THE DAIRY.

PROFITABLE DAIRYING.

Editors of the American Cultivator:

The lack of positive knowledge concerning dairying causes more failures than anything else. Dairying properly conducted by experienced men is profitable. A great many assume that some land, and a certain number of cows, will make a farmer independent in the dairy business. But these are only the raw material of the industry, and how to handle them is never learned by some.

Too much land is a loss to some dairymen, and it is causing heavier burdens than they can stand to be thrown upon their backs. They are probably paying interest or rent upon land that they do not need and cannot properly cultivate. Either the land should be decreased in acreage or the herd of cows increased. One cow to the acre should be aimed for. If that amount of land will not support the herd there is something radically wrong in the system. Now to make this a go the farmer must rely on rotation. Plenty of clover hay, cow peas, oats, succulent corn and ensilage are absolutely necessary for success. Keep up the fertility of the soil with clover and grasses, and raise the peas, oats and corn solely for stock feed.

Do less summer dairying and more winter. The overproduction of summer butter and cheese increases every season, and those who supply the trade make a very narrow margin of profits. A warm barn, good water, good feed, and good sense will make winter dairying more successful than summer. Devote some of the time and labor now spent in summer dairying to the raising, storing and preparing food for winter feeding. The results will justify you in this work. Instead of non producing cows through the winter, you will have profitable producers, bringing in more actual profits than the summer cows. Food is cheap in summer, but it can be made cheap in winter, too. Butter is very cheap in summer and high in winter. Make the winter feeding cheap, and then the high prices for butter in winter will turn the balance of the ledger in the right direction.

Do not trust any cow that comes along, but test her abilities thoroughly and weed her out of the herd if she does not come up to the standard. Good cows produce more for the food given then than the inferior ones. This does not mean pedigreed cows, necessarily, but well-bred animals whose record for producing milk and cream are well known.

Butter cheese and butter should be made. Special attention should be given to the study of scientific cheese and butter making. Many Canadians are outselling us in the foreign markets because of our half-skim policy of cheese making. Canadian cheese is also entering into direct competition with American cheese in all of the cities of the United States. On the whole, the so called part skims, especially the under grades, do not pay but a narrow margin of profits, and sometimes none at all, while they give American cheese a bad name at home and abroad. When part skims are selling for 1½ and two cents per pound in the market where is the profit for the manufacturer? This kind of work should be abandoned and better cheese and butter be turned out on our dairy farms. Second and third grade butter likewise hardly pays the producer any profit. Better material, more care and a better knowledge of dairy methods will enable the producer to realize a great deal more per pound for his product than he does now.

A good growth of rye plowed under makes a most excellent fertilizer for corn. Among the things to recommend it is that it is a cheap fertilizer; it does not cost all the succeeding crop is worth to sufficiently enrich it.

LIVE STOCK.

WHAT A CHANGE WILL DO.

Any cow, especially one that is very highly bred, is a creature of habit, and very sensitive; anything that disturbs that habitude does so at the expense of production. To demonstrate in a practical way the effect of a change in habitude, I would mention that I received letters from Jersey breeders during the progress of the ninety days' test, who had cows that were then doing better than those at Chicago, and who thought they would be desirable acquisitions to our herd. At my suggestion, they brought these cows at home to as approximately near a condition as the cows would be in at Chicago, for the purpose of seeing how far they would, in the changed conditions, stand up to the work they were then doing. They isolated the cows from the rest of the herd for a period of a week, the same man attending to them and milking them, and at the end of the week began to test for another week. During the two weeks they were to be fed any cut clover (this was in June and July) and any feed the owner thought would attain the best results. There were six cows so treated, and of these but one retained the flow of milk and butter production of the preceding few weeks. She was not an extremely heavy producer, not exceeding what some other cows were then doing at Chicago. But all other cows decreased in flow from twenty to thirty per cent., and in percentage of butter fat at least one per cent. This would be about the same proportion which the actual work of most of the cows at Chicago bore to the home production, as reported by the owners. There were cows in the herd that not only yielded as much as they had done at home, but exceeded. But if the same care, thought and attention were given to them as was given at home, I am satisfied that, under normal conditions, with home surroundings, the cows that were at Chicago could increase their production under favorable conditions at least twenty to twenty-five cent. over their work done there. This is not my own opinion alone, but is shared in by the chairman of the testing committee with whom I conversed.—V. E Fuller.

