

FARMING

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New Year's Greeting

Last week we had the pleasure of wishing our friends and patrons "A Merry, Merry Christmas," and this week another pleasure is ours, that of wishing them a prosperous and happy New Year. We hope and trust that 1899, the last year of the century, will bring them greater prosperity and success in their business and farming operations than 1898 has afforded, and that their cup of joy and happiness will continue full and overflowing till the blessings of the twentieth century are upon us.

A New Zealand Opinion of our Exhibition Number

The October number of our esteemed contemporary, the New Zealand *Dairyman and Dairy Messenger*, which has just reached us, contains the following complimentary reference to the special Exhibition Number of FARMING:

"It is certainly the finest production of a strictly agricultural publication that has come under our notice, and is a credit to the publishers, The Bryant Press. We are glad to know that they believe, and have proved, that a high class production, finely printed and finely illustrated, is appreciated by the farming community. We are trying to follow in their footsteps—a long way behind, it is true."

Has Found the Right Paper to Advertise in

The following letter from one of our advertisers speaks for itself and needs no comment other than that Mr. Ford's experience is the same as many more of our advertisers. Mr. Ford's advertisement only appeared in four successive issues, and the splendid results he has had show clearly the advantages of a weekly publication in giving quick returns to advertisers:

Drumquin, Ont., Dec. 19th, 1898.

FARMING,

Toronto, Ont.:

Dear Sirs.—Please give my advertisement one more insertion and that will clear me out of stock. Have found out the right paper to advertise in and also the benefit of advertising in the right paper. We have received from four to six enquiries every day since our advertisement appeared in FARMING and sales have been surprising. We sold two birds last Saturday, and to-day are shipping a 34 lb., year-old tom and a young hen to Sam Snowden, Bowmanville, Ont., and a 24 lb. gobbler to Martin Night, Burgessville, Ont. FARMING is all right.

Yours truly,

JAMES FORD.

Agricultural News and Comments

Milk is pasteurized when it is heated from 155 degrees to 167 degrees. This process kills most of the germs. Boiling the milk (212 degrees) or heating it nearly to boiling point kills all the germs and is called sterilization.

A good way to start a forest of nut trees is to plant the seed in the ground where the tree is to grow. Samuel Miller says: "Cover the walnut two inches, hickory one, acorn one, hazel nuts and chestnuts the same as hickory."

A common estimate of the cost of eggs is one cent each. This is a fair estimate, allowing the average cost of a hen to be \$1.25 a year, supposing that she lays about ten dozen eggs in that time. But the hen above the average will lay more eggs and therefore produce them at less cost each.

To clean a rusty plough or cultivator use sulphuric acid, four ounces to a pint of water, handling the dangerous acid

with care. Pour the mixture on the rusty place and when the rust is softened scour it off with sand, dry and coat with grease. A plow treated this way will quickly brighten when used again.

The largest horse in America has been discovered in Illinois. He stands twenty hands high, weighs 2,500 pounds, and has never been either broken or shod. He is nearly a pure blood Clydesdale. Of course he is a freak, and not likely to be worth anything except for exhibition purposes.

A writer in the *Practical Farmer* says: "I have cured my horses of colic several times with common salt. Take a large handful and put it back as far in the mouth as possible. Hold up the head so they cannot spit it out. More salt will not hurt them. They will generally be all right in an hour or two."

Here is a good recipe for curing hog meat so that it can be used in summer as well as winter. The proportions are to 1,000 pounds pork take ten quarts fine salt, three pounds brown sugar, and a little saltpetre (dissolved). Mix and rub on the meat as soon as cut up. The meat is laid on a board about ten days, then sewed up in a cloth bagging.

The rarest bird in existence is a certain kind of pheasant in Annam. For many years its existence was known only by the fact that its longest and most splendid plumage was in much request by mandarins for their head-gear. A single skin is worth \$400, and the living bird would be priceless, but it soon dies in captivity.

Cattle have been known to have been poisoned by eating the leaves of wild cherry trees or shrubs. It is caused by the prussic acid in the leaves, and it is estimated that one half pound of black cherry leaves may be considered as a fatal quantity for a cow to eat. If this be true the leaves of the cherry tree should be excluded from all hay.

Nikoteen, the essential element of tobacco, is used in Australia for spraying. The preparation used is an intensely concentrated form of that substance. In one small bottle of Nikoteen is the narcotic from twelve pounds of tobacco stems, a ton of the stems making four pounds of the preparation. It is said to be very effective in destroying the codling moth or aphid.

Pigs may be made useful in more ways than one. Recently an Australian coasting steamer struck on a reef and those on board were likely to come to grief. There being no rockets on the ship, the captain tied a life line to some pigs which formed part of the cargo, and had all the animals put overboard. The pigs swam to the shore taking the lines with them, and by establishing communication every soul on board was rescued by means of travelling cages.

Color fads in farm management are common in English agriculture. One noble lord has a white farm upon which all the birds and animals are white in color. Another fancy farmer shows a strong partiality for yellow. His costume, from boots to straw hat, is of that shade, he drives a yellowish, dun pony, keeps yellowish-brown Jersey cows, fills his hennery with buff cochins and buff leghorns. His flower garden is a mass of marigolds and other flowers of similar golden hue. All the buildings are painted yellow. White and yellow are about the only colors available.