Trans-Mississippi Inventions.

OMAHA, Nebraska, June 27, 1896.—Amongst the Trans-Mississippi inventors who received patents the past week, Messrs. Sues & Co., United States Patent Solicitors, Bee Building, Omaha, Nebraska, report the following: Daniel Harmon, Davenport, Nebraska, road grader and ditcher; Clarence H. Judson, Council Bluffs, Iowa, card shooter; George Lamos, Fort Madison, Iowa, gas engine; George D. Foster, Preston, Iowa, portable corn shock press; John H. Nelson, Omaha, Nebraska, drink mixer; George R. Perkins, Schuyler, Nebraska, photographic tank; Hans H. Sich, Millard, Nebraska, improved combination cart, and Conrad Stroebel, Omaha, Nebraska, reversible plow.

Amongst the curious inventions issued the past week are found the following: a machine for weaving cross wires in wire fences; an electrical energy indicator; a fodder bundler; a button hole sewing machine; an anti-train robbery aparatus; an improved pencil for arc-lamps; a mechanism for converting continuous rotary motion into alternate rotary motion; a pneumatic fire alarm; a bicycle skirt comprising attached bloomers; and a spring actuated saddle post for bicycles.

A copy of any of the above patents will be mailed upon receipt of 10 cts.

Bird's Queer Freak.

Did you ever see anything as queer as a robin trying to feed its own reflection on a window glass? That sight has been going on at my house in Dorchester for a day or two. The poor deceived bird gets a worm in its bill and then runs up to a basement window, where it has seen its reflection, and there taps, taps, taps, at the glass trying to feed its shadaw. I had heard strange noises in the basement, and had begun to think the house was haunted, as at first I could not ascertain the cause of the sharp sounds, like tapping on metal, but finally discovered the robin at its puzzling attempts to feed a ghost.—Boston Transcript.

Hall's Catarrh Cure

Is a constitutional cure. Price, 75c.

Give your neighbors rope enough and they will eventually attempt to hang you.

Hegeman's Camphor Ice with Glycerine.

Cures Chapped Hands and Face, Tender or Sore Feet, Chilblains, Piles, &c. C. G. Clark Co., New Haven, Ct.

Paderewski, sweet as is his music, cannot soothe himself with it.

FITS stopped free and permanently cured. No fits after first day's use of Dr. Kline's Great Nerve Restorer. Free $2 trial bottle and treatise. Marvelous cures. Dr. KLINE, 931 Arch St. Philadelphia, Pa.

Statistics show that the French live longer than the Germans.

FOR THE NATIONAL CONVENTION PEOPLES PARTY AT ST. LOUIS JULY 22ND.

The WABASH, the shortest and quickest route has been selected as the line from Nebraska for delegates and their friends to travel. All trains are equipped with Reclining Chair Cars, Free, and Pullman Sleeping cars. Connecting Lines will sell tickets over the Wabash at HALF-FARE. Parties desiring through cars or Sleeping car accommodation can arrange same by calling at the WABASH ticket office, No. 1415 Farnam St., (Paxton Hotel Block), or write G. N. CLAYTON, N. W. P. A., Omaha, Nebr.

Those who favor revolutions only dig a tomb for themselves.

Piso's Cure for Consumption has saved me large doctor bills.—C. L. Baker, 4228 Regent Sq., Philadelphia, Pa., Dec. 8, 1895.

The self-conceited man hastens to his enemy to be eaten.—Wakatanki.

If the Baby is Cutting Teeth,

Be sure and use that old and well-tried remedy, MRS. WINSLOW'S SOOTHING SYRUP for Children Teething.

When one is low enough to insult you, be too high for him to reach.

One Thousand Farmers Wanted

To settle on one thousand choice farms on the line of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway in Dakota.

These lands are located in twenty different counties, and are to be had now at prices ranging from $7 to $15 per acre; a few months hence their value will be doubled.

