in the highest end, and when the animal passes in his weight will tip the barrel and cage is perfumed lordship. Care must be taken and not place the barrel too high, as it might go clear over and let the game escape. The dead-fall is made with a log, one end of which is supported by a figure four. It is given a hinge-like motion by tying one end, placing it in a notch, or by otherwise fastening it. Generally two logs are used, one falling on top of the other, and in this case it is best to drive stakes on each side to guide the upper one in its descent. The logs should be placed so that they will come together nicely. The trigger of the figure four must be set at right angles to the line of fall, and the bait so protected as to force the animal to approach and stand with his body squarely across the log's path. Another trap is made by making a lid to a box (of any size), which can be done by taking the top and one end and nailing them together. At the closed end of the box this lid should be fastened by means of a hinge. A figure four should be placed at the open end, with the lid resting on it; the bait should then be fastened to the end of the tongue of the figure four. This tongue must extend to nearly the back end of the trap. The figure should be set rather to one side so as to allow the animal a ready entrance. The lid should be heavily weighted with a stone, bricks or any heavy substance; the animal enters and is caught. Hoping this will be of some benefit to the one who asked for it, I remain a constant reader.

JUDSON W. AMBROSE.

Cheap Ice-Houses,

Ohio Farmer.

Nine years ago we put up an ice-house twelve feet square, using cheap hemlock lumber. We packed the ice one foot from the wall and filled it with saw-dust. The ice kept well, and the house gave good satisfaction, but now it is badly rotted and needs a good deal of repairs before it will be safe to store ice for next summer. I have made arrangements to haul stones this winter, which will cost nothing except the hauling half a mile; then, during next summer, I shall put up a substantial stone ice-house, which, with occasional repairs to the roof, etc., would last a lifetime, and in the end would be cheaper than wood. I am told, however, that ice will not keep in a stone house. Will anyone who has packed ice in such a house give his experience in the Ohio Farmer, as soon as he can? If the inside of a stone house is lined with a small air space, I think it would keep ice better than a wooden house.

G. F. D.

Duboistown, Pa.

Farm Notes.

Run the roller over the wheat field if the frost should throw the plants up.

Lambs that shall come in before March are the ones that will bring high prices.

If the common little sparrow-hawk be not molested it will do its share of work in thinning out the sparrows.

Spinach is one of the early greens. An application of a very fine manure will hasten them and give a larger crop.

Most breeders score a failure in trying to winter too many hens in small quarters. Hens that are crowded will not lay.

It is claimed that though the mule may be stubborn, yet he seldom runs away or becomes frightened, nor does he shy at every object.

If you should have a gentle old biddy to get broody the latter part of this month give her eggs and let her bring up a clutch of chicks for early broilers.

Every henhouse should be kept as warm as possible. Eggs cannot be got when they sell highest unless the poultry be made comfortable and fed properly.

The best food for early hatched chicks is granulated oatmeal, which should be placed in little troughs, so that the chicks can get all they wish and at any time.

Don't be afraid to pluck your geese during the winter months if you have them in good condition and a warm place to house them if a severe spell of winter follows.

The ground for spring wheat cannot be prepared too early, and it should be not only deeply ploughed but harrowed until the seed bed shall be as fine as the soil can be made.

When eggs are 2 cents apiece, as they are now, one naturally gets the chicken fever. A good hen soon pays for herself if she can be induced to get in her work while eggs are so scarce.

Although this is the winter season, in this latitude there is but a short time before spring work should begin, and all the work done now would be of great advantage when the hurry shall begin.

If you haven't turnips or parsnips for your poultry give them fodder or clover hay. You will be surprised to see how much they will eat if it is kept before them all the time in a clean, nice condition.

The cheapest and the best way to get a good cow is to procure a calf from a first-class dam and raise it. It is like buying tickets in a lottery—the majority are blanks, unless one may know what they are.

There is just as much in knowing how to feed hens as there is in knowing how to feed any other farm stock. This is the next important item to look after as soon as good houses shall have been provided.

