



THE BEST GRAIN FEED.

The best grain feed for mature horses is about two-thirds corn and one-third oats in winter, and two-thirds oats with one-third corn in summer.

PRUNING HARDY SHRUBS.

It seems hardly necessary to repeat what we have so often stated about pruning shrubs with a view to the production of flowers—namely, that those which produce flowers on the wood made the previous year—among which the honeysuckles, forsythias, early spiraea, lilacs, viburnums, deutzias and Philadelphus are prominent examples—should receive their severest cutting soon after the flowering season is over.

HOW TO USE WATER.

Except for grass and grain crops water should not be used by flooding, and it certainly should not be used in the preparation of the ground for the planting of either of them.

It should be remembered, too, that running water upon the surface of hard-baked land or rain-washed land, under a hot sun, will be attended with almost as rapid evaporation as it would be if poured upon the top of a hot stove.

POINTS ON SELLING DUCKS.

The prices of ducklings go up as the watering places begin to open. They are known as "green ducks," and they begin to come into the market about the middle of May, the prices holding until the 1st of July, and from then the prices gradually decline.

HOW TO JUDGE WOOL.

The finest and softest wool is always on the shoulders of the sheep. An expert on judging sheep always looks at the wool on the shoulders first.

Always assuming that the wool to be inspected is really fine, we first examine the shoulders as a part where the finest wool is to be found.

The man who scrims on elbow grease at tree-planting time will be short on fruit-bearing trees for many years to come.

It is claimed that by planting the peach in a very rich soil the tree will come into bearing earlier than if grown in a thin soil.

While the pruning of the grape vines should be done before spring opens, it is rarely advisable to prune when the ground is frozen hard.

this by closing the hands upon a portion of the rump and loin wool, these points being usually the thinnest and most faulty.

FACTS FOR DRIVERS.

The Humane Circular gives the following facts that are the result of actual experience:

That one-third to two-thirds more power is required to draw a given load through mud or sand than on a smooth hard road.

That a slight rise in the grade requires a larger increase of power and a rise of one foot in ten doubles the draft.

That a little rain softening the surface adds nearly twenty per cent. to the power required.

In all these cases policy and humanity demand smaller loads and frequent short rests.

Dry axles add double, sometimes treble to the labor of a team. Nothing pays better than frequently oiling wagon axles.

The power and longevity of the horse are in exact ratio to the intelligent care and feeding he receives. He can draw on his fixed stock of vitality to supply deficiency of food to do overwork, but it shortens his life and reduces his value.

Ownership has limitations and bestows no right to mutilate, abuse or neglect an animal. Our laws recognize the rights of domestic animals and protect them.

The whip inflicts great pain and worry, and helps immensely to wear out a horse. The best horsemen of our time condemn its use, and believe that much more is lost than gained by it.

Overloading is costly and cruel, and has ruined thousands of horses. No load should be too heavy to haul easily over the hardest place on the trip.

Steady hard pulling causes great pain, so give your team frequent rests, especially during the early part of the trip.

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FARM AND GARDEN NOTES.

Don't torture a horse with a misfit collar.

It is cheaper to keep two geldings than one stallion.

Never change the horse's feed during the growing period.

The quince makes the best stock by which to dwarf the pear.

We want persistent all-year milkers. The first year tells the story.

A colt should grow at the rate of from one and a half to two pounds a day.

Do not ring a hog if you can possibly help it. It interferes with the thrift of the animal.

In breeding the general characteristics of the mares are quite as important as their blood lines.

The cherry crop is a profitable one and is always so much ready money when you want money.

Horses of a somewhat phlegmatic temperament are generally most successful as sires of speed.

The breeder who trusts to luck in selecting and mating his horses is certain to become a bankrupt.

Quinine, judiciously administered, is a good remedy for a horse seized with a sudden cold or fever.

Watch the heifers. Don't let them form the habit of drying up early. Give them extra feed and care.

Pruning the grape should consist in shortening the strong canes one-half and the weaker ones three-fourths.

The principal objection to using coarse fresh manure as a mulch is that generally it contains too many weed seeds.

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THE WANDERING KIRGHISE

PICTURESQUE NOMADS OF THE STEPPES OF ASIA.

The MILKING Hour is Their Chief Amusement—Marriage an Important Affair—A Bride's Dress.

THE Kirghese are a nomadic tribe, living in the steppes of Asia, north of the Caspian Sea, and among the environs of Issi-Kul. They are one of the most interesting and picturesque tribes of that wild and barbaric country, for the reason that they make no pretense to civilization, yet live in comparative comfort, with the same primitive customs which their ancestors maintained before them.

To these nomads life is mostly a holiday. Their laws are simple and traditional, a chief settling all their disputes with a royal autocracy. They are not warlike as are their neighbors the Cossacks, and give much attention to the hunt and a rude sort of agriculture.

The distinction of having the greatest number of tall men in one company belongs to the First Battalion of the Scots Guards. The "A" or right flank company of that battalion has over ninety men on its roll, and their average height is six feet two and a half inches.

A Company of Six-Footers. The distinction of having the greatest number of tall men in one company belongs to the First Battalion of the Scots Guards.

When the Kirghese move their quarters from one valley or mountain to another they make it the occasion of great hilarity and feasting. Then the women wear the gay costumes of merry-makers, riding horseback like men, driving the herds before them, among which the children are distributed in paniers by themselves on camels or colts, the sagacious beasts seeming to know that they are part of the family, and conducting themselves with great discretion.

