

English farmers are more systematic than we, they lay out definite rotations, and follow them. Maintain a certain amount of stock for each acre of arable land. Work with clock-like system and regularity, and as a result of this produce much greater crops to the acre than we do. In England the value of a farm either for sale or rental is based upon what it will produce or the number of cattle it will carry, and there is not much guess work about it. In time our own hap-hazard practice must give way to such better methods.

The American Agriculturist, in the annual crop review, to be published in the September number, estimates the crop of 1891 at two billion bushels; wheat 500,000,000 bushels and oats 622,000,000 bushels, against 1,500,000,000 corn, 400,000,000 wheat and 526,000,000 bushels of oats. This makes the total prospective crop of corn, wheat and oats 3,122,000,000 or 28.8 per cent greater than last year, and 14.7 per cent over the average of the preceding eleven years. The Agriculturist estimates that for those crops the farmers will receive a total of one billion seven hundred and fifty million dollars. This is \$450,000,000 more than the value of these crops in 1890, and \$625,000,000 more than the average value of these crops from 1880 to 1890.

John W. Bookwater who owns sixty thousand acres of land in Nebraska, proposes to initiate a great reform in farm life at an expense of seventy five thousand or one hundred thousand dollars, to be met out of his own purse. His idea is to overcome the farmer's discontent, which he believes to be due mainly to social isolation, by bringing the homes together into a tastefully arranged village near each one's land, instead of having them on the individual farms. He has already started the experiment on a small scale, and says: "I am going to build a town-hall and establish a free circulating library. This scheme is in vogue among the farmers of France, Spain, Italy, and Switzerland, and is a great success."

Prof. Shelton has exploded a "belief" about bulk of cream being an indication of its butter value. He found that the more grain he fed, the more bulk of cream; but while the bulk increased, the yield decreased "per inch" in about the same proportion, and this conclusion after over 400 analyses made during the tests, a big reason why the "inch" and "space" should not be trusted in dividing the butter at a creamery, and the butter fat test substituted. On some cans, eight spaces of cream gave more butter than fifteen spaces from another source, and all the Professor's feeding trials for solids, starting with well-fed cows, lead him to conclude that the food influences the character of the milk, serums more than it does the solids. As a noted western dairyman puts it: "We have got a heap to learn about milk and its production, and a heap of 'belief' and 'tradition' to bury."

Sheep properly pastured on land and fed when necessary will gradually build up the fertility much better and at less cost than with almost any other class of stock.

Wool, mutton and lambs are the three marketable products with sheep. To secure the best results it is very important to keep them in a good, thrifty condition.

It is best to be prepared to commence feeding the hogs intended for early market early next month, gradually increasing until they will eat up clean.

Purwater should be given freely to the fattening hogs. Milk, which is sometimes given in the place of water, is too solid and does not relieve thirst as water does, and dish-water and swill from the house are often salty. Give fresh, pure water.

The white color of horses and cattle has been developed from tropical resources, and it is clearly shown by the superiority of the white horses of the desert and the tendency of horses and cattle taken from the colder climates of the north to the hot climates of South America and our southern states, that the gray colors increase and withstand the heat better. We notice the gray horses are more popular in the southern states and hot climates.

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Household.

Old carpets may be made into rugs by unravelling them and weaving the ravellings on frames, which come for this purpose, or knitting them. Very little starch is used in the laundry at present. The only articles starched with heavy starch are men's linen shirt bosoms, collars and cuffs. Shirt waists for women are finished with this starch, and only a very slight starch is used in any cotton dresses. White cotton skirts are starched, but not enough to make them rattle.

Fur rugs are simply lined with heavy cotton canvas, which is tacked down to the felt in various places, turned in on the edges and overcast down to the edges of the felt with strong linen thread. We do not see why a binding of braid should not be used around this edge after it is overcast to make the finish neater, though the edge is entirely concealed by the fur when the edge lies on the floor.

Before putting clothes in, remember to remove all stains. Fruit stains and coffee stains may be removed by cold water. Iron rust is one of the stains which may be left till after the washing, as washing does not seem to set it perceptibly. It can be taken out at any time by laying the stain over a board in the hot sun, covering it with salt, and saturating it with lemon juice. Slight mildew stains will yield to the same treatment.

It is much more economical to keep two pairs of shoes for general wear and wear them alternately. Allowing one pair to rest while another is worn will make both pairs last three or four times as long as a single pair would. The shoes have a chance to get into a proper condition, and what is more important, to get aired and dried out from the close perspiration of the foot, which is very injurious to leather. For general walking in summer nothing gives so much comfort and freedom as a low shoe.

