

# AGRICULTURAL.

## TOPICS OF INTEREST RELATIVE TO FARM AND GARDEN.

### FREDDING.

Feeding, like any other investment of money, should pay the proper interest on the capital used. If the animal fed cannot pay back a fair interest on the cost of the food, both should be applied to more remunerative uses—the capital transferred and the animal converted into cash to be profitably applied. Nearly every farmer in America and elsewhere loses the interest of the money invested in unprofitable live-stock.—*American Agriculturist.*

### LOOK TO THE STABLES IN WINTER.

It is expensive work to winter idle horses, and doubly expensive if proper care is not given, for then there is a strong chance of losing some before spring. If the stables are close and heated the air will be hot and foul—directly injurious to the lungs. On the other hand, cold stables with strong currents of air are quite as bad. A warm, not hot, stable, well ventilated without direct drafts, is the happy medium.—*New York Observer.*

### KINDNESS TO CATTLE.

This is one of the standard subjects for the dairy writer and dairy lecturer. It is a good subject, but its treatment usually lacks direction; for being kind to the cow. There is only one way in which a man can teach himself to be kind to the cow, and that is to train himself in kindly feelings toward everything. Whenever a man takes a milk pail in his hand and starts for the cow stable, slipping a child's ears, kicking the dog, swearing at a hog that happens to run across his path and hauling a stick at the chickens, while on his way, the cow had better "hiss" promptly when he reaches her, or there will be a circus at once. A man who is ill-natured at everything else will be ill-natured toward the cow, and the man who is kind to everybody and every other animal will treat the cow kindly. It would be much more effective if effort was made to cause a man to be universally kind than to tell him to be kind to the cow.—*Western Rural.*

### HOG DYSPESIA.

Hog dyspepsia is the forerunner of many hog ailments. It throws the system out of condition and hastens the disease. The dyspeptic hog is an unthrifty one. He is always hungry, continually eating if he has an opportunity, but the food does him no good, as it is only partially digested. He actually seems to dwindle in size instead of to grow, and becomes "pot-bellied." He is uncomfortable himself and renders his companions as much so as he possibly can. The cause of dyspepsia is over-feeding, or rather irregular feeding, allowing the hog to become very hungry and then gorge himself. When the internal machinery of the hog is once thrown out of gear, like any other machinery, if continued to run out of gear, will rapidly grow worse. The pre-ventives are better than cures. Keep the hog well supplied with charcoal, wood ashes, salt and lime to keep them well toned up. If they are suffering from the disease, reduce the food to a very light diet, give plenty of charcoal and watch the condition closely, and by regulating the feed they can be gradually brought up again.—*New Orleans New Delta.*

### WHEN TO PRUNE APPLE TREES.

Orchards trees may be pruned at any time after the leaves have fallen. In doing this work one should first study the tree and note just what wood is to be taken away. The intention in pruning is to cut out all the crossing branches and those that crowd each other so as to interfere with the balance of the tree. And, as trees differ in the manner of growth, some require different treatment from others. This is all to be understood before any cutting is done, and as it is easier to cut again than to replace a branch that is cut wrong, the work should be done with deliberation. When the tree has been carefully surveyed in this way, the cutting is to be done with a sharp, fine toothed saw, and never with an axe. The cuts are to be trimmed smooth with a sharp knife, and large wounds should be painted over with common paint. Every cut is to be made close to the stem or branch, so that no stubs are left. Sprouts will always grow from these and make future work and trouble. Pruning is a work that is not easily described to fit all cases, but when the principle is understood it is easily learned. A frequent study of the trees will quickly lead to an understanding of what is necessary to be done.—*New York Times.*

### SMUT IN WHEAT.

Smut in wheat is a parasitic fungus of a low degree. The spores, which answer the place of seeds in higher orders of plants, are in the form of a minute black dust, and these are scattered over the field, in the grass, straw, chaff, also adhering to the sound grain after it is gathered, and may be sown with it the following year, and when conditions are favorable these smut-spores germinate, their threads penetrating all parts of the growing plant and ultimately producing smutty wheat again. Smutty grain may appear in dry as well as in wet seasons, and the abundance of smut in the wheat fields of a locality may be due to the continuous cropping of particular fields with wheat, oats or some closely-allied grain. To prevent smut a system of rotation of crops should be adopted, and the seed wheat be soaked for a few hours in a solution of sulphate of copper, or in a weak brine made of common salt, for the purpose of killing any smut spores that may be on the grain. A good way to prepare seed wheat for sowing is to dissolve one pound of sulphate of copper in two gallons of water, or in this proportion for any quantity required. The wheat should be placed in tubs or casks, filling up to within three or four inches of the top, then pouring in the solution until the grain is well covered. The wheat is then to be stirred thoroughly, and should any whole smut grains come to the surface they have to be skimmed off. After soaking for an hour or two the liquor is to be drained off, the grain spread out on a floor and dusted with dry lime or wood ashes, after which it is to be sown as usual.—*American Agriculturist.*

