

AGRICULTURAL.

TOPICS OF INTEREST RELATIVE TO FARM AND GARDEN.

Feeding Pumpkins to Swine.

Pumpkins, like wheat bran, are useful adjuncts to the more concentrated kinds of food, but alone cannot be depended upon for fattening purposes. Hogs in process of fattening should be filled up with a good meal of corn before the pumpkin is given, otherwise they will eat too much pumpkin in proportion to the corn. By all means cut open the pumpkins and remove the seeds before feeding, as large quantities of pumpkin seed affect the urinary organs injuriously. Any change during the feeding season should be from light to heavier and more nutritious food; never the reverse. While gradually increasing the quantity of fattening food, do not give more than the animal will eat up clean, and let the rations be at regular hours—early in the morning, at noon and late in the evening.—*New York World.*

Raising Sheep.

How I raise my sheep was the topic of a successful wool-grower at the meeting of the Iowa live-stock men. He said: "I would prefer pure bred stock, but as that is expensive I usually get grades and breed up, for it takes but a short time to breed up a good flock. I have always used pure bred Merino rams, being convinced that for profit, where sheep are kept in flocks of 100 or more, there is no equal to the Merino and its crosses. I aim to couple so as to have lambs dropped as soon as grass comes in spring. I want lambs to come early, yet not before there is pasture enough so that the ewes will have plenty of milk. During lambing time I keep a close watch, and if a lamb is dropped—unless it is warm weather—I see that it goes to the stable at once and as soon as possible see that it sucks—after which no further care is needed, except in storms. I aim to castrate all lambs before three weeks old, and wean them by September 1st. During summer I know nothing better than good blue grass and that kept pretty short, as sheep do not like long grass. I never feed grain in summer; yet when pasture is short, I think a little grain would pay. I feed lightly at first in the fall, but by the time winter sets in I aim to give full feed of about one bushel of corn to 100 head per day, with plenty of hay; while on dry feed in winter it is important that sheep should have plenty of water. When the cold fall rains commence they should be kept dry; no sheep will thrive when its coat of wool is soaked full of water. Good care and shelter are just as important as good feeding, for sheep well sheltered will shear from one to two pounds more per fleece than when exposed to the weather, and the wool will sell for a higher price in the market. With fine-wool sheep the wool can be left on until quite late in the season—first, because there is great danger of losing sheep by cold storms, if sheared too early in the season; and, second, the wool is not in the best condition until the "grease" raises, which will not be until the weather is quite warm. We usually sell as soon as the clip is ready. I think the Merino sheep and their crosses the most profitable, because they, being much smaller, eat less, and shear more than the coarser ones. You can keep at least five fine wools on the same feed you keep three coarse ones.

Farm and Garden Notes.

Skimming at the right time prevents rancid butter.

It is claimed that clay soil produces the best quality of wools, sand second, and lime the most inferior.

Keep the windows of the potato cellar open at night and closed in the day time, unless the days be cool and dry. Potatoes, carrots, cabbage and turnips, when cooked and mixed with meal, and fed warm, are excellent food for chickens.

In the case of trees which bear in alternate years, judicious thinning will often result in considerable fruit in the off years.

Wheat cut when ripe is the best for seed; cut when the berry hardens, when it is passing from the dough state, is best for flour.

If one or two pigs of a litter are smaller and weaker than the rest, allow them to suck a week or two after the strong ones are weaned.

Some philosopher says the young far-

mer who spends in rich living, show, etc., all he makes the first year he begins life on his own account, will be apt to continue in the same line as long as he lives.

Although the short-horn is one of the largest breeds of cattle, it is stated that cow of that breed, belonging to Mr. David Niles, of Pickaway County, Ohio, gave birth to a calf weighing only eight pounds. It was well developed.

The ingredients of commercial fertilizers, upon which both their agricultural and commercial value depend, are nitrogen, phosphoric acid and potash. Sulphuric acid and lime are also always present in superphosphate in the shape of plaster.

