

Democratic Watchman

Bellefonte, Pa., February 6, 1891.

Farm Notes.

Overfeeding is detrimental to complete digestion and is a waste of food. While heavy feeding is the universal recommendation if a large yield is to be secured, yet it would be well to pause and consider the fact that the powers of an animal may be overtaxed and its digestion impaired. Regularity of feeding and the allowance of a sufficiency should be observed, but nothing can be gained by going beyond the limit of the capacity of the animal. It is safe to claim that disease is more frequently the result of overfeeding than from any other cause.

Clover hay is the standard food for cows in winter, owing to its nutritious qualities compared with many other foods, but there is no reason why it should be fed to the exclusion of corn-fodder and other coarse foods that may be utilized with the clover. A ration of straw sometimes affords an agreeable change of diet to an animal that has been given nothing but grain and clover. It is cheaper to give a mixed food at all times, variety being appreciated by all classes of stock.

Peach trees probably made more growth of wood last year than may be desirable, and are therefore more liable to injury from severe cold. The extra wood should not be cut away until the beginning of spring, or until the frost and cold has finished the damage. Keep the ground around tender fruit trees mulched if there is liability of an early flow of sap, as is sometimes the case where certain trees are favorably located.

A cellar should be dry at all seasons. If the chimney starts from the cellar floor a fire-place should be made in the cellar, so as to keep a wood-fire burning occasionally, which serves not only to dry the cellar but also to ventilate it thoroughly. At the same time a cellar should not be warmer than 50 degrees above zero, nor colder than 40 degrees.

A Texas stock-raiser recommends roasted cotton-feed as a great improvement on cotton-seed as now fed to stock. Though the yield of milk is not increased, the flavor of the butter produced therefrom is much better and the color more uniform. He recommends it very highly to those interested in feeding cotton-feed in any form.

The air may be made to enrich the soil, and add nitrogen thereto, by growing clover and plowing under green manurial crops. Land that has been left in fallow has been known to increase in fertility by the nitrogenous matter carried down to the soil by the rains, which derive ammonia and nitric acid from the atmosphere.

South Carolina has had more poultry shows and larger exhibits of fowls this winter than any other State in the Union. Yet, only three years ago she was far behind the average place in the poultry industry. Georgia and Louisiana are close to her, with New York and New England following.

Throw the sweepings of the hay loft, and the chaff from the wheat, in the poultry house, so as to induce the hens to scratch and work in the litter. When given an opportunity to exercise, by scratching, the hens will lay more eggs than when kept in a state of inactivity.

Butter and sugar take nothing of value from the soil. They are carbonaceous materials, and come from the air, the plants taking the carbon from the free carbonic acid of the atmosphere, which is converted into many materials grown or used on the farm.

Corn that has been grown so as to mature early, and the seeds selected for next year before the crop was harvested, as well as kept dry during the winter, will give better results next season as seed for planting than to use seed from the crib.

Nothing is lost that is added to the soil if a farm is properly managed. The coarsest manure will become plant food after a lapse of a certain period of time, but it is best to endeavor to have all manure in the finest possible condition.

Smutty corn is said to be very injurious to stock; horses frequently dying from the effects of the smut eaten with the corn. All grain containing ergot gives ill effects also. Grain for should be clean and free from all signs of disease.

An animal will perish if fed exclusively on one kind of food, no matter how concentrated or nutritious it may be, as there is no perfect food for all classes of stock except by affording a mixed ration.

Cataway the wood of blackberries while the ground is frozen. Do not delay such work until spring. Carefully burn all cuttings, in order to guard against diseses.

If butter pays better than beef the steer should not take the place of the cow, but if the cow is not up to the full standard of production the steer will pay better.

Ducks should now be laying, and the eggs command a high price. Laying ducks should be given a liberal allowance of animal food at this season.

Wood and coal are cheaper than grain to keep animals warm, and many farmers consequently warm the feed and drinking water for the stock.

Geese and ducks are very partial to cooked turnips, which may be fed with ground grain. Such food is better for them than too much grain.

Linsed meal is one of the best foods for animals that are shedding their coats and also for fowls that are molting their feathers.

HE WAS HIT HARD.—Teacher—What is a famine? Small boy (who has been in the country).—Fishes an' mites of apple trees and nuthin' on 'em.—Good News.

Reputation.

Beauty of reputation is a mantle of spotless ermine, in which if you are wrapped you shall receive the homage of those about you, as real, and as spontaneous as any ever paid to personal beauty in its most entrancing hour. Some kind of reputation you must have, whether you will or not. In school, in church, at home, and in society you carry ever with you the wings of a good, or the ball and chain of a bad reputation. Resolve to make it beautiful, clear, shining, gracious. This is within your power though the color of your eyes and hair is not. But reputation, after all, is but the shadow cast by character, and beauty in its best and highest sense commands all forces worth the having in all worlds. Every form of attractiveness confesses the primacy of this Beauty of character. It includes every good of which the human heart can know, and makes the woman who possesses it a princess in Israel, whose home is everybody's heart.

—The old story which Sidney Smith, tells of an Irishman looking over his shoulder while he was composing a letter, of his writing "I would say more but an impudent fellow stands here reading every word," and of the Irishman exclaiming, "Ye lie, I haven't read a word," is said to be several hundred years older than the New Testament.

—The prevalent idea in regard to thick food being the most nourishing, is erroneous. Mother's milk is quite the yet very nutritious. Mellin's Food, when prepared for use, is thin like breast milk and corresponds physiologically to mother's milk.

—Little Bessie had been offended in some way. She went off into a corner of the room and turned her back on the company. "I'm mad!" she exclaimed, sulkily. "I wish I didn't have any papa or mamma."

"That's wrong, dear said her mother. "We are the best friends you have."

"Well," said Bessie, still sulking, "I don't mind havin' papa. He isn't here much. But I'm getting awful tired of the rest of you."

—It is never too late to mend a sprained ankle, swollen limbs, stiff neck or any pain or ache, if you but use that sovereign remedy, Salvation Oil, the greatest cure on earth for pain. Price 25cts.

—Considering the paucity of marriageable young men in New York it is rather hard on the girls of this city that two such catches as John Jacob Astor and W. W. Astor should take their brides from Philadelphia stock is very high just now, and the bells of the Quaker City are pluming themselves on their victories.

—Within the memory of the older generation twelve hours was a day's labor. There was a time when fourteen hours was insisted upon. The proposition to drop from twelve to ten was urged by the employers as a dangerous proceeding, productive of great loss, and certain to revolutionize the industries and all society.

—No other preparation combines the positive economy, the peculiar merit and the medicinal power of Hood's Sarsaparilla.

—The Queen of Roumania, during her sojourn in England, visited a needle factory. While watching the work one of the men asked her Majesty for a single hair from her head. The Queen granted his request, with a smile. The man placed the hair under the needle of his machine, bored a hole in it, drew a fine silk thread through the hole and then presented it to the astonished Queen.

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MRS. CYRUS PROSCH, Coventryville, Fort Lee P. O., N. J. N. B. My husband is president of the Prosch Manufacturing Company, proprietors of the "Duplex" and "Triplex" Photographs, Shutter, 381 Broome Street, New York City. He dislikes undesirable notoriety, but is willing to make sacrifices to benefit others, and assents to this testimonial to encourage the use of *Cuticura*, and thus bring relief to others.

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