...D CARD...

...TIMELY INTEREST TO THE FARMERS.

Subsoiling—Picking Ducks—A for Hogs—Late Peas for Home To Wean Foals.

PEAS FOR HOME USE.

...is not generally a very good ...for late peas, because after the ...peas have satisfied the appe... ...lovers of this vegetable the ...rapidly declines and it will not ...grow and market it. But a ...succession of peas until fall is ...desirable, and it is easily in the ...of every farmer to secure it by ...plantings. The farmer ought al... ...have fresher vegetables and a ...season for them than the aver... ...resident can expect. It is one ...advantages of country life that ...not only not forego but make ...of. It is hard work providing ...palatable meals through the sum... ...men at work on the farm. A ...supply of green peas will fur... ...that is not only palatable but ...

PICKING DUCKS.

...feathers always bring a fair ...especially white ones, and ...be saved when dressing the ...if they are sold dressed; if not ...sed do not pick just before ...The amount received for the ...would pay for the dressing. ...Feeding ducks may be picked ...times a year, usually four to ...but pick until the feathers are ...which can be told by pulling a ...different parts of the bodies ...ducks. If they come out eas... ...any bloody fluid in the ...are all right and should be ...or many will be lost. In ...pull only a few feathers at a ...rubbing between the thumb and ...and giving a quick down... ...Do not pull the bunch of ...se feathers under each wing. ...you begin picking, tie the ...together with a bit of list... ...soft cloth, and if the duck ...to object to the picking by ...with the bill, slip an old stock... ...thing of the sort over its ...to unnecessary harshness ...of the birds and be especially ...with laying ducks. Sitting ...those that are soon to be set ...be picked. In hot weather ...down may be taken from ...Do not take any in cold ...—Farm, Field and Fireside.

TONIC FOR HOGS.

...Lewis, the well-known ...of Wisconsin, gives, in ...Dairyman, his method of pre... ...charcoal for hogs. A cone... ...is dug in the ground near ...house, four or five feet deep... ...diameter at top and one foot ...A sheet-iron cover is pro... ...the of shavings is started in ...and corn cobs added by de... ...they get aglow until the pit ...they burn faster on one side, ...to the opposite side with a ...when all are well aglow, cover ...with the sheet iron and seal ...with earth. Next morning there ...twelve bushels of charcoal. ...charcoal in space salt barrels, ...it with the shovel in filling. ...bushels of it in a large box, ...bushel of hardwood ashes, ...pounds of salt, and mix thor... ...Then dissolve one and one-... ...pounds of copperas in a pail of ...and sprinkle it over the ...in a watering pot, mixing it ...Then make a self-feeding ...cover, and place it where the ...have free access to it, staking ...it cannot be rubbed over.

CLEANLINESS IN THE DAIRY.

...always been taught, writes ...De Witt Goodrich of the ...School, that "cleanliness is ...ation of dairying," and sci... ...been trying hard for the last ...to impress upon us why it is ...ation of dairying: That we ...the atmosphere of our sta... ...as possible to reduce the ...dangerous germs; that we ...great care in cleaning the ...before milking, lest harm... ...fall into the milk pail; that ...move milk from the stable ...lest it become contam... ...the little wretches; that all ...must be sterilized with ...ling water and freed from ...But instead of stopping ...wish they had, they go ...that the air, water, soil, ...everything, except perhaps ...tissue and milk from ...cows before drawn, ...bacterial life. No wonder ...get discouraged and give ...leaving the field to the ...bad and indifferent, and ...it out among them... ...bad usually coming out ...it reasonable or practi... ...other extreme and ster... ...cream and then ferti... ...particular flavor-producing ...ture we desire? Certainly not yet, ...and I doubt very much if that time ...will come, though such flavors or "cul...tures," are now on the market.

TO WEAN FOALS.

When plenty of cow's milk can be had it is just as well for the foal, and better for the dam, to wean them when four months old. The writer has weaned them when three months old, and kept them growing right along, as well as when running with the dam, by teaching them to drink cows' milk and feeding them ground oats mixed with wheat bran.

Before beginning to wean a foal the young thing should be thoroughly halter broken, and the sooner this is done after the foal is dropped the better. The colt or filly should also become accustomed to eating oats, both whole and ground, wet and dry. This can be easily accomplished by feeding grain to the dam regularly night and morning in a box or trough set upon the ground or floor, or so near it that the colt can reach the grain.

After seeing the dam eat a few times the youngster will be curious to know what it is that interests her so, and will soon begin to nibble at the grain. After once getting a taste, it will not be long before he will be on hand promptly to take his ration whenever his dam is fed. It is well to teach him to drink cows' milk before beginning to wean him, if convenient, but if he will eat wet ground oats and shorts with a relish that part of his education can be postponed until taken away from his dam.