It has been suggested that if small plots of ground should be attached to public schools and flowers cultivated, not only would the grounds be made attractive and beautiful, but botany could be made a study as well.

If you are prepared for it, commence the work of hatching this month. It won't cost much to build a warm nursery for early chicks, and they will always bring a good price and can be shipped a long ways to market.

An authority on hogs says: "If we take all the hogs fattened in the United States in a year and change the time of fattening from cold to warm weather one-half of the grain now fed will make all the pork. This would be a saving of food, at least to the amount of $75,000,000 per year."

Pulled wools are largely used in the manufacture of flannels, and one reason of their being so used is because the process of pulling, either by burning or sweating, destroys the felting properties of the fibre, and so better fits it for use in flannels, which will not so readily shrink in washing.

A change in food will be relished by the sheep just as well as by any other animal on the farm. Nature is a pretty sure guide in such matters. There may be and is a choice of foods among those that sheep will eat with a relish, says an exchange, but it is a mistake to feed what they do not relish.

The condition hollow horn is simply a symptom of disease, and instead of directing medical attention to the horn, the practitioner should make haste to to look in other directions for the disease: for the very fact that the horn is insufficiently supplied with blood is proof that there is too much blood somewhere else, and hence a state of congestion.

A subscriber asks for a positive cure for scab in sheep. It is doubtful if a sure remedy be known, as the disease is contagious, and once it makes its appearance it seems to remain. The ordinary commercial sheep washes are the most effectual, but the sheep must be frequently dipped, which entails labor. When scabs appear it would be cheaper to destroy some flocks entirely than to attempt to cure.

All lovers of fine wool sheep are glad to note that merino sheep of to-day are not the gummy fleeced ones of a few years ago. The exhibitors of this breed of sheep now call attention not only to the length, fineness and whiteness of the fleeces, but to the comparative absence of the old-time gum, showing a marked increase in the yield of wool when cleansed.

The draft horse is represented with a paper at every farmers' institute in the West this winter. Twenty years ago the fast-horse men monopolized all the time at such meetings. The draft horse has won his way to the front upon his merit. He well deserves the grand success he has achieved. The draft horse interest opens the new year with increasing interest and popularity.

Professor Henry, according to Hoard's Dairyman, says that milch cows would drink seventy-five to one hundred pounds of warmed water a day, but would not drink so much ice-cold water. A cow needs a volume of water in her body in proportion to the volume of milk she gives. Hence if the water be so cold that she will not drink it, the natural result will come—shrinkage of the volume of milk. It is as plain as checking deposits out of a bank.

Fall pigs are claimed to entail less labor than spring pigs, as they can be fed and cared for in the winter. This is true to a certain extent, but much depends upon the age of the pig on the approach of cold weather. If expected to pass through the winter they should be from early litters, or they will be stunted in growth, should the season be severe. September farrowed pigs will be old enough to keep over to the second year.

The Kansas City Live Stock Indicator says that the kind of sheep to keep depends on the soil and pasturage. The Southdown is the best breed to cross with native ewes that are made to forage a great portion of the time. Merinos do better in large flocks than do the heavy mutton sheep. Heavy breeds cannot range as easily as the small sheep, and therefore require more attention. Using the improved breeds for crossing means that a larger allowance of food must be given if success be desired.

Some swine growers contend that they have been unable to distinguish any perceptible superiority in the product obtained from swine fatted on clover, milk and a carefully selected mixed ration, over that from the corn and swill fed porkers of "the common herd," and they credit the alleged superiority of the so-called "fancy brands" to the skilful manipulation or "curing" they unquestionably receive. While this has much to do with the production, it is also true that the quality and kind of feed have even more.

Theodore Lewis says he could not think of cutting the tails from his pigs. The tails are the thermometers which indicate the animal's condition. If not feeling well, not thriving, if his food will not agree with him, the tail will begin to straighten. The sicker the pig the straighter the tail. While the conventional curl shall retain its place there need be no anxiety about the pig; if a double curl be seen he may be regarded as in perfect condition. That old theory of "a bushel of corn to fatten an inch of tail" has no terrors for Mr. Lewis. The pig's tail being his pulse, it would seem very foolish to cut it off.

