

Cornwall, assigned
adjet Fanning, born
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having attained the
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having attained the
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FARMER'S POINT OF

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law says he shall be assessed for. Now these men are equally rich, yet one pays taxes on \$8,000 or \$9,000, the other only on \$800. Is this fair or just? Not by any means; it is an example of rich men making laws to suit themselves, and shirking their just share of the public burdens. If farmers are not heard in the public press of the country, they speak bitterly of these things among themselves. I have been an assessor both under the old law and the new one, and so I have had ample opportunities of becoming acquainted with their feelings on these very important topics. Gentleman of the Legislature, listen to the voice of justice. Place the burden on the shoulders of those that are able to bear it; and don't tax the poor man for what is not his own if his debts were paid. There are other anomalies in the law as it now stands which I should like to advert to, but I have said enough at present (perhaps too much), and will subscribe myself,

Yours, truly,
A FARMER.
Walsingham, Co. Norfolk, Jan. 25, 1873.

THE FARMER'S ALLIES.

The Swiss naturalist, Baron Von Tschudi, has this to say in behalf of birds, the efficient but too seldom appreciated allies of the husbandman:—Without birds, successful agriculture is impossible. They annihilate in a few months a greater number of destructive insects than human hands could accomplish in the same number of years. Among the most useful may be classed the swallow, wren, robin, redbreast, sparrow, and finch. Tschudi tested a titmouse upon a rosebush of his neighbor, which rid the same in a few hours of innumerable lice. A robin redbreast killed in the neighbourhood of 800 flies in an hour. A pair of night swallows destroyed in fifteen minutes an immense swarm of gnats. A pair of wrens flew thirty-six times an hour, with insects in their bills, to their nests. He considers the sparrow very important; a pair of these in a single day carry 300 worms or caterpillars to their nests—certainly a good compensation for the few cherries which they pluck from the trees. The generality of small birds carry to their young ones during the feeding period nothing but insects, worms, snails, spiders, etc. A farmer indignantly destroys a robin because he has caught him eating a cherry, thinks he has done mankind a service, but let him take a moment to open the crop of the bird, and he will find it full of worms. In some instances 200 worms and grubs have been found in the gizzard of a single bird. An oriole shot in a field of wheat had 300 weevils in its crop. A pair of orioles (parent birds) destroy 1000 caterpillars a day. The commissioners appointed by the French Government have reported with an accuracy characteristic of French Legislation. It has been decided that by no agency save that of little birds, can the ravages of insects be kept down. A certain insect was found to lay 2,000 eggs, but a certain titmouse was found to eat 200,000 of these eggs in a year. A swallow devours about 550 insects in a year, eggs and all. A house sparrow's nest in the city of Paris, was found to contain 700 pairs of the upper wings of cockchafers, though of course, in such a place; food of other kinds was procurable in abundance. The bluebird in some respects reminds one of the English robin redbreast, though as an insect destroyer, it surpasses the English bird. Its food consists of all kinds of insects especially the larvae of the colling moth, and canker worms and caterpillars of every description are quickly destroyed. The birds arrive in time to destroy the female moth as it ascends into the tree in early Spring to deposit its eggs.

SCRAPPL.

Taking a hog's liver, lights, heart, tongue, and the head, except the jaws and offal pieces, both lean and fat, from other parts of the animal; boil them thoroughly in a small quantity of water; chop all pretty fine, after taking out of the liquor; season as for sausage; then return to the pot, thickening the whole with one-half buckwheat meal, and one-half corn meal, so that it will be about the consistency of Indian mush; let it boil gently for half an hour, then pour in pans to cool; slice it and fry it in its own fat. It is far better than what is commonly called "liver-pudding."

A newspaper of Iowa city gives rather a discouraging account of what the farmers in those "diggings" are doing, or rather not doing. Here is the price current: A pair of winter boots costs two loads of potatoes; a night's lodging, a load of oats; the wife wears five acres of wheat; the children each ten acres of corn; the price of an overcoat is a cool four-year-old steer; of a Sunday suit, twenty fat hogs.

