

HOUSE AND FARM.

Best Time to Cut Grass.

To the stock farmer it is a question of great importance, unless he lives in that fertile belt where grass is green the year through and his stock forage themselves, instead of requiring shelter and the best of prepared food.

The first point to determine is when grass contains the greatest amount of nutriment in a soluble and digestible condition. There is no doubt that grass and all forage plants contain the most absolute nutriment at the time of the perfection of the seed, but in perfecting the seed the stalk yields up its soluble matter and becomes tough and woody, so as to be nearly indigestible to the animal.

There are many things which seem to be advantageous over general practices, which are often strongly urged, and which seem to be backed by the most unanswerable arguments, and in spite of all their promising features, never seem to make their way to public confidence.

From these solid facts it appears that grass at the first blossoming contains all the nutriment that stalk and seed both contain after ripening. And it follows, that if the farmer will cut his grass when its nutritive matter is most digestible, his animals will thrive as well upon it as upon ripe hay with a liberal allowance of grain.

Time and again have we read these arguments, and time on time have we known of periods when people, convinced by them, purchased and worked with them. But in time both ox and mule get their discharge and the good old-fashioned horse takes their places.

Just now we see symptoms of a breaking out of the periodical talk about them. We are prepared at once to agree with all that is to be said in their favor; but yet we are sure that all who buy them, for general farm purposes will in time sell them again, and go on as before.

The fact is that the horse can do all that others can do as a general rule, and a great deal more in some others; and where there is general work to be done, one that will do the most of them tolerably, is better than a great many tools, each well-adapted to its particular end.

Last year the burden of our western papers was what would be done with the enormous crops. But the discussion this year turns on another question. While last year we were to be ruined by a full crop, ruin is this year to follow from its absence.

While recalling the various plans for hunting bees, it occurred to me to tell our brother bee-keepers of a very simple method to catch absconding swarms. The idea is new to me, and though some of your readers may know and practice this method, I have not seen it described in any bee journal.

The idea was imparted to me by a neighboring bee-keeper, who showed me two fine swarms he had thus obtained during the past summer. I propose to adopt the plan this season, and know that a great many of your readers will also, if they should chance to read this, for it is a sure thing and not patented.

swarm to their home, if they succeed in getting away, and we know that many do. Now we want those swarms, and how are we to get them? Why, simply this: Take a few old beehives, or boxes, hives, nail bottoms to them, have a few small holes in the sides for entrances, and hang them up in a few of the large trees—say if an absconding swarm enter the forest it is almost sure to enter one of your hives, which can be removed to your apiary at your leisure.

Don't leave any large holes in your doory hives, if you do squirrels are sure to enter also. My neighbor overlooked this matter, and found in one of his hives not only a swarm of bees, but also a nest of squirrels, all living harmoniously together.

Mules and Oxen.

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the whole of his operations. It is always a serious matter when any heavy crop fails to pay for itself; but it need never be a question of ruin under a proper system of farming. It will always be a matter of interest to know the condition of the crops; but when we see predictions that "farmers will be unable to pay their bills," because this or that thing fails, it seems that the farming is not on a sound basis.

How English Beef is Fat.

The Englishman is proverbial in his quality and love for roast beef, no such "roasts" are found anywhere else in the world. The modus operandi of its best production is as follows: A pit is dug generally about six feet deep and ten square, in which the animal to be fattened is lowered. It is then supplied with all the roots, hay, and meal it can digest, and furnished with the quantity of water, as well as an abundance of dry litter. The droppings are trampled under-foot by the animal as he moves about in his narrow cell, and gradually by their accumulation, rise to a level with the surface of the ground.

One great trouble with the American beef is that the animals get too much exercise. Even our stall fed animals, are allowed to roam about too much. But the worst feature of all is the fact that nearly all the beef which is found in the market of our great cities is driven thither on foot, and killed without rest or recuperation, and of course in a diseased state.

When a bullock is taken from the pasture and placed in a stall or pit, it continues to grow in bone and muscle; or red flesh, as well as to accumulate fat, and the fatty matter is so blended with the muscular as to make the latter tender, juicy, and highly flavored.

In fattening as a general thing, American cattle move too much, and hogs too little. The hog needs more exercise while fattening than a bullock—or at least, the evil effect of driving is not so perceptible as in driving cattle. Kentucky hogs, driven across the mountains into Virginia, are said to give sweeter flesh and more lightly flavored hams than corn-fed hogs fattened in Virginia.

A correspondent of The Weekly World asks farmers to give their experience as to the advantages of changing cows from one pasture to another during the grazing season; that is, is it better the pasture he in one field or in two or three, so that there may be periodical change into fresh feed.

This matter deserves the attention of graziers, and some with extended experience have emphatic opinions relative to the matter, that it is far better that there be no change, care being taken not to over-stock the pastures, and to provide soiling material (sowed corn, rye or oats) with which to supplement the grazing in case of drouth or the falling off of grass supply from any cause.

The farmer can live without the favor of the public. The crops depend upon his industry and upon the gentle rains and dews sent from heaven.

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INVENTORS. and others interested in Patent Business should address EDSON BROS. Patent Lawyers and Solicitors, 429 1/2 St. at Street, Washington, D. C.

RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES. Of the School Fund of Freedom Borough for the year ending June 30, 1873. RECEIPTS: Balance on hand from last year as per last report, 73.

ROCHESTER BORO. SCHOOL DIST. Receipts and Expenditures for the year ending June, 1873. Tax rate 15 mills on the dollar valuation. RECEIPTS: Gross amount of duplicate, \$4501 45.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT. The supervisors of Brighton township in account with the township for the year ending April 14th, 1873. RECEIPTS: To amount on duplicate, \$941 45.

JOHN W. WILLIAMS, Barber and Hair Dresser. Persons attended at their residence, if desired. Shop in the basement of RADICAL building, Beaver, Pa. my30-1y

TEACHERS' EXAMINATIONS. OFFICE OF COUNTY SUPERINTENDENT, BEAVER, June 7, 1873. June 27, New Brighton, Fallston and Palasko townships, New Brighton Union School building.

REPORT OF THE CONDITION OF THE National Bank of Beaver County, NEW BRIGHTON, PA., At the close of business on the 25th of April, 1873.

- Loans and Discounts, \$123,261 23
Overdrafts, 169 37
U. S. Bonds and Securities on hand, 15,000 00
Due from Redeeming & Reserve Ag'ts, 12,014 62

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John Chingbery, Beaver Pa. purchased from me three years ago a No. 3 Bradbury, and says: "There is no better, or sweeter toned, or more desirable Piano, according to my judgment and experience, than my Piano. It has given entire satisfaction, and groves better as it becomes older."

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