### METHODS OF CHURNING.

The churns in use, many of which have

been patented, are too numerous to be separately described. The churning is performed for the purpose of causing the globules of butter fat to strike on each other and by impaction to unite. When large numbers of these have united in that way it is said that the butter had "come," and the particles may be washed and removed.

Whatever the form of churn used, the agitation ought to be equally distributed and uniform, and affect the whole mass as evenly as possible, in order that all the cream may be turned into butter at about the same time, otherwise there may be the loss so frequently complained of, of the fat globules remaining unagitated in the buttermilk.

Of all the forms of churn invented, the old-fashioned dash churn has been the most popular. The dasher should fill about three-fourths of the section of the churn, so that the cream will be subjected to a yielding pressure at each stroke, and the holes in the dash should be tapered, that is, larger in diameter at the bottom than at the top of the dash.

In the revolving churns the cream is made to move by centrifugal force from the center and strike against the inner surface of the churn, or in some of its forms to fall from corner to corner or from end to end, thus giving it a more diversified agitation. A great deal of cream is left in the buttermilk from churning two qualities of cream in the same churn at the same churning.

### FARM AND GARDEN NOTES.

Don't forget the water's wood. Breed stock when eggs are cheap. Make the hens lay when eggs are the dearest.

Kill or otherwise dispose of all hens after three years of age. Plants drink. Hence all fertilizers must be soluble to be available.

If you want to get the first premiums, you must be up early and preparing for it.

The loss by stacking is often greater than the interest on money to build a barn.

Remember early-cut hay is best, and early cutting gives a chance for a second crop.

Flavor and taste are not the same. You taste the flavor but do not flavor the taste.

Keep all the pullets. They are worth \$2 each as prospective early winter layers.

If weeds are repeatedly cut and not allowed to seed, they must sooner or later die out.

Less acres and more on an acre is one of the means of solving the agricultural problem.

Live on the farm more in the old-fashioned way of producing your own supplies.

Empty soapuds on the garden; it is full of potash and other fertilizing ingredients.

What is the matter with the Berkshire, Poland China, Duroc and Essex breeds of swine?

Keep a nonsitting breed to lay when sitters are hatching, and pay expenses of the latter.

Don't let the potato bugs kill the vines, and then put unripe potatoes on the market.

Early give the pigs a side pea, accessible only to them, and begin to feed them lightly.

Breed as many chickens as possible and as early as possible. They all represent so much money.

Garden ground infested with cutworms will be benefited by plowing it deeply just before heavy freezing.

A watering trough should always be under cover, so that animals can drink on a cold day without discomfort.

You must not believe what anyone says about his dog not worrying sheep. Your dog will do it if he gets the chance.

The main thing in wintering sheep is to keep them up in the fall, or if permitted to lose flesh then they will scarcely recruit during the entire winter.

It is true in breeding as well as in growing crops, the man who weeds the closest and most intelligently is the one who grows the largest crop and at the least cost.

Salt is the cause of deterioration of butter often than is supposed. It is unnecessary to use poor salt when there are so many places where pure dairy salt may be obtained.

A half teaspoonful of turpentine, mixed with a pair of ashes and applied every two or three days, is said to keep the striped beetle away from cucumber and melon plants.

One of the ways in which you can help to make your stock-keeping profitable this winter, will be to hold over no more animals than you can properly and comfortably shelter. It is sorry business to feed good hay and grain to shivering cattle in a bleak barnyard.

Mr. David Allen says: "Of cannaes there is now an endless variety, but we cannot dispense with all the old ones, on account of their effective foliage, such as Nigricans, Lilliflora and Indica. All the new dwarf varieties excel in their brilliant color and effectiveness on the lawn."

