

AGRICULTURAL

TOPICS OF INTEREST RELATIVE TO FARM AND GARDEN.

CROSSES.

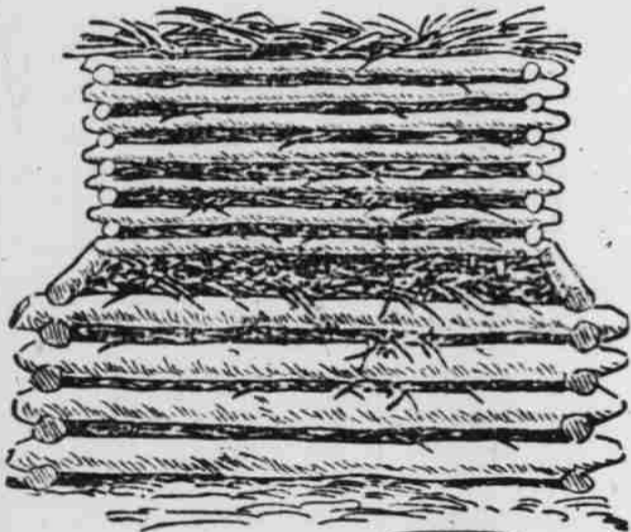
The first cross makes a half blood; the second cross (full blood and half blood) makes a three-quarter grade; the next is a seven-eighth; next a fifteen-sixteenth; next a thirty-first-thirty-second. After this the grade becomes practically a full blood for all intents and purposes.—New York World.

COOKING FEED FOR HOGS.

Cooked feed, especially if given warm, will digest more quickly than the same feed uncooked. But the cooking swells the food, so that less can be eaten at a time. Feeding little and often must be the rule if cooked food is given. If it is not thus fed, the pigs will do better to have the food given uncooked. Even the greater facility with which cooked food is digested is not best for continued health. The human digestion is weakened by giving the stomach only what it can digest most easily. It is reasonable to suppose that this is also true of our domestic animals. Outdoor exercise, with plenty of pure air and hearty food, will secure health better than will close quarters and giving food so nearly digested that the stomach will have little to do.—Boston Cultivator.

A LOG FEED RACK.

This home-made feed rack can be constructed any desired length. The lower portion is about seven feet wide. The height depends on animals using it. They must reach the bottom easily. The upper part is of sufficient width to allow ample room between the top log of the first part and the lower log of the second part for stock



LOG FEED RACK.

to reach down and get the feed. This method is much more desirable than throwing hay and other roughness upon the ground. Nothing is wasted by being pulled out and trampled underfoot. Put a large load of hay into this rack. The stock eat it from the bottom as needed and the upper portion settles down as the feed is taken from beneath.—American Agriculturist.

CROPS AFTER EARLY PEAS.

Peas require rich soil to make a good crop, for though the growth of the pea vine adds nitrogen to the soil, it is only late in the season that this process goes on. Early in the spring the pea crop is helped by nitrogenous manure. This nitrogen is not lost, for it advances the pea plant more quickly to the time when its roots will nitrify the air in the soil and thus add to soil fertility. But unless some later crop follows the peas a great part of this supply of nitrogen will be lost. A crop of late cabbage, of celery or of turnips can be grown with advantage after early peas are cleared off. The only difficulty will be in keeping the soil moist enough to give the midsummer crop a good send off. If the pea crop is sold green there should be no waiting until the last run of peas have ripened. Plow the vines under with the last peas while they are still green. This will be about the last of June, and if the vines are turned under then there is usually rainfall enough about the Fourth of July to thoroughly wet

the plowed ground down to the bottom of the furrow. If this is done, the pea vines will rot rapidly and make the ground rich and warm, so that any crop planted then will have plenty of chance to grow. To grow a pea crop and plow under the whole crop is really a cheap way to supply nitrogen for late cabbage and celery. But the early peas will sell well, and while the price is high will pay well for picking and marketing. When the price falls below a profitable rate, they should be plowed under as a manure that has more than paid its cost before being used to fertilize another crop.—American Cultivator.

FARM AND GARDEN NOTES.

Do you pay attention to the feet of and legs of your horses and colts?

A great deal of wood ashes goes to waste on many farms which would make excellent fertilizer.

Market the early chicks when they are twelve or thirteen weeks old, for by keeping them six to seven weeks longer you will gain nothing in price whatever.

You must always be a close observer of the habits of your laying hens to make them lay well. This observation enables you to learn what she needs for her comfort and usefulness.

Turkeys will come home to roost if they are fed regularly in the evening. Grain may be fed entirely, but if mixed with bread crumbs and scraps from the table the turkeys will like it much better.

The earliest green peas come from the dwarf varieties, and the seed should be planted as early as can be done safely. A few days in reaching the market makes quite a difference in the price. The earlier the better.

In a variable climate the grower must supplement such deficiencies of rainfall as may occur with fertility, careful cultivation, strong seed, by planting early as possible or decidedly late, and in some cases by planting under straw.

Mark your worthless fruit trees before they are forgotten, and prepare grafts for setting on in the spring. There is hardly a farm on which there are not more or less worthless fruit trees which could be changed into desirable ones by grafting.

