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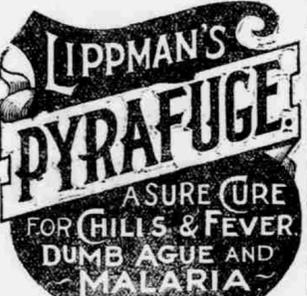
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THE FARM AND GARDEN.

REMEDY FOR GROUNDHOGS.

These pests may be easily got rid of in this way: Make cartridges of common gunpowder, with paper rolled into tubes, and patted; load each with two ounces of blasting powder, and fit the fuse long enough to reach as far down the burrow as may be. Fill the holes with earth and fire the fuse, of course, getting out of the way of the explosion. A dog to watch, lest the animal may get away, which is not likely, would be convenient to have around.—*New York Times.*

PROFIT FROM THE DAIRY.

Professor Wood, of Storrs Station, Conn., says: "Nearly one-fourth of the dairy cows are kept at a loss, while one-third are kept without profit. This makes one-third of the money invested lead capital. In winter, with the best cows and good feeding, about two-thirds of the food is consumed in supporting life. The profit comes from the other third. Breed is important in a cow, but is not everything. With good feeding a slight profit is received. Add one-eighth more and the profit is doubled. Judicious feeding does not shorten the life of a cow. Give a variety of food. Leguminous foods, as peas, clover, etc., not only benefit cattle, but the land."

FATTENING CALVES.

In raising calves for veal the sooner the young animals are fattened and sufficiently matured for the purpose the more profit there will be in it. This will be accomplished by the natural process of drawing the milk from the mother sooner than by artificial feeding, and calves that are allowed to suck their dams will be preferred by the butcher. As a matter of profit to the dairymen the milk will be of more value than the calf, but to a farmer who has plenty of milk and a poor market for it it may be quite different. In this case it is simply a question of the best way to fatten the calf. If nearly all the milk of the cow is required, then remove the calf as soon as he has enough and strip the cow clean at once. Where half of the milk will be sufficient the first half will be the least fattening, and it will be a question for the owner to decide whether the calf shall have the first or the last. It should, however, be remembered that there is nothing to be gained by limiting the milk ration of a calf that is being fattened for veal or in attempting to fatten him on skim milk.—*New York World.*

ABOUT HORSE BREEDING.

A man who breeds a vicious, diseased, worthless or broken-down mare does a wrong to both human and equine race, declares Charles H. Crandall. In like degree, whoever refuses to let a fine mare perpetuate her kind also cheats human-kind and horse-kind of their due. Every fine mare should be allowed to raise several colts. She will be just as useful, in the long run, and live as long. Breed for a purpose. The heavy draught horse is well enough in front of a heavy dray, but the horse is the all-round horse. Let him weigh 950 to 1200, have sufficient style for a carriage-horse, muscle and bone enough for plowing and hauling, and the spirit and action to trot a mile inside four or five minutes. For Northern climates select Northern-bred stock. The horses of Canada, Vermont and northern New York, with an infusion of the old Morgan and Hambletonian blood, cannot be excelled for all-round horses. See that size, symmetry, spirit, action and intelligence are combined. Do not place hopes in trotters. Slim is the chance, with the best stallions and the finest of mares, or getting a colt that will trot under 2:30, and unless a colt trots under 2:30 he will not bring a big price.—*New York Tribune.*

OIL MEAL FOR HOGS.

One of the best rations that can be made up for growing pigs is fifty per cent. middlings, twenty-five per cent. corn meal, fifteen per cent. wheat bran and 10 per cent. oil meal. A brood sow, especially one that has farrowed, needs a ration that will aid her to furnish a large supply of milk. When this is the case a larger quantity both of oil meal and bran should be used, lessening the quantity of corn meal and middlings. At this season with stock of all kinds it is quite an item to furnish a good variety. Generally stock of all kinds have been fed a long time on dry feed, and it is necessary to furnish as good a ration as possible. With the brood sows, especially, good care must be taken to feed well. In fact, after farrowing it is hard to feed the sow too much. The better the sow is fed the better the growth and thrift of the pigs. One of the best materials to use at this time is oil meal. It should be used in connection with bran, middlings, corn meal, ground oats or some other ground feed. Oil meal is rich—more so than corn meal or any of the other materials. It can be fed dry, thoroughly mixed with other materials, in tight troughs to avoid waste. The better plan, however, of feeding is to mix well and make into a slop with skim milk, or at least to soak it until soft. The objections to feeding it dry is that much of the ground feed will not be thoroughly masticated and, therefore, will not be digested or assimilated, and this implies more or less waste of food. To fatten hogs, oil meal can be used to good advantage with corn. While corn is one of the very best foods that can be supplied to fattening hogs, better results can be secured by using something else with it, and oil meal, being richer and fully as good for fattening, can be used to good advantage at this time. Hogs kept in good condition during the winter can be fattened rapidly by having the run of a clover pasture and fed liberally on corn and oil meal.—*St. Louis Republic.*

SHEEP.

