

THE FARM AND FIELD.

USEFUL INFORMATION FOR AGRICULTURAL READERS.

Late Crops—Millet for Fodder—What to Do With Them—Various Uses of Oil—Care of the Stallion.

Late Crops.

Buckwheat and rye for fall and winter pasture, turnips, rutabagas, and winter radishes can be sown in many cases after the wheat and oats are harvested and yet give a good yield. A good way to put in rye is to sow the seed broadcast among the corn just before the last cultivation. In a majority of cases—unless the corn is sown with weed seeds—this is all that will be necessary. By the time the corn is harvested and hauled off the rye will have made such a growth as to afford a considerable amount of feed in the fall and early winter.

Buckwheat is a good crop to grow for green manuring. Its quick growth, in addition to the effect produced upon the soil, places it next to clover to plow under as a green fertilizer.

Wheat or oat stubble can be broken up and the seed sown broadcast and harrowed in and a sufficient growth will be secured before frost to turn under a good layer as a fertilizer. If desired, in anything like a fair season a good crop of grain may be secured. Buckwheat makes a good feed for winter, as the grain can be fed as a change to nearly all kinds of stock to an advantage.

Of the three root crops rutabagas should be sown first, as they require longer to make a good growth than the others. Turnips should be sown next, if any difference is made, and then the radishes, although a good plan is to mix turnip and radish seeds. From the middle to the latter part of July is considered a good time to sow the seed. The best rule to follow is to sow whenever the soil is in condition to secure a good germination. Prepare the soil nicely and then sow the seed just after a rain, sowing broadcast, taking pains to scatter evenly as possible over the ground and then cover with a light harrow or brush. These can often be sown when early crops have already matured and may be considered catch crops because they occupy the ground only a short time, and that to a considerable extent after the first crops have made their growth. Of course in a very dry season these crops will often prove a failure, partially or wholly, but in an average season very little, as well as profitable yields can be secured, and those that cannot be marketed profitably can always be fed to stock to an advantage.—N. J. S., in Prairie Farmer.

Millet for Fodder.

A correspondent of the Orange County Farmer has something to say about millet, of which he remarks, we seldom hear as a feeding crop. His own experience, after a trial of six years, is such that he speaks in the highest terms of it. He could not get grass seed to take, and had to find something to fill the bill for fodder, and discovered that millet did it very satisfactorily, the horses and cows feeding on it in place of hay.

Last summer he cut hay enough for his stock and so did not feed his millet all out in the fall, having about a ton of it left over until spring. While doing spring work, thinking a change of feed would be beneficial, he thought he would try his work team on the millet, though somewhat doubtful whether they would eat it after it had lain in the barn all winter. He was surprised at the result. They ate it clean and seemed to like it better than good hay, and they hold their condition with half grain, doing the same work.

There are few in this section who grow it to considerable extent, some for stall feeding and others to take the place of hay, especially in this case with small farmers, who keep their fields under the plow and do not seed down to grass except at long intervals.

His own experience is that, where grass is scarce or will not grow, you cannot get more feed from an acre of ground than to sow it with German millet. He sows it after some use of the ground for the regular crop and getting a fine lot of feed (if well cured) with little trouble and small expense.

On this subject the Maine Farmer quotes the statement of the New England Farmer that "none of the millets are fit to seed with grass," and says: "This does not hold good for Maine. Many good farmers in this State practice seeding down to grass with Hungarian, and with excellent success. We have seen many fine fields of grass from this practice."

For the Farmer.

At the Michigan experiment station the best varieties of green corn for succession there prove to be Cory, Crosby, Concord, Stabler and Golden Coin.

What to Do With Them.

A new use has been found by a Canadian farmer for surplus tomatoes. He had about a thousand bushels left over after his market became glutted and tried the experiment of feeding this apparently worthless surplus to his cows. To his surprise and gratification the cows took to them greedily with the result that the flow of milk was largely increased. Having an idea, from some previous experience, that he might dispose of his tomatoes, green or ripe, in this way, he planted them in a field into which he could turn the cows in the fall.

After the first frost he writes, we pulled the tomato vines and collected them in piles, with the green tomatoes adhering, where they remained a couple of weeks before we could let the cows into the field. By that time we found that a large percentage of the green tomatoes had ripened and the tomato leaves had cured. The cows could not be kept away from these tomato piles. They rooted them over with noses and horns, and cleaned up everything but the bare vines, and at night, as long as the tomatoes lasted, they would come into the barn patiently full and their udders distended. It is for scientists to say whether the milk-producing element was in the tomato itself or whether it supplemented some other food to make a well-balanced milk ration. Of course it would not pay to raise tomatoes as feed for cows, but market gardeners need not allow surplus tomatoes to go to waste while they have cows to feed.

Various Uses of Oil.

