

FARM AND HOUSEHOLD.

THE BEST AND ONLY WAY TO MAKE FARMING PAY.

Some of the Requisites—The Influence of the Dog on Sheep-Raising—Roads—Farm Notes and Domestic Data.

To Make Farming Pay.

There are several important or essential operations which must not be omitted. They may be combined as a whole, without interfering or clashing. The following are some of these requisites:

1. Control of the land, by drainage and convenient access to the fields. If the owner is kept off from working the soil in the spring for weeks or a month by water-soaked ground, he is losing one of the indispensable means for success. In such cases, good, tile-draining has often doubled the crops without any increase of the labor in raising them.

Besides this ready access to his land by a soil in good condition, the additional aid should not be overlooked of a convenient entrance to every field by means of a good farm road and well laid out premises.

2. The land must be made rich by fertilizers. In most cases barn manure will be most important and valuable. No materials for its manufacture should be wasted.

3. A constant attention to clean seed and in procuring and improving the varieties, will sometimes make all the difference between encouraging profits and discouraging failure.

4. Convenient tools and convenient buildings will be essential in all good farming. The labor of horses will be better and cheaper than hard work by hand.

5. Phosphate Bed of Florida. But for abundant supplies of mineral phosphate the outlook for farmers everywhere would be much more gloomy than it is.

6. Rock salt? No. I do not use it. I do not like stock to have their will of salt. The farmer by going among his flocks and herds frequently to salt them has an opportunity to count them and see if they are all right.

Salt For Stock.

Equal parts of cream tartar and salt-peter make an excellent remedy for rheumatism. Take one-half teaspoonful of the mixture and divide it into three doses. Take one of these doses three times a day.

fodder becomes wet, the animals refusing to eat, just scatter a little fine salt over the fodder and they will eat it greedily; but if they have been satiated with rock salt the game will not play, and the animals must suffer.

Watering Horses.

It is generally held, at least in practice, that any water that stock can be induced to drink is sufficiently pure for their use.

Considering first the quantity of water required by the horse it may be stated that when our animals have access to water continually they never drink to excess.

The time of giving water should be carefully studied. At rest the horse should receive water three times a day; when at work more frequently.

Water should not be given to horses when it is ice-cold. It may not be necessary to add hot water, but we should be careful in placing water troughs about our barns to have them in such a position that the sun may shine upon them during the winter mornings.

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Farm Notes.

A thoroughly satisfied hog always wants to sleep. Feed the poultry at regular hours, and never give more than they will eat up clean.

So far as is possible with stock, there should be a growing and a fattening ration. With bran and hay, sheep, cattle and horses, if well sheltered, can be wintered in a good, thrifty condition.

Are you sure that the plan of farming you are following does not take the profits of one crop to make up the losses of another, or partially at least?

With poultry, as with all other stock, a careful selection of the best, keeping them for breeding, and selling the rest, is an economical plan of improving.

While one article of food may contain all of the elements necessary to sustain life, and yet contain an excess of some, which if fed alone must of necessity be wasted.

It is not so important a question so far as profit is concerned, how much a hog weighs when ready for market, as how much it costs. The difference between what it costs and what it sells for is profit, and this is the turning point of success.

Household Hints.

The woman who does her own housework is entitled to every advantage.

Catsup keeps better, and pickles also, if you put a bit of horseradish in the mouth of the bottle.

Breathing the fumes of spirits of turpentine will afford relief to the sufferer from whooping cough.

To remove rust from knives cover the blades with sweet oil for a day or two and then rub with a lump of fresh lime.

The unused stove will not rust if brushed over with a liquid composed of a gill each of kerosene and linseed oil and a spoonful of turpentine.

In Norway there is a law forbidding the marriage of any girl until she can prove her ability to cook, spin and knit. That is a good law.

People who are subject to attacks of giddiness or faintness, and those who suffer from palpitation and other sense of discomfort at the heart should not bathe.

Those who suffer from a sensitive skin, subject to frequent irritation and roughness, should never wash in hard water. Boiled water will often prove a benefit to delicate complexions.

It does not cost a cent a hog per year to free them from vermin or to keep them free. Change the straw of the nest, sprinkle it lightly with kerosene, stir it up well and the thing is done.

When tired of lemon and vanilla flavoring try mixing them. To a teaspoonful of lemon extract add about one-third of a teaspoonful of vanilla and you will think you have discovered a new flavor.

Equal parts of cream tartar and salt-peter make an excellent remedy for rheumatism. Take one-half teaspoonful of the mixture and divide it into three doses. Take one of these doses three times a day.