Some years ago I used to be much interested in sheep, writes V. P. Rich-

mond, an Illinois expert, and although I have given up the farm and the care of stock, yet I still feel a desire now and then to write a few words in the interest of farmers. Nothing of the same value pays a better profit to the farmer than sheep. Pastures will carry more stock with sheep than without. Weeds do not grow well within reach of sheep, and of course the fatter weeds in a pasture the better the grass can grow. It is not unusual to see thin cattle and horses in weedy pastures. Put in sheep enough in the same pastures to take care of the weeds, and stock, having better grass, will improve. This is the conclusion come to with more than fifty years' experience. It will pay to keep good sheep, according to the amount of pasture, on any farm in Illinois. Poor sheep or too many of them, with the low prices for wool and mutton, are not profitable anywhere. There are not many farms in Illinois where sheep as a specialty can be carried with great profit, because too many of them cannot earn their keep as scavengers, and every farm should have sheep. With a few sheep on the farm all the wool and increase sold is clear profit, for a few sheep earn more than their board as weed exterminators. A word as to breeds will be in order. It doesn't matter much what breed so they are not all breeds mixed. The Merinos are the hardest; the black faces next. First of the black faces are the South-downs, but they do not yield so much wool or mutton. Stock-yard sheep are not the kind for a farmer to handle. If they are not diseased they come from where contagion is liable, and a diseased sheep is a curse to his owner and all his neighbors. Scab and ticks can be kept from a flock by the free use of sulphur and salt. I have used sulphur all kinds of weather and have never known of any bad effects even when cold and strong weather followed the use of it. It is best to feed in small quantities with salt. Now is a good time to use sulphur.—*Prairie Farmer.*

FARM AND GARDEN NOTES.

Game chickens are of little if any use to farmers. Two or three geese to one gander is about right. Swelled eyes, with running at nostrils, indicates roup. Crop-bound is often caused by lack of gritty material. Sore on top of the head may generally be traced to lice. Corn-and-cob meal makes a good feed for young goslings. Manage to make a change of grain diet at least once a week. Sloppy feed should never be given to very young chickens. Removing the animal to warm, dry quarters will help any disease. In commencing to keep ducks many make the mistake of keeping too many. Wheat can be fed to chickens very profitably as soon as they are able to eat it. With fowls, as a rule, the better plan is to feed first and then water afterwards. It is often best to allow a fat hen to sit, as getting reduced in flesh will make her lay better. A good preventive of grapes is to spade up the ground and sprinkle air-slaked lime over it. Geese, turkeys and guineas need plenty of range, and will not thrive if they are kept confined. Ducks should always have water convenient when they are eating or their nostrils will get clogged. A little care in feeding the turkey hens and keeping them tame will often save considerable loss of eggs. Turkeys need plenty of drink. It should be pure water or sweet milk, but the supply should be liberal. Make a hole in the large end of an egg and let the yolk run out and then fill with plaster of Paris. This makes a good nest egg. Sore eyes is sometimes a complaint with young chicks, and arises from colds. A drop of glycerine rubbed on the eye is the best remedy. Never feed chicks for the first twenty-four hours after they are hatched, the remnant of the egg continuing to furnish nourishment for that length of time. In selling fat wethers each one must decide for himself whether the money is in shearing or selling unshorn. We know flock-masters who hold their sheep just as much money in selling with the wool on. To produce the best sitting hen, one that will remain on the nest, hatch well and tenderly care for chicks, cross a vigorous Pit Game cock with Partridge Cochins hen. It also produces a good table fowl. In selecting mares for the season's breeding, get those that are sound, healthy and vigorous, of good form, size and disposition, then breed them to a vigorous, thrifty stallion of some of the better breeds. Variety is the spice of life. Bread is good; so is water; but not as a steady diet. So do not confine the fowls to bread and water. It is good for every family to have a "boiled dish" sometimes. Why not for fowls? Compacting the soil of a new-seeded wheat-field by tramping hoofs is an old and common practice in England, and sheep are preferred for the work. As almost every farmer there keeps a flock, they are always conveniently at hand. It is a much better way than rolling, because it compacts more, while still leaving the surface open and broken and less liable to pack under heavy rain into an air-tight crust. Be very careful, in crossing chickens, to do it correctly. Do not waste time in the attempt to better your flock by changing eggs for some nondescript stock that has no merit nor possesses any advantage. To improve a flock, one should know the kind of stock he is using, and what can be expected from it. The changing of

