

Farm and Household.

Churn More Milk or Skim Deeper.

An experienced dairyman says: "From observation, I believe too many butter makers do not skim as deep, or churn as much milk as they ought. I hear them say, often, that they do not like to get so much milk, or sour cream, in with the cream. It is a common practice for most butter makers to have a skimmer that is perforated with holes, that the milk may pass through into the pan from which the milk is being taken. If any one has a better reason for not skimming deeper, I shall be pleased to hear it and herewith give my reason why I think we ought to skim deeper, and churn more milk with the cream."

First, there are but few dairy houses so far remote from the odors of the kitchen, swill pail or barrels, or some decaying vegetable matter, as to keep the cream from absorbing odors that injure the flavor of the butter; and the cream must first receive or have these odors pass through it before, they can reach the milk, as it is most exposed. The milk, therefore, must be pure, and if churned with the cream, will aid in taking up the odors from the butter. By churning only the cream, the dash of the churn must, as we think, injure the butter globules, and make the butter salty, as the friction is more directly applied to them than would be the case if milk was mixed with the cream.

There are times when the milk sours before all the cream is up; yet the milk must be nearly, if not quite, as good, from the same cow that is being fed the same feed, in a warm morning as it is in a cool morning.

But we often get twice the amount of cream in the cool days that we do not in the warm days, and the quality is better.

Take for instance, the 24th of August, a hot sultry day, the cream hardly paid for the labor.

Now, take the 26th of the same month, 1869, a cool good day, that gave a nice yield of cream.

It is to be supposed that there is that difference in the milk produced from the same cow, on those days, when the cows were fed in the same pasture, that there was in the amount of butter made from their milk by skimming the cream only? I have thought that when the milk is brought in a heated condition, and placed in a warm room, that perhaps many of the butter globules were exploded by the heat, and that they mingled with the milk like alcohol with water, but to churn all the milk would be to get more butter."

How to Make the Boys Good Farmers.

Induce them to take an interest in the farm, in the implements, in the stock; tell them all your plans, your successes and failures; give them a history of your own life, and what you did and how you lived when a boy; but do not harp too much on the degenerate character of the young men of the present age; praise them when you can and encourage them to do still better. Let them dress up for the evening, instead of sitting down in their dirty clothes in a dingy room. Provide plenty of light; thanks to kerosene, our country homes can be as brilliantly and as cheaply lighted as the gas-lit house in the city. Encourage the neighbors to drop in evenings. Talk agriculture rather than politics; speak more of the importance of large crops, of good stock, of liberal feeding, and of the advantages of making animals comfortable, rather than of the hard times, low prices and high wages. Above all, encourage the boys to read good agricultural books. Parents are all well enough, but an intelligent boy wants something more and better. Get him some good agricultural book to study. Read it with him, and give him the benefit of your experience and criticism. When he has mastered this, buy him another. In our own case we owe our love for farming principally to the fact that our father talked to us of everything, that was doing on the farm; answering all questions and encouraging, rather than refusing our childlike desire of helping him to plow, to chop, to let off water, and fire the brush heap.

Potatoes do not mix in Hills.

"Subscriber," Piper City, Ill., wishes to know if potatoes mix when planted side by side, or even in the same hill, or whether they remain distinct varieties.

They will not mix when so planted. The potato planted is not a seed, but is a thickened underground stem. The eyes are small sunken buds. These eyes send up shoots and thus continue the variety. Rose, blackberries, lilacs, peppermint and great numbers of other plants multiply themselves by underground stems, in a manner similar to the potato. So willows, grapes, currants and gooseberries are multiplied by cuttings from stems above ground. The sprouts from apple or cherry trees will be of the same variety as the main tree, unless the sprouts came from a root into which the main trunk was once grafted. Now, varieties of potatoes are obtained by planting the seeds from the little balls which grow on the tops of the vines. So we get new varieties of peaches, apples, cherries, &c., by planting their seeds.—*W. J. B. in Prairie Farmer.*

An Intelligent Horse.

Turf, Field and Farmer says: Almost every day anecdotes of horses are told us which illustrate the capacity for thinking in the equine world. But the latest incident comes from Missouri. In a certain town in that State lives a horse of more than ordinary intelligence. His owner is a physician, and a church-going man. Recently the horse was left standing in the road. After a time he became impatient, and went in search of his owner. With logical calmness he proceeded to the favorite haunts of the doctor. Not finding him he walked around to the church. He looked up at the dark windows, herd no singing, and then came to the plain conclusion that it was not a night for service, or there would be a flood of light from window panes, nor to mention the racket made by the choir or preacher. He turned carefully so as not to upset the buggy, and with a puzzled air marched slowly back to his master's house.

Educational.

SCHOOL TEACHING.

BY SARAH E. GREGORY.

Miscellaneous.

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