With colts well halter-broken and taught to eat grain, the weaning process is not difficult and the growth of the foal need not be checked. When there are but few to wean, and there are plenty of stalls to accommodate them, a very good plan is to put a stout ring on each side and near the front of a very wide stall, placing the rings high enough to prevent danger of injury by stepping the forward foot over the halter when the head is lowered to the floor.

If a wide stall is not convenient, the mare and foal can be placed in adjoining narrow stalls. When this is done, it will be best to have an aperture made in the partition separating the stalls, just large enough so that the foal and dam can get their noses together. The grain ration of the dam should be discontinued when the weaning of the foal begins. She should be fed on dry hay, watered often, but sparingly. The object is to prevent the secretion of milk.

At first the foal should be allowed to suck three times a day, taking only a portion of the milk from the udder. After the first three days let him suck only morning and night, giving him just enough to relieve the distended udder. At the end of a week do not let him go near his dam. Look after her closely, however, for several days, and milk her by hand once a day for another week, then every other day until she is well.—Horse Breeder.

ABOUT SUBSOILING.

The question of subsoiling is beginning to attract the attention of farmers all over the country. A few years ago, says F. S. White of Iowa, when I bought a subsoil plow and commenced to use it, I was made fun of. Now some of our best farmers and horticulturists are advising the use of subsoil plows.

The matter is one that must be determined by conditions. There are many localities where it would be a waste of time to subsoil. A deep rich loam, which the ordinary plow will not reach through, and those soils with a loose, sandy or gravelly subsoil, would not be benefited by subsoiling. The soils helped are those having a stiff clay bottom, with a shallow soil above, and those having a hard gravelly subsoil. These require deeper stirring than can be given with common plows. The object of the work is to loosen this hard bottom, and by letting the air get to the lower layers, they are greatly improved and gradually changed by it. As to the depth, this will depend largely on the soil. From 10 to 20 inches is advised. I think it would be best in central Ohio to begin subsoiling 10 inches, gradually increasing the depth each time until 16 to 20 inches have been stirred. All the bluff lands along the rivers and creeks have more or less of this stiff clay subsoil, and where these lands have become worn from cultivation, subsoiling would be of great benefit and would largely increase the crops.

The work is done by following the ordinary plow, running the subsoiler in the bottom of the furrow made by it. The subsoil plow does not throw the dirt out or on top, but simply stirs up the bottom, leaving a loose mellow bed to be covered by the next furrow of the first plow. This loose bed affords good drainage in wet weather, the deep furrows carrying off the surplus water. In dry weather they will gather moisture from both below and above, thus storing up a supply for feeding the roots of crops, much longer than the same soils will do under our old system of cultivation. So the subsoiling is good for either wet or dry seasons, and if the work is done in the fall, the loose beds will gather enough moisture to enable early crops to bridge over dry seasons and make a fair yield.

Most farmers know that on much of our land we turn over the top soil and scrape along on the hard clay or gravel bottom, which becomes more compact each season. It is hard to get the plows down into this hard layer, and if we could, it is not desirable or profitable to turn the clay up on top. Thus we see at once the importance of the subsoil plow. Another great advantage in subsoiling is that such soils will hold manure twice as long as they did before. There is no chance for the manure to wash out. It is taken up in the solid and gradually works down in this loose bed, where it is held until consumed by the growing crops. This letting down of the manure and top soil and air, is the process which gradually changes the whole character of the land, and with proper rotation of crops and a few good crops of green manure turned under, we would soon have a deep rich soil, instead of only a few inches of top or surface soil. Subsoiling has shown its value perhaps more largely on root crops than on others. This work on the soils I have described has increased the yield of root crops at least one-third. The philosophy of subsoiling is so plain that we can readily see its advantage, and it is a practice that will soon become common.—American Agriculturist.

FARM AND GARDEN NOTES.

A good cow is not always fat; she converts her food into milk rather than into flesh.

Dairy cows are said by some to have so worn out their teeth at ten years of age that they are unprofitable.

See that the cows have some sort of shade in the pasture, or a chance to come to the barn or shed, these hot days.

Provide plenty of water where the cows can get at it, not only for their comfort but for the sake of your pocket book.

The sooner milk is cooled after being drawn from the cow the better. Why would not the same rule apply to cream from the separator?

The canna roots that were late in starting may now be potted for taking inside, and they will make very attractive winter bloomers.

Pinch back the geraniums, carnations, jasmines, etc., intended for winter blooming; the more points to the branches the more blossoms.

How is the water supply in the back lot? Those colts or that young stock may be suffering from want of water. Better look into the matter now.

With good management a butter farm should grow richer and richer. A ton of butter removes only a few cents' worth of fertilizing elements.

See that all weeds are kept from the flower beds now; if a single one is missed, and allowed to ripen seed, there will be trouble ahead for next year.

