FARM NOTES

-A guinea hen belonging to Mrs. Harriet Poist, of Colora, this State, is reported to have laid 100 eggs in 102 days.

-J. H. Engle, of Abilene, Kan., raised 1000 bushels of potatoes and 50 bushels of corn to an acre on the same ground. He planted the potatoes six feet apart and the corn between the rows.

-W. F. Schilling, president of the Minnesota Dairymen's association, owns a Holstein cow, Esther Piebe de Kol, which produced 2885 pounds of milk in 30 days, or twice her own weight.

-H. J. Ludlow, superintendent of th Nobles County (Minn.) Department of Horticulture, declares that for the past 17 years he has made from \$500 to \$800 a year on a half-acre of apple trees.

—The price of poultry and eggs has in-oreased to the consumer in the past ten years more rapidly than any other agricul-ural product except bacon. Eggs have in-oreased 47 per cent. and poultry 37 per

-In 18 years alfalfa has become the leading grass crop of Kansas. The 1909 statistics show that the State's alfalfa area is greater than that of the timothy, clover, blue grass, orohard grass and other tame grasses combined.

—Cucumbers, long, green ones—18 inches to 2½ feet, without seeds, are the most recent arrivals from London in the fancy vegetable market to New York. They are the result of years of experiment on the part of the English gardeners.

-The brood sow that is mature can, with safety, raise two litters a year and be carried cheaply and easily from the weaning of the spring litter to the coming of the fall litter without much grain ration, if given plenty of succulent feed.

-Seventeen Jersey cows under authenticated fat tests have produced 700 pounds of butter or over in one year. These cows represent the berds of 11 different owners in nine States. The average yield of butter of the 17 is nearly 813 pounds.

-Farmers of Southern New Jersey last summer shipped \$1,000,000 worth of vege-tables to New England, the Middle West and Canada. Through the efforts of the Pennsylvania Railroad the market for garden production has been greatly widened.

-It is a good plan to sit down on a winter evening and make a mental image of the soil on each field upon the farm. Think of what each spot has produced in the past years. Select the poor places and make definite plans for making them more productive.

-Fresh poultry manure is said to be product of 25 hene for the winter season of six months as 375 pounds for the roost droppings only.

-It is estimated that the census will show almost 200 000 more farms in opera-tion than in 1900, with a total of about 6,000,000—an increase of several millions of people employed on farms. In 1900 there were 10,433,188 males over 10 years

-Considerable more than 50 per cent. of the entire wheat crop of 1907, estimated in round numbers at 634 000,000 bushels, was grown in 15 of the older States east of the Mississippi, their gross yield being placed at 382,000,000 bushels. This is more than three times as much as the largest wheat crop ever grown in the Canadian North-

-A good way to begin to break a colt is to make a stall for it and tie and feed it in the stall daily. Feeding while you handle the young animal is one of the very best ways of winning its confidence. Use an extra heavy halter on the colt from the first. If it early learns that it cannot break a halter it will go through life with that delusion, much to the profit of the owner.

—Though people have an idea that pig-cons are very hardy and can be kept with little or no attention, the facts are that unless their food is of good quality, and their houses are kept clean, they are subject to many diseases. Pigeons are naturally very cleanly, and when allowed their liberty, select only the best food and the varieties that please them, but when they are confined, we must select these things

-It has been found that fresh air is also good for the borse. Keeping horses in filthy, dark, unventilated stables is the cause of many a case of sickness among horses. Canadian veterinary authorities claim that the average case of influenza or distemper will not need much medical attention if the borse is allowed an ahundance of fresh air. It is absolutely certain that a plentiful supply of fresh air is nec-essary to maintain a horse in good health.

-The bog commends itself to the general farmer on account of its prolific qualities.

A sow will produce two litters of pigs of six to a dozen each per year, and the farm-er can turn his money over several times with hogs while he is waiting for other animals to mature. Hogs require a little more care at times than some other animals but the man who likes to work with them and is willing to study their needs and give them regular care, will find them a most profitable adjunct to the farm. They can be turned into money or food, as the

-The annual feeding stuffs inspection bulletin of the New York Agricultural Experiment station says that of the 378 brands of feed analyzed, 90 more than last year, only 22, or six less than last year, were found below guarantee in protein and fat—to ship money halfway around the state of t apparently a decided improvement in the quality of the feeds. But when we find of an old wooden chest. A good sum that 10 hrands of wheat hy products contain ground oorn cobs; that some half dogen other brands place grain prices on alfalfa meal; that more than 30 brands, supposedly mixtures of ground farm grains, contain oat hulls; that 28 brands of molasses feeds or similar mixtures contain considerable amounts of unground weed seeds, and that many of the compounded feeds are variously adulterated or sophisticated, we realize chief mate, Dickson, good naturedly that no analysis giving merely chamical percentages can be an efficient check upon oertain fraudulent practices. For this reason every careful feeder should welcome the changed law, effective January 1-t, 1910 which requires a statement of fibre as well as protein and fat (except when the fibre is less than 5 per cent.,) and also requires the maker of compounded feeds to tell what ingredients enter into the mix-

A CHRISTMAS AT CAPE HORN.

