

Editor Farmer's Advocate.

DRAINING IN QUICK SAND.

Sir.—With your permission I will furnish you with my method of draining on quick sand. No doubt but some of your numerous subscribers will be interested and benefited thereby. One part of my farm was as bad a piece of wet quicksand as ever I saw. It was a regular swale; the banks of a ditch would continually cave in, and between quicksand apparently without bottom, and soaking full of water, it at first appeared a hopeless undertaking. In 1863 I drained 50 rods. I commenced at the lower end of the drain, and completed my work as I advanced. I could only lay three tiles at a time, on account of the sand and water coming in. I took a small quantity of pea straw and laid at the bottom of the drain to lay the tiles on, then I covered the tiles as soon as laid down with pea straw. I had to plug the mouth of the third tile every time with grass or straw, or they would immediately choke up; in fact, one time the straw was not stuffed in quite tight enough, and the water and sand ran in, and we had to take up ten tiles. This drain remains in perfect order now, but last summer it became choked up.—I surmised that the cause might be from the roots of the elder bushes that were allowed to grow in one spot. I determined to try that spot, and on digging down I found in one or two places that the small roots had penetrated through the joints of the tiles, and had grown and twisted themselves round in various forms, and increased in size so as to completely fill the tile as a cork would fill the neck of a bottle. I removed the obstruction, put a few fresh tiles in, and the drain is now as good as the day it was laid. I think the pea straw plan is far preferable to using boards to lay the tiles on, as the boards will settle irregularly, and they do not prevent the sand from coming in as well as the pea straw. I would by all means advise every person to cut all trees or shrubs away from within three rods of any covered drain.

JOHN IRWIN.

N. Dorchester, May 2, 1871.

Mr. Irwin will accept our thanks for his useful information, and so will every one of our subscribers or readers that will send us any information, even if it is not half as valuable as the above. Try and do so, and let your light shine before men. Do good and fear not. You all can send in something that may be of value to others.

Housing Farm Implements.

Few of us farmers do at all times what we know is for the best. It is lost effort to argue with a farmer about the profit of putting his implements under cover when not in use, but sometimes he may neglect the duty, because there is no convenient storage. Let us see how much it costs not to house our farm implements. The wood-work of our tools seldom wears out; the timber of a plow, or harrow, or roller, or harvester, if it were wasted only by ordinary wear in doing its work, would last, on an average, probably a dozen years. If exposed to the weather all the time, four would be the very longest term of its duration. Sheltering implements, then, will make them last three times as long as if unprotected. Now farms of one hundred acres require tools to the amount of \$500 at least; and most of our farmers have that much capital thus invested. If carefully housed and painted so they receive no damage from the snow or rain, the wood-work of one set of implements, costing five hundred dollars, will last as long as three sets unhoused, and costing fifteen hundred dollars. Now, the difference between the sums at simple interest amounts to about fourteen hundred dollars, a great deal of money to be paid, even in twelve years, by a farmer for totally neglecting to house and paint his implements. If they are sheltered part of the year, the loss is less in proportion to the amount of shelter, but any neglect causes loss. One hundred dollars will build a respectable tool-house, and ten dollars worth of paint on the tools yearly will keep them well covered. But we must confess ourselves open to criticism on this point as well as our neighbors. It is one of the most insidious ways of waste in the whole economy of the farm.

From the Prairie Farmer.

Evils of Feeding Cattle to Excess and for Show

Much of this artificial breeding and feeding is due to Americans. Englishmen pursued it for a time, but had just begun to find out their error by escapes, barrenness and premature death. This was pursued because the show yard encouraged the laying on of flesh to create size. Therefore size became fashionable, more especially for trade. A certain clique of Short-horn breeders, with more money than judgment, were determined to carry the sway, regardless of reason or common sense. Their object was to gain notoriety. No expense was spared to obtain it, and they succeeded. "Sales, without reserve," were adopted by this clique. They selected long-legged coarse-boned animals, the majority of which were very deficient in their crops; paunches heavy, shoulders and shoulder points bare. To remedy these evils, they had to resort to extreme flesh, and extreme size was fashionable. They talked, wrote and paid others freely to write size into favor. These animals were called "stylish," magnificent. Their "sweet heads" were made a prominent feature among the series and speech-makers, but they did not tell us how much these "sweet heads" added to the quantity and quality of beef for food consumed. The only alternative was to load them with flesh to attract men of money, with but little judgment, which they found among the nobility of England, and rich men of America, who had made fortunes out of everything else but agriculture. In this they succeeded, and it was called "a charming scheme." The nobility who had never kept a balance sheet, cared not about profit or loss; their aim was popularity with the agriculturists, as they considered them the backbone and sinew of the country, and their votes were important. They gave extraordinary prices for fashionable, stylish, up-standing, long-legged Short-horns, hoping to gain favor among the farmers and breeders, for their liberality, not aware of the injury they were doing by encouraging the forcing system. It was impossible to make these fashionable animals attractive without a thick coat of flesh; they therefore were kept in close confinement, fed on every condiment and forcing feed that could be found; nothing could be too good for feed, or too expensive for flesh producing commodities. Many of these animals died in the process; others died in going to show, in the show yard, returning home, or soon after they arrived there. Some of them took prizes as breeding animals, but the officials of the society had them taken away again because they could not produce a live calf at the time stated. The bulls were loaded with flesh until they became sterile. As there were no restrictions on the breeding of bulls, the prizes could not be recalled; hence the fattest animal was almost sure to be successful, under the influence of the above clique.

