

Miscellaneous.

Little things in Farming.

The whole success of a farmer hinges upon timely attention to little things. This, mainly, makes the difference between thrift and poverty. The philosophy of success is expressed in that old adage, "For want of a nail a shoe was lost, for want of a shoe a horse was lost, for want of a horse a man was lost." It is a little thing to keep accounts of the pecuniary transactions upon the farm. A half hour Saturday evening would enable most farmers to know just how they stand with the world. Yet, we suspect half of the men who cultivate the soil never make an entry in a book, and for want of this, the account runs up fearfully at the store, and many articles of luxury are purchased for which they are unable to pay at the end of the year. Debt accumulates, the farm is mortgaged, and finally lost, for want of a little paper and ink. It is a little thing to put up a tool in its place when not in use. Yet many have no tool-house, or place of shelter for any implement or vehicle. Things are left where they were last used, the plough in the field, the cart in the yard, the chains in the stable, the harness in the wood-house, the axe at the wood pile, and the rakes in the corn crib. Many do not even house the expensive implements they have bought, and reapers and thrashers are treated like old ploughs and harrows. The parts made of iron and steel grow rusty, and the wood decays. A machine that is good for thirty years with proper care is used up in five by abuse. It is a very little thing to turn a nut when it is loose; yet for want of the tightening the nut is lost, the bolt comes out, and the loaded wagon breaks down on the way to market, and a whole day for man and team is lost. It is a little thing to keep a horse properly groomed; yet for want of clean fetlocks the skin cracks and the horse is lame, and the owner loses the use of him for months or weeks. Ventilation is a small affair; yet for want of it the health of stock in stables suffers severely, and disease sets in. It is a small affair to provide good seed at the beginning of the year, but the whole success of the season depends upon it. It is an easy thing to deal fairly with your neighbors and make a name that is better than "precious ointment." Many cheat on small occasions, do not deliver what they sell, and get a reputation for meanness that stands in the way of their success.—*American Agriculturist.*

Filing Saws.

In the first place you should be careful in selecting your saw at the hardware store. If you see one with the teeth standing straight out at right angles with the edge of the blade, or nearly so, hands off from that one: it will cut as well one way as the other, and not very fast either way. Look for one with the teeth considerably raking, that is, pointing downward; not too much, however. The lower edge of the teeth should not be at right angles with the blade, like a mill or hand-saw, but about half-way between that and the large cross-cut saw. See also that the line of the edge is straight or rounding, not hollowing.

Then file the teeth quite beveling, carrying the file nearly at an angle of forty-five degrees from the blade. This will give a sharp, chisel-like edge to the teeth, longest at the extreme outer edge, which will thus go a little ahead and sever the fibres of the wood, and leave the balance of the end of the tooth nothing to do but clean out the chips of the kerf. In filing, keep the filed edge of the tooth straight—not round it off towards the point—and carry the file level, keeping the hand well up so that you think it is a little more than level.

A saw thus filed will need but little set, and in that little the teeth should be kept straight on their sides two-thirds of the way from the point to the base, and not turned short out just at the point. If one side is set out more than the other, the saw will run from a straight cut towards that side. If the teeth are filed shorter on one side than on the other, it will run in the opposite direction. In filing, you should bear the file hardest against the teeth on the side toward you, or it will cut the opposite side most, and make the teeth the smallest on that side.

A hand-saw should not have quite as much rake as a bucksaw, the object being smoothness rather than rapidity in cutting. In other respects, the same rules will apply.

A splitting saw, that is, one for sawing lengthwise of the grain, should have the lower edge of the teeth stand at right angles with the blade, with a light set, and filed nearly square, beveled just enough to leave the outer corner a trifle the longest. In buying a saw file, never buy the lowest priced. One that costs twenty cents is worth four ten cent ones.—*Wisconsin Farmer.*

Punch advises farmers to sow their P's, keep their G's warm, hivo their B's, shoot their J's, feed their N's, look after their potatoes' T's, and take their E's.

A House rents are so exorbitant in New Orleans, that a "grasping landlord" advertises to let a splendid hog-head, just vacated by the former occupant, who leaves it for no fault. The premises are a sweet location for a family with young children, are in thorough repair, with bunghole centrally situated, and hoops in good order.

A CHEERFUL VIEW OF THINGS.—"How dismal you look!" said a bucket to its companion, as they were going to the well. "Ah," replied the other, "I was reflecting on the uselessness of our being filled; for let us go away ever so full, we always come back empty." "Dear me! how strange to look at it in that way!" said the other bucket. "Now, I enjoy the thought that, however empty we come, we always go away full. Only look at it in that light and you'll be as cheerful as I am."—*The Moralist.*

ADVANCE OUTWITTED.—The following case is reported as having been decided in one of the courts of law. A wealthy man died, leaving the singular will that his executors should have the use of his property until his son, then a young man, should come of age, and that then they should give him such a portion as should please them, having full confidence in their friendship. When the time came the greedy executors assigned him one-tenth of the estate, and kept the rest. The young man, being naturally dissatisfied, brought a suit against them, a trial was had, and the judge decided that he should have the nine-tenths, and the executors the one-tenth, on the ground that they had shown by their conduct that the nine-tenths pleased them.—*American Agriculturist.*

SELF-POSSESSION IN A DIFFICULT SITUATION.—On Friday, 5th inst., as Mr R. Skead, jun., was riding on horse-back over Sapper's Bridge, Ottawa, his bridle suddenly broke, and the horse taking alarm at the accident, dashed away at full gallop, whilst the rider was apparently without the means of guiding or checking his course. The accident was observed by a large number of persons, who all became alarmed for the consequences; as quick as thought, however, the young gentleman leaned over the horse's neck, got his hand into his mouth, seized his tongue, and brought him to before he had got two hundred yards from the spot where the bridle broke. This splendid feat, says the *Times*, elicited the admiration of all who beheld it.

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