

How the Mortgage Was Lifted

SWINE THE MONEY MAKERS.

In 1867, I bought a run-down farm of 160 a. Paid \$3000 down and mortgaged for 6120 at 5 per cent. To meet the first payment I gave 2000 cash I owned and a 1000 note on personal security. Besides this I borrowed 500 on personal note with which to buy two mares, one cow and 60 stock hogs. Then I hired a girl to help my wife and a man for myself.

I bred colts for several years with profit, my mares continuing to work meanwhile. Would leave the colts in the stable while working the mares. I bought and bred 10 sows for spring pigs, which I sold and bought another cow. Wife sold butter, fed the milk to the pigs, sold eggs and raised chickens, while myself and hand pushed repairs on the house, barn, fences and ditches until crop time. We also cut a large lot of wood, cleared up about 4 a. of new ground for corn and some small patches for potatoes and garden truck.

Made and sold 60 gal maple syrup besides what we used. Planted out a young orchard of cherries pears and apples as well as small fruits. Cultivated about 30 a in corn, 30 in wheat, 10 in oats, each yielding poorly on account of the exhausted soil.

A few patches of . . . a good garden, and the summer work was done. I purchased a half interest in a steam thrasher and ran it for all there was in it. Cleared about \$500. Aug 1 found me, with two teams at \$3 per day each, hauling gravel on the new pike that ran past my door. We made about \$200 at that. I contracted with the township trustee to furnish about \$40 worth of wood for the school houses. Hauled wood to town whenever I should have gone with an empty wagon, as well as when I found nothing more profitable to occupy our time. In the fall fed my clovered hogs and sold them at 7c per lb gross. They weighed 310 lbs on an average, and brought over \$1400. I also taught a winter school at \$60 p mo and wound up the year's work deeper in debt than ever, not having paid my interest—but I was rich in experience. The fine profit on my hogs gave me a pointer.

As our great president said, I was confronted by a condition—that mortgage. But I had a theory as well. My ground needed a fertilizer. Clover was a good one. Hogs, horses, cattle and sheep would eat clover, clover would make corn, corn would fatten hogs and hogs would lift mortgages.

I resolved that I would make a specialty of hogs and clover—not neglecting to push every side issue to the utmost and turn an honest penny wherever I could. I made it a rule to fatten 100 head or more of hogs every year from that time on. I would raise the pigs if I could, but if I did, would purchase the remainder and have them ready at feeding time.

To this end I bred 25 sows, gilts, every year, to a thoroughbred boar, turning him in between Christmas and New Year's, one year a Berkshire and the next Poland China, alternating. I sel-

dom raised less than 100 pigs. Fed but little corn through summer and winter. Turned them on clover in May at one year old, from the clover I turned them on small patches or fields of green corn about Sept 15, fed until Dec 1 and marketed them. They seldom weighed less than 300 lbs and sometimes more.

My sales for hogs ranged from \$700 to over 2000 p year—very seldom less than 1000. It took corn to do this. I reclaimed all my wet land by ditching, cleared from 5 to 10 a of new land every year and sold the wood. I hauled all my surplus or waste straw and refuse on the poor land and fed my hogs on it. I stirred the land a little deeper than it had been done, broke my ground with a jointer attachment, turning everything under, planted the corn in the rough by dragging a log in the furrow, to make fine soil for covering, always drilled, placing the grains 18 inches apart.

Cultivated the ground thoroughly after planting until after harvest, leaving the ground as level as possible and always had good results. I did not raise corn enough to feed all these hogs. I bought and hauled thousands of bushels of corn and fed it out on my farm. By this process and with all this stable manure I could make, and what I could get and draw from the village, one-half mile away, I have built up my farm very fast, and it will now produce 100 per cent more grain per acre than when I came on it. Worked my wheat ground thoroughly, whether in corn or fallow, making a compact and mellow surface and sowed from Sept 15 to 25 from 12 to 2 bu p a. Corn that was hogged down as late as Oct 25 seldom failed of a good yield. Sowed all my wheat ground in clover about Feb 15 to 20. Seldom raised oats. Wintered my stock almost exclusively on clover hay. By this method of rotation, clover, corn, wheat, a good patch for potatoes, a good garden, some fruits of every kind, for use and some to sell, I brought up the soil fertility. Raised good Jersey cows and some stock of all kinds. In just 9 yrs from the time we moved on the farm the mortgage was lifted. The farm had come into a high state of cultivation and had \$1000 in bank. All this time we lived well, were working Christians in church and Sunday school, were liberal and entertained preachers and friends royally, and since the lifting have even been more prosperous.—[G. P. G., Rush Co, Ind.]