Household Hints.

Bathrooms should not open into sleeping apartments.

Antique oak or cherry is the favorite wood for bed-room sets.

Pine pillows are used on library lounges as inciting slumber.

The oftener flour is sifted for sponge cake the lighter the cake will be.

Never take warm drinks and then immediately go out into the cold

The water in which codfish has been soaked is very good for washing the zinc under the stove.

Take a bucket of fresh water into your bed-room every night and let in remain uncovered. It will absorb all poisonous gases.

Paint stains that are dry and old may be removed from cotton or woollen goods with chloroform. First cover the spot with olive oil or butter.

Every one should have eight hour's sleep, and pale, thin, nervous persons require ten, which should be taken regularly, in a well ventilated room.

When hoarse, speak as little as possible until the hoaseness is recovered from, else the voice may be permanently lost or difficulties of the throat be produced.

When going from a warm atmosphere into a cooler one keep the mouth closed, so that the air may be warmed in its passage through the nose ere it reaches the lungs.

Keep the back, especially between the shoulder blades, well covered; also the chest well protected. In sleeping in a cold room establish a habit of breathing through the nose, and never with the mouth open.

To make good breakfast muffins, cream together one cupful of butter and one cupful of sugar; add three eggs and one pint of milk, stirring well; then add one quart of wheat flour, with two teaspoonfuls of baking powder and one cupful of yellow Indian meal. Bake in muffin rings in a hot oven.

What are known as toasted crackers, an excellent accompaniment for hash at breakfast, are made in this way: Split six butter crackers and soak them in cold water until they begin to swell; then pour off the water and drain. Butter a flat baking-pan. Lay the crackers in, crust side down, and bake ten minutes, till they turn a delicate brown. Place them on a warm dish, butter liberally and serve at once.

The best baked dumplings of apples have a good plain pie crust put around the peeled and cored fruit. They are then set in a deep pan, the tops are covered with a thick sauce made of butter and brown sugar mixed together. A pint of water is in the pan and the whole is covered only with a large flat platter. The steam under the platter keeps the crust soft until the fruit, sugar and butter are all baked into many delicious browned rolls of jelly.

Mutton, with cloves of garlic, is a favorite dish in France, and delicious it is. The garlic is boiled in no fewer than three separate and distinct waters before the cloves are inserted into the mutton; this, of course greatly modifies the strong taste and appetizing smell. The flavor of sausages is vastly improved by having a few cloves of garlic fried with them. The same may be said of chops and stakes; wherever onions may be used, garlic can be substituted.

Few persons know, probably, that cooked celery makes a very nice dish. To prepare it, cut it in small cross sections, using nearly the entire stalk and roots, rejecting only the very green parts. Cook it in but little water, so that when very tender the water will have boiled nearly away; then add milk sufficient for a nice gravy, season to taste with salt and pepper, rub butter and flour to a smooth paste, and add sufficient to make it of a creamy consistency. When the flour is scalded it is done.

Excellent Graham biscuits for breakfast are made in this way: Take three cups of Graham flour, one cup of wheat flour, two large teaspoons of baking powder, well mixed with the flour, rub in two large tablespoons of butter, a little salt, half a cup of sugar, one beaten egg, and enough sweet milk (cold) to make a soft dough, roll out, cut with biscuit cutter, and bake immediately.

Coffee Pudding—Soak the crumb of a small stale loaf in some very strong black coffee; melt one ounce of butter, mix with in one ounce of sugar, one ounce chopped almonds and the beaten yolks of four eggs, then the whisked whites of three, squeeze out the bread lightly, and beat it into the other ingredients, allowing sufficient to make the mixture of the consistency of a cabinet pudding; pour it into a buttered mould and bake it in a moderately hot oven, or boil and serve with sweet sauce.

