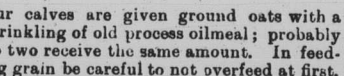


CULTURAL

Raising Dairy Calves.

To be successful the farmers must have good sows, and to have good cows they must begin with good calves, writes a correspondent. We select the calves produced by the most profitable cows. Our herd, consisting of 46 thoroughbred cows, is headed by a full-blood bull. When a calf is born that we wish to raise, we allow it to run with the mother one day only unless the cow's udder is in bad condition. In that case we believe it is best for the calf to suck. After the first day teach it to drink, giving the milk from the mother. Give about 8 lbs. night and morning for a month. The past season after the first month we began giving 10 lbs. of skim milk in the morning and about the same amount of sweet milk at night. At this age also begin to feed a little fine hay.

At about two months of age they are put into winter quarters, where they are fed skim-milk entirely with a good supply of hay and grain. Begin with 8 or 10 lbs at a feeding, and gradually increase the amount until it reaches 15 lbs. Feed regularly and heat the milk to 90° before giving it to them. Always treat them kindly. The exact amount and kind of grain feed will be governed by circumstances largely and by the capacity of the individual animal.



IMPROVED STALL FOR CALVES.

Our calves are given ground oats with a sprinkling of old process oilmeal; probably no two receive the same amount. In feeding grain be careful not to overfeed at first. Begin with a light ration and gradually increase it. Some farmers in my vicinity give calves constant access to grain feed after they have become accustomed to it. We stable our calves in a warm barn, each one having a separate stall, two of which are shown in the accompanying illustration. Each stall is 2 1/2 ft high, 2 ft wide and 4 ft long from manger to door. In front of the calf is a manger for hay 2 ft high, 1 1/2 ft long, and just as wide as the stall. In one corner, a.e., is a little box in which to place grain feed. At the back end of each stall partition is a 2x2-in timber running from the ground to the ceiling, for support. At the front every 4 or 5 ft is a 2x4 answering the same purpose. A strap on which is placed an iron ring, is fastened around each calf's neck. A rope with a snap at one end is tied to the manger and by it the calf is secured. In spring when the grass is well started the calves are turned out to pasture and not again taken up until they are yearlings.

The Future Horse.

The correct view of the future of the horse interests is well expressed by the Horse World when it says that, let the prospects of the future be what they will, the farmer should always buy to sell. Even if one's farm is well adapted to horses, and if the farmer is situated to be able to care for them, unless he is a good horseman he should never attempt to make a specialty of breeding horses. Suppose a farmer is a natural horseman and his farm is favorably adapted to the business also, and he wishes to start on the horse business, what kind of a horse is he to breed? It will depend altogether upon the future. If he is far sighted enough to see what kind will be in demand by the time his horses are ready for market; he will succeed. That the people of this country will continue to use horses there is little doubt.

At the present time there are no many farms horses for which there is no market, that the owner is very desirous to dispose of. We find, however, that there are three classes of horses which are not found on these farms. They are the fine driver, the saddle, and the good heavy draft. There is but little doubt there will never again be a time when any other horse will be in demand in our market, the days of the street car horse are now over and will never return, and the only place for this horse is on the farm, where probably he is worse than a nuisance.

The writer can see no reason why the three classes of horses above named will not continue to bring good prices, and there is but little danger of overstocking the market. Other markets have been overstocked, but the time has not been when any man having the best of either of the three classes named could not sell them at almost his own price. The trouble has been that there have been very few farmers who have had either of these classes, as it is no small thing for any man, even a scientific horseman, to be able to produce the best of them.

The driver and saddle requires much more attention than the draft, as they must be trained and prepared for market. It is a great mistake for men to sell their young driving horses without first getting them in proper shape. The driving horse should be taught obedience and promptness, and the saddle horse should be taught all the saddle gait before he is offered for sale. But few are capable of training a saddle horse, as this requires more skill than it does to prepare any other class for sale.

