

FARMERS' COLUMN.

A REMEDY FOR FIGHTING RAMS.—A correspondent of the Ohio Farmer recommends the following plan to prevent rams fighting: "At this season of the year rams are apt to develop their combative propensities, and those who keep several of them together often have trouble on account of their injuring each other. It is well known that they always 'back up' to get a start to butt. Stop their backing up and you disconcert them entirely. To do this, take a light stick (a piece of broom-handle will do), about two to three and a half feet long. Sharpen one end and lash the other securely to his tail; the sharpened end will then draw harmlessly along the ground behind as his majesty goes ahead about his business; but, on the attempt to 'back up,' he is astonished to find an effectual break in the rear. Don't laugh and call this 'all gammon,' but if you have a butting ram try it, and the time to laugh will be when you see him jump out sideways, and whirl round and round, trying to inspect the machine, which will keep behind him.

THE EFFECTS OF DRAINING.—By draining we remove the water from the soil to a depth equal to that at which the drains are laid, or in general from three to four feet. This seems to be a simple matter, and the removal of this water from the soil is recognized as a beneficial operation, so far as it goes, by every farmer. But there are some indirect effects resulting which are not less valuable than the removal of the water. In effect draining has, to a great extent, every advantage that can accrue to the soil from deep subsoil ploughings. As the water escapes into the drains, it descends into the soil and fills the vacancies left. The air is warmer than the soil, and raises its temperature several degrees. As the rain descends time after time, every shower displaces the air in the soil and as the water again finds its way to the drains, air again takes its place. A circulation of air thus occurs in the soil, which is incessant during the growing season, and by which the warmth of the soil is increased. Another indirect effect which results is, that the roots of plants penetrate into the subsoil as far and as fast as it is freed from stagnant water. Every root exerts a powerful effect both in opening and loosening the subsoil during its life, and after its death in furnishing certain acids which help to dissolve portions of the soil with which they come in contact. In this way draining is a valuable aid to the plough in helping to maintain the original fertility of the soil, and add to it in a measure proportionate to its thoroughness.—New York Times.

BREEDING FROM YOUNG SOWS.—There is such a thing as breeding from sows that are quite too young to produce and rear a litter of pigs. We have seen sows with pig, which were only shotes of a medium size. It is not a commendable practice to allow any animal to breed before the carcass is fairly developed. Every pomologist knows that it is ruinous to young fruit trees to allow them to bear abundantly when all the energies ought to be concentrated towards promoting the development of the top. A farmer of our acquaintance, who has had extensive experience in breeding swine, states that in his locality it is quite common to breed from young sows, say fall pigs. To come in with a litter of pigs when one year old. This practice should be utterly condemned. If continued in the same family for a few generations of swine, they will be found to dwindle down from three to four hundred pound hogs to animals that will weigh only two or three hundred pounds. It is much better to keep the sows three or four years, and even much longer. Sows have been kept some fifteen years to advantage. Swine are several years in coming to maturity. It is a fact well known, at least to every Irishman from the "old country," that pigs from old sows will grow into hogs some thirty or forty pounds heavier than those from young ones. While sows are growing, the sows should not be allowed to breed until the live weight will exceed one hundred and fifty pounds gross weight.—Practical Farmer.

FOOT ROT IN SHEEP.—When foot-rot has for some weeks been neglected and the sheep continue on soft ground, which favors the superabundant growth of degenerate horn, it becomes confirmed and difficult of cure. The secreting textures persist in pouring out lymph and weak fatty horn instead of the tough, firm, protecting covering of the healthy foot. One of the chief difficulties in the way of cure is to restore the secreting parts to their sound state. The first step must, however, be with a strong sharp knife, whilst the hooves are soft, carefully to cut away all loose unsound horn.—Where the hoof is extensively affected, this cannot be done all at once; two or three operations will be necessary. Fungous and bad smelling growths which appear in most troublesome cases are got rid of by any strong astringent. Butter of antimony is often used for such purposes, and in cautious hands answers fairly. Some shepherds use it mixed with equal parts of impure carbolic acid and diluted with two or three parts of oil. In some districts copper sulphate ointment, made in proportion of one to four of fatty matter, is in good repute, and is improved by the addition of about one part of the antiseptic deodorizing carbolic acid.—Such treatment may be varied by dressings of zinc chloride solution, or mercury pernitrate solution. It will always be found that the successful treatment of foot rot depends not so much on the particular dressings employed as upon careful paring away of faulty horn, examining and doctoring the foot at intervals of two or three days, avoiding strong caustics, and placing the flock on dry, firm ground. Amongst sheep on arable land foot-rot is usually cured quicker than in those on grass.—North British Agriculturist.