The white of an egg, with a little water and sugar, is good for children who are troubled with an irritable stomach. It is very healing, and will prove an excellent remedy for diarrhoea, as well as a simple preventive for bowel disorders.

PEOPLE TALKED ABOUT.

Professor William S. Tyler has taught Greek at Amherst college for thirty-five years.

The Duchess of Westminster is the fortunate possessor of the Nassau diamond, which is valued at £35,000.

Cabanel, the French portrait painter, has pronounced Miss Mattie Mitchell, the Oregon senator's daughter, the most beautiful woman ever seen in Paris.

The widow of Hannibal Hamlin is a half sister of Mr. Hamlin's first wife. She is remotely related to Senator Morrill, of Vermont, and married Mr. Hamlin in 1856.

Wm. Sherman Fitch, whose name appears among the last appointments to West Point by the president, is a grandson of Gen. Sherman. A grandson of "old Ben. Wade" also goes in this term.

King Otto of Bavaria struts about the gardens of his prison palace with a wooden musket on his shoulder, and takes an imaginary shot at every one who approaches. The king is now 44 years old, and his mental condition seems to grow worse instead of better.

A gentleman of Portland, Me., is the owner of the desk on which John G. Whittier wrote his earliest poem. The poet himself gave it to him. It is a very old piece of furniture, being an heirloom in the Whittier family and having seen possibly 200 years of service.

Probably no bank president in New York receives more social calls in business hours than does Hon. Thomas L. James, president of the Lincoln National Bank. This is chiefly due to the fact that the Lincoln bank has a great many depositors who are personal friends of the well-known president.

The handsomest living member of the Hohenzollern family is Prince Albert of Prussia, a noble looking officer, nearly six feet six inches in height, and as graciously courteous as he is big. He is a cousin of the late Emperor Frederick, and succeeds Von Moltke as president of the national committee of defense.

If the little King of Spain be excepted, the Emperor of China is the shortest of male monarchs, standing as he does only 5 ft. in height. He must, however, in point of stature, take second place to Queen Victoria, whose stature is 4 feet 10 inches. The house of Hohenzollern boasts the greatest number of men of big stature.

The Mexican president, Porfirio Diaz, is a straight, dignified man of medium height, who impresses the beholder with his strength of character. There is nothing ostentatious about him. He dresses as quietly as a plain citizen of the republic and exhibits a contempt for the gaudy regimentals in which many Central American leaders array themselves.

HE AND SHE.

Marriages were proportionately fewer during the last decade in England and Wales than ever before, it is claimed.

A social philosopher says that one-third of the unmarried women of the country are engaged in work and the other two-thirds hope to be engaged some day.

A rich widow in Birmingham, Conn., repeats an offer he made last year, which was not accepted, to marry the girl who will make a balloon ascension with him.

An old Yankee skipper relates that during the Crimean war, after the French and English fleets had been blockading Odessa for a year, he sailed through the whole fleet by signaling that he had a cargo of rum, and adds that three days later he could have captured the combined fleet alone.

A North Carolina negro hired a carriage to take him and his sweetheart to the church in which they were to be married, leaving him no money with which to pay for the license. The wedding party waited until daylight the next morning, by which time he had succeeded in raising the license money.

European diplomacy is busy on one side in trying to get the prince of Naples married to the daughter of the king of the Belgians, and on the other to prevent any such marriage. The German and Austrian emperors favor the plan, they wanting Belgium brought into the Triple alliance. Papal and Russian diplomacy are against and, of course, French also.

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WITS GONE WOOL GATHERING.

A Chicago poet, with the true originality of genius, has written a poem on the cimeter lecturarian, in which he forces the name of that disagreeable creature to rhyme with Darius.

A New York city parrot has had over twenty owners, and has scared each out of their wits by screaming "Fire!" at an early hour in the morning, and never desisting until the whole house was aroused.

An amateur photographer went thirty miles out in the country to take some choice views, filled fifty plates and found when he came to develop them at home that he hadn't opened the shutter of his camera.

The Boston Transcript tells of a lady from a western territory who entertained her American friends in London very much by her naive descriptions of the places in Europe she had visited that she had never even heard of before.

A fond Harlem mother desired to surprise her husband with an exhibition of the progress in the acquisition of learning of her darling ten-year-old boy, and with that end in view she recently requested Master Freddie to write a short essay, selecting "Time" as the subject of the composition.

After laboring for two or three hours with the theme the bright young hopeful presented to his mother the result of his brain-veering, which commenced: "Time is a very useful article. Without time we would not know when to eat and drink, or when to go to bed or get up.

