LIVE STOCK

BUILDING FOR SWINE.

Description of a Structure Which Is Not Very Expensive But Convenient in Every Way.

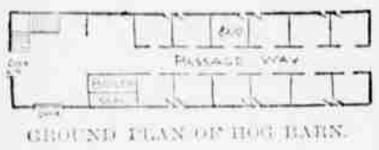
The illustrations show ground plan and side elevation for a hog barn that ought to meet ordinary needs. I have drawn the plan to make 12 pens. It will require only a little more money than putting in six, and it will be found, I think, very advantageous.

The pens are eight by ten feet, with a six-foot passage between. A door opens from each pen into the lot. The pen adjacent to the boiler can be connected with the boiler, and will give sufficient heat to wash hogs in the coldest weather. I have also shown a place for feed bins and stairway (upper left hand corner), and the farmer can use the space for two horse stalls,

SIDE ELEVATION.

if he so desires, in one corner of the room. This plan will give him the greatest space and the greatest comfort possible for both man and beast.

The floors should be of Portland cement, while the division walls should be of brick, one thickness, and plastered with Portland cement. The fronts of the pens connected with the alleyway I would advise being made



GROUND PLAN OF HOG BARN.

of wire netting, as it will give a good view of the hogs, and be much more cleanly than wood, enabling him at all times thoroughly to clean and disinfect his entire barn. The division walls between the stalls should be four feet high. All doors shown in the side elevation, together with the windows opening into the stalls, will give plenty of sunlight and ventilation.

The lots should run 40 feet in length, which by ten feet, the width of the pens, will make a lot 50 by 10 feet. This should be paved with brick, laid on well-packed stone; and laying bricks so as to lock about one-eighth of an inch of touching each other, and filling the cracks with cement, the pavement when set will stand the hardest freeze. By this method the bricks can be laid flat instead of on end, and your correspondent need have no fear of injury to his pigs, as it will wear the feet off and cause them to stand upright on their toes, instead of at an angle. However, I would not advise animals being kept longer than four or five weeks at a time on the brick floor, as they can then be transferred into outer lots.

This barn is designed for farrowing quarters, and with that end in view I advise "fenders" made from one-inch iron pipe placed entirely around the stall on each side, by using "T's," which can be procured from any plumber, having three connections which will enable you to place the pipe six inches from the ground and six inches from the sides of the stall. This will afford ample protection for the litter and prevent mashing of same by the sow.—Country Gentleman.

FORCING DAIRY COWS.

By No Other Method Can the Milk-Producing Capacity of Heifers Be Increased.

It is an interesting question and one worthy of some thought, as to how far we can force a cow when seeking for a big yield of milk and butter, and whether such forcing is advisable. Many are prejudiced against forcing at all, and this prejudice is not without foundation as the records to death of some cows that have been forced up to the limit testify. There is no doubt that this high feeding process, for the purpose of getting a big milk and butter yield, undoubtedly shortens the life of the cow, and sooner or later [illegible] health.

[illegible] for many years [illegible] the high "pressure"? All readers [illegible] of forcing [illegible] that this is the only means of [illegible] the organs of the [illegible] milking [illegible] cows better than for breed [illegible] of generations of feed and care, and it was by forcing the cow we brought, through several generations, from a yield of three pounds of butter to a yield of 25. But what is the limit?

It is not hard to remember when a horse was fast that could go at a 2:30 gait, but now we are getting mighty close to the two-minute mark, and cannot say that the limit has yet been reached. So it seems reasonable to suppose that the limit of milk production in a cow has not yet been reached. It must be admitted that many cows, those possessing weak constitutions, are hurt by overfeeding (forcing), yet it is only by forcing that we can hope to increase the milk producing capacity of a cow, and increase the value of the breed.—Barnum's Midland Farmer.

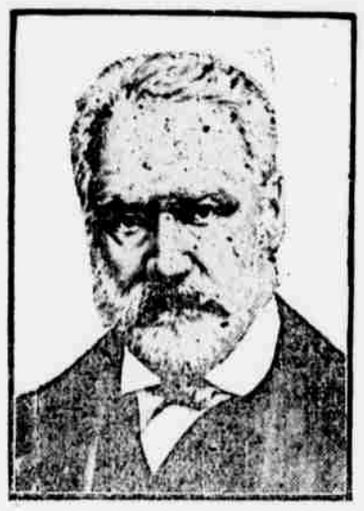
A portable forge with a few blacksmith's tools is a good investment on a farm. The boys will soon learn to weld iron and much time and money may be saved by doing jobs that

HUGO AS A BENEFACTOR.