HOW TO KNOW THE AGE OF A HORSE.—The colt is born with twelve grinders; when four front teeth have made their appearance the colt is twelve days old, and when the next four come forth it is four weeks old. When the corner teeth appear the colt is eight months old; when the latter have attained to the height of the front teeth it is one year old. The two year old colt has the kernel (the substance in the middle of the tooth's crown) ground out in all the front teeth. In the third year the middle front teeth are being shifted, and when three years old these are substituted by the horse teeth. The next four teeth are shifted in the fourth year, and the corner teeth, in the fifth. At six years the kernel is worn out of the lower middle front teeth, and the bridge teeth have now attained to their full growth. At seven years a hook has been formed in the corner teeth of the upper jaw the kernel of the teeth next at the middle is worn out, and the bridge-teeth begin to wear off. At eight years, the kernel is worn out of the lower front teeth, and begins to decrease in the middle upper front. In the ninth year, the kernel has wholly disappeared from the upper middle front teeth; the hook on the corner has increased in size, and the bridge-teeth lose their points. In the tenth year, the kernel is worn out of the teeth next to the middle front of the upper jaw; and in the eleventh year, the kernel has entirely vanished from the corner teeth of the same jaw. At twelve years old, the crown of all the front teeth in the lower jaw has become triangular, and the bridge-teeth are much worn down. As the horse advances in age, the gums shrink away from the teeth, which consequently, receive a long, narrow appearance, and their kernels have become metamorphosed into a darkish point, gray hairs increase on the forehead and over the eyes, and the chin assumes the form of an angle.—Journal of the Farm.

DR. M'LANE'S CELEBRATED LIVER PILLS, FOR THE CURE OF Hepatitis or Liver Complaint, OYSPEPSIA AND SICK HEADACHE.

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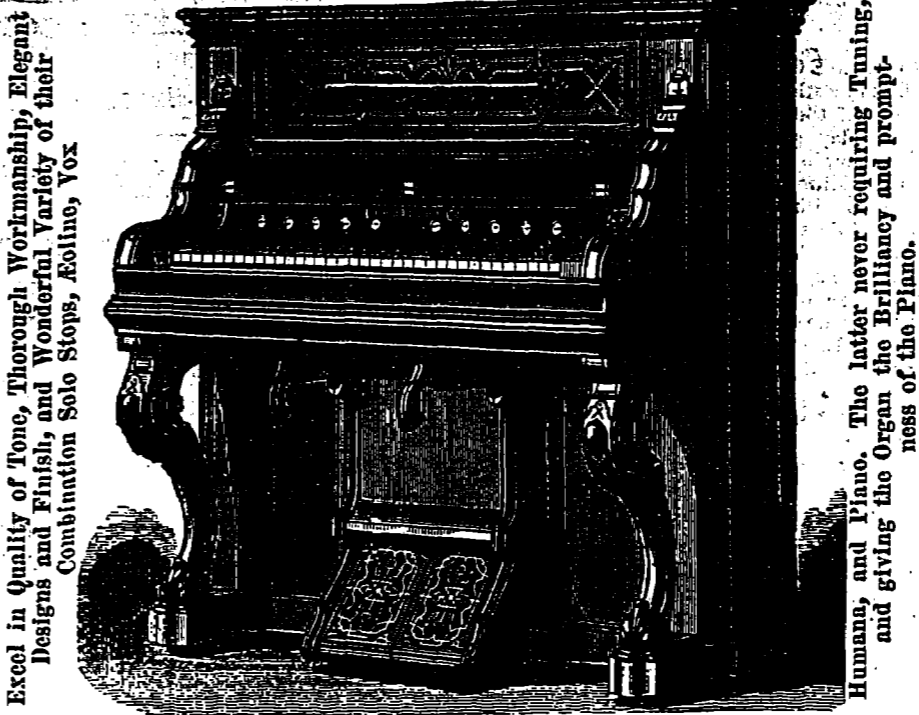
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IS THERE A CURE FOR EPILEPSY? GREENADA, Miss., June 30—Seth HANCE.—Dear Sir: You will find enclosed five dollars, which I send you for two boxes of your Epileptic Pills. I was the first person who tried your Pills in my country. I was afflicted with Epilepsy for two years, and received two boxes of your Pills, which he took according to directions. He has never had another fit, and by my persuasion that Mr. HANCE tried your Pills, his case was a very bad one; he had fits nearly all his life. Persons have written to me from Alabama and from several other States, for the purpose of obtaining my opinion in regard to your Pills. I have always recommended them, and in no instance where I have had a chance to hear from their effect, have they failed to cure. Yours, etc. C. H. GUY, Grandville, Yalabusha County, Miss.

ANOTHER REMARKABLE CURE OF EPILEPSY; OR, FALLING FITS. BY HANCE'S EPILEPTIC PILLS. MONTGOMERY, Texas, June 25th, 1857. To Seth H. HANCE.—A person in my employ had been afflicted with Epilepsy for thirteen years. He had these attacks at intervals of two to four weeks, and oftentimes several in a quick succession, sometimes continuing for two or three days. On several occasions they landed until his mind appeared totally deranged, in which state he would continue for a day or two after the fits ceased. I tried several remedies prescribed by our resident physicians, but without success. Having seen your advertisement, I concluded to try your remedy. I obtained two boxes of your Pills, gave them according to directions, and they effected a permanent cure. The person is now a stout, healthy man, about 30 years of age, and has not been a day since he commenced using your medicine, ten years since. He was my principal wagoner, and has since that time been exposed to the severest of weather. I have great confidence in your remedy, and would like every one who has fits to give it a trial, and would like to see them. Yours, respectfully, etc. W. H. L. GUY.

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