

Democratic Watchman

Bellefonte, Pa., January 31, 1890.

Farm Notes.

Too much water in the soil will prevent cultivation. Now is the time to ditch, while the ground is soft.

Peach pits may be buried in a shallow trench. The frost will reach them early enough to cause them to crack.

Ducks should begin to lay this month. Give them a warm, dry place at night, well littered with leaves or cut straw.

Keep the barnyard well supplied with material for absorbing the liquids, thereby rendering the yards dry and comfortable.

Chop up the corn stalks and put them in the manure heap. If cut and crushed they may be used as absorbents in the pig-pens.

Early in the spring a top-dressing of 100 pounds of nitrate of soda per acre on wheat will make it grow rapidly and yield better grain.

Spinach that came up from seed last fall will make some growth during the mild weather, which may be prevented by mulching the seed.

If rye has grown more than usual graze it down with the stock. It serves as a change of green food, and, as it is not advisable to have rye make more growth than the cattle can prevent, the rye will be benefited.

It may save labor to allow the cattle to have free access to the straw stack, but it may be more profitable to cut the straw and feed it with the hay. If you have more hay than you can use procure more stock, so as to feed the hay on the farm.

The mild weather is of advantage to farmers in reducing the amount of food necessary for stock. Young stock should thrive and grow and adult animals regularly feeding very readily.

When the weather is miserable it is not difficult to find many men who have seen better days. "When I drink much I can't work so I let it alone." "The drinking?" "No, the working."

It is more important to mulch the strawberry bed in a mild winter season than during severe cold weather, as the ground is subject to more frequent freezing and thawing. A mulch does not keep plants warm, but assists in keeping them at an even temperature, rendering them less liable to changes.

The cattle, horse, sheep and swine raiser are unanimous in the assertion that warmth is one of the essentials to successful stock raising in winter. The same is equally true with poultry; in fact, it is one of the branches of stock raising, and their comfort should be looked after and guarded as carefully as that of the larger and more costly animals. There is money in a comfortable poultry-house.

The estimates of the Bureau of Statistics place the value of the poultry products of last year at \$200,000,000. With this enormous value of products there were \$2,500,000 worth of eggs imported, and for the last four years this sum represents about the average value of the imports, which ranged in price from 13 to 15 cents per dozen. These figures would seem to show to a thinking mind that there is yet a chance for ambitious poultrymen to indulge their tastes at a profit.

G. Q. Dow, in the Orange County Farmer, says, speaking of strawberries: "Distillate varieties invariably give us the largest fruit, the largest quantity and I think the best. But we cannot confine ourselves to them alone. We must have a few staminate varieties to fertilize the others. The best varieties to-day are aristella. If you only want to set out one kind and want that to be the best general use strawberry, select the Bubach No. 5 first, then the Warfield, Cloud and Haverland."

Professor David O'Brine, of the Colorado Agricultural Experiment Station, in a recently issued bulletin gives an exhaustive treatise on soils from a chemist's standpoint. Discussing physical properties he says: "The color of its soil depends exclusively on its composition; humus forming a nearly black soil, while sand gives a light yellow, and iron oxide produces a red color. The darker soils, other things being equal, have the highest absorptive power toward solar heat; this is shown when muck is applied to the surface of snow in the spring."

A hearty appetite is usually the best evidence of overfeeding. There is a limit to the capacity of an animal to appropriate food, and profitable feeding must be kept just inside that limit. This point differs in animals, and can only be learned by careful study of each individual. Indigestion, the result of overfeeding, sometimes takes the form of looseness, and this calls for caution and change of feed and a reduction of quantity. With grain, green food of some kind is needed, and with early pasture-ground, oats or bran can always be profitably fed, particularly to dairy cows, the prevailing opinion to the contrary notwithstanding.

How did it come to pass that all men must sit on the right side of the cow to milk. It has been suggested that the hind sections of the udder contain nearly as much milk again as the front sections, and as the man is much stronger in his right hand than his left, he should sit at the cow with his right hand next to these large sections. This looks like sense, and if we were just starting into the milking question there might be some heed given to this arrangement; but as it is, the practice of locating the milker on the starboard side of the cow has come to stay, and it would take something much stronger than a logical argument to dislodge the milkers of the country and unlearn the cows that have become accustomed to be milked from this side.

Quaint Sayings.

News of the season—Neuralgia and Pneumonia.

After a man has a bout on ale he gets out on bail.

Who kills all the dead letters? Miss Direction.

The sick man wants a constitutional amendment.

Isn't the man who paints a fence a hue-er of wood.

A sewing bee can't sting, but it does lots of buzzing.

The man who tore his coat thinks rents are increasing.

The chief symptoms of a cold in the head is a handkerchief.

Oleomargarine belongs to the rank and vile of groceries.

A gentlemanly fool is more endurable than a boorish sage.

It doesn't take much of a marksman to draw a bead on beer.

When schemes are on foot the politicians are generally on hand.

The profane man never should boast that he is as good as his word.

The figure 9 will "figure" in dates for the next one hundred and ten years.

It is quite proper that infantry should be equipped with small arms.

When the sun comes out these days, the daughters are sure to follow.