Through this clique, "Short-horn sales without reserve" were adopted. Each number advertised a sale which was understood to come on in rotation; all the animals were forced for the purpose, and each individual, but as an underbidder, for his fellow-breeder, and there being a profusion of wine and spirits on hand, all were rampant and reckless. Nobility and Americans were enticed to these sales by flattering advertisements, as some popular "strains" were to be offered. The cows were represented to have been served by the bull on a certain day, but no warrant was given of their being in calf. The auctioneer made this assertion most emphatic, so that it could be understood by all, to evade the law, but excitement overruled, and many hopelessly barren were sold at these "sales by auction without reserve." A few weeks after another sale was advertised. Many had in animals were transferred to the second sale; and so on, until each breeder of this clique was served. Many complaints were made, but there was no remedy. Numerous letters were written to the editor of the *Mark Lane Express*, condemning this clique, and the deceptions practiced by them. They were published, and at length shamed out of them. Many young beginners, anxious to get into Short-horn fame were sadly duped by these "tricks in the trade;" many animals came to America hopelessly barren under the forcing system; some died on the way unable to bear fatigue, and many died with disease after being exposed to less care and coarser feed. These tricked up animals, showing straight tips and straight bottoms before leaving England, when in America, in the hands of those who did not understand how their paunches were reduced, found a very different animal when coming

to grass. Flesh diminished, and paunch increased. Many times this rapid decline brought on disease and death. I could name a number under my own observation, but might be considered personal.

I am sorry to see that this forcing system is encouraged at state fairs in this country. The state fair at Decatur, Illinois, was remarkable for stuffed animals, and in such a state as not to produce calves at all equal to themselves. This has always been the case, and those breeders will find to their sorrow, that however high the price obtained, that they will have to live by the loss. This forcing system would have died out in England long ago had not Americans revived it by being attracted with forced flesh. As the *Mark Lane Express* had it: "The battle of Bunker Hill was revived again at Totsworth. The almighty dollars of the Americans were pitted against the guineas of the noblemen, and the Americans carried the flag of liberty," and bid as they thought best.

I content that a man is not fit to become a breeder unless he can distinguish a good animal by the touch, and fame; nor should any man be put on any committee at state fairs, as a judge, unless he is fully capable to decide on the true merits of a store animal in a proper state for breeding. This is very important, and ought to be taken into serious consideration by those who have influence at state and county fairs. If forced animals are not prohibited from showing as breeders, good breeders will come to an end, or I shall be very much mistaken. As it now it conducted the best feeders win the prize in preference to best breeders. Let me ask common sense men if this is as it should be?

W. H. J. S., Chicago.

Some of the breeders may not be pleased by our inserting the above, but all things should be freely discussed, and this over-feeding we know to be carried to a great excess. We doubt the propriety of Agricultural Societies awarding a prize to any animal that ought to be a breeding animal, that is neither capable of breeding or producing stock. We know of immense loss having been sustained from this cause, particularly by persons purchasing over fed rams and bulls. Of course ewes and heifers often fail but that is not of so much consequence as when a whole flock or herd are thrown barren for a year from the incapacity of the male animal.



Husband—You have great faith, Mary, in the Pain Killer. The Parson's wife and Mrs. Judge Jones are very positive in favor of it, but I am inclined to think that if it did all it professes to do sickness and death would soon be out of fashion, for it cures everything.

Wife—The Parson's wife and Mrs. Judge Jones are not the only ones that I have heard strongly recommend the Pain Killer; every where I go they have it, and everybody praises it; all the Liniments, Cholera Mixtures and Pain Medicines have disappeared since Perry Davis' Agent came round. (To little boy, George, does your tooth still ache, my dear?)

George—No, Mother, the Pain Killer stopped it.

Wife to husband—The Pain Killer does not profess to cure everything, either in the directions about the bottle, or in the Annual. I have read them carefully. It claims to be the best family medicine in existence. Perry Davis & Son do not say what it can do, but prove what it has done, by giving certificates from reliable persons, whose testimony cannot be doubted.

Husband—Do you think these certificates are bona fide, I believe they are made up to sell the goods.

Wife—Judge Jones was as incredulous as you till he wrote to Perry Davis & Son and was satisfied; they sent him a quire of certificates, received from parties within five miles of his own house.