For a home or for investment no luckier chance in the West has ever before been offered. Now is the time to invest. No better farming land exists anywhere. No greater results can be obtained anywhere.

Schools and churches abound everywhere. Nearby markets for all farm products. South and North Dakota are the banner diversified farming and stock-raising states of the West. Everything grows in Dakota except ignorance and intemperance. A new boom is on. Take advantage of the tide which leads to Dakota and to fortune.

For further information address or call upon W. E. Powell, General Immigration Agent, 410 Old Colony Building, Chicago, Ills.

Thought That Ought to Settle Them.

Old Negro Woman (pouring coal oil among a nest of cockroaches)—I jis' reckon I's goin to fix you dis time. I'se tried lime, insect poddah and hot wattah, an hain't done no good; but now you'd jis' as well gib up, fer you can't buck de Stan'ard Oil company.—Truth.

An empty head and a rattling tongue go well together.

Econo-

my—just think—every bottle of Hood's Sarsaparilla contains 100 doses. This is true only of

Hood's Sarsaparilla

The One True Blood Purifier. All druggists. $1.

Hood's Pills cure biliousness, headache.

Duxbak

is the name of the

S·H·&M· REGISTERED TRADE MARK

BIAS VELVETEEN SKIRT BINDING

that is rainproof and sheds water. It wears—like the other S. H. & M.'s and does not turn gray like the cheap kinds. Put it on your traveling and sea-side gowns

If your dealer will not supply you we will.

Samples showing labels and materials mailed free.

"Home Dressmaking Made Easy," a new 72 page book by Miss Emma M. Hooper, of the Ladies' Home Journal, giving valuable points, mailed for 25c.

S. H. & M. Co., P. O. Box 699, N. Y. City.

A STORY OF GOLD

And Description of Cripple Creek.

Every Page Illustrated. Price 50 Cents.

Cut out this ad and send with 25 cents (stamps or silver) and book will be mailed postpaid.

O. W. CRAWFORD, 1312 Masonic Temple, Chicago, Ill.

When you come in hot and thirsty,—HIRES Root-beer.

Made only by The Charles E. Hires Co., Philadelphia. A 25c. package makes 5 gallons. Sold everywhere.

LINDSEY + OMAHA + RUBBERS!

FARM AND GARDEN.

MATTERS OF INTEREST TO AGRICULTURISTS.

Some Up-to-Date Hints About Cultivation of the Soil and Yields Thereof—Horticulture, Viticulture and Floriculture.

AT this season of the year cut worms do more or less damage to nearly all crops, especially to tomatoes, cabbages and corn. Whenever sod or grassy land is left until spring before being plowed, any crop which may be planted on such land will be damaged by cut worms. The reason of this is that the worms are nearly full grown in the spring, yet they need one good meal before forming into pupae, a short time after which they come forth as night flying moths. The life history of the cut worms is about this: The moths lay their eggs in grass throughout the summer months, and after a few days these eggs hatch into small worms which feed upon the grass. The worms cast off their skin from time to time to accommodate their increase in size, and during the cooler weather of winter go deeper in the ground, being dormant for a time if the weather is very cold. Upon the approach of spring, the worms come forth for a finishing touch of growth and soon form pupae in the ground just below the surface. Some time after this the moths are produced, and, after mating, the females lay the eggs for another brood. With most species there is thus but one brood a year. Most farmers are beginning to realize the many advantages of fall plowing, and where sod land especially is plowed in the fall it will greatly lessen the number of cut worms and other insects on such land the following spring. A good remedy for killing out the cut worms in the garden is to make up a mixture consisting of a quantity of bran or corn meal moistened with water, to which is added a little Paris green and a little molasses or sugar, to give a sweetish taste. It is the Paris green that kills the worms, and this should be very thoroughly mixed with the bran, so as to have a uniform mixture. A spoonful of this mixture should be placed near the plants just before night on the day the plants are set out. The cut worms work at night and will be killed by eating of the poisoned mixture. It is much better, however, to place the mixture about in various part of a field a few days before planting, as it will then kill off the worms before any damage is done. H. E. Weed, Entomologist Mississippi Experiment Station, Agricultural College, Miss.

