

reason, it is advisable to use the carbolic acid on the feed boxes and mangers and the bichloride of mercury for the walls and ceilings. To make up the bichloride of mercury solution (1-1000) use one-eighth of an ounce of corrosive sublimate to a gallon of water or one-half ounce to four gallons. The addition of a small amount of sal ammoniac will cause the corrosive sublimate to dissolve more easily. It is advisable also first to add the corrosive sublimate to about one gallon of moderately warm water containing the sal ammoniac. Stir thoroughly and after all of the particles have been dissolved, add enough clear water to make the required amount.

To make a saturated solution of iron sulphate as much of the sulphate should be dissolved in the water as possible. Put the copperas in a barrel or some solid container, pouring in water and allowing the solution to stand for a day. The liquid above the sulphate of iron will be the saturated solution which is to be used on the floors and gutters.

Chloride of lime solution is used in the proportion of one pound of lime to three gallons of water. It is a very good disinfectant for floors, gutters and partitions and can be applied with brush, sprinkling can, pump or bucket.

Public Abattoirs and the U. S. Meat Situation.

The United States Department of Agriculture has had experts looking into the meat situation in that country, and after a thorough analysis they have concluded that there is no possibility of relief coming from Canada, Mexico, the Argentine, Australia, or other countries, and prices must continue to show an upward trend unless some means are taken by the United States people themselves to remedy matters. The investigators propose the erection of public abattoirs, and the sale of meats on public markets as is done in Europe. Public slaughter houses, they claim, would eliminate many middlemen, and local markets would result in a severe blow at the so-called beef trust. Waste lands, they advise, should be improved, and more economic methods practiced in stock-raising.

It was brought out that meat is scarce, and that the high prices have decreased the per capita consumption of this staple food somewhat. It is estimated that during the past four years this has fallen off ten pounds, or from 162 pounds in 1909 to 152 the present season. Apparently the number of beef cattle has dropped in that country by almost 30 per cent. during the past six years. Other countries from which the United States might draw have a very limited and decreasing supply, not excepting Canada. The only hope, says the bulletin, is in the small farmer again turning his attention to raising stock, as was the case before the advent of the large packing houses, which drove the small local butchers out of business. The Department puts forth the recommendation so often advised through "The Farmer's Advocate," viz., community breeding or district live-stock co-operation, which consists in raising the same kind of animals in especially suitable districts, so that there might be a uniformity of output, making it possible to market co-operatively in carload lots at highest prices.

THE FARM.

Galvanized Fencing.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

The old rail fence is disappearing rapidly and giving place to the much more handsome wire fence, in some of its various forms.

This is as it should be, as there is less harbor for weeds, and no breeding ground for the wire worm and other injurious insects.

With a little extra care, and a single horse to finish at the fence, the weeds and grass may be destroyed almost entirely with the plow, and leave very little hand labor to aid in the war of extermination. This is one of the great advantages of the wire fence, and another is, the few posts required.

The barbed-wire fence is seldom seen now, owing to the many accidents to horses and cattle. The smooth, woven fence, either put on the posts in the web, as it comes from the manufacturer's hands, or the single wires stretched on the posts, at suitable distances apart, has taken its place.

Unless some stiff wire can be used for the up-rights, I would undoubtedly prefer slats.

One great drawback in the use of the wire fence is the poorly-galvanized wire that is being used now, compared with the earlier wire. For this I blame the farmer, who has been buying the cheapest, in place of enquiring if the galvanizing is well done, until manufacturers are putting on as little zinc as can be carried, and in a year or two, in place of a galvanized steel wire fence, as it was to be, it is found to be a rusty fence, fast going to decay. Rust soon weakens the

fence that would turn a team of horses, when new.

Galvanized wire may be easily tested by scraping a small part with a knife, and finding the thickness of the zinc coating, but this is not all, for properly-galvanized wire should be iron and zinc, which at the point of union is really an alloy of these two metals, and should be perfectly rust proof.

Another drawback is the danger of cattle being killed by an overcharge of electricity in the wires at the time of thunderstorms, when miles of wire may be charged to a very high voltage and be discharged instantly whenever a conducting material comes in contact; or the charge may be so great as to leap over an intervening space, often



Two Champions.