The asparagus bed should be cleaned thoroughly and 200 pounds of sulphate of potash, 100 of nitrate of soda and 200 of super-phosphate applied per acre. It makes growth early in the season and for that reason the fertilizer should be applied as soon as possible.

Cuttings may now be set to secure plants for summer blooming, while cuttings that are already well-rooted should be taken from the sand and potted or planted in boxes or flats. There is ample time for growing good plants of most varieties by planting time. Get in plenty of fresh sand.

Largest Steamer Company.

The North German Lloyd—Norddeutscher Lloyd—has from a small beginning worked its way to the very front, being now the largest steamer company in the world. The company enjoys a subvention from the German Empire on five lines, on the condition that the steamers call at certain ports, that the mail-carrying boats shall be built in German shipyards and that the speed be at least twelve knots. The company capital is now \$3,000,000 marks, or about \$2,750,000, and its fleet consists of eighty-three steamers of an aggregate tonnage of 242,367 tons, besides tugboats. The company's traffic comprises twenty-two lines, viz.: eight European, six North American (twice weekly from Bremen to the United States), two South American, five to Eastern Asia and one Australian. The staff of the company consists of 8000 men, and in the year 1873 there was formed a seamen's and pension fund by donations and an annual charge of two and a half per cent. of the pay. The captains have to pass through the various degrees, and if there is an accident, they have to resign.—Scientific American.

TWO BUILDINGS COLLAPSE.

Six Persons Killed in an Accident in Wheeling, W. Va.

A few minutes past 8 o'clock a. m. the two five-story buildings, 1220 and 1222 Main street, Wheeling, W. Va., occupied by T. T. Hutchisson & Co., wholesale hardware and saddlery dealers, and W. H. Chapman & Sons, wholesale painters' and builders' supplies, collapsed, burying ten men beneath the ruins. The debris took fire from a natural gas leak, and a dense cloud of smoke arising, the efforts of the rescuers were greatly impeded.

The dead are: Father F. H. Parke, Vicar-General of West Virginia Diocese and chaplain of Mt. Dechantel, the Catholic seminary at Wheeling; Benjamin Pritchard, carriage builder, of Buckhannon, W. Va.; Robert Wincher, employe of Hutchisson & Co.; Eugene Birch, employe of Hutchisson & Co.; Michael Horan, employe of Hutchisson & Co.; Harry Cowl, Western Union messenger boy.

The injured are: T. T. Hutchisson, member of the hardware house of Hutchisson & Co., two ribs broken and head cut; M. J. Ford, employe of Hutchisson & Co., slightly bruised and cut; O. E. Williams, carpenter, head cut and severely bruised about body; G. W. Clifton, carpenter.

The cause of the collapse was the defective construction of the Hutchisson building, which was condemned two years ago. At the hour mentioned the employes in Hutchisson's heard an ominous cracking, and without further warning the alley wall fell, carrying with it the entire structures of both buildings. Only the rear wall remained standing.

A general alarm brought the Fire Department to the scene. Blinded and suffocated by the dense smoke, the firemen worked heroically, and in about two hours the first victim was rescued. He was M. J. Ford, who was comparatively uninjured. He was lying directly across Benjamin Pritchard, who was dead. A medical examination showed that he had been killed by being crushed about the chest. No more bodies were found until 6.30 o'clock p. m., when the body of Father Parke was taken out of the debris.

The fire gained so that the firemen first had to give their entire attention to subduing it. After twelve hours' hard work they got the flames under control. Both buildings, together with the stocks, are a total loss. When the first wall fell it broke off clear down to the foundation, and not one stone was left upon another. Altogether the loss will amount to over \$200,000.

Father Parke, who was the oldest Catholic priest in West Virginia, was not in either of the buildings, but was walking up the alley when the crash came. Harry Cowl, the messenger boy, was also killed in the alley while returning from a call.

GOVERNOR MARVIL DEAD.

A Democrat Succeeds to the Gubernatorial Chair of Delaware.

After an illness that had lasted for several months, Governor Joshua Perkins Hopkins Marvil, of Delaware, died at his home in Laurel. Just before his inauguration a few



months before Governor Marvil was stricken with heart trouble, and was too ill to take any part in the ceremonies of his induction into office. Recently he rallied and there were hopes of his ultimate recovery. When it was thought that he was on the road to recovery erysipelas set in and he gradually sank.

J. F. H. MARVIL. Governor Marvil was born in Sussex County, Delaware, on September 3, 1835, and came of an old Delaware family. He was brought up on a farm, and his opportunities to acquire an education were meagre. In early manhood he became a sailor, and later a boatbuilder. When he was twenty-eight years old he began the manufacture of agricultural implements. In 1870 he became interested in the manufacture of baskets and crates for fruit, and built extensive works at Laurel, which have an annual output of two million baskets. Governor Marvil had taken an active interest in Delaware Republican politics for many years, but was never a candidate for office until he was nominated for Governor by his party in August last. His term of office would have expired January 1, 1899.

