



COLD STORAGE HOUSE.

How One Can Be Constructed at Small Expense for Either Labor or Materials.

A combined fruit and vegetable cellar and milk room was a feature of Knoll farm many years. An excavation seven feet deep and ten feet square was made, and then a framework of timbers six inches square erected over the excavation; this frame was sixteen feet long, ten feet wide, six feet of the length being designed for an entry or store-room. The frame supported walls composed of two-inch oak boards. The ceiling of the inner room or cellar proper was one-inch oak, and above this sawdust was spread several inches in depth. The partition wall separating entry and cellar proper was double and the hollow space also filled with sawdust.

A heavy storm-proof door closed the entrance to the inner room. The tiers of bins occupied the north and south sides which were usually reserved for fruits, the intervening space being utilized by boxes and barrels for vegetables. The entry was provided with a door and two windows. The lower half of the windows can be provided with lattice work, thus doing away with the necessity of screens during the summer, when, the contents of the cellar gone and a liberal use of whitewash made, the inner room can be utilized as a milk room during the summer months. The floors of the rooms were of sandstone. No drainage was necessary. The natural advantages were suitable, the building being placed on ground having a steep decline of



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several feet, the cellar or inner room being entirely underground while the front opened upon level ground. This entry was useful as a place of storage for pork and vinegar barrels.

A separate house for the storage of fruit and vegetables is preferable to using the house cellar, as in a separate building the temperature can be kept under better control. If a superfluity of loose or cobble stones abounds, as is the case on many farms, an excellent plan would be to build an outside cellar of them, laying them in cement. Such a cellar would last a life-time, as there is nothing perishable except the roof. The temperature of a building of stone is more equable than any other. But once in a period of 16 years were the contents of the cellar above described injured by frost, and then the cellars all over the land were entered by the frost king.—Mrs. A. C. McPherson, in Farm and Home.

MANURING FRUIT TREES.

They Need an Extra Application of Soluble Fertilizers During the Bearing Season.

It is a great advantage to trees that have blossomed freely and set much fruit to give them extra applications of soluble manures, at the same time applying water enough to carry the fertilizer where the roots can get it. Most fruit trees suffer from lack of water in the soil during the season when they are forming the seeds. The chief requisite for the shells of all stone fruits is potash. But it requires a great amount of water in the soil to enable the roots to use it. Trees get but little benefit from the average summer rains, as they only wet down a few inches, and under the foliage the ground is often almost dry after a heavy shower, the leaves absorbing and holding so much of it. This watering of bearing trees will not, however, make unnecessary the thinning of fruit where the setting has been too large. If one-half the fruit is removed before the seeds begin to form, what is left will develop into much finer specimens than can be secured without thinning. A bearing tree never makes so much wood growth as one that is not bearing. By thinning the fruit each year the tendency to grow foliage and wood rather than fruit is checked, and most trees which bear only every other year may thus be trained to the habit of annual bearing, thus giving crops when the fruit is dear as well as when it is only a drug on the market.—American Cultivator.

Foul Feet in Dairy Cows.

I have had some experience with foul feet in cows. I had a cow that got so bad she would neither walk nor eat. I took two quarts of bran and one quart ashes; poured water over the ashes, let it stand for three minutes, poured it off and mixed with the bran. I put this poultice in a small sack and bound it on the foot over night, washed it in the morning, and in the evening the whole of the affected part came from the cleft in hoof. I kept the cow in the dry, and the foot greased, for four days, and there has never been any trouble since. Have tried it on several cases since, and with equal success.—J. H. Bruner, in Ohio Farmer.

Probably nine-tenths of the apple orchards are in sod, and many of them are meadows. Of course they are failing.

IDEA FROM NEVADA.

Traction Engine Combined with Road Roller Might Prove a Profitable Investment.