SHEEP AFTER HARVEST.

No species of stock will pay better returns when turned on the stubble fields after harvest than sheep, says the Iowa Homestead. They will not only clean up all waste grains left by the harvesters, but will eat all the young weeds and grass as well, and will prevent the weeds from going to seed and scattering trouble all over the farm. They will also distribute fertility upon the land and if kept in this way there will be an appreciable gain in the flock from feed that would otherwise have been lost. This feed would not only be lost to the flockmaster, but the noxious weeds that would spring up in the fields, without the sheep, would make the loss greater than that of the gleanings of the harvest merely. It may occur to the reader that some other stock will answer this purpose as well, but there is nothing that fills the bill in these respects like the sheep. Swine may get all the wheat and now and then eat a hog weed or some purslane, but the sheep will take a clean swath, apparently unconscious of the taste, and animated only with a desire to clean up everything in its path.

The value of the clover field is largely lost when pastured too late in the fall or too early in the spring. It is a good rule never to turn on clover after frost, nor until it begins to show heads forming. Thus treated, it will make a much heavier growth of roots and taps

POULTRY YARD

CANKER IN CHICKS.

Canker of the throat in chicks is often mistaken for gapes, says Farm Journal. The characteristic yellow sores sometimes close up the mouth of the windpipe and cause the birds to gasp for breath. If an attempt be made to extract gape worms from a chick so affected it is likely to die in the operation. A drop of peroxide of hydrogen applied with a pippet syringe or dropper to the sores may give speedy relief. Old fowls and pigeons are also frequently affected by canker. Sick birds should be removed at once from the flock, and all water vessels cleaned out, scalded and coated with lime wash, and all food should be supplied in clean vessels. Give homeopathic mercurus vivus or nitric acid in drinking water.

CHOLERA AND ITS PREVENTION.

In April, 1893, a hen at the North Carolina Experiment Station showed symptoms of cholera. She was dumpish, with dark comb, and refused food. Epsom salts were administered and this was followed with copious watering put in the mouth with a spoon. The hen was placed in a warm, sunny place, isolated from usual runs, and recovered very slowly. Another hen died in a few days and then another and a cockerel. The hen and cockerel died near night, and next morning two other hens, were dead and eight more were sick. The six were brought out in the sunlight and given salt and water. Treatment was begun at once. Two hens were killed and buried. The house and yard were thoroughly disinfected with one pint of strong sulphuric acid to eight gallons of water. The hens themselves were sprayed with this. Their drinking water charged with carbolic acid (one teaspoonful to half a gallon of water) and assafœtida was put in their food at the rate of one heaping tablespoon to the food of 30 chickens. The next morning six hens could not get off the roost, though all but two had gone up, as usual, the night previous and after their treatment. These were treated as before and put outside of the yard. Before night all but four hens were walking about picking grass. After three days days of isolation these four were returned to the yard cured. Six hens and a cockerel were lost before the health of the flock was restored by the treatment as given above. Had we known the disease at first, says the Station, it is doubtful if a single bird need to have been lost. Promptness to disinfect and treat the sick birds will save many losses. The doses of salts, not recommended to our knowledge, doubtless helped to rid the birds of the cholera bacilli sooner than if it had not been given, and so hastened the eradication of the disease. The assafœtida acts as a diffusable stimulant to help keep the birds warm. The drinking water was for some days kept charged with carbolic acid, and all that is then needed to secure immunity from another attack is a second thorough disinfection and to continue for some time the addition of carbolic acid to the drinking water

Not one farmer in five hundred keeps a satisfactory system of books. He does not know just how he stands this year as compared with last. There should be a strict account of income and expenses, and an inventory every year, and kept as conscientiously as does the merchant his.

A CORRECTION.

Correspondence of the Progressive Farmer.

WHITEVILLE N. C.

