

FARM AND GARDEN NEWS.

ITEMS OF INTEREST ON AGRICULTURAL TOPICS.

The Second Growth of Clover—Cleaning Out Fence Rows—Feeding Drilled Corn Too Early—Etc., Etc.

THE SECOND GROWTH OF CLOVER.

It is a great mistake to pasture clover after the hay crop is mown off. It is not merely the trampling of the clover crowns by the hoofs of stock, but still more the check to root growth when the clover top is eaten down, that prevents clover roots from striking down into the subsoil. There are on many farms supplies of mineral plant food that neither the plow can turn up nor any other plant can reach until clover roots have piloted the way.

CLEANING OUT FENCE ROWS.

Since the introduction of horse mowers and harvesting machinery, there is less care taken to keep weeds and grass out of the fence corners. It was always an ugly task to mow grass in the corners of fences, for that was the common dumping place of stones thrown out in plowing the field. Now nobody thinks of using the scythe if he has a machine. But it is a mistake not to mow the weeds and bushes that grow in fence corners, so as to prevent weeds from going to seed and the bushes from becoming an unmanageable nuisance, encroaching on the plowable land.

FEEDING DRILLED CORN TOO EARLY.

There is a great temptation to farmers whose cows begin to fail in their milk to cut sowed or drilled corn before it comes in tassel. The cows will not eat this, provided they can get enough grass, and it is poor feed at the best. It is far better if such fodder corn is given to supplement it with grain, wheat bran or meal of some kind. Drilled corn is much better than sowed corn, as the sunshine can get in between the drill rows, which at least should be far enough apart to allow cultivation between them. Sowed corn, even after it comes in tassel, is of little good stock. All its lower part, even on rich ground, will be white and have almost no nutritive value.

MILK FOR POULTRY.

At this season of the year young chickens, especially if in confinement, should have liberal feeds of skimmed milk. It is muscle and flesh forming, easily digested and produces a vigorous and healthy growth. If fed with grain and green foods the results will be often surprising. Sour or clabbered milk is of great value to laying hens, whether in confinement or on the range. Prominent poultry men who raise eggs for market make a practice of buying this milk from dairymen and creameries at a low price and find it very profitable. Milk in any form contains the elements needed by both the young chicks and the laying hens in connection with the other foods usually given. It is inexpensive even when it must be bought, and will do more to make the growing chick a profitable laying pullet during the winter than any other food. Winter fed, it seems to be all required in the way of a "condition food," to say nothing of its value in other directions.

VALUE OF CLEAN STABLES.

Many dairymen are inclined to attribute to the separator good points which it does not possess. For example: A dairymen recently made the remark when it was mildly suggested that his stables were not as clean as they might be, that all odors and filth which might by accident get into the milk were removed by the separator at the creamery where the milk was sold. No one will question the value of the separator for doing what it is intended to do—separate the butter fat from the milk—but it surely never was intended to remove filth. The dairymen who will deliberately permit filth to collect in his stables to be removed by the separator at the creamery where the milk is sold, is not far distant when creamery operators will find a way of detecting the source of supply of tainted and filthy milk. Then the dairymen will be forced to do what he should now voluntarily do as a matter of decency.

PREVENTIVE MEASURES.

An ounce of prevention is even better than a pound of cure in dealing with insects. High culture and fertilization is one of the best preventives of insect attack. Fertilizers such as coarse stable manure applied at the rate of fifteen to twenty loads to the acre to sod in winter and ploughed under for corn in early spring will help prevent the attack of white grubs and wireworms even in badly infested fields. Tobacco stems and waste, a valuable fertilizer, is used against a cucumber beetle, cabbage maggot, etc., to prevent their feeding and depositing eggs.

If a crop is grown for a number of successive years in the same field the insects injurious to it are liable to increase to the greater detriment of the crop each year; a system of rotation will avoid this to a great extent. The general farm management should keep in mind preventing insect depredations and attack by selecting the proper time for ploughing and sowing, selection of plants liable to attack, clean farming, burning or converting into manure all trash and rubbish.—Massachusetts Ploughman.

WELL-FED IS HALF-BRED.