MAD DOGS.

The *British Medical Journal* calls attention to the measures recommended by the Council of Hygiene, of Bourdeaux, for protecting the people against the dangers of hydrophobia. It is well known that the madness of dogs has periods which one can call premonitory and harmless. If these periods were generally known the dogs could be put beyond the power of hurting before they became a public danger. On this subject the Council of Hygiene has issued the following instructions:—

A short time, sometimes two days after the madness has seized the dog, it creates disturbances in the usual condition of the animal which it is indispensable to know. 1. There is agitation and restlessness, the dog turns himself continually in his kennel. If he be at liberty he goes and comes and seems to be seeking something; then he remains motionless, as if waiting; he starts, bites the air, seems as if he would catch a fly, and dashes himself, barking and howling, against the wall. The voice of his master dissipates these hallucinations; the dog obeys but slowly, with hesitation, as if with regret. 2. He does not try to bite; he is gentle, even affectionate, and he eats and drinks, but he gnaws his litter, the ends of the curtains, the padding of cushions, the coverlets of beds, the carpets, &c. 3. By the movement of his paws about the sides of his open mouth, one might think he was wishing to free his throat of a bone. 4. His voice has undergone such a change that it is impossible not to be struck by it. The dog begins to fight with other dogs; this is decidedly a characteristic sign, if the dog be generally of a peaceful nature. The numbers 3, 4, 5 indicate an already very advanced period of the disease, and the time is at hand when man will be exposed to the dangerous fits of the animal if immediate measures be not taken.

"These measures are to chain him up as dangerous, or better still, to destroy him. After having accepted this advice the council desired that it should be inserted at least once a year in a public paper, or at more frequent intervals of time in the *Moniteur des Communes*. It is also desired, and which seems to us more particularly efficacious and practical, that it should be printed on the back of the notice for the dog tax, on the back of the receipt for this tax, and, finally, on the back of the permission for hunting. These excellent measures ought to become general."

STONE COLORED WASH.—I painted a board fence and a rough out-building two years ago, and it is nearly as good to-day as it was when finished, and it costs comparatively nothing. The fence is a common rough board fence, with a cap-board nailed at the top; and I have leaned on the fence a hundred times and it will not soil a black coat, or any garment by so doing, but appears slaty with no disposition to crumble. "Take two pounds of flax seed and boil for an hour or more, in four pails of water; after thoroughly boiling, strain it into an old tight barrel; put in one peck in bulk of common land plaster, one peck of nicely sifted wood ashes, one quart of wheat flour and one quart of salt. Put in your barrel a good stick as large as a hand like, and stir it until it is as thick as cream; let it stand in the sun for a week, and every time you go by the barrel, stir it thoroughly, and by the end of a week it won't settle, but will remain incorporated, and is fit for use." The above was made in quite warm weather, and worked up like sponge batter, two or three times, before putting it on; but a good stirring would, in a minute or two, reduce it again to its creamy consistency. It is now as hard as slate, and is certainly valuable in preserving the wood, and is a cheap luxury in good looks for fences or second class buildings, and I know is no humbug.—*Rural Home*.

Two gentlemen in Galt are exporting to the States about 100,000 pounds of hops a year. They are said to be making a good thing by it. Canadian soil and climate seem to be splendidly adapted to the culture of hops. The proprietors of the "yards" in Welland County are making handsome "piles" by the business of growing these pungent article.

CHARCOAL A GOOD FARM MEDICINE.

Nearly all sick horses and cows are made so in the first place by eating improper food, or too much of it. As soon as the owner finds any of his animals sick, it is the common custom to begin dosing medicine. "We must do something!" and a small number of drugs and poisons are thrust down the throat—sage, castor, turpentine, &c., quite sufficient to make any well animal sick, or kill a sick one. "You didn't give the poor animal enough—you should have given it often—You can't expect your beast to get well if you don't do more for it!"

