Farm and Household.

RAILROAD CAKE.—Break two eggs in a cup, fill up with sweet cream. One cup of sugar, one and a half cups of flour, one teaspoonful cream tartar, one-half teaspoonful soda, a little nutmeg and a little salt.

CELERY SAUSE.—Is easily made; and is appetising. Cut the celery in small pieces, and boil until it is tender; then add a half pint of cream, salt and pepper; and a small lump of butter rolled in flour; let these all just boil; spice, or a small pinch of curry powder may be added if you choose.

REMOVAL OF STRONG ODORS.—It is stated that ground mustard is an excellent agent for cleansing the hands after handling odorous substances,such as cod-liver oil, musk, valerianic acid and its salts. Scale pans and vessels may also be readily freed from odor by the same substance.

LIGHT CAKES.—By omitting all shortening—that is, both butter and lard—from any good fried cake recipe, and using in place of it a cup of sweet milk, the cakes will be light and almost entirely free from grease. Take care to have the lard in which they are fried very hot.

CARAMELS.—Take one cake of chocolate, two and a half pounds of sugar, one cup of cream or milk and two ounces of butter, boil twenty minutes, adding half a bottle of vanilla extract during the boiling, pour the viscous mass upon a greased surface, cut in squares, and serve when cold.

BREAKFAST MUFFINS.—Set a rising as for bread over night. In the morning, early, warm a pint of milk and beat into the dough sufficient to make it as for ordinary muffin batter; beat well for five or ten minutes and set to rise for breakfast. Bake in rings on a very hot griddle, and turn frequently to prevent burning.

HOW BEEF SHOULD BE COOKED.—The flavor of beef is due to the juices, and if during cooking these be allowed to escape the beef loses much of its taste. Hence in broiling, it should from the outset be exposed to a bright, quick fire, which by causing the superficial fibres to at once contract and the albuminous juice near the surface to coagulate, leads to the plugging up of the surface pores and consequent retention of the juices. Similarly, in boiling, beef should be plunged into almost boiling water. On the other hand, in making beef tea, cold water is poured on chopped beef and gradually heated to draw the nutriment of the beef into the water.

WINTERING HOGS.—It costs no more to winter an old hog than it does a pig. The practical difference is that a breeding sow may be kept on the same feed which a pig would require, and in the spring a litter of young ones would make a large margin in favor of the old one. Old sows are twice as profitable as young ones, as the offspring are always larger and more of them. They may be kept a number of years with profit. When a year old, small-boned breeds will have their growth and require but little food, only enough to maintain life and locomotion, whereas a growing pig requires food for the same purposes and to promote its growth.

FEEDING CORN TO SWINE.—The practice of feeding soaked shelled corn durring the summer and early autumn months is one generally followed by the large swine raisers of Illinois. If soaked on the cob the grains swell up and tighten to the cob, so that the pigs experience the same trouble in getting them off that they find with the new corn when it is first fully and firmly ripened; but if first shelled and then thoroughly soaked it is easily masticated, but it is not so palatable and is not eaten with such a relish as new corn while in the milk or doughy state. When feeding soaked corn we have usually followed the practice of alternating it with dry shelled corn, one or two days in the week, and we have thought that our pigs always did better under this practice than when confined exclusively to the soaked corn diet. —*National Live Stock Journal.*

SOMETHING ABOUT BRICKS.

In the antiquity of the brick as a building material, says the *Builder*, it is needless, nor is it indeed our intention, to insist. The great national collections of Europe, the British Museum foremost in the number, show us bricks, sun-dried and baked, from the ruins at Ninevah, and from the days of that city to the present moment bricks have never ceased to be an important instrument in the hands of the builder. That throughout Asia Minor they were largely employed we have seen, only very recently, proved in these columns, M. Bayet, in his work on Miletus, having shown that the far-famed palace of Crœsus was built of no more costly materials than honest bricks. What those bricks were, and their qualities, are even to this day appreciated by the natives, who for many centuries have plundered the ruins to build or to patch up their own even more ruinous houses. The use of bricks among the Romans, who largely employed them as building materials, as we see in the familiar instance of the Temple of Concord, has been more than once the subject of the inquiry of industrious antiquaries, for the Romans were not content with producing the flat, tile-like brick which is so often to be met with in the lower portions of antique structures scattered over the empire, and that are known in England, but their bricks were indelibly stampd with the mark of their maker, the names of the reigning consuls, and sometimes the year. From this source, then, more then one patient archæologist has gathered a rich store of information. But few inquirers have ventured far on the apparently arid and difficult road, which has hence remained little explored.

