A POTATO SORTER.

An Experimental Potato-Sorting Apparatus for Which Advantages Are Claimed.

A Massachusetts farmer writing to Rural New Yorker, gives the following illustrated directions for making a potato sorter:

HOMEMADE POTATO SORTER.

I would have two wire covered cylinders, one within the other. The inside one should be of a larger mesh so that nothing but earth and small potatoes could pass through, and the outside one of such mesh as to allow only the passage of the dirt. By the addition of another cylinder, another sorting of potatoes could be made. The inside cylinder would extend about four inches further than the outside one, so as to make a more convenient fitting for the boxes through which the potatoes would slide. I think such an arrangement would be much better than other sorters I have seen illustrated. It would be better than the Hoover sorter, because the dirt would be separated from the small potatoes, and two sortings could be made. Needless to say advantage it would have over the Collins sorter, would be that there would be more certainty of separating the soil from the small tubers. I should suppose that in the Collins sorter, if the potatoes were thrown in too fast, the small ones would fall out beyond the lower screen and tumble to the ground.

SIDE VIEW OF POTATO SORTER.

In the device I have attempted to describe, an arrangement might be made so that one end of the cylinder could be raised or lowered, making it more or less slanting. If the dirt clung to the potatoes, it would be rolled off if the cylinder were nearly level, and if it did not bring the potatoes would pass through much more quickly if the cylinder were quite level.

Vinegar Made from Honey.

Vinegar made of honey is pronounced better than any of the separate fruit vinegars. It is made of pure honey in the following way: Take fifteen pounds of honey, eight gallons of warm, soft water, one pint of yeast. Mix well and let it ferment in an open vessel, covered with cotton cloth. After it has fermented for about a week, make a solution of six ounces of alcohol, six ounces of chemically pure acetic acid, one half ounce of tincture of cardamom, in two gallons of soft water, and add it to the vinegar that is in a state of fermentation. The tincture is to go into the alcohol before the water is added. If the vinegar is kept in a dry, warm place it will be fit for use in about a month, only enough cardamom is required to give it the slightest taste, without revealing its character. The alcohol, commercial acetic acid will spoil the preparation, and will not be healthy, whereas the pure acetic acid is not only very pleasant to the taste, but makes a healthy vinegar.—Farm and Fireside.

Hatched for High Winds.

In the illustration here reproduced from The Prairie Farmer it is shown the method of a neighbor of ours and manager of hearing against high winds.

SKELETON OF A HATCHED.

The cut is sufficiently plain to be understood without further description. It is quite usual to set the posts in the ground not less than three feet, but the building may be erected on sills if deemed preferable.

Chickens in Hot Weather.

Attention has been recently called in The Poultry Yard to the fact that chickens suffer very much exposed to the sun when the weather is hot. They will pant and manifest their feeling of discomfort as plainly as will the team when tugging at the plow. They will gladly avail themselves of the shade of a tree or wallow in the cool earth in the shadow of some building, stretching out their wings and legs to cool themselves. In the summer months, if they are confined in a bare yard, with no tree, no buildings large enough to make a pleasant shade, scalding hot the bare soil, they may be seen that these get heated through, being so small, and afford inadequate protection. Chickens thus exposed are certainly in a pitiable condition. They become listless and uncomfortable, and when night comes it hardly brings relief, if they have to huddle in coops that are ill ventilated. The chicks should always have access to a good shade in the hottest weather.

Gossack, out of health, deserted and beat by enemies in his old age, might now exclaim with Cardinal Wolsey, "If I had served God as diligently as I have done the king, he would not have given me over in my gray hairs." Bismarck has spent much of his life stirring up antagonisms against himself. That he did it to further the interests of the German empire makes no difference with the personal result to himself. Hatred and enmity must finally rest upon the head of him who creates them. It is the natural law from which even the lands lectral giant cannot escape.

The Christian Union declares that it is all wrong for a minister to leave a church when he finds himself out of touch with its needs. It is his place to stay in the church and make a square fight to return its needs, The Christian Union declares.

IMPROVING INDIAN CORN.

Methods for Getting the Very Best Results from the Whole Crop.