Pansy seed may be sown now in a sheltered bed, and with slight protection during the winter the plants will be ready to bloom very early next spring.

The larger part of the cows kept by the farmers don't pay, but they don't know it. This is carelessness that is very expensive, and should be avoided.

Over-churning compacts the milk into the butter in such a way that no amount of washing can get it out. To avoid this, stop when the butter is in a granular shape.

Some good butter-makers let the butter stand in strong salt and water after churning, claiming that it salts the butter more evenly, and more effectually removes the buttermilk.

One of the important items in making dairying most profitable is to weed out all unprofitable parts. The average farmer cannot afford to fool with cows that do not have at least some desirable quality.

A farmer could now buy a thoroughbred rooster very cheap, while they are young. He could raise him, and next spring kill off all other roosters, and thus have something that will grade up his dunghill stock wonderfully, at very little cost. If the farmer won't bother with it, then let his wife do it.

If you have a piece of waste land, that is absolutely good for nothing, why not turn it into a poultry yard. A dry, stony spot where vegetation never grows, is just the place fowls will do well in, especially in wet and cold weather. You are realizing nothing from such land now and fiens might bring you a profit.

A Four-Legged Duck

Down at Fordham's duck ranch on the Peconic River a curiosity in the shape of a four-legged duck was hatched out a few days ago. The four legs were perfectly formed, but the outfit was soon reduced to three, as the other ducks, moved perhaps by a spirit of envy, pecked away at the fourth leg until it was destroyed.—New York Advertiser.

GOSSIP FOR THE FAIR SEX.

ITEMS OF INTEREST ON THE FASHIONS.

The New Traveling Gown—A Satisfactory Belt—The Little Queen of Holland—Late Paris Hints.

NEW PINCUSHIONS.

Floral pincushions are the latest rage in decorative work. The edelweiss is a special favorite, and is made entirely of white velvet; the bulrush of brown velvet and gold plush holds its own, and the pupin, fashioned out of small circular pieces of cream cloth, just tinged with color, is greatly in demand.

MRS. HENRY M. STANLEY'S FAD.

Mrs. Dorothy Tennant Stanley, wife of the explorer, has a peculiar fad. She collects parasols, and has a unique collection, from milady's sunshade no larger than a small fan, popular with the belles of long ago, to the carriage parasols of the present day, with jeweled handles of priceless value and canopies of rare old lace.

WOMEN'S PRIVATE SECRETARIES.

Private secretaries are becoming almost as necessary to the woman of society as to the man of business. Miss Helen Gould's vast correspondence, averaging forty letters daily, three-quarters of which are begging letters, necessitates a helping hand, in the office of secretary. Mrs. Astor, during the winter, employs an amanuensis, who visits the house daily to attend to the answering of business and social letters. Mrs. Potter Palmer, woman of affairs that she is, is always accompanied by her private secretary. Mrs. J. Pierpont Morgan also finds the services of an amanuensis an absolute necessity, as well as Mrs. Phelps-Stokes, Mrs. Havemeyer, and Miss Grace Dodge.—Washington Star.

THE NEW TRAVELING GOWN.

A letter from Paris says that the traveling gown of the French mondaine is somewhat more elaborate than that preferred by the American and English woman—more elaborate and more original, for she does not cling to, indeed rarely uses, the jacket suit for a journey. Some so-called traveling gowns shown this week were referred to by the dressmakers as their earliest autumn models. An effective suit is built of a roughly woven wool in small black and white checks. About the skirt are three deep tucks with an edge of white silk peeping below each tuck. The stuff forming the bodice is stretched over a fitted lining, and shows only under arm seams. It does not "blouse" in the least, but there are a few puckers where it disappears under the high directoire belt of plaid silk. About the throat is an odd collar of white silk, cut circular and finely plaited. The lower and larger part of the collar rests on the gown, the upper part making a frill about the throat held by a scarf choker of plaid silk tying in a bow behind.

A SATISFACTORY BELT.

A leather belt has been devised which makes "both ends meet," the ends being the shirt waist and the skirt. Of course it is a man's belt, and is of not very general use for women, since, being of leather, it cannot be worn on any but the most outing of outing costumes. It is hard to describe accurately, but men's furnishings stores will show you the belt—called the "Cantslip"—and you will catch the idea at once. The same device could be readily applied to silk belting, and then women could be sure of tidy-looking waists and skirts. A portion of the belt is lined, and between this and the outside are fastened both the ends of two wires, shaped something like the under side of a dress hook and forming a slot on the inside of the belt. One end is open, the other closed. A button in the skirt band is slipped through the open end until it is firmly held by the wires, and there it is immovable, for the skirt and belt are practically one garment.—Philadelphia Public Ledger.

THE LITTLE QUEEN OF HOLLAND.

