

FOR THE FARM AND HOME.

Value and Use of Marl.

Marl is an impure carbonate of lime, except in some cases, when it is made of almost wholly shells, when it is nearly pure carbonate of lime. It is the slowly soluble in water which contains carbonic acid, and as all the water in the soil has some carbonic acid in it the marl becomes available as a useful fertilizer. It may be spread on the land at this season in any quantity up to 200 bushels per acre, and will be a very good substitute for lime. The pure marl may be made into lime by burning in the same manner as stone lime is—that is, by making a bed of wood and heaping some marl on it; then making layers of wood and marl up to 8 or 10 feet high of a somewhat conical shape. The sides are plastered with clay to retain the heat, and the heap is set on fire and burned down slowly. The lime thus made is quite equal for use on the land to stone lime.—New York Times.

Producing Milk and Beef.

If heifers be fed too largely with fattening food, or food containing an excess of heat formers, such as starch, sugar and fat, the breeding function is weakened. Malt meal in excess is not good for developing early maturity, as it contains too much starch. We have known cows to go barren for a year from drinking the sweet skimnings of sargum in boiling down molasses. Steers and milk cows should never be kept in the same pasture, nor should they be fed alike. Raising beef for the market requires skill. The first requisite is rapid growth of the frame, and in the younger days of the animal too much consideration cannot be given in this matter. Steers, when growing, convert all their food in the direction of building up the body. There are times when they must receive special attention, different from that given the cows, for success depends upon how the cattle are managed.

Rich nitrogenous foods are the most favorable to the elaboration of milk. These nitrogenous foods increase the amount of milk secreted, but do not necessarily vary the relative proportions of the solid constituents of the milk. The proportion of water to solids may be increased or diminished by the food and drink, and the amount of solids may be increased or diminished in the same way. But practically the relative proportion of the solids remains unchanged. It therefore follows that good feeding pays. It makes better milk by reducing the proportion of water.

Cooked and Raw Corn for Pigs.

The value of cooked corn as compared with raw in the raw state has been the subject of experiment by Prof. Shelton, of the Kansas State Agricultural College. In a report issued in figures given show as conclusively as any can show anything that the cooked corn is less useful than the raw grain, the difference in favor of raw cooked corn, being the item of pounds of feed required to make one pound of increase, amounting to exactly one fifth. That this result is not an accident Prof. Shelton thinks is abundantly proven by other items of the summary.

The daily consumption of each pig using cooked feed was almost exactly the same as the amount of raw corn used in the pens where raw corn was the exclusive food, but the average daily gain—and of course the total gain and the gain per hundred weight of pig were in the pens using the cooked feed greatly less than with the pigs using the raw corn. "Such an entire reversal of results can only be explained," says Prof. Shelton upon the theory that the cooking was an injurious process, so far as its use for fattening animals is concerned. With younger animals, whose gain would be made chiefly in growth, the cooked feed might give different results from the foregoing; but a considerable general experience does not encourage this belief.

Nothing has been said here about the cost of cooking—always a considerable item, both in respect to labor and cost of fuel.—New York World.

The Value of Coal Tar.

The true value of coal tar on the farm has not generally come to be recognized. As a preserver of wood it is the best and the cheapest of anything we have. This product may be obtained from gas works at a very slight cost, and when properly applied goes a great way in its use. Any wood surface to be exposed a part of the time to moisture, will be made to last very perceptibly longer when given a covering of tar. Those who have tried dipping soft wood posts, such as willow and poplar, certify that the wood is made to last in the ground equal to the best seasoned oak. Well curbing, the lower boards of fences or buildings, barn floors, in fact anything exposed to moisture, will be well preserved if given a covering of hot tar. As a disinfectant it is considered very valuable, and should be applied to the walls and roosts of poultry houses, and to the solid portions of pig pens. The best condition in which to apply it, as a rule, is while hot. It is in this way the cheapest and forms a much better preservative, yet it can be applied as a paint, by thinning with turpentine when in a melted condition. This will be found more expensive, as turpentine costs about sixty cents a gallon. The ordinary way of tarring posts is to dip them; the process is convenient, and the result most effectual. A long, trough-like vat, provided with a shoot-in bottom, and the whole set over a brick fire-place, makes a very convenient arrangement. Two men, each provided with a hook made of heavy wire, stand at each end of the vat, and are able to perform the dipping with a great deal of speed. The timber should be well seasoned so that all the openings, resulting from cracking, may become filled

with the hot liquid and rendered impervious to water. If boarded roofs be covered with tar, water will run from them with greatest freedom. Cast-iron implements may be rendered rust proof by dipping in hot tar, and the covering will be equal to the best Japan finish.—St. Paul Farmer.