To be continued.

Sold everywhere, price 25 cts. and 50 cts. per bottle.

Lime-water as an occasional drink for fowls is said to be a preventive to many diseases and assists the formation of bone and eggs. It should be prepared as follows: Pour over the quicklime some water, and when the lime is slacked and settled, draw the clear water off which can be kept for a considerable time. The lime will be useful for whitewash.

Emporium Price List for June.

IMPLEMENTS.

Carter's Patent Ditching Machine, improved, \$150.
Drain Tile Machine, \$200. Increased in power and generally improved.
Collard's Harrow, \$12.
Howard's Improved Harrow, \$12 to \$24.
Lawn Mowing Machine, \$25 and upwards.
Send for Circular.
Seed Drills, \$5 to \$70.
Taylor's Burglar and Fire Proof Safes, from \$35 to \$75.
John's Amalgam Bells, for Churches, Factories, School Houses and Farms. From 16 to 36 inches diameter, \$10 to \$150, with yoke and crank, or yoke and wheel.
American Amalgam Bells.
Stump Extractor, \$50, \$75 and \$100.
Reaping Machine, combined, \$140, single, \$80.
Fraser's Hay and Grain Car, \$9.
Parson Grain Crusher, \$90, \$35 and \$40.
Lamb's Knitting Machine, \$5 to \$75.
Hinckley's Knitting Machine, \$30 to \$50.
Tumbling Churn, \$4, \$5 and \$7.
The celebrated Blanshard Churn.
Sewing Machines—any stitch and all prices.
Grant's Hay Fork, with Pulleys, \$12.
Dana's Patent Sheep Marks, with name and number, \$5 per 100. Punches, \$1.25. Bound Registers, 50 cents. Sheet Registers, 8 cents.
Clark's Cultivator. It is of light draft, very durably constructed, and does the work completely. Price \$34.
Flowman's Patent Hardened Metal Plows, \$14 to \$16.
Good Horse Powers, \$50. Do with Wood Sawing Machine, complete \$95. Best made.
Tamm's Drill Plough, \$16.
Walmsley's Potato Digger, with mould board; for drilling, earthing up and digging. \$6, \$20.
Best sulkey Horse rake, \$50.
One Horse Drill Plough, and One Horse Plough, \$5 to \$750.
Beesives, Lottie's, Thomas' and Mitchell's.

TO DESTROY WILLOW TREES.—Cut through the bark with a light hatchet or drawing knife about five or six feet from the ground. Then strip the bark down to the ground in pieces two to three inches broad, leaving it fast to the tree at the bottom. This can be done any time in May. Toward the latter part of Summer, or anytime thereafter, the trees may be cut. Some will die previously; others will remain green throughout the summer. But whether dead or alive when cut, the stumps will never sprout.

Texas has a new game of cards—one holds a revolver and the other holds the cards. A corner holds the inquest.

There is an editor in New Jersey, who, in addition to his editorial labors, runs a bank, an insurance office and a graveyard.
"You say," said a Judge to a witness, "that the plaintiff resorted to an ingenious use of circumstantial evidence; state just exactly what you mean by that." "Well," said the witness, "my exact meaning is that he lied."

Great Western Railway.

GOING WEST.—Steamboat Express, 2.45 a.m.; Special Express, 5.00 a.m.; Mixed (Local), 1.10 a.m.; Morning Express, 12.30 p.m.; Pacific Express, 2.35 p.m. GOING EAST.—Accommodation, 6.00 a.m.; Atlantic Express, 8.40 a.m.; Day Express, 12.35 p.m.; Detroit Express, 4.00 p.m.; Night Express, 11.25 p.m.

Grand Trunk Railway.

Mail Train for Toronto, &c., 7.30 a.m.; Day Express for Sarnia, Detroit and Toronto, 11.25 a.m.; Accommodation for St. Mary's, 3.10 p.m.

London Markets.

LONDON, May 30, 1871.

Grain.			
White Wheat, per bush	1 12 to	1 25	
Red Fall Wheat	1 10 to	1 22	
Spring Wheat	1 20 to	1 33	
Barley	52 to	53	
good malting	70 to	75	
Peas	75 to	80	
Oats	46 to	48	
Corn	75 to	80	
Buckwheat	70 to	70	
Rye	65 to	65	
Produce.			
Hay, per ton	9 00 to	11 50	
Potatoes, per bush	45 to	58	
Carrots, per bush	16 to	18	
White Beans, per bush	75 to	1 00	
Apples, per bush	60 to	80	
Dried Apples, per bush	1 75 to	2 00	
Hops, per lb.	5 to	10	
Chopped Seed	4 75 to	5 25	
Flax Seed, per bush	1 50 to	1 75	
Cordwood	3 50 to	4 00	
Fleece Wool, per lb.	30 to	34	