



LESSON IV.—JAN. 26, 1913.

Cain and Abel.—Gen. 4: 1-15.

Commentary.—I. Two offerings (vs. 1-7). A man from the Lord—Eve gladly acknowledged the hand of the Lord...

II. Was measured in the curse upon Cain. Our last lesson described the origin of sin. This lesson portrays its progress...

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Cain a living monument of the curse of blood-guiltiness.—Whedon. Punishment of the severest kind would be visited upon the slayer of Cain...

Questions.—Who were Cain and Abel? What was the business of each? What was the nature of Cain's offering to the Lord?

Answers.—Who were Cain and Abel? Cain and Abel, the first-born and second-born of Adam and Eve.

Answers.—What was the business of each? Cain was a tiller of the soil, and Abel was a keeper of sheep.

Answers.—What was the nature of Cain's offering to the Lord? Cain offered the first-fruits of the soil.

Answers.—Why did the Lord say to Cain about Abel? The Lord said to Cain, "Where is Abel thy brother?"

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It makes every difference in the world to the farmer and the fertility whether the owner takes away from it and sells a bushel of corn for a quarter or a pound of butter for a quarter...

Dressed poultry that is considered first class in market is well fattened (so that the breast bone does not stick out like the keel of a boat), yellow flesh, not only well dressed and cleanly picked—not roughed up or torn—clean pin feathers, and no dirt on legs or feet.

FARM NEWS AND VIEWS. Hogs of different ages and sizes will not do well in one herd. They should be separated into small herds, according to their ages and conditions.

Oats as a hog food have never been very popular for two reasons. First, the price is usually too high, and second, the feeding value is not so great per pound for hogs as that of corn.

Ground oats with the hulls sifted out make almost ideal food for young pigs. While oats scattered on the ground in a dry place make an excellent feed for brood sows, Crutcher or ground oats as a chop may form one-third the ration for brood sows or growing pigs until they reach the period of fattening, but oats are not profitable as a feed for fattening hogs.

Professor J. H. Sheppard, dean of agriculture, North Dakota Agricultural College, says the amount of dry matter in a corn field increases at almost a regular rate from the time of tasseling until ripe. In round numbers it is as follows: When in silk it has twice as much dry matter as when in tassels, when in milk three times, when glazed four times, and when ripe five times as much as when in tassels.

An English method to prevent horses from gnawing manure and feed troughs is to give the wood a coat of tar, put on with an old broom while hot. It is claimed that this is a sure cure for an annoying and destructive habit.

Drive slowly when the horse is full of food and water, but after the muscles are relaxed and the speed is down, increase the speed. Never keep the same gait and speed for a long time for a change of gait is equivalent to a rest.

The barrel churn is built upon the principle of making good butter. When this type of churn is used the globules of fat in the cream are forced out by concussion. That is, the cream is forced against the side of the churn and the fat separated in a granular condition.

Silage is a succulent and bulky feed and is, therefore, not adapted to feeding pigs and hogs. Swine will eat a small amount of silage, but it cannot be considered a very nutritious feed for them. Their stomachs are so small that they require a concentrated feed rather than a bulky one.

Sulphur is said to be good to cure the habit of eating pigs and chickens which hogs sometimes acquire. It is said to be good for riding hogs of lice. A tablespoonful to each hog in the slop for a few days will do the business.

Experiments at the Michigan station show that there is little if any difference in the amount of butterfat in the milk of a heifer and of a mature cow. Somebody's imagination would seem to have afforded the only foundation for the popular belief to the contrary.

The argument is sometimes made that pure bred stock are adapted to rich people who have plenty of money, but not the poor farmer who has limited capital. If it be true that pure bred stock are not adapted to the poor farmer, it follows that there is no stock suitable for him, for certainly the scrub is not. The scrub might do for rich people who wanted to find some way to lose their money. These men could certainly have no other motive in raising scrubs. The fact is that purebreds are the animals for the poor farmer because they will help make him independent, if the proper care is given them. The scrub has no place.

The future of many a promising cow has been ruined by improper milking soon after calving. The dairy cow has been abnormally developed to produce large quantities of milk. Consequently certain of its organs, such as the mammary glands, have become greatly enlarged and weakened just before and after calving, due probably to the secreting of large quantities of milk. The art, or science, whichever we may call it, of milking may be attained by only those who are willing to make a study of each individual cow, of her disposition, dairy temperament and physical conditions.