Hard Gingerbread—Flour, three pounds; butter, three quarters of a pound; ginger, two ounces; cinnamon, two ounces; salt, one teaspoonful; soda, one teaspoonful; New Orleans molasses, one quart. Dissolve soda in a little water and then stir into the molasses. Sieve flour, sugar, spices and salt together, then rub butter into the flour prepared in this way. Afterwards pour in the molasses, which the soda has made quite light, knead well, roll thin, cut into small cakes and bake.

To Make Your Own Baking Powder—Put half a pound of ground rice into a bowl with a quarter pound of carbonate of soda, mix well together and then add three ounces of pure tartaric acid. Both soda and acid must be freed from lumps by crushing with a broad bladed knife or spoon on a piece of paper. When the rice, soda and acid are well mixed, sift them through a wire sieve or a fine strainer and put away in two small tin boxes with close fitting lids. Use one teaspoonful of this to each pound of flour required by your recipes. All such powder must be kept very dry.

Bread Balls for Soup—Cut the crumb of a stale loaf into small pieces, put them in a bowl and pour over them enough hot water to moisten, without making them too wet; let them cool; chop an onion, lay it in the frying pan with a large lump of dripping and some chopped parsley and fry a light brown; mix it with the bread, and, when cool, add too well beaten eggs, salt, pepper, and sufficient flour to bind; make the mixture into small balls and drop them into the boiling soup about fifteen minutes before serving. These are excellent with lentil soup or white bean soup, two excellent purees. Very nourishing for school children's luncheon or midday dinner.

Frozen in New York

NEW YORK, January 28.—George Heeg, a milkman, living at East Williamsburg Long Island, is an inmate of St. Catharine's Hospital, Brooklyn, waiting to have one of his arms and a leg amputated in order to save his life. During the intensely cold weather last Tuesday night he started to walk from Williamsburg to his home, about three miles. When about a mile from home, and while crossing an open field, he was seized with an epileptic fit and fell on the ice. He became unconscious, and would have frozen to death but for the timely assistance rendered by his faithful dog. The animal found him prostrate on the ice, and attempted to resuscitate his master by licking his face and hands, rubbing himself against his master's body, and howling dismally. No one seemed to hear or heed the dog; but Mr. Heeg recovered sufficiently to sit up, but could not regain his feet, as one of his sides was so benumbed by the cold that one leg and arm had become useless. He managed to reach his hat and held it out in front of the excited dog. The intelligent creature understood the motive and, seizing the hat in his mouth, started at full speed for Mr. Heeg's house. Reaching the front door, he began barking so violently that he aroused one of the workmen employed on the place, and succeeded in making him understand that assistance was needed. The man procured help and followed the dog over the ice for a mile, about 3 o'clock in the morning, where Heeg was found badly frozen and unable to move. The men raised him in their arms and carried him to his home, where medical aid was promptly summoned and efforts successfully made to restore him. The physicians said that it would be impossible to save the man's life unless the frozen limbs were amputated, and he was taken to the hospital.

A Lively Time in Court.

CHICAGO, January 28.—A loaded revolver in the hands of a man half crazed with excitement, two women—his wife and daughter—with their arms about his neck beseeching him not to shoot, another man his life hanging almost on a thread and with every nerve strained to avoid the expected bullet, a jury of eleven men scrambling to get out of pistol-range, spectators scared and bailiffs in a wild hurly burly to prevent a tragedy, were the points in a sensational episode that took place in Judge Clifford's court this morning. The would-be shooter was Thomas Walsh. He is the oldest expressman in Chicago, and his attempt to commit murder in court this morning was the result of a belief that justice had fallen short in his case. James Britton, a man who had formerly worked for him, was charged with having assaulted his daughter. The jury found Britton not guilty, to-day, and that so infuriated the father that he resolved to take the law in his own hands, and kill in the very sight of the men who had acquitted him, the person he believed to have been guilty. Walsh was overpowered ere he could carry out his purpose and locked up in jail.

EUROPEAN SITUATION.