I send herewith a sketch of a 13-ton traction engine, capable of doing the work of 50 horses for less than it would cost to feed the animals. It is to be employed at Elko, Nev., in transporting ore and merchandise to and from that town and Tuscarora, a distance of 55 miles.

The motor will haul several three-wheeled wagons, which will carry from seven to ten tons each. These wagons are so made as to turn sharp corners with ease. A third wheel, smaller than the two main ones, is placed under the front of the vehicle in such fashion as to permit of a complete turn to that of Natah Haskell Dole.

King Oscar of Sweden is the most musical of reigning monarchs. In his younger days he was regarded as the most accomplished tenor in Europe, and could have made a fortune out of his voice on the stage.

Gen. Gallifet had a Hebrew ancestry. The last Hebrew of his line was baptized in the reign of Louis XIII. He was christened Louis Gallifet, or Louis-made-a-Frenchman. This was corrupted into Gallifet. The descendants of the convert purchased high financial and judicial posts in Provence.

CURRENT NOTES.

NEVADA TRACTION ENGINE. Freighters are looked for by the experts.

I suggest that if the steam-roller and traction-engine were combined more than one village corporation might keep its roads and pay for it by granting a franchise for towing farmers' milk and produce to the railroad station.

Given a reasonably good road, and a traction-engine would make almost as good an investment as a canal-boat and be much more flexible as to route. I have no data at hand to make a comparison in cost, but it would be a large saving over trucking. I have seen a reduction of from 35 cents per mile-ton by mules to nine cents a mile-ton with a small traction-motor which towed the wagons the mules pulled. This was on a level, with a short haul.—H. D. Hooker, in L. A. W. Bulletin.

THE ROAD MOVEMENT.

Early in the Century Highway Improvement Was Agitated Quite Generally.

The good roads movement in this country is not of recent origin, as many who are following and agitating it may think. In the earlier part of the century an agitation for good roads was kept up for nearly 50 years, and had among its leaders such men as Henry Clay and John Calhoun. This movement resulted in the government taking a sufficient interest in it to provide for a national turnpike through the leading eastern cities to those in the west. About the time the movement was well under way, the railroads, as a means of transportation, became so prominent as to cause the road work to stop.

Railroad building has practically reached its limit in this country now, though there will be extensions of the system gradually, but the good roads movement which they stopped in the earlier days is now receiving fresh impetus from the lessons that good steel highways have taught the people, and because of the necessity of good highways as feeders to the immense railroad systems of the country.

Instead of having one kind of good road to the detriment of the other, it is very probable that the work of the League of American Wheelmen, in conjunction with the Farmers' National congress and other agricultural organizations, will result in the work of road building being taken up where it was left off some years ago and completed as far as the necessities of the country demand. To do this will require millions of dollars and much patient effort, but the good roads agitators are confident they can convince the legislators and the people that improved highways are an economic necessity.

A Good Idea from Ohio.

An Ohio man writes to a local paper urging the practicability and economy of building country roads 16 feet wide, eight feet to be of good macadam and eight feet of earth, carefully graded and thoroughly rolled. This is an excellent plan and will answer every purpose under most circumstances. He says: "Let each township take care of its own roads—that is, issue bonds for a certain amount, say to run 10 or 15 years; thus make the property of the township build its own roads, and then give the laboring classes of our own towns the first chance to work on same. Put this in the hands of trustees, let them decide which road to take first, and how many miles each year, as we do not expect all this to be done in one year. There are lots of things that seem to be mountains ahead of us, but when we get to them they are mere ant or mole hills, and so it will be with this road business."

BUCKWHEAT IN ORCHARDS.

There is no grain crop that can be grown in orchards to better advantage than buckwheat. It is not exhaustive and its broad leaves shade the soil so that it does not make the land dry as other grain crops do. Besides, one of the effects of buckwheat growing is to keep the soil mellow so that every rain will soak into the soil instead of remaining on the surface until winds and sun dry out the moisture. It is the practice of some orchardists to sow buckwheat in orchards two or three times each year, plowing under the growth as soon as it was in blossom or before this fills the soil with vegetable matter, making it very porous. It often turns the last buckwheat growth to humic acid if a wet winter follows.