The first thing to do before storing corn in the crib is to have the crib rat-proof and well protected against beating rains. Rats will destroy more grain than the most liberal estimate allows for loss, and the crib should be so protected as to prevent them from getting in through any source.

A ripe, dry onion contains at least eighty per cent. of water, and when a large mess of them are together they are likely to "sweat." And yet, in order to preserve onions during the winter, the great point is to keep them dry. If in a cold climate, it is as well to suffer them to freeze solid, and stay frozen until wanted in the spring.

It may be surprising to some farmers to be told that filling a horse's rack with hay, as some do, and permitting a constant supply to remain before the animal, is one of the most probable means of producing disease, and the most positive in rendering the animal unfit for fast work. Large supplies of hay have the effect of making the stomach large and weak. Everybody knows, too, that the ventilation of the stable should be as perfect as possible, so that all the odors and gases will have an opportunity to escape.

If the drinking water be ice-cold it will require the consumption of much extra feed (fuel) to bring it up to blood heat in the stomach. The animal is taxed to digest and assimilate this extra load of food above that required for the ordinary purposes of sustaining life and making muscle and fat. Would it not pay for the farmer, in addition to warm stables, to have some method of warming the water for his flock? Wood and coal are certainly cheaper fuel than hay or grain. At least it will pay to give water fresh from the well, and not allow it to stand until chilled. To allow them to drink from a frozen stream or pond is wasteful and barbarous.

One may keep ten or twelve fowls with profit who could not double or treble this number successfully, because with a larger number all the difficulties which arise, such as want of cleanliness, the presence of vermin, impure air, and risk of infection, increase in a much larger ratio than does the number in the flock. But if one has succeeded with a small flock there is no reason why he should not do so with several flocks, if each is kept in just the same manner as the original one. Afterward the flocks may be enlarged, but as this is the very point on which young poultry raisers fail the greatest caution should be observed in adding to the number of fowls kept in each coop or house or yard.

The National Food Bill.

Mr. Atkinson, in an article in the *Century*, taking the cost of the average daily ration of an adult boarder in a factory boarding house at 25 cents as the standard for the country, estimates the annual national food bill of the United States to be as follows:

	Per day.	Aggregate per year.
Meat, fish and poultry...	10 c	\$1,825,000,000
Milk, butter and cheese...	5 c	912,500,000
Eggs (one every other day).....	1/2 c	91,250,000
Annual food.....	15 1/2 c	\$2,828,750,000
Bread (3/4 lb.).....	2 1/2 c	456,250,000
Vegetables, 2 1/2 c.....	2 1/2 c	456,250,000
Sugar and syrup.....	2 c	\$365,000,000
Tea and coffee.....	1 c	182,500,000
Fruit (green and dry).....	1/2 c	91,250,000
Salt, spices, ice and sundries.....	1 c	182,500,000
	25 c	\$4,562,500,000
Deduct probable excess in sugar, tea, coffee and dairy products....		262,500,000
		\$4,300,000,000
Spirits and fermented liquors.....		700,000,000
Probable price of food and drink.....		\$5,000,000,000

The men who marry most frequently for money are the ministers.

Bright Youth.

"James," said a schoolmaster to a dull pupil, after the morning chapter had been read in the school, "James, we have read in the Bible this morning that Noah had three sons—Shem, Ham and Japheth; now, James, who was the father of Shem, Ham and Japheth?"

"Sir?" said James inquiringly.

"Why, James," answered the master, "You've seen that Noah had three sons, and that their names were Shem, Ham, Japheth. These were Noah's sons. Now, who was the father of Shem, Ham, and Japheth?"

"Sir," said James, dubiously pondering the full of the query.

"Why James," said the preceptor, "don't you know who the father of Shem, Ham and Japheth was, after I've told you so much?"

"No, sir,—I'd'n know."

"You are very dull, James—very! You know Mr. Smith, don't you, that lives the next house to yours?"

