

The Value of the Alderney.

Very few cows yield profit on eight months milking, and yet it is the usual custom of the country to dry them off at that period, often because their owners don't like to milk in cold weather, oftener because a large calf is desired to capitalize the beginning of the agricultural year with, and full as often because the rural community, though keen enough in certain details, is not given to large considerations, and does not take into account the factor of liberal and continued feeding during two months beyond the eight in the bountiful production of milk and consequent profit. A cow thus early dried off establishes the habit for herself and progeny, and remains on a dairy farm at least an unprofitable animal. The Jerseys, on the contrary, breeding early, continue under good management persistent milkers, many drying off with difficulty before calving, and becoming more profitable at the end of the year than at any other period during it.

Finally, as the "small Alderneys" of half a century ago thrived upon grass "upon which a Yorkshire cow would starve," so the Jerseys of to-day will get along upon as little and poor feeding as any scrub of the roadside, and do more for their owner in the production of butter. I don't know any one pretending to be a decent dairy farmer having a poorer pasture than I and my kine have suffered under for several years—though it is now being cleared of stone, plowed, and prepared for a first class cow feeder hereafter—and it has had to be supplemented with corn-fodder and rowen most of the season, never any grain except some seasons a quart or two of wheat middlings per cow, and it has been a source of wonder and pleasure to see how these indefatigable providers will manage to eat enough to produce the amount of butter they yield.

I trust, however, that this will not be used as an argument for shortening the rations of our favorites, because good feeding will cause a production of more butter and better quality than poor; and though I and mine suffered from short pasture—and for good pasturage there is no adequate substitute—yet morning and night my cows had their fill of fodder or rowen and never suffered from hunger. Taking her all in all, for a butter dairy or as a family cow, the Jersey must be considered the most profitable as she certainly is the most docile and beautiful.—R. G. in *Jersey Bulletin*.

How to Increase the Yield of Wheat Next Harvest.

The writer of "Walks and Talks on the Farm," in the *American Agriculturist*, writes the following in one of his recent "talks" on farm crops:—"There is one thing," said the Doctor, "that may yet be done to increase the yield of wheat next harvest, and that is to top-dress the winter wheat early next spring with, say 200 lbs. of nitrate of soda and 150 lbs. of superphosphate; and, in view of the probable good price for wheat, it will be likely to prove a profitable application in sections not too remote from market." "I do not know about that," said the Deacon, "but a dressing of hen manure, ashes and plaster, sown early in the spring on light, sandy knolls, where the wheat is yellow and sickly, sometimes has a surprising effect. But I like to have my hen manure for corn."

"On these light, sandy knolls," said I, "it is a good plan to draw out some barn-yard manure in the winter and spread it on the frozen ground or on top of the snow. It often happens that the snow blows off these knolls and leaves them ex-

posed. A slight dressing of manure not only enriches the land but affords protection to the plants."

"I do not know anything that can now be done to save the plants from the Hessian fly. The eggs, or larvæ, are in the plants, and they will destroy those plants next summer. But all the wheat is not affected. If not more than one-fourth of the plants are attacked, the field of wheat would next summer present a sorry appearance—and yet there are three fourths of the plants uninjured. Now can we not stimulate these remaining plants by top-dressing with manure, and so cause them to spread until they cover the ground?"

"The first year I was at Rothamstead, Mr. Lawes

feet, and the second story 9 feet. Cellar walls are of stone masonry, laid rubble, dashed and white-washed; the outside courses above the ground are of selected stone, laid rubble, tight joints, and painted. The doors, sash, mouldings, &c., inside, are of Canada white pine and painted; the sills of frames are yellow pine. The stairway has a walnut rail and newel, with maple balusters.

The building is nicely finished and complete in every part, costing the owner 3,000. By reference to the plans it must be evident that the rooms are advantageously placed, having front and rear stairways, fine pantry, and range in kitchen. All parts are free, and the house can be easily managed, as all its working qualities are perfect. The windows

and doors are carefully arranged so that it will furnish properly, and good furniture will not be lost in it, as is too frequently the case in badly designed buildings. Each chamber on the second floor is supplied with fine clothes presses, which can be made wardrobe closets if desired. We have new styles of finish, organized for buildings of this kind, more beautiful, less clumsy and costly than the old methods. Our sashes are made and hung differently. The partition walls are made to have the appearance of being thick, and a 5-inch partition will look like a 9-inch wall. All of these points can be fully understood by the specifications and details, and we save more than the price of the drawings. The external appearance of the building has been much admired for its quiet beauty.

