BEST PIGS FROM OLD SOWS.

In looking out for young breeding sows, the farmer is too apt to overlook the sow that has borne one or two good litters of pigs, and is now worth more as a breeder than at any former time of her life. So long as the sow is herself growing she cannot do full justice to furnishing the framework of the growing litter which she carries. Hence there are always one or more runts in litters from immature sows. The pigs from an old sow will be larger framed and more vigorous in every way. They will also make better breeders than pigs from small, immature sows can be, however well they may be fed.

VINES AS AN ATTRACTION.

The object of plants and flowers is to beautify, and the lover of a well-appointed lawn and grounds will make no mistake if he allows them to beautify the commonplace objects about the home. A trim yard of wire netting furnishes a most excellent trellis for vines, while being at the same time ornamented by them. Such a netting fence affords an excellent place for the growing of many kinds of grapes, while the shade thus afforded will be most grateful to the inmates of the yard during the hot weather. Carrying the "utility" idea still further, one might mention the hop vine as most suitable to train around the doorway. If one is trying to make his grounds look well, it is certainly wise to avail one's self of this easy way to lend beauty, and even a useful beauty to what might otherwise be an unattractive object.—The Silver Knight.

SORGHUM AS GREEN FODDER.

Except for its extra amount of sweetness, sorghum has no advantage over corn as green fodder, and it has two very obvious disadvantages. One is that the sorghum lacks ears of corn that the corn fodder if properly grown may have, and the other is that the sorghum stalk is so hard that it is difficult and sometimes dangerous for stock to eat it unless first crushed in grinding to express its sap. The bagasse or pulped sorghum stalks after the juices have been expressed are greedily eaten by stock. But the mass heats very quickly, and quickly turns sour, so that it does injury rather than good. Wherever there are facilities for grinding sorghum, farmers who live near the mills can get some good from the sorghum bagasse. But its nutritive value is small, as the woody part of the stalk has very little in it that is digestible. It costs more to grow sorghum than it does to grow fodder corn, because it starts very slowly and is hard to keep from being overgrown with weeds while small. After it gets knee high the sorghum will grow fast enough, but until that time it requires more labor to keep free from weeds than does corn, and its fodder is less valuable. The sorghum is grown for fodder in some parts of the West because its root runs down deeper than corn roots do, and it is thus able to live through severe droughts that wither and destroy the corn crop.

WINTERING CELERY.

There is a large percentage of celery lost every year after storing. One is apt to be too anxious; it is not good policy to start covering celery too early. A certain amount of frost will do it no harm; in fact, it will help to harden up the plants. One important thing must be guarded against—never allow the celery to sweat after protecting. Such plants would be difficult to keep, after once they get too hot. It is a waste of time to try to keep celery after it has once started to decay. There are different methods of wintering celery, but if any one wants good flavored, tender stalks, winter the crop in the natural soil. Of course there is more work attached to this method, although it is not such a big job after all. Suppose we put two or three rows together, then with boards on the top to shed the rain, the plants can be easily protected by leaves or salt hay. In storing two or three rows together it is advisable to have, say, one inch of soil between the rows; I find that when celery touches, or, in other words, when the stalks are stacked closely together, they are liable to rot; but having the soil between them will help to keep them cooler. In severe weather, celery stored thus is not so easily got at as when stored in the cellar, but one could get out enough one day to last three or four. When celery is not stored in the natural soil it eats fluffy and lacks the nutty flavor that good celery should have.—American Gardening.

THE IDEAL DAIRY COW.

Dairyman Gould in a recent lecture gave this description of the "cow for him."