The American Shropshire Registry Ass'n is claimed to be the largest live stock association in existence. It has a membership of 1930 and has issued 130,000 certificates. Mortimer Levering of Lafayette, Ind., is its secretary.

Stringy Milk—M. C. has a valuable cow 12 yrs old that for 3 yrs about 3 mos before calving and while giving a good mess of milk, it has become watery and stringy, full of stoppers and unfit to use; she does not dry off until six weeks before calving. The cause of the trouble is probably due to the age of the cow, coupled with long period of lactation. As a preventive, I would recommend potatoes and any other succulent food in liberal quantities, avoid concentrated foods as much as possible. It may also be well to give a tablespoonful of saltpeter two or three times per week. If the animal is valuable as a breeder, or if she is an extra heavy milker, she may still be profitable even with the loss of the milk for six weeks. In any case, it would be best to dry her when she shows the trouble mentioned.—[J. E. Gifford, Devonshire Farm, Mass.]

A New Separator was placed on the market last spring, called the Aquatic cream separator, and which seems to meet a long felt want as its price is so low that it comes within reach of all. It is made in five sizes, very easy to clean and operate, requires no power to run it as it operates on the system of reducing the viscosity in the milk, whereby the cream is obtained quickly and in a smooth condition, free from taints, odors, etc. The company claim it is just as practical for the farmer who keeps one or two cows as those who keep from 10 to 15. They sell from \$5 to \$11, according to capacity. If you are thinking of buying a separator write the Aquatic Cream Separator Co., 312 Factory square, Watertown, N. Y., and ask them for a catalog, which is mailed to all free who mention this paper.

Our Veterinary Adviser.

Swelling—J. A. F. has a cow which has a hard swelling on her left side and on the milk vein. Give epsom salts 1½ lbs at a dose; after the physic operates give nitrate of potassium ½ oz at a dose in a mash twice a day for one week. Rub the swellings once a day with a little soap liniment.

Chorea—C. J. C. has a spring colt which is affected very much like a person having St Vitus dance. Give the colt bromide of iron 10 gr at a dose twice a day in a small mash, and continue it for several months if necessary.

Nervous Cow—F. B. has a Jersey cow which is very restless when milked; she will keep shifting her hind feet and stop feeding. The only remedy for this trouble is to use kindness and find out whether the cow prefers squeezing the teat or pulling. Some men have hard hands and they milk roughly and if the cow is nervous she will be restless and even keep up her milk. Try petting, and milk as gently as possible.

Swollen Sheath—W. M. S. has a horse which swells in the sheath. If the horse is fat, give aloes 1 oz, ginger 1 oz and bicarbonate of soda ½ oz; mix, dissolve in hot water 1 pt and add cold water ½ pt and give at one dose. After the physic operates, mix sulphate of iron 4 oz and nitrate of potassium 4 oz, divide into 24 doses and give one twice a day in bran mash. If the horse is thin in flesh omit the physic, but give the powders. Give regular exercise.

Bleeding After Castration—R. S. McC. wants a remedy to stop bleeding after castration in a calf. If the cords are large, they ought to be tied well up and the ends of the cord left out through the wound. When bleeding takes place after the cord has been cut and there is danger of the animal bleeding too much, take a piece of cotton batting and steep it in tincture chloride of iron and put it into the pouch and stitch it; let this remain in for 24 hours, then cut the stitches, bathe the part and remove the cotton. No after treatment is required.