"Sartain, Bill and Jo Smith and I play together, Bill took my cross-gun, and owes me—"

"Very well, Mr. Smith has three boys, William, Henry and Joseph. Who is the father of William, Henry and Joseph?"

"Mr. Smith!" exclaimed James, instantly; "Mr. Smith; guess I know that."

"Certainly, James; very well. Now this is exactly the same thing. You see, as we have been reading, that Noah had three sons, like Mr. Smith, but their names were Shem, Ham, and Japheth. Now, who was the father of Noah's three sons?"

James hesitated a minute, with his finger in his mouth; and then, as if the difficult question had been solved in his mind, he exclaimed:

"I know now; Mr. Smith!"

Advice to Young Men.

Don't worry, my son, don't worry. Don't worry over a thing that happened yesterday, because yesterday is a hundred years away. If you don't believe it, just try to reach after it and bring it back. Don't worry about anything that is happened to-day, because to-day will only last fifteen or twenty minutes. Don't worry about the things you can't help, because then there's no need to worry. Don't worry at all. If you want to be penitent now and then, it won't hurt you a bit to go into the sackcloth and ashes business a little. It will do you good. If you want to cry a little once in a while, that isn't a bad thing. If you feel like going out and clubbing yourself occasionally, I think you need it, and will lend you a helping hand in it, and put a plaster on you afterward. All these things will do you good. But worry, why, there's neither sorrow, penitence, strength, penance, reformation, hope, nor resolution in it. It is just worry, that is all.

An Experiment.

An old bachelor who was thinking of marriage, after pondering on the subject, and particularly the expense of maintaining a family, set the table in his lonely abode for himself and an imaginary wife and five children. He then sat down to dine, and as often as he helped himself to food he put the same quantity on each of the other plates, and surveyed the prospect, at the same time computing the cost. He is still unmarried.

Dr. Gross, physician at St. Vincent's Hospital, Baltimore, Md., considers Red Star Cough Cure perfectly harmless, being purely vegetable and entirely free from opiates, poisons, and other narcotics. Other professionals also endorse it as prompt, safe and sure. Price, twenty-five cents a bottle.

May not an appropriate use of the Christmas festival be made by the establishment of the custom of devoting it to acts of reciprocal kindness, and to the pleasant courtesies of life. Let all hands be filled with tokens of friendship, and let the gift of affection be freely circulated.

The magical effects of St. Jacobs Oil in removing soreness and stiffness makes it invaluable at all times. Rheumatism and Neuralgia promptly yield to it.

Every principle for individual or social guidance and elevation which is worth the name of principle, like that heavenly radiance which has centered around the manger at Bethlehem, finds its true source in Him who "spoke as never man spoke."

Daughters, Wives and Mothers.

Send for Pamphlet on Female Diseases, free securely sealed. Dr. J. B. Marchesi, Utica, N. Y.

The original color may be restored to gray hair by using Hall's Hair Renewer. Important in sudden colds, Ayer's Cherry Pectoral is equally effective in lung troubles.

"Consumption Can be Cured."

Dr. J. S. COMES, Owensville, Ohio, says: "I have given SCOTT'S EMULSION of Cod Liver Oil with Hyp-phosphites to four patients with better results than seemed possible with any remedy. All were hereditary cases of Lung disease, and advanced to that stage when Coughs, pain in the chest, frequent breathings, frequent pulse, fever and emaciation. All these cases have increased in weight from 16 to 28 lbs., and are not now needing any medicine."

The definition of "dude" in Webster's new edition will be simply "u."

"Frailty, thy Name is Woman."

—Hamlet.

That she is frail, often in body,
"Tis true, 'tis true 'tis a pity,
And pity 'tis, 'tis true."

Dr. Pierce's "Favorite Prescription" is the best restorative tonic for physical frailty in women, or female weakness or derangements. By druggists. Price reduced to one dollar.

Think of heaven with hearty purpose and preeminent designs to get thither.

Another Life Saved.