The virtues of oil on the farm are little thought of. It is both a lubricant and a preservative, and should al-

ways be kept ready for use, with care that the supply does not run out and harness and machinery suffer for want of it, or a half day in moving, threshing, or other machine work, for a little much-needed oil. It is better to buy in large quantities comparatively, as it will not be so apt to run out, and can generally be bought cheaper.

Certainly the supply will not be exhausted so often. For machinery a mixture of unsalted hog's lard and castor oil is recommended, adding the oil until the mixture is of the right consistency. For the wood-work of tools, nothing is better than boiled linseed oil. Whenever it is proper, the wood-work of tools and machinery should be kept well painted. Kerosene is very penetrating and the wood might first be filled with this. It is also excellent to cut the gun when running gear gets gummed up. But it must soon be wiped off and oil with more body be substituted. Castor oil is good for use on a buggy. It is also excellent for harness and for boots and shoes. Some recommend for all kinds of leather three parts of neat-foot oil and one of beef tallow, applying the oil when it is about as warm as the hand can bear and while the leather is still somewhat moist and pliable after being cleaned in warm water.

Care of the Stallion.

"Rest and fat are the greatest enemies of the horse," is a saying of the Arabs, and if every stallion owner would embody its truth in practice there would be little need to write anything further on this subject. Its observance would be potent to improve the horse in health, strength, virility, endurance and longevity and by "holding up the glass to nature" correct the irrational treatment and abnormal conditions under which he is often reared. Not that the conditions surrounding the horse in a state of nature should be wholly imitated, for they do not all tend to his improvement in the qualities adapted to man's use.

But it is worthy of note that the wild horse is tough, sound and healthy, and making due allowance for the influence of natural selection or the survival of the fittest, when we observe that he is seldom in a state of rest, that he lives unconfined in the open air, upon natural food we may reasonably connect these as cause and effect, and safely consider exercise, pure air and simple diet the fundamental conditions upon which to build up, by skill in breeding and training, the highest and most perfect equine type.—Breeder's Gazette.

Affected Animals.

If the weather is cold, says the Breeder's Gazette, keep the affected animals indoors in a well-lighted and ventilated stable. Feed on bran mash with roots and hay, and leave an abundance of pure water at all times within the animal's reach. A little salt, say a teaspoonful, may be dissolved in the drinking water every night until the kidneys act freely. When the throat commences swelling apply warm poultices of linseed, changing them twice daily, and as soon as the region of the throat commences to fluctuate, open it and liberate the pus, afterward continuing the poultices till all discharge ceases. Ordinarily this is all the treatment that is required. If the throat is very sore and great difficulty is experienced in swallowing, an ounce each of chlorate of potash, gentian root and licorice root should be mixed in a pint of molasses and a tablespoonful of it smeared on the tongue every three hours.

The Vegetable Paradise.

Last year there were 40,000 acres under cabbages in Maine and Loire. Peas, tomatoes and French beans are sent to all parts of the world in enormous quantities, and the winter consumption at home is very large. The French are the greatest eaters of vegetables in the world and have as early vegetables as those people who live in Italy. The sheltered coast of Brittany causes the camelia to bloom in February. The coast about Roscoff is especially celebrated for its vegetables, such as sprouting onions, broccoli and potatoes. Here 1,500,000 acres are devoted to the cultivation of vegetables. In Yanclose I have seen over 10,000 melons raised on an acre. These quantities may seem enormous to you, but they are the natural result of the great quantities of concentrated manures and the careful cultivation given them.—New York Telegram.

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DEATH COMES PAINLESSLY.

A Scientific Opinion that Will be Consoling to All Homosely.

The signs of impending death are many and variable. No two instances are precisely identical, yet several signs are common to many cases. Shakespeare, who observed everything else, observed and recorded some of the premonitory signs of death also. In the account of the death of Falstaff the sharpness of the nose, the coldness of the feet, gradually extending upward, the picking at the bedclothes are accurately described.

For sometime before death indications of its approach become apparent, says the Medical Herald. Speech grows thick and labored, the hands, if raised, fall instantly, the respiration is difficult, the heart loses its power to propel the blood to extremities, which consequently become cold, a clammy moisture oozes through the pores of the skin, the voice grows weak and husky or piping, the eyes begin to lose their luster. In death at old age there is a gradual dulling of all the bodily senses and of many of the mental faculties, memory fails, judgment wavers, imagination goes out like a candle. The muscles and tendons get stiff, the voice breaks, the cords of the larynx are loosening. Small noises irritate, sight becomes dim, nutrition goes on feebly, digestion is impaired, the secretions are insufficient or vitiated or cease, capillary circulation is clogged. Finally the central organ of the circulation comes to a stop, a full stop, and this stoppage means a dislocation. This is the death of old age, which few attain to.

