

Inquiries and Answers.

MR. EDITOR:—I wish to know if there is any remedy or prevention for the black-leg, or black-quarters, among calves. There was much disease among calves here, to my knowledge, till 1843 or 1844. Since that time we have lost many calves, and occasionally a few are still dying. But none older than two years have died with it. I think I have been a subscriber for your paper three years, and have no remedy. All the remedies that I can find in cattle doctors, are of no avail. I am trying to raise some Durham cattle; and, you see, a cure for it would be useful to me. Will you, or in the name of your correspondents inform me if there is a remedy, and if so, what is the best method for raising calves? A SUBSCRIBER.—Union, Pa.

The following extract from *Doyle's Cyclopaedia of Husbandry*, explains the nature and causes of the complaint described by our correspondent:

"The inflammatory fever, known by the familiar name of the *black-leg*, or *quarter*, (which rarely attacks any but young cattle), is usually occasioned by over-feeding, and a sudden transition, when they are in a lean state, from poor to rich and succulent pasture; it occurs in spring or autumn, is very frequently fatal, and may be known by the following symptoms: a hard, bounding pulse, quick, feverish breathing, heavy, red, and listless eye, the neck extended, burning skin, the root of the horn hot, dry muzzle, expanded nostril, parched tongue, staggering in the limbs, or projection of them from the body as if to prop it up from falling, great debility, lameness in the hind quarters, surrain in the joints, and mortification ensues unless the disease be conquered by timely and very copious bleeding from the neck, even to faintness. If, after the first bleeding, the pulse continues hard and throbbing, the bleeding should be repeated, and a draught of epsom salts, from half a pound to a pound, and an injection of oil in gruel should be administered, for it is essential to free the bowels completely; and the medicine must be repeated until this is effected. This terrible disease, if allowed to make any progress, becomes quickly fatal. The first good symptom will be an abatement of offensiveness in the smell of the ulcers, which then begin to heal quickly. When putridity has assumed a decided character, there is no hope. Petons in the dewlap are recommended as preventives."

EVERGREENS.—L. J., Houston, Alleghany Co., Pa.—The branch which you send us, is the English yew. The tree box will attain eight or ten feet in height, and about three to four feet in diameter. We are not acquainted with the American yew you mention. The difference between the habits of your junipers is undoubtedly owing to natural causes, if they are the same variety. Perhaps those of compact form are growing in a stiff clay or gravelly subsoil. In order that your evergreens may assume a fine shape, the leaders should be thinned out, leaving only one to take the lead. We do not consider that rich soil or the shade of the house in the afternoon would be injurious to the growth of evergreens.

MR. EDITOR:—Believing you take a lively interest in the welfare of farmers generally, and are willing to answer questions touching their interest, I will make a few enquiries.

The farm, which I now occupy is called here gravelly loam, underlaid with a coarse sandy gravel to a great depth. The soil on the top is from six inches to twenty-four inches deep, and produces good crops of corn and potatoes, in favorable seasons. The rock is a hard white lime stone. The timber is sugar maple, elm, hemlock, and beech. I should like your opinion of such land, the best mode of cultivation, and whether if made rich, it is suitable for apple trees, &c.

REMARKS.—A soil underlaid by a coarse sandy gravel

is what may be called a hungry soil. Such soils well manured produce well, but the good effects of manure, are not as permanent as if clay was an element in the soil. From your description of the timber growing on it, we should think fruit trees would do well, particularly, if leached ashes are freely applied, and your trees were supplied with stable manure as often as every other year.

If lime is wanting in your soil, which you can easily ascertain for yourself, by applying diluted chlorohydric acid (commonly known as muriatic acid) drop by drop to a small quantity in a saucer, and carefully noting whether gas is extricated or not—if no effervescence is observable, it may be presumed that lime would be of great benefit. It is a well understood fact, that many soils underlaid by limestone rock, are themselves destitute or nearly so of lime, this fact can only be known by analysis. Suppose you apply a bushel of lime to two or three rods of land, and notice its effects upon two or three kinds of grain compared with the same grown upon an equal quantity of land unlimed. A single experiment properly made, and closely analyzed, may be of great advantage in future cultivation of your soil.

MR. EDITOR:—Please inform me of the best manure to apply to meadow land, (timothy), clay soil, rolling; how to apply, and when, and the price. A. G. G.—Cincinnati.

Where leached ashes and lime can be had at a moderate price, they are probably the best fertilizers for meadows. If the soil is poor, stable manure should be spread on the land in addition to a liberal top-dressing of ashes and lime. Early in the spring, and when the ground is frozen, is the best time to haul out manure of any kind and spread it over the ground to aid the grass in getting roots and tillering before hot, dry weather comes on late in the spring. Where stable manure is not available, or too expensive, guano may be sown just before a rain, or in wet weather, as a top-dressing, in March or April, according to the climate, at the rate of from 200 to 300 pounds per acre. It is impossible for us to name the price of any fertilizer in any particular neighborhood. In many places, unleached ashes are the cheapest and best for meadows; in others, superphosphate of lime may be used at a profit. Much depends on the average price of hay.

MR. EDITOR:—Will you inform me whether there is any other machine similar to and for the same purpose as *Sanford's Patent Cern Planter*? and if so, which is allowed to be the best? I am desirous of using one on a plantation in Georgia, and wish to use none but an approved article. W. R. B.—Homer, Cortland Co., N. Y.

Will some of our correspondents answer the above?

A CORRESPONDENT inquires the price of fancy fowls; and in reply we would say, that Royal Cochins, Chinas and Brahma-pootras can be had of pure blood at \$5 per pair; and Shanghais of different kinds from \$1.50, upwards per pair.

MR. EDITOR:—Can you tell me anything about the blind teeth in horses? I have a young horse blind from that cause; the blind or wolf-teeth have been abstracted, but he does not recover his sight. Is there any remedy? J. M.—Newfuz, Va.

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