Origin of the Cabbage.

Cabbage (Brassica oleracca) is one of the vegetables brought into use at an early day, and although not so indispensable as the potato, is nevertheless an esculent highly esteemed and has assumed an importance that gives it a prominent position, not only in the horticultural catalogue, but also in estimating the productions of our country. I have no statistics by which to estimate its value in this country, but when we learn that in London about one hundred million heads are annually sold, which, at five cents a head, would amount to $5,000,000 we may be prepared to estimate the amount raised in Illinois at a sum worthy of being taking into consideration in estimating the value of our productions. Just when and where it was first brought into use it is not possible to state now with certainty. A comparatively recent article in Hardwicke's Science Gossip says that the plant from which the varieties in use in England originated is to be found along the southeast seacoast of England. But it is certain that some of the varieties were early in use on the western side of the continent; also that kales or coleworts of some kind were long in use in Greece and Rome, as they are frequently mentioned by Greek and Roman writers and even directions given for their cultivation. It is also certain that various species of Brassica are found in different parts of the world.—Cyrus Thomas.

Australian Salt Bush.

In view of the great interest now being taken in Australian salt bush (Atriplex semibaccatum), the new forage plant for alkali soils, Director Devol of the Experiment Station at Tucson, Arizona, sends the following brief method of growing it:

The seeds are flat, somewhat heart-shaped, about 1-10 inch long and of a brownish or reddish green color. If covered in wet soil when fresh they are apt to rot, but sown before a rain and lightly covered with soil, or preferably covered with grass or weeds and kept moderately moist they will germinate readily. They may be started in boxes or hotbeds and transplanted to the field; but plants grown in this way do not resist drought so well as those planted where they are to remain. While young the plants require watering two or three times, but when well established they will resist quite severe droughts. Although a perennial plant it grows so rapidly that one cutting may be obtained the first season, and two the following season. It will grow in soil having more alkali than any other plant valuable for forage, and unlike most plants growing upon such soil it has a prostrate habit, growing to a height of but 6 to 12 inches and spreading over several square feet of ground. Single plants have been known to reach a spread of 16 feet, this, too, upon very alkaline soil. It is estimated that from 3 to 6 tons per acre of dried hay may be produced. Sheep and hogs relish it green and when mixed with about 1-3 its weight of other hay horses and cattle eat it dried.

Varieties of Strawberries.

It is almost impossible to advise the beginner what variety to plant. A variety which is very productive in one locality may prove the reverse in another, sometimes even in another field, soil, exposure and location being different. No variety will do equally well on all soils. Reports in regard to varieties are very conflicting in different localities. While one grower is satisfied and recommends a variety, another is disgusted and is going to discard it. In general, we may say that those sorts which are successfully cultivated over a large territory are most reliable; but he who goes a long ways from home to get advice in regard to varieties and treatment makes a serious mistake. These problems are purely local. The purpose for which we plant should be considered, i. e., whether for home use or for market. For home use we may consider the characters of a variety in this manner: 1, quality, 2, yield, 3, hardiness. For market, this order should be reversed, thus: 1, hardiness, 2, yield, 3, quality. For market we want a firm berry of good size and color. Of the varieties grown on the Experimental Farm at Madison last summer, Warfield led them all in productiveness, yielding a third more than any other variety. Then came Haverland, Cloud, Eureka, Lady Rusk, Van Deman, Wilson and Bubach. This was the second crop taken from these vines.—A. M. Ten Eyck.

Longevity of Bees.