Parties writing to us should give full particulars as regards size and position of lot, and all points desired by them.

Our charge for full drawings, &c., of the building is \$50, and subject to any changes the owner may desire in the building.

FIRST STORY PLAN.

P parlor, 12 x 20 feet; D R dining room, 12 x 18 feet; S R smoking room, 8 x 12 feet; K kitchen, 12 x 12 feet; S scullery, 9 x 12 feet; H hall, 8 feet wide.

SECOND STORY PLAN.

C chamber, over D R, 12 x 18 feet; C chamber over P front, 12 x 12 feet; C chamber over P back, 10 x 12 feet; C chamber over S R, 8 x 12; C chamber over K, 9 x 12 feet; B bath room, 7 x 8 feet, 6 inches; H hall.

WHEN TO CUT TIMBER.—Timber for building purposes, or for the use of coopers or wheel-wrights, should never be cut before December or January, when the circulation of the sap is thoroughly arrested. Immediately after the tree is cut down it should be freed from all shoots and branches, and sawn into planks as soon as possible, so that these may be at once seasoned by exposure to By taking these precautions, decay and dry rot will be avoided, and the wood will keep excellently; but of course the advice is intended only for those who get out their own lumber, or can have it done according to their wishes, for the greed of dealers will force the cutting of timber at untimely seasons.

The aggregate importations of American products to Great Britain were larger in October last than in any previous month of the year. During that time at Glasgow alone there were landed 2,900 sheep, 146 horses and mules, 3,153 quarters of beef, 24,000 cases preserved meats and 5,270 boxes of bacon.

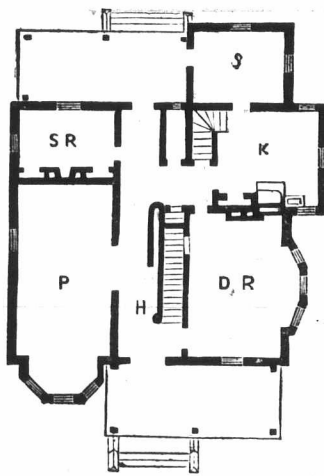
The sixteen starch factories of Aroostook Co., Me., used this fall from 20,000 to 100,000 bushels of potatoes each, the price paid at the factory being from 20 to 25 cents a bushel. Many farmers in the county have from 500 to 1,000 bushels stored in their cellars. *What are our stock pasturers doing?*



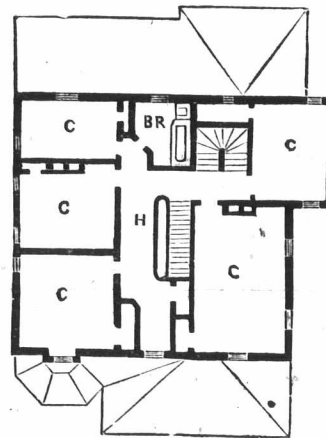
HOUSE TO COST \$3,000.

had some wheat that was so thin on the ground and so poor that he thought of plowing it under. Instead of doing so he top dressed it with Peruvian guano, or sulphate of ammonia, and hoed the land between the drills."

"In regard to hoeing wheat, I feel certain that the operation would be highly advantageous, not merely in cleaning the land but in encouraging the growth of the wheat. And it is a curious fact that while good, effective wheat-hoeing machines have been extensively used in England for over thirty years, none of them have yet found their way to this country."



GROUND PLAN.



SECOND STORY.

Rural Architecture.

BY J. H. HOBBS & SON, ARCHITECTS, PHILADELPHIA.

The above is the design of a building erected by E. S. Farson, Esq., at Maren's Hook, upon the Delaware River, a few miles below Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. It is of frame, substantially built, and lined with rough boards on the outside, laid diagonally; covered with two thicknesses of felt and weather boarded. Gas throughout, fully plumbed, with hot and cold water, a large brick heater in the cellar, slate roof, and all fully painted. The cellar is 7 feet clear, and; first story 10