



BROWN BREAD.

I am a Yankee, born 'mong the rye and the corn
Of the Eastern States, 'tis said;
And a tribute I'll pay in a rhyming way,
To their loaves of good brown bread.

I've lived, at best, six years in the West,
Where wheat is used instead,
But in all my round I've seldom found
A loaf of good brown bread.

Since I have roamed to my boyhood's home,
The rocks and hills I dread;
Yet in spite of that I'm growing fat
Every day, on good brown bread.

You still may make white bread and cake,
By style and fancy led;
But I tell you sir, that I prefer
A loaf of good brown bread.

N. E. F.

Fodder for Sheep.

In the choice of fodder much discrimination may be used, and, probably, we cannot do our readers—not alone sheep-breeders, but stock growers generally—better service than to give the result of a series of experiments conducted by Veit, Professor of Agriculture in the Royal Institution of Bavaria. He remarks:

The straw of the usual leguminous fruits, and especially of lentils, vetches and peas, is more nutritious than the straw of seed-clover. The greener the tips are the less it is lodged; the better it can be dried and brought in, the more nourishing it is. The fine stalk vetch straw is also very nutritious, behind which stands somewhat the pea straw, with its thicker stalk. All straw of leguminous fruit is particularly a welcome fodder to sheep, on which account, therefore, it is greatly prized by many sheep-owners, and considered equal to hay.

Oat and barley straw is the straw for fodder of the cereal fruits. Oat straw is most agreeable and the most nutritious, on account of its peculiar taste, for all species of cattle, because on the tops of the panicles are usually found unripe grains, and oats are cut before they are fully ripe. Barely straw has, on account of its moisture and short period of vegetation, a high value as fodder, and other things being equal, is as nutritious as oat straw, if it were not, as is the case, fully ripe before reaping. Yet it is more liable to injure than oat straw, because it imbibes more moisture from the air and soil.

Straw of summer wheat, summer speltz and summer rye, for fodder, stands after oat and barely straw.

The stalk of maize or Indian corn contains much saccharine matter, and therefore is very nutritious, used fine, and agreeable to all kinds of cattle. The cobs, after the corn has been taken off, ground up, are likewise a very nutritious fodder, and the hard stalks may be chopped up for the purpose. Taking all these things into view, it stands next to the straw of summer rye in value as fodder.

Millet straw has a hard stalk, but contains at least as much nutriment as the winter straws.

Buckwheat, on account of its quantity on a field of less fertility, and if of fine stalk, in which its value as fodder, from its straw being rich with leaves, is enhanced, is as good as the straw of winter grain.

Bean straw, in case its leaves have not fallen off or decayed, and the ends of the stalks are green when it is cut, as many experiments have shown, is more valuable than generally supposed.

Whether water was a necessity of the sheep during winter was a mooted point for a long period, but is now ranked among their wants. True, an animal will quench its thirst by eating snow, and man will satisfy nature's cravings in the same manner, if compelled; but where a choice is given to both the tastes, it can be readily discovered. Sheep will not over-drink where constant access to water may be had, and the objection that the animal is robbed of natural heat by these draughts in cold weather, is nullified if proper shelter has been provided.—[Rural New Yorker.]

Ventilating Waterproof Cloth.

The Paris *Moniteur Industriel* states that 20,000 tunics, rendered waterproof and yet porous, were served out to the French army during the late war with Russia. They were prepared in the following manner:—Take 2 lbs., 4 oz. of alum and dissolve it in ten gallons of water; in like manner dissolve the same quantity of sugar of lead in a similar quantity of water, and mix the two together. They form a precipitate of the sulphate of lead. The clear liquor is now withdrawn, and the cloth immersed for one hour in the solution, when it is taken out, dried in the shade, washed in clean water and dried again. This preparation enables the cloth to repel moisture like the feathers of a duck's back, and yet allows the perspiration to pass somewhat freely through it, which is not the case with gutta-percha or india-rubber cloth. The method of thus preparing cloth is not altogether new, but such cloth being employed by the French army is some evidence of its utility.

[For the Deseret News.]

Setting out Fruit Trees.

Before planting an orchard, the piece of ground designed for it should be secured by a good fence against the depredations of cattle. If not naturally rich, it should be made so, by the application of manure. It should also be in good condition by deep and fine tilth.

If the subsoil is wet and cold it will require under draining, before the most profitable results can be obtained from fruit trees set out upon it. If the ground is not in the required condition, and the necessary labor and expense cannot at once be laid out to make it so; pits may be dug, where it is designed the trees shall stand, of several feet in diameter—the larger the better—and eighteen or twenty inches deep. These should be filled up with rich mellow earth. If manure is used it should be thoroughly rotted, and well mixed with the earth.

