

Democratic Watchman

Bellefonte, Pa., June 27, 1890.

Farm Notes.

As egg producers the Houdans claim their place among the first; they are non-sitters, and if not equaling in the number of eggs the Leghorns and Hamburgs, they out-strip them all in weight, as two large, white eggs will turn the scales with three Leghorn or Hamburg eggs. The eggs of Houdans are usually very fruitful. The chickens very healthy and fast growers, and not subject to most diseases which attack young chickens; both chickens and old fowls are very meaty, tender, and fine in flavor, and valuable as table fowls.

The striped beetle is the enemy that prevents the melon and cucumber grower from realizing a crop. The *Rural New Yorker's* remedy is one that should be tried. Into a pail of hand plaster put sufficient spirits of turpentine to give the plaster a strong flavor. In the morning (after the plants have had sufficient growth) scatter a small pinch on each hill. The odor drives away the beetles, and a second application is seldom necessary.

The importance of washing or currying the cow for the purpose of preventing disease may be shown by the fact that while a cow may discharge 20 pounds of water through the kidneys she may drink 100 pounds, the 80 pounds passing off through the skin, carrying with it matter that should be eliminated from the body. Unless the water passes off freely the milk will be more or less contaminated. Wash the cow, curry or brush her, and remove the dried matter and scurf on the skin in order to promote free perspiration.

Smut on oats is now easily destroyed in a very simple manner. The Department of Agriculture, in its "Journal of Mycology," states that if the seed be treated with scalding water, which is poured over the seed, and the seed immersed in the hot water for a few minutes, no injury will be done the seed, while the pores from which the fungus is propagated are destroyed.

The *Massachusetts Ploughman* says there is no truth in the belief that some seeds, such as cucumbers and squashes, improve with age for several years. They are never so vigorous and good as when fresh, and slowly lose their vitality until at the end of a number of years they are quite uncertain.

Professor E. F. Ladd said, at the last meeting of the New York State Dairyman's Association, that, taking the results of the dairy conference of last year, he finds that in some cases less than thirteen pounds of milk were required to produce a pound of butter; at other conferences as high as thirty-two or thirty-three pounds were required.

H. P. Hopkins, of New York, avers that every time he churns unripe cream he loses. He says: "When cream is a trifle acid it is sufficiently ripened. I prefer a concussive churn to the friction churn. White specks in butter come from coagulation of the milk, which settles to the bottom of the cans. They should be washed out properly."

That persistent pest of some sections—crab grass—is easily destroyed when young, but it grows rapidly, and extends its roots in every direction. It will crowd down every other plant in its way, and the only mode of preventing its occupancy of the soil is to begin the work of eradicating as soon as it puts in an appearance.

The sheep that has been sheared will now be more thrifty than the one heavily covered with wool. The heat is very injurious to sheep unless they can have a cool place to which to resort, with plenty of fresh water. They seek their food early, rest during the day and graze again late in the afternoon.

It was never intended that ensilage should be used as a food for stock, to the exclusion of grain or hay. The ensilage is to supply the place of grass in the winter season. Sow your corn now, and it will provide you with excellent addition to the regular food at the proper time.

Never ship poultry to market alive in summer, as they suffer greatly on the journey. Kill all kinds of poultry, dry pick them and pack the carcasses in ice. The extra price obtained will pay for the labor of dressing, while less loss will result from shipment to market.

How to cheapen the cost is to apply the cost where the product will be the largest. It is not profitable to feed some animals, for a pound of food given to inferior stock will cost just as much as a pound of food given to choice animals.

Clover should be cut just before the heads begin to turn brown. To cut it sooner is to lose a portion of the nutritious matter, while to cut it after the blossoms turn brown is to permit it to become more woody and less succulent.

As the roots of red clover equal two-thirds the weight of the stalks the plowing in of a clover sod leaves in the soil a large amount of valuable nitrogenous matter which cannot be so cheaply procured in any other manner.

Young strawberry beds will quickly be overrun with crab grass this season, the best preventive being to cultivate the rows after every rain, which will push the strawberry plants ahead.

Land plaster will often cause a field of grass to show growth after it is apparently exhausted from frequent cropping. Plaster and ashes make an excellent combination.

Not So Bad as He Expected.

Two soft, white arms go stealing around his neck, and a fair, peach-like cheek is rubbed caressingly against his own. Faintly whispered "Dear papa," and "Darling old boy," and "Don't you love your own caramel?" reach his startled ears as he vainly attempts to pull himself together and avoid the loving, sugar-coated attack which he well knows is coming.

"Well, daughter mine," he finally asks, "what is it? Not another new dress, surely?"

"Oh, no, papa darling."

