

BLACK ROT IN CABBAGE.

Agricultural Department Issues Information Regarding Disease.

In Proving a Serious Hindrance to Cabbage Growers in Several States —The Only Sure Method of Killing It Out.

7 Farmers' bulletin No. 68, just issued by the agricultural department, treats of the black rot of the cabbage. It was prepared by Edwin F. Smith, chief of the division of vegetable physiology and pathology, and describes the natural and prevalence of the disease, the sources of infection and gives practical suggestions for its prevention. The disease is known to cabbage growers under different names, the commonest of which are "stem rot" and "black rot." Although it has come into prominence only within the last few years it is said to be a serious hindrance to cabbage growing in several states. Now is the time of curing the disease or of entirely ridding a locality of it when once it is well established. The whole subject of treatment may be summed up in one word—prevention. The disease is not confined to cabbage, but attacks a number of species belonging to the mustard family. It was studied in the field for the first time by the author last year, who visited the following places: Saginaw, Mich.; Racine, Wis.; Clyde, O.; Rochester, N. Y., and Washington, D. C. In all these localities, it has obtained a strong foothold, and has already done serious damage. The injury at Racine during the last three years probably exceeds \$100,000. Many suggestions are given for the prevention of the disease. The planting of other crops for a long series of years, the bulletin says, seems to be the only satisfactory way of getting rid of it after once becoming serious. The belief is expressed that no danger is likely to ensue from the consumption of cabbage slightly affected with the rot, because the germ does not grow well at blood heat and is easily destroyed by cooking.

NEEDN'T PAY CHURCH PLEDGES.

Legal Decision That a Subscription of \$200 Is Uncollectable.

On the ground that there was no consideration Surrogate Heets, of Kingston, N. Y., has decided that a subscription of \$200 in aid for the \$90,000 M. E. church of that city is void. In January, 1893, when the church was about completed and a large amount of money required to pay pressing indebtedness, an appeal was made at a Sunday service and members of the congregation were asked to subscribe on slips of paper, such subscriptions to be redeemed in semiannual payments. On the strength of the pledges the money was to be raised immediately upon the mortgage. Luther W. Wood, now deceased, not a church member, attended the meeting and subscribed \$200. When he died nothing had been paid on the pledge. In deciding that there was no consideration the surrogate says that "he was probably affected and moved by the fervent appeals for financial aid, and, in accordance with the contagious spirit," wrote the subscription, but was there any consideration? As a stranger to the church and its affairs, what interest could he have as to whether the creditors of the church were many or one?

NEW CANCELLATION STAMP.

Adopted by the Post Office Department, and to Be Soon Introduced.

A new hand stamp to be used for the cancellation of mail matter will soon be adopted by the post office department. That now in use has been found to be unsatisfactory in several respects: the principal defect being that the impression made was not always complete and clearly defined. Several months ago, the department invited inventors to submit designs for the new stamp, whose principal advantages should be in the direction of simplicity, durability and cheapness. In consequence about 200 such designs were submitted. These have been under examination by a committee consisting of Alexander Grant, W. H. Lamar and M. S. Lewis. They have agreed on the design which they think is the best adapted for the use of the service and have made a report to Postmaster-General Gary. The new stamp will be introduced gradually, taking the place of the old ones as fast as the department deems practicable.

CANNON TO KILL WILD GESE.

Missouri Farmer Adopts Heroic Measures to Save His Crops.

James Sanners, who owns a large farm in Ralls county, Mo., came to Hamburgh the other day and bought a large cannon, already mounted, and a large quantity of powder and shot with which to shoot wild geese. He says the wild geese are so numerous that they are destroying his corn in the shock, indicating up the growing wheat. They are so wild that it is impossible to get near enough to shoot them with ordinary shot guns, so he decided to purchase a cannon. The cannon will be placed on a swivel and stationed at some point in the field, and will be loaded with buckshot, so that it can shoot in any direction, and Sanners expects to kill the birds by the dozen. Each load will contain three pounds of shot and a half pound of powder.

Natal.

Natal celebrated its four hundredth anniversary in right imperial fashion. It was on Christmas day, 1407, that Vasco da Gama first sighted the shore to which, in honor of the time, he gave the name Natal. At Christmas, 1897, the Natal parliament annexed Zululand and Amatoland, thus extending its sway over the whole territory from the Umzimkulu river to the Usutu, and almost to Delagoa bay.

Gaelic Revival in Ireland.

The old Norman dialect, or a corruption of it is still spoken in the Channel Islands.