C. Davenport says in Gleanings: "One summer I had a strong second swarm issue from a large box hive. I do not remember the date, but it was just before basswood blossomed. The queen of this swarm was lost, on her mating trip, or in some other way, for I am certain that they did not have a laying queen at any time during the summer. I thought I would let them do without one, to see what they would do. They were hived on combs that contained considerable honey, so they did not have much room to store below; but they filled up what room there was, and then, instead of working much in the sections, they took the world easy In the fall I thought I would unite what few of them were left with some other colony; but on coming to examine them I was surprised at the amount of bees there was left. There seemed to be nearly as many as when I hived them; so in order to experiment further they were put in the cellar where the rest were. They came out in good shape in the spring. A queen was given them; and although they dwindled away very fast, they pulled through all right. Now, in this case the workers lived at least ten or eleven months, not only a few, but thousands of them. If the same thing had been tried the past summer I do not think there would have been a live bee left after they had been in the cellar a month."

Chinch Bug Likes Flat Land.

It is a plain inhabiting insect, but it may inhabit very limited, flat areas, interspersed among more broken and elevated areas. As illustrating this habit in Ohio, it may be stated that in 1894, it was found quite abundant in Champaign, Logan and Hardin counties, with its greatest abundance in the latter and Wyandot county to the northeast, the two latter being of a more level topography than the two former. This is fully illustrated by maps in Bulletin 69, of the Ohio Exp. Station. In 1895, the area of greatest abundance included only Wyandot and a portion of Hardin counties, Champaign suffering little, while to the south in Green and Clark counties, where, in 1894, it had been found sparingly, it did not occur in abundance at all, thus showing that it had drifted to the lower and flatter lands to the east, except in Wyandot and a portion of Hardin, where these conditions already obtained, and overrun a wide range of practically flat country having a clay soil. A portion of the state laying to the west and north west of Lake Erie, being the ancient bed of the preglacial lake, and the soil sandy instead of clayey, was little if at all infested, whereas, the flat clay lands to the south and west were, in some localities literally overrun with these insects.—Ohio Bulletin.

Pointers to Shippers.

Keep pregnant stock at home. Don't ship in any diseased, badly bruised or emaciated stock. Don't load your cars too heavily, especially of hogs or sheep, though in fact of any class of live stock. Watch out and don't ship in any stock that has sores, abscesses or other indication of unsoundness or unwholesomeness. The government inspectors are "the goblins that will get you if you don't watch out" and keep back unsound, diseased, or far advanced pregnant animals. Beware of calves you ship in. Anything on the "Bob" or "Deacon" order—that is, less than one week old or weighing under 75 pounds—is pretty sure to be thrown out and find its way into the tank. Don't ship any scabby sheep to market, as they are very liable to be condemned. Lamby ewes should also be held back, as where they are pretty far advanced they cannot be sold, under the inspection rules, and will either have to go back into the country or be slaughtered and in all probability condemned here.—Live Stock Report.

Good Saddle and Harness Horses.

The American Horse Breeder says, that a well-known Western horseman took two car loads of fine saddle and harness horses to Boston a few days ago, and among them was one of the most elegant saddle mares ever seen in Boston. She had all the saddle gaits, and could trot in single harness or to pole in about 2.40. Those who think that horses are cheap will be surprised to know that this gentleman laughed at a man who offered him $1,000 for this mare. She was bought by Frank Kennedy of "cracker fame," and shipped to his residence at Windsor, Vt. The price is not made public, but it was probably considerably more than $1,000. Men are willing to pay good prices when they know they are getting first-class animals. Good horses of this kind have always commanded good prices.

The Strawberry Bed.

The new strawberry plant should not be allowed to bear fruit the first season. Pick off all fruit stems as soon as they appear. Three methods of training the strawberry are in use. The hill system, where all runners are removed. The narrow row, where only part of new runners are allowed to form plants; and the full matted row, where plants are allowed to fill all the space, excepting a narrow path between rows. All have advocates and all have special merits, depending on soil, climate, variety and grower. The full matted row is most used, being easiest to manage. Guard against too many plants in small space. They consume moisture, suffer from drouth and produce small berries. Each plant should have from four to six inches square space in which to grow and mature its fruits.—M. A. Thayer.

