

and it is as easy to tell 10 or 20 neighbors as one or two, all the difference is "in your eye."

But the actual agricultural profit of such Clubs is no trifle. I believe this town is worth more than one or two hundred dollars more than it otherwise would be in consequence of our neighborhood Club, for it does not embrace more than a fourth of the town in any respect. The scarcity of labour is getting to be such that every available agricultural facility is in requisition that agricultural products may be forthcoming proportionate to the demand. The war rests on the farmers themselves, and there never was a time when the best implements, breeds, seeds and methods of farming were so necessary as now; and he is a mean creature, not worthy to be called a man, who possesses

either and is unwilling to tell others of it and facilitate their obtaining the same. Agricultural periodicals are good, very good, and no farmer can afford to be without one; but farmers Clubs can do local good that they cannot do. The reports of the discussions of farmers' Clubs, published in the papers, are often so belabored for the press that much of their usefulness is lost to us plebeians.

A gardener of Dedham, U S., has raised this year on 285 feet of ground, over seven and a half bushels of well-ripened tomatoes.

The cheapest food for fattening poultry is ground oats. The grain is ground to a powder.

FARM OPERATIONS.



PREPARE FOR WINTER.

There are many small things that require attention in winter. A gate not kept fastened by a good self-fastening latch, and swinging in the wind, will be more injured in a short time, than by months of legitimate use. An equal injury is sustained if the gate has sagged and the latch strikes some other part of the post. Take a mild day and attend to all of them. It is important to keep latches and hinges greased; and in order to have grease always at hand when wanted, bore an inch hole in some part of the gate-posts, put in a lump of tallow and plug it up. It is then always ready.

Every farmer knows that a gate is rapidly twisted to pieces when it has settled, and has to be dragged over the ground every time it is opened and shut. The same injurious result is produced when snow drifts from an obstruction to its motion. All farm gates should therefore be so constructed as to be capable of being raised a foot or two, to avoid the snow. The raising of the gate is accomplished in various ways. One, which answers well where the amount of snow is small, is to make a screw and nut for the lower hinge, so that by turning the nut the hinge is lengthened, and the latch end of the gate raised several inches. Another way is to have two sets of holes through the hinge-posts, so that the hinges may be changed for summer and winter. A third is to have the gate so made as not to come within a foot and a half of the ground, sliding in a wide

board into a groove in the posts whenever small animals are to be shut off.

Examine stove-pipes, and see that they are all firm and safe. Do not allow the soot to accumulate in them, so that when it gets on fire some windy night it may set the house in flames. Never allow a stove-pipe to pass near wood. Burn the soot out of chimneys at some time when the roof has been wet with rain or melting snow, by lowering a bundle of straw or two from the top, and dropping a blazing wisp upon it. Probably nine-tenths of the houses that are burned in the country are ignited by the soot taking fire when the shingles are dry, and portions of it dropping on the roof. Keeping the soot well burned out of the chimney, and all that part of the roof near it, or the whole, whitewashed with a mixture of salt and lime, would be worth more and cost less than the best insurance.

What is the reason that so many bed rooms are badly ventilated in winter? One reason is, it is so hard to slip the sash up and down. See to it now, that all are made to slide comfortably and easily, and if they are not hung on pulleys by weights, provide the best and most easily working catches. A few hours' time, and a few dimes of expense, may save twenty dollars in doctors' bills, to say nothing of suffering and lost time. Never allow a broken pane to remain a day.

Never allow a squeaking door, pass around once a week, if necessary, and give every hinge and latch a touch with an oil-cloth feather.

Lay in a good supply of wood for next summer. Do not let it lie long in large sticks, but saw and split it up without delay, that it may be drying. Fresh wood quickly dried, is far more valuable than half decayed from a long retention of sap. If it can be exposed to the wind for a few weeks before housing, it will dry rapidly.

To winter animals profitably, remember that comfort is the great saver of flesh, and consequently of food. Feed regularly, that they may not fret off flesh in waiting for a delayed meal, for their stomachs are good chronometers: keep them clean, that they may not be