Oats.

Oats are one of the severest crops in taxing fertility that the farmer grows. They ripen late, and these two facts combined make them an undesirable crop to precede wheat. The production of a crop of oats takes the same kind of elements as a wheat crop, and after it is off the soil is pumped dry of the food that the growing wheat plant needs. The difficulty is aggravated if any effort is made to sow the wheat early. This means plowing and sowing with little preparation, and with probably two grains of scattering oats for every one of wheat to come up and contend with the more valuable grain for what food there is. The oat plant grows with a large, broad leaf, which quite overshadows the wheat until the frost kills it. The only way to get good wheat crops after oats is to harvest the latter very early, cutting rather green, and getting the crop in with as little shelling as possible. Then plow at once, and afterward pulverize, roll, and harrow the surface by cultivation for two, or if possible, three weeks before seeding. In this way not only will a good seed bed be obtained, but some plant food will be developed. The oats which have scattered will be cultivated under the surface, and thus increase both moisture and fertility. We would have this thoroughly, even if the preparation delayed seeding until the last day of September or early in October. No delay in sowing wheat after oats is prejudicial to the crop if the time is judiciously occupied in preparing the seed bed. When everything is ready drill in 200 pounds of phosphate with the seed. No matter how rich the land it will not bring high wheat after oats without an additional supply of phosphate.

Sugar Beets for Stock.

The cultivation of the beet-root for sugar-making has attained immense proportions in some parts of Europe, notably Germany and Prussia. In this country, where large areas are capable of producing either the true sugar cane or sugar beets, the manufacture of beet sugar has not proved very successful. Yet, there can be no doubt about the value of beets as a useful food for farm stock. They will grow where corn and wheat would not, and are especially valuable in winter months. Numerous varieties have been developed in France and Germany, to satisfy the various requirements of soil and climate. In these countries the main object is to obtain a crop which will give the highest yield of roots, contain the smallest proportion of sugar, and cover the kinds richest in sugar and the best for stock purposes. It will be seen that the object of the small variety is to contain as much sugar as any of the largest, while there is less than two-thirds as much bulk and weight to handle. The sugar content is not an exact measure of the nutritive value of the respective varieties, but is approximately so, the more weight of the large variety is composed of water. Sugar beets are good food for all kinds of stock, but especially for pigs and calves. They are especially good for pigs, and are especially good for calves. They are especially good for pigs, and are especially good for calves. They are especially good for pigs, and are especially good for calves.

A Plucky Ambassador.

Gen. Pierre M. B. Young, Consul-General to St. Petersburg, tells a new one on Gen. Cassin M. Clay, who was our Representative to the court of the Czar and to the Russian Emperor. Said Gen. Young, "I have often seen Clay arrive in the Russian capital, and conducted to his residence, and appeared in his dress suit."

Clippings for the Curious.

Consul Tanner says 1,100,000,000 gallons of beer is drunk in Germany every year. A genius for statistics has figured out that 1,000,000 dollar bills weigh 2,341 pounds. B. F. Scoville, a Dakota hunter on the Missouri River, killed two deer at one shot and broke the shoulder of a third. The tomb of Mordecai and Queen Ester is still visited by Hebrew pilgrims, and is well preserved in the center of the town of Hamadan, in Persia. The earthquake in Java split a mountain into seven parts. Where the lone mountain stood loom up seven peaks, each seven thousand feet high. Two cases of Hydrophobia in camels are reported from Algeria. The animals were not known to have been bitten, but had grazed in a pasture which had fed a rabid horse. A well-known writer tells of seeing thousands of small fish migrating across land from one ocean to another in tropical America. He says they moved as deliberately and unconcernedly as though they had been accustomed to the overland route all their lives.

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The Eastern Shore Girl.

Nearly every Eastern Shore girl is a good cook. She is taught the art thoroughly, so that she may intelligently instruct her servants, and, if circumstances should require it, so that she may go into the kitchen herself and do the cooking. The race of old colored cooks who flourished before the war is fast dying out, and as the young colored women have not inherited their mothers' skill, the mistress of the house has been compelled to perfect herself in the duties of the kitchen, so that she may give her servants a practical training.

