

Agricultural.

OUR HOMESTEAD.

BY FIGURE CAREY.

Our old brown homestead cleared its walls,
From the wide-side dust aloft,
Where the apple boughs could almost cast
Their fruitage on its roof;
And the cherry-tree so near it grew,
That when a wisp of rain
In the lonesome nights I've heard the limbs,
As they cracked against the pane;
And those orchard trees, oh, those orchard trees
I've seen my little brothers rocked
In their tops by the summer breeze.

The sweet brier under the window sill,
Which the early birds made glad,
And the damask rose by the garden fence,
Were all the flowers we had,
I've looked at many a flower since then,
Exotics rich and rare,
That to other eyes were lovelier,
But not to me so fair:
For those roses bright, oh, those roses bright!
I have twined them with my sister's locks,
That are laid in the dust of night!

We had a well, a deep old well,
Where the spring was never dry,
And the cool drops down from the mossy stones
Were falling constantly;
And there never was water half so sweet
As that in my little cup,
Drawn up to the curb by the rude old screw,
Which my father's hand set up;
And that deep well, oh, that deep old well!
I remember yet the flashing sound
Of the bucket as it fell.

Our homestead had an ample hearth,
Where at night we loved to meet;
There my mother's voice was always a kind,
And her smile was always sweet;
And there I've sat on my father's knee,
And watched his thoughtful brow,
With my childhood hand in his raven hair—
That hair is silver now, and his eyes are dim!
And my father's light, oh, that broad hearth's
And my father's love, and my mother's smile,
They are in my heart to-night.

FOWLS IN YARDS.—A farmer who signs his communications with the initials J. B. S., from Verona, New-York has been experimenting with fowls, and gives the following—which is entirely worthy of consideration—as the result of his labors:

My usual number of fowls is one hundred—They are confined in an inclosure containing about half an acre, inclusive of ground occupied by the buildings, the dimensions of which are as follows: Forty eight feet length and twelve breadth, with length of posts sufficient for the admission of twenty-four lighted windows, of which there are eighteen in front, sliding horizontally upon the sill. This building contains but one apartment. In addition, and communicating with it, is an upright post, at one end twelve by sixteen feet, with nine feet posts, containing an underground room for fowls to collect in cold weather, and is accessible to them at all times. Above on the ground floor, is a repository for sand, gravel, insofar from old wall &c., for daily use of fowls. The attic designed for a roosting apartment, which on account of the sharpness of the roof, is roomy, as all sleeping places should be at least for the health of fowls. A window in gable end, is for light and ventilation. The roofs to the main part, are also sharp, to turn the sun rays in summer, and as a matter of fact and durability. The yearly average to each hen is not far from one hundred eggs. Young hens, say of the first or second year, are found more prolific than older ones.

I consider the Poland crested fowls to be a hardy variety, and perhaps the best for northern latitudes; when young they afford more eggs in succession than common varieties.

PREPARING FENCING.—A correspondent of the *Leicester (Va.) Chronicle*, gives the following experiment relative to the preparing of posts for fences:

It is very common in passing by the residences of many of our farmers, to see a lot of posts, very carefully dressed and turned but up for the purpose of having them well dried out, that they make a lasting fence. In the spring of 1827 or '28, I had occasion to make a garden fence. I cut a tree of ordinary size, (white oak) prepared the posts, and set them immediately, and where I have not occasion to alter the location of the fence, they are still there. I have since set posts of the best of timber, well dressed, and they have rotted off many of them, in less than half the time. In speaking with some of my neighbors on the subject, I find their experience corroborates my own, and from what I find I have would make 25 per cent, in favor of the green posts.

SOAKING CORN IN SALT-PETRE.—Mr. James C. Taylor, of Atlantic county, N. J., exhibits the following results from soaking seed corn in a sulphate solution, compared with other seed not so prepared:

I had the benefit of soaking corn in salt petre, to plant, well tested this year, on a small piece of ground, planted late. I had not enough soaked to plant all the piece. Where it was not soaked, the black birds pulled out about one-third; but what was soaked they seldom touched a hill. Where it was most peculiar, there happened to be one row planted with dry corn, between two rows that were soaked; of the dry they took several hills clear, and altogether, about third of the row; while they did not take more than one hill out of the two salt petre rows.

PREPARING HAMS.—The Southern Cultivator notices some hams exhibited at the Georgia State Fair, which were one, two, three and four years old. The writer says:

The owner refused to divulge his secret, but we have fortunately become possessed of it, we here give it. Procure some good, clean hickory ashes; have them perfectly dry; draw your meat from the pickle on a dry day; sprinkle the ashes over the meat pretty thick, being careful not to knock off more salt than what must fall off; then hang up your meat as high as possible; smoke it with cool smoke, made of hickory wood; be sure to take it down before the skipper-fly makes his appearance; being generally in this climate the first of March; pack it away on a dry day in casks, first a layer of hams in-perfectly dry hickory ash; second, a course of corn cobs, &c., cover your cask snug and tight, and you may rest easy about your hams.

PROFIT BY HAMS.—Dr. Bare, of Chicago, kept an account of 50-hams, for one year. The cost was about 25 cents each. The hams averaged 51 eggs each. One of the editors of the *Prairie Farmer* states that he has kept forty hams the last year at about the same as above; but the fowls averaged only 65 eggs. The fowls in both cases were confined to a yard. They were fed with fresh meat occasionally.

SCROFULA.

It is a disease of the blood, and is the source of all the diseases of the skin, and of the most inveterate and dangerous of all the diseases of the human system.

BRANT'S INDIAN PURIFYING EXTRACT.

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MYERS' LIQUID CURE.

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THE NOMINATIONS ARE MADE.

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WRIGHT'S INDIAN VEGETABLE PILLS.

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DR. TOWNSEND'S NOTICE TO DRUGGISTS.

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