Oiling the Harness.

Before the busy season commences on the farm is a good time to oil the harness, and if any seams are beginning to rip to repair them, either with a few stitches or as we commonly do with copper rivets. First, thoroughly wash the harness so as to have it free from sweat and dirt. We find the easiest way to accomplish this is to take the harness to pieces and soak it over night in strong soap suds having the water as warm as is comfortable to hold the hand in when the harness is first put in. If too hot it will scald the leather. When taken out in the morning most of the dirt is gone

and a little rubbing with a coarse rag will remove the spots that did not soak off. Neat-foot oil is in the long run the cheapest oil we have ever found for oiling leather of any kind and especially harness, as it is exposed to the action of dirt, sweat and very often is out in the rain. If the harness is not very dry a half gallon of oil will be enough for an ordinary set of double harness, though we have seen harness so dry that a gallon would be none too much. A nickel's worth of ivory black will give a beautiful color and polish to the leather if it is mixed with the oil before using. Be sure though to get ivory black and not lamp black as the latter rubs off badly. Have the oil warm and as you take the straps out of the water run them a few times through the oil, wipe off with a rag and hang up to dry. If not soft enough repeat the operation.

Treat your harness in this way and it looks like new and if it is oiled about three times a year will outlast three or four sets that never receive any oil. It is an old saying that "five oilings equal a new harness."

CHINA FOR THE CHINESE.

The Empire is Ample able to Develop her Own Industries.

Whatever may be the diplomatic settlement of the Chinese dilemma one result can scarcely fail to come about. The walls in which the Chinese mind has been built as in a tomb will be so far shattered that light and air and growth will come to the resuscitated mummy, shrouded for so many thousand years in cement of tradition and bigotry. Celestial conceit has been so terribly flailed that even the literati will accept the inevitable fact that their civilization is a decrepit anachronism. The new "pon sto" is clearly indicated by the clear-sighted leadership of such forward thinkers as Viceroy Li, Marquis Taeng, Chung Chi Tang and others who have been struggling for twenty-five years to lift China by the boot straps out of immobility. It is not a plough of slaughter and humiliation to break through that rigid crust into the soil. Li ceased to be a bigot in those days when with the assistance of Englishman Gordon he extinguished the flames of the Tai-Ping rebellion. He has since been the main factor in the reform movement. But Li and his school established certain object lessons in the monuments he has built. Two railways on the mainland, and one on the Island of Formosa; telegraph lines radiating through 20,000 square miles; great government iron and steel works at Hang-Chau; arsenals, dockyards, corporate companies, organized on the joint stock plan and eminently successful, for the manufacture of glass, cotton cloth, linen, bricks and cutlery—all these things were effectively called into being. They remained solitary facts, because four hundred million of men, including the so-called "literati" class, scoffed at them and were wedded to their ancient idols. It is understood now that there has been a great revolution in the opinions of the literati who are really leaders of public opinion. Of course progress for a time will move slowly. But the opening of the Chinese mind to new impressions will have been accomplished. How far China will be willing to grant the capital of the west a share in her regeneration is dubious. Whether she borrows to pay her war indemnity or dives into the stocking legs and chimney corners of her peasantry, as France did, the empire is amply able to develop her own industries. She will need and can purchase the directing genius of western teachers and engineers. But to that dangerous complication, which involves foreign ownership of her new enterprises, it is not very likely that China will assent. The speculative man of the west may look to a golden future in concessions and subdivisions through the gates now being unbarred. But if intellectual superiority or divine gifts themselves even at a price, is overthrown, it will not make any of the vehement the feeling, "China for the Chinese." Even Viceroy Li, the most progressive man of his people, expresses it with passionate earnestness. The moral attitude of the empire to the foreigner will probably be even more obstinate than the old mental stagnation, and for a long time to come.

Queer Pets.