The *American Florist* claims to have found an infallible remedy for the cutworm pest. It says use pyrethrum powder, making certain that it is fresh. Distribute it with a bellows at evening time, and in the morning large numbers of the worms will be found lying on the ground dead.

The raising of ducks is only in its infancy in this country. The time will perhaps come when that fowl will be raised as extensively as in China. One of the best reasons for extending the breeding of ducks is the fact that they are less liable to disease than any other breed of fowl.

The sheep business, like dairying, is a business that can not be successful by picking it up one year and dropping it the next. It is a business that needs study, and, like dairying, the details of it can not be learned in one year. It is the man who goes into it and sticks to it who wins; and he can not be breeding for mutton one year and wool the next, neither can he keep his flock on the feast-or-famine plan during the winter and raise a crop of healthy lambs in the spring.

# SNAKE VERSUS OX.

## A STORY ILLUSTRATING THE PYTHON'S GREAT STRENGTH.

A Monster Serpent Coils About a Bullock—Holding Its Own Against Great Odds—The Outcome.

The elderly proprietor of a coast steamship line who, in his younger days, say not a little of the rough side of a sailor's life, recently told a story which illustrates the great strength of certain large serpents of the East Indies.

We had been speaking of the force of elephants, whales, lions and other large vertebrata, and estimating the power which it is possible to concentrate in muscular tissue. It was this which called out my friend's story.

The Dutch, he said, who control Sumatra, Java and several smaller islands to the eastward of Java, have been accustomed to set free certain cattle in favorable localities of their possessions, in order that they may by their increase furnish a cheap beef supply, both for the native and for Government use.

When the narrator was about eighteen years old he was supercargo on board a brig which made annual voyages into the East Indian waters after sandalwood. The vessel was lying in a bay on the coast of an island to the north of Timor, and the logs, or sections of the precious wood, were drawn down to the beach from a table-land two or three miles in the interior by a Dutch proprietor who had in his service six natives and as many bullocks.

These animals were driven tandem—in single file—on account of the narrowness of the trail, which led for some distance across a marsh amongst huge trees, and then ascended through rocks and crags to the dryer plateau, where the santalum grows. The logs were transported on a narrow boat-shaped "drag," without wheels or rollers.

The young supercargo, who was fond of hunting and adventure, often accompanied this odd team in its trips from the shore to the plateau.

On the way up he often rode the drag with the old Dutchman, who was stout and disinclined to pedestrian exercise.

Upon one of these occasions, when the team had passed nearly through the swampy forest tract and was near the foot of the craggy ascent, the supercargo was amazed and startled by a singular sight.

In the obscurity of the dense foliage above his head, he saw something which he could compare to nothing save a huge, animated barber's pole drop like a flash from the branches of the great trees which overhung the path, and enfold the ox next in front of the ruddy vehicle in which he and Myneher Huydecooper were sitting. It was a python of large size, superbly marked.

From a large limb, ten or fifteen feet above the ox, the snake had dropped or swung down, and had thrown a fold of its supple body about the neck of the poor animal, swift as a tiger's spring.

The natives took to their heels. The ox thus fearfully beset, bellowed with fright and, plunging headlong, jerked the drag so violently that the fat Dutchman was sent rolling over its side.

Meantime the alarm was communicated to the bullocks in advance. Erecting their tails, they bounded forward along the trail; and the drag, catching against a tree-trunk or some other obstruction, detached and left behind the cattle in their mad flight.

For some distance they dragged their hapless mate after them. The python had kept its hold around the ox's neck, and was carried along with them, and the screaming of the natives, the bellowing of the oxen, the hoarse shouts of the fleshy Dutchman, and the snapping of tackle, made the spectacle an exciting one.

The reptile, infuriated by the rough usage it was receiving, lashed right and left with the ten or twelve feet of its body that trailed after the ox. Then was exhibited an example of its tremendous strength. Its tail came in contact with a tree beside the path. It threw a turn around the trunk, and instantly the feeble bullocks were brought to a stand. In vain they leaped and surged irregularly forward.

Like a stiff iron hook, the tail of the python held its turn around the tree, while its shining body was stretched taut as a ship's cable. Its fold around the ox's neck tightened till the choked animal's tongue protruded and its eyes bulged; still it held fast both to ox and tree, nor could the terrified and plunging team tear it away.