Even when required to act as her own cook the Eastern Shore girl finds time for other work, and for enjoying herself and making others happy. She is expert with the needle, a fair musician, and a bright talker. Some are dashing horseback riders and graceful skaters and daring swimmers. They can manage the sails of a small boat, and can pull a strong oar, and many of them can handle a great gun. Their outdoor exercise gives roundness and symmetry to the figure, which is usually accentuated by a beautiful neck and face, for there are but few places in the world where lovelier women can be found. She is fond of reading, and can converse with sprightliness and originality upon the best works of English literature, and criticise with judgment the styles and methods of different authors. She will go into the kitchen looking as sweet and fresh as a flower, prepare a breakfast of fruit, egg pone, or some other kind of delicious corn bread, hot rolls, clear coffee, sliced tomatoes, and fried flannels or rock or pork of choice, and return to the table as if she had never cooked. The outdoor exercise gives roundness and symmetry to the figure, which is usually accentuated by a beautiful neck and face, for there are but few places in the world where lovelier women can be found. She is fond of reading, and can converse with sprightliness and originality upon the best works of English literature, and criticise with judgment the styles and methods of different authors. She will go into the kitchen looking as sweet and fresh as a flower, prepare a breakfast of fruit, egg pone, or some other kind of delicious corn bread, hot rolls, clear coffee, sliced tomatoes, and fried flannels or rock or pork of choice, and return to the table as if she had never cooked.

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To Err is Human.

But it is positively inexcusable to administer narcotic or potent sedatives to relieve the intensity of the nervous, the easily recoverable cause of which is simply indigestion. Hostile's Stomach Bitters is the remedy indicated when the nervous system is weak, and consequently super-sensitive and unmanageable. It is a tonic and a stimulant, and its action is directed to the stomach, and mental inquietude disappears. The habit of body becomes regular, the liver and kidneys are healthily stimulated, and bodily or mental exertion ceases to be wearisome and difficult. Nervous, indigestion, and neuralgia, headache, and all the ailments which are usually attendant upon indigestion, are cured by the use of Hostile's Stomach Bitters.

Two 1886 Gold Medals. Messrs. Mason & Hamlin again have the distinction of honor of having been awarded the highest gold medals over all exhibitors, American and European, both at Edinburgh and at Liverpool, the two most important exhibitions of the year 1886. Since the first great Paris Exhibition of 1877, the Mason & Hamlin Organ has invariably received the highest honors at all great world's exhibitions.

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Clippings for the Curious.

Consul Tanner says 1,100,000,000 gallons of beer is drunk in Germany every year. A genius for statistics has figured out that 1,000,000 dollar bills weigh 2,341 pounds. B. F. Scoville, a Dakota hunter on the Missouri River, killed two deer at one shot and broke the shoulder of a third. The tomb of Mordecai and Queen Ester is still visited by Hebrew pilgrims, and is well preserved in the center of the town of Hamadan, in Persia. The earthquake in Java split a mountain into seven parts. Where the lone mountain stood loom up seven peaks, each seven thousand feet high. Two cases of Hydrophobia in camels are reported from Algeria. The animals were not known to have been bitten, but had grazed in a pasture which had fed a rabid horse. A well-known writer tells of seeing thousands of small fish migrating across land from one ocean to another in tropical America. He says they moved as deliberately and unconcernedly as though they had been accustomed to the overland route all their lives.

Even when required to act as her own cook the Eastern Shore girl finds time for other work, and for enjoying herself and making others happy. She is expert with the needle, a fair musician, and a bright talker. Some are dashing horseback riders and graceful skaters and daring swimmers. They can manage the sails of a small boat, and can pull a strong oar, and many of them can handle a great gun. Their outdoor exercise gives roundness and symmetry to the figure, which is usually accentuated by a beautiful neck and face, for there are but few places in the world where lovelier women can be found. She is fond of reading, and can converse with sprightliness and originality upon the best works of English literature, and criticise with judgment the styles and methods of different authors. She will go into the kitchen looking as sweet and fresh as a flower, prepare a breakfast of fruit, egg pone, or some other kind of delicious corn bread, hot rolls, clear coffee, sliced tomatoes, and fried flannels or rock or pork of choice, and return to the table as if she had never cooked.

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