DOGS FOR KLONDIKE.

Animals Being Stolen and Shipped to the Frozen North.

Central office detectives at Chicago have information of the existence of a vast and outrageous conspiracy to steal all of the dogs in Chicago and ship them to the Klondike. A car load of them was shipped west recently and another car load is contracted for. Their informant is a notorious dog thief, who is jail on another charge.

At all of the stations of the outfitting precincts complaints of dog losses have been frequent of late. One sergeant has a special book in which such things are entered. It is more than half filled. As the animals are intended primarily for team purposes, St. Bernards and Newfoundland dogs are best liked. A dog two years old and weighing 60 pounds is regarded as a prize. Such an animal in the arctic country will bring from \$100 to \$200. As any healthy animal, however, can pull more than its own weight, all are taken, with the exception of the dachshund. The dachshund is barred. He is ordinarily four feet long, with legs three inches long. When at top speed he is able to go around a block twice in a day. He is valueless for anything save when dead and stuffed. The dachshund is very popular on the North side, and the professional "dog embezzler" says, will be permitted to remain there.

These dogs, it is further stated, when they have hauled supplies into Dawson City, will be used by the imprisoned miners as food. Some of those who have disappeared of late were valued highly by their owners. Most of those taken would never have been of much account unless they happened to be run over by a railway train. Under such circumstances a dog that has been scalped three times a week since birth and has furnished the motive power for all the tins of the neighborhood becomes at once a family pet, of superior human intelligence and worth his weight in gold.

COOLNESS IN THE PULPIT.

Probably Saved a Congregation from Panic and Disaster.

Already vastly popular with his congregation, Rev. Arthur Wellwood, of Brooklyn, raised himself still higher in general estimation on a recent Sunday, when his coolness in the presence of danger probably averted a wild stampede from the Church of the Incarnation. Although there were indications of impending disaster, the people, acting upon his advice, filed out of the church in an orderly manner to find a fire engine pouring water into the cellars through a front window. Shortly after 11 o'clock smoke began to pour up through the registers. The assistant pastor, Rev. Arthur Wellwood, went down to the cellar to see if the furnace was smoking. He was alarmed to find the cellar full of smoke, so dense that he could not go inside. He ran up and turned in an alarm. Then he walked rapidly up the aisle, and after whispering to the officiating clergyman, said, aloud: "The furnace seems to be smoking worse than usual. I think the congregation had better retire to allow us to open the windows." The people, assured by his calmness, retired in good order, but became somewhat alarmed when they saw the engines and firemen in the street.

FOX HUNT ON BICYCLES.

Novel Coursing Meet Held Near Fargo, N. D.

There was a novel coursing meet near Fargo, N. D., the other afternoon. The dog fanciers who had greyhounds on exhibition at the kennel show took their dogs out five miles south of the city for a jack rabbit chase. No jack rabbits could be found, but the crowd was lucky enough to strike a fox, and enjoyed a splendid chase. About 300 people had gone out from Fargo to see the sport. A number were on bicycles, enjoying the chase to the limit. It is probably the first fox hunting party that ever went to the chase on bicycles, and the matter is all the more noteworthy when it is considered that it was in what is termed the arctic north Dakota, but in the middle of January.

TENNIS MISTAKEN FOR DEATH.

Woman Revives When Preparations for Burial Are Begun.

Mrs. Alice Parke, 20 years of age, residing at No. 422 Second street, East St. Louis, went into a trance Monday morning at about ten o'clock and it was thought she was dead. Her heart seemed to stop beating and she turned cold. She remained in this condition until the afternoon of the next day, when some neighbors came to assist in preparing the body for burial. She then shivered slightly, opened her eyes, and looked around. The sight of the crowd so shocked her that she fainted. A doctor was hurriedly summoned and in a few minutes she was brought around all right. It is now thought she will recover in a short time. She said that she remembers nothing from Monday until aroused. She says she simply felt queer and could not move, but she is all right now with the exception of weakness and a queer feeling about her head and stomach.

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HAMBURGH.

Hamburg is a well-known market for household pets. A civet cat costs five dollars, a tame jackal seven dollars, and an affectionate Brazilian snake \$40. An alligator one foot long can be had for \$10.50, but at two feet he is worth five dollars, and at seven feet \$35.

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LANGUAGE OF THE CHANNEL ISLANDS.

The old Norman dialect, or a corruption of it is still spoken in the Channel Islands.

DEER IN VERMONT.