Extent of Tree Roots.—It is commonly said that the roots of trees extend each way as far as their branches. But this is a very uncertain and unreliable rule. There are trees like the chestnut and pines, which grow in sandy soil, which send their roots far down into the subsoil, and have so few roots near the surface that the plow can be run nearly up to them. The elm, which grows best on low, wet land, has most of its roots near the surface. But it can send roots down to a depth of a three-foot tile drain, as we once learned to our cost, a large elm near the upper end of a newly-laid tile drain completely filling it after two or three years, so that the tile had all to be taken up. The tree was cut down and the new tile laid, with the result that the drain suffered no further obstruction.—Ex.

Diphtheria Among Fowls.—Domestic fowls have two diseases of a diphtheritic nature, according to a report of M. Gallez to the Belgian Academy of Medicine. One is a contagious catarrh, called also morve, or fowl glanders, which is very contagious and fatal to hens and may give diphtheria to human beings. The other, though called fowl diphtheria, has nothing save the name in common with human diphtheria.

DAIRY AND POULTRY

INTERESTING CHAPTERS FOR OUR RURAL READERS.

How Successful Farmers Operate This Department of the Farm—A Few Hints as to the Care of Live Stock and Poultry.

AMONG the most economical winter coarse feeds for dairy stock can be mentioned corn, barnyard millet, hay and soja beans. On natural grass land not easily affected by droughts the farmer will naturally grow a considerable area of hay, and depend upon this crop to a large extent for coarse feed. Such land should be made to produce three tons of hay, equivalent to about three thousand pounds of digestible matter per acre. Similar land planted to corn and equally well manured would probably produce fully four thousand pounds digestible matter per acre, but the increased cost of growing an acre of corn would in the writer's judgment fully balance the increase in yield. There are, however, considerable areas on every farm that are not natural grass lands. Such lands are so easily affected by frequent droughts, that from one to one and one-half tons of hay per acre are maximum crops. Land of this kind is far better suited for corn and will yield fully three times as much digestible matter per acre as when in grass.

Ensilage: Corn or any crop put in the silo is not improved in quality. The various fermentations which such materials undergo, decrease to an extent their nutritive effect, i. e., a ton of fodder before being ensilaged would have a greater nutritive value than after being ensilaged. The writer does not believe in putting any crop into the silo that can be properly cured. Unfortunately it is very difficult to cure Indian corn fodder. It is also difficult to cut or shred it and preserve it outside of the silo in quantity for any length of time. For these reasons, the silo all things considered is undoubtedly to be preferred for preserving the corn plant, and practical experience has demonstrated its value. For those who desire corn meal during the winter for feeding horses, pigs, and poultry, it is a very good idea to remove the ears from the stalk just previous to cutting for ensilage. They can be thrown upon the ground and allowed to remain for about two weeks to cure, and can then be husked. If it were not for the increased labor involved in removing the ears and in husking and grinding the same, the writer would not advocate putting any of the grain into the silo, for it has been clearly shown that the loss during fermentation is considerable. The medium green soja bean is a valuable crop to put into the silo with corn. The method of cultivation has already been described. One part bean fodder and two parts corn fodder is a good proportion. It should not be put in in layers, but both corn and bean plants run through the cutting machine together. Thus mixed, the bean fodder will keep better, and will aid in neutralizing the acidity of the corn. The advantage of this mixture for feeding is, that it increases the percentage of protein in the ensilage from 1.4 or 1.6 per cent (corn alone) to 2.6 or 2.8 (mixed ensilage). If this mixture could be fed as an entire daily ration, but very little concentrated feeds, rich in protein, would be required. Corn for ensilage should be cut when the ears are fairly well glazed. Beans planted about May 25 will be ready about the same time. Barnyard millet is also recommended to be used in connection with soja beans for the silo. It requires fully as much plant food to produce a crop, as does corn, and will not stand dry weather as well. On fairly moist land from 15 to 17 tons can be grown per acre. The seed can be sown broadcast, and the crop needs no further attention till cut with a mowing machine early in September for the silo, thus effecting a considerable saving of labor. Millet for ensilage should be planted about June 1.

