

The Kansas Farmer.

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SORGHUM, ITS MANUFACTURE, ETC.

In my last chapter I made reference to the accidental use of clay as a defecating agent, and I am pleased to learn that it has been so employed with satisfactory results by others.

This sugar is used largely for manufacturing purposes, such as vinegar, confectionary, as well as in adulterating syrups for table use etc.

I will here take occasion to caution any person against making investments in any enterprise, whether it is sugar-making or any other pursuit, the basis of which is predicated upon mere laboratory experiments, or model representations.

defer a description of all these varieties for another chapter. All the canes I expressed rendered juice, marking from 8 1/2 to 10 degrees B.

THE CHESS QUESTION AGAIN.

I am a regular reader of your paper, in which I notice many articles contributed by your various correspondents, which I take much interest in.

I have resolved to make this test: I have taken earth that I know to be free from chess seed, put it into a box, selected clean wheat and planted it.

In the year 1837, I settled in the northwest corner township in Ohio, built the first cabin in the town, no one living nearer than three miles of me.

There was much comment at that time, on this crop, pro and con. Those who believed wheat would turn to chess, claimed that the volunteer wheat was not sufficiently covered around the stumps to get proper root, while others said why did not the first crop do the same.

ORCHARDS, CHESS, ETC. I read with interest the letters published in the FARMER, from various sections of the country, and hence will throw in my mite.

I fully agree with the editor that "One grain of wheat producing a stalk of chess under the eye of a careful observer, is worth whole bushels of chess seen over the fence growing in a wheat field."

I have tried raising currants for four years without success. Will some one inform me through the FARMER what course to pursue in order that I may crown my efforts with success.

SANITARY LEGISLATION.

EDITORS FARMER: The most urgent need of legislation pressing upon the state of Kansas to-day, is in relation to the preservation of health; the saving also of valuable lives from the vulgar and the genteel quack.

But for the incompetency of the municipal authorities of New Orleans, Memphis, Vicksburg and Grenada, the eight thousand lives and two thousand millions of dollars' worth of property lost in the south would have been saved.

THE TORONTO, (Canada), Mail of the 23rd ult., has the following about large mangels: Mr. Wm. Burgess, of Etobicoke, and Mr. S. Miller, of Scarborough, shipped, yesterday, through Mr. Wm. Rennie, seedsmen, an assortment of mangels to be exhibited at the Royal Metropolitan root show, to be held at Islington, London, on the 14th and 15th of November.

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clothed with sanitary jurisdiction. They should have power to prohibit the killing of human beings by unlicensed quacks; to protect the people from a flood of "doctors" who have for years been buying diplomas for twenty-five dollars each.

They should keep a record of the vital statistics of the state, and to this end physicians should be required to report births, deaths, and diseases and course of treatment.

As a sanitary board, they should have authority to appoint sanitary officers in cities, towns and villages, with jurisdiction not only to remove dead cats from alleys, but to condemn as nuisances any cellar, cistern, well, privy vault, cess-pool, filth heap, manure pile, or other malaria and infection-breeding pest-hole, with authority to enforce the removal and cleaning up of the same, either at the expense of the owner or at the public expense.

If these things were done what a deal of parental anguish might be spared the people who now gather at the graves of their little ones to mourn at the visitations of an inscrutable Providence. Eighty per cent. of the sickness of our people could be prevented by strict cleanliness, public and private.

The diseases causing more than half the deaths (accidents excepted) are measles, small-pox, scarlet fever, diphtheria, membranous croup, whooping-cough, typhoid fever, yellow fever, typhus fever, spotted fever, congestive fever, intermittent fever, remittent fever, and puerperal fever; also the fluxes, as "summer complaint," dysentery, diarrhoea, cholera morbus, cholera (in man, chickens, or hogs).

All of these are diseases caused by the invasion of the human system by some one or more minute organisms that feed upon the juices of the body and multiply either in the body or in outlying organic plasma, or in both. They are all filth diseases, in the chemical sense of that expression. They are all "ferment," "germ," "zymotic," or "malarial" diseases, when these terms are scientifically used. They are all diseases difficult to cure but easy to prevent, if prevention is commenced skillfully and in time.

