

Shrinking.

Corn loses one-fifth by drying, and wheat one-tenth. From this they estimate it is more profitable for farmers to sell unshelled corn in the fall at 75 cents than at \$1 a bushel in the following Spring, and that wheat at \$1.25 in December is equal to 1.50 in the succeeding June. In the case of potatoes—taking those that rot and are otherwise lost, together with shrinking—there is but little doubt that between October and June the loss to the owner who holds them is not less than 30 per cent.

Cornobs for Feed.

Professor Stewart says cornobs have more value than many are aware of. The cobs should be ground with the corn. He thought cobs were of as much value as stalks. Twelve pounds of cobs with fifty-six pounds of pure meal was the proper proportion to produce the best food. Corn ground with the cob will produce 15 per cent. more pork than corn alone. Cobs alone will not support life. There is nothing about cobs injurious to the animal. They are good for horses when properly fed. The pig and every other animal will be more healthy if given some coarse food. The cob does not possess so much value that it would pay to take much pains to grind it, but he could see no reason why corn should be shelled before being ground.

Chapped Hands.

The raw winds of late autumn often produce in the hands of those who are much exposed to them that roughness and cracking of the skin known as chapping. If nothing is done to prevent, and the person is obliged to have his hands frequently wet and dried, the cracks will often be deep and painful. Corn basking is frequently accompanied by sore hands from this cause. As both a prevention and cure for chapped hands we have used the following with benefit: Wash the hands, and the face also if it is inclined to chap, with Borax Water, and afterwards rub with an ointment made by melting Mutton-tallow (or soap), and then gradually adding an equal quantity of Glycerine, stirring the two together until cool. For the hands, this mixture can be best applied at night, using it freely, and warming it in the fire, after which an old pair of gloves can be put on to keep the bedclothes from being soiled, and also make the skin of the hands softer. An excellent Glycerine ointment for chapped hands is made by melting, with a gentle heat, two ounces of Sweet Oil of Almonds, half an ounce of Spermaceti, and one drachm of White Wax. When melted, remove from the stove, and add gradually one ounce of Glycerine, and stir until the mixture is cold. The ointment can be scented with any perfume to suit the fancy. Keep in wide-necked bottles.—American Agriculturist.

What does a pound of Butter Cost?

What dairymen can give a precise answer to this question? and it we should put it this way, what ought a pound of butter to cost? we should present a poser not only to the dairymen, but to all the agricultural experiment stations now existing or in embryo. But these are very pertinent questions, because it is in the choice and use of the feed that profit or loss lies, and wherein can any which food and which method of feeding it produce the most favorable results. I have been feeding cows experimentally for years, and although I have made up my mind which foods and which methods are best for me, I could not say positively that one or the other will be the best for another dairymen. The most costly food for a cow is hay and cornmeal and wheat middlings. With hay at 1 cent a pound, and corn and middlings at 1½ cents, it will cost to feed a cow 1½ cents for hay, and 7½ cents for meal, per day—in all, 22½ cents. A cow that will make 250 pounds of butter in a year cost, at least, \$80. She will repay her own cost in calves and her care ease when 12 years old; so that to pay for her feed will cost \$1 yearly, if it is purchased, and if it is provided by the farm, it comes to the same end, for the feed might be sold; and against this there is 250 pounds of butter, worth, at the market price for the best quality, about \$50 net. Now, what should this butter cost? If the cow is at pasture for six months of the year, the pasture will be worth, at \$60 an acre for the land and four acres to the cow, in interest alone, \$840; taxes will add at least \$2.00 more to that, and the cost of the grass will be at least \$2 an acre more; so that, what the winter feeding the cow in all will be \$53.90, and the skimmed milk and manure may pay for the labor. Then, can a pound of butter

be made for less than 23 cents? and if not, the dairymen is not likely to be troubled about the high price of 1 per cent. But what of the dairymen whose cows will make but 100 pounds of butter in a year, and whose butter carries the name of the dairymen's man to take up? How do they live, and how much do they earn per day?

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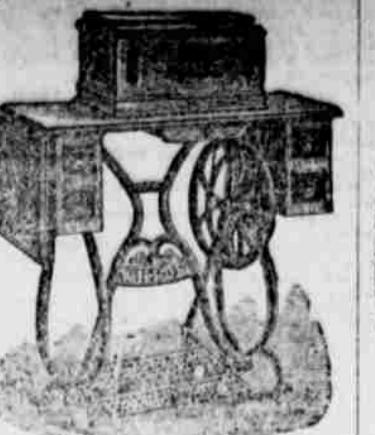
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