Marriage among the Kirghese is a very important affair. The bride has little to say in the matter, she being accepted by a lover in consideration of a dowry of camels and horses, when the contract is made before the chief, according to the laws of their religion, which is Mohammedan. The bride is decked in the richest stuffs, for the Kirghese are wealthy in the accumulation of costly silks and jewels, which are handed down from one generation to another, to be worn perhaps but once in a lifetime.

The Kirghese is a sovereign in his own right and never acknowledges a superior. When two of the men meet, the question first propounded is this: "Who are thy seven ancestors?"

The lady whose portrait heads this article is Mrs. Ida Conventry, of Huntsville, Logan County, Ohio. She had an experience which will permit her to make in her own language. It illustrates the foregoing. She writes: "I had 'female weakness' very bad—had most of the time, dragging down pains through my back and hips; no energy. The family physician was treating me for 'liver complaint'. I did not get any better under that treatment so I thought I would try Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription and his 'Golden Medical Discovery'. I felt better before I used one bottle of each. I continued their use until I took six bottles of each. In three months' time I felt so well I did not think it necessary to use any more.

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When Hands Are Embarrassing.

It is a well-known fact that men not habitually accustomed to wearing evening dress sometimes find difficulty in disposing of their hands to their entire satisfaction; indeed, it takes a "blooded" man to know what to do with his hands and to be able to forget them. The man with his hands behind his back is a familiar figure; and it is a curious fact that upon the signs which one may see in various parts of the town announcing dress suits for sale or to hire and displaying the figure of a man in evening dress, the man is almost always represented with one or both hands behind his back.

Traveling Too Fast to Be Wrecked.

The passengers in the Great Western express due at Stroud at 5.40 last night, had a marvelous escape. Timber felling was in progress near Brimscombe, and the trunk of a tree fifty feet long slid down from the embankment and as the express came up projected over the line. The train, which was going sixty miles an hour, cut through a portion of the trunk five feet six inches in circumference and shattered the remainder. The shock was felt by the passengers, and on stopping at Stroud the engine guards and steam pipe were found to be damaged. The officials are of opinion that had the brake been applied or the train been going at less speed, it would have been wrecked.—London Telegraph.

A Company of Six-Footers.

The distinction of having the greatest number of tall men in one company belongs to the First Battalion of the Scots Guards. The "A" or right flank company of that battalion has over ninety men on its roll, and their average height is six feet two and a half inches. There are twelve men in the company over six feet four inches, and one stands slightly over six feet seven inches. No individual member of the company is less than six feet in height.—St. Louis Republic.

Advertisement for ROYAL BAKING POWDER CO., 106 WALL ST., NEW YORK. Text: DURING hard times consumers cannot afford to experiment with inferior brands of baking powder. It is NOW that the great strength and purity of the ROYAL make it indispensable to those who desire to practise economy in the kitchen. Each spoonful does its perfect work. Its increasing sale bears witness that it is a necessity to the prudent—it goes further.

Advertisement for De Foe had more than one dose of Newgate and the pillory. Text: The wonderful power of a photographic camera to bring out details that are invisible to the naked eye was referred to by W. Lewis Fraser in his lecture at the Academy of Fine Arts yesterday, and he vouched for a remarkable instance of that kind which recently occurred in New York. A photograph was taken of one of the new American liners, and on receipt of the proof the owners were surprised to see a handbill pasted on the side of the hull. An examination of the ship showed no handbill there, but another photograph revealed the same result. A more thorough inspection revealed the presence of the mysterious paper buried beneath four coats of paint so completely as to defy the scrutiny of a human eye, except within the closest quarters.—Philadelphia Record.

Advertisement for Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription. Includes a portrait of Mrs. Harriet Harde and text: Many times women call on their family physicians, suffering, as they imagine, one from dyspepsia, another from heart disease, another from liver or kidney disease, another from nervous exhaustion, or prostration, another with pain here and there, and in this way they all present, alike to themselves and their easy-going and indifferent, or over-busy doctor, separate and distinct diseases, for which he prescribes his pills and potions, assuming them to be such, when, in reality, they are all only symptoms caused by some womb disorder. The physician, ignorant of the cause of suffering, encourages his practice until large bills are made. The suffering patient gets no better, but probably worse by reason of the delay. A proper medicine, like Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription, directed to the cause would have entirely removed the disease, thereby dispelling all those distressing symptoms and instituting comfort instead of prolonged misery.

Advertisement for Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription. Text: The following is from Mrs. M. A. McAllister, of Lim Rock, Jackson Co., Ala.: "I was in bad health; age was working upon me, and I had ulceration of the womb; could not get about. I took Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription and it cured me; I returned to my trouble. I am the mother of thirteen children and I am fifty-three years old, have never been a better woman's friend than your medicine. I have recommended it to my friends here, and it has never failed in any case, so let me thank you for the good it did me." Yours truly, Mrs. M. A. McAllister.

Advertisement for PATENTS, THOMAS F. SIMPSON, and JAPANESE TOOTH POWDER. Text: 1,000,000 ACRES OF LAND for sale by the SAINTE PAUL & DULUTH RAILROAD COMPANY in Minnesota. Send for Maps and Circulars. They will be sent to you FREE. Address: HOWEVELL CLARKE, Land Commissioner, St. Paul, Minn.

Advertisement for SAPOLIO. Text: "Cleanliness is Nae Pride, Dirt's Nae Honesty." Common Sense Dictates the Use of SAPOLIO.