From Woodson County. I don't think I have been in the country long enough to tell of its merits or demerits, nor long enough at the business to be a good agricultural correspondent, but will do my best, hoping to improve in the future.

The farmers in this vicinity are principally engaged in general or stock-raising, as their means will allow them. Wheat was not up to the expectation of the farmer; it was wet when ripe enough to harvest, and nearly all had to cut the old-fashioned, with the cradle. It averaged, as far as I know about 20 bushels to the acre, although I am cognizant of one piece of Fultz wheat that averaged 35 bushels. There has been as large breadth sown this fall as heretofore, and it is looking well but needs rain.

Oats were a fair crop; one of my neighbors had a piece that threshed 45 bushels to the acre, but there was more that did not go over 30. Potatoes, considering the season, have done well, there being no frost until the 17th of October, so that late potatoes had a better chance than was expected. Corn is the principal crop raised here; there was a larger acreage planted last spring than for a long time before. Old settlers have shown me fields that have not been under cultivation for five years, but now have good crops on them. Husking is the order of the day, it turns out from 15 to 60 bushels to the acre; crop better on the upland than in the bottoms, this year, on account of the continued wet season we had in the spring. Prices wheat 60c; oats 19c; potatoes 50c; corn 20c.

LARGE BEETS. The Toronto, (Canada), Mail of the 23rd ult., has the following about large mangels: Mr. Wm. Burgess, of Etobicoke, and Mr. S. Miller, of Scarborough, shipped, yesterday, through Mr. Wm. Rennie, seedsmen, an assortment of mangels to be exhibited at the Royal Metropolitan root show, to be held at Islington, London, on the 14th and 15th of November. The shipment consists of about 40 monster specimens, including nine long, red mangels, one of which, trimmed, weigh 63 pounds, and the other eight, trimmed, a aggregate 427 pounds.

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SPRIT OF THE AGRICULTURAL PRESS

When we advise our readers to go into stock-raising, we do not intend to convey the impression that we think the majority of them can do so immediately to the entire neglect of cotton, and those minor crops which they have, in their wisdom, thought well to raise from year to year.

We believe that on heavy clay soils the corn crop is greatly benefited by having the land plowed in the fall. One principle cause of poor crops of this grain is plowing the land wet in the spring, and thus locking up its fertility.

By established custom professional gentlemen have come to be regarded as the only competent law-makers, and as a consequence the productive industries of the state have had no voice in establishing the rules under which they should be conducted.

Now when it is seen that enormous burdens attend their own indifference to law-making, they begin to ask relief, and as the first step toward attaining it, they ask that men who truly represent their interests shall be elected for legislative offices.

The ox can eat the greatest amount of non-nutritious matter, because for each 100 pounds live weight it has 1 1/2 pounds of stomach and only 2 3/4 pounds of intestines.

One of the greatest shortcomings in our country to-day is in the vast amount of careless and unintelligent cooking. Farmers are taking lessons in agriculture. They are studying and investigating the many questions which are constantly arising in their old but always new business of tilling the soil.

NORTHERN APPLES.

EDITORS FARMER:—The people of Kansas are pre-eminently a fruit-raising people. So far as my limited knowledge extends this state has made more progress in pomology for its age than any other state in the Union.

I am free to confess that when I came to Kansas ten years ago, (having previously been for 15 years engaged in fruit and tree-raising in western N. Y.) I thought I knew all there was to be known about the business and thought what I didn't know about fruit and tree-raising wasn't worth knowing.

Pomology is a science in Kansas. Fruit and tree-raising are more earnest, more devoted to this profession, and more enthusiastic here than at any place I have ever lived.

The fruit men of the state have formed themselves into an association called the Kansas Horticultural Society. This Society is composed of the very best and oldest tree-growers in the state.