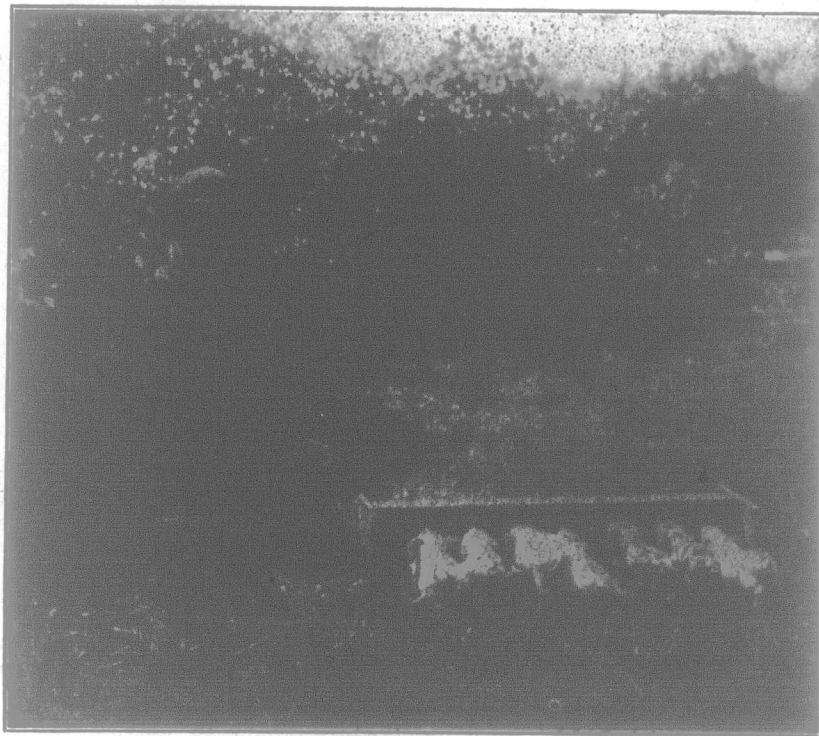
Lincoln ram and ewe, winners at Toronto, 1913. Owned by H. Lee, Highgate, Ont.

killing many cattle at the one discharge. This can be easily remedied by inserting wires, shoved into moist earth, and attaching to the fence, thus conveying to the earth in many places what would be a very dangerous charge of electricity. Bruce Co., Ont. WM. WELSH.

A Lover of the Farm.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

My father was a farmer in my boyhood days, but unfortunately an unsuccessful one. The old homestead was naturally a beautiful farm consisting of two hundred acres, ninety acres under cultivation, the balance in valuable timber land.



A Foster Mother.

The litter of pigs were successfully raised by placing nipples over plugs with small holes through them and leading to the trough.

The cultivated land was just gently sloping, and well watered by a large brook and living springs. I was the youngest of the family and the only one who evinced any love for farming. When I had reached the age of twelve years I was enthusiastic in the care of stock, poultry, etc., and my chief delight was to feed them and keep an account of the profits and losses. I often said I was going to be a farmer, but my parents, by their attitude for thirty years, and the old farm yearly producing less and the buildings going to rack, were condemning farming, so I was kept regularly to school as my brothers and sisters were before me. However, my chief delight before and

after school and holidays was to look after the care of the farm stock and other light work, and when by chance I would have to be kept home for a few days to assist in the general farm work my pleasure knew no bounds, but my! how I did hate to begin school again. At the age of seventeen I declared my intention of abandoning school entirely and going into farming, taking the management of the old farm, which was looking very shabby by this time, with its rude fences tumbling down and overgrown with bushes and the broad meadows covered with loose stones and producing about half what they should. At my request to leave school and manage the farm my parents would not listen. "Get an education, my boy," father would say, "and by all means

leave farming alone, or you'll be poor all your life." So I was persuaded to continue to school, though I did not care for it at all, though I was considered very clever (I don't mean this in boasting). However, I must have had some brains, for shortly before I was nineteen I returned from the Provincial Normal School, where I had passed the examinations with "flying colors," now holding a license of first-class. I was rather elated over my success, but the prospect of teaching was not very agreeable to me. From the time I came home until I took my first school I assisted with haying. I took a school in the southern part of the Province at a good yearly salary, and that fall my father rented the farm, implements and stock, and moved into the city, where he engaged in other business. When I learned that strangers resided on the old homestead I loved so well, I was very homesick, and still more so eighteen months later when I went on a visit to the old home, where I found a good-for-nothing, shiftless fellow was renting it just for a place to live, and to get all possible out of the place with the least work or improvement. I saw at a glance that the machinery was never housed, and the cows and sheep and the horses (our horses), one a beautiful old horse nearly as old as myself, and the beautiful bay colt always my pet, now five years old, in very poor condition, the renter selling all the grain and good

hay, feeding them only the poorest of fodder. I visited my parents in the city and notified them of conditions at the farm, and had the satisfaction of seeing father start for the old place determined to find a new renter. About this time I fell in love with a beautiful dark-eyed maiden, a pupil in my school, four years my junior, and a farmer's daughter. She returned my regard. The following vacation I again visited my parents, told them of my engagement, and that I was now determined to buy a farm, and asked them to sell me the old homestead. After vainly trying to dissuade me, they at last consented, and I was soon the owner of the old farm, at a very reasonable price. In October the renter's lease expired, and I took possession. The schools had re-opened, but as luck had it the district where I reside, and where I had attended school in my boyhood, could not get a teacher, so I offered my services for a small salary for the sake of being home, an offer they gladly accepted. My mother, who never cared for city life, came to keep house for me. I used to rise at five o'clock or earlier, milk my cows and do all necessary work before school; at noon I could just walk home, do the work, eat a hasty dinner, or more often finish eating as I hurried back to school. I tried to do a little plowing after school that fall, but could not accomplish much. My neighbors and old friends were delighted to have me back to take up farming among them and realized how hard I was working. One bright Saturday, the first of November, a welcome surprise was given me. Eighteen