Agricultural Department

Soiling, or Growing Green Fodder for Summer Freeding of Stock, Especially for the Dairy.

There is little done at it in this section, consequently very little is known about it.

The first consideration is, the variety of articles to be grown, and their adaptability to the soil and season in which they are needed for the above purpose. Rye can be brought forward first and earliest in the spring by having it sowed early the previous season, as early as the middle of July on highly manured land; clover seed may be sowed at the same time, so that when the rye is taken off, there can be two cuttings of clover the same season.

The next might perhaps be Hungarian grass, or the lesser millet, but as this is little known in this section we will leave it for further experiments.

Next comes corn or cornstalks, with what corn may grow on them, under the following mode of cultivation: In the first place it should be planted, and not sowed as is practiced by some dairymen. The object should be to produce the greatest possible heft to the acre, for the greater the growth the better the fodder. The large sweet corn, or "Stowell evergreen" as it is called, is the best variety; cattle and horses are extremely fond of it, and will eat it all up clean if they can manage to get the stalks in their mouths, and this they will do if fed in mangers. It should be planted for this purpose in drills three feet apart, and the kernels in a straight row, not nearer than three inches of each other; this amount of seed, if properly cultivated, would be likely to produce the largest amount that could be procured from the land, at least ten or twelve tons to the acre in its green state if the land has been well manured and well cultivated, so as to keep it clear from grass and weeds. Now all the corn that is taken off by the first of August, can be followed by a crop of Swedish turnips or mangle-wurtzels, and that which is expected to stand later can be sowed with the seed of the flat turnip; all the stalks should be cut by the 20th of September, and put in very large coats, so as to keep them green as long as possible. The advantage of this mode of culture can be easily seen, for the same amount of land will produce double the quantity of fodder, and also of a much better quality, and the difference in the amount of seed saved would richly pay for the extra labor.

JAMES ELLIOTT.

THE BRONZE TURKEY.—All things considered we place the bronze turkey at the head of all the breeds of this domesticated bird. The white, buff, black, slate and other varieties all come from the wild turkey of our woods and prairies, which still exist in considerable numbers in the newer States and Territories. Occasional specimens of the wild bird, especially old gobblers, are captured, which equal the heaviest weights of the farm-yard, but the wild bird is much lighter than the average of a well-bred farm flock. The bronze breed is the smallest departure from the wild bird in respect to color and a decided improvement upon it, both in color and size. Nothing can exceed the iridiliant plumage of a bronze cock turkey, in his second or third year, and the females are less attractive. The dirty snuff-color, which marks the wild birds, is entirely bred out of them. This lustre of the plumage assimilating to that or burnished gold in the sunlight, has made the bronze variety a great favorite with all admirers of fine poultry. About everything known to the arts of the breeder has been done for the bronze turkey to bring the stock to its highest perfection. They have been bred especially for size for a long time, and when we select stock from a flock of thorough bred birds, we have certain qualities fixed in them, which are reproduced in their offspring. They are uniformly beautiful in plumage, and heavier than birds raised from the common stock. The increased cost of the breeding stock is paid for in the large average weight of the turkeys slaughtered for the markets at Thanksgiving and Christmas. The standard weights of adult birds of the bronze variety, fixed by the "American Poultry Association," are, for males, twenty-five pounds; for females sixteen pounds; these weights, in well-bred flocks, are often reached in the first year, and adult pairs of forty-five to fifty pounds are not uncommon, and sixty to sixty five pounds are sometimes, though rarely, reached. It pays to invariably breed from the best stock.—*Cincinnati Agriculturist.*

SEASONABLE HINTS ABOUT CHICKENS.—As cold weather approaches some seasonable care is required of the poultry-keeper. On a farm, in mild weather, many young birds roost in all kinds of nooks and corners as well as on trees and fences, and before the weather gets down to the freezing-point, their winter quarters should be got ready, by thoroughly cleansing, fumigating and white-washing, the buildings if they have been occupied before. Broken windows should be repaired, nests to accommodate laying hens prepared as well as a dust bath in which they can exercise themselves. When this is done, gather in the stragglers, especially from off the trees, as in their careless condition they do not afford the shelter they did during the summer. Just at the time when the leaves fall many old birds are moulting, and require more warmth than at other. These should be looked after in time; they may contract diseases that will hang to them all winter far from being objectionable, however, roosting in trees is very beneficial in summer and early autumn, and should be encouraged.

It is a job that requires some patience, to get the birds in, the first few nights. It is better to do it before dark by driving them to their proper home. If lifted off the roost after dark, they do not see their way to go in, and this same thing has to be done several times, before they can be induced to go of their own accord; but if driven in, they soon find their way, and after a few times go in readily, especially when they see them coming after them. Cull out all small, stunted, runtish birds that do not thrive, as some late hatched chickens will prove, or they may bring disease into the house. Any other fowls too that have any appearance of disorder should either be kept away by themselves or killed. If eggs are the consideration, do not turn in a lot of cockerels with the hens and pullets; they bother them too much by their restlessness.—*Rural New Yorker.*

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GOLD, SILVER AND STEEL

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GOLD AND PLATED SETS AND RINGS,

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Repairing done at the shortest notice.

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Prices lower than any House in the Country.

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HAIGH & BROADLEY, Manufacturers of Woolen Goods, Yarns, &c CARDING & DRESSING, Done to order.

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HENRY MERCUR,

Dealer in

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COAL,

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Pittston Stove, Chestnut and Furnace	$5 50
" Pea	3 50
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" Smith	3 50
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" Smith	2 50
Allentown Lime 1 bushel	20
Lath 1 M	2 00
Hair 1 bushel	40
Brick 1 M	10 00

I am always prepared to deliver purchases in short notice at the usual prices of delivery.

I also tender my thanks to my many friends and customers for their very liberal patronage in the past and hope under the new departure to make it to their interest to continue to buy where they can get the best goods for the least money.

Those who are indebted to me will take notice that I must have money or good cash for each and every freight car. They must settle by the first of August next.

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