Our rule has always been to give nothing unless we knew exactly what to do; and in the meantime attend to every exterior comfort practicable. If the weather is cold, place it in warm quarters, avoid all exposure and attend to pure air and strict cleanliness. But there is one medicine that can never do harm and is generally beneficial. This is pulverized charcoal. As we have just remarked, nearly all sick animals become so by improper eating, in the first place. Nine cases out of ten the digestion is wrong. Charcoal is the most efficient corrective. It will cure in a majority of cases if properly administered. An example of use: The hired man came in saying that one of the finest cows was very sick, and a kind neighbor proposed the usual drugs and poisons. The owner being ill, and unable to examine the cow, concluded that the trouble came from over-eating, and ordered a tea-cupful of pulverized charcoal given in water. It was mixed placed in a junk bottle, the head held upwards, and the water with its charcoal poured downwards. In five minutes improvement was visible, and in a few hours the animal was in the pasture quietly eating grass.

Another instance of equal success occurred with a young heifer which became badly bloated by eating green apples after a hard wind. The bloating was so bad that the sides were most as hard as a barrel. The old remedy saleratus, was tried for the purpose of checking the acidity. But the attempt to put it down, always causes coughing, and it did little good. Half a tea-cupful of fresh charcoal was next given. In six hours all appearance of ill at had gone, and the heifer was well.

We disapprove of quackery, where, without a precise knowledge of the disease, powerful remedies are given at random, indiscriminately. The objection of quackery cannot extend to the use of charcoal, for it can do no harm; and goes directly to the seat of the trouble in most sick animals, and if timely applied affects a cure.—*Live Stock Journal*.

USE OF RYE.—"Eye Graham."—Several weeks ago Mr. W. brought home along with other things, about, twenty pounds of eye Graham, recommended as very good. I did not know how to use it and felt some doubts whether we should like it. But now it is all gone, and it went pretty easy after all. First we tried *Rye Light Cakes*, baked in gem pans, and this is the recipe:—One pint of milk, three eggs, a tablespoonful of sugar, and a salt spoonful of salt. Rye flour enough for the thickness of griddle-cake batter. Bake half an hour. *Rye Bread* we made in this fashion:—For mixing, take one quart of warm water and one quart of milk. Thicken this with a tea-cup of corn-meal, and rye-flour enough for a common bread sponge. Stir in about 3 tea-cupful good yeast. Let it rise in a warm place, and when it has risen knead it quite stiff with rye flour. Let it rise again, and bake it well. *Rye Gens* we make like the Graham gens, mixing them a little stiffer, as rye is inclined to be sticky. I observed that these gens took better at our table when they were made one-third wheat Graham and two-thirds rye; and then they were best when the whole were sifted with a coarse sieve, which removed the coarsest part of the bran. *Rye Rolls* we made in two ways, mixing them with sweet milk. 1. Make dough with milk and flour stiff enough to roll an inch in thickness. Cut in strips an inch wide, and bake in a buttered tin. 2. Mix your batter of flour and milk stiff enough to take up a large spoonful in your hands, previously flouring them to prevent sticking, and roll the dough with your hands into straight rolls about an inch and a half in thickness. If these are floured the baking pan need not be buttered.—*Montreal Witness*.

SOFTENING OF THE BRAIN.

Softening of the brain is becoming a more common disease than formerly. As it is utterly incurable, attention should be given to its causes. The softening is caused from great mental excitement, as a result of study, of the use of spirituous liquors, or allowing the mind to dwell on one subject unpleasantly, especially when there is no real cause, as in fancied slights, conjectured injuries, and the like, moping over them. To ameliorate a malady arising from causes so diametrically opposite, antipodal means should be employed; less work to the overworked, and more work for those who have nothing to do.

A NEW VERY EARLY PEACH.

Thomas Rivers, the well-reliable fruit grower of Sawbridgeworth, England, has, during a few years past, originated many new and early ripening peaches of good quality. Among them one called "Early Beatrice," we learn, has been fruited by S. G. Bilyeu, of North Carolina, who says that it does not rot, is of good size and color, and of superior quality, ripening two weeks' earlier than "Hale's Early."

