FARM AND GARDEN.

When to Water Hogs.

Always water hogs before feeding, and never afterwards. If this is practiced and the animals are given their corn on a feeding floor, fourteen pounds of corn will produce two pounds of gain. In other words, every bushel of corn ought to produce ten pounds of pork. If this is not being accomplished something is wrong.

Fat in the Milk.

The percentage of fat in milk from a single cow may vary, one day giving different results from the next. In an experiment with a native Jersey cow the milk was found to range from 4.45 per cent. to 5.85 per cent. A single test with a cow may, therefore, be of no value, as in the one case more milk would be required to make a pound of butter than in the other.

How to Set Hens.

It may seem all very easy matter to set a hen, but unless we understand how to proceed we will find it a matter of doubt and trouble to say nothing of the disappointment. What is sure to follow unless the work is well done.

First, it must find the hen is inclined to sit. Then provide the nest for her in a secure place where she will not be troubled by other hens. When hens come off for exercise from the nest and take for the other one provided. Do not put the eggs under her for a day or two, as the nest is not to be trusted. Should she be inclined to remain on the strange nest it may be necessary to close up all but one hole of the nest for a day, and let her become accustomed to the strange nest.

An old soap box makes a good nest, the only change is necessary is to remove one end in the front so that she can step in without jumping on the eggs. With the decision to set on the nest put the eggs under her and set a pan of water a pan of corn and a box of grit near by and let her alone. Feed and water her daily, but do not disturb her. Several may be set in one room, but will give better results if only one hen. —Home and Farm.

Cost of Milk Production.

You can get the necessary cost of producing milk at the prevailing prices or it is easy. The most difficult question is how to charge up the cow's feed. Some will feed all the grain and roughage they produce, while others will charge only what they buy. Some will charge up pasture at a high rate, while others will not charge it at all. The cow will pay for the cost of keep. They are great foragers, and very little of a low price will keep them in health. We are inclined to think that the people who accuse them of not paying for their keep have not had the pure-breeds of the present day. Every farmer should own a flock of both ducks and geese. Home and Farm.

Cats, Weeds and Litter for Bedding.

Such [illegible] possession as [illegible] should be collected and composted with the litter for bedding. It should be remembered that the second crop of weeds is usually richer than the first, and that the seeds of weeds have matured they had best be burned, but rather than have the weeds go to waste on the ground I would compost them in the cellar or barn, where a heavy coating of straw will be scattered. The leaves from trees can be easily gathered and stored for stock bedding. Straw may be substituted by peatmoss or [illegible] that have been going to waste. Utilize them by returning them to the soil and let them carry in their [illegible] some [illegible] from the stable. —J. H. Brownlee, in New [illegible] Homestead.

Setting Potatoes.

Good orders and exercise are the main means in my mind of all kinds of work we have to perform, and however they have their friends, yet a dense of negligence or slothful sometimes seems to characterize much that many do, and encroaches more or less on what we all do. To know an evil well is to suffer the inconvenience of its own failures, so we feel confident to portray the shortcomings of others.

During the time of potato planting I had occasion to drive past several fields where potato planting was going on, and talk with several about the crop. I asked the question of several if they sort their potatoes which they pick them up. In most cases the reply was, "Oh, no! I expect to have some time when I market them." This of course may seem plausible to some, but if there are two bushels of small potatoes among the 50 bushels per acre, it is there are just two bushels that have to be handled over twice if they are to be sorted out in the field at the time of planting, and as it is the case in the majority of cases they are left in the field, and when sorted in the fall it would not be enough to increase much the cost of work. Then, if you have just [illegible] with a fork, the [illegible] which has to be carefully put over and thoroughly [illegible] with a spade, and [illegible] with a potato hook, and [illegible] to the [illegible] of the weather, while if you mount a drag the day to make out good potatoes. It will take you just that day or half that to put your tools, and it is [illegible] in winter time if the next day [illegible] is apt to be stormy. If potatoes are kept until nearly spring when [illegible] it is evident that they will [illegible] from the other, and [illegible] will be a loss [illegible] to be sold as second potatoes, so to [illegible] sells, for it [illegible] to [illegible] what he plants. We have [illegible] with [illegible] better than any other [illegible] pays well to [illegible] and [illegible] —Prairie Farmer and The [illegible]

Hand's Dumping Sled

The [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]