MARKET REPORTS

TORONTO MARKETS

FARMERS' MARKET. Dressed hogs \$11.50 \$12.00. Butter, dairy 0.30 0.34. Eggs, new laid 0.40 0.40. Chickens, lb. 0.18 0.20. Ducks, lb. 0.17 0.18. Geese, lb. 0.15 0.15. Turkeys, 0.23 0.25. Apples, winter, bbl. 1.50 3.00. Potatoes, bag 0.90 0.95. Celery, dozen 0.30 0.40. Cabbage, dozen 0.40 0.45. Beef, forequarters, cwt. 11.00 12.00. Do, hindquarters, cwt. 11.00 12.00. Do, choice sides, cwt. 10.00 11.00. Do, medium, cwt. 8.00 9.00. Do, common, cwt. 6.50 7.50. Mutton, light, cwt. 8.00 10.00. Veal, common, cwt. 8.00 13.00. Do, prime, cwt. 11.00 13.00. Lamb 14.50 16.00.

SUGAR MARKET.

Sugars are quoted in Toronto, in bags, per cwt., as follows: Extra granulated, St. Lawrence \$4.70. Do, Redpath's 4.70. Do, Acadia 4.65. Imperial granulated 4.55. Beaver granulated 4.50. No. 1 yellow 4.50. No. 2 yellow, 5c per cwt. more; car lots, 5c less.

LIVE STOCK.

Prices at the local cattle markets to-day. The run at the Union Stock Yards was divided about equally between good and common cattle, and the former were rapidly while the latter sorts were hard to get rid of. Receipts: Union Stock Yards—42 cattle, 71 calves, 2,249 hogs, 388 sheep, 3 calves, 25 hogs. Export cattle, choice \$5.75 \$6.90. Do, medium 5.25 5.75. Do, common 4.75 5.25. Butcher's cattle, choice 6.50 7.50. Do, medium 5.00 5.50. Do, common 4.50 5.00. Butcher's cows, choice 4.75 5.50. Do, medium 3.50 4.50. Do, common 3.00 4.00. Do, bulls 3.00 4.00. Feeding steers 3.00 4.00. Cows, choice 4.00 4.50. Do, light 4.00 4.50. Milkers, choice, each 4.00 4.50. Do, common 3.50 4.00. Sheep, ewes 4.75 5.25. Do, bucks and wethers 3.00 4.00. Hogs, fed and watered 8.50. Hogs, f.o.b. 8.15. Calves 8.50 9.00.

OTHER MARKETS.

WINNIPEG MARKETS.

Wheat—Open, High, Low, Close. May 88 1/2 88 3/4 88 1/2 88 3/4. July 90 1/4 90 3/4 90 1/4 90 3/4. Oats—May 35 1/2 35 3/4 35 1/2 35 3/4. July 36 1/2 36 3/4 36 1/2 36 3/4.

MINNEAPOLIS WHEAT.

Minneapolis, Close—Wheat—May, 88 7/8; July, 90 5/8 to 90 3/4; cash—No. 1 hard, 89 3/8; No. 1 northern, 87 3/8 to 87 7/8; No. 2 northern, 85 3/8 to 86 7/8; Corn, No. 3 yellow, 44 to 44 1/2; Oats, No. 3 white, 31 1/2; Rye, No. 2, 57 to 60; Bran—\$19.50. Flour, in wood, f.o.b., Minneapolis—First patents, 84.40 to 84.75; second patents, 84.25 to 84.60; first clear, 85.20 to 85.55; second clear, 82.40 to 82.70.

DULUTH GRAIN MARKET.

Duluth, Closing: Wheat, No. 1 hard, 85 1/2; No. 1 northern, 87 3/4; No. 2, 85 1/4; July, 90 3/4 asked; May, 89 1/4 to 89 3/8 asked.

LONDON WOOL SALES.

London.—There were 10,945 bales offered at the wool auction sales to-day. Vigorous buying advanced good wools, but inferior grades remained in buyers' favor. Fine Gooding secured sold at 25 7/8 to 26 1/4; good, 24 1/2 to 25 1/4; American bought greasy merinos and light crossbreds at hardening rates. The sales follow: New South Wales, 3,000 bales; scoured, 15 1/4 to 15 1/2; 1 1/2; greasy, 15 1/4 to 15 1/2; Queensland, 1,800 bales; scoured, 15 1/4 to 15 1/2; 1 1/2; greasy, 15 1/4 to 15 1/2; Victoria, 3,500 bales; scoured, 15 1/4 to 15 1/2; 1 1/2; greasy, 15 1/4 to 15 1/2; South Australia, 800 bales; scoured, 15 1/4 to 15 1/2; 1 1/2; greasy, 15 1/4 to 15 1/2; West Australia, 700 bales; greasy, 15 1/4 to 15 1/2; Tasmania, 100 bales; greasy, 15 1/4 to 15 1/2; 1 1/2; greasy, 15 1/4 to 15 1/2; Cape of Good Hope and Natal, 500 bales; scoured, nil; greasy, 6 1/2 to 6 1/2.