An Illinois correspondent of the *Prairie Farmer*, on Sept. 10 commenced feeding 56 hogs, weighing 9,424 pounds, an average of a little over 168½ pounds. He fed them 1,200 bushels of corn in 87 days, and found their weight 15,570 pounds, a gain of 6,146 pounds an average of 109 5-7 pounds for each hog, and nearly 5 1-8 pounds of pork for each bushel.

The *Journal of Horticulture* says that a French farmer has discovered that the use of tan is an efficient preventive against potato disease. For three years he has introduced a small quantity of the residue of the bark used in tanning into each hole on planting his potato crop, and each time he has been completely successful in preserving his fields free from the annoying disease.

THE REV. W. F. CLARK, the former editor of the *Canada Farmer*, and late editor of the *Ontario Farmer*, is now editor and proprietor of the *American Bee Journal*, published in Chicago.

Alum and plaster of Paris, well mixed with water, and used in a liquid state, will form a very useful cement.

BREAKFAST.—EPPE'S COCOA—GRATIFUL AND COMFORTING.—"By a thorough knowledge of the natural laws, which govern the operations of digestion and nutrition, and by a careful application of the fine properties of well selected cocoa, Mr. Epps has provided our breakfast tables with a delicately flavored beverage which may save us many heavy doctor's bills."—*Civil Service Gazette*. Made simply with Boiling Water or milk. Each packet is labelled—"James Epps & Co., Homoeopathic Chemists, London." Also, makers of Epps's Milky Cocoa (Cocoa and Condensed Milk.) 72-1-12

THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE, edited in London, Ont., D.C. Terms, 1 per annum, in advance; \$1.25, if in arrears; postage prepaid. Advertisements, 10c. per line, square space. Communications and advertisements should be in the office by the 15th of the month to ensure insertion in the following number. Postage and all other expenses charged on collection of accounts, if in arrears.

London Market—Feb. 26.

White Fall Wheat this past season has been uncommonly good in California, Michigan and Ontario. In other reputed good grain districts the crop has not, in point of quality, been at all equal to these. A first-class article always commands top rates. White Fall Wheat this week has ranged from \$1.20 to \$1.35, and best quality commands \$1.35. Red Winter Wheat light receipts, but pretty steady, at \$1.15 to \$1.22. Spring Wheat: small deliveries; bringing from \$1.20 to \$1.23.

Barley has been firm all the week, and found ready buyers at slightly advanced rates—from 55c to 65c; prevailing figures from 58c to 63c. Peas: meagre supply, and steady at former rates—50c to 60c; the latter figure only for good seed samples. Oats in good demand and stiff, at 37c to 37½c.

Corn: unchanged at 50c to 55c. Clover Seed: some nice small lots, occasionally fetching from \$5.76 to \$5.55; the latter figure was paid for some good seed brought forward to-day.

Timothy Seed: is selling at \$3 to \$4, according to quality. Dressed Hogs: few now offering; \$5.50 to \$6 are paid.

Kc. Butter: in rather better demand for a fair quality; 13c to 15c paid. Eggs: scarce and high, 22c to \$25c. Refined Butter: supply equal to demand at 20c to 24c.

Hay: liberal supply, at \$14 to \$17.

Great Western Railway.

Trains leave London as follows:—
GOING WEST.—12.5 p. m.: 5.35 p. m.: 2.45 a. m.: and 5.45 a. m., and 6.45 a. m.
GOING EAST.—6 a. m.: 8.4 a. m.: 12.35 p. m.: 4.4 p. m.: 11.3 p. m.; and 1.15 a. m.

Grand Trunk Railway.

Mail Train for Toronto, &c., 7.3 a. m.; Day Express for Sarnia, Detroit and Toronto, 11.1 a. m.; For Stratford and Goderich, 2.55 p. m.