The Hungarian Premier States His View of the Frontier Question.

PESTH, January 28.—In the lower house of the Hungarian Diet to-day Premier Tisza, replying to the interpolation of Herr Helfy in reference to Russia's miliary preparations, to Austria's position regarding Bulgaria, to the advisability of the Government taking the initiative in summoning an international conference to settle the Bulgarian affair in the sense of the programme of 1886, and as to whether Austria might count upon the alliance of Germany and Italy in case the efforts now being made to maintain peace did not succeed, emphatically declared that there was no ground to doubt the reciprocal bona fides of the powers allied for the preservation of peace and for their own security. In consequence of the marked displacement of Russian troops, and their transfer in the direction of the Austrian frontiers, the government, without doubting the Czar's pacific declarations, and avoiding all semblance of provocation, consider it its duty to see that necessary measures were taken to assure the safety of the frontiers and the efficiency of the army in case of an emergency. The alliance of the Central European powers had never been anything but a league of peace, purely defensive and foreign to any aggressive action. He hoped the peace-loving monarchies and governments would succeed in maintaining peace and removing the feeling of insecurity which weighs heavily on Europe.

Herr Von Tisza warned the House not to believe newspaper telegrams and rumors, which, he said, were either Boarse maneuvers or "feelers." He denied that Count Kalnoky had met with strong opposition in regard to his political decisions. It was also untrue that Count Bylandt-Reydt, the Austrian war minister, had asked a war credit and had been refused, in consequence of Herr Von Tisza's objections. Further, there was no ground for the suggestion that the monarchy was unable to rely upon its allies to perform that which it was justified in expecting from them. Regarding the military measures that had been adopted by the Government, he said: "Every one knows that we aim at no extension of our influence in violation of treaties, nor at any increase of territory, as has been falsely attributed to us." Herren Helfy and Perczel, replying to the Prime Minister, declared that nobody in Hungary desired war. The House, amid loud cheering, passed a resolution taking formal cognizance of Herr Von Tisza's declarations.

KNIGHTS OF PYTHIAS.

The Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania has its Powers Taken From it.

CINCINNATI, January 28.—Hon. Howard Douglass, Supreme Chancellor of the Supreme Lodge Knights of Pythias of the World, has issued his edict in the case of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania in these words, after reciting the previous action taken: "Now, therefore I, Howard Douglass, Supreme Chancellor of the Supreme Lodge Knights of Pythias of the World, do issue the following order: That the Grand Lodge of the Knights of Pythias, of Pennsylvania, from and after this date is hereby suspended, and all its powers and functions as said Grand Lodge, emanating from the Supreme Lodge Knights of Pythias of the World are revoked and recalled; and its acts as a Grand Lodge, or its officers during its recess cease to be legal, or of any force or effect."

The date of the order is January 27. It is addressed to the Grand Lodge Knights of Pythias, of Pennsylvania, by John H. Colton, its Grand Chancellor, and George Hawkes, Grand Keeper of Records and Seals. Mr. Douglass has also issued an address to the members of the order of the Knights of Pythias of the Grand Jurisdiction of Pennsylvania, in which he sets forth in detail the entire proceedings from the first letter to W. H. Mohr, their Grand Chancellor directing him to require the lodges in Pennsylvania to comply with the provisions of the supreme law. Mr Mohr referred the matter to the Grand Lodge, which laid it over until the session of the Supreme Lodge. Next the Supreme Chancellor, sent a letter to Grand Chancellor Colton requiring him to require the lodges in Pennsylvania to conform to the supreme law, and received a reply questioning the Supreme Chancellor's authority. Then followed a pre-emptory demand for obedience, and finally a citation to appear and answer charges of contumacy filed by Past Grand Chancellor Butterfield.