The average person shows less common sense in the purchase of shoes than in that of any other article of his outfit. He is quite likely to be guided by the shop keeper as to the style and shape of what he buys. The mass of shoes made for general wear are made with the soft side of the leather turned out. A soft calf-skin shoe, made with the outside of the skin on the out side of the shoe is almost impervious to moisture, and protects the foot from dampness as much as does India rubber; without any of the injurious effects of that material. For general wear where so fine a skin as kid is chosen, a medium priced, rather heavy, coarse skin in a well-made shoe will give more satisfaction and wear than a fine high priced one.

A rusty or soiled iron is a very unsatisfactory article to use. All flat-irons should be washed at least two or three times a year in warm water, in which a table spoonful of lard to the gallon is melted. Wipe them dry and set them in a warm place till every drop of moisture is gone. Irons should be kept in a clean place away from the dust where it is perfectly dry, but this is a very bad practice to allow them to lie about the stove as some housekeepers do. Standing continually on the stove destroys the temper of the iron, and irons that have lost their temper will not heat them heat one-half as fast as those which have been properly cared for. The best iron-holders are those made of cotton bed ticking. Do not make them too thick. Two layers of wool stitched between two pieces of bed ticking makes an iron-holder which is thick enough for all practical purposes and it is not too clumsy to be put through the wash.

Keep four or five holders in use and give the iron a fresh supply for each ironing. Do not wait till the holders are greasy and stiff before they are put through the wash. Every thing in connection with the laundry should be kept spotlessly clean. Keep two covers to the ironing board, and two ironing sheets, so that a fresh cover and sheet may be had whenever the one in use may be soiled. It is no economy to use old sheets for this purpose. It cost but little to buy heavy unbleached muslin from which to make these sheets. Old sheets are soon ironed into rags when used up in this way and there are many other ways of utilizing cotton.

Yellow spots on the linen or cotton produced by the iron may be removed by setting them in the broiling sun. Whenever it is possible it is well to keep a separate closet for articles pertaining to ironing. Keep the irons, starch, bluing, holders, boards, sheet, blanket and other articles pertaining to ironing in this closet, which should be warm and dry and shut off from the dust. If the ironing-boards are kept in a closet in general use it is best to put them in the bags of bed ticking or some other heavy cotton, and hang them up where they will be free from dust and dirt. If they are kept in a closet reserved for the ironing material they need not

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be covered. Tubs and ironing-boards should be kept in a cold place and there is no objection to a little dampness.

Success of an Experiment.

An English woman who employs educated women of the upper classes as servants, is well satisfied with the result of her experiment. Being ladies, they submit gracefully to the inevitable, and do not allow their work to disgrace them because they do it well. "Of course I try to avoid giving them dirty work as much as possible. A great many arrangements can be made in this way to make household work less hard and unpleasant, and if we, the mistresses, would only spend a little more thought on these matters I am sure there would be fewer complaints from and about servants. At the same time, I always insist on my servants fulfilling every duty they have undertaken to perform. If they engage to black my boots, they have to do it, and do it regularly and well. But this does not prevent me from having them in my drawing-room after dinner and playing a game of whist or any other game with them. Their lives are, even under the most favorable circumstances, rather monotonous, and where we can put a little more color and brightness into them I think it is our duty to do it. Their work is very confining and after their work is done, they should be permitted to go out every day." "Do they eat their meals with you, too?" "No, as a rule I find that they prefer to take their meals for themselves, and as they have to cook and serve the meals this is a more convenient arrangement. But otherwise I treat them as equals, and I have not found that they abuse this treatment, but rather are more trustworthy and willing to please."

Five years ago there were five girls school in Yokohama and Tokio. To-day there are more than thirty, and all well supported.

G. F. Ketchum, of Warren county, N. J., an extensive dealer in walnut logs, recently bought a tree he values at \$1,000. It is seventy feet long and three feet six inches at the base. The knots are curled walnut, a valuable variety.

A recently devised French method of testing the purity of drinking water is to put a drop of a solution of permanganate of potash in a glass of water; if the latter becomes yellow, it is not potable; if it remains clear, it may be drunk.

It came out in an English court a few days ago that 100 worn-out horses had just been shipped from that country to Germany and Belgium to be used up in the manufacture of sausage, and that such shipments were a regular thing.

Faith workers have been teaching Christian science in Saybrook, Ill. Mrs. Mollie Smith and Julia and Emma Barnes, her sisters, were among the most ardent believers in the teachings. They're gone crazy and have been sent to an asylum.

Miss Susannah Warfield a wealthy unmarried woman, who died a few days ago at her home, "Goveland," Carroll Co., Md., has left all her property to found an Episcopal college which is to be named after her. The endowment amounts to about \$100,000.

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I would not be without it if it cost \$25 per bottle. I earnestly recommend it to all my afflicted friends.
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