This is an old saying that has some basis for truth, and another that was the keynote of the success of John Ross, a famous Ohio feeder, was that "the corn crib is the best cross." Both these sayings are along the same line, but, like a good many old sayings, they stop short of the whole truth. No amount of care will make a scrub animal as good as a pure bred one that is given equal attention. This is the foundation of success. Without good blood to begin with, it is impossible to secure the best results. What is bred in the bone will show in after life, and the well bred animal invariably makes the best showing, other things being equal.

It is true that the best blood will not make an animal thrive if half fed and carelessly housed, and that a scrub may be made a pretty fair animal by giving it extra care, but this is not what the modern stockman wants. He is after the best there is, with the intention of giving it good care after he gets it.

The up-to-date stockman has learned that it is impossible to economize in care and make the greatest profit. He must be lavish of care and liberal in the matter of feed, and after this confidently hopes for success.

The day is passed when a lot of cattle or sheep can be turned into a wood lot or out on the range, and allowed to work out their own salvation and make money for the owner. The people who eat meat have become better educated and native beef or stringy mutton does not go with them. They want beef from well bred steers and mutton from well kept sheep, and if they cannot get these in one place they will go to another until they find it. Well fed is half bred to a certain extent, but well bred and well fed is what counts now.—Farmer's Voice.

RUTABAGAS ON NEW BREAKING.

The cheapest way to raise rutabagas is to select a piece of rich sod land, free from weeds. Plow it carefully to a depth of four or five inches, then with a sharp tooth harrow or disk thoroughly fine the top two inches of soil to form a loose mellow seed bed. Sow the seed by hand or broadcast by means of some kind of a grass seeding machine, using three and one-half to four pounds per acre. If the seed is to be sown by hand mix it with four times its bulk of wood ashes or bran. Sow in narrow strips about ten feet wide by going back and forth. When the plants are about four inches, thin so as to leave only one vigorous plant about every eighteen inches.

Rutabagas should be sown about the last of June, and through the first half of July, as they will then make their main growth quite late in the fall and be tender and juicy when gathered, while those that have been seeded early and attained their full growth in the hot summer months will become hard and fibrous. After thinning, the rutabagas sown on new breaking will require no further culture and can be left alone until the time of gathering.

The roots should be gathered in the fall as soon as there is danger of frost. Pull by hand and cut off the tops quite close to the root. Place in piles of about one bushel each and allow them to dry in the sun for a few hours, after which they will be ready to haul home and store. In the absence of a good root cellar it is best to dig in a dry place small pits about five feet in diameter and three or four feet deep. Fill the pits quite full of roots, topping them up a little in the center. Then cover carefully with coarse hay or straw. Let the covering extend about two feet beyond the edge of the pit and cover it all over to the depth of two feet on top; on top of this put at least two feet of soil and pack it down firmly. Roots can be kept in the pit until spring, if desired, as they will not be injured even if the ground should freeze to a depth of three or four feet. From 500 to 700 bushels of rutabagas can be raised on one acre if the season be favorable.—Orange Judd Farmer.

SUCCESSFUL CORN CULTURE.

The first important thing in successful corn culture is to have the ground well drained. Next, the ground must be properly prepared. Plowing should never be done when the ground is wet and soggy, but when the earth will crumble as it falls from the moldboard of the plow.

The ground should be plowed a little deeper each time until the soil is seven or eight inches deep, and it should be well pulverized before the corn is planted. Should there come a frost after the corn is through the ground the corn gets chilled and the result is the same as in stunting young animals. If the ground is warm before the corn is planted it comes up very soon and grows rapidly. I believe most farmers plant their corn too deep, and when cultivation begins the implement drags clods on to the little stalks and covers them up. A case in point: A neighbor (a good farmer) planted his corn this spring—tolerably deep. Some days after the planting he hauled a load of corn to his corn pen and stopped the wagon on the planted ground. Some of the corn sifted through the bed and was not covered. It came up before the planted corn and is now growing rapidly.

Cultivation should commence before or very soon after the corn comes up through the ground and should be continued at least once a week until laid by. The cultivator should be run tolerably deep the first time; after that, shallow. The greater the drought the more necessary it is that the cultivation be kept up.