The hay of vetch and oats, peas and oats, and of Hungarian grass makes good coarse feeds for winter, equal to an average quality of hay. The peas and oats can be cut when in blossom early in July and followed immediately by Hungarian grass. One is thus enabled to grow from 3 to 3½ tons of these hays per acre. On lands that cannot be made to produce two and one-half tons of English hay yearly, this method might be followed with advantage, if labor is not too costly. By planting a variety of annual fodder crops, many farmers are so situated as to be able to sell English hay to advantage.

Canadian Mutton.

It is without doubt true that the prime, active factor in the problem of the importation of sheep into the United States from Canada is the quality of mutton. There is no doubt that greater pains is taken in Canada to produce a fine quality of mutton than in this country, and there the English methods of mutton making have been much more generally adopted than here. It is said to be true that the English sheep farmer regards with considerable indifference the importation of sheep from all countries except Canada, for with that one exception no country sends any sheep to England to compete with native mutton except at very much lower prices. There is, of course, no good reason for Canadian mutton out-selling that of the United States, either at home or abroad, but it does do it, and simply because more attention and skill are devoted to the work of making it. There is nothing in the soil, climate or feeding-stuffs of Canada that necessarily make better mutton; the materials are at hand here in as great abundance and of as fine quality, and therefore the only thing lacking is the more skillful combining and feeding, and possibly breeding, to make a quality of meat as fine as the world can produce.—Ex.

Streaks of Blood in Eggs.

The blemish referred to is a sign that something is amiss with the egg-producing organs of the fowl, and I should be inclined to say that the faulty eggs are all laid by the same fowl. If this be so, and she can be distinguished, I should advise "Leopardstown" to confine her for a time, feeding sparingly the while on hard corn; so as to check the production of eggs. It may be that matters will right themselves under this treatment, but nothing more can be done. I think it extremely probable that the blood-spots are the outcome of high feeding. On more than one occasion I have noticed that the spots are most frequent in cases where a high percentage of eggs is obtained, and that the eggs are most numerous in the spring months, when hens lay more freely than at other seasons. It by no means follows that the hens have been overdone with food, so far as mere feeding is concerned, but it cannot be denied that in the spring and early summer fowls obtain much animal food in their daily rambles, particularly when they have free access to manure heaps or to plantations; in either of which there is always a large supply of such food to be had for the asking.—Ex.

Feeding.

For practical purposes it is not possible to weigh out the coarse feeds, and a great deal will have to be left to the judgment of the feeder. If hay alone is fed, give all the animal will eat up clean twice daily. One-third to one-fourth of the coarse fodders can consist of straw. It is hardly economical to feed over fifteen pounds of roots daily. From 30 to 35 pounds of ensilage daily is sufficient. More than this will disturb the digestion of some animals, and also make many cows lose in flesh. Nine to twelve pounds of hay or other coarse feed of a similar nature, together with 30 to 35 pounds of ensilage make sufficient coarse fodder for an animal's daily needs. It is not good economy to feed over one-half of any leguminous crop, either green or dry, in the total daily coarse fodder ration. While the coarse feeds can be fed according to the feeders' judgment observing the general rules given above, it becomes necessary both for the sake of economy and health, to weigh or carefully measure the grain ration. The coarse feed will furnish from 1.00 to 1.50 pounds of digestible protein and we add the concentrated feeds primarily to secure the extra 1.00 to 1.50 pounds of protein necessary, to properly balance the ration.

