

AGRICULTURAL.

THE FARM READER.

Texas, which commenced raising wool in 1845, has now 4,000,000 sheep, and it is estimated that Montana will produce 50,000,000 pounds of wool in 1890.

The sale of the flock of Merino sheep, owned by the late Mr. Ingalls, of Almont, Michigan, was well attended. The non-registered rams, mostly yearlings, averaged \$22.50 per head.

The original Southdown were the purest blood of any English sheep. Their improvement was accomplished by judicious selection from various flocks.

Meat is scarce and dear in France, the peasantry being able to taste it not often than once a week, and then limited to bacon and pork in other forms.

The sheep in Silesia are never exposed to much rain. Shelter and shade are provided for them. Nor are they exposed to dust, for that is known to be injurious to the fleeces.

For heavy farm and road work, the city dray and truck, no breed of horses will surpass the Pecheron, while the lighter class are well adapted for the express wagon, the omnibus and the horse railroad.

Fifteen hundred persons attended the sale of the Angus polled cattle of the late McComb, Tillyfour, Scotland. Seventy head were disposed of at large prices.

A writer in the Country Gentleman says that of everything he tried to cure of roup in fowls, the best is to take pulverized coppers and put a teaspoonful in three quarts of water, and give it to them to drink.

Gladiolus, a five year old Angus bull, weighs 1,350 lbs.; by Eyebright, a two year old heifer, also of this breed, weighs the same as this cow.

Be careful about letting your cattle drink from ditches, or from pools in which they are accustomed to stand or in which their droppings are deposited.

The following is said to be the comparative milk yield of the various breeds of cows: A native cow produces annually 1,794 lbs of milk; Jersey, 3,829; Ayrshire, 4,300; American Holstein, 4,527.

Those who will take time to examine a horse's foot will find it a series of elliptical springs separated from each other by a spongy substance, and the frog of a cushion to rest the foot upon.

The trouble with most persons who keep horses—no matter whether on farms for farm work, or for driving purposes—is, they feed too much hay, and to this cause can be attributed the general sluggishness often manifested by the horses until they have been working a couple of hours, while the wind is also impaired.

Selected from the Travels of Anacharsis, the Younger in Greece.

We afterward requested from Enthymemes some instructions concerning different kinds of plants of the kitchen garden and fruit trees.

"The former," said he, "come up sooner when we make use of seed which is two or three years old. There are some which it is advantageous to water with salt water. Cucumbers (which is supposed to be a name used for all melons) are sweeter when their seeds have been steeped in milk for

two days. They thrive better in ground naturally a little moist, than in gardens where they are frequently watered. Would you have them early, sow them at first in pots, and water them with warm water; but I must tell you that they will have less flavor than if they had been watered with cold water.

Trees should be planted in autumn, or rather in the spring. The trenches should be dug at least a year before they are planted.

"I only relate," said Enthymemes, "practices that are known an familiar to all cultivated nations."

"And which," replied I immediately, "do not sufficiently excite their admiration. What time, what reflections, must not have been necessary to observe and gain a knowledge of the wants, the varieties and resources of nature; to render her docile and diversify or correct her productions."

"This latter prodigy," said Enthymemes, "is affected by grafting, by which the roughness and sourness of fruits of wild trees are corrected. Almost all garden trees undergo this operation, which is ordinarily performed on trees of the same species; as for example, a fig is grafted on another fig tree, an apple on a pear tree, etc.

"Our larder is empty," quoth Mr. Jones, as he heard the pig squealing for its evening meal.

The best way to encourage a tramp is to show him a pile of cord wood, and other little axe of kindness.

An Irish lover remarked that it is a great pleasure to be alone, "especially when your sweetheart is wid yer."

"Maud (an aristocratic child): 'How pretty and clever you are, mother! I'm so glad you married into our family.'"

THE ZOOLOGIST'S WOOING.

When first I saw you, Eland deer, My heart it did rejoice,

Because I gnu how good you were, And wished that you ermine.

When your tapir fingers pressed Upon that eye in May,

The glance you gave me sealed my fate, And I'm still yours today.

I'll never break apart the lynx That blind my heart to thine,

Thill I smother my last cough And in my grave recline.

Gaze, Eland deer, upon me now! (That's civet pleases you),

One glance from your bright eyes will light This mole-digging eye anew.

And if it is for porcupine, Though it should hurt me,

I'll bring as many hamsters you As one could wish to see.

But then, of course, weak antelope, For that would be a bore;

But we can stay right here rat home, And I'll ne'er leave you moir.

"What did you get?" asked a wife of her husband on his return from a hunting excursion of several days' duration.