A young woman residing near Monroe, La., in the river country has a pair of pet wasps, which are as interesting as they are unique in their way. She has trained them to perform a great many wonderful tricks, and it is indeed marvelous to what degree of intelligence and agility her kindly care and patient perseverance has brought them. As the young lady is an invalid she manages to get a great deal of profitable diversion from her queer little pets. Among other things she has taught them to drink water from a thimble and to perform the "skirt dance," as she calls it, by fluttering their wings as they rest in the palm of her hand. They will sing at her bidding, making a faint, almost inaudible chirp, and seem to be passionately fond of music. The young lady is quite a fine musician, and when she plays on the piano the wasps take up their positions on the music rack and never budge until the performance is over. The wasps would seem to have quite a good deal of vanity, and nothing delights them more than to be allowed to walk about and inspect themselves on a little hand mirror, which is kept for their exclusive use. Strange to relate, the wasps have never been known to attempt to sting anybody, although they have free access to all parts of the house, and are seldom confined, even at night.

Equal to Emergencies.

Little Ethel (horrified)—"We've invited too many children to our tea-party. There isn't enough for them to get more'n a bite each." Little Dot (resignedly)—"That's too bad. We'll have to call it a reception."

An Amendment.

First Little Girl—"I'm goin' to have a tea-party to-morrow. Will your mamma let you come?" Second Little Girl—"I link she will, if you'll call it a hot milk an' water party."

HOW TO BUY A BICYCLE

Some Timely Advice for Intending Buyers During the Coming Season.

The following "pointers" on how to buy a wheel, given by a writer in a Chicago paper, is apropos at the present time:— The man who buys a new bicycle for use this season will have an extra heavy machine if he purchases one weighing twenty-eight pounds, while thirty-pound wheels will be found listed in very few 1895 catalogues. Twenty-five is the average weight for a road wheel strictly up to date. The scorching element and club men will use machines varying from twenty to twenty-two pounds while some will go even still lower and use mounts that tip the scale at eighteen and a half to nineteen and a half pounds. Racing machines will vary from fifteen to seventeen pounds. When one looks at these figures and thinks of the enormous strain a bicycle is put to it at first seems incredible that such extremely light machines will stand up. But they do stand up, nevertheless, and besides every year with more or less weight has been looked upon with more or less suspicion by conservative riders. Each year these same riders buy new machines, however, and find that their fears are entirely without foundation. Six years ago the ordinary or high wheel had apparently about reached perfection, and the average make scaled twenty-eight to thirty pounds for road use. The first safeties were rarely furnished under fifty pounds, and while the change was great the other advantages of the dwarf machine overcame this objection. The wheel of 1895 resembles that of the earlier days only in general appearance. Every ounce of superfluous weight has been outdone year after year and yet the twenty-two pound machine now sold is stronger and safer than the fifty-pound article originally offered the votaries of the sport, so great has been the improvement in the mechanical construction and design. The frame is now universally made in a diamond shape, which not only permits of great reduction in weight but gives the enormous strength necessary; lighter yet stronger mechanical methods permit going away with numerous small parts once considered essential. One fair example is the saddle. This necessary article once weighed anywhere from five to eight pounds. Pneumatic tires and wood rims take away all the jar, and the mass of springs which formerly composed so important a part of the saddle can readily be dispensed with. The pneumatic tire has of course been the greatest factor in this evolution, for its use reduced vibration to a minimum and consequently made light wheels possible. For all this it would be rash to say that we have reached finality in improved construction. The high wheel was thought to have reached that stage, but where is it to-day? The cushion tire was considered a great improvement, but it now seems only a question of a few years when pneumatics will be fitted to all vehicles. When Peter Berio used wood rims on a racing wheel he built himself four years ago he was looked upon as foolhardy, but they are now used everywhere. What the next thing will be is difficult to guess. Improvement in the order of the day and five years hence the lines on which the 1895 models are built may be so entirely changed that the present machine may be almost totally unrecognizable in the new pattern.