"The ideal cow," he said, "is not large; she weighs about 1000 pounds; she is something like a race horse, for speed in the horse and milk in the cow are allied. Beef in a horse and beef in a cow mean strength always. It is a question of nerve power, and that is something food will not produce, only maintain. For the typical dairy cow you must have race horse type, bony and muscular, whether she be a Holstein, a Jersey or whatever she may be. You will find her with bony head and strong jaw, long between the eyes and nose, with broad muzzle. She should have a very bright, protruding eye—I want a cow I can 'hang my hat' on her eyes. Why! Simple on account of her brain power. It means strong nerve force and that means action later on. I want a thin neck and retreating brisket. The lines above and below must not be straight, or she will steal from you; I want her slightly depressed behind the shoulders, with sharp chine; I don't want too straight a back bone. She must have large organs of reproduction—you don't want a cow with a straight back; I want her wedge shaped. I want two wedges, large in rear and large heart girth, i. e., wide between forward legs, sharp on shoulder. This gives me large heart action and the strong arterial circulation I want. Then last, but by no means least, she must have a good udder, for one-half of the value of the cow is in her udder. She should have a long udder from front to rear. Then she must have a good handle on each corner of her udder. And why? Because if she gives two pails of milk a day it is a matter of some labor to milk her."

ERRORS ABOUT SHEEP.

Many sheep men believe that scab can be produced by exposure and ill-treatment, It can only be produced by contagion, and the flock that has never had the opportunity to contract it will never have it. It may be introduced by buying diseased sheep not observed to be diseased, and exposure brings it to light, and then it is supposed to be caused by exposure. Scab is a disease due to a living mite in the skin of the sheep, and cannot be produced by exposure any more than a lamb can be produced by good care. It is also thought that scab and other diseases of like character can be cured by feeding the sheep sulphur. Internally it is a mild and good laxative, but its real virtue for scab lies in its use as an ointment.

Some sheep men believe that the sheep tick can be destroyed by feeding sulphur. This is another error. Sheep may be fed sulphur until they sicken of it, and still the tick will be as lively as ever. There is no medicine that can be given to sheep that will kill the ticks and not at the same time kill the sheep. Still others believe that grub in the head is a very fatal disease, and that the grub bores through the skull into the brain, causing death. The accumulation of grubs in frontal recesses is what causes the trouble, but one sheep raiser says that in twenty-five years' experience with sheep he never lost one animal by grub in the head. Plenty of grub in the stomach and a dark place for the sheep to go to when the flies that lay the eggs are about is his treatment for grub in the head. An occasional grub will get through, but it is not the occasional one that disturbs the sheep. On the contrary, it is the numbers of them.

Another common error is that sheep should be shorn at a certain time of the moon in order to start the growth of the next fleece. The moon has no more effect with the growth of wool than have any other planets. When the time comes for shearing and the shearer is ready and the weather favorable, one may shear without consulting the almanac. The same almanac is consulted, too, at docking and castrating time, but a different time on the moon is sought, perhaps. One moon for one thing and another moon for another thing. Occasionally you will find a sheep man who will tell you that sheep do not need water. They need water and plenty of it, and it should be pure well water rather than stagnant branch or pond water. It is in the latter that lurk dangers of which the shepherd very often scarcely dreams. Internal parasites are very often produced in this way, and this is especially true of the fluke.—Dakota Field and Farm.

DON'TS FOR THE FARM.

Don't forget to grease your wagon.

Don't neglect your pasture or water supply.

Don't raise scrub stock of any kind. It don't pay.

Don't use stay-chains on your wagon when drawing heavy loads.

Don't give your horse cold water to drink when he is very warm.

Don't let another year pass without keeping a strict book account of your business.

Don't go to town to loaf around and talk politics every Saturday, or any other time.

Don't think of buying a new wagon with less than four-inch tires. Six would be better.

Don't claim to be an advocate of good roads and then go and buy a narrow-tired wagon.

Don't deny your wife a new hat and at the same time buy yourself a fresh supply of tobacco.

Don't fail to plant a patch of sunflowers for the poultry. It is a very fine food for a variety.

Don't leave the stove wood out in the rain, and then scold your wife if breakfast is not ready.

Don't beat that cow because she kicks. Just tie her legs together tightly and avoid further trouble.