"H—m—m, that's good. And it can't be the milliner again?"

"No, papa, love."

"H—m—m, better still. It isn't the florist?"

"No, you dearest papa."

"H—m—m, Great scott! You don't want a trip to Europe, do you?"

"No, you lovely old dear."

"Well, what in the name of goodness do you want, my little girl?"

"Darling papa mine, I don't want anything—at all—that is—Jack wants me."

Knew His Business.

A small fishing schooner was crawling along the shores of Puget Sound, driven by a light wind, one day recently. She was an old-fashioned craft, manned by two men, a captain and a mate. The mate, who was stationed on the bow of the vessel, suddenly espied a tide-rip ahead, and thinking it was evidence of a sunken reef, hastened towards the stern of the vessel.

"Captain Blank, there is a reef dead ahead!" reported the mate.

"Hump!" replied the captain, without changing the course of the vessel.

The mate went forward and watched the tide-rip uneasily for some time.

Finally he again went aft.

"Captain," said he, "we are getting dangerously close to that reef."

"Mr. Mate," growled the captain, savagely, "you take care of your end of the vessel and I will take care of mine."

The mate said nothing now, but going forward he seized the anchor and threw it overboard. It caught on the bottom and the vessel swung around, bow to the wind, with everything sinking.

"Captain," said the mate, as he again went aft, "I have to report that my end of the vessel is at anchor."

Proverbs About Rain.

The past few months in this latitude have been so dry (?) that we feel that our readers will all be interested in some old "saws" concerning signs of rain.

When there is unusual clearness in the atmosphere, and objects are seen very distinctly, there will probably be rain. When clouds are gathering toward the sun at setting, with a rosy hue, they foretell rain.

Evening gray and morning red, Put on your hat, or you'll wet your head.

If rain commences before day, it will stop before 8 a. m.; if it begins about noon, it will continue through the afternoon; if not till 5 p. m., it will rain through the night; if it clears off in the night, it will rain the next day.

If it rains before seven, It will clear before eleven.

If it rains before sunrise, expect a fair afternoon. If it rains when the sun shines, it will rain the next day. If clouds appear suddenly in the south, expect rain.

Rain from the south prevents the drouth, But rain from the west is always best.

When rain comes from the west it will not continue long. If rain falls during an east wind it will continue a full day. If an assemblage of small clouds spread out or become thicker or darker, expect rain. Small, inky clouds foretell rain. Dark clouds in the west at sunrise indicate rain on that day. If the sky after fine weather becomes heavy with small clouds, expect rain.

It is for you who want, or use anything eatable, either as meats, fish, groceries, fruits, nuts, relishes, or in fact anything from a piece of chewing gum to a first class beef steak, that we write and pay the printer to print this invitation for you to come and see us.

If you live in town drop in and see what all we have and what quality of goods we carry.

If you live in the country come in the first time you come to town and learn how easy it is to get good, pure, fresh groceries, as low if not lower than many have been in the habit of paying for old, impure and strengthless articles of diet.

If you have any good fresh farm produce bring it along. Under any and all circumstances

COME AND SEE US.

SECHLER & CO.

35. 1. 66 & 68 West High St.

Are so well established that words can not add anything to their good name. A full supply of different sizes in our New Store room, Hale building.

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That defy competition in quality and low prices

o—ROAD CARTS—o

of latest styles and lowest prices.

Wm. Shortridge, Business Manager.

Robt. McCalmont, Managers.

35 20 6m.

Sechler's Grocery.

TO THE HUNGRY PUBLIC.

It is only those who eat—the many who require the necessities of life, to prolong their existence, that we address.

Those who use nothing—who think they need nothing—who live on expectation, hope or some intangible nothing, will save time by passing this column by. It is not intended for them but the other fellows. We write what is here put down for the people who are mortal enough to get hungry, and in consequence of getting hungry are sensible enough to try to get what is good, pure, wholesome and necessary, at prices that don't require them to lay out all that they earn, to appease their appetites. We have been in the hunger appealing business for many, many years. We know what men want, we know what women and children desire, and we know how much better and how much more pleasant it is to reside in a community where people enjoy good health, than among dyspeptic complainers, growlers and sufferers. To have healthy people pure food must be used. We understand this, and understanding it, keep nothing but the purest of everything that can be found in the market. To satisfy the demands of the many different stomachs that we try to gratify, requires a vast variety of dainties, condiments and relishes, as well as the substantial; and knowing this there is nothing that is eatable, relishable or appetizing, that we do not keep.

It is for you who want, or use anything eatable, either as meats, fish, groceries, fruits, nuts, relishes, or in fact anything from a piece of chewing gum to a first class beef steak, that we write and pay the printer to print this invitation for you to come and see us.

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