

and sold to subscribers only. A register is kept there of good stock and farms that are for sale. Important and useful agricultural matter are found in the columns of the paper, leaving a space for amusement for the young also for markets and engravings. Tell them no paper published in Canada, has ever received such a high commendation as the "Farmer's Advocate" from the County Councils, and they are the men that know what the country requires. Numerous leading farmers say that it is the best agricultural paper published in this Dominion. Tell them that several Agricultural Societies have already abandoned another and older paper, and given preference to the "Advocate." If they say they take a local paper, tell them they should, by no means, be without an agricultural paper, unless they wish to be behind the times. Many farmers have made, and others have saved \$100 a year, by taking the "Advocate," and if they know the advantages of the change of seed, and wish to make money they should obtain it at the Emporium, as many of the most valuable kinds can only be obtained there, and unless they are subscribers they cannot procure them, and that no farmer should be without the "Advocate." The Boys and Girls column is worth ten times the price of the paper to a rising family, by giving the young useful, enlightening, and amusing tales, puzzles &c., &c., which are highly prized by most young folks and tend to expand their intellects and give them a love and attachment to home. As soon as you read this Act AT ONCE, take the paper and show it to others, and take the names of subscribers and gain one of the prizes. You must be a gainer of some prize if you apply one day to it, and you may gain the largest prize by devoting your time to it. Try at once.

THE ROUEN DUCK.

The American Stock Journal, describing the Rouen duck, its characteristics, &c., says that it derives its name from the city of Rouen, on the river Seine, in France. It is a prolific bird and lays large eggs. The color of the egg is a blue green. The shell is considerably thicker than that of some other breeds; the flesh is of the highest possible flavor. The Rouen is much larger than the common duck, and very beautiful; they are thus described:

Drake—bill inclined to green, the nail and around the nostrils being black. Head and neck as far as the white collar, which should be very distinct, brilliant iridescent green; throat and breast claret brown; back, scapulars and thighs gray, with minute wavy dark lines at right angles to the shaft of the feather; tail brown, with the outer edge of the feathers white, forming a broad margin of that color, the three centre feathers being curled; primaries brown; secondaries with a bar of bright steel blue forming the speculum, the band of black, the extremities being tipped with white; lesser wing coverlets rich brown;

greater wing coverlets the same, with a narrow white margin; under part of the body gray, with the same wavy dotted lines as on the back; legs and feet orange.

The duck has a uniform plumage of rich brown, every feather being more or less marked with black; bill, legs and feet dusky; irides light brown in both sexes.

The color of the Rouen duckling, when first hatched, are a yellowish-brown color, with patches of yellow upon the face, breast and wing, a dark line passing along the side of the face about the eye. At two weeks old, these colors have become blended and indistinct, and so remain till the feathers take the place of down.

Of all kinds of ducks the Rouen seems to be the most useful; they commence laying sooner in the spring than any other variety; are more hardy than the Aylesbury, even when kept on the same farm, and bear well the inclemencies of the weather. They lay very freely if the eggs are removed, and the eggs are readily incubated by common hens. The flavor of the Rouen duck is most excellent, being surpassed by none others.

A singular trait in the character of this variety is, that the ducks grow to about the size of the drake, and frequently is the most weighty of the two; while in most other kinds the disparity of size is very obvious. One of the most general objection to ducks is their propensity to stray away and get lost, more especially if in the neighborhood of large rivers or other running streams. To those persons the Rouens will be a treasure, for they are the most determined "stay-at-home" birds, and never ramble at all except near home, but appear dull and lazy, which accounts for the little difficulty and expense of feeding; they eat no more than others, and attain their superior size and weight in an equally short period of time.

The young ducks are easily reared, providing they are not allowed to get into any water for some time after they are hatched; and although this time may not be accurately defined, if six weeks are allowed to elapse, the birds will be found to have gained much in weight and size over those which have frequented a pond, as the time occupied in swimming is then occupied in sitting still and getting fat. They speedily arrive at a condition for market, and when there offered, generally have the readiest sale of any other poultry. If a proper degree of care and regularity of feeding are adopted, they will remunerate the owner as well as any poultry he can grow for the market.

A SABBATH school superintendent asked his scholars if any of them could quote a passage of Scripture which forbade a man's having two wives; whereupon nearly the whole school cried out, "No man can serve two masters."

ABE having heard it stated by a lecturer that "man is merely a machine," remarked, "I suppose an attorney is a suing machine."

"We're in a pickle now," said a man in a crowd. "A regular jam," said another. "Heaven preserve us!" mourned an old lady.

BRAN FOR MILCH COWS.

Plain bran or ship stuff, says the Stock Journal, is one of the very best kinds of food to increase the milk. It is not fattening. A steer could not be fattened on bran, alone, and a cow, if fed on the best of hay and bran alone, might fall off in her yield, unless her strength and condition were kept up by Indian meal or stronger food. If there were anything in which there would seem to be no strength, it is bran, the mere hull of wheat. It is not stimulating, like brewers' grains, and can certainly do no harm, if it does no good; and yet any farmer who will make the experiment, will find—or, at least, we have found—that a cow being otherwise kept in a proper condition, her yield of milk will be very considerably increased by giving her twice a day a feed of pure bran. The fact is patent, although we are not able to explain it. If there is any one article, which, while keeping up the health and strength of the cow, will also increase the supply of rich, healthy milk, in our experience it is cotton seed cake meal. We have found this to have a great effect on the milk-secreting organs. The cows at first do not seem to relish it, and it should be mixed with some other seed, but they soon come to like it, and we have never seen any bad effects in any way.—Ext

SELECTING COWS.

A Vermont farmer gives the following as his rules for selecting a cow;

"First, I get a broadside view of the animal, at the distance of about two rods, as I have noticed for years that there was a great similarity in the general proportion of all first-class milkers, being very small in girth just back of their forward legs, as compared with their girth just forward of their hips. I have never known a first-rate milker, of any breed, not thus proportioned; so that if this form is wanting in an animal I have recommended to me, I do not care to look at her more, unless I want to breed for some other purpose than the dairy. For breeding oxen I should want a cow of reverse proportions, i. e., larger girth forward. I next feel the size of the milk veins, and trace them to their entrance into the chest, which in superior cows, are large, admitting the ball of the larger finger; if divided, or subdivided, as is sometimes the case, I judge of the size of each orifice, as I care less for the size of the vein itself than the orifice. Next, I examine by sight or touch the udder or bag, which must be capacious in order to hold much milk, with teats wide apart and free from large scud, warts, or sores of any kind. I then inquire how long she goes dry before calving, as I don't want a family cow to give milk less than 46 weeks out of every 52; also as to the quality of the milk; and, to close, I milk her with my own hands."

A farmer who knows anything will not allow any beast in his care to be houseless during the winter. The least that can be provided for his stock is a shed, open at the South.—While cattle will necessarily consume more food in an open shed than in a tight stable, it is a fact that they are more healthy in the former than in the latter. The reason of this lies in the imperfect ventilation of the stable.