SOME WELL-KNOWN MEN.

Paul Kruger's favorite dish is salt herring. He eats at least one of these fish every day.

President McKinley's handwriting bears a striking resemblance to that of Bryant.

The prince of Wales has a collection of portraits of himself clipped from newspapers and periodicals.

The pope takes a keen interest in photography, and up to the time of his late illness was himself an amateur photographer of no mean ability.

Secretary Hay, as is well-known, is a devout Omar Khayyamite. It is not, however, so well known that his collection of editions of the Rubaiyat is second only in this country to that of Natah Haskell Dole.

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CURRENT NOTES.

Successful experiments have been made in Paris with an automobile wattering cart, and 300 of these will be put in service, replacing 800 horse-power carts now in use.

All batting records at cricket have been beaten by a 14-year-old schoolboy of Clifton college named Collins, who made 628 runs, not out, in a recent school match. This beats the score of 485 made by Mr. A. E. Stoddart in 1886.

Lord Salisbury is an ardent chemist, and has announced that he has discovered an important chemical process at his laboratory at Hatfield house, and that he will communicate the same to the world at a forthcoming meeting of one of the learned societies.

Thurso bay, in the north of Scotland, is having trouble with whales. A large school of bottle-nose whales was recently stranded in the shoals of the bay and driven on the beach. There is no way of hauling them off, so that Thurso people must hold their noses for a good part of the summer.

The collector of customs for Philadelphia in his statement for the year ending June 30 shows that the receipts there for the 12 months amount to the sum of \$22,357,642.43, which is nearly twice the amount of the previous year, when the receipts were \$12,602,172.81.

APHORISMS.

In idleness there is perpetual despair.—Carlyle.

Humility is the solid foundation of all the virtues.—Confucius.

Christianity is the highest perfection of humanity.—Johnson.

Adversity borrows its sharpest sting from our impatience.—Bishop Horne.

To what deep guilts a single deviation from the track of human duties leads.—Byron.

I hardly know so true a mark of a little mind as the servile imitation of others.—Greville.

If there is any person whom you dislike, that is the one of whom you should never speak.—Cecil.

Any feeling that takes a man away from his home is a traitor to the household.—H. W. Beecher.

It is not the place, nor the condition, but the mind alone that can make anyone happy or miserable.—L'F'istrate.

A kind heart is a fountain of gladness, making everything in its vicinity to freshen into smiles.—Washington Irving.

Hope is a flatterer, but the most upright of all parasites, for she frequents the poor man's hut as well as the palace of his superiors.—Shenstone.

FASHION NOTES.

A collar buckle of old gold represents a turtle, decorated in transparent enamel.

A necklace of pink coral beads, alternating with pearls, is among the latest novelties.

A very pretty cloak clasp is of silver in the shape of a rose leaf. It is set with semi-precious stones.

Heart brooches of gold, having the appearance of being cast, are set with precious stones.

A scarf fastener of gold, having the appearance of being cast, is in the shape of a "fleur de lis." It is set with precious stones.

A handsome brooch in the shape of a crescent has the edges set with pink pearls, the center being thickly studded with emeralds.

A pretty bathroom set is of silver, handsomely enameled. The lids of the puff box and of the tooth powder box are set with semi-precious stones.—Jeweler's Weekly.

WAY STATIONS.

There are 12,000 miles of railway in Poland.

Dr. W. Seward Webb knows railroading from top to bottom and frequently amuses himself by running an engine.

The Jersey Central is to institute a system of examination for its baggage-men, embracing questions of route, tracing of lost articles, etc.

INDUSTRIAL ITEMS.

Aluminum is now used for fireproof curtains in theaters.

A capital of \$50,000,000 is now engaged and 50,000 people are employed in the various clipping bureaus of the world.

