

BUTCHERING ON THE FARM.

Cheep and Facile Convenience—Weight of Hens for Family Consumption.
On many farms a few hens are killed and dressed for family consumption each winter. When this is an annual occurrence the necessary conveniences ought to be provided before hand, and after we stored away for the next season. Here follows hints in the agricultural department of the New York World concerning this subject.

When only a few hens are butchered these appliances may be few and inexpensive. A tight case, somewhat larger than a barrel, in which the hens may be sealed as soon as killed, bottles for heating the water and a little scaffold of rough boards on which the hens may be when drawn out of the scalding water are the principal things.

When considerably esteemed from facilities and have the several means at command in a convenient way for disemboweling and skinning the entire process. The carcasses should have not only long enough for skinning thoroughly, but sand it is entirely cooked through before it is taken down and cut up for curing and packing. In suitable weather this condition will be reached the next day after the slaughtering.

In very cold weather care must be taken that the carcass does not freeze on the outside before the animal is killed and skinned from within. In general it is better that the dressed hens should not freeze at all, but kept as cold as possible without freezing.

For meat and for making most of the most durable qualities, pigs should be brought to a marketable size and weight as early as possible. When from 200 to 250 pounds the organs are well developed and will be fit for market, particularly for the best condition for family use. Corn is the safest fattening food for hogs, but it is becoming understood that a diet which will give a better distribution of fat and lean mass more desirable results. This means that other substances should also be used for the growth of the young animal. Clavers during the season is excellent; pumpkins are good and cheap; salted turnips are used for the best, and during the summer a variety of foods are available for keeping the animal fat. Let the animal be round up with at the same time. Again, hogs cannot be properly fattened in cold weather, and keeping them laid up to the winter for a gain in weight is not practised by our progressive farmers.

Dressing Poultry for Market.

In dressing poultry care should be taken to meet the requirements of the species intended to which the birds are consigned. In general, dry picked birds being the best price while in others the preference is for scalded or steamed picked. Some markets call for "drawn" birds others require that the entrails remain intact. There are two plans presented in The American Poultry Year. The second plan is the one used by persons who bid for highest prices in the New York markets where the dry picked birds are preferred, both scalded and steamed.

For that market the feathers are not drawn, and the legs and wings are left unbroken. Scald or steam the fowls quickly and as soon as possible after killing them. Then remove the feathers as briskly as may be, taking them off backward and downward in the same direction that the plumes grow. The carcasses should not be too severely scalded lest this render the skin tender, but a jet of steam turned upon half a dozen at a time in a quickened tour of the number of the heads in holding hot water for an instant only, will suffice the purpose.

This is one way, but when there is plenty of time and you are not obliged to hurry matters, if each fowl is washed dry directly after scalding and while the dead body is still warm, it will be found the preferable plan. It is an impatient man in dressing poultry that causes his birds to be inferior to those who are skilfully prepared. It is much a satisfaction to find that in writing for popular reading they do just plain work without a thought of trying to show off their learning.

When the Lick teleoscope was completed it was announced to be certainly the largest that could be constructed in America for many years to come. But a man who has made names in street railways, Mr. Charles T. Jackson, of Chicago, has already given the older one a teleoscope for the Colored audience that will be the greatest ever made anywhere.

This telescope record did not go into stationary mount longer than the trotting resort. The object glass of the Yerkes telescope will be fully twelve inches across—eleven inches longer than the Lick telescope. But the tremendous glass can never be used to full advantage until Chicago gets rid of her frightened and avaricious neighbors.

The Putnam Nail Co., REPOSEE, BOSTON, MASS.—The company and proprietors with watercolor and pencil sketches with a question asked by J. E. White, of Boston, who says in The Farmers' Review: "This is a question that has been a puzzle to many because we never see a pumpkin seed in a radish nor is there any change in the radish or apparent maturity in the seed." Yet I am sure that radishes grown over pumpkins will get no mixed with the pumpkins so as to be unfit for use. Now, says Professor of C. M. Franklin, that the radish and the pumpkin are perfectly compatible, and these have thought it best to correct no error. Equally general is the belief that cucumbers spell indomitable. Professor Bailey has shown that it is extremely doubtful. Ninety-seven instances of many varieties were pollinated with cucumbers pollen of many kinds. No fruit set. Twenty-five cucumbers flowers were pollinated with melon pollen, only one fruit developed.

Hives and Bees.
Guard against little bees among young fruit trees that will hold waste. The water may frost and injure the trees.

In Scotland some of the shanty houses are being furnished with electrical apparatus for stunning the cattle by electricity.

A large number of immigrants are leaving in western Kansas. They are buying land in large quantities and will make wheat culture a specialty.

The American Bee Journal says that there are 2,500,000 insects in the United States who keep bees, and that the number of colonies is about 2,000,000, producing nearly 13,000,000 pounds of honey annually, worth \$10,000,000, and value \$100,000.

The Columbus family still lives and has name and place in Italy. The Italian minister of finance, who received from the cabinet because he disapproved of sealing the country still longer for military purposes, was named Columbus. He allowed his great wealth and position by his marriage. He is letters for Italian soldiers to potato and share their uniforms still have them that do not make him further than five years.

Protecting Young Trees.

An Indiana correspondent of American Gardener writes: "We have had many years to learn habits and lessons from observing young fruit trees, but the best thing yet is divers paper. We say the paper act as a prop for roots and carriagings, and for incision with the root borer. It is easily applied and will prevent insects from the tree or shrub from getting at the root. If the paper cannot be used it is likely to cover much less the pounds of material of plants may be used instead to protect against borers. To include the amount given above would do no harm and might double the lasting capacity of the tree."

Some Wood Ashes.

American Gardener says: "It is well known that the several methods of ashing are in every way for disengaging and saving the entire process.

The ashes should have not only long enough for burning thoroughly, but sand it is entirely cooked through before it is taken down and cut up for curing and packing. In suitable weather this condition will be reached the next day after the sloughing.

The Children Like It.

W. G. M. L. LEEDS DEPT., AGENT

NERVOUS DERIDITY.

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