GLASGOW CATTLE MARKET.

Glasgow.—Messrs. Watson & Butcher reported short offerings, 18,24 to 18,24; best Irish steers; secondary were bringing 15 1/2 to 16.

CHICAGO LIVE STOCK.

Cattle—Receipts 2,500. Market—Receipts at Wednesday's close. Heavies 5.50 5.90. Texas steers 5.50 5.90. Light steers 5.40 5.75. Steers and feeders 4.50 5.00. Cows and heifers 4.00 4.50. Calves 7.00 7.50. Hogs—Receipts 24,000. Market—Slowly steady to higher than Wednesday's average. Light 7.20 7.45. Mixed 7.00 7.25. Heavy 6.75 7.00. Rough 6.50 6.75. Pigs—Receipts 15,000. Market—Dull and weak at Wednesday's average. Native 4.75 5.15. Western 4.75 5.15. Lambs, native 6.75 7.00. Western 6.50 6.75.

BUFFALO LIVE STOCK.

East Buffalo, N. Y., Despatch—Cattle Receipts, 50; steady. Veals—Receipts, 25; active, 25 to 50 cents. Hogs—Receipts 4,000; fairly active. 5 to 10 cents higher; heavy, \$7.50 to \$7.75; mixed, \$7.25 to \$7.50; rough, \$6.75 to \$7.00; \$7.25; sheep, \$6.50 to \$6.75; dairies, \$7.50 to \$7.75.

LIVERPOOL PRODUCE.

What—Spot, steady; No. 1 Man, 7s 1/2; No. 2 Manitoba—7s 7/8; No. 3 Manitoba—7s 5d; Futures—Steady; March, 7s 3/4; 3-M, 7s 4d; 4-M, 7s 4d; 5-M, 7s 4d; Corn—Spot, quiet; American mixed, new, 5s 6d; American mixed, old, 5s 1/2; American mixed, old, via Galveston, 5s 1/2; Flour—Eastern, Jan., 5s 2 7/8; Feb., 5s 11 7/8; Flour, Western, 5s 2 7/8.

Hops in London (Pacific Coast)—45 1/2 to 16.

Hams, short cut, 14 to 15 lbs.—52s. Cured, Cumberland cut, 25 to 30 lbs.—60s. 6d. Short ribs, 16 to 24 lbs.—62s. Cheese, Swiss, 14 to 16 lbs.—22s 6d. Lard clear middles, light, 23 to 24 lbs.—60s. Lard clear middles, heavy, 25 to 40 lbs.—62s. Short clear backs, 16 to 22 lbs.—59s 6d. Shoulders, spare, 11 to 15 lbs.—57s. Lard prime western, in tierces—50s 9d. American, refined—52s 6d. Cheese, Canadian, finest white—62s 6d. Colored—62s 6d. Tallow, prime city—51s 6d.

MONTREAL LIVE STOCK.

Montreal Despatch—East end market—Cattle—Receipts 1,200; calves, 300; sheep and lambs, 600; milch cows, 75; hogs, 1,400. There was no really prime beef on the market, a few of the best sold at about 6 1/2, and from that down to 4 1/2 for pretty good animals, while the common stock sold at from 3 to 4 1/2. Cows, \$9 to \$10. Calves, 4 cents to 6 cents. Sheep about 5 cents. Lambs, 6 1/2 to 7. Hogs, about 9 1/2, a few at 9 3/4.

THE POULTRY WORLD

BREEDERS NEED GOOD STOCK.

If the breeding of thoroughbred poultry was more generally conducted on business principles, when engaged in largely for the sake of expected profits, we would not hear of so many disgusted or badly-disappointed breeders. A large proportion of the beginners commence with an enormous amount of self-conceit and false ideas, and a small amount of experience, and, until this is directly and completely reversed, success and profit will never be attained.

When a breeder or farmer starts in with common poultry—common only so far as not being pure bred is concerned—he watches everything carefully, and works every known point to make a good profit. With those who commence with pure-bred fowls, however, most beginners first figure on getting a big price for all the surplus birds they can raise, being this on what they paid for the stock they commenced with. Many good birds may have been bred, but the orders at good prices come in very slowly, and soon the breeder gets out of heart, and his castles in the air are dispelled, getting that it takes time to build up a reputation and trade.