Thirty-nine deer have been killed this season in Windsor county, Vt.—the largest number of any county. It is reported that 94 were killed in the state during the recent open season.

GAEILIC REVIVAL IN IRELAND.

The Gaelic revival in Ireland is making remarkable progress.

L'ABEILLE DE LA Nlle-ORLEANS

Est très répandue en Louisiane et dans tous les Etats du Sud. Sa publicité offre donc au commerce

des vantages exceptionnels. Prix de l'abonnement pour l'année: Edition quotidienne, \$12 00; Edition hebdomadaire \$3 00; Edition du Dimanche, \$2 00.

GONG CONTINUES TO RING

Unpleasantness Between Mme. Bonaparte and Mr. Porter.

President McKinley's Private Secretary Tries to Have His Aristocratic Neighbor Discontinue a Noisy Nuisance.

Mme. Caroline J. Bonaparte, widow of Jerome Napoleon Bonaparte, lives at a house on K street, Washington, immediately adjoining the residence of John Addison Porter, secretary to the president. Among the other domestic phenomena of Mme. Bonaparte is a certain huge gong located in the stable at the rear of her house, and by means of which she summons the coachmen and other servants when she desires their assistance. Mr. Porter's wife has been seriously ill for some time, but Mme. Bonaparte's desire for the comfort and company of her servants has been by no means lessened on that account. On the contrary, the big bell has boomed out time and again, day and night, until Mr. Porter had forgotten the Cuban situation, the annoyances of office-seekers, and everything else. He accordingly filed a complaint with the district commissioners, alleging that the ringing of the big gong was a public nuisance and should be suppressed by the police. That department accordingly sent out Lieut. Boyle, who had an interview with the relic of the French imperial family, and, as a result, presented an official report in which he said that "Mme. Bonaparte says she will continue to use the gong just as she has done for the last 12 years."

Further investigation showed that the police regulations could suppress bells and similar nuisances only when they were rung in public streets and alleys. Secretary Porter thereupon took an appeal to Commissioner Wright, who has charge of the police bureau, but thus far no means have been suggested to relieve Mr. Porter of the nuisance except by means of a formal suit in court. The controversy is a funny one, but up to date Mme. Bonaparte, who has something of a reputation for firmness, is decidedly triumphant and correspondingly exultant. With all the power of the administration behind him, Mr. Porter has been unable to suppress the big gong in the stable, and his sick wife is correspondingly the sufferer.

10 CHAMPION GLASS EATER.

Extraordinary Record Made by Harry H. Woods Before a Medical Class.

Harry H. Woods (colored) made a new record at the county hospital at Denver, Col., the other day by dining on glass before an operation to graft new skin on his hands for a burn. The experiment proved successful and seemed to be at the same time a joy to his stomach and a surprise to the surgeons in attendance. Woods is a contortionist and slack-wire performer, an expert of glass and a swallower of tacks in a dime museum. The other day noon Woods' right hand was to be operated upon, it having been badly bent as the result of a burn years ago. A large crowd of students were waiting to see the clinic. Woods called McKenna, a fellow-patient at the hospital, to his bedside and said: "My friend, I will show these gentlemen how to eat glass." Then he ate half of a long glass tube. The tube, he said, was too easy to chew, and he was given a drinking glass. He ate a large chunk of this before seeming satisfied. The nurses fled, but McKenna and the students enjoyed the exhibition. A few minutes later the surgeons put the hand under the influence of ether and his stomach did not revolt.

A HABIT THAT IS GROWING.

The Observance of the Order of Precedence at Washington.

The order of precedence is something that grows upon the members of the cabinet, no matter how lightly they esteem it when they first start out in their Washington careers. It is something they cannot ignore, says the Washington correspondent of the Chicago Tribune. In giving their dinners to the president they begin with the vice president and so gradually down the scale of prominence until they get to Secretary Wilson. This order is also strictly observed when the cabinet meet together at any entertainment. No one makes a move to go home, no matter how sleepy he or she may be, until the vice president and Mrs. Hobart decide to have their carriages called. Then the next, and the next, say "good night" and pass out, and last of all the secretary of agriculture and his daughter to submit designs for the new stamps, whose principal advantages should be in the direction of simplicity, durability and cheapness. In consequence about 200 such designs were submitted. These have been under examination by a committee consisting of Alexander Grant, W. H. Lamar and M. S. Lewis. They have agreed on the design which they think is the best adapted for the use of the service and have made a report to Postmaster-General Gary. The new stamp will be introduced gradually, taking the place of the old ones as fast as the department deems practicable.

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