The timber on 30,000 acres of hardwoods at Algoma, W. Va., is about to be cut at the rate of 35,000 feet per day. It is estimated that five years will be spent in finishing the tract.

Some one asserts that a tremendous waste occurs in all the fruit growing districts of this country, and that when there is a glut car loads are thrown away. Most of Oregon's great prune crop last year rotted on the ground.

Gold production in West Australia reached its maximum last January, when 110,000 ounces were taken out. The March output was less than 6,000 ounces. South African gold production

reached its maximum in March.

The Murchland machine for milking in Germany is worked by pneumatic suction. An air pump is connected to a system of tubes and reservoirs. Six to eight minutes are required to milk the cows by this continuous and easy method.

In the course of the last decade the manufacture of cotton goods has become a firmly established industry in Brazil. Vast areas of land are available for the growth of the raw material, labor is cheap, water power is convenient and can be utilized without great expense for driving the necessary machinery.

It is, perhaps, not generally known that potatoes are imported into this country in large quantities from Scotland and Germany; but such is the case. For the past five years, however, the Scotch yield has been so small as to preclude the exportation of any part of it; but this season the crop was large, and one ship alone brought 150,000 sacks.

BITS OF CHURCH NEWS.

Of the recorded ministers of the Society of Friends 143 are women.

There are about 550 Protestant churches and congregations in Mexico.

The Presbyterian church in Ireland comprises 600 congregations and half a million people.

The first Christian Endeavor society of Spain recently celebrated its eighth anniversary.

In Candia, Crete, there is a Christian Endeavor society of 102 members composed of Greeks, Moslems and Jews.

A missionary paper reports that the opposition to the Natural Foot society in China comes chiefly from the women, who are afraid to go against fashion.

Switzerland has 1,001 Mormons, besides 27 missionaries, who last year visited 12,944 houses and distributed 26,000 tracts.

The Chinese Christian Endeavor society of San Francisco contributed last year \$689 to its own missionary board, \$415 to its own home church expenses, and \$108 to other benevolences, making a total of \$1,212.

The Young People's Society of Christian Endeavor, with an official enrollment of 55,813 societies and a total membership of 3,350,000, gave last year, besides charitable and educational expenditures, \$500,000 for missionary work.

BITS FROM ABROAD.

There is only one flock of pure merino sheep in England.

Buckingham palace has a scented fountain, which on state occasions is fed with cologne water.

The death rate of the French colonial army is 39.8 per 1,000 a year. In Madagascar it is 103.1 per 1,000, and in west Africa 107.1 per 1,000.

A great cave, said to be larger than the Mammoth, in Kentucky, has been discovered in Victoria, B. C. It has been explored a distance of 12 miles without the end being reached.

The total length of electric railways in Switzerland is 105 miles, of which 47 miles were opened last year. The power for nearly one-half of the lines is obtained from waterfalls.

Electricity has supplanted steam on the railroad from Milan to Monza, the oldest railroad in Italy, opened for traffic in 1840. Storage batteries are used, the electricity being obtained from the turbines on the Adda at Paderno.

A full grown lion will tip the scales at 500 pounds. Five hundred and forty pounds is the record for an African lion. His bone is solid and heavy as iron. I would not be without Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound; it is like water of life to me. I am very grateful and sincerely your well-wisher, and I heartily recommend your remedies. I hope some poor creature may be helped to health by reading my story.—Mrs. Col. E. P. RICHARDSON, RHEINLANDER, WIS.

GLOBE SIGHTS.

Some mighty nice boys go barefooted, and look dirty.

An Atchison man got the best of a book agent the other day, and she cried.

The proposal in a love story is to a girl what the pie at dinner is to a boy.

The trouble with the average man is that he has no one to censor his talk.

A good many people don't want to know the truth, if it is opposed to their foolish prejudices.

The longer a girl lies in bed in the morning, the more care she takes in making her toilet