

FARMERS' COLUMN

Barley has recently gained in reputation as a good and substantial food for the horse. It must be conceded by all that it contains in a high degree the principles for forming fat and flesh. It largely abounds in albumen, gluten, sugar, gum and phosphate of lime.

There is a vast difference in the flavor of eggs. Hens fed on clear, sound grain and kept on a clean, grass run; give much finer flavored eggs than hens that have access to stables and manure heaps and eat all kinds of filthy food. Hens feeding on fish and onions flavor their eggs accordingly, the same as cows eating onions or cabbage, or drinking offensive water, impart a bad taste to the milk or butter.

If you want your chickens to get well of the cholera in two days, use my remedy: Take good, clean water and put it in a bucket of any kind; then get white oak bark (that from an old tree is the best), put it in the water and let it steep until the water is of a copper color, and then pour it in your drinking-vessels or fountain, and do not let the fowls drink any other water. Give them their usual feed, and a cure will be effected in a short time. I have tried this for five years and it has never failed.—Cor. Country Gentleman.

Two HUNDRED BUSHELS OF CRICKETS.—In Bull Run Valley, Nevada, the crickets have played sad havoc with the growing crops. The ugly pest attacked one wheat field of thirty acres and in an hour destroyed the whole crop, eating the stalks of close to the ground, and then marched on to other conquests. Millions of crickets that have killed strew the ground for miles around, while vast numbers found their way into the streams and have imparted a most disagreeable flavor to the water, rendering it unfit for drinking. A novel means of cleaning out crickets is the sewing together of three gunny-sacks, leaving small holes in the bottom one for the egress of water. This large sack is attached to the end of a sluice box, placed so that the water will run into it. The people then assemble, armed with bells and boughs, and with a great noise drive the crickets into the stream, which swiftly carries them down through the sluice-box into the bag, and there they are speedily drowned. At Painter's ranch a few days ago there was a grand "drive," the result being seventy-five sacks full, or about 225 bushels of crickets.—Sacramento Record-Union.

FARM VILLAGES.—There is no necessity that farmers should be so isolated so that they generally are, nor any need that the farm buildings should be in the centre of each farm. It is simply a matter of figures and calculation as to whether the saving of a few hours' labor—or a few days in the aggregate—yearly, in hauling the crops to the barn, with the barn and house in the centre of the farm, and a mile away from the nearest neighbor, is of more value or more convenient than to have one's neighbor closer and one's fields farther off. There are many advantages in having three or four home-steads contiguous and forming a hamlet, or with a few tenant houses, a small village. Four sets of farm buildings, four orchards, and four plantations, which would if built at the four adjoining corners of the farms, condense the shelter, and be more effective than when scattered half a mile apart. At or near one of these corners the blacksmith's shop and the other conveniences would naturally be located, and in time a farm village would be built up. There would be far better social opportunities than farmers now enjoy, and many more opportunities for combining labor and capital in joint enterprises. It is convenient to be in the centre of one's farm, but it is a question worth considering when a new house is to be built, if it would not be better to build nearer to one's next door neighbor.—American Agriculturist.