The little Queen of Holland's portrait is to be seen at every railway station, in all the shop windows and on nearly every article that is sold, from a packet of cigars to a tablet of chocolate. But when you see her you notice at once that these pictures are poor fac similes. Her Majesty Wilhelmina, Queen of the Low Countries, is tall and stout for her fifteen years, possessing the fair and pearly complexion of her race.

Like all the Dutch, the young queen's figure is long and flat—a sign of fidelity, the moralist assures us. The mouth is often smiling with fun; the eyes are large and beautiful, of an undecided color, something between sky blue and the green of the sea—the kind of eyes which give to the face a significant expression, and make one feel that behind them there is already a defined individuality, as though their owner were accustomed to act and think for herself; in a word, one feels that there is there a Dutch soul, full of energy, and always ready to fight.—London Society.

LATE HINTS FROM PARIS.

The latest information from Paris is to the effect that capotes or small turbans built of tulle, with flowers, feathers and a large aigrette, will be worn with dinner gowns next winter, and even at balls they will be permissible. This suggestion seems to indicate a slight approach to the imposing looking turban with a bird of paradise feather, which ornamented the heads of fair dames fifty years ago. Head dresses, which of late years have become almost obsolete, promise to have a decided revival. A chic little affair by Virot, to be worn at a fulldress evening function, is of light green tulle, bunched on a tiny net frame, with a full white aigrette on the left side; just below it, resting on the elaborate coiffure, is a large, bluish rose. Another effective head dress from the same house, is of turquoise blue velvet, laid across the front in folds, which end in a sort of fan on the left side. They are held together by a tall, full white princesse feather, fastened with a diamond pin. The right side of the turban is decorated with a bunch of forget-me-nots. Silver gray and black is a combination much in favor this season. A very "chic" Parisian toilet is of silver-gray taffeta. The skirt is made with a deep Spanish flounce, beaded with a standing ruffle of black satin fitting smoothly in one piece both neck and shoulders, thus forming the high collar, which is edged with a thick ruche of the black satin. The short round yoke, which also forms the collar, is covered with a Spanish-looking design embroidered in gold bullion. Below this ground yoke is a deep flounce of black satin, put on in box-plaits, on each plait, there being deep pendants embroidered of the gold bullion. This cape nearly covers the bodice, which has short, full elbow sleeves, and a blouse waist ending in a black satin belt. An effective dinner dress is made of a combination of pale green peau de soie and pekine pompadour taffeta. The skirt is made plain, with side panels of the pekine let in, and the waist has a pekine bodice cut en surplice, but fitting very smooth and tight. It forms an open pointed neck, which is filled in in front with a chemisette of lace, and is finished on the shoulders with squared revers of the peau de soie, covered with applications of white lace. The sleeves are of the peau de soi, with a short puff, and tight-fitting to the elbow.—Chicago Times-Herald.

FASHION NOTES.

Novelties in satin corselets are among the late arrivals from Paris.

A large black hat seems to be the August dress necessary of stylish women.

Long black gloves are worn with white gowns by women who desire chic effects.

The Nile and hunter's green appear to predominate for evening wear, although pansy and heliotrope come a close second.

The tip tilted hat, so long the friend of stylish women, has given place in Paris to rakish little affairs set at any other angle that is picturesque.

In belts the wide ones are taking the lead, and are really much more becoming to most figures than the tiny, narrow ones. There is less display in the way of buckles; one of the newest is a huge gold plate, on which is painted an exquisite miniature of Marie Antoinette.

There is quite a revival in China crepe and Japan silk this season, and more especially in such delicate colors as Nile green, heliotrope, olive green and other varieties of oriental tints.

The high collar now in vogue serves the same purpose as does the burden the Italian woman carries on her head. It forces the wearer to hold her head high, with a slightly backward tip, and gives the whole body a more graceful poise.

Skirts and sleeves are undergoing gradual transformation, which, as yet, is hardly perceptible to the general public. Sleeves are borrowing from the Louis XV. and Louis XVI. epochs their most becoming features, forming a charming combination, semi-full, semi-fitting, which cannot fail to please. As for skirts, they also will be made in harmony with the sleeves, the richest materials being used.

Having reached the extreme limit to size it is only natural that sleeves should begin to decrease. This by no means indicates that they are to fall into a condition of total collapse, and go back to skin tightness and the old fashions. To be sure, a dress or two have been imported with tight sleeves but they have shoulder ruffles, puffs and frills large enough to more than make up for the contraction in the sleeve proper.

The most notable peculiarity about the sleeve portion of the costume is the adoption of flaring cuffs that fall over the hands, some of them being pointed over the back of the hand and filled in with full-gathered lace ruchings, others in bell shape, with scalloped edges bound or embroidered. These cuffs are cut with the sleeve, and, while they are rather stylish, they look somewhat odd at first. Other cuffs are set on over the sleeves, and have long points at the under side of the arm.