About two years ago a prominent citizen of Chicago was told by his physician that he must die. They said his system was so debilitated that there was nothing left to build on. He made up his mind to try a "new departure." He got some of Dr. Pierce's "Golden Medical Discovery" and took it according to directions. He began to improve at once. He kept up the treatment for some months, and is to-day a well man. He says the "Discovery" saved his life.

The average lawyer thinks it is foolish to confess judgment.

We ought not to be too anxious to encourage untried innovation, in cases of doubtful improvement. For a quarter of a century Dr. Sage's Catarrh Remedy has been before the public and passed through the severest test, and is pronounced the most reliable remedy for that disagreeable malady. Thousands of testimonials of its virtues. 50 cents per bottle. By druggists.

A turn-style—The fashion of wearing cuffs among impecunious dudes.

A Deep Mystery.

Wherever you are located you should write to Hallett & Co., Portland, Maine, and receive free, full information as to work that you can do and live at home, making thereby from \$5 to \$25 and upwards daily. Some have made over \$50 in a day. All is new. Hallett & Co. will start you. Capital not needed. Either sex. All ages. No class of working people have ever made money so fast heretofore. Comfortable fortunes await every worker. All this seems a deep mystery to you, reader, but send along your address and it will be cleared up and proved. Better not delay; now is the time.

Motto for persons who preserve fruit—"They can, who think they can."

If you have numbness in arms and limbs, heart skips beats, thumps or flutters, or you are nervous and irritable—in danger of shock—Dr. Kilmer's OCEAN-WEED regulates, relieves, corrects and cures.

"The season's over," said Fogg, as he capsize the pepper-box.

If a cough disturbs your sleep, take Piso's Cure for Consumption and rest well.

Walk as if you were conscious that your body has a soul in it.

HARTSHORN'S
Shade Rollers
THE BEST
NAME ON SILVERWARE
NOTICE LABELS LIMITATIONS

WE WANT YOU! A live energetic man or woman needing profitable employment to represent us in every county. Salary \$75 per month and expenses, or a large commission on sales if preferred. Goods staple. Every one buys. Outfit and particulars free. STANDARD SILVERWARE CO., BOSTON, MASS.

PISO'S CURE FOR
CURES WHERE ALL ELSE FAILS.
Best Cough Syrup. Tastes good. Use in time. Sold by druggists.
CONSUMPTION

FACE, HANDS, FEET,
and all their imperfections, including Facial Development, Hair and Scalp, Superfluous Hair, Birth Marks, Moles, Warts, Moth, Freckles, Red Nose, Acne, Black Heads, Scars, Pitting and their treatment. Send 10c. for book of 50 pages, 4th edition. Dr. J. H. Woodbury, 87 N. Pearl St., Albany, N. Y., Est'd 1847.

GARDEN SEEDS Catalogues
Mailed Free.
Francis Brill, HEMPSTEAD, LONG ISLAND, N. Y.

THURSTON'S IVORY TOOTH POWDER
Keeping Teeth Perfect and Gums Healthy.

OPIUM HABIT absolutely cured. NOT A PARTICLE PAIN or self-denial. Pay when cured. Handsome book free. DR. C. J. WEATHERS, Kansas City, Mo.

Pensions to Soldiers & Heirs. Send stamp for circulars. COL. L. BINJAMIN, Army, Washington, D. C.

\$5 to \$5 a day. Samples worth \$1.50 FREE Lines not under the horse's feet. Address: HENRY WATSON'S SAFETY RAZOR HOLDERS, HOLLY, NICH.

Blair's Pills. Great English Gout and Rheumatic Remedy. Oval Box, \$1.00; round, 50 cts.

PENSIONS procured or no fee. Soldiers & Heirs. New laws. Flanders & Co. Att'ys, 35 yrs., Washington, D. C.

FRAZER AXLE GREASE
BEST IN THE WORLD
Get the Genuine. Sold Everywhere.

PATENTS Obtained. Send stamp for Inventors' Guide. L. FASSETT, Patent Lawyer, Washington, D. C.