Don't give your boy a colt or a pig as a reward of merit, and then sell it the first opportunity and pocket the money.

Don't leave everything lying loose about the premises. Have a place for everything, and see that everything is kept in its place.

Don't require your boy to do all the mean jobs, nor give him the poorest tools to work with, and then expect him to grow up and like farming.

Don't forget to take at least two good papers and keep abreast of the times. Remember it is the wide-awake, up-to-date farmer that is the successful one to-day.—Home and Farm.

Short-Lived Insects.

The wonderful brevity of insect life is curiously illustrated in the case of those that prey upon different species of mushrooms. The life of the mushroom itself is measured by hours, yet is often entirely ruined by an insect which deposits its eggs upon the fungi while it is in the vigor of youth. The entire span of life of this mushroom insect is so brief that the grubs hatch from the eggs and the creature becomes fully developed and capable of laying eggs itself before the mushroom dies, even though the latter's life may not extend over a period of forty-eight hours from the moment it first pushes through the soil.

# AFRO-AMERICAN GOSSIP.

## BRIEF RACE ITEMS OF GENERAL INTEREST.

Long Island Barbarians.

A colored man recovered damages for being put out of a Brooklyn theater because he became embroiled in a fight which three white loafers forced upon him. The jury gave him $300. Out in Jamacia we don't let the colored children go to school with the white children, but at the same time we give them a little protection by law. And we do let them vote. We are not as barbarous up North as some folks may beleive after reading the actions of the Jamacia board of education.—Brooklyn Times.

By a Politician.

The white folks, who pretend to fear that a colored man may be "cut" when he is put on a ticket for election, should consider the record made by Gabriel L. Jones, who was recently elected to a place in the Indiana State Legislature. Six representatives were chosen from his county and he ran better than any of his colleagues beating all of them, leading his nearest white competitor by 61 votes. The colored brother is a vote getter sure as you're born.—Chicago Conservative.

"Stealing."

That is what it amounts to in many cases. Men take and read your paper for years, intending finally, when they cannot get it any longer free, to crawl out of paying for it on the ground that they subscribed for it for one year only, and ease their conscience by saying that you "ought to have known enough to have stopped it at the end of the year," and that they "don't want it, as it is no good anyway," that it didn't come regularly or that they moved away and "it wasn't received." Yet, should you stop at the end of the first year and demand cash in advance, they would be insulted and say you have no faith in them. Stealing may sound harsh, but it comes uncomfortably close to the line.—Boston Courant.

A remarkable story comes from Tuscongo, Ala. Henry Dawson, colored, was hanged there and after the body had been pronounced dead by the physicians and cut down by the sheriff and turned over to the dead man's friends, Dawson was resuscitated and has skipped the country for fear of being hanged again. No trace of a burying place nor no trace of the men to whom the body was given can be found, hence the plausibleness of the resuscitation story. A similar case was once reported from Mississippi but no law could be found to re-hang the man as he had hung until pronounced dead.—Seattle (Wash.) Republican.

William B. Saylor, a well known Grand Army man, died at Roosevelt hospital, in New York, on November 4th, where he was undergoing treatment. Comrade Saylor had an interesting war record. He was born in Newburg, N. Y., in 1845. He was color bearer of the famous Twentieth New York Volunteers, serving in company C, under Col. Bartman. His regiment participated in 41 battles, and it was known as the "Fighting Twentieth." For many years he was an officer of Thaddeus Stevens Post, No. 255 of New York. He was a splendid type of the Afro-American volunteer.—San Francisco Elevator.

Graham county, Kan., elected a colored lawyer county attorney and another young colored man county clerk on the fusion ticket at the last election. Attorney G. W. Jones enjoys the distinction of being the only county prosecuting attorney in the United States. Proportionately speaking, Graham county has about the same ratio of white and colored voters as has King county, Washington, one in twenty.—Seattle (Wash.) Republican.

Cuba ought to be free.