Let the breeding of pure-bred poultry be conducted so that it will pay a fair profit, even if all the surplus birds have to be sold for food, and then whatever number of birds are sold at good figures for breeding stock will be so much clear gain. This is the most businesslike and satisfactory plan to work on.

Sixty years ago farmers generally kept mongrel fowls, barnyard fowls, those not produced by crossing two distinct breeds, but "mixes" mixed, various in color and size, not uniform in shape or qualities. Heterogeneous flocks were the rule, although in some instances there was an infusion of game blood, and later than of the original importations of Shanghai and Chittagong. In writing about farmers' fowls it is not our purpose to give instructions how to breed mongrels; though if it were our task to do it, the lesson would be short and comprehensive, to wit: Exchange cock birds with your neighbor often, and pull the feathers under the treatment every time. But this is superfluous nowadays. The mongrel, like the Indian, is waning, while thoroughbred fowls have chosen thoroughbred stock, it is true that before the standard was adopted, and when every man bred fowls in his own back yard, we used to hear of Bucks county fowls and the Jersey Blues, and it was said that they possessed some grand distinction over the common flocks. Attempts were made by fanciers, who obtain specimens of these noted birds to make a separate variety that would breed true, and we used to hear of the common flocks accorded fancy fowls, while retaining the good qualities of the original stock.

These experiments failed signally, the experimenters finding out that they could not obtain a satisfactory type, and at the same time maintain a high standard as to utility, that had previously distinguished them. They were the common flocks improved somewhat by selection and had been bred for strength and good fable qualities. They lived with free range, and not protected from the weather, and the most elegant around them. A life of almost unrestricted freedom was necessary for them. Under other conditions they would not compare well with Brahmas, Leghorns or other well-known and well-established breeds.

HARDINESS BIG ELEMENT.

Hardiness is a grand element of successful breeding. Hunters and "backwoods" men are said to be hardy; but their strength accrues with their condition. Put such folks into the shop, store or manufactory and they wilt and seem not to manifest as much endurance as the slim, pale mechanic, who has been used to indoor life from his youth up, following the footsteps of his father. The domestication of animals seems at first to place them in an abnormal condition, but it by no means follows that this state will continue foreign to the nature of the animals cultivated. We feel sure that any one who has studied this subject carefully will agree with us when we say that the domesticated fowls kept (properly kept) in our modern poultry yards are fully as strong in their places, producing more and transmitting their strength as well as their progenitors that had more freedom.

What fowls are best for the farmer?

There is plenty of room about the farmer's domicile, and if anybody can keep poultry yards he can. He has also peculiar facilities for keeping a distinct breed. Any farmer having his buildings one-fourth of a mile from neighbors can keep an improved breed managed in the old fashion, giving the birds free range if he provides suitable buildings for stock in spring. Then why should not the farmer choose the best breed for his purpose, doing the thing that may so easily be done? The village poultryman has near neighbors and the confinement of his poultry is a necessity, but the majority of farmers may cultivate one improved breed under the best conditions and with minimum care. This for the ordinary farmer who does not desire to keep a large number, and would have a general purpose fowl, good for laying, Plymouth Rocks, the Wyandottes, or even our old friends with their business suits the American Dominiques.

The truth dawned on many of our farmers that a bushel of grain will net more money, put through the gizzards of poultry, than if fed to any other stock. They put up buildings to accommodate fowls and design to extend this branch of their industry. Such men will not err by cultivating two breeds, say, Brahmas and Leghorns. A good breed for winter laying (setting in dead season) and table use, with a non-setting variety, may well receive attention on the same farm. Farmers will generally depend on natural incubation as heretofore, so that a breed of setters is indispensable. The non-setters, if considerably more than half the number kept, will materially lessen the burden of breaking up setting hens. Persistent setters, following their instinct out of season when not needed for incubation, try the patience. They seem to be losing time, while the over-laying layers go right on, or at least behave better during vacation. Now, supposing our farmer has well started with light Brahmas and White Leghorns. If he has a large pasture or grove near the premises, they may all run together during the warm season excepting the breeding stock. It is no great or difficult task to keep the selected fowls, used for breeding each variety, separate, with suitable house room and yards. The layers of market eggs need not have males among them. It adds not to the value of the eggs their being fertilized, unless used for hatching. Light Brahmas and White Leghorns look well and are highly esteemed in many localities, yet for the sake of looks we would not recommend them for such a locality. Plymouth Rocks also look very much better if they are kept on a light-colored soil.