The young supercargo, dashing forward, discharged his fowling-piece, loaded with shot, at the reptile's effect. But Myneher Huydecooper, who by this time had gathered himself up, new ran forward with a more efficacious weapon.

He had taken from the drag a long saw which was used by the workmen for sawing the tree trunks into logs. Raising this in both hands, he brought it down across the serpent as he would have done upon a log.

The effect was instantaneous. The python's tense body separated in two parts, and the oxen plunged forward, leaving the sundered halves of the monster writhing in the path. The two men beat the reptile's head into quietude with levers. It was found that this portion of its body measured nearly thirteen feet in length, while the tail was not quite ten feet long; and near the place where the saw had divided it, the snake was twenty-one inches in circumference.

Of course the frantic bullocks did not exert their strength in concert. They were too crazy with fright for that. Had they pulled together, and in a straight line, undoubtedly the serpent would have been torn either from the tree, or from his hold upon the bullock's neck.

—*Youth's Companion.*

### No Room 13.

"Don't put me in No. 13," pleaded the latest arrival with the clerk, who was assigning him to a room. "Superstitious!" the clerk queried. "No, not exactly that," replied the new comer, "but a little skittish." "Well, I couldn't put you in a No. 13 if I would," stated the man with the diamond. "There isn't a No. 13 in the house. We skipped that unlucky number in the numbering." The stranger breathed a sigh of relief, and the mischievous clerk sent him up to parlor Q, which used to be No. 13, but had been rechristened to suit the whims of the traveling public.—*Philadelphia Record.*

### A Mammoth Stump.

Long before the advent of the white man in California forest fires raged, and from recent discoveries it is probable that giant trees were thus destroyed, in comparison to which our much lauded sequoias and redwoods of the present are but saplings. In 1849 Commodore Apsley Casby Jones, United States Navy, established a small saw-mill in Mill Valley for the purpose of getting out lumber, there being no small saw-mills in operation on the coast at that time. A few remnants of this old mill still remain, the locality being about six miles from Sausalito, on the North Pacific Coast Railway. Close by this mill there can to-day be plainly traced the outline of a tree destroyed by fire, perhaps ages ago. The stump still measures fifty-two feet in diameter, and from appearances perhaps once measured fully sixty feet.

Around this mammoth stump had grown immense trees, which were cut and used in the saw-mill in 1849. Since then a third growth has been made, the sight of which would make glad the heart of any lumber man. The stump was measured last week by Edward A. T. Gallagher, the pioneer, who lost his reputation for veracity in 1849, when his description of the sequoias of California was published in the Eastern papers, in which the statement was made that his employes had driven a wagon and yoke of oxen through a prostrate tree that was burned hollow, and they would drive for 100 feet and "gee off" and out through a knot hole. At the same time the statement was made that he had felled a tree seventeen feet in diameter and had used the hollow of one that was standing in which to stable thirteen head of horses.

### Electricity for the Polar Night.

The long polar night will be henceforth more bearable to the 2000 inhabitants of Hammerfest in Norway, the northernmost village of Europe. Electric light has been introduced into every house in the hamlet. The power is brought from three small streams a short distance from Hammerfest, whose currents are so strong and swift that the water does not freeze even in winter.

The long night begins in Hammerfest on November 18 and lasts until January 23, so that the artificial illumination will be of service for sixty-six days. On the other hand, it will be practically useless and unnecessary from May 16 to July 26, during which time the sun never ceases to shine. Hammerfest lies in north latitude seventy degrees, thirty-nine minutes, fifteen seconds. At sixty-seven degrees, twenty-three minutes, north latitude the longest night lasts one month, at sixty-nine degrees, fifty-one minutes, it lasts two months, and at seventy-three degrees forty minutes three months. The polar night is shortened and the polar day is lengthened by the reflection of light. The inhabitants of Hammerfest, in fact, have no real night between March 30 and September 12.—*Boston Transcript.*

### A Unique Rock Cairn.

Miss Frances Willard has now the most unique rock cairn in the world. It is upon her lawn. Once upon a time Miss Willard was heard to express a wish for a rock cairn. Accordingly, on Miss Willard's fifty-second birthday, Miss Anna Gordon, her faithful private secretary, and second self, sent out hundreds of cards to friends inviting each to send a small stone for the cairn. Stones were sent from Edinburgh Castle, the Tower of London, Melrose Abbey, Holyrood Palace, the Giant's Causeway, also lava stones from Mount Vesuvius, India porphyry, stones of the Lakes of Killarney, also stones from the homes of Longfellow and Ralph Waldo Emerson. Then there were stones from the Alps and chips from the Eiffel Tower, Hawthorn's old manse, Plymouth Rock, the Washington Monument, and so many other places that a list of them is quite too long to print.—*New York Commercial Advertiser.*

