

Houses Built of Meerschaum.
The town of Valdeca, in Spain, is almost entirely built of meerschaum. Valdeca has on its outskirts great quarries of a meerschaum too coarse for pipe making, and a meerschaum-bull town is the result—an ivory-white town that shines in the Spanish sun. In Morocco meerschaum is so plentiful that they use it, when soft and fresh, for soap. It gives a plentiful and cleansing lather. Ekdischehr, in Asia Minor, supplies the world's meerschaum. There are 2,000 mines, large and small there, and 8,000 Kurd and Persian meerschaum miners work day and night in them. The meerschaum comes from the earth yellow, and turns white after ten days' bleaching in the sun.—New York Herald.

Free from Alcohol

Since May, 1906, Ayer's Sarsaparilla has been entirely free from alcohol. If you are in poor health, weak, pale, nervous, ask your doctor about taking this non-alcoholic tonic and alternative. If he has a better medicine, take his. Get the best always. This is our advice.



A sluggish liver means a coated tongue, a bad breath, and constipated bowels. The question is, "What is the best thing to do under such circumstances?" Ask your doctor if this is not a good answer: "Take laxative doses of Ayer's Pills."—Made by the J. C. Ayer Co., Lowell, Mass.

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Southern Agricultural Topics.

Modern Methods That Are Helpful to Farmer, Fruit Grower and Stockman.

Our Poor Methods of Marketing.

The manner in which Southern poultry and eggs are marketed is largely responsible for our failure to make them profitable. We market most of our poultry alive, but how seldom we see a coop of uniform size, color and quality. But for our craze for crossing and the scarcely less insane idea that scrubs are more valuable than pure-breds, because they will stand more hardships, whereas it is a fact that when any animal is withstanding hardships it is a losing business for the owner, we might have poultry of uniform color. Any one knows that of two coops, the one made up of birds of the same size and color, and the other of the usual Jacob's coat variety, the former will bring a good advance in price, even though they be of no better quality.

There are thousands of town and city men and women who appreciate a really fresh egg, and many of them have both the money and the inclination to pay for it. Why not cater to that demand and furnish these people what they want and are willing to pay for, really fresh, clean, good eggs? Such eggs command a higher price anywhere, and you can deliver them to some man in town for the top of the market. Find that man.

To command top prices, however, they must be clean, of uniform color and size and really fresh. In the large egg markets Southern eggs sell for from three to four cents below the lowest from other sections. Why is this? Rest assured it is because they are worth less, for the men who make a business of buying eggs know eggs.

But why are they worth less?
(1) Because of our mongrel flocks, the result of our mania for crossing. They lay eggs of all sizes and colors, and we don't sort them.

(2) We send eggs to market as they come from the nests, dirty and unsorted. They should be graded as to colors and size and those that are dirty should never be sent to market or should be wiped clean. It is safe to state that a lot of eggs with the dirty and very small ones taken out will sell for more money than all of them would.

(3) We allow the male birds to run with the hens at all times. The result is that the eggs, being fertile, soon begin to germinate from the summer heat and then when cooled the germ dies and the egg rapidly spoils, or at least loses its freshness. These facts are well known, but still we go on in the same old way. Why the males are allowed to run with the hens, except when we need eggs for hatching, no one can tell, but still we continue to do it, and furnish the markets with most of the so-called "heated" eggs that sell for three or four cents a dozen less than they would if the males had been separated from the hens.—Progressive Farmer.

Poultry Troubles.

When I first began to raise chickens I had the common mixed breed, and I had pretty good success with them, for they were both good setters and good mothers. But I exchanged them for White Wyandottes and then I began to have trouble in setting them. The hens were willing enough to set, at first, but after a few days they grew tired of setting and would desert their nests and let their eggs grow cold, or else they would set until within a week of the time the eggs were expected to hatch, and then would leave. Sometimes there were others wanting to set. If there were, I would take the hen which had been setting and put her out and then put the other on the nest, but if there were no hens wanting to set, I would place a box over the hen, so that she could not get up very well, and keep it on for some time, only taking it off for her to eat and drink, then covering her up again. Sometimes this plan would work, but more often it would not. The hen would manage to get the box up, and then leave or break the eggs and ruin them. I have lost a good many eggs in this way. If I do not lose all at a setting, I often lose half of them or more.

For instance, I set a hen with twelve eggs. She sat for about ten days, then left the nest, and let the eggs grow cold. I put a box over her, but it did no good, for as soon as I took it off she left the nest, and would not go back until I made her. Fortunately, however, there was another hen wanting to set, so I put her on instead, and she sat fairly well for the remaining time, but I did not get more than six chickens out of all the eggs that were set.

Now, I do not mean to say that common chickens set well all of the time, for, on the contrary, I set two common hens. They set for a few days, and then deliberately deserted their nests, and I don't believe they left three eggs out of the whole lot.

Business Maxims.

He will always be a slave who does not know how to live on little.

It takes a wise man to tell whether the world is laughing with him or at him.

A good today makes a bright yesterday to think of and a bright tomorrow to which to look forward.

But on the average, the common mixed breed sets better than the White Wyandottes. Although the latter are good layers and fairly good mothers, I cannot recommend them as good setters.—A Reader, in Florida Agriculturist.

When to Feed.

No animal is fit for real hard or fast work after eating a large meal, but we frequently practice feeding as large an amount in the morning and at noon as at night. When we force work from the muscles a larger quantity of blood goes to them and consequently there is a smaller quantity that can go to the digestive organs. The result is digestion is checked and colic follows.