"I got back!" he seagutiously replied.

"Innocents" asks a weekly story paper "How to shine in European society."

"Easy enough. Purchase a box of blacking and a brush, and 'shine' the same as you would in American society.

"What pretty children, and how much they look alike," says C. during a first visit at a friend's house.

"They are twins," his friend explains.

"What, both of 'em?" exclaims C., greatly interested.

A BLACK HILLS INCIDENT.

A little, warty, dried-up sort of looking chap had had out

A ben-assin' round no bar, With gentils like us-drinkin' thar'

And that idee occurred to me The first mornin' at I see

The little cuss eibowin' in To humor his besettin' sin.

There're nothin' small in me at all, But when I hear the rooster call

For slinger and a spoon, I says: "Just got in from the States I guess."

He never 'peared as if he heard, But stood thar, wipin' up his beard,

And smilin' to hiss fas if I'd been agavin' him a stiff.

And I says I-a-sol-gin' by The bantam, and agazin' high

Above his pug—says I: "I knowed A little feller one t'at looked

"Around like you, and took his drinks With shaggin' in, and his folks thinks He's dead now, 'cause we boxed and sent

The scraps back to the settlement.

The boys told me, at got to see The feller knock my gun, at he

Just 'peared to come unpointed-like, Afore he ever struck a strike!

And I'll admit the way he fit Wuz dazzin'—wuz I see uv hit!

And squarmin' thar' up t'ar and fine, Says I: "A little long in mine"

tiff that would not make two bites of him, or in pinching surreptitiously the flamboyant tail of his rich enemy the cat when it came within reach of his cage, went at this sight into an ecstasy of terror which could not be appeased until the uneasy object was removed.

Sentiments.

Virtue deserves respect even in beggar's clothes. A restless mind gathers nothing but dirt and mire.

To gain a good reputation, be what you desire to appear. God first—self last—all the rest will come in the right order.

He who expects a friend without fault will never find one. Waste no vain words on the past; spare them for the future.

If you are not right toward God, you can never be toward man. Take heed of being infected with the breath of a profane heart.

Division among families is an unpleasant sort of arithmetic. It is uncertain at what place death awaits thee, wait thou for it at every place.

Mortality without religion is only a kind of dead reckoning—an endeavor to navigate a cloudy sea by measuring the distance we have to run, but without observation of the heavenly bodies.

The number of asteroids is now so great that it is not surprising that one or two are occasionally lost. With the aid of computation and very imperfect elements, two or three have been lately rediscovered.

Humors of Prose and Poetry.

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Lost in a Storm.

THE DANGERS WHICH BESET THOSE WHO GO DOWN TO THE SEA IN SHIPS.

It was All Saints' Day; in the morning we saw that the sea was very rough, and every one said there would be trouble; all the parish was in church; in the middle of mass we saw a man come in dripping wet, an old sailor, well known for his bravery.

He immediately said that as he came along shore he saw several ships, which, driven by a fearful wind, would certainly shipwreck on the coast. "We must go to their assistance," said he, louder, "and I have come to say to all who are willing, that we have only just time to put to sea to try to help them."

About fifty men offered themselves, and, without speaking, followed the old sailor. We got to the shore by going down the cliff, and there we soon saw a terrible sight—several vessels, one behind the other, driving at a frightful speed against the rocks.

Our men put their boats to sea, but they had hardly made ten strokes when one boat filled with water and sank, the second was overturned with the breakers, and the third thrown up on shore. Happily no one was drowned and all reached the shore.

It was easy to see that our boats would be no use to the poor people on the ships. Meantime the vessels came nearer and were only a few fathoms from our black cliffs, which were covered with commorants. The first, whose masts were gone, came like a great mass. Every one on shore saw it coming; no one dared speak.

It seemed to me, a child, as if death was playing with a handful of men, whom it intended to crush and drown. An immense wave lifted itself like an angry mountain, and, wrapping the vessel, brought her near, and a still higher one threw her upon a rock level with the water.

A frightful cracking sound—the next instant the vessel was filled with water. The sea was covered with wrecks—planks, masts and poor drowning creatures. Many swam and then disappeared. Our men threw themselves into the water, and, with the old sailor at their head, made tremendous efforts to save them.

Several were brought back, but they were either drowned or broken on the rocks. The sea threw up several hundred, and with them merchant ice and food. A second ship approached. The masts were gone. Every one was on deck, which was full; we saw them all on their knees, and a man in black seemed to bless them.

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Very beneficial in strengthening and improving a relaxed system.—Rev. John W. Beckwith, Bishop of Ga.

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