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MARKING SHEEP.—A Member of the Windsor Co. Agricultural Soc. states that the clip of wool sold by the late Dr. Jarvis, of Claremont one year (known always to be of the first quality and in good condition otherwise,) shrunk 2½ per cent by clipping off the tar marks; and that the whole loss in consequence of the large amount of tar used, was 3½ per cent. The writer recommends, as a substitute for tar, a paint that can be more easily removed as follows:—"The materials for marking should be lamp-black and linseed oil. If the latter cannot be procured, hogs' lard will do. Mix a small portion of turpentine with the lamp-black before mixing with the oil. It should stand twenty-four hours before using. Those who will use tar at all events, for marking, should endeavour to make one small mark answer all purposes."

GASES OF MANURE.—At the Farmer's Club of the American Institute in the city of New York, a paper was read from Mr. J. P. Downey, furnishing his views and experience on the disputed point of the ascension or descension of the gases of manures. His experiment appears simple in the process and successful in the issue; he plowed a small patch of ground from eight to nine inches deep, and spread his manure in the furrows as he plowed; he then took another piece of ground adjoining, plowed it and spread the manure on the top, harrowing it in thoroughly, the soil being of the same quality.—He found the former to yield twenty per cent. over the other, although on the first start the corn on the first piece did not thrive so rapidly as the latter; yet, in two or three weeks after it came up, it began to gain, and so increased until the time of gathering, confirming his belief, that the gases of manure "will not (in his own language) descend, but ascend."

ECONOMY IN CANDLES.—If you are without a rush-light, and would burn a candle all night, unless you use the following precaution, it is ten to one an ordinary candle will gutter away in an hour or two, sometimes to the endangering of the house:—"This may be avoided by placing as much common salt, finely powdered, as will reach from the tallow to the bottom of the black part of the wick of a partly burned candle, when, if the same be lit, it will burn very slowly, yielding sufficient light for a bedchamber; the salt will gradually sink as the tallow is consumed, the melted tallow being drawn through the salt and consumed in the wick."

BEAN MEAL VS. OILCAKE.—The following interesting experiment is copied from a recent number of the Transactions of the Highland Society of Scotland. Mr. Bruce, of Haughton, in East Lothian, tried the comparative value of linseed, linseed cake, and linseed and brans, on lots of 20 ewes each. He estimated each pound of increased weight had been produced at a cost of—

Linseed Cake,	101oz.
Beans,	133½
Beans and Linseed,	59
Poppy Cake,	106

Last lot of sheep had, in addition, an unlimited supply of turnip tops, grown on grass land. By this experiment, the beans and linseed mixed were the most productive, weight for weight, the linseed cake next, and the beans least productive.

HOW TO PREVENT THE BURNING OF CHIMNEYS.—Fires in chimneys in France have recently been prevented by placing three frames of wire-work one foot above each other, near the base of the chimney; no flame will pass them.

VEGETABLE MANURES.

The principal vegetable substances employed as manure are straw of all kinds, leaves, saw-dust, bran, oil-cake, sea-weed, and green manures, or crops which are merely sown to be ploughed in, and thus afford food to a second crop, of some more valuable plant.

All these manures when mixed with soil slowly decay, and yield carbonic acid and small quantities of saline and earthy matters. They are most advantageously used when employed in combination with some kind of animal manure; this is the case in farm-yard manure. Straw alone decays but slowly, but when mixed with the dung and urine of cattle it soon begins to change, and in a short time the whole is brought into a state of decomposition.

In this case a sort of putrid fermentation is caused; the animal manure decomposes rapidly, and causes a similar change to take place in the vegetable substances with which it is mixed; decomposition proceeds rapidly, heat is evolved, and if the bulk of the mixture is large, this action becomes so energetic that the value of the manure is seriously injured by the high temperature to which it is thus exposed.

The decay of vegetable manures may also be facilitated by the addition of lime; for the objection which applies to the mixture of lime with animal manures is not applicable to the ordinary vegetable manures. The latter for the most part contain but little nitrogen, their value principally depending on their mechanical action, and on the formation of carbonic acid.

Vegetable manures decay more or less rapidly, in proportion to the quantity of nitrogen which they contain; green manures contain a notable quantity of gluten and albumen, and accordingly decompose rapidly, whilst sawdust, which consists principally of woody fibre, and contains hardly any nitrogen, decomposes slowly. Sawdust is therefore a most excellent substance to mix with the excrement of animals, and other strong animal manures.

Wood sawdust is valuable as manure in proportion to the facility with which it decomposes, and the inorganic matters which it contains; that obtained from young trees decomposes with more facility than the sawdust of old wood. The wood of those trees which contain much resin decays less rapidly than other woods, and is therefore not so valuable as a constituent of mixed manures. Those woods which when burnt yield a large quantity of ashes rich in alkaline salts, are useful additions in the state of sawdust to manures rich in ammonia.—*Rural Chemistry.*

NEST EGGS.—The eggs are made of clay, formed to the right shape, in the hands. After being dried they are whitewashed; when they are ready for use. The matter is so simple, that it only reqires to be thought of, to be available.—These eggs answer the purpose perfectly—the hens accepting them as fully as those of their own make.

EFFECTS OF CULTIVATION.—Buffon asserts that wheat is a factitious grain, and there is scarcely a vegetable, whatever its present character on our farms, that can be found growing naturally. Rye, rice, barley, and even oats, cannot be found wild; that is to say, growing naturally, in their present perfect state, in any part of the world.