At the price of \$100 for the very best wheel obtainable and with second-hand machines to be had at almost any price, anybody can own a wheel, and at this season a word of advice to intending purchasers is not out of place. First of all buy of a dealer, but a reputable dealer if you are inexperienced and especially if you intend starting with a second-hand machine, as so large a proportion of riders do. The established dealer who intends to remain in business and transact his affairs with a view to retaining his customers is a good man to tie to. He will stand back of his goods whether new or second-hand, and if anything goes wrong he will make it good either free of cost or at a lower price than it would otherwise be repaired for. There are as many tricks in the bicycle business as in any other. It will be found profitable to purchase a strictly high-grade machine. It will last longer, run easier, cause less trouble than a cheap wheel, and when the owner is through with it will sell for a higher price. Steer clear of auction goods and cut-price machines unless you have the guarantee of some reliable party that such offers are strictly bona fide. Except in rare cases of actual failure first class machines do not find their way to auction rooms new, nor are they sold at cut prices. The manufacturer generally takes the goods away from the agent rather than to allow this to be done.

Bicycles are made for auction purposes and cut-price sales the same as other goods are, and in appearance look to be the equal of any to be found elsewhere, but black enamel is cheap and it will cover up defective tubing and gas pipe as beautifully as it will the finest cold-drawn steel. The beginner will find it unwise to purchase an extremely light machine or one with a very high gear. The latter can be changed readily enough afterward, and sixty-three is sufficiently high. Twenty-five pounds is light enough unless a man intends to spend his time in speed riding, or unless he considers that his rank as a wheelman is graded by the weight of his mount.

Seat of the Thunder God.

"Trembling Mountain," a massive pile of peculiarly arranged rocks, lying on Rogue River, almost directly north of Montreal, was known to the Indians by a combination of words signifying "seat of the thunder god." According to their traditions, the thunder god formerly used a broad and deep indentation on its summit as a seat, and that therein he would sit for three days in spring, seven in summer, five in autumn and two in winter. They also believed that during the time he was present great chasms would open in the side of the mountain, from which fire would stream for hours without ceasing. Nothing is known concerning the early history of the mountain, but it is thought that the legend refers to old-time volcanic action, an opinion strengthened by its geographical name of "Trembling Mountain."

Household.

The Scolding Word.

At last, my baby a'oops, and I soft wipe the tear-glued lashes dry. And kiss the rosy grief-splashed cheek. And try to still the sobs that seek. To sink themselves in tremulous sighs; I know the sleep-sealed, baby eyes Hold in them now no look of pain. No quick surprise; yet I would fain The heavy, heart-hurt sobs release. That my dear babe might sleep in peace.

Did we but stay the scolding word 'Till baby sleeps, 't would ne'er be heard.

Serving Meals.

That which adds or detracts from the general well-being and good nature of the family more than any other thing is the manner in which the food is cooked and served. Some wise person has said: "The way to a man's heart lies through his stomach." The saying is not far wrong. If the meals be on time, the food well cooked and nicely served, and the table scrupulously neat, in nine cases out of ten the man will be healthy, good-natured, and contented. This may also be said of the rest of the family. There are few men who will come in from hard work expecting to find dinner ready, and have to wait for it, without more or less grumbling. It does not increase their amiability if the meal, besides being tardy, is badly cooked, and placed haphazard on a table covered with a soiled cloth. The whole family will feel more or less respecting, more "like somebody," if each meal is neatly served. The majority of people would rather have a few dishes properly cooked and served than to sit down to a number poorly cooked and served.

A great many housewives attach proper importance to this branch of their work. It takes time and care to cook palatably and well, but they recognize the fact it is time well spent for the happiness and welfare of their families.

