

FARMERS' COLUMN.

Scratches and heel cracks are cured by the following method: Wash the feet clean and dry thoroughly, and apply Carbolic salve at least twice a day. Pursue the same course for collar and saddle galls.

To cure a halkey horse, tie his tail to a whiffletree just so that when his mate pulls a little, a strain will come on his tail. Instead of beating and whipping a halkey horse, try this simple remedy.

To make good harness blacking take three ounces of beeswax, four ounces of ivory black, one pint neat's foot oil, two ounces of castile soap, two ounces of lard, one ounce aloes—to be boiled together, and poured in a basin to cool.

An English farmer remarked "he fed his land before it was hungry, rested it before it was weary, and weeded it before it was foul." We have seldom if ever, seen so much agricultural wisdom condensed into one single sentence.

The following is said to be a sure test of a horse's age: After the horse is nine years old, a wrinkle comes on the eyelid. At the upper corner of the lower lid, and every year thereafter he has one well defined wrinkle for each year of his age over nine. If for instance, a horse has three wrinkles, he is twelve. Add the number of wrinkles to nine and you will always get at his age.

QUEEN PIG FIBER.—A large farmer residing in the 6th con., Beverly Ontario, has discovered a new method of getting rid of his grasshoppers. He keeps fifteen pigs, and during the summer months they live on nothing but grasshoppers. He keeps two of the summer's litter over till the next spring to teach the young brood. Last summer for seven weeks his pigs lived on grasshoppers, and came out fat and ready for fall feeding on grain.

GERMINATION FROM SEEDS TWO THOUSAND YEARS OLD.—A most interesting observation, referring to the power of germination in seed which is hundreds and even thousands of years old, is said to have been made by Professor Hensreich in Greece. In the silver mines of Laurium, only the slags left by the ancient Greeks are at present worked off, in order to gain, after an improved method, silver still left in that dross. This refuse ore is probably about two thousand years old. Among it, the seed of a species of glaucium or poppy was found, which had slept in the darkness of the earth during all that time. After a little while, when the slags were brought up and worked off at the melting ovens, there suddenly arose a crop of glaucium plants, with a beautiful yellow flower, of a kind unknown in modern botany, but which is described by Pliny and others as a frequent flower in ancient Greece.—London Examiner.

RURAL ESTHETICS.—Mind must be the emancipator of the farmer. Science, intelligence, machinery—these must liberate the white bondman of the soil from his long slavery. When I look back and see what has been done for the farmer within my brief memory, I am full of hope for the future. The plough, under the hand of science, is to become a new instrument. The horse now hoos the corn; digs the potatoes, mows the grass, rakes the hay, reaps the wheat, and threshes and winnows it; and every day adds new machinery to the farmers' stock, to supersede the clumsy implements which once bound him to his hard and never ending toil. When a farmer begins to use machinery and to study the processes of other men, and to apply his mind to farming so far as he can make it take the place of muscle, then he illuminates his calling with a new light and lifts himself into the dignity of a man. If mind once gets the upper hand, it will revere itself and see that the body is properly cared for. Intelligent farming is dignified living. For a farmer who reads and thinks, and studies and applies, nature will open the store house of her secrets, and point the way to a life full of dignity and beauty, and grateful and improvable leisure.

SANDY LAND MADE FERTILE.—It is well known that sandy soil is difficult to render fertile, because if manure is applied, its virtues leak down through and are lost. This can be remedied, however, on small plots of ground, by applying muck. A writer in the Country Gentleman says: "About one-third of an acre of light sandy soil, so light as to be considered waste land, was mucked from three to four inches deep, and this was thoroughly worked into the soil. This was done year before last. Last year it bore a good crop of potatoes with common manuring. This year it is bearing the heaviest and best corn on the farm, with no more manure than the other fields." Sandy land, if it can only be made fertile, has two great advantages. It has natural drainage, and it is easily worked. Moore's Rural New Yorker also speaks of a farmer who had a large field of sandy land, which was so unproductive as to be considered of little value. The land was ploughed in the fall, and during the winter the farmer set his teams drawing clay from a bank near the creek, and close at hand. In the spring the clay was distributed over the surface as evenly as possible, and harrowed in, and the field was then sown with grain and seeded down to grass. A good meadow was thus obtained, which proved productive for a number of years, though only a light coating of manure was applied from time to time.

REARING CALVES WITHOUT MILK.—An English paper says: At the ordinary held at Congleton on the recent fair day, Mr. Taylor, the landlord of the Lion and Swan Inn, explained to the company, who were principally farmers, a very economical method, as adopted by himself, of rearing calves without milk. Subjoined is Mr. Taylor's plan of operation: Soon after a cow calves some oatmeal is scalded, mixed with common brown sugar, and made into balls about the size of a hen's egg, one or two of the balls being given three times a day to the calf, which sucks them and swallows them greedily. After the three first days the calf is fed by hand, and in small quantities, with chopped hay mixed with bean or barley meal scalded. The calf, after a few trials, eats the mixture voraciously. After the first three days, too, one quart of thin meal gruel is given to each calf. The young stock, for which Mr. Taylor obtains remarkably good prices, feed better than those fed in the old way; no noise or bleating is heard among them. They grow rapidly, and are soon turned out to grass. Mr. Taylor stated that he reared twelve calves each year for the last three years in this way, thus effecting a larger saving of milk, which, as he had two or three cows only, was all required for the use of his hotel, while the plan only involved him in a little extra trouble for the first few days.

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42 " " " " " " " " " "	18 00	756 00
8 " " " " " " " " " "	6 00	48 00
12 " " " " " " " " " "	32 00	384 00
12 " " " " " " " " " "	6 00	72 00
12 " " " " " " " " " "	30 00	360 00
290 " " " " " " " " " "	3 00	870 00
1000 " " " " " " " " " "	2 00	2,000 00
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