How the Famous French Author Once Helped a Poor Pressman Who Was in Love.

Catulle Mendes, writing in the Courrier des Etats Unis, tells an interesting tale of how Hugo helped a poor pressman who was in love. The following is a condensation of the story:

During Hugo's exile Mendes was editor of a struggling journal which, for reasons of economy, was printed in a small provincial city. There Mendes became acquainted with a poor pressman who was well educated, and intelligent and a very entertaining companion. Usually he was very cheerful and light-hearted, but on one occasion



VICTOR HUGO.
(Famous French Author, Philanthropist and Patriot.)

was so morose that Mendes questioned him until he confessed the reason.

He was in love with his employer's daughter and she with him. The master printer had risen from the case himself, and his present fortune and social position did not warrant expectation of a rich son-in-law, so that the young printer had been confident and serene until, having decided that there was no use in waiting longer, he had recently asked for the young woman's hand.

Then he had a painful surprise. The girl's father was financially embarrassed, it appeared, and a penniless son-in-law was not to be thought of. The favored suitor must have six thousand francs, at least. So the poor fellow was in despair and talked about drowning himself. Mendes himself was pretty hard up in those days. He advised the disconsolate lover to appeal to Victor Hugo for assistance. The young printer naturally objected that Hugo had beggars on his hands and would not be likely to do anything for a total stranger. But Mendes insisted and the printer complied.

On Mendes' next visit, two weeks later, the young man met him at the station and showed him 3,000 francs in bank notes which Hugo had sent him with these words:

"I am not rich just now. Please excuse me. Here are 3,000 francs."

The printer said that he would marry his Clementine next month. Although her father had demanded twice the sum he could not refuse when he learned of Victor Hugo's part in the affair.

So they were married. How long or how happily they lived together Mr. Mendes neglects to state.

THE OLYMPIAN GAMES.

President Roosevelt Will Attend the Opening of the International Meet in 1904.

President Roosevelt will attend the opening of the Olympian games in Chicago during September and Octo-

HENRY J. FURBER, JR.
(President of the International Olympian Games of 1904.)

ber of this year. He made the promise the other day to Messrs. Henry J. Furber, Jr., president, and Benjamin J. Rosenthal, chairman of the committee on finance of the games.

Mr. Roosevelt indicated a disposition to do all in his power to further the efforts of the Olympian association. He entered enthusiastically into the spirit of the proposed exhibitions and discussed them for an hour with the committeemen.

Particular attention was paid to the military exercises, which are to have a prominent part in the games.

Dresses Up for Elections.

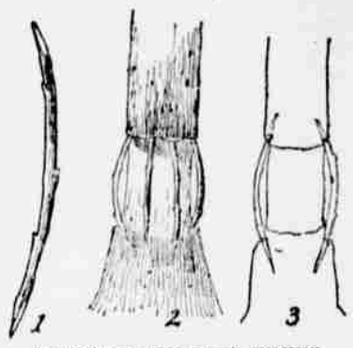
"Uncle" David Ruggins, of Abilene, Kan., has owned a silk hat for 37 years, which he wears only on election day, when he dresses up in a long Prince Albert coat and other good clothes and makes the business of voting quite a ceremony. "Uncle" David is 80 years old, and he has voted the republican ticket ever since there was a republican party. His annual appearance in the plug hat has grown to be quite an event in Abilene, and on account of it there are people in Abilene who re-

HORTICULTURE

MICE GIRDLED TREES.

They Can Be Saved from Destruction If the Process Here Described Is Carried Out.

Mention has recently been made of bridge grafting to save fruit trees injured by mice. The cut, showing how the work is done, is reproduced from a leaflet published by the New York agricultural experiment station, Geneva. To do this grafting take a twig of last year's growth and sharpen it to a wedge at both ends, as shown at Fig. 1. The twig should be a little longer than the distance across the wound, and stiff enough to prevent bending easily. With a half inch chisel, with the bevel outward, make incisions through the bark to



BRIDGING INJURED TREES.

the wood above and below the girdled spot. Press one of the sharpened ends of the twig into the lower cut, and, bending the twig, spring the other end into the incision above. These twigs should be placed along the wound about an inch apart. If just the right length they will be firm, and no tying is required. Put a small bit of wax at the points where the twigs enter the tree. It is not thought desirable to do this bridge-grafting on any but strong, vigorous trees. Girdled trees only a year or two old would better be removed and others put in their place.—Rural New Yorker.

