

Democratic Watchman

Bellefonte, Pa., July 18, 1890.

Farm Notes.

Inventors have greatly lessened the labor of the farmer, compared with the mode of working of a farm twenty years ago. It is doubtful if farm work is as hard as that required in some other occupations. At the present time the farmer rides when he plows, when he harrows and when he cultivates the land, and he does more work in a day than formerly. Where a dozen men were required to cradle the wheat the farmer now sits on a seat and cuts, rakes and binds his wheat at one operation, and can work a large field alone.

With one cow that persistently started, stepped and kicked, says Mr Cradall in the New York Tribune, it was at last discovered that she only did it when the teat was grasped high up when beginning to milk. The pressure of milk there at the time caused pain. By milking at first with but two or three fingers on the end of the teat and drawing downward so as to elongate it and relieve the pressure above, the cow was got to stand perfectly quiet. This plan may mollify a number of "kickers."

A subscriber asks what is meant by "thumb and finger" pruning. It is simply to remove all new shoots that appear on the trunks by picking them off. This applies also to any shoots left on trees or vines which are to be shortened by pinching off the ends, which prevents growth, except in the laterals therefrom. By pinching the ends of some plants they become more stocky.

Always endeavor to secure the healthy growth of plants. By producing a thrifty, well-matured crop you secure that which is nutritious and adapted for the purposes required, but when the crop is weak and immature you will secure only woody fibre and water. A matured crop not only gives a larger quantity of food for stock, but also that which will give good results in proportion.

"G. K. H." asks how to drive black ants from his shrubbery. By freely dusting the leaves, twigs, trunk and the ground over the roots and around the base of the trunk with good, fresh insect powder the ants will be destroyed. It may be mentioned, however, that the ants destroy aphids (which may be the real enemies), but the insect powder will be effectual in either case.

A prominent stock-breeder says: In raising colts I teach them to eat, and have them on full feed of bran and oats before they are weaned, and I can wean them at four months without any loss of flesh. I feed no corn until past 2 years old, but feed liberally with bran, carrots and oats, and all the cornfodder or clover hay that they will eat, and maintain a steady growth all winter.

Somebody estimates that an acre of clover will make 600 pounds of pork. Whether this will pay or not depends on how the clover is fed, the management of the hogs and the value of the land and crop. Clover will probably pay better if fed to cows, but even in that case the value will depend on the manure as much as on the milk.

If you wish to grow a crop of fodder corn do not be tempted to plant too thickly. One stalk in a place one foot apart in the row, is better for cultivation, and permits of more air and sunlight to the plants. Cut the corn well and stack under shelter, which will keep it bright and clean.

The blackberry crop is being gradually reduced every year, owing to the insect attacks, which could be avoided if growers would unite in destroying the old canes. The failure on the part of a single grower to do so causes injury to the crops of a whole neighborhood and prevents extermination of insect pests.

Mixed grasses are better for stock than a single variety. No matter how valuable any particular grass crop may be or how large the yield, the stock will thrive better if fed on variety. The individual preferences of the cattle differ, and they will at all times accept a change of food, which promotes appetite and thrift.

If you wish to preserve eggs for next fall or winter remove all males from the yards. The hens will lay well without the presence of males, and the eggs will keep three times as long as those that are from hens in company with males. This is an important point in preserving eggs.

Some farmers are afraid to use large amounts of manure for fear that the manure will "burn" the crop. It is doubtful if any kind of crop is injured in that manner, unless during a very unfavorable season, but many crops fail because not enough manure is used.

Improvement goes on in all branches. Even the bee-keepers now know how to cross and to improve their stock. There are almost as many varieties of bees as there are of cattle. Over seventy-five breeds of fowls are now bred to a standard of points.

Do not sell off an inferior animal until it is prepared for the market. To attempt to sell poor stock is but little better than giving it away. Make it fat, thus increasing the price per pound as well as securing greater weight.

High prices for good animals are not confined to any class. Imported dogs have cost \$1000. Three buff Cochins sold at New York last February for \$100, and an Oxford Down ram sold a few years ago for \$5000.

During the summer it is better to avoid corn as feed for horses than to use it. Plenty of hay is the best food, with a small allowance of oats twice a day. It is of no advantage to have the horses very fat.

Put in your turnip crop. It will pay you in the winter season.

Horse Whims.

Some delicate feeding horses have queer freaks. It requires as much patience and skill to manage such horses as it does to manage some delicate, pampered and spoiled children. Some of these thin-skinned, long-legged, slab-sided, pale-colored, coatless horses for a time reject food altogether if given too plentifully, too sparsely, too wet, too hot, too coarse, too wet, too dry. Some must drink before eating. Some of these horses will not eat in company, some insist upon company. Some are so timid that a horse in the next stall prevents their feeding. Some tire of oats, bran, meal, hay. Such horses require a variety of food. Carrots will be taken by nearly all. As a rule delicate feeders are equally delicate workers and prefer short drives. It is advisable to get rid of these horses or any animal of the kind. Although for an honest and honorable man trading horses seldom proves profitable, yet the chances with delicate horses are two to one that the trader of the delicate horse will have the best of the bargain. To save trouble and time a few lines specifically written, signed and witnessed will also prove of service. It may be possible for a truly Christian gentleman to trade horses without seriously impairing his manhood.

CORN AND CHICKEN PIE.—Take eighteen ears of corn, cut off the grains, season with salt and pepper. Cut three spring chickens into quarters and parboil with their gizzards and livers. Have ready a deep baking dish; cover the bottom with corn; then put in the pieces of chicken, dotted with pieces of butter; next pour over it the water in which the chicken was parboiled. Season and cover with the rest of the corn; bake for about an hour. When done the corn on top should be a delicate brown. This is a most delicious dish.

A German naturalist estimates as follows the number of eggs a hen may lay: The ovary of a hen contains about 600 embryonic eggs, of which not more than twenty are matured in the first year. The second year produces 120; the third 135, the fourth 114; and in the following four years the number decreases twenty yearly: In the ninth year only ten eggs can be expected.

THE PASSING AWAY OF BASE-BALL.—Foreign Visitor.—I see it stated that public interest in base-ball is declining.

American Host (sadly)—I fear it is. I haven't seen an umpire mobbed this season.

Use the great specific for "cold in head" and catarrh—Dr. Sage's Catarrh Remedy.

THE ANSWER WAS A THRASHING.—"Now, boys, we have ten minutes for questions. Is there anything you'd like to have explained?" said the teacher in mythology.

"Yes, sir," said Willie. "How much did Apollo owe?"

"Is it proper to say 'he is,' or 'He be'?" queried Johnny.

"In what respect did Jupit-err?" put in Georgie.

But there came no answer. The teacher thrashed them soundly, and sent them home to their Mars.

A new idea in Ely's Cream Balm. Catarrh is cured by cleansing and healing, not by drying up. It is not a liquid or snuff, but is easily applied into the nostrils. Its effect is magical and a thorough treatment will cure the worst cases. Price 50c.

WHENOR THE FLIES.—So you want to know where the flies come from, do you, Lucullus? Well, the cyclone makes the house fly, the blacksmith makes the fire fly, the carpenter makes the saw fly, the driver makes the horse fly, and if that is not enough for you, you will have to pursue your future studies in entomology alone.—Terre Haute Express.

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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 appeasing 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.

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