NEW BLOOD SPURS EGG PRODUCTION.

We prefer to see all breeds of fowls cultivated purely, yet it cannot be denied that, among farmers' flocks, improvement has been made by the introduction of new blood. There is some carelessness in this matter, but the idea prevails that a cross is the proper thing to increase size or give a spur to egg production. A man desires larger fowls and to effect his purpose procures a Brahma, a Cochin or a Leghorn, and breeds them together, and procures a Leghorn or Spanish cock.

These costs but little, and the improvement is apparent as this practice goes on. Why not have it accord with the best experience? If a cross is made it is far preferable to cross two breeds of improved fowls and discard the worst of each altogether. Take, for instance, the Light Brahmas and White Leghorns. This is a good cross, as reported by those who have tried it. Also the Partridge Cochins and Brown Leghorns. One poultryman reports that his cross with this combination was very satisfactory.

"I have procured the progeny from this union," he writes, "a splendid cross. I assure you. I found that I got good-sized birds. The intermediate setting disposition of the Cochin and the force of the Leghorn was almost entirely. The color was very well preserved, both cockerels and pullets coming quite even. In a very large flock—last year the laying quality of the Leghorns was retained, and the legs of the progeny were yellow, and but few were feathered on the 'shanks.'" As a rule this, as we all know, is very desirable for poultry—that we wish to market.

The hens from this cross proved very superior layers. The young cockerels made good growth during the summer and turned out very handsome roosters in the fall. The pullets began to lay in December, and kept on steadily till the following early summer. The few that inclined to "broodiness" were easily broken up, and not over 2 per cent. of them showed any signs of a desire to sit the first year at all.

Now let us follow this enthusiastic experiment a little further. He attempted to breed the chicks that came from this cross among themselves the next year, and this was a failure, a grave mistake. In the first instance he brought two diverse strains of blood together, giving a strong vitality and remarkable hardiness in the first year, near relatives were mated together, and the progeny manifested a lower vitality, did not look as well as the original stock on either side, and manifested no extraordinary reproductive power.

The conclusion was plain that the product of the first cross was very praiseworthy, and that, so far as crossing was concerned, it was advisable to "keep doing so," and not breed the mongrels of good blood together, but utilize the pullets as layers of market eggs, and slaughter the cockerels. In this instance there is no doubt that the admixture of two such strong-blooded varieties as the Leghorns and Cochins will give in the first remove from the parents a superior marketing and laying fowl.

Experiments of this kind seldom amount to much, and as they are generally conducted, the products offend good taste. We have many breeds of poultry, thoroughbred, and they are so pleasing and satisfactory in their way, when bred in their purity, that crossing seems to be only the fratricide of a wanton curiosity. Farmers, especially, will mix things. We have even found two such strong-blooded varieties as the Leghorns and Cochins will give in the first remove from the parents a superior marketing and laying fowl.

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The theory seemed to be that fancy breeds are superior in one way or another, and that getting all the good blood well mixed together, a purer fowl would be the result. Whether this theory is correct or not, the method is cheap, as it involves only the purchase of a cock now and then. This frequent infusion of "fresh blood" is no mistake. But how they look! There is just as much sense in having good looking fowls on the farmer's premises as fine stock of any other kind.

"The quality of mercy is not strained," quoted the Wise Guy, "it flows unasked for." exclaimed the Simple Mug.



Much thought should be given to a good crop rotation suited to the circumstances of the individual farmer. A leguminous crop should be a part of the rotation; land liable to wash should be put into grass and kept there; the farm should be made to carry all the stock of which it is capable. The crops grown on it should be as far as possible consumed on the land; the farmer should see how much manure he can make, how well he can use it, and how advantageously he can apply it; the renter's crop system should be abolished, and where farm lands may be leased it should be for long terms and with covenants in the lease looking toward the care of the land. The landlord who for a couple of dollars an acre permits a tenant to do as he pleases with a farm for a year might just as well allow him, for a like consideration, to draw on his bank account for a year. The one is just as certain as the other in eating up the landlord's capital as the other.

There are methods to which a high degree of fertility can be attained and maintained, and they should be carefully studied by everyone fortunate enough to be the owner of a piece of land. One of these methods lies at the bottom of the soil, and the methods are that raw products should not be sold from the farm, but that the process of manufacture should be carried on to the utmost possible extent.