

The Bloomfield Times. HOUSE, FARM AND GARDEN.

Ashamed of Work.

Ashamed of work, boys?—good, hard, honest work? Then I am ashamed of you—ashamed that you know so little about great men.

Open your Roman history and read of Cincinnatus. On the day when they wanted to make him dictator, where did they find him? In the field plowing.

What about Marcus Curius, who drove Pyrrhus out of Italy? Look him up; and you will find him busy on his little farm.

The great Cato; you have surely heard of him—how he rose to all the honors of the Roman State—yet he was often seen at work in his field with the slaves.—Scipio Africanus who conquered Hannibal and won Carthage for Rome, was not ashamed to labor on his farm.

Lucretia, one of the noblest of Roman matrons, might have been seen many a day spinning among her maidens.

Better even than the example of noble Romans is the advice of the wise man; "Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might." Better than this, even, are the beautiful New Testament words: "Not slothful in business, fervent in spirit, serving the Lord."

There! after this you will feel ashamed not to work.—Visitor.

Flocks of Sheep.

We are asked how many sheep can be advantageously kept in one flock. The answer to the question would depend on the breed, which our correspondent does not designate, and it would also depend upon how much room he has. If he has room enough we do not see why a limit should be fixed, especially of Merinoes; and we do not know that it would be necessary in regard to other breeds. There is a prevalent idea that Cotswold do not do well in large flocks and we are not able from personal observation or experience to say whether they will or not. It is said, however, that in the old country they are kept in flocks of the number of even 800 and from all we have read on the subject, we should think that there would be no difficulty in maintaining large flocks, if there were room enough. There are some obvious reasons why smaller flocks are better than large ones, but it is not impossible to keep large ones, and it is practicable. The Merinoes will herd to any number if there is room enough.—Boston Cultivator.

Breaking Colts.

Colts should be broken to harness at 3 years old, and used in light work for 2 years, when they will become matured and fit for full work. If they are used for hard service before their joints become settled, or surrounded by a full-grown texture of muscle and sinews to support them they are liable to become strained, causing spavins, or bony enlargements, that will destroy their future usefulness. Any imbecile can break down the colt; but it requires good sense to build them up after they have been crippled by ignorant taskmasters. It is not worth while to risk the experiment of converting sound colts into invalids when they will live longer and perform more service if suffered to ripen into the full-matured horse before being put to hard work.—Live Stock Journal.

A Connecticut farmer says that the butt ends of potatoes and the kernels of corn from the butt ends of the ears, each produced crops that were materially better than where the opposite course was pursued. In the case of potatoes the stalks from the butt end were much larger and more forward at the first hoeing. The increase in corn was some twenty per cent. in favor of the butt end kernels.

An Interesting Fact.

In France, all patent medicines must be endorsed by an official board of physicians before they can be sold. In lieu of such a law in America, the people have resolved themselves into a National committee which has endorsed Swayne's Ointment for allaying the itching accompanying the Piles, as the only reliable remedy in the market. Its a poor rule that won't work both ways. 50 4t

Chester county, Pa. farmers sowed their wheat at the usual time, and it failed to come up owing to the drought. Accordingly they sowed the second time and since the recent rains, both seedings have come up, and some of the fields are a sight to see. The outcome at harvest time, next year, will be looked for with much interest.

It is recommended to soak seeds in water that has been slightly acidified with nitric acid. A little ammonia added to the water will hasten germination.

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