### Tallest Men in the World.

The tallest men of Western Europe are found in Catalonia, Spain; Normandy, France; Yorkshire, England, and the Ardennes districts of Belgium. Prussia gets her tallest recruits from Schleswig-Holstein, the original home of the irrepressible Anglo-Saxons; Austria from the Tyrolean highlands. In Italy the progress of physical degeneration has extended to the Upper Apennines, but the Albanian Turks are still an athletic race, and the natives of the Caucasus are as sinewy and gaunt as in the days of the Argonauts. In the United States the thirty-eighth parallel, ranging through Indiana and Northern Kentucky, is as decidedly the latitude of big men as the forty-second is of big cities. The tallest man of South America are found in the Western provinces of the Argentine Republic, of Asia in Afghanistan and Kay-poona, of Africa, in the highlands of Abyssinia.—*Philadelphia Times.*

### Shod With Stone.

A man went clattering along the sidewalk yesterday, making as much noise as a horse. Curiosity impelled one to look at his feet, when something was seen that was probably never noticed in Astoria before. He had stone soles on his boots. The boots were made like ordinary boots, except that the lower or double sole consisted of a thin layer of what looked like concrete or cement, a shell of set stone on which the upper sole was pasted. It was not flexible, and one couldn't do much dancing in them. We had seen wooden shoes, and had a remembrance of the copper toed shoes of boyhood, but soles made of stone were something new. The man said he was from Dakota, had bought the shoes at Fargo, and was here about a week. They were made in Connecticut.—*Oregon Astorian.*

### St. George's Lighthouse.

Sixty-three miles from Humbolt "bar a lonely rock in the Pacific Ocean has long been a source of danger to the mariner, but will be so no longer. After eight years' warfare with the wind and the waves, the workmen of the Government have placed on the rock a magnificent structure that will be known as the St. George's light. Work on the building is finished, and nothing now remains to be done but to place the lens in its position and start the machinery. It is expected that the lenses, which were made in France at a cost of \$15,000, will arrive soon, and the building will then be turned over to the inspectors. The lighthouse has cost the Government \$750,000, and is considered the best on the coast, and is one of the best in the world.—*Oregon Astorian.*

# WOMAN'S WORLD.

## PLEASANT LITERATURE FOR FEMININE READERS.

### BLUE JEAN FOR HOME USE.

Blue jean is becoming a most popular material for many home uses. It sheds dust easily and can be washed without changing color, and for these reasons it is liked for table covers, seats for partially worn out chairs, crumb cloths and closet portieres. It should be worked in a bold, conventional pattern, with rope linen of coarse embroidery silk, and it makes a splendid cover for an invalid's sofa pillow, worked with white rope linen.—*New York Press.*

### THE BIG HAT MUST GO.

Paris has declared war on the big hat at public performances. French papers are ridiculing it with merciless satire, and prominent critics have gone so far as to refuse to attend performances where the big hat is allowed. It is thought that the beginning of the end is come, and that soon amusement goes all over the world will be delivered from the tyranny of the constructive mountain of millinery, for, of course, Paris sets the fashion for the rest of the world.—*New Orleans Picayune.*

### FOR HOUSE WEAR.

For house wear a very handsome dress is made of the princess shape—and it may be mentioned en passant that all dresses are being made on this pattern—crossed and draped, of iron gray swanskin silk. The corsage closed in bus over a double ruche, which is stopped by a bow on the skirt. The right side of the corsage is draped at the shoulder with three pleats, which are held together with a bow. A ruffled collarlette. The skirt is ornamented with two rows of embroidery, separated with small ruches, a double ruche ornamenting the bottom. The sleeves in bias, rather high shouldered and gathered, being narrow at the bottom and trimmed at the wrist with two rows of embroidery and ruches.—*New York Herald.*