A few years ago when our corn was laid by there came a heavy rain, which left a smooth crust all over the field. The corn was then too large to

run the cultivator through, so my son tried a one horse harrow and pulverized the crust. The rest of the season was very dry. Our corn made a good yield, while other fields that were not cultivated after the crust was formed stopped growing and made a light yield.

Good seed is very essential. It should be selected before cold weather and should be kept in a dry, airy place. Cold will not do any damage to properly dried seed corn.

I believe corn should be drilled twice as close in the drills as is wanted—some for worms and some for birds; then if it all comes up it is easier and quicker to cut out every stalk than it is to replant.

It has been said: "There is more in the man than there is in the land." Therefore stir the soil.—A. R. Peters

THINNING FRUIT.

The principal cause of so much small, scabby and ill shaped fruit being sent to market is that the fruit grows too thick on the trees. If a crop of corn, turnips, or any of our annual crops is planted too thick the damage is only for the present; but if a tree be allowed to bear too full, it may injure the next and perhaps the next two or three crops in the future. If a peach tree, for instance, is quite full, it may be thinned to one-half at any time before the seed hardens and will be able to produce as many pounds of fruit as it would if not thinned, and of course of better quality. It is the maturing of the seed that exhausts the vitality.

Some varieties of fruit are recognized as alternate bearers, and the reason is obvious. They are so busy maturing their enormous crop this year that they have no time to prepare fruit buds for the next; besides, their vitality is so exhausted that they require a year or more of good care to prepare them for another crop. By a proper and judicious thinning these same trees may be brought to a habit of annual bearing of good and profitable crops that will handle quickly, sell readily and for double or triple the price of small, knobby fruit. Farmers could well afford to take a little time from the regular farm work and thin their fruit trees.

When Sovereign Meets Sovereign.

It is not generally remembered that Don Carlos, the claimant to the Spanish throne, was in America some years ago, but the fact remains, and he then came in contact with the American spirit to such purpose that he is likely to remember it.

While in New York he was taken ill, and an equity of the suite was dispatched post haste for a celebrated physician to attend the royal patient and found the physician at home.

He told his errand and dilated upon the rank of his master, and finished by saying:

"And if you will have the goodness to come at once and incognito, for the suite must not know that Don Carlos is not well."

"Is Don Carlos too ill to come to me?" asked the doctor, calmly. The querry drew himself up haughtily. "No; but my master is by right a sovereign, and he does not visit a commoner nor any one but a sovereign. Commoners go to him."

"Well," returned the physician, impertinently, "I'm an American commoner, and a sovereign, too—sovereign of my profession. If your master wishes to see me he must come where I am, since you say he is well enough. I care nothing about seeing him, as far as I am concerned, but I will receive him."

Don Carlos came.—New York Press.

An Incident in Front of Santiago.

The affection displayed by officers of the regular army for the men in their commands, whenever opportunity presents itself, is well illustrated in the case of Brigadier-General Chambers McKibbin, now at Santiago. Something like eighteen years ago a flag pole was raised in the old garrison at Fort Marcy, the pole now standing in front of the old company headquarters. Michael McCabe, of this city, was first sergeant on Captain McKibbin's company, then stationed at this post. McCabe was the proud father of a boy called Fred, born at the post. When the flag was raised Captain McKibbin held the infant McCabe in his arms while the child pulled the cord which raised "Old Glory" aloft. The boy grew to man's estate here at Santa Fe, and when his country called enlisted in E Company of the "Rough Riders," and was a participant in all the heavy fighting around Santiago done by Roosevelt's regiment. By the merest chance he met General McKibbin there, and the old officer displayed great feeling when he ascertained who young McCabe was and embraced him like a father. Such acts and such feelings make the American soldier what he is—the best and most intelligent fighter in the world.

Burning for Fifty Years.

A coal mine in Scotland which caught fire over fifty years ago, and has been burning ever since, has at last burnt itself out. The mine is on the Dalquharra estate, Dally. It was set on fire by the engine working the fans, and, although many costly attempts have been made to extinguish it, they have been unsuccessful. The flames have from time to time burst forth in the ground in volcano fashion. The fire was prevented from spreading beyond the one area by reason of the "dykes" of rock which intersected it, and so saved adjacent mines.

When tea was first brought to England the leaves were eaten.

NEVER CARES TO WANDER

The Busy Bee Doesn't Go More than Five Miles After Material.