The list discards as unworthy of culture a very large proportion of what we in the east used to consider our best fruits. Such apples as the Rhode Island Greening, Spitzenberg, Russet, Baldwin, etc., are placed low down on the list, for they are not reliable in this state.

How supremely ridiculous in view of all these facts it is for a person to claim that an apple originated 400 miles north of here is the best apple for the people of this state, and this too when the above society condemn this class of apples.

I have met this gentleman's agents all over the state, and I find them to be a gentlemanly lot of fellows, but I believe they are doing a great injury to the state.

THE BEST KIND OF FRUIT PACKING.

It is about time apples were gathered, and much care should be exercised in doing this. Well graded, carefully packed fruit will always find a ready market at remunerative prices.

Another thought—each variety should be kept separate. If a person buys a barrel of apples labeled Belle Fleur, he is not wholly satisfied if upon opening the barrel he finds, on top, a half bushel of the variety he supposed he was buying.

Why we should grow wool and mutton. The consumption of wool in the United States is far ahead of its production; a certain market is therefore offered for all we can produce.

The Centennial Exhibition proved this. The finest broadcloth there, was made in the State of Maine, but it is mortifying to us to have to confess that the wool was brought from Silesia, while we are as able to grow it as are the German farmers.

flannels are better than similar European fabrics, because they are made from American wool, which is better than any we could import for this purpose.

These facts convey an important lesson to the farmer. If he wishes to keep sheep he need not long consider what kind he should select.

These figures will help to give one an adequate idea of the staple and permanent character of the wool growing industry, and of its certain profitability.

AGRICULTURAL FAIRS.

What shall he then object? The New England Farmer publishes a very exhaustive article on this subject in which the above question is asked and several suggestions in the way of answers made.

Let farmers carefully consider this phase of stock-raising, and if they are wide awake to their own interests they will breed with an eye to early maturity, and push their animals from babyhood.

LETTER FROM NEW JERSEY.

My farm is a village plot, less than a quarter of an acre. After deducting spaces occupied by house, out-buildings, and necessary shade trees and grass plot, not one-sixteenth of an acre is my arable land.

The money my place has cost would buy me thirty-five hundred acres of land at Government price; yet here I am with only a little patch. The money that has been paid for a similar sized piece of ground, situated near here in New York City (on a Wall St. corner) would give the owner a quarter of a million acres of Government land.

Frank and Willie were discussing which were the most economical, men or women; and Frank seemed to be getting the best of the argument, when Willie suddenly brought the debate to a close by saying: "One thing I know—my father can make a piece of butter go over more'n twice as large a piece of bread for me as mother can."

But if their object shall be to improve our stock, to disseminate valuable information and to increase our knowledge of the better methods of cultivating the earth, then let us see to it that these objects are kept uppermost in the minds of those whom we select to fill the office, and let us all, each in his individual capacity, do all in our power so make these organizations, as promoters of agriculture, more and more useful, as the years roll round.

EARLY MATURING STOCK.

The attention of advanced stock-men is turning to the question of early maturing stock, thus avoiding the expense and risk of feeding cattle three or four years, and hogs eighteen to twenty months, which are intended for the butcher.

The English running horses are put on the turf at two and three years old; the common cold blooded breeds at this age are mere colts, tender and helpless. It is the same with common stock of pigs and cattle.

Suppose these cattle are kept till three or four years old; they will then weigh, if well fed, and they will consume a much larger quantity of food daily, 1,400 or 1,500 pounds.

For feeding the animals 18 months longer, by which time they will have consumed double the quantity of food daily, we have, at the same price for beef, \$42 to \$45 per head, or \$12 to \$15 for two thirds longer time, and at least double the quantity of food, with the additional risk of loss through accident or disease.

The first nine months of a pig's life, if the right kind of stock is secured, is more profitable to the owner by at least 50 per cent. than the following nine months; and in the first two years or thirty months of a calf's life, there is more gain to the owner by at least 50 per cent., if not 100 per cent. (if the extra feed, additional risk, and the loss of use of capital invested are computed), than in the steer of three and a half to four years old.

