The Ploomfield Times.

HOUSE, FARM AND GARDEN.

We invite communications from all persons who are interested in matters properly belonging to this de-

MILKING.

One would think that the subject of milking is sufficiently understood at the present time without further instructions with reference to it, but never was there a greater mistake made. Hundreds of dairymen begin to complain that their cows are drying up early while they have good feed and plenty of it. We were talking with one of the leading dairymen with reference to the matter the other day, and his opinion coincided with ours in this respect, and he claimed that more cows were spoiled by being improperly handled than by poor food. To get the greatest yield of milk the cows should be milked regularly, quietly and thoroughly, yet quickly. Generally speaking, twice a day is often enough, but there are cases when it becomes necessary to milk three times, but these are comparatively rare. At six o'clock, morning and evening, is as near the right time, all things considered, as any. Milking should be done quietly, without any scolding or kicking or otherwise hurting or exciting the animal, and she will then habitually come gladly for the operation, stand quietly and let down her full flow. It should be done thoroughly, as nearly as possible always by the same person. There is a great difference in milkers; some will get the last drop, while others will leave the richest part in the udder. It has been proved to the satisfaction of all good dairymen that the strippings will yield from ten to twenty per cent. more cream than the rest of the milk; how important it is, then, that the cow should be milked clean. Besides, if she is not made to yield all that she has daily, she will dry up sooner, and gradually fail in the quantity until it decreases perceptibly. Cows should never be hurriedly driven to and from the pasture as it agitates and heats the milk, if before milking, and tends to make them wild after the milk has been drawn. We had an opportunity of seeing the results of a change in the management of cows on Pleasant View Farm a short time ago. The proprietor, Mr. Southworth, met with a severe accident, which confined him to the house for nearly a week, during which time strangers were employed to attend the cows, and, although they were treated kindly, still it was different from their former treatment, and the milk pail showed a much smaller yield, and the cows themselves became restless and refused to "give down" as formerly, although, as before stated, they were treated with the greatest kindness and milked by experienced hands. But when he was able to come to the barn again, the cows soon filled the pails as usual, and that, too, with no change of food.—Field and Farm.

Corn-Fed Hens.

Corn-fed hens do not lay in winter, and especially when snow covers the ground, because there is nothing in corn which furnishes the material for the white and shell of the egg, but abundant material for fat and rudimentary yolks. As soon as spring comes, cornfed hens commence laying and continue to do so simply because they are able to supplement this food by grass, insects and other albuminous substances, and also find material for egg shells in bits of lime, stone and the shells of a variety of decaying matter that we have no just conception of. On the other hand, when wheat is fed to hens there is fat enough in it to supply all that is needed for the yolk, and gluten enough to make the white, and lime enough to furnish the shell, and it does not seem difficult now to understand why corn-fed hens should not lay as they do not, and why wheatfed hens should lay, as they do.— B. F.T., in Country Gentleman.

A Seasonable Mixture.

A valuable mixture to keep on hand at this season is one of coal ashes, sulpher and hellebore. The ashes should be very fine. It is best after passing them through the ordinary coal-ash seive. To one pail full of ashes thus siftedadd a quart of flour of sulpher and hellebore, and mix together. For curraut worms, plant lice, cabbage fleas, slugs on pear trees, melon bugs, this is very effectual. It is always best to use it in the cool of the morning, while the dew is upon the leaf.

White mustard was largely sown in France last summer for fodder. It is so relished by milk cows that many peasants call it "the butter plant." It is sown in August, on the stubble, if the soil be friable, and harrowed in: or sometimes the soil is turned over with a plough, five pounds of seed to the acre. The plant can be consumed green till the frost arrives.

Newport Advertisements.

W R. S. COOK & CO.,

Agree to sell all kinds of

LUMBER AND SHINGLES.

for LESS MONEY than any other dealers in this county. We will also take good Timberon the stump or delivered at our Mill in exchange for Lumber, &c. We use Clearneld Pine and Hemlock only.

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Newport, July 20, 1875-tf

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The handsomest assortment of Shirting Strip es and Cheviots that we ever had, can now be seen at my store. F. MORTIMER.

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Forms Moderate and every exertion made to render satisfaction.

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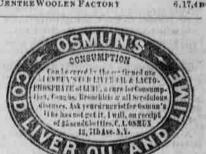
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