Feeding and Broodiness.

There is no doubt that feed has much to do with the broodiness of the hen. Corn fed as a nearly constant ration or a part of that ration gives fat that helps the tendency to sit. During the last fall, winter and spring, a correspondent of the Farmers' Review fed his hens a very nitrogenous ration because he wanted to get eggs. He has about 28 Plymouth Rock hens and his experience with them in previous years had been such that he did not doubt that he would have all the broody hens he wanted this spring. So he fed oats for his main food, with bran and some wheat. The eggs came all through November, December, January, February, March, April and to the present time in May. But when the hens got through laying one clutch of eggs this spring they simply took a rest till they began laying again. Not more than five hens have wanted to sit this year, and they did not seem to care whether they sat or not. One of them even refused to cluck. When too late be awakened to the fact that he had been feeding for eggs and had got them at the expense of the other desired quality. Now he has commenced to feed corn entirely, hoping thereby to yet produce some degree of broodiness.

Nitrogenous Fertilizers.—When a soil is rich in humus it is seldom necessary to make any further application of nitrogenous fertilizers, and as all nitrogenous fertilizers are very quickly soluble, and are soon lost to the soil by both leaching and volatilizing, they should never be used until the crop has made a considerable growth.

The newest petticoats are dreadfully expensive but lovely. They are made of ribbon and lace alternating in insertion strips.

Health of the Hens.

Mrs. Emma G. Foster, addressing the Missouri Poultry association, said; Roup has become a common disease. The symptoms are swelled eyes, discharge from nostrils, and frequently a rattling in the throat. When none of these symptoms appear it is shown by offensive breath. It usually comes from dampness, and is to fowls what heavy colds are to human individuals, and results in diphtheria or canker. When roup appears in malignant form, which makes its presence known by a peculiar disagreeable odor, a most excellent remedy is a sharp ax. Kill all such affected birds and burn them. There is no satisfaction or profit in doctoring roupy fowls. Then work to prevent the well fowls from taking the disease. Keep them dry and reasonably warm; use asafoetida and carbolic acid in drinking water, and thoroughly clean and disinfect. Cleanliness is the key to success. If the fowls do not have access to gravel and sand, this must be supplied. Grit is as essential as food, and they must have it in some shape. Broken crockery and glassware afford excellent grit. Coarsely ground oyster shell, ground flint, etc., can be purchased by the barrel. River sand is good. A flock of fowls will soon devour a barrel of this; yet sand is not a substitute for gravel. Keep sharp gravel before the fowls and they do better. Digestion will not be complete unless the food is fully masticated.

England Excludes Foreign Cattle.

The British parliament has at last passed the bill making permanent the exclusion of cattle from foreign countries except such animals as shall be slaughtered at ports of entry. The Canadians are most concerned, for it strikes them hardest. Many English farmers have been accustomed to purchase live cattle of the Canadians and fatten them on the English pastures. They bought them at a rate low enough to allow a reasonable profit on the transaction. American cattle have been long since debarred from this privilege. The bill has been passed really in behalf of the cattle raisers of Great Britain, but the pretext is that disease exists in Canada.

Hens Vary as Layers.

In regard to the number and size of eggs I remember two pullets that laid much larger eggs than others of the same age and breeding, and more than the average number. One of the pullets was somewhat undersized. There were also two other pullets laying very small eggs, and much more than the average in number, blank days occurring at long intervals. These observations extended only during the few months of hatching, not for the entire season. So far as breeds go, it has been my experience to get the fewest eggs from hens laying large ones. From Houdans, laying very large eggs, very satisfactory numbers were obtained. Leghorns gave more of considerably smaller size, and Hamburgs produced a much greater number of very small eggs. The Houdans, however, were confined much of the time. The Leghorns some of the time, while the Hamburgs had almost unlimited run most of the year. This was fifteen or 20 years ago, and I cannot now give more specific records, for I did not then appreciate the importance of collecting them. Later experience with Minorcas, which laid very large eggs, was to the effect that they were less prolific than the Leghorns.