NCE I had a shipmate who celebrated the most grateful Christmas of his life at the Horn.

It was on the Mary Ann, in December, 1897. She was a deep cut steel clipper, but she was a four masted bark, and four masted barks are all ugly in heavy seas. The best sea boat afloat will plunge at Cape Horn, but four masted barks are all the time under water. Sometimes they are swamped altogether and float waterlogged around the Horn. Then the current pushes them south to perish in the

Some sailors can be likened to the four masted barks. They are the sailors who have been too long away from home. All sailors plunge liberally into shore life, but the "too long away from home" fellows are, as a rule, swamped in shore life's breakers.

One of my mates on the Mary Ann was Bob Jones, a typical "too long sway from home" unfortunate. But bob still had somebody dear to his heart. He had started on more than one trip around the world with the set determination that the end of the voyage should see him rejoin his own loved ones at home.

But on pay day at the end of his trips his good resolutions had been broken. It had often gone so, and Bob was hiding self despair under the grim surface of a man hating man.

Bob and I, with twelve other Yankees. Dutchmen and Swedes, were on the starboard watch under Chief Mate Dickson of the Mary Ann. When we went below on Christmas eve the sea was running high. Sleet and hail came down in the squalls. The western gale had trimmed our sails down to the lower topsails.

We had hardly fallen asleep when we heard the man at the wheel strike one bell. Before the signal for "All hands on deck" was answered forward Bob and I were out of our bunks and had our sea boots on.

"What's up now?" growled Bob, and he got his answer from Jimmy, the deck boy, who came rushing in with-

out preliminary warning. "Rise, rise, rise, sleepers! Weather ship for icebergs on the leeward bow.

Rise, rise, rise!" The watch on deck was already setworth, compared with the present value of fertilizers, 65 cents per 100 pounds. Figures off the wind. She was running easy from different experiment stations give the when we came on deck, and the storm spanker was hauled out to bring the

ward to fur! the

fore staysail. The

rest of us went

pulled the yards

n to starboard.

Then came the

ugliest part of the

job. Slowly the

Mary Ann turned

to face her foe

again. But before

she could head

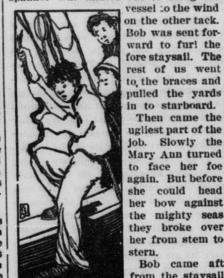
her bow against

the mighty seas

they broke over

her from stem to

Bob came aft



BOB AND THE ROPE to join as just as we all jumped

DROPPED. out of the way, for a big breaker came thundering over the weather rail.

The breaker caught Bob at the fore backstays. He jumped up and put his arm through the coils of the fore sheet, hanging in straps in the royal backstay.

The straps were rotten, and Bob and the coil sheet rope dropped and disappeared in the boiling deck waters. The waters surged to leeward and

carried a dark object with them. The skipper threw a life buoy from the poop.

"Poor Bob!" said everybody to himself. It was all we could do for him. Bob was gone, and there seemed to be no help for it.

We had the Mary Ann snug at last. Our watch had still an hour more below, not long enough to make it worth while to crawl into our bunks, and we lighted our pipes, lay down on our

chests and discussed poor Bob. Bill, who was Bob's own chum, went to Bob's bunk and overhauled the

things. "It is enough to make anybody ripping mad to think of a rotton old strap chacking a poor fellow overboard," mused Bill. "Christmas night too. Say, boys, when we auction this stuff off we've got to show Bob up hand-

some to his friends." It must be explained that when sailors die at sea their belongings are sold globe than to insure the safe delivery of money is also more welcome to most heirs than a chestful of tarred rags. Besides, the sea auctions give the shipmates of the dead an opportunity to "raise his reputation" by adding gener-

ously to his account. Everybody wanted to fill the Christconsented that the auction should be held then and there and came to the forecastle with pencil and paper to record the sales as fast as they were

made.

prticle is a valuable straw pillow. Remember what Bill Shakespeare says. 'Uneasy rests the head that hasn't got a pillow.' What am I bid? Two dollars? Thank you! Three-four-fivesix--six I have. Cape Horn prices, gentlemen. Eight-ten-ten-are you all done? Tom, you can have it for \$10. You may get a better one in San Francisco for 50 cents, but you can't duplicate it for \$50 within a thousand miles of this place.