There being no appearance, except by letter, from John A. Colton, in which he claimed that the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania maintained the exclusive right to form its own constitution, and that for the government of its subordinate lodges, Chancellor Douglass goes on to say that the members of the order are now under the direct supervision of the officers of the Supreme Lodge, and he directs the lodges to give expression of their loyalty to the supreme authority. He also asks for reports from the lodges, add promises after receiving this to take the necesary steps to remove the present difficulty. He declares that the day has gone by for the officers of the Grand Lodge of the State of Pennsylvania to be greater than the order of the Knights of Pythias.

DYSPEPSIA

Causes its victims to be miserable, hopeless, confused, and depressed in mind, very irritable, languid, and drowsy. It is a disease which does not get well of itself. It requires careful, persistent attention, and a remedy to throw off the causes and tone up the digestive organs till they perform their duties willingly. Hood's Sarsaparilla has proven just the required remedy in hundreds of cases.

"I have taken Hood's Sarsaparilla for dyspepsia, from which I have suffered two years. I tried many other medicines, but none proved so satisfactory as Hood's Sarsaparilla." THOMAS COOK, Brush Electric Light Co., New York City.

Sick Headache

"For the past two years I have been afflicted with severe headaches and dyspepsia. I was induced to try Hood's Sarsaparilla, and have found great relief. I cheerfully recommend it to all." MRS. E. F. ANNABLE, New Haven, Conn.

Mrs. Mary C. Smith, Cambridgeport, Mass., was a sufferer from dyspepsia and sick headache. She took Hood's Sarsaparilla and found it the best remedy she ever used.

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100 Doses One Dollar.

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RADWAY'S READY RELIEF

The Cheapest and Best Medicine for Family Use In the World.

Sore Throat, Colds, Coughs, Inflammation, Sciatica, Lumbago, Rheumatism, Neuralgia, Headache, Toothache, Nervousness, Diptheria, Influenza, Difficult Breathing, CURED AND PREVENTED BY

RADWAY'S READY RELIEF.

In cases of Lumbago and Rheumatism, Radway's Ready Relief never fails.

Strong Testimony of Emigrant Commissioner, the Hon. George Starr, as to the Power of Radway's Ready Relief in a Case of Sciatic Rheumatism.

No. 3 VAN NESS PLACE, NEW YORK.

DR. RADWAY: With me your Relief has worked wonders. For the last three years I have had frequent and severe attacks of sciatica, sometimes extending from the lumbar regions to my ankles, and at times in both lower limbs.

During the time I have been afflicted I have tried almost all the remedies recommended by wise men and fools, hoping to find relief, but all proved to be failures.

I have tried various kinds of baths, manipulation, outward application of liniments too numerous to mention, and prescriptions of the most eminent physicians, all of which failed to give me relief.

Last September, at the urgent request of a friend (who had been afflicted as myself), I was induced to try your remedy. I was then suffering fearfully with one of my old turns. To my surprise and delight the first application gave me ease, after bathing and rubbing the parts affected, leaving the limb in a warm glow, created by the Relief. In a short time the pain passed entirely away. Although I have slight periodical attacks approaching a change of weather, I know now how to cure myself, and feel quite master of the situation. RADWAY'S READY RELIEF is my friend. I never travel without a bottle in my valise.

Yours truly, GEO. STARR.

The Following was Received by Mail Through W. H. Blyth, Druggist, Mount Pleasant, Texas.

MR. W. H. BLYTH—Sir: In compliance with your request to furnish you with the results of my knowledge and experience with Dr. Radway's R. R., in reply I can state that I have been using the Radway Remedies since 1852. I know the Ready Relief to be a specific for flux and all bowel complaints. It is more reliable for colds, pleurisy, pneumonia and diseases growing out of colds, for cuts, bruises, sprains, rheumatism and aches, and pains generally, than any remedy I have ever known tried. From my personal knowledge of the Radway Remedies I think them all superior to any remedies of which I have any knowledge, for all the ills for which they are recommended.

Respectfully, T. H. SKIDMORE,
Pastor Green Hill Presbyterian Church.

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WILL AFFORD INSTANT EASE.

Inflammation of the kidneys, inflammation of bladder, inflammation of the bowels, congestion of the lungs, sore throat, diffic