We call attention to a mistake in the resolution from Columbus County Alliance. In reading "not" before eligible on 5th page. Our prominent betrayers have been members are eligible; our demands are more secure in the hands of some judges, solicitors and those to the mannor born and we can make them at least equal.

My effort to consolidate Concord and Pleasant Hill Alliances resulted in 16 true and tried members and three new applications; the name of Peacock Alliance was elected. There is no abatement in the principles. Next county meeting at this place with public dinner. J. F. HARRELL

WATCH US DO 'EM UP.

Correspondence of the Progressive Farmer.

SOUTH CREEK, N. C.

Seeing the Rev. J. O. Alderman's sermon on "Justice" in THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER, it causes one to wonder if the same species of rascality was participated in all over the State. Then if one will only reflect how we left them in the face of all the fraud and corruption that was committed, it will give us a faint idea of what we are going to do for them with an honest election law we now have. I am only acquainted in a small degree with what was done in Beaufort, Pamlico, Craven and Pitt, and it looks like enough was done in those four counties to forever damn any party in the eyes of the honest voters who would participate in such outrages as not allowing the elected officers to bond when they offered better bonds than those who were already holding said offices. But we need not expect any better when business men can own their own Justices of the Peace, and keep them in their employment to try causes of action between them and their slaves; who can appoint their own school committee to employ their pets to take the public schools, in the face of a strong petition from the majority of the patrons of the school asking that certain of their neighbors should be appointed who would consult the interests of the patrons in regard to the teacher employed, also as to the time the school should be taught.

I had the pleasure of attending the annual Sunday School picnic at Merritt, in Pamlico county, last Thursday the 1st day of August. It was one of the largest gatherings of people it has been my fortune to be with in a long time. The table, if it could, would have groaned under the weight of good things placed thereon. If anybody came away without satisfying the inner man, I can positively say that I know they did it just to have something to talk about, for there was any quantity of vituals left after all had eaten. I can truly say that, had I not been almost sick with a bad cold, I never enjoyed myself better in my life. The hearty handshakes of dear friends was almost enough to cure me, and did do me a great deal of good.

Now, I want to say a word or two in regard to THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER, and I am done. It is our paper and has done more to take us from under financial and political bondage than every paper in the State combined, and I think it the duty of every laboring man in the State, yes, in the United States to take it, and let's help polish the weapon that is so bravely fighting our battles. It is already a power in the land, and we, by holding up its hands, can make it ten. yes, a hundred times more powerful.

I noticed in a recent issue B. H. Tyson gives his idea of keeping sweet potatoes. If it will not be out of the way, I will give mine, which is cheap and effectual. I take posts 8 inches square and board with rough boards, inside and out, making eight inches between, which I fill with sawdust, having the room about eight feet square inside I make a ventilator out of 8 inch boards and let it go across the bottom of the floor from east to west, and from centre of same through the top. Fill same with 1½ inch auger holes. I put two small doors in south side. Hang one on the inside and the other on the outside. I rarely ever have to use the inside door. I use the ground as a floor, and put enough straw on same to give potatoes a good bed. Use no straw around or over the potatoes, and leave top and door open. When I first put in potatoes, until they are cured—quit sweating—I have sawdust in readiness, and if it comes cold I place top close over them and put a good coat of sawdust on. Of course I have a tight roof over them.

R H LANE.

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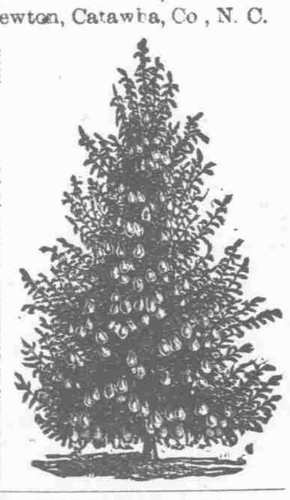

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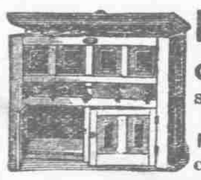

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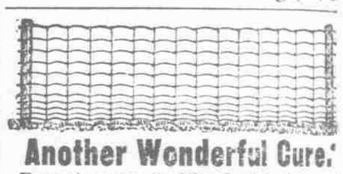

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