Eggs from nine Leghorn hens, laying on the average for the year, 143 eggs, averaged 1.90 ounces each, while eggs from nine other hens fed the same, and whose average egg production was a fraction over 93 eggs, averaged 1.91 ounces each. Two hens averaging 114 eggs each during their second year, produced eggs that averaged 1.98 ounces in weight, and two other similar hens, whose egg production was 72 eggs each, laid eggs averaging exactly the same in weight. A Cochin hen whose eggs averaged 2.22 ounces in weight, laid 122 during the year. Another (same breed and food) laid 130 eggs, averaging 1.90 ounces. Of two Leghorns whose eggs averaged the same in weight, viz., 2.01 ounces, one laid 132 eggs and the other 62 eggs during the year. Individual instances show such variations as to indicate no general relation between number and size of eggs, and enough data are not available to justify conclusions from the averages. I have always thought, however, that the hen laying very large eggs, as a rule, laid fewer than the average.—William P. Wheeler, in Rural New Yorker.

An Egg Sample.—In Bayport items the Sayville News says that from a careful record kept by Miss Cornelia Snedicor, her 100 hens laid during the year to March 1, 1896, 10,299 eggs, or an average of 103 eggs to each hen. There have been larger averages for individual hens—even so high, we believe, as 150 or more, in a few instances—but for so large a number of fowls these figures are remarkably good. If we assume that these eggs sold for an average of 20 cents per dozen, and that is a moderate estimate, they brought $171.65, or nearly $1.75 to a hen. Surely not a bad showing, merely as an egg sample.

A Pig and Lamb.—A pig will awaken the neighbors with his squeal when fast, but a lamb will lie still and die. Often they crawl off into some hole to rest, and have not enough sense to find their way back again, and there they soon chill and die, when very young They need care in numberless ways.—Exchange.

CEYLON BUFFALOES.

On this page we give an illustration of a Ceylonese team of buffaloes hitched to a cart common to that country. It will be noticed that the tongue is fastened to a yoke bound to the horns. Thus the weight of the pull is on the horns and not on the shoulders, as with us.

Consul W. Morey, of Colombo, writes of these animals as follows: The common buffaloes also inhabit Ceylon, and are found both wild in the interior and partially tame in the Singhalese villages, where they are kept and used to trample the paddy (rice) lands after plowing, and to be sometimes milked, though not often, as they are fierce and troublesome and their yield of milk small and of poor quality. Their flesh is almost inedible. It is different, however, with their cogeners from Southern India, which are larger and tamer, and are often imported for dairy uses in large numbers, for they are fairly tractable, and give a good supply of wholesome milk. Being kept in the neighborhood of large towns, they are allowed to feed upon the commons, where they present an interesting sight to strangers, who are astonished at their almost hairless, uncouth forms, the very exemplification of ugliness. The wonder is still further increased when the awkward beasts, to avoid the mid-day heat, walk deliberately into the neighboring ponds, submerging their bodies until their noses, raised almost perpendicularly, protrude above the waters, presenting the appearance of a shoal of alligators. No successful attempt at crossing these buffaloes with true cattle has, I believe, been made, the mixed progeny, whenever any appeared, having died young.—From the Farmers' Review.

Better Than 16 to 1.

A person went to the postoffice the other day and asked what a money order for $2.50 would cost. The deputy said three cents. He said he would take one. Writing it out and giving it to him, he handed over the three cents. "You owe me $2.50, please," said the other. "Why, you said it was three cents." An explanation set in. He gave up the order, but will always wonder why the man changed his mind. That happened in Roanoke, and dates and names can be given, as several were standing by.—Armstrong (Mo.) Herald.

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