CULTIVATION OF BEANS.

Use Seed from Reliable Sources Only and Plant in Thick, Well-Drained Loam.

Nocropresponds more readily to good soil and cultivation than beans. The soil best adapted to it is a light, rich, well drained loam, which was manured for the previous crop. If too rank manure is used it is apt to make the plant run too much to vine. Beans are extremely sensitive to both cold and wet, and it is useless to plant them before the ground has become dry and warm. The largest return will result from planting in drills from two to three feet apart, and leaving the plants two to six inches apart in the row. Up to the time of blossoming they should have frequent shallow cultivation, but any cutting of the roots after the plants come into bloom is likely to cause the blossoms to blast and so cut off the crop. Remember that the cultivation of beans should always be very shallow, and that it is useless to expect a crop from a field so poorly prepared as to need deep stirring after planting. Varieties should be selected so as to give a succession both of string and green shelled beans. The wax podded varieties will degenerate into a mixture of green and wax podded plants unless there is constant attention given to the removing of any green podded plants which may appear in the seed crop, and the constant selection of plants of the highest type for stock seed. Hence, it is especially important to use seed from reliable sources only.—Midland Farmer.

Cherry and Plum Culture.

The cherry and plum can stand, and, indeed, need strong soil. Heavy manuring with fresh stable manure, however, is not advisable, says Iowa Homestead. Use rather old, well-rotted manure and the soil from around manure piles that is filled with leachings. The clearing up of old barnyards after most of the manure is hauled off and the leachings of hog yards and the cleanings of poultry yards and houses are all good fertilizers for both the cherry and the plum. Results can be secured from our commoner varieties that will surprise the cultivator and sell for a long price by employing this means, while common fruit grown in a common way may not be salable at all. The cherry can be made three-fourths of an inch in diameter and its color very materially heightened. The trees, too, are healthier, live longer and have greater thrift.

Variableness in Cow Peas.

The most marked variation in the character of the cow pea is to be found in the color of the seed, which may be of any of the shades of black, white, red, brown, yellow, gray, green and purple, or they may be speckled with two or more of these colors. In shape they may be round, flat or broad kidney shaped or flattened at the ends. The period of ripening required by different varieties varies from 60 to more than 200 days, and the same variety will ripen seed in less time from late than from early planting and in less time in dry seasons than in seasons of an abundance of rain, while an excess of nitrogen in the soil retards both fruiting and maturity, increasing the yield of vine and not infrequently decreasing the yield of peas, as compared

EFFECTS OF CROSSING.

Where Poultry Raisers Practice It Largely, the Result Is Nearly Always a Failure.

Crossing the breeds has never given good results, although a great many try it, and will continue to do so. In nearly all cases when the attempt is made to blend the best qualities of two different breeds the offspring is not equal to either parent, hence in the course of a few years there will be no uniformity, and the stock reverts to the scrub. Too much mixing is no better than keeping scrubs. It is right and proper to grade up a common flock with pure breeds, but to cross two pure breeds is a mistake. Where crossing is practiced largely, as with poultry, the result is nearly always a failure, there being no uniformity of color, size or laying qualities. Pure breeds are really the results of judicious crossings and selections, and cannot be improved upon except after years of care and selection of the best individuals. The best possible security, short of the actual test, that any bird or animal will produce its characteristics in its offspring is that these characteristics are known to have belonged to a long line of ancestors. Individual merit and adaptation to our needs should be the first and most important points of selection. The character of the ancestors should be considered. It is not necessary to endeavor to determine the character of any one of the ancestors for when pure breeds are used one gets at once the results of selection for years by those who worked in the past. Crossing destroys the work that others have done before.—Farm and Fireside.

The Promoters.

"Let us make the capital stock $1,000,000,000," said the first promoter.

"All right," said the second, who was preparing the prospectus on the type-writer.

"Will it be hard to increase that capital?" asked the first.

"No, indeed. All I have to do is to hit this 0 key a few more times."—Baltimore American.

Has Lost Faith in Prayer.

A certain Brooklyn girl has lost faith of the existence of God, because it has refused to answer her prayer. For three weeks she prayed earnestly night and morning, and this was her prayer: "Oh, Lord, make me stylish—make me very stylish. Set all the young men wild over me!"