"Next article is a handsome standup linen collar. It has only been worn by poor Bob in Liverpool and can be washed absolutely clean for the small price of 5 cents. It is the only article of its kind that has ever been for sale at Cape Horn. What am I bid-a dollar-two, two-fifty, three-fifty, fourfour-are you all done? Sold to Dick for \$4. Dick is a sport now. Wait a minute; there is a button in the back of the collar. You will have to buy the button separately, Dick."

And so each worn and patched garment of poor Bob was sold at "Cape Horn prices." Bob's shipmates took

care that none of them contributed less than a month's wages to Bob's final pay The mate at

last put his hand to the bottom of Bob's chest, and from a corner he brought up a bundle of papers wrapped in an old piece of canvas tied together with yellow silken cigar bands. The mate held the bundle thoughtfully in his hand. He hesitated to

trespass.

"Open it up!" A VALUABLE STRAW shouted the men PILLOW. in chorus. "Hem! Well, we will see what

in it anyway." assented the mate. When the canvas cover was opened a score of letters in soiled and torn envelopes dropped out.

"I see no harm in letting you fellows get a little home sentiment out of these old letters," said the mate, "but you must not keep them. They must be forwarded to Bob's friends. You boys can bid for the privilege of reading the letters."

Dick for \$9 bought the right to first pick. He took the best preserved envelope and its inclosure and went away to read the letter. The sale continued, letter after let-

ter fetching a neat sum. Half the letters were sold when Dick came from his corner and interrupted the sale. He looked troubled and shook his letter in our faces. "Boys, this letter is from the girl," said he. "She's a dandy. Bob was

no good. He didn't go home when he was paid off in Liverpool; he didn't go home from New York; he didn't go home from San Francisco when be could have made the trip in a day. The girl is waiting yet."

The mate, who had been intently reading one of the letters, here interrupted.

"Bob's mother is getting old, and she is poor. She does not ask for money. however. All she wants is her boy. He will never return to her now. Poor Bob's mother! Poor Bob!"

At four bells the lookout gave us his "All's well! Side lights burning from the staysail bright." Suddenly he began to beat the forward bell like mad. The lookout was shouting and way

ing his arms from the forecastle head, where he stood clinging to the rail. When we reached the fore part of the house the lookout attracted our attention to a dark object leaning limply against the starboard lighthouse. It was Bob Jones.

We carried him into the forecastle. The mate and the whisky bottle were brought forward, and Bob slowly came to his senses.

"I was slambanged something fearful, boys," drawled Bob. "That breaker caught me right, and the blamed strap broke. Then over she rolled to

"And I saw you go over the side," interrupted Dick. "Not I. It may have been the sheet coil," continued Bob. "I was washed away up under

the forecastle head. I guess I went clean off in a faint after I had crawled to a dry place. When I woke up I made for the forecastle, but I couldn't make it. I dropped right off again at the lighthouse." When Bob had

been bandaged up and given a warm breakfast he was the old Bob once more. The boys poked lots of fun at him when they returned his things to him.

"Hold on, boys: IT WAS BOB JONES. let us make a bargain with Bob," the imperative Dick broke in. "Here is my Bible. If Bob will swear to go home to his mother and the girl from San Francisco he can take the auction money along as a Christmas present."

"That's right! Come on, Bob. Swear, man, swear! "I do, so help me, God, and a merry Christmas to you all, boys!" sobbed Bob. "I will go home. boys-I will!" And he did.-Philadelphia Ledger.

When Shepherds Watched by Night. Some historians contend that the shepherds could not have watched by night on the Bethlehem plains in December, it being a period of great inclemency. In answer to this a well known student says: "Bethiehem is not a cold region. The mercury usually stands all the month of December at 46 degrees. Corn is sown during this time, and grass and herbs spring up after the rains, so that the Arabs drive their flocks down from the mountains into the plains. The most delicate never make fires till about the end of November, and some pass the whole winter without them. From these facts I think it is established without doubt that our Saviour was born on the 25th day of December, the day which the church throughout the world has united to celebrate in honor of Christ's coming in the flesh."-Wash-

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