The London Times reports that during the recent massacre of Armenians in Constantinople, "an American Negro sailor and two Italians were inhabiting a house where 15 Armenian porters had taken refuge to escape massacre. The rabble prepared to force an entrance, but the sailor and his companions placed themselves in front of the door and succeeded in driving off the assailants. Owing to this heroic action the house was not touched, and the Armenians were saved."—Lagos Record.

Of the 10,000,000 colored population of the United States 1,200,000 are Methodists while 1,150,000 are Baptists. The Methodist Church property is about $12,000,000. In all fully 4,000,000 Afro-Americans are members of some church, and 16,000 are ministers. About all of this has been accomplished in thirty years of freedom, although the centennial of the African Methodist Zion Church was celebrated in New York in October.

Antonio Macco will live forever in the hearts of the Cuban people.—Washington, D. C., Bee.

H. K. Holmes is the first colored man to build a brick business block in Cripple Creek, Col. It is situated on 2nd street, between Meyers and Bennett avenue, in the business part of the city. The owner has a news stand with cigars, tobacco, etc., in one part

In the event of there being war with Spain the colored citizens will be found among the most patriotic of America's sons.—Savannah Tribune.

The Negro question, not sectional feeling, is the one thing that prevents a complete breaking-up of the solid South. In proof of this assertion we have but to cite the recent formation in St. Louis of a society of the Blue and Gray, in which ex-soldiers of both the Union and Confederate armies have been brought together in fraternal union.—Contra Costa Gazette.

There are many reasons why the Negro should receive substantial recognition from the present administration and chief among them is loyalty to Republican principles and party.—Wilmington Record.

HOW TO FIND OUT.

Fill a bottle with urine and let it stand twenty-four hours; a sediment or settling indicates a diseased condition of the kidneys. When your urine stains your linen it is evident you have kidney trouble. Too frequent desire to urinate is convincing proof that your kidneys and bladder are out of order.

WHAT TO DO.

There is comfort in the knowledge so often expressed, that Dr. Kilmer's Swamp-Root, the great kidney remedy, fulfills every wish in relieving pain in the back, kidneys, liver, bladder and every part of the urinary passages. It corrects inability to hold urine and scalding pain in passing it, and overcomes that unpleasant necessity of being compelled to get up during the night to urinate. The mild and extraordinary effect of Swamp-Root is soon realized. It stands the highest for its wonderful cures of the most distressing cases. Sold by druggists at fifty cents and one dollar. For a sample bottle and book free mention this paper and send to Dr. Kilmer & Co., Binghamton, N. Y., six cents in stamps to cover cost of postage.

Piso's Cure cured me of a Throat and Lung trouble of three years' standing.—E. Cady, Huntington, Ind., Nov. 12, 1894.

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Jewish Longevity.

The vital statistics of London are the authority for the statement that on an average the life of a Jew in that city is twice that of a gentile. Dr. B. W. Richardson says that the Jews of that city are exceptionally free from disease, and Virchow says that the race "has at all times been distinguished by great tenacity of life. Consumption is scarcely known among the Jews, and suicide is three-fourths less frequent among them than it is among gentiles."

Strictly.

Hungry Higgins—What are you readin' now?

Weary Watkins—Markits.

"What's de quotations on shirts?"

"Unchanged."—Indianapolis Journal.

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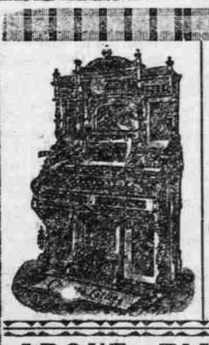

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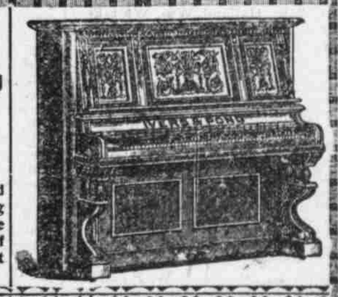

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