Few if any practical breeders and feeders will question these facts, but the average grade stock are incapable of being pushed to such a point of perfection and early maturity, as to accomplish this desirable end and make a well matured animal at the age of two or two and a half years. That this point can be attained as well in the steer as in the pig, there can be no question.

Let farmers carefully consider this phase of stock-raising, and if they are wide awake to their own interests they will breed with an eye to early maturity, and push their animals from babyhood.

WHAT I KNOW ABOUT POULTRY

Why the poultry business in this state does not receive more attention from the farmers is one of the mysteries, taking the small capital required into consideration. Poultry will pay larger returns than any other thing that the farmers can keep.

We have a grand market for all the poultry that we can raise, at good prices. What the farmer wants for market is a fowl that will mature early—that will be ready to kill by the first of July when they will bring as much per dozen, if they are of good size, as they would when one year old.

Their eggs are always in demand at very good prices—that is, good fresh ones—and right here the farmers make a mistake. They will send eggs to market that they know are not good, thinking to get them off as good, which they may do, but the dealer loses in consequence of the bad eggs, and so the price goes down.

Well, you can have them. Now, the fact is, some Brahmas do not lay in winter, and many purchasers are disappointed when they fail to get winter eggs from these justly-famed fowls.

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Literary and Domestic.

EDITED BY MRS. W. A. HUBBARD

THE CORN SONG

BY JOHN G. WHITTIER

Heep high the farmer's whirly board! Heep high the golden corn!

From the Cornhill Magazine.

ROSE CHERILL—AN EXILE'S LOVE STORY.

[CONTINUED FROM LAST WEEK.]

Nevertheless it was no child's play on which he had got engaged, and when he rose in the morning in a calm frame of mind, he faced his predicament without any illusions.

"Thou wast always welcome so long as we could put faith in thee," repeated the German, Hardreich, drily.

is in love. He can be of no use to us. Let him go." "Without killing him?" asked the soft, sad Russian, who had been shedding sentimental tears, but was none the less ready for a little private execution.

We have seen some such shades where, instead of using a knife, the designs were pricked with a pin or a large needle.

PAWPAW BUTTER.—It has always been thought that pawpaws were fit for nothing; but there is a way of using them that makes something splendid for the table.

MANAGEMENT OF THE SICK-ROOM.

Among the details of sick-room management ventilation claims a first place. If fresh air be like new life to the strong and healthy, what must it not be to the exhausted frame when the lamp of life burns low, and the labored breathing tells of the failure of vital power, and of the necessity of seconding the feeble efforts of nature by letting in a fresh supply of oxygen, which gives to air the power of supporting and sustaining respiration, and letting out the miasm which, even in a healthy subject, is given off through the pores of the skin and other channels, and in a diseased person is especially offensive and even poisonous.

(CONCLUDED)

HOUSEHOLD HINTS.

Being a very fleshy person, weighing 235 pounds, I have to use great economy in order to do my own work, and this is the way I manage my washing and ironing in hot weather.

SAUK KRAUT

One pint of salt for a barrel. Cut the cabbage in slices and put in a barrel or jar; sprinkle on a little salt and pound till the juice will settle round the pebble or pounder; keep filling in and pounding each layer till all is done; place a heavy weight on top and your kraut will be all right as long as there is plenty of juice on top, but if there is a lack of liquor your kraut will never be good.

SORGHUM COOKIES

1 cup sour milk; 1 cup heaped up of lard; 3 cups molasses; 2 teaspoons soda, 1 of salt; one tablespoonful of ginger.

THAT SPINNING-WHEEL

A spinning-wheel, indeed! Lives there a man who to all feeling is so dead, as to declare that women in general, and Kansas women in particular, need something more to occupy their time? Occupy their time, forsooth! The man who writes "Signs of the Times" has been in a Rip VanWinkle sleep of a hundred years or more and has just awakened.