Bunches—D. W. has a cow which got one of her toes hurt one year ago, since then bunches the size of a hen's egg have come out on the fore leg. Take a blunt knife and scrape off the top of the bunch until the blood begins to ooze, then wipe it off and apply a little tincture of antimony to it with a feather. Repeat this every third day until the bunch disappears; then mix oxide of zinc 1 oz with vasoline 2 oz and apply a little once a day to heal it.

Chronic Cough—W. S. C.'s horse has a cough and rattle in its throat as if there was matter in it. This is caused by a deranged condition of the mucous membrane of the throat and windpipe. Put turpentine 1 oz into a pint of boiling water and hold this under the horse's nose for 15 minutes, repeat twice a day and continue for several weeks. Also give 1 oz Fowler's solution of arsenic at a dose in bran mash once a day and continue it for 5 or 6 weeks.

Thrush—P. E. S. has a horse which has thrush in foot. Poultice the foot for a few days with bran, then wash it clean and dry the affected part, then put in ½ teaspoonful of dry calomel, press this to the bottom of the part, then put in a soft rag to keep the calomel from falling out when the horse puts his foot on the ground. Repeat the calomel once every third day until it is cured. Keep the foot dry.

Indigestion—Mrs E. W. D. had a calf which was fed on skimmed milk for nine days, then fed on flour meal and clover tea, etc. It seemed to do all right for a week, then it bloated and died. Young calves will not do well on such food. If fed on skimmed milk it should be mixed with flaxseed tea. Medicine is of no use in such cases. The cause of the milk curdling so soon is the result of a bacteria getting into it. To prevent this wash the udder, teats and flank of the cow before milking, also see that the vessels that the milk is put into have been well washed and scalded with boiling water for at least 10 minutes and have them exposed to the air for a few hours after scalding.

The Swineherd.

WEANING PIGS.

Weaning pigs is a part of the swine business that requires the very highest skill and intelligence. Of absolute importance, first, is that the sow be in good flesh at farrowing time. If the sow is thin she will seldom give milk enough for her litter even for the first three weeks, and, besides, the milk will be of such poor quality that it is apt to cause disorders in the young pigs, which the very best after-feeding and care will not compensate. Granting then that the sow carries from 100 to 150 lbs of firm flesh (not fat) to be later elaborated into milk for her offspring, we begin weaning at three weeks old and finish at eight.

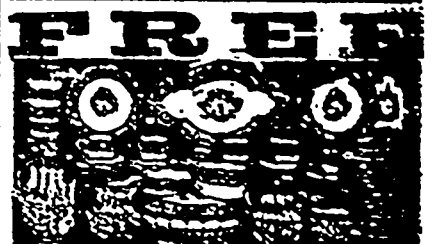
When the nurslings are three weeks of age, we teach them to drink milk. If we have not another compartment adjoining the brood pen, we feed the milk when the sow is let out. The milk being at blood heat we place it in a wide pan or low trough. I catch a pig and stick his nose in the milk up to his eyes. He soon begins licking the milk from around his jaws and off the other pigs, and finding the milk sweet to his taste soon looks for more, and in a very short time all or nearly so are drinking the warm milk from the trough.

Once a day is often enough to offer milk the first week. During the fourth week of age we feed milk twice a day, always proportioning the quantity to the amount of milk given by the dam. When five weeks old we begin feeding cooked meal, shorts and cornmeal with the skim milk. We would not risk feeding raw cornmeal, for it would be sure to cause scours and probably thumps. At six weeks of age we feed milk and meal three times a day, always guarding against feeding too much. At seven weeks we keep the dams from the pigs during the night, only permitting the pigs to suckle during the day. We do not wish the dams to become too much run-down, as they surely will if pigs of this age are allowed to suckle them ad libitum. In the morning, before being fed, the sows are admitted to the pigs, after which in an hour the pigs get their feed of cooked, or scalded meal and water with milk if we have it. At eight weeks the pigs hardly look to the dam at all, and are now on full feed, when we ship them into the fattening pens.—[J. A. Macdonald, P. E. I., Can.]

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