eggs is a practice usually pursued by those who do not know the value of the breeds, and such persons should not be encouraged. Horse-stable floors should be made tight and level. Absorbent beddings and thorough cleaning will remove any objection to odor which cannot be got rid of in slatted floors. Sand, sawdust and ground plaster are excellent cleansers of the stable. A horse with tender feet or ankles suffers from standing on sloping floors. A horse, from a sprained stifle or hock, or bruised knee, is kept in perpetual torment by sloping floors. Knuckled horses owe much of their ailment to sloping floors.

SELECT SIFTINGS.

Chicago has Chinese bakeries. Ithaca, Wis., breeds St. Bernard dogs. Herbert Bruce, of Columbus, Ind., is thirteen years old, but weighs 216 pounds. Indian elephants cannot live in Central Africa, the home of a larger and more hardy species. The past has been, it is said, with one exception, the foggiest winter for twenty years in London. Mrs. Stanley, wife of the explorer, is a direct descendant—the seventh in line—from Oliver Cromwell. A man at Athens, Ga., owns an antiquity in the form of a water bucket, hewn out of the solid rock. The Japanese administer the oath by cutting the witness's finger and taking blood to seal the swear. Dr. Elliott Coues, late of the Smithsonian Institution, estimates that 1000 legitimate words are coined annually. The most watery county in the United States is Monroe County, Fla. It is chiefly composed of small islands, or keys. The new war ship of the English navy, the Royal Sovereign, was constructed in seventeen months, which is said to be the best time on record for such work. The poundmaster of Oakland, Cal., sold for \$12 at an stray auction an unclaimed horse. The animal was subsequently identified as a \$4000 thoroughbred trotter. A Missouri man recently went before the Legislature of that State advocating the introduction and passage of a bill compelling the keepers of railroad restaurants to date their pies. In certain parts of Africa crickets are said to constitute an article of commerce. People rear them, feed them in confinement and sell them. The natives are very fond of their music, thinking that it induces sleep. Superstitions regarding the cricket's chirp are very varied. Some believe that it is ominous of sorrow and evil, while others consider it to be a harbinger of joy. The fate of Lizzie Bond, of Anderson, Ind., shows that a woman is not safe even after she has stepped on one side of the track and permitted a train of cars to pass her. Miss Bond stepped off the track, but the section of the train that thundered past her drew her dress under the rear car, which, catching upon an iron bar, dragged her fifty yards or more, dashing her brains out upon the crossings.

WISE WORDS.

Sometimes the weakest doubt shatters the strongest faith. The less sense a fool has the more sense it takes to manage him. The happiness of love is in action; its test is what one is willing to do for others. People generally despise where they flatter, and cringe to those they would overtop. If idleness does not produce vice or malevolence, it commonly produces melancholy. Strange how much more pride a man takes in having lived long than in having lived well! There is a sixth sense; it is the sense to let well enough alone and was given only to woman. The vulgar rejoice in the vices of the great. Here at least they have something in common. When one is tempted to give up all for love, it is wise to retain a remnant for him to live upon. The fewer secrets a girl has when she is young, the fewer wrinkles she will have when she is old. Some women's faces are, in their brightness, a prophecy, and some, in their sadness, a history. If it showed every time a man was bored, what a perforated-looking thing the average man would be! It is not looking others squarely in the face that proves a man's courage; it is the strength to look himself in the face. The exactions of selfish people have a single merit; they prevent the cultivation of a similar vice in other people around them. Time is indeed the theatre and seat of illusions; nothing is so ductile. The mind stretches an hour to a century, and dwells an age to an hour. Carlyle, in a letter written to a young man who had asked counsel of him, said: "Be wise, be steadfast, modest, diligent; you will infallibly arrive at something good—and if it be a quiet thing instead of a noisy, think yourself the luckier."

The Mexican Pyramid.

A gigantic pyramid, the most interesting relic on the American continent, lies a few miles to the west of Puebla, in old Mexico. Humboldt describes it as a work of such magnitude and vastness as next to the pyramids of Egypt, has never before been seen in the world. Its height is 172 feet and the sides of its base 1355 feet, being 275 feet lower than the great pyramid of Cheops, and 627 feet longer.—*Detroit Free Press.*

TIME TO AWAKEN.

A Wail of Distress From New Hampshire.

