

Comparatively few men are so quick to die as Custer. The many who profess to be careful observers of natural phenomena have attained to a moderate knowledge of the formation of dew. It is often—indeed commonly—said that the dew falls, and the observation is allowed to pass even by persons who know full well that it does not fall, the acquiescence being partly due to the prevalence of erroneous notions on the subject, and partly to the difficulty of establishing better notions in their stead. This is a subject, however, of such great importance that it should have some amount of attention from all lovers of the sciences, and especially from such as are employed in outdoor business, whether in the forest, the field or the garden. The most casual observation will convince any one that between the dew and the rain there must be an essential difference. Dew is not a fall, and we see the clouds that produce it; but we do not see the dew fall, and its appearance is not accounted for by clouds as the appearance of rain is, for, in truth, the clear, moonlight night, is the very time when dew appears most copiously. Long grass, which will properly be mowed, is so covered with dew that it is not only visible, but it is almost impossible to walk on it without stepping into water boots. It is the same in winter as in summer as to the circumstances that accompany it, but the result is different in this extent, that whereas in summer the dew appears in the form of globules of water, in winter its appearance is that of hoar frost—frost, which is the result of the condensation of water vapor on the ground, and we must add with the very interesting—description of the dew as "falling," to dispense of it in these remarks, we shall observe that while the summer dew is not rain, neither is the winter dew snow. Rain falls and snow falls, but each is discharged from the clouds that are not only visible at the time, but often appear long before the fall takes place, and give us a notice that it is coming.—The time to look for a heavy dew or thick crust of hoar frost is when there are no clouds, and when the barometer is high, the air calm, and comparatively speaking, dry and cold—while the earth and its belongings, such as grass, trees, &c., are comparatively warm.

Leaving the general purpose horse out of the question, the kind of horse the farmer wants must depend upon the character of the work for which he is to be used. The bulky and unwieldy horse is not so well calculated for the general business of the farm as one somewhat less in size, yet not deficient in strength. The horse appropriated for riding occasionally, and especially for employment in light work, should be about 15 to 16 hands high, which may be placed as a standard; possessing a shoulder, thicker and lower and less slanting than would be found in a horse for lighter and faster work, which will be the properties wanted in draught, and will be a neck of collar. A stout, compact horse, not too heavy—eleven or twelve hundred—and with a little blood, or even a half-bred horse would have the preference. A preference should be given to mares, as in addition to their being equally strong, and perhaps bulk for bulk much stronger, they open a source of profit, of which a castrated animal is deprived. A good farm mare may avail herself in breeding from them. If the farmer has a few useful team mares, and crosses them with a well-bred stallion horse, he will certainly have coils useful for every purpose of Agriculture, and some of them sufficiently light for carriage horses in the city; especially will he have a fair chance to rear a colt that will amply repay him as a carriage horse. If he has a well-bred, superior mare, of about 12 hundred, and puts her to a bony thorough bred horse. In breeding, however, the farmer should carefully avoid the mare which has any imperfections or defects, either the one or the other will descend to the foal; and he should also constantly keep in mind the necessity of keeping the foal well, without which it will be much injured, as nourishment is highly necessary while young, and which should be given in such a manner as will not retard its growth; and he should afterwards bring the young horse into condition, the traces of evident neglect will still be conspicuous. More depends upon the quality of the mare for breeding than is generally understood, and therefore the breeder should carefully avoid an underbred or a well-bred or unsound mare; she will do business probably for working on the farm, but will be altogether unfit for breeding. A rooky mare, with some blood in her, and with most of the good points, will alone answer the purpose. She may bear about her the marks of blood work—the fewer these, however, the better—but she must not have any disease. The foal, as has been stated, should not be stunted for the first two years, but should be closely attended to. At about three years he may be broken in; if for carriage, the best and most advantageous manner will be making him earn a part of his living, and let him put to a harness or harness plow, which will contribute much, by his walking over plowed ground, to give him that shove action so necessary for the carriage horse. The next year the colt will be fit for the market. Various opinions are expressed on this subject. A recent writer says: "If oak, hickory or chestnut is to be filled in August in the second round of the sap, and barked, quite a large tree will season perfectly, and even the twigs will remain sound for years; whereas that cut in winter and remaining till next fall (as thick as your wrist) will be completely rotten, and will be almost unfit for any purpose. The body of the oak split into rails will not last more than ten or twelve years. Chestnut will last longer, but no comparison to that cut in August. Hickory, if cut in the eighth month is not subject to be worm eaten, and will last a long time for fencing. When I began farming in 1802, it was the practice to cut timber for post fencing in the winter. Winter oak posts and black oak rails, cut at that time, I found did not last more than ten or twelve years. In 1808 I began cutting fence timber in the eighth month. Many of the oak rails cut that year are yet sound, as well as most of those formed of chestnut. If the bark be not taken off itself in the winter, however, it will peel off in the second or third year and leave sap perfectly sound. The tops of the trees are also more valuable for fuel than when cut in the winter or spring. I advise young farmers to try the experiment of cutting oak posts and post fences do not last twice as long. I forfeit all my experience as worthless.—Practical Farmer.

Custer's Last Charge. GASTLY DETAILS OF THE FIGHT IN WHICH THE BRAVE GENERAL PERISHED. A Horrible Story Told by the Dead of the Gallant Seventh Cavalry.

CUSTER'S LIFE. Brevet Maj. Gen. George A. Custer was born in New Rumley, in the State of Ohio, Dec. 5, 1839, and was, therefore, at the time of his death but 33 years of age. When a young man he was graduated from West Point and entered the army in the early days of the war to make a brilliant record and come out of it in the 26th General.

enjoying with the most terrible punishment that the public peace. A formidable instruction of the barons broke out against him. The young duke gathered his forces, fought a terrible battle a short distance from Caen, where he in person led the plain truth is that Democracy, as a party, has a bad reputation in this country, and it deserves it. It has earned its own detestation. A party of perpetual shifts and dodges, hostile to liberty when it needed friends, unapologetic and indifferent when its enemies were the victors of a terrible civil war, ready to sell the honor of the nation's faith and blast its credit before the world, depending upon the Irish Catholic vote as one of its chief resources, and to-day drawing to itself nearly the total population of the Union, it is not to be wondered at that a party which has the reputation of being one of the most unscrupulous of the world, should have so many of its members who are honest and patriotic, and who are ready to do their duty for the honor of the nation and the good of the world.

THE COURTIERSHIP OF THE DUKE OF NORMANDY. BY JOHN S. C. ARBUTT. In the early part of the eleventh century there was a duke of Normandy by the name of Robert. His military power and the splendor of his court were such that he acquired the title of "The Magnificent." One day, as he stood at the window of his palace at Caen, he saw a young girl, the daughter of a noble lord, washing linen with her companion in the rivulet which meandered through the grounds. Her name was Harlette Filbert.

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Hemorrhoids or Piles. HERRERY'S OINTMENT. Hemorrhoids or Piles are a common ailment, and one which is often neglected until it becomes incurable.