Green manure placed near the roots of trees, when set out, is liable to injure them, in our naturally dry soil, by generating heat in the process of decomposition and by keeping the ground so open that moisture evaporates too readily.

The method of preparing pits, in poor ground, will enable the young trees to make a vigorous growth for a year or two, and give the owner of them time to improve the whole plot.

In selecting trees, it is important to obtain good varieties, and those that are young and of a thrifty growth. Trees only one or two years old, soil, situation and cultivation being the same, will generally, in time, outstrip those which are older at the time of transplanting. One reason of this may be, that there is not as large a proportion of roots taken up with large as with small trees. The roots are so many channels through which the tree is fed from the soil. The more of these that are cut off or mutilated the longer will it take it to regain its previous condition of vitality and growth.

From the moment that trees are dug up, until they are set out, great care should be used to shield the roots from the sun and drying winds. If carried in a wagon they should be covered with straw or other litter and kept moist by throwing water on them. On arriving at the place of destination, they should be set out immediately, if practicable; otherwise a trench should be dug in moist ground, the roots of the trees laid in it and well covered, with about a foot of the trunk. The length of time they may be kept there without injury depends on their being kept moist, the season of the year, and their condition when put there.

When the operator is ready to plant them they should be taken from the trench only as fast as wanted in order to expose them the least possible time to the drying effect of the sun and air—are objects which should be kept constantly in view.

Nurserymen are often blamed by purchasers, because trees do not live, or because they make only a stunted, sickly growth, when the cause might be found in their own mismanagement.

When ready to plant out, the operator, with a sharp knife, should cut off all mutilated roots and the ends of those left rough by the spade in digging up. The top should also be well shortened in to correspond with the loss of roots. This is an important item. If neglected, or slightly done, the sap in the tree is liable to become exhausted in the effort to put forth too many leaves before the roots are able to supply the waste; in consequence of which the tree makes a feeble growth the first year from which it is not likely soon to recover. In performing this latter operation much may be done towards giving the tree the shape most desirable in its future growth.

In setting out trees for an orchard, horticulturists pretty generally agree that they should be inserted in the ground about the depth, or perhaps a little deeper than they stood in the nursery. No matter how good the soil may be, the holes for the roots should be made large enough to receive them without being crowded together; and they should be carefully straightened with the hand, as near as may be, in the natural position. When this is done a pail of water should be thrown over the roots and then the hole filled with fine earth. The water will cause the earth to adhere to the roots and settle it firmly around them. This is much better than using the foot to press the earth down which has a tendency to press the roots together.

Much more might be said on this subject, did space permit, but perhaps these few hints may serve somewhat as a guide to those who have had little or no experience in planting fruit trees.

Potatoes.—The following method of storing potatoes for winter, practiced by Mr. Adams, of Peoria, Illinois, we clip from an exchange:

I selected a knoll, and dug on the top of it a pit 12 feet long, 5 feet wide and 4 feet deep. In the bottom I put 3 cross-timbers, a foot thick, and on them laid a floor, and then boarded up the sides 6 inches from the earth wall. I then took care to have the potatoes thoroughly dry, and all defective ones sorted over; and with careful handling I filled the bin and covered it with straw, and on that about a foot of earth, and there the potatoes kept till spring in first rate order. I found water under the floor, which would have tended to the ruin of the potatoe if it had come in contact with them, as it had in former years, when they were stored in the common way. The air space around the heap keeps it from freezing.

[From the American Agriculturist.]

Untidy Housekeeping--Women not Always at Fault.

It's all very well, Mr. Editor, to be lectured about our housekeeping, to be told of the comfort, the felicity, and all that sort of thing, which a tidy, well kept house will afford, but for one, I'm getting a little impatient that writers generally take it for granted that the ladies alone are responsible in this matter; that if dust collects on the furniture, if litter is strewn on the carpet, if the table linen is not snowy white and the cooking stove jet-black—in short, if every thing is not in the very best "apple-pie" order, it is because the mistress of the house is a slattern. That may be the case I admit, but again, it may not be. Here is an illustration: My friend Mrs. F.