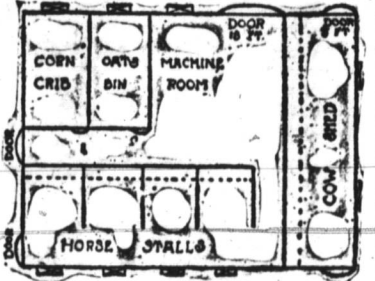
To prevent this all horses doing real hard work should receive all the hay they are to receive in the twenty-four hours at night. And right here it may be well to state that horses are usually fed very much more hay than is best for them. If the horse can be allowed to eat hay for at least one hour before being fed his grain at night, then at least half the grain he is to receive in the twenty-four hours should also be given at night. The other half should be divided into two equal parts, one being given in the morning and the other at noon.—Professor Massey.

Sweet Potato Investigations.

Extensive investigations dealing with the sweet potato crop are being undertaken by the United States Department of Agriculture. Experiments are in progress at several centres, and include a study of the kinds most suitable for the several potato growing districts. Research is being made in regard to methods of growing and their comparative cost, and methods of harvesting, storing, packing and shipping the crop. The question of storage, it is stated, is receiving special attention, in order to determine the best means of curing, the most suitable temperatures to be maintained in the storage house, and the amount of shrinkage that takes place under those conditions. Attention is also being given to the uses and possibilities of sweet potatoes as food for stock, as well as the desiccation and canning of the product for human consumption.

A Handy Barn.

Here are plans for a handy barn. It will hold seven head of horses and about ten head of cows. A crib opposite the feedway will hold about 600 bushels of corn and an oats bin adjoining this will hold from 1000 to 1200 bushels of that grain. This leaves a space fifteen by eighteen for implements, hay or anything that the farmer may wish to put in it. The



A Handy Barn.

doors on the cow shed are wide enough so you can drive through them with a wagon or manure spreader. The horse stable has double stalls ten feet wide and fifteen feet from inside of manger to the wall. This, together with the fact that the doors are eight feet wide, enable you to get out with your team very easily. The size of the structure is thirty-five by thirty-eight feet, with a hay mow over the lower floor. The eaves are six feet, affording more than usual protection to the outside of the building. The accompanying plan, says the Journal of Agriculture, will give the reader a better understanding of the interior arrangement.

Poultry Notes.

Mites are one of the greatest scourges of the poultryman, and from them, directly or indirectly, spring the greatest portion of poultry diseases.

And often birds that, otherwise, are very fine, have white or black feathers to grow where they do not belong, because the fowl's vitality is sapped by the mites.

They multiply at an astonishing rate, and it requires the very hardest and most persistent work to rid the premises of them.

The most lasting preventive is boiling whitewash, to which has been added to each bucketful a teaspoonful of crude carbolic acid and a half gallon of kerosene.

This must be put on boiling hot, and special care must be given the roosts to see that it gets into every crack.—Southern Fruit Grower.

Here and There.

If anyone does not understand your advertisements, it is an indication that he knows more than you do.

A man who continually questions other people's motives without proof is a man you are justified in distrusting.

Many of the greatest men—Newton, for instance, greatest of all discoverers of law—have been thought stupid because they rebelled against work that was not congenial. In the end they justified the rebellion. Human beings, in the long run, prophesies the New York Journal, will learn the truth put before them years ago by Charles Fourier, that men are governed by their attractions, and that the success of the individual and of the race depends upon giving full play to the attractions or passions. Thwarting them or coercing them means failure.

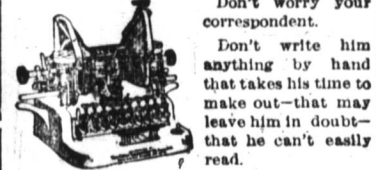
Thousands Have Kidney Trouble and Never Suspect It.

Fill a bottle or common glass with your water and let it stand twenty-four hours; a brick dust sediment, or settling, stringy or milky appearance often indicates an unhealthy condition of the kidneys; too frequent desire to pass it or pain in the back are also symptoms that tell you the kidneys and bladder are out of order and need attention.

There is comfort in the knowledge so often expressed, that Dr. Kilmer's Swamp-Root, the great kidney remedy, fulfills almost every wish in correcting rheumatism, pain in the back, kidneys, liver, bladder and every part of the urinary passage. Corrects inability to hold water and scalding pain in passing it, or bad effects following use of liquor, wine or beer, and overcomes that unpleasant necessity of being compelled to go often through the day, and to get up many times during the night. The mild and immediate effect of Swamp-Root is soon realized. It stands the highest because of its remarkable health restoring properties. If you need a medicine you should have the best. Sold by druggists in fifty-cent and one-dollar sizes.

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To weak and ailing women, there is at least one way to help. But with that way, two treatments, must be combined. One is local, one is constitutional, but both are important, both essential. Dr. Shoop's Night Cure is the Local. Dr. Shoop's Restorative, the Constitutional.

The former—Dr. Shoop's Night Cure—is a topical mucous membrane suppository remedy, while Dr. Shoop's Restorative is wholly an internal treatment. The Restorative reaches throughout the entire system, seeking the repair of all nerve, all tissue, and all blood ailments.

The "Night Cure", as its name implies, does its work while you sleep. It soothes sore and inflamed mucous surfaces, heals local weaknesses and discharges, while the Restorative, calms nervous excitement, gives renewed vigor and ambition, builds up wasted tissues, bringing about renewed strength, vigor, and energy. Take Dr. Shoop's Restorative—Tablets or Liquid—as a general tonic to the system. For positive local help, use as well

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