

be cleaned at all—they believed that earth promoted digestion. Horses, no doubt, were sometimes fond of it; instinct taught them to eat earth when acidity existed in the stomach. They might, however, take too much; and though a remedy for a disease to a certain extent, it was not to be given when the disease did not exist. He would, therefore, recommend that all roots, when given to animals, should be washed."

On Stone Fences.

The Editor of "The Plough, Loom, and Anvil" says:—Peter Minor, of Virginia, was a man of rare modesty, and of very rare merit, both in his disposition and his example—in his pursuit of useful knowledge, and in his perspicuous manner of imparting, unreservedly, what he knew, for the benefit of others. On the first of October, 1819, a paper was read from him to the Abenmarle Agricultural Society, on the subject of stone fences. He maintained that the cost of keeping up timber fences would, in thirty-three years, amount to more than the worth of the land, supposing it to be worth more than \$20 an acre.—The view he presented was this:—

An inquiry naturally presents itself on this subject. What is the relative value of a farm fenced with stone, compared with one fenced with dead timber? Take the following data:—

From the best accounts I have been able to obtain from others, and from my own experience, it may be fairly stated that one full month of the annual labour of every farm is consumed in the various operations of cutting, maubing, hauling, and putting up fences. This is one-twelfth of the year, or one complete year in twelve, that is devoted exclusively to making and repairing dead fences; and, as the expense is annual, it is clear that the condition of such fences is no better at the end of any year than at the beginning. Again, I think it may be fairly stated that when the materials are in place, the expense of erecting a stone fence does not exceed that of erecting one of rails, including the various operations above mentioned. The value of the timber, (which is not taken into the account above,) and the advantages of having the land cleared of stone, will balance the expense of moving the stone three or four hundred yards. So that on a farm abounding with stone, and where the transportation does not exceed this distance, I think a fence of stone will in the first instance be as cheap as a rail one. Suppose, then, two farms of 500 acres of arable land each, in all other respects equal, except that one is fenced with stone, and the other with dead timber. Each of them employs twelve

labourers, at \$100 dollars a piece per annum. One is at no expense, while he who fences with timber consumes one month in every year in making and repairing fences. This is an expense of \$100, being the labour of one hand during a complete year. At annual compound interest this would amount in less than thirty-three years to \$10,000, which is the entire price of the land, supposing the farm to be worth \$20 dollars per acre. Thus, in thirty-three years the one farm would be able to buy the other, from the expense saved in the different mode of fencing. It is true that there are not many farms capable of being entirely fenced with stone, but there are scarcely any that do not admit of it in some degree, and the advantages would be derived in a similar ratio to any part which could be thus enclosed.

Rules in Raising Poultry.

1. All young chickens, ducks, and turkeys, should be kept under cover, out of the weather, during rainy seasons.
2. Twice or thrice a week, pepper, shallots, shives, or garlic should be mixed up with their food.
3. A small lump of assafoetida should be placed in the pan in which their water is given them to drink.
4. Whenever they manifest disease, by the drooping of the wings or any other outward sign of ill-health, a little assafoetida, broken into small lumps, should be mixed with their food.
5. Chickens which are kept from the dung-hill while young, seldom have the gapes;—therefore it should be the object of those who have the charge of them, so to confine the hens as to exclude their young from the range of barn or stable yards.
6. Should any of the chickens have the gapes, mix up small portions of assafoetida, rhubarb, and pepper, in fresh butter, and give each chicken as much of the mixture as will lie upon one half the bowl of a small teaspoon.
7. For the *pip*, the following treatment is judicious: Take off the indurated covering on the point of the tongue, and give, twice a day, for two or three days, a piece of garlic the size of a pea. If garlic cannot be obtained, onion, shallot, or shives will answer; and if neither of these be convenient, two grains of black pepper, to be given in fresh butter, will answer.
8. For the *snuffles*, the same remedies as for the gapes will be found highly curative; but in addition to them, it will be necessary to melt a little assafoetida in fresh butter, and rub the chicken about the nostrils, taking care to clean them out.
9. Grown-up ducks are sometimes taken off rapidly by convulsions. In such cases, four drops of rhubarb and four grains of cayenne