lives in a two story house on the main village street, where there is almost constant travel over the unpaved road. Much of the time, clouds of dust fill the air, and come sifting through every crevice, settling down upon the carpets and furniture, and reducing every thing to a most undelightful uniformity of color. The good woman sweeps and dusts, to little purpose—to keep clean, she would have to dust the air itself. Now, when that house was built, she tried her best to have Mr. F., lay the foundation further back from the street; there was room enough, but no, he must be on a line with his neighbors. One would think he might now fill the small yard with trees to exclude part of the dust, or cover the road with gravel, or occasionally spread tan bark over it, to keep it from rising; but instead of that, he wonders that Mrs. F. does not keep the parlor neater. When it rains, the dust settles into mud, and Mr. F. looks bad words at the tracks on the kitchen floor, but he has never laid even a plank walk from the street to the door, and the edge of the sill is the only foot scraper. Mrs. F., long ago asked for a closet for hooks for his hats and clothing, and shelves for the children's books, but to this day, these articles are distributed about on the mantelpiece, and on nails driven into the wall—that is, when she places them there, for the boys imitate the father, and lay their things on the first vacant chair, or in an unoccupied corner. His lordship uses the stove for a spittoon, and the tablecloth for a napkin, he smokes in the sitting room, and mends his harness in the kitchen, and thanks Mrs. F. for her constant endeavors to be tidy under such difficulties, by wishing she would keep a neater house. If any one wants further evidence that the men need a share of the lecturing, let them visit the house where the wife has been absent a few days, and my word for it, they will be ready to make some allowances for the apparent shortcomings of the

HOUSEKEEPER.

A Fruit Ladder.—Split an ash or spruce pole to within a few feet of the end; then put on a ring or insert a wrought nail and clinch it, so as to prevent the pole from splitting farther; spread it the right width for a ladder, until near the crotch, where it must gradually curve, confine it in this shape; bore and insert rounds the proper distance and it is ready to pole up through any little opening, and will rest firmly against a small branch where a common ladder would often cant or twist about.—[Maine Farmer.] We have a little ladder different from the above, and more complicate and unwieldy; but much better adapted to trees that will not bear the weight of a ladder and a man. We took a common ladder some twelve feet in length, bored a five-eighths hole between the first and second rounds at the top; a pair of legs on supports, fitting to the outside of the top, as long as the ladder, and spreading six feet at the bottom, is prepared, and an iron bolt passed through both and keyed. The legs are strengthened with ties, and affords a perfectly safe ladder to get at the outer branches of large as well as small trees, being self supporting. The ladder, separated from these legs can of course be used for any ordinary purpose.—[Germantown Telegraph.]

Agricultural Exhibitions.—A correspondent in one of the N. E. States, writes to the *Country Gentleman* as follows:

"At the South they say, agriculturally speaking, cotton is king—at the North, judging from the premiums offered at our fairs, 'horses is trumps.' I begin to very much doubt the utility of many of our State and County Fairs. They serve to make our farmers' sons Jehus rather than farmers. Fast horses, fast young men. Where we purchase an hundred dollars worth of horses reared out of our State, we purchase thousands upon thousands of dollars worth of corn and wheat; and where there is a premium of \$5 offered for the best acre of wheat, corn, potatoes, and roots, hundreds for fast horses, etc., and lady equestrian performances, etc. Excuse—must get something to draw out the multitude, and unloosen their purse-strings."

How Carrots Affect Horses.—The carrot is the most esteemed of all roots for feeding qualities. When analyzed, it gives but little more solid matter than any other root, eighty-five per cent. being water; but its influence in the stomach upon the other articles of food is most favorable, conducing to the most perfect digestion and assimilation. This result long known to practical men, is explained by chemists as resulting from the presence of a substance called pectine, which operates to coagulate or gelatine vegetable solutions, and favor digestion in cattle. Horses are especially benefited by the use of carrots. They should be fed to them frequently with their other food.—[Porter's Spirit.]

Experiments with Potatoes.

The following statement of a successful experiment in raising potatoes, was contributed to the *American Agriculturist* by Mr. W. F. Heins, of New York:

The ground, which is in working order to the depth of nearly two feet, was plowed and ridged last Fall, the rows running North and South. In the middle of March, this year, it was again plowed, cross-plowed, and harrowed, and well rotted stable manure, (2-3 horse and 1-2 cow,) was lightly plowed in. On the 22d of April, the drills were made, the compound described below, thoroughly mixed, thrown in the drills, somewhat mixed with soil, and covered about one inch deep. The seed potatoes, cut in one and two eye pieces, were laid on this, and slightly covered with coarse manure and soil. Equal areas were planted without the compound;