The range of the honey bee is but little understood by the masses, many supposing that bees go for miles in search of nectar, while others think that they go only a short distance. It may be curious to many to understand how any one can tell how far the bee may fly, but this is simple when understood.

Years ago, when the Italian bees were first introduced into the United States, these bees, having marks different from the common bees already here, were easily distinguished, and after a few bee keeper had obtained the Italian bees they could be observed and their range easily noticed. If bloom is plentiful near where the bees are located, they will not go very far, perhaps a mile in range, but if bloom is scarce they may go five miles. Usually about three miles is as far as they may go profitably.

Bees have been known to go as far as eight miles in a straight line, crossing a body of water that distance to land. It is wonderful how the little honey bee can go so far from its home and ever find its way back to its own particular hive. If, while the little bee is out of its home or hive, the hive should be removed some ten or twenty feet, according to the surroundings, when it came back to where its home was first located it would be hopelessly lost. If its home was in an open space, with no other objects close, it might find its way home, but even should the hive be moved only a few feet, many of the bees would get lost.

So to move a hive, if done in the winter time, it would be all right, but if in the summer time it should be done after dark, or when the bees are not flying, and even then the bees should be stirred up, and smoke blown in at the hive entrance and a board or some object placed in front of the hive so that the bees in coming out may mark their new location. Bees, no doubt, are guided by sight and also by sense of smell. They are attracted by the color of bloom, as if they are at work on a certain kind of bloom, they are not likely to leave that particular kind of bloom for any other as long as they can find that kind. Again, bees are often attracted to sweets by their sense of smell, for they will go after sweets, even if in the dark, if close. However, any kind of sweets may be placed in glass in plain sight, but if covered, so as not to emit any smell, the bees will take no notice of them.

Not a Pleasant Neighbor.

Before he turned his attention to navigation by steam, Robert Fulton invented a marine torpedo, which he endeavored to dispose of to the United States Government. Succeeding in interesting James Madison, then secretary of state, in the matter, he obtained a small appropriation from the Government for the purpose of conducting some public experiments. In the summer of 1806 he invited the high dignitaries and a number of prominent citizens of New York to Governor's Island to see the torpedoes and machinery with which his experiments were to be made. While he was lecturing on his blank torpedoes, which were large, empty copper cylinders, his numerous auditors crowded around him. After a while he turned to a copper case of the same description, which was placed under the gateway of Old Castle William, and to which was attached a clockwork lock.

Drawing out a peg, Fulton set the clock in motion, and then he said in solemn tones to his attentive audience: "Gentlemen, this is a charged torpedo, with which, precisely in its present state, I mean to blow up a vessel; it contains 170 pounds of gunpowder, and if I were to suffer the clockwork to run fifteen minutes, I have no doubt that it would blow this fortification to atoms."

The circle of humanity which had closed around the inventor began to spread out and grow thinner, and before five of the fifteen minutes had passed there were but two or three persons remaining under the gateway. Some, indeed, lost no time in getting at the greatest possible distance from the torpedo, and they did not again appear on the ground until they were assured that the engine of destruction was safely lodged in the magazine, whence it had been taken.

How War Horses Act.

When horses are hit in battle, they stop, tremble in every muscle and groan deeply, while their eyes show wild astonishment. During the battle of Waterloo, some of the horses, as they lay on the ground, having recovered from the first agony of their wounds, fell to eating the grass about them, thus surrounding themselves with a circle of bare ground, the limited extent of which showed their weakness. Others of these interesting animals were observed quietly grazing in the middle of the field between the two hostile lines, their riders having been shot from their backs, while the balls that flew over their heads, and the tumult behind and before and around them caused no interruption to the usual instincts of their nature.

It was also observed that when a charge of cavalry went past, near to any of the stray horses mentioned, they would set off, form themselves in the rear of their mounted companions, and though without riders, gallop strenuously along with the rest, not stopping nor flinching when the fatal shock with the enemy took place.

At the battle of the Kirb, in 1754, Major Macdonald, having unhorsed

an English officer, took possession of his horse, which was very beautiful, and immediately mounted it. When the English cavalry fled the horse ran away with his captor, notwithstanding all his efforts to restrain him; nor did the animal stop until it was at the head of the regiment of which, apparently, its master was the commander.

