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RURAL NOTES.

DAIRYING is reported by the *Prairie Farmer* to be making progress in Kansas.

A MEETING of the Holstein cattle breeders was recently held in Detroit, which resulted in their organizing themselves into an association.

THE *Massachusetts Plowman* considers leached ashes, for nearly all crops, cheaper at twenty-five cents a bushel than commercial fertilizers at current prices.

THE death is announced of Jesse A. Storrs, the well-known horticulturist of Painesville, Ohio. He was a member of the nursery firm of Storrs, Hanison & Co., and his loss is a public calamity.

THE London (Eng.) *Agricultural Gazette* records the recent purchase of ten fine polled cattle from the herd of Mr. Strachan, Aberdeenshire, by parties from the United States. The price paid was about \$200 each.

A PORK packer in Boston says he ships 100,000 pounds of leaf lard weekly to New York city for manipulation into butter imitations. Another sells 40,000 pounds of suet and tallow per month for the same purpose.

THE Michigan Horticultural Society recently resolved that the grounds about a country school-house ought to be at least one acre in extent, and handsomely laid out, ornamented with trees, shrubbery, and flowers.

A LATE number of the *Markham Express* reports large sales of Hereford cattle to Missouri and Illinois stockmen. A hundred cows and heifers had been sold, and the purchasers intended buying about the same number of bulls.

THE tenth Duchess of Oneida (1878), by second Duke of Oneida, 9986, purchased by Mr. A. J. Alexander at the celebrated New York Mills sale, September 10th, 1878, for \$27,000, died on the 2nd instant on the Alexander farm.

WOLVES are not yet extinct in Wisconsin. In the vicinity of Elkhorn, a farmer has lost during the past winter over one hundred sheep from their ravages. A grand wolf-hunt was to be organized in that region toward the end of March. High time!

THE Maine Board of Agriculture, in recent session, unanimously advised the "average farmer to await the results of experiments now in progress on the ensilage of corn and other crops, before adopting the system on a scale involving any considerable expense."

A WESTERN U. S. paper, the *Pacific Life*, describes a creature owned by a gentleman near the sea-coast, and said to be a cross between a deer and a cow, having the delicate head, nose, legs, and feet peculiar to the former. She is probably a Jersey heifer.

BRITISH anglers are striving to secure the introduction of black bass from this continent into suitable waters of England. There are many such where trout will not thrive, and in which it is believed black bass will do well. Success to "fish-farming" everywhere!

It is a significant fact, and one full of encouragement to cattle feeders on this side of the Atlantic, that, as a matter of economy, the British Government have decided to use "American beef" as the animal food for its navy. From the quantity required, this piece of policy must greatly increase the beef export of the new world.

It is very important that farm horses be trained to be good walkers. A very fast gait can be obtained if the proper means are taken. Next to strength, speed is wanted in a draught horse. There is no need that teams should crawl along the road and in the furrow at the snail's pace which is so common. Fast or slow walking is a matter of habit.

ABOUT 250,000 bushels of leached ashes were taken from Canada to Connecticut last year for fertilizing purposes. They cost 17 cents per bushel. There are "heaps upon heaps" of these ashes in various parts of the country that can be had for the hauling. If it pays to buy them and freight them hundreds of miles, it is surely worth while to team them a few rods, when they can be got for nothing.

SAYS the *Fergus News Record*:—"The latest swindle on the farmer is in the weigh scale line. Large numbers of scales, said to be of inferior quality, are being sold by agents to the farmers in the eastern part of this county, at prices from \$5 to \$12 higher than a first-class scale can be bought for from regular dealers in hardware. Some of the parties victimized consider this sell about as bad as the lightning rod fraud."

OSCAR WILDE says a good thing now and then. In a recent lecture he condemned poorly-constructed buildings; walls painted to resemble stucco or marble blocks; chairs glued together, and so weak that they creak when you sit on them, a "gaudy gilt horror in the shape of a mirror;" and dishonest work of every kind, which constantly decreases in value, while good, honest work becomes more valuable as it gets older.

BEE-KEEPING is coming to the front, as it well deserves to do. The Irish Bee-keepers' Association is to have space at the Royal Dublin Spring Cattle Show. Lectures will be given, and if the weather is propitious, the practical manipulation of bees will be shown by skilled apiarians. It will be a brief session of an apicultural college. In this country there is a manifest "boom" in bee-keeping. If gone into intelligently, great gain of national wealth will come of it.

THE idea has been extensively entertained that the only effectual way of exterminating the pea bug was to cease growing the crop on which it feeds. But Mr. Lewis Coryell, of East Whitby, informs the *Cannington Gleaner* that the following is a sure cure for this insect pest:—"Mix thoroughly one gallon of coal oil with twenty-five bushels of peas one month before seed-time, and the object is accomplished." He says he has already doctored 1,600 bushels for this season's seeding, and thinks if every farmer would adopt this plan the bug would soon be exterminated.

A WRITER in the *N. Y. Tribune* urges farmers to put up trespass notices forbidding sportsmen and pot-hunters from roaming over their premises with dog and gun, without permit from the owner. By adopting this method of game protection, the woods and fields of Westchester County, N. Y., have within a few years become re-stocked with quail, partridges, and other valuable birds, and there is beginning to be a return to the good old days when there used to be sporting and hunting. By adopting similar means, there are many trout streams and ponds that might easily be re-stocked, so as to invite the angler as of old. It is as well to teach a certain class of people that a farm is private property, and not a public highway.

IN reply to a question from Sheriff Clarke, of Prince Arthur's Landing, the *Globe* names "Duchess of Oldenburg, Red Astrachan, Wealthy, Tetofsky, and several of the crabs" as suitable apples for high latitudes, and recommends that they be planted under evergreen belts. In ordinary years, these and some other "iron-clads" may survive, but we should fear that an occasional dip of the thermometer, or an unusually cold arctic wave might destroy them. We are inclined to think that low espalier training, practiced in England as a matter of taste, might be found practically valuable in high latitudes. We have seen apple trees trained within a foot of the ground, and running in long lines as walk borders. In a country sure of a deep snowfall, they would get natural protection, or failing that, might easily be covered with straw, some kind of litter, or, better still, with evergreen boughs.