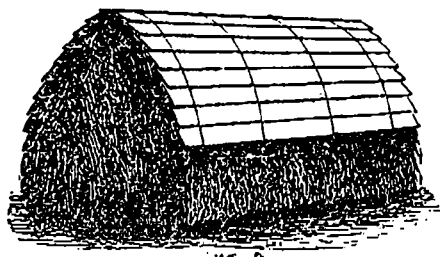


yet as they may be two inches apart above or below, it will cross a hill or valley at considerable curvature. That it is easy to handle is proved by the fact that two men can take down, move half a mile, and set up a hundred rods in half a day.—*Country Gentleman.*

Protection of Hay Stacks.

THE proper preservation of hay after it has been stacked is a matter of great importance to farmers. A simple method adopted by a Mr. Wing, who communicates it to the *Country Gentleman* is worth reproducing to a number of our readers: Use good, clear 12 inch pine lumber, which I hope to paint on one side. Lay down one board along comb of stack, stretch about four large No. 9 wires over board, down side of stack, long enough to reach down as far as you want roof to extend; staple wire to top board. The wire should then be coiled up loosely, so that the ends may not be in the way. Then put second board of roof in place, its upper edge underlapping crest board, staple to wire; do this on each side so as to balance, and so on down as far as covering is needed. In spring, draw the staples. The cut plainly shows all. One staple in lower edge of board holds all; boards rest right on stack. The following illustration will show how it is done:—



THE rural home, like the juice of the grape, should improve with age.

THE farmer that is building himself a home will find something to do for many days.

It will pay to burn rubbish on the ground where you intend to sow seed for early vegetables. It will kill the weed seed, make the ground light and may be sown early.

THE farmer who employs household help for his wife not only benefits his wife but does a kindness to some worthy young woman who is under the necessity of working for a living by furnishing her with employment.

LIVING water is much the surest to depend upon for farming, yet reservoirs will answer where there is no choice in the matter.

WHEN you start out in life let the chief end aimed at be a home of comfort and pleasure. A bank account pales into insignificance as compared with this.

PLANTS cannot live without leaves, as they are the lungs of the plants; through them they breathe. If kept cut off the plants will suffocate. In destroying weeds in the lawn, in the pasture, among small fruits or any place where it is desirable to kill them out, keep the tops cut off reasonably close to the ground, and you can get rid of them.

SUNFLOWER seeds are a valuable food for horses and cows as well as for poultry. An occasional half pint placed in a horse's or cow's feed will prove of great benefit in regulating bowels and making digestion more active, not to mention actual increase of flesh. A half pint twice a day for two or three weeks is said to be a good treatment for the liver.

AUTUMN is a good time for transplanting a variety of trees. Our best lawn or street tree, the sugar maple, should always be planted in the fall, as the profuse discharge from the branches and roots cut necessarily renders spring planting uncertain. Most of our fruit trees do well under fall transplanting. Stone fruits, from some unexplained cause, grow better when transplanted in the spring.

Libe Stock.

A Good Cow House.

To a farmer who takes pride in his herd of cattle, and where is the intelligent farmer that does not, a well-equipped, clean, and convenient byre is all desirable. Here is a plan of one which has been found to be up to the mark in these respects: Fig. 1, represents the plan of the cattle barn, built a number of years ago by the Michigan Agricultural

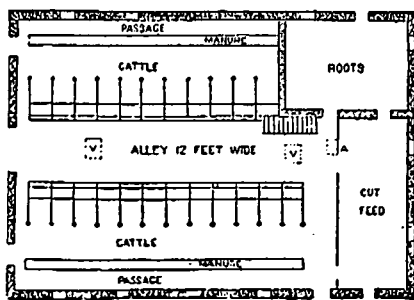


FIG. 1

College, and which possesses points of value. It has 22 stalls, two of which may be appropriated to enlarging the feed room or silo. Or, the silo may occupy the space devoted in the plan to "roots." The whole may occupy a basement, which should be sunk but slightly in the earth, and at least one half be above ground. The fodder occupies the story above. The dotted squares marked V, are chutes for throwing down the fodder into the central feeding alley. These chutes operate also as ventilators, as represented by fig. 2, when the dropping doors are thrown open for pitching down the hay. This barn is 40 by 60 feet, but it may be slightly reduced in length—by devoting less space to the roots, feeding-room, silo, and pulping-room A.

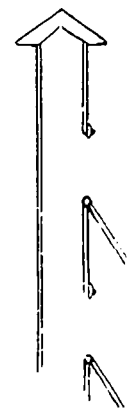


FIG. 2

THERE is profit in early maturity, for the dairy as well as for beef.

FEWER pigs and more care, will pay better than many pigs and less care.

THE flock of breeding ewes ought to have the best pasturage on the farm. No class of stock will make a better return.

THE relative value of cattle foods depend on the proportion of dry substance contained: the digestibility of that dry substance; and its constitution.

AFTER the prime of life animals are on the down grade. Successful stock raisers rarely have old cattle in stock; it is not unusual to find many aged heads in the herds of farmers who think live stock does not pay.

PROPER attention to foot-rot will render it a much less serious disease than it is generally considered to be. The horny, diseased portion of the hoof ought to be pared down, Hilliard's Foot Ointment used, and the sheep kept on dry, clean ground.

The Poultry Yard.

DUCKS are death on potato bugs.

LIME is a sure duck killer: Beware of it.

THIS is the best month for purchasing fowl feed.

THE sweepings of the hay mow isn't bad picking for fowls.

SEE that the poultry houses are in good repair for winter.

BAD management is the main cause of failure in poultry raising.

BRAN and ground oats are better egg feed than the too fattening corn.

WHEN nearly grown, feed turkeys all the small grains and plenty of cabbage.

STICK to one breed and become an expert in its development, is good advice.

A BROODING hen can be chastised out of her perverseness by a little solitary confinement and slim prison fare.

A HARD, dry earth floor, that never becomes a puddle in rainy weather, and that can be swept or raked clean once a day, is a good floor for a poultry house.

THAT the egg industry is of vast proportions on this continent, is shown by the fact that more money is spent in the United States for eggs than for flour.

Now that insects can no longer be obtained, a substitute must be given in the shape of meat, either raw or cooked. Milk is a most excellent substitute.

As the cold season approaches we should see that the chicks are kept growing by giving them nutritious food, free range for exercise, and not allow them to be crowded at night.

CARBOLIC acid mixed with about thirty parts of water, and applied with a small brush to the roots of the feathers about the neck, belly and vent, usually kill or dispel the vermin on fowls.

THE poultry exhibit at the Toronto Industrial Exhibition last month was an excellent one. The entries were numerous, the breeds varied, the quality up to a high standard, and the awards satisfactory.

DURING cold weather, nothing is better than a nice, warm breakfast for your fowls. Cooked potatoes and oats are good. Give occasionally cooked wheat and table scraps for variety's sake. Feed whole corn at night.

WHILE the roads are dry, lay in a supply of fine road dust for the use of your fowls during the winter. Place in a box in the hen house for the birds to wallow in. It prevents lice and makes healthier fowls. Renew the dust at intervals.

WHEN the weather is cool and the fowls are inclined to huddle together, it is a good plan to scatter straw in some sunny place and throw the grain that is given the fowls in this, to make them scratch for a living, and take proper exercise. Otherwise they become over-fat and cannot be induced to lay.