### THE SCOOP BONNET.

The scoop bonnet is a favorite because it is generally becoming and is so shaped that while being a bonnet it has the youthful appearance of a round hat. The distinctive feature of the scoop bonnet is that it has no brim at all, and that it lies perfectly flat upon the front of the head, just over the forehead. This gives a very nice chance for a becoming face trimming. Women with small, regular features find the scoop bonnet very becoming if trimmed with a standing bow, which is placed on the front of the bonnet in the most upright, aggressive manner possible. Around the edge of the bonnet there must be a heavy ruffling of some kind of velvet, and at the back another upright bow. This makes a very pretty hat, and one which will probably be fashionable all winter.—*New York World.*

### A WOMAN AS TRAIN DESPATCHER.

It is said that the office of train despatcher on the New London Northern Railroad is held by Miss Lizzie E. D. Thayer. As this is a single-track road, her position is one of great responsibility, since she controls the movements of all trains from one end of the line to the other. Miss Thayer was for some time assistant to the former train despatcher, and upon his resignation, pending the appointment of his successor, she proved herself so thoroughly capable of doing the work of the place that the position was conferred upon her. She is at her office from seven in the morning until six at night, superintending the 181 miles of track under her care. She has a man assistant, but the responsibility is all hers. During her two years of service there has been no accident for which she is to blame.—*New York Witness.*

### THE SILK SKIRT.

What seems an extravagance to many women is the silk skirt which a good dress-maker always insists a wool gown shall be made over. Yet even to the economist there are several points in its favor. One silk lining often serves during the reign of two gowns, the foot ruffle, perhaps, being replaced. It is lighter than cambric and has besides a certain buoyancy, which adds to its want of weight. Its slippery surface prevents the wool clinging and does away with the disagreeable swathed sensation which wool gowns on cambric linings are sure to evolve. One may even economize a little in the amount of overmaterial when the silk skirt is used. It is beginning to be understood that there is a rationale at the bottom of many so-called extravagancies; no woman for instance, nowadays who respects herself wears the atrocious known as a sham skirt—and the silk underskirt is a conspicuous example of such well conditioned luxury.—*Chicago News.*

### LOVELY OLD SILK GOWNS.

Speaking of economy reminds me of the lovely old silk gowns that everybody's mother or grandmother is pretty sure to possess. How often have I gazed upon those quaint cut remnants of past glories and thought what a delicious frock this would make if only the widths were straight. Now is your time, clever girls. Gored skirts are with us again, to repair to the old-fashioned cambric chest that nearly every well regulated household possesses, and with a little headwork, a neat hand and a few accessories you can turn yourself out a dinner gown or an afternoon dress that will please yourself and everyone who is fortunate enough to see it on you. I speak, not blandly, but from experience, for I have just finished making over a simply lovely old lilac silk poplin. I am very proud of it, for "with my own hands I have done this thing," and I don't believe "Mme. Adeline" or madame anybody else could have made a more successful thing of it.—*St. Louis Republic.*

### INFLAMMABLE GOODS.

"My business here is to sell things," remarked a middle-aged salesman to his friend, as he made a memorandum of a cash sale in his book; "and, of course, I expect to sell whatever goods people ask for, if I have them in stock. But I do wish they wouldn't come here and buy Canton flannel for curtains and draperies. There is nothing that I sell that makes me so uncomfortable as this. I have had some frightful experiences with these goods, which I suppose have made me unusually nervous about them."

There is nothing in the whole range of dry-goods so inflammable as the fine grades of Canton flannel. I have had the house set on fire repeatedly because some one lighted a lamp in the vicinity of a Canton flannel drape. I used to be very fond of this sort of goods, but there is nothing that would induce me to put a yard of it in my house. If you want to understand the occasion of my fears, just take a bit of the stuff and hold it near the flame of a lamp. The blaze will travel over it faster than a prairie fire. I have sometimes thought that I would positively refuse to sell the goods, but people want them; and I suppose no one would thank me for advice on the subject.—*New York Ledger.*