A girl appreciates a kiss when she gets old enough to know she ought not to.

For all sad words of pen or lip the saddest are these, "I've got the 'grippe'."

It is a very strong-minded man who can have a tad cold and not have the influenza.

Death advertises itself in many ways, and it generally performs what it advertises.

Queer, isn't it, that a politician should absorb liquids to make himself solid with the boys?

The inexperienced carver is apt to find that a knife, like some rules can work both ways.

When the weather is miserable it is not difficult to find many men who have seen better days.

"When I drink much I can't work so I let it alone." "The drinking?" "No, the working."

"It is as much as a man's life is worth" remarked the man who died with a fat insurance policy on himself.

There is said to be a remarkable movement on foot in some parts of the West. It is to get back to East.

"Butter," says a learned writer, "was unknown to the ancients." Then some of it cannot be as old as it seems.

A man is very much like a buck-wheat cake in this weather. He is disinclined to rise, and when he does is sour and heavy.

Photographers are the most charitable of men, for they are always anxious to take the best view of their fellow creatures.

Some geologists have contradicted Moses; but as all geologists have contradicted each other, Moses stands about as well as anybody.

Tell a woman that she looks fresh and she will smile all over. Tell a man the same thing and if he doesn't kick you it is either because he has corns or daren't.

Tragedy in a Court House.

A terrible tragedy was enacted in the Court House at Galveston, Texas, in which Kyle Terry, nephew of the late Judge David Terry, was instantly killed and two men badly wounded. The killing was the outcome of the Fort Bend troubles, which resulted some time ago in such a bloody battle between the citizens of Richmond.

Some months ago Terry, who was tax assessor of Fort Bend county and a member of what is known as the "Woodpecker party," had a difficulty with the three Gibson boys, all members of the Jaybird party. Five weeks later Terry met one of the Gibson brothers in Wharton and killed him.

This morning Kyle Terry, his brother, Captain David Terry, of California; Judge Parker, Judge Weston, Dr. Gale and some others entered the front door of the Court House. Terry turned to the left towards the stairway and had just reached the second step when the first shot was fired. It struck him under the right arm and came out of the left breast and literally tore his heart to pieces.

There was a moment's lull and then four or five shots were fired from different directions. One passed through the arm of Judge Weston, of Fort Bend county, another through the leg of Henry Pittle, a Galvestonian. Eye-witnesses say three men were shooting, naming Vol Gibson, who killed Terry, and whose brother Terry had killed in Wharton, Dan Ragsdale and Young Mitchell all from Fort Bend county and all Jaybirds.

Immediately after the shooting arrests were made. The principal one was Vol Gibson, who fired the first and only fatal shot. He is a young man about 25 years old, and treats the matter coolly. Gibson was the oldest man in the attacking party, four of the others being under 21 years of age. It was evident that the intention was to kill Weston and Parker as well as Terry.

Judge Parker is a member of the State Legislature from Fort Bend county and is charged with having been the cause of the late riot in Richmond. His trial for murder comes up to-morrow. He is charged with killing a negro woman during the Richmond riot.

Some Facts About "Relics."

Charley Howard was talking to Burke, the old book store man a few evenings ago, when a stranger fresh from New Orleans slipped up, saying to Mr. Burke:

"What will you give for a big lock of Jeff Davis's hair?"

"Ah, I have plenty of it," answered Mr. Burke. "Quite a quantity."

Then as the stranger walked away surprised that any one should have the treasure he thought so valuable, Mr. Burke said:

"The truth is I have anything a

relic-hunter wants. I have hair from the head of many distinguished men, dead or alive. Maybe you wouldn't believe it, but one-quarter the money I put into my house came from the sale of hair on George Washington's head.

"Do you know," Mr. Burke went on, "that the relic-hunter is the biggest fool on earth. Any relic he may want has no value. It is simply a question of how much he is able to pay. I can always size a man up as he comes in, and am therefore able to hit him just right.

"Take a battlefield relic," said Mr. Burke, after a pause. "I go home, say, and get my wife to mark a half-dozen pieces of ribbon as I want it. Then I pound two bullets together and fasten to the ribbon. They are bullets, you know, which met in mid-air on the Kinnesaw field. I put one in the showcase with the card, and the others in a drawer. A relic-hunter buys the only one, but as soon as he is gone the drawer is opened and another takes its place. They cost about a dime and bring in five."—Atlanta Constitution.

The Average Mother-in-Law.

There is no female woman now stationed on the buzzon on this earth who is more anxious to please, and falls oftener than the average mother-in-law.

Her motives are seldom construed right, and what is in often real good sense and genuine kindness is called sticking her nose into things.

There is no stashed in life more difficult to pill; it is harder to be a fast class mother-in-law and do the subject just than it is to be a wife.

I would rather be an old maid than to be a mother-in-law, but I don't never expect to be either.

I have seen mother-in-law who were as hard to get along with as a bunyon; but I no scores of them who were as gentle as the dew on the mountain grass and as nice to have in the house as a bottle of Spalding's glue.

The average mother-in-law has sympathy; she also has my advice, and it is this—don't live with your children until you are obliged to.—New York Weekly.

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Prospectus 1890.

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