Summer complaint is usually prevalent among children this season. A well developed case in the writer's family was cured last week by the timely use of Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhœa Remedy—one of the best patent medicines manufactured and which is always kept on hand at the time of year needed. This is not in enclosing a free puff for the company, who do not advertise with us, but to benefit little sufferers who may not be within easy access of a physician. No family should be without a bottle of this medicine in the house, especially in summer time.—Leavitt's Iowa Journal. For sale by the Middleburg Drug Store.

Do Not Crowd the Chicks.

Crowding is bad in any stage of a fowl's existence. Perhaps it is worst in the case of young chicks, whose hold on life is very light at the start. The brood that is watched over by the old hen seldom is crowded enough to be injured. Not so the brooder chicks. The amateur that has a few incubators is very likely to try to save space in the brooder or rather, to make one brooder do the work of several. When too many are brought together disease germs have a good chance to multiply in the rapidly accumulating filth. Bad air also helps matters along.—Farmers' Review.

The Same Old Story.

J. A. Kelly relates an experience similar to that which has happened in almost every neighborhood in the United States and has been told and retold by thousands of others. He says: "Last summer I had an attack of dysentery and purchased a bottle of Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhœa Remedy, which I used according to directions and with the [illegible] satisfactory results. The [illegible] was controlled [illegible] sooner than I have [illegible] before." For sale by the Middleburg Drug Store.

Hedgehog Kills a Viper.

A resident at Versailles, M. Guignet, sends to Nature a vivid account of a duel he saw between a hedgehog and a viper. The two enemies knew very well at first sight who was who, and eyed each other as if they knew a moment's inattention would be fatal. The viper was the first to get tired of gazing and it began to glide away. Just then the hedgehog rushed for the viper's tail, and having nailed it fast with his teeth, it rolled itself up. The hedgehog was very careful, however, not to cut the tail off. The viper curled back, and delivered furious assaults on its aggressor, wrestling and rolling with the curled-up hedgehog all over the place. At length the snake, wounded in a hundred places, died. The hedgehog began its repast on the tail of its victim, and was careful not to eat the head.

TROUBLE WITH MOROS.

Hostilities in Mindanao, Once Begun, Would Mark the Opening of Protracted War.

The armed collision between American troops and the Moros in the island of Mindanao a few weks ago around the apprehension that we might have a new war on our hands in the Philippines just as the old one is supposed to be dying out. Two Moros, it appears, killed one American soldier and wounded another. The American commander demanded that the native chiefs surrender the murderers, but the chiefs refused or neglected to do so, and an armed force started after them. The

GEN. GEORGE W. DAVIS.
(Commander of American Forces on Island of Mindanao.)

Moro vilages ran up their war flags, a native force was quickly gathered, and a small battle was fought, resulting in the rout of the natives, who lost seven men. When this was reported to Washington the president cabled Gen. Chaffee to stop the expedition, which is under the command of Gen. George W. Davis; but Gen. Chaffee replied that to withdraw all the American forces would ruin our prestige, and to withdraw part of them would be dangerous so the president told him to use his own judgment. What the result will be is awaited with considerable interest. Gen. Chaffee expresses the hope that a general war will be avoided.

The Philadelphia Ledger says of the Moros: "Mindanao is the largest island and in the Philippines except Luzon, being far larger than any of the others. Its inhabitants are principally Mohammedans, and have the Mohammedan belief that death in battle insures them a happy eternity, so that they are most formidable fighters. Gen. Chaffee estimates that their armies can muster 20,000 men, of whom 600 are armed with rifles and the rest with spears and bolos, both terrible weapons at close range which the Philippine jungles enable their owners to secure. If we have to conduct a new campaign for the subjugation of Mindanao, the end of the war is not yet in sight."

Disposing of Decayed Stuff.

Do not try to dispose of the partially decayed vegetables in the cellar by feeding them to the cows. It is poor economy. They are sure to impart a taint to the milk and to injure the butter. And there is another place where they should not go, and that is to the manure heap, unless it is to be so composted that the vegetables themselves will decay and the fungus or mold that forms during the decay will have been entirely destroyed, but the use of them for feeding milk cows is the most common method of disposing of them, and the very worst method, too.—Los Angeles Herald.

Attentive Bible Reader.

From early youth Ambrose S. Otter, of Cecil county, Md., has been an attentive reader of the Bible. He has read it from beginning to end 117 times and informs us that it contains 1,189 chapters, 31,198 verses, 773,697 words and 3,566,480 letters.