Farm and Household.

(*From the American Agriculturist for June.*)

HINTS FOR JUNE WORK.

Pruning.—June is a good time for pruning. Larger limbs may be cut away now, covering all cuts with varnish, paint, or melted grafting wax.

Beets and Carrots.—Sow the main crop if not done already. Keep the weeds out and the soil loose. A succession of the "Egyptian" to use while young should be sown, using the thinnings for greens.

Cabbage and Cauliflower need frequent hoeing. Plants for late sorts in seed-beds should not be too crowded; they need weeding frequently, and if infested with the cabbage worm, sprinkle with ashes.

Squashes.—The winter sorts should be planted now. Much care is needed to keep the young vines free from insects. Paris Green may be used; hand-picking takes time, but is effectual.

Beans.—If the weather has been cold and backward, and injured the Limas, put in more at once. These and other pole beans need attention to make them all take to the poles. Sow Bush sorts, as the "Refugee" for succession and pickling.

Sowing for Succession is a useful method of prolonging the season of many vegetables, and should be more generally practised. By sowing beans, peas, corn, etc., at intervals of a week or so, these valuable vegetables may be had through the season.

Ticks.—Immediately after shearing, the ticks leave the sheep for the longer wool of the lambs. The lambs thus infested should be dipped in a decoction of tobacco stems, which will destroy the ticks. Several special dips are in the market.

Thinning Fruit.—The sooner this essential to the production of the best fruit is done the better. It is seldom overdone, and too frequently entirely neglected. Thinning increases the size and improves the quality of the fruit, and with young trees, just starting into bearing, it is a necessity.

Buckwheat may be sown during this month, and may be made a profitable crop, especially upon newly cleaned ground where the mellowing effects of the crop are of importance. The Silver-Hull buckwheat is better than the common variety, the yield being greater, and the flour from it is whiter and of a finer quality than the ordinary sort.

Orchards.—With newly planted trees it will pay to give a little time in examining their condition. If they are loose or leaning to one side, a minute spent in pressing the soil about them with the foot will often save them. A mulching, if not already given to the young trees, should be provided before the long drouth. Almost any substance that will cover the soil and protect it from the sun will do.

Grafts set this spring should be looked to; and if the buds grow too vigorously, pinch back into shape; in fact a graft should be treated as if it were a young tree. Cut away all shoots that come upon the stock below the graft, that the nourishment may go to the graft. See that the branches of the graft have plenty of room, and the growth is not interfered with by surrounding branches.

Haying.—Clover and Timothy should be cut when in full blossom; if allowed to get ripe, the quality of hay is not so good. By beginning early the work need not be hurried. Use the mower after the dew is off in the forenoon. Cut only as much as can be well cared for. It is often remarked that the average quality of hay is not so good as before the introduction of the mowing machines, from the temptation to cut the grass faster than it can be cured.

Swedish Turnips may be sown this month, in drills 30 inches apart. A plenty of seed should be sown, to insure an even stand of plants—2 lbs. per acre is not too much. The land should be well manured, and thoroughly prepared—a fine tilth is especially essential to success on old ground. Thin the plants, when the second leaf appears, to at least 12 to 15 inches apart. Partial or total failure is, in many cases, to be attributed to defective thinning.

Sheep Shearing.—Washing sheep under the present system of buying wool, will perhaps be the prevailing practice. If care is taken to keep the sheep so that the wool will not be filled with dirt, it is better not to wash. Fleeces should be done up with care, nicely rolled and securely tied with light twine. When it is known that a farmer puts up his wool in neat shape without any tags, etc., he will obtain the highest price. Everywhere, but especially here, "honesty is the best policy."

Egg Bread.—One quart of buttermilk, three eggs, three tablespoons flour, lump of butter size of an egg, half teaspoon of soda, corn meal enough to make a thin batter.

A Congestive Headache is cured by the Sanitarian man by applying a tight rubber bandage, from the eyes up, with a thin pad over each temple, if the temporal ridge be sharp enough to keep the bandage from compressing the arteries. Instead of rubber, a well applied muslin bandage may be put on, and then wetted, using compresses over the temporal arteries.

Cold Mutton Dressed Like Venison.—Cut two pounds of cold mutton in pieces the size of a nut, sprinkle with salt, add a quarter of a pound of butter in small pieces, juice of a small lemon, red pepper Worcester sauce, spice to taste, a quarter of a pound of currant or apple jelly, two tablespoonfuls of hot water; warm the mixture thoroughly if possible in a chafing dish, and serve very hot. Served on hot toast is an improvement for lunch for supper.

Lemon Butter.—Six lemons, twelve eggs, two pounds of sugar, one quarter pound of butter; grate the rinds, add the juice, beat the eggs; simmer over a slow fire fifteen minutes, stirring all the while.

Select Poetry.

THE MIDSHIPMITE.

BY CLEMENT SCOTT.

"Well! that's a woman I pity! Get out of your easy chair;
Look out of the window; that woman in black with glory of red gold hair."
"Why does she carry a primrose cross and what has her misery been?"
"She has only lost her child, my lad, and is going to Kensal Green."