By the death of the Republican Executive William P. Watson, Speaker of the Senate, who is a Democrat, becomes acting Governor. By the elevation of Mr. Watson to the Gubernatorial chair the Senate of the State becomes a tie, four Republicans and four Democrats. Mr. Watson will not serve out Governor Marvil's unexpired term, but will act as the Chief Executive of the State until the next general election in November, 1896.

What effect the death of Governor Marvil will have upon the United States Senate contest being waged in the Legislature between Higgins and Addicks is difficult to forecast. If the Legislature of the State fails to elect the acting Governor of the State can nominate a Senator, but the United States Senate has decided against admitting such Senators.

One of the last official acts of Governor Marvil was to appoint James D. Spicer, a young man in whom he taken a great interest, State Librarian, but when Secretary of State Smithers brought the commission for his signature, the Governor was unable to sign it. More than a dozen offices were left vacant in this way.

CLAIMANTS FOR MILLIONS.

Facts About the Minch and Metzinger Estates in Holland.

Before the Metzinger and Minch "heirs" waste any more time and money in prosecuting their claims to certain enormous estates said to be situated in Holland, we desire, says the New York Times, to direct their attention to something. The Metzinger "heirs" believe they are very soon to obtain possession of their estate of \$240,000,000. The Cleveland Leader says:

"The fortune is located in Holland, and is waiting the perfecting of the international legal requirements, and final proofs of the heirs, to be surrendered to the American claimants. It is estimated at \$240,000,000. It is in charge of trustees, under the direct supervision of the Holland Government, which exercises over the trust such control as the German Empire exercises over the historical Guelph fund."

This is very good, continues the Times. The property has grown to \$240,000,000, we are told, from a fortune of \$55,000,000 left by one Theobald Metzinger, who died a bachelor in 1740. The leading "heirs" (there are about 200 in all) appear to be a bank officer in Pittsburg and his brother, who is connected with a Pittsburg gas company. The latter says:

"We shall lay the subject before the Department of State at Washington, and have the Secretary make official representation of our rights to the Holland Government. Senator Quay and Congressman John Dalzell will be retained as our legal representatives."

The Minch estate is only \$50,000,000. Three brothers came to this country from Holland "about 140 years ago." Two of them were drowned soon after their arrival, and the other settled in the town of Catskill, N. Y. The descendants of his two daughters now claim the estate of his father which has been "neglected" for a hundred years, more or less. There are two groups of heirs, one led by a resident of Jersey City and the other by a Brooklyn policeman. Claimants are to be found in Hoboken, Newburg and Binghamton. We are assured by one of our esteemed contemporaries that a lawyer of this city brought back "from Europe, in 1879, documents showing" that "the Government of Holland had admitted the validity of the claims" of these "heirs."

The Metzinger and Minch claimants should read a report sent to the State Department a few years ago by our Minister to The Hague, Mr. Bell. It is this to which we direct their attention, and if they shall induce Senator Quay and Congressman Dalzell to call upon Mr. Gresham in their interest, we presume that the Secretary will lay the report before these influential gentlemen.

Other claimants had been inquiring about other mythical properties, and their frequent appeals had led the Minister to make an investigation. Mr. Bell was convinced, he wrote, that systematic fraud was being practiced upon Americans "by scheming sharpers who make a living by keeping alive and warm the excitement about the existence of unclaimed estates in Holland for American heirs." He had applied to the Government for information, and he set forth as follows the result of this action:

"It appears from the reply of the Foreign Office that the legislation of this country (Holland) has effectually and finally disposed of all such claims, even if inherently just, which were not presented and proved before the Commission of Liquidation established in 1852. There has, since 1852, been no such thing in Holland as an unclaimed estate originating prior to 1852."

In another part of the same report he described the law of 1852, which provided for the escheating of all unclaimed estates within a specific time, and thus repeated the foregoing assertion:

"The law has effectually and finally disposed of all unclaimed funds and estates in this country originating prior to March, 1852. There has, therefore, since 1852, been no such thing in Holland as an unclaimed estate originating prior to that date."

We advise the Metzinger and Minch "heirs" to become familiar with this document. They can save time and money by examining it. We presume they can procure a copy from the State Department if they ask for it.

SCHEME TO SAVE MILLIONS.

It is to Utilize the Water Power Above Meeker's Island for the Twin Cities.

Thomas Lowry, President of the Twin City Transit Company, and Charles A. Pillsbury, the big miller, have evolved a scheme which, they claim, will save St. Paul and Minneapolis millions of dollars. It is, in a word, to utilize the water power above Meeker's Island.

The energy of the Falls of St. Anthony, which grind the wheat for the millions of the inhabitants of this and other countries, is 24,000 horse power, and it is estimated that the present scheme of damming the river a short distance below the present falls, at least within a mile of them, will give fully 10,000 horse power, a power almost half as great as the maximum energy of St. Anthony and sufficient to operate the street car lines of both cities, the mills and factories, wheat and building elevators—in fact, sufficient to supplant steam wherever used, and place a lamp on every street crossing in either city, and all at half the present cost.

We Make the Best Armor Plate.

Captain Sampson, Chief of the Bureau of Ordnance, says that America is ahead of all other countries in the art of making armor plate.