But some who are less wise do not think very much about the matter. Perhaps they believe that in some providential manner the meal will get itself. At any rate, little thought is given to preparation for the meal until after the time it should have been planned and half-cooked. Then a wild rush is made for the kitchen. A hasty survey is made of the contents of the pantry. Almost anything that comes first is seized and tossed together, and when the meal at last is ready, signs of haste are everywhere apparent. The bill of fare is apt to be rather short. The food is partly cooked, or perhaps burned, and lastly, but by no means least, the table is untidy. Small wonder the family, especially the male portion, feel aggrieved. Nor does this feeling pass away at once. A dull feeling of discontent pervades the atmosphere of the home, and renders it anything but the spot of cheery brightness it should be. We have a firm belief that these unfaithful housekeepers send more people to the nether regions than any other class of supposed righteous and harmless beings.

Dress Attractively.

There is nothing which will so quickly make a man hasten home at night as to know that a sweet, attractively-dressed wife is awaiting him. So the desire of every wife ought to be to possess herself of a pretty house gown at once. For this purpose red is to be preferred if it suits the complexion. It is bright, warm looking, and usually becoming. The material may be Henrietta, challie, or even calico, as very pretty gowns have been made from it. Make the skirt full and plain. Reserve the trimming for the waist. Make the waist tight-fitting, seamless in the back, with small pleats at the belt in the centre. Also, make small pleats on each side of the centre in front. Have a high stock collar of silk with big wings or rosettes on the sides. Take a piece of black, white or cream lace and sew on V shaped over the front and back in yoke effect. Have large, pretty sleeves a draped top may be used if preferred. Make the lower part tight-fitting from the elbow to the wrist. Put on a wide, smooth fitting cuff of the lace, and the sleeve is finished. If it is wished to turn the sleeves back, an opening can be left on the inside seam. Fasten with hooks and eyes. Great care must be taken with the sleeves while sewing them in. If this is not done well, the effect of the sleeve will be spoiled. The seams should be hemmed on to the waist lining to make the sleeve fit well. This makes a very pretty dress and one comparatively inexpensive. It is well if there be some one at home capable of making it, for it is a well-known fact that the making of a dress usually costs more than the material of which it is made.

Good, Reliable Home Cookery.

Cruellers.—Three eggs, 6 tablespoonfuls white sugar, butter size of a small egg, 1/2 teaspoonful of saleratus dissolved in 2 tablespoonfuls of milk, flour to thicken.

Dressing for Cabbage and Lettuce.—Four tablespoonfuls vinegar, 1 tablespoonful salt, 1 tablespoonful mustard, 1 tablespoonful sugar. Put into dish of boiling water and add piece of butter size of an egg. Beat 1 egg and stir into this, which makes it thick; add cream to thin it a little and a pinch of cayenne pepper.

Sponge Cake.—One cup of sugar (not heaping), 1 cup flour, the grated rind and juice of 1 lemon, 3 fresh eggs, beaten well; beat whites and yolks separately 15 or 20 minutes. After stirring in the flour put into oven as soon as possible. One small loaf, bake in deep pan, and break the cake instead of cutting.

Minnehaha Cake.—One cup sugar, 1/2 cup butter, yolks of 2 eggs and whole of one, 2 cups flour, 1/2 cup milk, 1 teaspoon cream tartar, 1/2 teaspoon soda. This makes three layers. Filling: Boil 1 cup sugar with little cold water until it will crack when

dropped into cold water, then remove from the stove and stir into the white of 1 egg beaten to a stiff froth, then stir in one cup of raisins chopped and stoned.

Vanilla Wafers.—One cup of sugar, 1/2 cup butter, 4 tablespoonfuls milk, 1 tablespoonful vanilla, 1 egg, 1 1/2 teaspoonfuls cream-of-tartar, 1/2 teaspoonful of soda, flour enough to roll out well; roll very thin.

Jellied Oranges.—Four large oranges, juice of 2 lemons. Cut the oranges into halves and be careful not to break the peel when you remove the juice. Soak 1/2 box of gelatine in cold water for an hour, add the juice of the lemons and oranges. One cup sugar, 1/2 pint boiling water, strain and pour in the peels, which should be put in so that they may be upright. A platter is good for this purpose. Serve with whipped cream on top when it is ready for the table.