We prate of our little troubles, we men of muscle and brain;
We curse if our pipes of peace wont draw, and howl at the wind and rain,
And those of our band who scribble a bit are instantly down in luck
If they're stabbed in the back by an ignorant fool who hasn't a grain of pluck.

It's grim to feel you're honest, no doubt, possessing a soul to save,
When editors bribe some dissolute cad to hound you as cheat and knave;
'Tis God will winnow the false and true, who knows what our sins have been!
But think of poor innocent Margaret Gray, who is walking to Kensal Green.

What is her story? Well, light your pipe and sit you down in your chair.
Two chapters—one, it is headed, "Of Love," the other is marked "Despair."
I have seen some joy, but the Park at Knole was never in spring so gay
As when Margaret Welsh in Sevenoaks Church was married to Bernard Gray!

'Twas a runaway match in the Weald of Kent that was blest by the parson prim;
His life was given to art—the stage, and hers was given to him:
Never a man have I known so pure and never a girl so brave
As were married that day in Sevenoaks Church, when the primrose covered the grave!

They talk of love in an empty way; but this was the crown of life
When Bernard seemed in a dream and shook at the touch of his sweet-voiced wife.
Whenever they kiss'd their eyes for love were brimming with tears of joy,
And the prize of happiness came next spring with the birth of their baby-boy.

What had they done to deserve God's wrath? In the old mysterious way
Death stretched his fingers out and felt for the heart of Bernard Gray,
Life was too happy for him, poor lad! he'd been fading for years, they said;
And the mother and child were asleep one night when Bernard Gray lay dead!

Down like an avalanch swept despair through the house where love had smiled
Crushing the innocent mother alone by the side of her only child—
As you make your bed you must tumble down, is the rule of our worldly life,
And there wasn't a soul to pity the fate of the destitute actor's wife.

For six long years, as I live 'tis true, in the midst of the city's din
She slaved and starved for her baby-boy, and her soul was free from sin;
And at last they said for the actor's child they had found on the stage a part,
So she said: "The gift that an artist gave I will dedicate pure to art."

They took him away from his mother, and her heart was sick and sore,
Though her baby-boy was the life and soul of "Her Majesty's Pinafore";
Whenever the theatre rang with cheers and echoed with wild delight
A heart in the gallery shook with fear for the fate of the Midshipmite.

For the boy was odd, old-fashioned, and over-clever, 'twas said,
He was full of the strangest fancies, and complained of an aching head;
And one day, half in earnest, and possibly half in fun,
He asked, "Who will help us mother, when the 'Pinafore's' ceased to run?"

'Twas the close of a heartless winter that chang'd to a cheerless spring,
With wind in the east that struck with a chill the child at the draughty wing,
When the mother found, to her horror, the boy was too ill to sup,
And he said in his curious manner, "The 'Pinafore' run is up!

"Give me a kiss, my mother, and put me away to bed,
For my limbs they ache; I shiver; I've pains in my throbbing head,
I feel to-night so weary." And out of his tuneful store
He murmured the airs, in a childlike way, of "Her Majesty's Pinafore."

"Oh say that you love me, darling!" she whispered, pale with tears,
But he murmured, "Hardly ever," as he kissed away her tears;
And then, as a nightmare vision the mind of a sleeper haunts,
He said, "You'll be kind to my cousins, my sisters and my aunts."

On the ship that had been his playground he sailed to his rest at last,
With a cheer for his baby comrades as he clung to the yielding mast;
And he moaned out, rack'd with torture, as the sand in the hour-glass ran,
"Well, in spite of all temptation, your boy is an Englishman!"

* * * * * * *

They buried the little sailor, quite close to his father's side,
Seven years from the day when in Sevenoaks Church his mother was made a bride.
So there's the story of that which is! God knows what might have been;
And this is the reason why Margaret Gray is walking to Kensal Green!

AN OBJECT OF PITY.—Hans Growyost, a worthy German farmer, who has been a life-long resident of Berks county, has a shrewish wife, who has long rendered his domestic life anything but a couch of roses. One day not long ago she in a fit of pique packed up her duds and left him, vowing never to come back. The news went around among the neighbors—you know how intelligence of all kinds does travel in the country—and at night several of them, of whom I was one, went to condole with Hans. He sat on his front stoop, puffing away at his pipe. "Hans," I remarked, "I pity you." "My boy," replied the honest Dutchman, as he disturbedly knocked out the ashes of his pipe, "you vas right. She has shust *come* back."—*Chester (Pa.) Democrat.*

There was a young fellow of Crete,
Had such awful corns on his feet,
That he never just knew
Which was safest to do,
To cut off the corns or his feet.

AN up-town jeweler hung a watch in the window and labeled it, "Look at this watch for $10," and the unsophisticated gentleman from Africa who stared at the article then went in and wanted the $10.

"Dried tongue," was the answer which a minister gave some one who asked what he had in his carpet bag, which contained seven sermons.

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4th. It has the celebrated *Solid Side Centre Grate*, by which the clinker can be removed *without disturbing the fire*, besides this peculiar style of grate lasts longer than any other.

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7th. It is the *latest and newest style*, and the only Heater that meets the wants of the public in *all particulars*.

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MRS. C. LAKE.

Nov. 13, 1879—tf.

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