

Democratic Watchman

Bellefonte, Pa., March 16, 1894.

Farm Notes.

—There is as much need of improving the quality of the butter as to increase the quantity.

—The breeder of stock can do himself good service by culling out the inferior animals. If he will do this every year he will improve his stock rapidly.

—No soil will produce a maximum yield unless it is drained. A dry soil is warm, while a damp soil is kept cool by constant evaporation of moisture from the surface.

—What we need to do is to intensify our farming, concentrate our work and fertilizer to fewer acres, and instead of raising ten or fifteen bushels of wheat per acre, raise thirty bushels, and other crops in proportion.

—This is an excellent time to begin spraying the vines and trees to destroy fungus and spores. It is never too early to begin, and the work should be done frequently which will lessen the labor after the buds appear.

—It is not judicious to discard a brood sow that has been successful with her pigs for one that is younger. A good mother is an important qualification, as many sows destroy some of the pigs by crushing them, or from carelessness in some manner.

—There is a wide difference in the amount creamery patrons receive from a cow. You can easily see this by examining the records of any creamery. Do you think this difference is wholly in the cows, or may not part of it be in the men and the methods?

—A smooth meadow makes easy mowing. It is a good plan to roll the land as early as possible in spring, using a heavy roller and carrying a box upon it in which to put all surface stones. It pays better to pick these up than to leave them to break your mower knives on.

—The application of a wash to peach trees composed of lime, soft soap, and carbolic acid, is claimed by a prominent peach grower to be a sure preventive of the attacks of the peach borer. The carbolic acid is the principal substance that is beneficial, its odor repelling the insect.

—The branch of agriculture which has the very least of a speculative nature about it to produce such things as can be consumed on the land marketed on the hoof. Even if a man has not much business talent, he cannot go very far wrong if he sticks to this course right through.

—There are certain principles which are equally essential, whether one is growing stock or cultivating crops. One thing that must be done in either case is to weed closely. Some men never think of weeding out the inferior calves or pigs, but go on breeding them and so perpetuate their bad qualities.

—A small flock of sheep will pay better, proportionately, than large numbers, as they will secure much food that would be insufficient for a large flock. Weeds and undesirable plants may supply a small flock with all that is required in summer, but if the flock is large food must be provided.

—It has been suggested that the country roads could be improved with iron rails, similar to those on street railways. It would not make the travel easier for the horses but would lessen the draught. It is better, however, to make the entire road good, and use rails if desired, to avoid cutting up the roads with wheels.

—Scabby seed potatoes should not be planted, neither should smooth potatoes be planted on land, where shabby potatoes grew the year before. Always select clean, smooth seed, which treat with one application of corrosive sublimate by soaking them in a solution of one ounce of the sublimate mixed in fifteen gallons of water. It has proved beneficial.

—Fighting the weeds is hard work, but when the weeds are kept down from the start, beginning with the first plants that appear in the spring, they can all be destroyed before summer appears. When weeds are very young they are easily killed, but if they become well rooted they are persistent. There is no work more profitable than that bestowed in destroying weeds as soon as they appear above ground.

—Feeding the hog is being revolutionized. Formerly anything that could be fed to swine was allowed, without regard to the filth contained, sour swill filled with disease germs, being the principal diet. Intelligent farmers now feed clover, corn, wheat, vegetables, ground grain, and whey or skim milk, given in clean troughs, with plenty of clean water available at all times.

—High prices for "gilt edge" butter are secured by seeking the customers and convincing them that the butter is superior to that which is offered in the markets. It may require several months of time to secure a large custom at extra high prices, but once established the butter will always be in demand. The same may be said of eggs—the strictly fresh kinds being in demand at all times at prices above those obtained in the markets.

—If a milch cow is desired, her beef-producing qualities must not be considered. A cow that converts food into milk is not the one to produce beef. The breeder of beef is not regarded as butter or milk producer, though individual uals occasionally excel in that direction. The dairymaid should select breeds that are reliable for conforming to the requirements of the dairy, leaving the value of the cows as beef producers out of his estimates altogether.

Swallowed a Coffee Bean.

The 2-year-old child of Mr. Frank Adams, 76 Washington avenue Altoona last Friday noon, swallowed a coffee bean, causing it intense suffering. All possible was done for it, but the child rapidly grew worse until Saturday morning its life was despaired of. Dr. Buck was called and advised the opening of the wind-pipe, which operation, with the consent of the parents, was undertaken by him, assisted by Dr. Walters. The bean was located at the division of the wind-pipe into the right and left lung. An instrument was passed in, the foreign body was removed and relief was immediate. The child is now doing well.

—The earliest fanning mill or winnowing machine was invented in China and in use there for centuries, while Europeans were cleansing their grain by casting it into the air on a windy day.

—A set of iron fetters was exhumed in the churchyard of St. Andrews, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, recently. It is supposed that a male-factor had been buried with the fetters attached to his ankles.

—The highest broad gauge railroad in the United States is the Denver and Rio Grande, and its highest point is at Marshall Pass, where it climbs to a height of 10,855 feet above the sea.

—President Harper, of the University of Chicago, denies the published statement attributed to him that "the story of the murder of Abel by his brother Cain is a myth."

—When the rag doll and the stuffed elephant got married they found each other out.

—If you've picked up a crooked stick, don't tell every one so.

Business Notice.

Children Cry for Pitcher's Castoria.

When baby was sick, we gave her Castoria. When she was a Child, she cried for Castoria. When she became Miss, she clung to Castoria. When she had Children, she gave them Castoria.

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