Many people have an idea that death is necessarily painful, even agonizing; but there is no reason whatever to suppose that death is more painful than birth. It is because in a certain proportion of cases dissolution is accompanied by a visible spasm and distortion of the countenance that the idea exists, but it is nearly as certain as any thing can be that these distortions of the facial muscles are not only painless but take place unconsciously. In many instances, too, a comatose or semi-comatose state supervenes, and it is altogether probable that more or less unconsciousness then prevails.

We have abundant evidence of people who have been nearly drowned and then resuscitated, and they all agree in the statement that after a few moments of painful struggling, fear and anxiety pass away and a state of tranquility succeeds. They see the visions of green fields, and in some cases hear pleasant music, and so far from being miserable, their sensations are delightful. But where attempts at resuscitation are successful the resuscitated persons almost invariably protest against being brought back to life, and declare that resuscitation is accompanied by physical pain and acute mental misery.

Death is a that which every man must personally experience, and consequently is of universal interest; and, as facts are facts, the wiser course is to look them squarely in the face, for necessity is coal-black, and death keeps no calendar.

Temptation.

A man who has been spending the season in Florida tells of a croaker preacher who came to the little church in the pine woods at Altomonte the other Sunday and delivered a very feeling sermon. He was a thoroughly earnest, sober, well-meaning man and he did his best to impress his audience; but when in his sermon he delivered himself as follows his northern hearers were perhaps not impressed the way he wished them to be: "Now there's my wife; she's one of the best women that ever lived, she is; and every day of her life, when she gets her chores done up, she goes into the closet, shuts the door and prays. Now, do you s'pose you could stop my wife or prayin'? No sir! you couldn't stop 'er prayin'! not if you was to give her er dollar or day! No, sir! (with much emphasis) not fer er dollar er day you couldn't stop her!"

Always Something Wrong.

"I clah ter goodness," said Miss Evelina Tolliver, "dah ain' no use or tryin' fo' ter hab no coshability when folks is so berry thin-skinned an' offensive."

"Whus de mattah?" inquired Evelina's mother. "Did'n' de shadder pantlemines dat yoh was givin' las' night come off all right?"

"Dej stahed splendid. I was Juno, an' ev'rybody did say dat it was gran'. But Susie Jenkins hed fer to go walk out in front ob de sheet front ob de orginse. She was so bisek dat obrybody tuk 'er foh her own shadder an' she got mad an' bus' up de pahy."—Washington Post.

He Had Queer Taste.

"A friend of mine got off a bright thing the other day. He called on a young lady who had a pet dog she was trying to make bark, but the dog wouldn't, until finally she said: 'Fido, if you will bark for me, I'll kiss you.' Then my friend spoke up and said: 'I can bark pretty well myself.' "—Ha, ha! What did the girl say?" "Nothing. She simply sent the dog away."—Life.

Expressed Their Feelings.

They were two young ladies, evidently sisters, and it appeared from their conversation that they had been to a funeral. Said one: "Aunt Mary looked quite natural didn't she?"

"Yes," replied the other, and then she added, after a few moments: "A funeral is an awful sad, depressing thing, don't you think so?"

"Usually," responded the first speaker; "but to-day it was a little different. Of course I felt sad about Aunt Mary, but every time I looked across at pa I could not help thinking how nice it was to see him going into society again."—Boston Transcript.

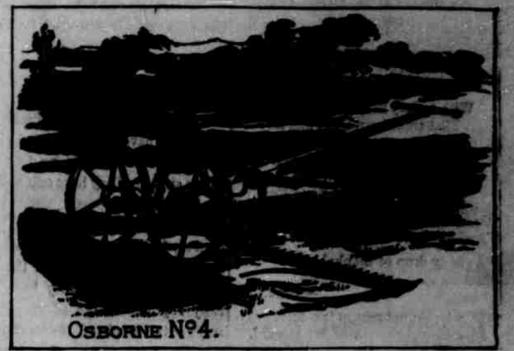
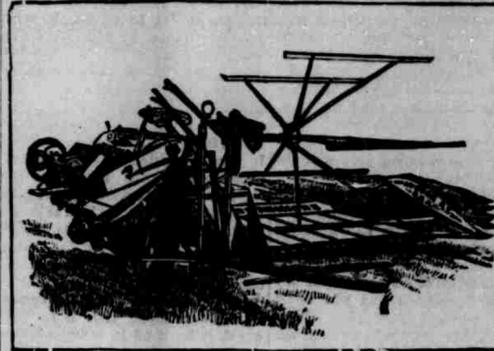
Color Blind.

Mr. Snelson: "Ah, how do you do, Miss Green?" She: "Very well, thank you; but my name is Brown." Mr. S.: "Oh, I beg your pardon. So it is but you'll excuse me, I'm sure. I've color blind."—Boston Beacon.

A Safe Note.

"Why, it is only I o'clock I thought it 2," said Mrs. Brownson as the clock struck 1. "Now, miss," said Bridget, "de never later than was as this time ov' day."—Harper's Bazar.

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