WURTEMBERG.

The house of Wurtemberg, it is said, derives its name from the following legend: A poor burgher fell in love with the daughter of the Emperor of Austria, and, as the two young people saw no prospect of obtaining the imperial consent to the union, they fled together into Suabia, where they bought a small piece of land, and established an inn. It stood at the foot of a mountain, and its possessor therefore went by the name of "Wirt am Berg," or the "Landlord at the Mountain." One day the Emperor was traveling to Frankfort, and stopped on his way at his daughter's house without recognizing her. She knew him directly, and persuaded her husband to make himself known to the Emperor, and to beg his forgiveness. Accordingly, taking their little son, they all fell at his feet, entreating his pardon,which he willingly granted. Moreover, the Emperor created his son in law a duke; but in memory of this occurrence he was to keep his name "Wirt am Berg," whice subsequently became Wurtemberg.

A BIG HEAD OF STEAM.

Topnoody made up his mind that he was not going to be bossed any longer by his wife, so when he went home at noon he called out impetuously, "Mrs. Topnoody! Mrs. Topnoody!" Mrs. T. came out of the kitchen with a drop of sweat on one end of her nose, and a dish-rag tied round her head, and a rolling pin in her hand. "Well, sir," she said, "What'll you have?" Topnoody staggered, but braced up. "Mrs. Topnoody, I want you to understand, madame"—and he tapped his breast dramatically—"I am the engineer of this establishment." "Oh, you are, are you? Well, Topnoody, I want you to understand that I"—and she looked dangerous—"I am the boiler that will blow up and sling the engineer over into the next county. Do you hear the steam escaping, Topnoody?" Topnoody heard it, and he meekly inquired if there was any assistance he could render in the house work.

MAINE NEWS.—Hop Bitters, which are advertised in our columns, are a sure cure for ague, biliousness and kidney complaints. Those who use them say they cannot be too highly recommended. Those afflicted should give them a fair trial, and will become thereby enthusiastic in the praise of their curative qualities.—*Portland Argus.*

—"There is no accounting for tastes." Nonsense! What is the work of a bookkeeper in an eating house, but accounting for tastes?

WEDDING PIPES.

The city of Gouda, so famed for the old stained glass in the cathedral, and more generally associated with the manufacture of Dutch pipes, is about fifteen miles from Rotterdam. Among the variety of pipes made there is one called the wedding pipe; it is three feet three inches long in the stem; the bowl is ornamented with coats-of arms. The Dutch make festivals of the copper wedding, the silver wedding, the golden wedding, and the diamond wedding. On the occasion of the copper wedding the stem of the pipe is ornamented with copper leaves twining all the way up the stem, and at each successive festival the leaves are renewed according to the date of the commemoration, which seldom passes the golden. In Amsterdam I once saw a diamond-leaved pipe which had been prepared for a seventy-fifth wedding.—*Good Words.*

SINGULAR EFFECT OF DISSIPATION.

A young man in Russia of decided ability was attacked by an acute disease brought on by excessive dissipation. After his recovery he was found to have lost all his mental faculties except calculation and memory. These were increased to such a degree that he could surpass all mathematicians in power of mental calculation, and could repeat poetry which occupied several minutes in reading, after hearing it only once. In all other respects he is a helpless idiot.

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—Uncle Mose said, the other day: "De politest man I ever seed was at a railroad depot—a fellow with a lot ob trunks on a long thing wheelin' aroun' as though he were tryin' ter run ober everybody. Finally a man stepped up an' sez, I, see yer has 'siderable trouble runnin' agin people. To oblige yer, I'll stan' in front of yer machine'"

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It removes faintness, flatulency, destroys all craving for stimulants, and relieves weakness of the stomach. It cures Bloating, Headaches, Nervous Prostration, General Debility, Sleeplessness, Depression and Indigestion.

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