The Green Mountain State Is Visited by "Sockless Jerry" Simpson, Who Preaches Alliance Doctrines.

MANCHESTER, N. H., [Special].—The *Weekly Budget* says: Hon. Jerry Simpson, of Kansas, visited our State last week. Precious little welcome did he get from the newspapers of the State. The message that he bore was not suited to their tastes. But he set the people to thinking, and scores of those who heard him went away saying under their breath, "Jerry is right." The past week has seen events that confirmed those people in their belief. The Supreme Court of New Hampshire, responding to the queries of the Legislature, has issued the dictum, almost in so many words, that the railroads have succeeded in defrauding the State of its interest in the Concord railroad. The Legislature of 1889, as was generally understood, contemplated no such result. Not an advocate of those bills by which railroad consolidation, stock watering to large amounts, and a revival of old and dead stock were permitted, ever dared to suggest that the people were surrendering any rights they possessed in passing the act of 1889. But the court has said that they did it. That right which so sagacious a man as Austin Corbin was ready to pay \$500,000 for it in 1889 and which he considered worth \$1,000,000, this year the court in effect declares has been waived, given away, utterly lost. And how? With an understanding of what was being done? No! But through subterfuge and chicanery. The act of 1889 pretended to secure the people in their rights, but the court does not hold that it did so. On the contrary, it coolly informs the people, by implication but not set words, that the reservation of rights in that statute was a delusion and a snare, void and of no effect. The act of the court in that regard has been followed up by another in the same direction—the issuing of an injunction by Judge Blodgett preventing the laying of the rails on the old road from North Weare to Henniker. This last act of railroad arrogance is he last straw to break the back of the long suffering patience of the people of New Hampshire. It is a reassertion in an aggravated form of the Vanderbilt creed. "The people be d—d." And if the people do not resent it they deserve just that fate and nothing better. The Knights of Labor were organized in this State for one purpose, the securing of a ten-hour law. When that was secured its members ceased from its labors. Is it not time, men and brethren, that the people rose in their might and demanded some things for themselves? Let the record of the Legislature of 1891 answer. Its first business almost was to pass, absolutely without amendment, bills injecting millions of dollars of new stock into two railroad corporations and presenting to their fortunate stockholders gifts of millions of dollars which must eventually come out of the people's pockets. It has followed it up by voting down in the Senate the only measure in the interest of the poor man that the House could be induced to pass, viz: the bill allowing the poor man's five dollars to buy an equal proportion of transportation over its lines with the rich man's twenty dollars. The same Senate is relied upon to thwart the will of the people in the matter of the construction of the Weare-Henniker road as authorized by the House of Representatives. The exactions and extortions of the railroads of Kansas were at the bottom of the Farmers' Alliance movement in that State. Have the farmers and citizens of New Hampshire less manhood than they?

Electric Lights and Eyesight.

Dr. John H. Payne, a Boston oculist, says: "Most persons who use the incandescent electric light like a new lamp because the light is whiter and more brilliant than after the lamp has been in use for two or three weeks. This is wrong. It is this dazzling white light that harms the eye. An old lamp is the best, for in these the light has become changed to a pale yellow, which is the ideal color. Just as in moonday brightness human sight is not so clear and far-reaching as at the yellow sunset, so a new incandescent burner is not so good for the eye as an old one. An old burner so adjusted and shaded that the light from it does not shine in the face, is the ideal artificial light. An argand gas burner comes next. The use of the arc light should be confined to street lamps. Some storekeepers still use them, but they are terribly hurtful to the eye. This is because the intensity of the light is constantly changing, and this jumping of the blaze is much worse for the eye than the flicker of the gasslight. I have had occasion to treat a great many people for inflammation of the retina caused by working by the light of arc lamps."—*St. Louis Globe-Democrat.*

How the Spider Undresses.

Did you ever see a spider change his skin? It is an interesting sight, one that will well repay any one for the time lost in waiting for the novel event to take place, says a writer who knows. When preparing for the change the spider stops eating for several days and makes his preliminary arrangements by fastening himself by a short thread of web to one of the main lines of his snare; this to hold him firmly while he proceeds to undress. First the skin cracks all around the thorax, being held only by the fore part. Next the abdomen is uncovered, and then comes the struggle to free the legs. He works and kicks vigorously, seeming to have a very hard time of it. Fifteen minutes of continued perseverance, however, brings him out of his old dress, the struggle causing him to appear limp and lifeless for some time after it is finished. Gradually he comes back to life, brighter and more beautiful than before the trying ordeal was begun.—*New Orleans Picayune.*

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