IGNORANCE IN FARMING.—One of the greatest drawbacks to successful farming is the presence of the unknown quantity—ignorance of the exact condition of things, in value, weight and measure, concerning our products. We often produce at a loss. An account with each crop would decide the matter. If after a few trials it costs more to produce than a crop will sell for, its cultivation should be abandoned. Many continue to produce from year to year at a loss in buying and selling. A stack of hay came to my notice recently. The seller estimated that it would weigh a ton and a half. The buyer preferred to buy by weight. It weighed 1,850 pounds, a difference in favor of the buyer. There is no doubt that a great deal of hay changes hands every year on a basis no nearer the truth than this. Loss enough is soon made in this way to put in and maintain a hay scale, even in a small neighborhood. The same thing is true in regard to live stock. Dealers can judge much more accurately than farmers, and are much less liable to be cheated. Farmers are much less liable to fail in buying than in selling. If you pay too much in buying, it makes an uphill business all the way through. This is one great cause why many fail to make anything in feeding and handling stock. From considerable experience in weighing stock for others, I have found that the greater part fall short in weight from the estimate of the owners; come far short. Not more than 5 per cent. exceed the estimates. Horses estimated at 1,100 pounds generally weigh about 1,000. Loads of hay called a ton quite often weigh only 1,200 or 1,500 pounds. Those who estimate the number of tons by the number of loads are often very much deceived, and in selling think they have been cheated, because the scales failed to show as much as they expected. Weighing will remedy this. The pound avoirdupois is a known quantity; after ascertaining the exact number, we are in a condition to go forward without making mistakes in our calculations. Another unknown quantity is in failure to know the number acres under cultivation. A farm which had been taken up when the country was new, and occupied by five successive generations of the same family had a twenty acre lot. On the death of the first member of the twenty acre lot contained but fourteen acres by mutual measurement. Here were five generations of heroic workers deceived in the amount of work actually done, all the while supposing that they were cultivating six acres more than they really were. If the yield came up to what the increased acreage should produce, it did not matter so much. But the probability is that they were as far from the truth in the yield as in the acreage. I once bought a tract of salt marsh, said to contain six acres. The surveyor made less than four acres, much to the disgust of the seller, and to the detriment of the reputation of persons who had gained a local notoriety for big days' work done thereon. Traditional "big days' work" often owe their existence more to some errors in calculation than to the amount of work really done. There is uncertainty enough attending the business of farming, from unfavorable seasons and causes over which we have no control, without being subjected to a loss in those we can remedy. We suffer loss in buying and paying for what we do not get; by selling what we do not get pay for, and in many other ways in which the unknown quantity affects us unfavorably. We should endeavor, where it is in our power, to eliminate it from our business.—Cor. Country Gentleman.

JOHN CROWE, BLACK AND WHITE SMITH, LOOK SMITH, BELL-HANGER, RAPE-MAKER, GENERAL JOBBER, Has Removed from 37 Bonaventure Street, to ST GEORGE, First Door off Craig Street, Montreal.

DECAT COMANIE, TRANSFER PICTURES, with book of 24 pp. giving full instructions in this new and beautiful art, sent post-paid for 10 cts. 100 and 75 pictures, 50 cts. They are Heads, Landscapes, Animals, Birds, Insects, Flowers, Autumn Leaves, Comic Pictures, etc. They can be easily transferred to any article as to follow the most beautiful painting. Also, a beautiful GEM CHROMOS, 100 cts. 1/2 doz. for 50 cts. 1/2 doz. for 25 cts. 1/2 doz. for 12 1/2 cts. 1/2 doz. for 6 1/2 cts. 1/2 doz. for 3 1/2 cts. 1/2 doz. for 1 1/2 cts. 1/2 doz. for 1/2 ct. 1/2 doz. for 1/4 ct. 1/2 doz. for 1/8 ct. 1/2 doz. for 1/16 ct. 1/2 doz. for 1/32 ct. 1/2 doz. for 1/64 ct. 1/2 doz. for 1/128 ct. 1/2 doz. for 1/256 ct. 1/2 doz. for 1/512 ct. 1/2 doz. for 1/1024 ct. 1/2 doz. for 1/2048 ct. 1/2 doz. for 1/4096 ct. 1/2 doz. for 1/8192 ct. 1/2 doz. for 1/16384 ct. 1/2 doz. for 1/32768 ct. 1/2 doz. for 1/65536 ct. 1/2 doz. for 1/131072 ct. 1/2 doz. for 1/262144 ct. 1/2 doz. for 1/524288 ct. 1/2 doz. for 1/1048576 ct. 1/2 doz. for 1/2097152 ct. 1/2 doz. for 1/4194304 ct. 1/2 doz. for 1/8388608 ct. 1/2 doz. for 1/16777216 ct. 1/2 doz. for 1/33554432 ct. 1/2 doz. for 1/67108864 ct. 1/2 doz. for 1/134217728 ct. 1/2 doz. for 1/268435456 ct. 1/2 doz. for 1/536870912 ct. 1/2 doz. for 1/1073741824 ct. 1/2 doz. for 1/2147483648 ct. 1/2 doz. for 1/4294967296 ct. 1/2 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