QUARRYING BY FIRE

An Ancient Method Now Used Successfully in India.

At Bangalore, in Southern India, the quarrying of granite slabs by means of wood fire has been brought to such perfection that an account of the method is given as follows: The rock forms solid masses uninterrupted by cracks for several hundreds of feet, and when quarried over an area is treated as follows: A narrow line of wood fire, perhaps 7 feet long, is gradually elongated, and at the same time moved forward over the tolerably even surface of solid rock. The line of fire is produced by dry logs of light wood, which have been left burning in their position until strokes with a hammer indicate that the rock in front of the fire has become detached from the main mass underneath.

The burning wood is then pushed forward a few inches, and left until the hammer again indicates that the slit has extended. Thus the fire is moved on, and at the same time the length of the line of fire is increased and made to be convex on the side of the fresh rock, the maximum length of the arc amounting to about 25 feet. It is only on this advancing line of fire that any heating takes place, the portion which has been traversed being left to itself. This latter portion is covered with the ashes left by the wood, and with thin splinters which have been burnt off. These splinters are only about one eighth of an inch in thickness, and a few inches across. They are quite independent of the general splitting of the rock, which is all the time going on at a depth of about five inches from the surface. The burning lasts eight hours, and the line of fire advances at the average rate of nearly six feet an hour. The area actually passed over by the line of fire is 400 square feet, but as the crack extends about three feet on either side beyond the fire, the area of the entire slab which is set free measures about 740 feet. All this is done with, maybe, about 1,600 pounds of wood.

Benevolent Beards.

The beard is generally regarded as merely an ornamental object, except by a few, who look on it as a time-saving convenience. Now, however, it appears that the beard is not only ornamental, but decidedly useful as those who do not shave are much less subjected to facial troubles than those who submit to the razor.

The reason for this new theory is a very simple one. In the first place, the beard is a great safeguard to all those who suffer from sore or weak throats; it is a protection against neuralgia, and, lastly, it is now claimed to be of great assistance in warding off toothache.

Dr. Chabbert, a celebrated French physician has come to the conclusion that the reason why there are so many more cases of facial paralysis among women than with men is because the former have no natural protection to their fair faces.

It is true that men are much more exposed to cold frost and biting winds, which bring about the affection, than are women, but in the few cases which have come under Dr. Chabbert's notice where men have suffered, the patients have almost invariably been clean-shaven.

To some men it must be a relief to find that they still have some ancient privileges as yet unclaimed by the "new woman," although there is a case on record where one of these eccentric ladies even went so far as to grow a bushy beard four and one half feet in length. She was presented as a prisoner to the Czar in 1724, having been captured from the army of Charles XII.

For London Children.

The county council of London has been kind to the children. Thousands of poor little creatures from slums and overcrowded dwellings are better in health for its considerate action. The parks are the great playgrounds of the London child, its only change from the crowded home and the dirty street. Here it has its only taste of a rural life—the pleasures of trees and flowers and birds. The parks, however, are for the whole people, and unless some special means are taken to attend to the wants of the children they are likely to be elbowed out by others. So the parks committee established children's gymnasiums in Victoria, Battersea, Finsbury and Brockwell parks and made arrangements at other parks where only one gymnasium exists that it shall be set apart exclusively for children at certain hours. Special attention is paid to physical exercises for girls, and in every case a woman attendant is in charge of the children's gymnasium. The most notable innovation, however, has been the introduction of sand pits in Victoria Park, which are a great source of amusement to many children who have never had an opportunity of visiting the seaside. Anyone who knows children knows that the amusement little ones can obtain playing in the sand is incalculable.

During the eighteen years ending with June 30, 1890, 1,826 persons were killed by cyclones in the United States