The melancholy, and at the same time, ludicrous figure which Macdonald presented when he thus saw himself the victim of his ambition to possess a fine horse, which ultimately cost him his life upon the scaffold, may be easily conceived.—New York Tribune.

CHIVALRY AT CHAPULTEPEC.

Noble Act of a Mississippian in the Storming of the Fortress.

The Hon. John Temple Graves, in a brief speech before the Georgia Women's Club, told on the spur of the moment a beautiful story—a true story—which embalms the heroism and surpassing chivalry of a gallant veteran now living in Atlanta. Mr. Graves said:

"This is an era of heroes. We are glorifying the prowess of Dewey and Hobson and Blue and crowning them with immortal memories. And this is right. The appreciation of heroes produces heroes. Men do not mind risking their lives for a country that will remember the daring. And the time to recognize heroes is while they live, not after they are dead. Let us remember our present heroes while they are with us, and let us not now or ever forget the heroes yet living whose prowess glorified an earlier day.

"There is a hero and a knight of chivalry in this hall to-night. Let me tell you the splendid story which his modest lips have never told: "The war with Mexico is a part of our martial history. Taylor and Scott and Lee came out of it immortal. The epic of that great struggle was the storming of Chapultepec. That frowning fortress was the Gibraltar of Mexico. Its massive walls seemed impregnable. But American daring halted at no obstacles, and an intrepid band of volunteers was chosen to scale and assault it.

"Among the first of the dauntless few who braved their way through shot and shell to the fortress on that dreadful day was a young Mississippian, handsome as Alcibiades, proud, confident, and thrilling with patriotic fervor. He was among the first, if not the first, to scale the wall, and, sword in hand, dashed along that storm-swept rampart in advance of all his fellows to cut down the waving flag of the enemy and reap the immortality of the deed. He was the first to reach the flag; his sword was raised when he heard swift footsteps behind him. He paused, turned, and saw his commanding officer, to whom he was tenderly attached and deeply obligated.

"And then this gallant Mississippian, without a moment's hesitation, with the bow of a Chesterfield, lowered his sword and with the point at rest stood aside while his friend and commanding officer cut down the flag of Mexico and was bulletined for the laurels of that splendid day.

"In the history of battles there was never more gallant, more chivalric deed than that. And the real hero of Chapultepec, maimed and gray, but glorious still, sits just beyond me here to-night in the person of my noble and beloved friend, General William S. Walker of Atlanta."

Power of Powder.

"Velocity and pressure," explained the powder mill superintendent, "are the two main requisites in proving powder. The government is very specific in its contracts. It demands that when fired under service conditions, in the gun for which it is intended, powder must give to the projectile a muzzle velocity of at least a certain number of feet per second without producing a pressure of more than a certain number of tons to the square inch. For modern guns the velocity required varies from 2,000 to 2,300 feet in a second, and the pressure is not allowed to exceed fifteen tons to the square inch. In some of our guns of the present day the amount of energy stored up in the powder charge is so tremendous as to be almost incredible. The limit of energy upon the projectile cannot be estimated, so vast are the possibilities.

"For example, I may cite the Oregon's thirteen-inch rifles. Five hundred and fifty pounds of powder in these guns impart to a 1,100-pound shot a velocity of 2,100 feet per second, and the energy of the projectile is nearly 34,000 foot tons. This power is sufficient to lift such a vessel as the Oregon, eight feet out of the water.—San Francisco Call.

From Santiago Via London.

A member of the House of Commons, who has two nephews who are engineers in the American Navy, is receiving from the fleets a correspondence which would awake the envy of many newspapers. Their descriptions illustrate the readiness and efficiency of the American Navy. One of his correspondents relates that in one of the bombardments of Morro Castle one of the guns of one of the American ships was put out of action by a shell from the forts. Immediately all the chief engineers were summoned from the whole fleet by signal, and were brought aboard this ship to give advice as to the gun. They all looked at the gun and examined her damaged machinery, and the result of their combined wis was that in half an hour the gun was back in action, as sound as ever!—London Chronicle.

A Tease Farm.