Expenses per acre:

| | |
|---|---------|
| 16 loads of manure at \$1 50 | \$24 00 |
| 18 bush. seed at 75c | 13 50 |
| Plowing, planting, hilling and harvesting | 8 50 |
| Weeding, (which was done most thoroughly,) digging and hosing | 10 50 |
| Total | \$56 50 |

Compound:

| | |
|--|------------|
| 1 bag guano (P. rufiflan) 160 lbs. at 3c | \$4 80 |
| 2 bbls. bone sawdust | 7 00 |
| 2 bbls. unleached wood ashes | 1 00 |
| 2 bbls. charcoal dust | 75 |
| 1 bbl. lead plaster | 2 00 |
| 1 bbl. soil of decayed wood | 0 00—15 55 |
| Total cost per acre | \$72 05 |

RESULT PER ACRE.—With Compound.

| Names. | Seed, Crop, bush. bush. | Value at 75c. | Cost. | Profits. |
|----------------------|-------------------------|---------------|---------|----------|
| Peach Blows | 18 293 | \$219 75 | \$72 05 | \$147 70 |
| Prince Albert | 18 280 | 212 00 | 72 05 | 139 95 |
| Red or purple Chilli | 18 235 | 176 25 | 72 05 | 104 20 |
| Mercers | 18 210 | 157 50 | 72 05 | 85 45 |

Without Compound.

| Names. | Seed, Crop, bush. bush. | Value at 75c. | Cost. | Profits. |
|----------------------|-------------------------|---------------|---------|----------|
| Peach Blows | 18 189 | \$135 00 | \$56 50 | \$78 50 |
| Prince Alberts | 18 174 | 130 50 | 56 50 | 74 00 |
| Red or purple Chilli | 18 152 | 114 00 | 56 50 | 57 50 |
| Mercers | 18 112 | 81 50 | 56 50 | 25 00 |

Average with Compound 254 1-2 bush. Profit \$118 87 1-2

do. without do. 154 1-2 do. Profit 59 50

Difference \$59 32 1-2 |

Cost of compound 15 50 |

Surplus in favor of compound \$43 77 |

All potatoes planted with the compound, were in excellent condition, but the Peach Blows, planted without, show black spots inside, even when the outside looks perfectly sound. The Prince Albert and Mercers show but little rot, the Red or Purple Chilli none.

[From the American Agriculturist.]

Town Trees.

No more is every tree a town tree, than is every man made to live on a pavement and amid piles of brick and mortar. Those trees which grow very large, are not suitable, nor those subject to attacks of insects, nor tender trees, nor weeping trees, nor those which can not endure smoke and dust and hard usage generally. Considering the great number of species and varieties, native and foreign, one might suppose, at first, that it would be an easy matter to find suitable trees in abundance, but it is not so. Some sorts flourish well for ten or fifteen years, but afterward become large and top-heavy, and are blown down by sudden gusts of wind. Some prosper finely when young, but when the bark gets a little injured by accident, the growth is suddenly checked, the foliage becomes sickly, and the tree unsightly. Others make so rampant a growth that their foliage hides the view of the houses behind them, and renders the walls damp and unhealthy.

What is chiefly wanted in a town-tree is that it grow slow, never become very large, be proof against insects, bear pruning well, and accidental injuries also, and in short be very hardy. No tree, to our knowledge, possesses all of these qualities perfectly, yet some do, more than others. For example, the American White Elm, the common English Elm, Scotch Elm, English Linden, Mountain Ash, Norway Maple and most of our native maples, the Horse-Chesnut, the red and White Beech, and the much abused Ailanthus. Disagreeable as the odor of the flowers of this last named tree, we believe experience shows that it is in many respects very desirable for planting in towns. It will bear smoke, dust, and any amount of abuse. Somebody has styled it "the Metropolitan Tree." This is certainly more appropriate than the "heavenly" appellation with which it was first introduced from abroad.

The above trees are proper for setting by the side of streets. For open squares or parks, we may go further, and include the magnolias, tulip-tree, larch, coffee-tree, yellow-wood, Judas tree, various oaks, the chesnut, and an assortment of conifers. In some of the Parks in this city, the Southern Cypress succeeds admirably, and is a beautiful tree. The Weeping Willow, if sparingly planted, is also suitable, and does well in this latitude and southward.

By a little care on the part of those who have control of planting, the streets and parks of a city might be made to contain a good arboretum of all the trees growing in this latitude.

Cream Sponge Cake.—Beat two eggs in a teacup, fill the cup full with thick sweet cream, one cup of white sugar, one of flour, one teaspoonful of cream of tartar, half a one of soda, season with lemon, in a long tin.