### EARNINGS OF LITERARY WOMAN.

Women are more favored in literary work at present than are men. For example, Mrs. Burnett has a larger income from royalties than is received by any man. Mrs. Humphrey Ward will make a small fortune out of her "David," Elizabeth Stuart Phelps commands the highest prices for all the magazines. Mrs. Margaret Deland sets her own figures. Sarah Orne Jewett receives as much for a short story as does the most successful male author. Anna Katharine Green sustains a comfortable home solely from the proceeds of her pen. Ella Wheeler Wilcox sells everything she writes. Amelia Rives writes little, but what she does write and sell brings her the best prices. Maria Parloa lives on the income of her pen. Mary J. Holmes receives a larger yearly check from her publishers than does many a bank president. Amelia E. Barr is kept busy supplying stories and articles at flattering figures. "The Duchess" makes several thousands of dollars each year with her pen, while "Mrs. Alexander" does the same. "Octave Thuaet" has more than she can do at the most remunerative rates of payment, and one might go through an almost endless list of women, such as Julia Magruder, Elizabeth B. Custer, Frances Courtenay Baylor, Harriet Prescott Spofford, Miss McClelland, Mollie Elliott Seawell, Louis Chandler Moulton, Ellen Olney Kirk, Grace King and a score or two of others.—*Chicago Post.*

### RESTORING A CARPET.

An ingenious woman has upon her floor a carpet rescued from dirt and destruction to a condition "almost as good as new." The work of restoring was not done by a professional cleaner, but under direction at home. The carpet was tacked to a frame that raised it a good distance from the ground, and each breadth was scrubbed with a brush, using tamped water and good white soap. Next it was rinsed and dried as well as possible by rubbing with clean cloths. The rest of the drying was left to the wind and sun. The carpet should be shaken and grease spots removed with gasoline or benzine before scrubbing.—*New York Post.*

### WASHING LACE CURTAINS.

At the time of fall house cleaning the washing of lace curtains is an important matter. After shaking the dust out of them thoroughly, soak them over night in cold water, if very much soiled, let them soak twenty-four hours, changing the water once or twice, and putting them through the wringer from one water into another. Do not rub them on a washboard, but rub gently with the hands, pressing and squeezing mostly. Scald them, rinse and hang on the line to dry. Do this in the morning, and after they are dry look them over carefully and mend any places that need it. The next morning starch them in well-boiled starch, but do not make them too stiff or they will not hang in graceful folds. If you do not want them white, add strong coffee to the starch until the required shade is obtained. The best way to dry them after they are starched is to have frames, the side pieces as long as the curtains and the end pieces as long as the widest curtain, with holes and pins for shortening them to other widths. Sew white cotton around the bars of the frames and pin the curtains to them, both ends and sides. On a bright day they will dry very quickly. They may be hung over a sheet on the line until partly dry, and then pinned to a sheet that has been previously pinned to the carpet; but the frame is much more convenient, and any man can make one in a short time. A kitchen chair set at each corner will hold the frame up if you have nothing better. Curtains washed and dried in this way will look very nearly, if not quite as good as new.—*Farm and Fireside.*

### RECIPES.

White Potato Pudding—One and a half pounds of potatoes finely mashed, a quarter of a pound of butter, one pound of sugar, six eggs, and four blades of mace powdered. Bake, without pastry, in a rather shallow dish, or with pastry in pie plates.

Fried Chickens—Wash your chickens, cut them in pieces, season them with pepper and salt. Have in a pan some hot butter and lard mixed; dry some flour over each piece, and fry them slowly till of a bright brown on both sides; take them up, put a little water in a pan, add some butter rolled in flour to thicken the gravy, and more pepper and salt if required. Young spring chickens are only suitable for frying.

Beefsteak—Put two large tablespoons of butter together with three slices of lemon into your chafin-dish. Add one pound of beefsteak, cut one inch thick. Cook slowly for ten minutes. Over this pour a gill of good stock (made by melting canned extract of beef in hot water), then a gill of port wine, simmer for another ten minutes, when the juice of a lemon is to be squeezed over the steak; it is then ready to serve.

Potato Soup—Boil six large parrot potatoes in sufficient water. Meantime put a quart of milk in a double kettle to boil, with one stalk of celery and an onion. When the potatoes are cooked turn off the water and mash fine and light, then add the boiling milk and a tablespoonful of butter and salt to taste. Rub through a strainer and add a cup of whipped cream. A good substitute for cream is a batter of cornstarch and milk.

Stewed Celery—Six blades celery, one half pint white stock, three tablespoonfuls of cream, butter and flour, one blade of mace, pepper and salt. Wash the celery, strip off the outer leaves and cut it into lengths of two inches, put these into a stewpan with the stock broth and stew till tender for about twenty-five minutes; then add the cream, mace, pepper and salt and a little butter and flour; simmer for five minutes; pour into a dish and serve.

Apples in a