FARMERS' COLUMN.

CARBOLIC ACID IN VETERINARY PRACTICE.—La Tribune Medicale of Savoy states that a destructive epidemic of cattle plague was arrested by the following treatment :- 1. Bleed to the extent of three quarts. 2. Administer a quart of lukewarm water, in which are dissolved two and a half drachms of crystalized carbolic acid. 3. Give, once or twice, four quarts of strong infusion of coffee. 4. Energetic fractions to excite cutaneous reaction. 5. Scarify the infiltrated regions. 6. In the course of the complaint give several quarts of the infusion of gentian. 7. Dress with a solution of the above mentioned carbolic acid, above the pistules which form on the hide. In this manner fifty cows, seven horses, and one pig was treated, of which only one cow died, and the epidemic was arrested.

ENEMIES OF BEES .- An enemy of bees is thus described by Prof. C. V. Riley: The large two winged flies which you have observed only within the last two years and which have the pernicious habit of killing bees, belong to an order of Dipteru or two winged flies, properly known as robber flies, or Asilus flies They may be readily recognized by the stout throax, narrow, strongly nerved wings, bristly haired face and legs, and more especially by the long, slender abdomen tapering posterily to more or less of a point. There are several species all of which are, in the perfect state, fierce canni-Among these the Nebraska bee killerwhich derives its popular name from the State in which it was first captured-occurs very generally over the United States, proving in many localities very destructive to the honey bec. This fly is about one and a half inches in length, of a yellowish brown or a yellowish gray color, with the head, thorax and legs clothed with bristly hairs. It preys almost exclusively upon the honey bec, pouncing upon the latter in the air with lightning-like rapidity, and, alighting with its prize upon a leaf or upon the ground, pierces the threax with its strong proboscis and proceeds to suck out the vital juices.

How to Produce Layers .- In every lot of hens some will be better layers than others. Let us suppose we start with six Houdans-a cock and five hens. Probably out of this five two may lay thirty eggs per annum more than either of the others; their eggs should be noticed and only these get. By following this for a few years a very great increase in egg-production may be obtained. My attention was drawn to this subject by a friend having a Brahma pullet, which laid nearly three hundred eggs in one twelve months, though valueless as a fancy bird, and the quality descended to several of her progeny; and I have since found other instances which prove conclusively that a vast improvement might easily be effected in nearly all our breeds were that careful selection of brood stocks made for this purpose which the fancier bestows on other objects. It is to be regretted that more is not done in this way, and having more room than I had, I hope myself to make some experiments in this direction shortly. I will say now that I am perfectly certain the number of two hundred eggs per annum might be attained in a few years with perfect ease were the object systematically sought and I trust these few remarks may rouse a general attention to it among those who can easily do all that is necessary without any knowledge whatever of fancy points, or any attempt to breed exhibition birds.

REGULARITY OF WORK .- The fine weather has enabled the farmers to finish up their fall work, and push on with that for spring. It would be well to keep on as long as the weather remains favorable, for we know not what spring may bring forth. Work should be done with regularity, and not by "fits and starts." At this season the hours of work may be shortened, and the days labor finished at four o'clock. There is much work that may be done indoors; reading, studying, planning for the future, which are all equally as necessary to be done as plowing and digging drains. By apportioning the time to different labors, one may often get through more work than in other ways. System is everything in planning work, and goes a great way in doing it. By economizing the time, there may be five hours daily set apart for reading. About the house everything should be done to make things snug, and all requisitions made by the housekeepers and everything should be done to relieve their necessary work of much of its weight. Fuel should be put under cover, and properly prepared for convenient use. Drains should be made to carry off water; a place provided for slops and wasts, where they may be saved for use as fertilizers; the cellar thoroughly cleaned, whitewashed and protected : shelves put up where needed; porches for protection around the doors and well should be made, and all these done without considering that any undue calls are made upon the patience or the time of the farmer or mechanic. The home should be considered first -Agriculturist.

WHY FARMING IS UNPROFITABLE.—The question. "Will Farming pay?" was discussed before the New Hampshire agricultural society as follows: It is complained that farming is unprofitable. Men are leaving the farm and are seeking employment in manufactories and the trade of the city. New Hampshire, the agricultural part of Massachusetts, of Maine and Vermont have gone back in popula-tion, and productive agricultural wealth in the last ten years. Without seeking to touch all the reasons for it, may we not find it largely in this, that we ask too much for the farm? Having a capital of \$2,000, \$3,000 or \$5,000 invested in it, we ask that the farm shall support our families, educate our children and give us a comparative wealth for old ago besides. And yet, do we treat it as other men do their business who succeed? If we fail in getting all this from it, we say at once that farming is unprofitable. We are unmindful of the fact that in mercantile business only one in a hun dred is fairly successful, and only one in a thousand eminently so. Does not farming do as well as that and better? Does only one in a hundred succeed to a competence and only one in a thousand to affluence? And yet we do not deal with our farms in the same way that we have seen that the nation does with its producers? Do we not take everything off and put comparatively nothing on the land? In every other business in life all the gains a man gets he immediately puts back into his business. The merchant increases his capital from gains of the preceding year, if he is a prudent man, until it becomes as large as he can profitably manage. But if a farmer makes any surplus on his farm, as a rule, does he return it to his land, either in increased facilities for farming, in enriching the soil, adding to his stock or draining his land? On the contrary is he not much more likely to invest in railroad shares or bond or some manufacturing enterprise, or loan it to some neighbor? Having taken away from the farm what the farm has brought him, and ought to be returned to it again to make it more productive, he leaves it impoverished, and then complains that the gains do not increase. Is not the difficulty that is continually taking away the increase of his capital and leaving it only what it was at the beginning? The merchant, as we have seen, increases his capital year by year; but the farmer frequently takes his and invests it in other enterprises and then complains that the farm does not succeed. No farmer we ever heard of mortgaged his farm to put manure on it, yet men frequently do mortgage their farms for the purpose of building a find house, and many take all the earnings of the farm for ten years for thai purpose. The mortgage or indebtedness once on a farm, as a general rule in the past, except in the change of fortune made by the chance of prices

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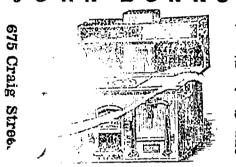
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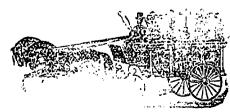
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