For a number of years Sawtelle's tease farm, in a pretty nook on the border of Molalla prairie, has been an attraction to people en route from Oregon City to Willhoit Springs. A party of wheelmen from Portland made a halt there a few days since and were shown over the place by Mr. Sawtelle, who has been engaged in raising teases there since 1860. He has over fifty acres of teases this year, and will handle the output of forty acres raised by neighbors. He has large sheds for storing and curing the teases, and a number of ingenious machines for trimming and sorting them, which requires much skill and knowledge of the requirements of the manufacturers who use them.

Any one can raise teases; in fact, they will grow themselves, but very few can market them. Mr. Sawtelle says he is going out of the business. Recently some ingenious fellow has invented a machine which comes so near filling the place of the tease that the demand for them is likely to come to an end.

The crop of teases is being harvested now. They are cut as soon as the blossoms begin to fall. They have to be sorted according to size and handled twenty-eight times before they are ready for market. The points of the hooks on the teases are finer than the finest cambric needle; in fact, so fine that one can't find them except by feeling for them. The teases are used for raising the nap on cloth, and so far nothing has been found to fully take their place.—Portland Oregonian.

Woodpeckers and Their Ways.

Woodpeckers as a class form one of the most striking and easily distinguished groups of birds. Their legs and feet are short and stout, with the outer toe turned backward parallel with the hind toe as an aid in climbing. In certain species, however, this outer toe is entirely wanting.

Their peculiar method of gaining a livelihood has developed a tongue perfectly adapted to their requirements; it is pointed and barbed at the tip for securing the larger insects, and it kept constantly coated with a mucous substance to which the smaller ones adhere. At the back of the mouth it divides, and passing each side of the neck at the base of the skull is carried up over the top of the head, where the two portions join and are inserted in the right nostril. In the common hairy woodpecker, and possibly, some others, it curves downward and is wound about the bony case which protects the right eye, the latter projecting more than the left for its accommodation. This double bow enables the bird to shoot forward and contract the barbed tip with wonderful velocity, while the mucus is applied each time from two large glands at each side of the throat.—Appletons' Popular Science Monthly.

He Didn't Know About the Hairpins.

"By Jove," exclaimed the bridegroom, as he sat down and tugged away at his mustache, "this is too bad!"

They had just arrived at Niagara Falls, and the porter had just bowed himself out after carrying up a trunk that weighed 487 pounds, for which he received a 50-cent "tip."

The frightened girl dropped her traveling bag upon the center table and stood as if transfixed, with one of her gloves half off.

"What is it, Harry?" she asked. "This is a fine go," he muttered. "I wonder how in the world I ever came to do such a foolish thing!"

Then he felt in his pockets again and cast a hopeless look at the big trunk. "You haven't lost your pocket-book, have you?" she asked.

"No, darling," he answered, "but I left my keys at home, and the one that opens your trunk is among them."

"Oh, is that all?" she exclaimed, with a happy little sigh. "Here,"—and she removed a hairpin from her rich brown locks—"open it with this. Now I know that I am the only girl in whom you took a real interest. Otherwise you would have known. Ah, Harry, dear, I'm so happy!"—Cleveland Leader.

Just Played Spaniards.

The Illinois boys on the cruiser Cincinnati, which was recently undergoing repairs at Norfolk, played an entirely different role one afternoon from any since enlisting under Uncle Sam. They were for a time Spaniards—that is, representing the enemy—and furnished much amusement to nearly 3,000 people at Virginia Beach. The entertainment was given for the benefit of soldiers' families. The Illinois men, always popular, were selected to take the part of sailors on a fleet representing Camara's Port Said fleet being destroyed by the Norfolk Light Artillery Blues.

When Camara's ships were destroyed the Illinois Jackies tumbled into the sea and were rescued by the crew of the life-saving station. The boys got much praise for their clever work, and the entertainment netted a good sum. Chaplain Childwick watched the destruction and the rescue.

The Cincinnati looks odd. Her mainmast has been taken out and she only has her foremast for signaling purposes. The removal of the mainmast makes the Cincinnati the only "single sticker" cruiser in the navy.—Chicago Times-Herald.

Scows for carrying earth dredged from the bottom of rivers are made with a large dumping trough pivoted at each end of the scow and locked in an upright position until the dumping ground is reached, when a hook releases the bottom of the scow.