Each year there will be a more careful inquiry as to kinds and varieties of corn, ways and systems of planting and culture, and methods of harvesting and securing. There will be extensive farm experiments to improve the present expensive ways of cutting and "secuking" corn, hauling and getting the crop into the animals. There will be much well directed effort in feeding the stalks to get best results from the whole crop. The efforts will be along the line of not separating stalk and grain, and instead of spending one-fourth of the value in husking corn and grinding meal, producing such kindred corn as are less adapted to the purpose, and for fodder the stalk, husk and grain together. In this, according to American Agriculturist, we shall make great improvement in the future. As planted by the unskilled farmer, corn has a struggle to maintain its average standard of excellence. Not one farmer in ten thousand makes any attempt to better his corn by methods of culture in harmony with the nature of the crop, or improve it according to the laws of breeding, that with the plant are not greatly different from those in animals.

The authority quoted says: Premature coloring of seed (that is of all degrees of vitality, from good to that too poor to germinate, one ear on through the lot) must be considered. Fatten stalks and delicate ears of grain are more often the result of improper fertilization than that of seedbed. Seed from an ear of corn that was fertilized by the pollen of an earlier stalk would, in the opinion of Hilton, be very likely to multiply the number of barren stalks. We need to do three things to improve our corn crop, and make these conspicuous features of our plan of corn growth. Breed our crop of seed corn separate and apart from the general field, dry our seed corn in the fall and not let it become frozen during the winter, and secure it a law of no violation that is return the roots of the corn mind not be disturbed. Root pruning must be avoided. Every root cut off retards growth and delays maturity by so much, and in dry weather cutting roots is a serious injury.

It is no great task to plant a small plot of ground with corn, and on its growth prepare seed for next year's planting, discard stalks and those that do not promptly show their silks. Then before they fall cut off the tassels from half the stalks. This produces cross fertilization of the stalks and diminishes the chance of any influence of pollen from barren stalks upon the seed ears. The seed corn should be saved for a series of years from the stalks with the severed tassels. Professor Hilton says he has plan to two or three years added 20 per cent to the productiveness of ears over the ordinary way of growing and saving seed. It is to the line of progress. Like produces like, and if all the conditions are observed and the results are good, then, as there are no hindering influences to retard. Test well saved seed even is better than poor or neglected to seed is self evident; that two-thirds of the individuals of corn can be given to it before it is planted is quite as true. Making the seed bed fine and worked to the bottom of the furrow is the best plan, and when so fitted it should be allowed to remain undisturbed as well as the roots that are so through it.

Shallow surface cultivation will performed is far better than deep plowing and edged land between the rows. All hilling should be avoided, using instead of a plow designed for hilling, harrows and finishing with way going cultivators. Kill the surface weeds, but do not "lay the corn up" with a mud deep ton of the cultivators and bring up a fresh crop of alimentary weed seed to the surface to be disturbed. When corn is well cultivated stop and let nature have a chance.

An Excellent Eye Tonic.

Many persons whose eyes do not trouble them at some times, find that after some days at night the sole and sometimes an energy, and the sole will be plain to know that by food, eating and serious eye, suffering from some appliance or other cause, a comforting and soft wash made of roots from the green edelweiss water. Into a cup-shaped vessel wash put half a teaspoonful of sassafras of pepper-grass, and barley, shaken well apply to the eyes to find if it be too strong, and if so, increase the proportion of water and try it again. It should produce for a moment a slight smarting, the discomfort being agreeable, soothing and healing. Apply at bedtime with soft, clean muslin; this removed be such applicates. Dressmakers and other persons working at night have found relief in this remedy.—New York Evening Post.

Mrs. Hassell's Secrets.

Mrs. Edwin Hassell, the woman who makes people look by to sit down and get up without the aid of a chair, is a pleasant female beauty, wears the most marvelous and delightful little bonnets ever seen, and is usually dressed in black, copper, gold or pearl, pomegranate, have no strings or trimming, but fit the head just as did those beautiful little caps worn by the ladies of Queen Anne's time. Mrs. Hassell's friends say that very lately she hastened and her a new bonnet in a letter. A successor excitement in Mrs. Hassell's quiet life came from the head of the Sphinx, and is a thin chain of gold, pendent from which are sphinx turquoises, ended with gold. The turquoises are a quiet rather than a glaring blue, and for that reason uncommonly becoming.—New York Sun.

A Cure for Cramps in the Stomach.

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