HOME-MADE LAMP-SHADES

Among the pretty things for the parlor which may easily be made at home, are lamp-shades and window transparencies, cut from bristol-board. For a lamp-shade take five pieces of bristol-board, three inches wide at the top and five at the bottom, and sloped like a dress-gore on both sides.

RECIPES.

APPLE JONATHAN.—Line the sides only of a pudding dish with some nice paste and fill it full of juicy, tender apples, peeled and sliced, with a little water to keep them moist.

DRYING PUMPKINS

We love pumpkin pies, especially when there is not an abundance of tree fruit. We have tried all modes of drying, but no plan is equal, we think, to this:—Take the ripe pumpkins, pare, cut into small pieces, stew soft, mash, and strain through a colander, as if for making pies.

A NEW REMEDY FOR CHILLS AND FEVER

I will give a recipe that I have tried for chills and fever: Take onions and roast them in the ashes till they are done, spread them on a cloth large enough to cover the stomach. Put them on about fifteen or thirty minutes before the chill comes on.

REMINISCENCES

Fall suits are cut on the buy us.—Graphic. A woman need not always recall her age, but she should never forget it. Who could ask to Livermore happy life than Mary A., who gets \$150 every time she tells our women how to bring up their daughters?—Boston Post.



FARM TOPICS.

SHEEP-HUSBANDRY IN KENTUCKY.—W. J. Davie, of Kentucky, writes: "Sheep-husbandry is becoming much more in favor among our farmers, and a large increase is reported in every section of the state.

CHEESE-MAKING.—I hear complaints every now and then from novices in cheese-making that their cheese is liable to crack, and also often shows a soft bitter lump in the center on being cut.

THE TROUBLES I have already mentioned are due largely, if not entirely, to the fact that the curd was not sufficiently scalded and the whey entirely expressed from it.

MEASUREMENT OF HAY.—Five hundred and twelve cubic feet of hay taken from a mow or stack, will make a ton.

BLACK-LEG.—About a year ago I lost some fine calves with this disease. Being at North Platte a friend told me to give my calves one tablespoonful of sulphur with an equal quantity of salt once a week.

CULTIVATING NUT TREES.—"The best time to plant nut trees is in the fall, as soon as they drop from the trees. They should not be planted very deep, as it is necessary to have the frost act on them and crack the shells.

TO KEEP SWEET POTATOES.—Take common sand and have it perfectly dry; then dig the potatoes before the vines are frosted, or as soon thereafter as possible; have the potatoes perfectly dry, and then take boxes or barrels and put in a layer of sand, then a layer of potatoes, and so on until the barrel is full.

WINTER APPLES.—"Rural Jr.," says: "We have learned by experience that early gathered winter apples keep the best. As soon as fruit has attained its full size, we advise that it be picked.

FEEDING COWS.—"I first began to feed my cows on corn meal alone, which worked very well until I wished to increase the amount of meal; then my cows were troubled with garget, lost the use of one teat, then at last my best cow became dry.

have fed them thus for the last three years, and shall continue to feed the same as long as my cows keep in good health and give a full flow of good milk."

WINDFALLS.—As many of the apples which have fallen from the trees look as well as those which are picked off, many fruit-growers put them in with the picked fruit. But this is a great mistake. Such apples will not keep well. Most of them are too mature. Many of them have been slightly bruised. And the action of the sun upon apples which have been a few days upon the ground, has, in many specimens, commenced a fermentation which will lead to speedy decay.

A QUEER CABBAGE.—The Island of Jersey, in the English Channel, produces a remarkable variety of cabbage, called the Jersey cow cabbage, which grows to the height of three or four feet, and is cultivated for fodder. The stalk, which is tall and very straight, is often made into walking sticks, and when smoothed off and varnished it is similar in appearance to bamboo cane.

GLEANNING.—In old bible times the harvester was not to glean his field or his vineyard; he was to leave the accidental scatterings for the poor. A good provision in the old law, to keep alive in the husbandman's heart a social and charitable feeling.

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