There wasn't anything like time, though, there wouldn't be any pickpockets, for then there wouldn't be any watches to steal. There's lots of other good things about time that I can't think of now."

MR. DEPEW'S SPEECH.

He Got It Into Shape While Strolling Along Broadway.

The death of the Rev. Thomas Edward Vermilye, who for fifty years was chaplain of the New York St. Nicholas society, recalls an incident in which a well-known Brooklyn man and Chauncey Depew figured.

Dr. Vermilye had for many years spoken to the toast "Holland" at an annual dinner of the organization named. Some eleven years ago, and on the morning of the day set for the banquet, he was taken ill, and notified the dinner committee that he would be unable to make his wonted oration.

At 4 o'clock on the same day Depew entered the office of John A. Nichols, at No. 71 Broadway, New York, wearing a worried expression and a perspiration-bedewed forehead.

"Nichols," he said, "I'm in a fix, and want you to help me out. These St. Nicholas people have just wired me that in the absence of Dr. Vermilye they look to me to respond to 'Holland.' I don't know the first thing about the subject, and it's 4 o'clock."

"Well?" said Mr. Nichols. "Now," went on Depew, "just you take me by the arm and walk me up Broadway to Twenty-third street. Don't talk to me, and don't expect me to talk to you. Just steer me clear of people, mind I don't get run over at the crossings, and go slow. That's all I want you to do."

Mr. Nichols did as requested, and the pair did not exchange a word until Twenty-third street was reached at 6:15 p. m.

"Thankee," said Depew, as he parted with his friend; "I guess I'm all right."

At 7:30 p. m., the first thing that the eye of Mr. Nichols met, as he sat down at the dinner table, was the bland, unruffled, smoothly shaven face of Depew. The speech that he made later is yet a delightful tradition in the annals of the St. Nicholas society. It was chock full of wit, fact, figures, and sentiment. Nobody but Mr. Nichols dreamed that it had been conceived, shaped, and born amid the riot and roar of Broadway.

RAILROAD WRECKAGE.

A Queer Little Store Where It Is Gathered and Sold.

On West Twelfth street in Chicago, there is an unprepossessing one-story red brick building, on the grimy windows of which the following words are printed in glaring yellow paint: GOODS TAKEN FROM RAILROAD WRECKERS FOR SALE.

The scene inside is one of wildest confusion. It looks as if sections of a drug store, a crockery store, a dry goods emporium, a grocery, a harness shop and goodness knows what not had been jumbled together within the four dirty walls. The head of a doll, dust-coated, lies in a box of canies, and a few feet away, stretched beside a row of bottles of cheap perfumery, which the obliging clerk said was "fine, all of it as good as bay rum," is the headless trunk.

On all sides there are evidences that tend color to the allegation that the goods are taken from railroad smash-ups. There are pieces of furniture disabled by broken legs, tops, backs and generally in collapse. There are barrels of flour gaping open, boxes of raisins, cracked so that the contents are visible, and piled in and around this mass are boxes of sardines, bars of soap, underclothing, boots and shoes, bed ticking, stacks of trousers, cookies and frosted cakes in boxes, and at one end of the store, convenient to the street odors, is a crock of pickles without any cover. A box of rubbers keeps this crock company.

"I believe there is one other store something like this in Chicago," said the proprietor, "but I don't know where it is. We buy these goods from the railroad companies after smash-ups. We also buy unclaimed freight."

The Cunning Spider.

Everyone has noticed that when a spider's web is touched the insect will violently shake the web up and down, but few are probably aware of the reason for this curious action. The spider is well provided with eyes, but its sight is very limited, so much so, in fact, that if a fly is caught in the web and lies perfectly still, the spider will often be unable to find it for a considerable time. When in doubt as to what quarter of the web the prey has lodged on the spider always shakes the web and determines by the resistance the whereabouts of its game. It does so, too, with infallible accuracy, as anyone who has the curiosity to make the experiment can determine, for in the great majority of cases, after the spider has given its web a good shaking, it will start off on a run directly to the point where the intruder is lodged.

Unique Reading Club in Boston. A new club for reading and the encouragement of good literature is the Half Hour club. Its members pledge themselves to read half an hour each week day, with the exception of a two weeks' holiday in the year. A fine of one cent marks each day's loss in reading. The proceeds of the fines are devoted to the purchase of prizes for the most industrious and most capable readers.

"E Pluribus Unum."

"E Pluribus Unum" was taken from the title page of the Gentleman's Magazine, which circulated largely in American colonies at the time of the revolution.

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