

IMPROVEMENT IN FARMERS.—The *Mark Lane Express* in an article on farmers associations, says: There is nothing more noticeable when reviewing the progress of agriculture during the last quarter of a century than the improvement which has characterized the conduct of our public meetings or social gatherings. There was a time when the long clay pipe, the somewhat boisterous stave, and the "hot stopping" were regarded as the chief inducements for getting farmers together.— But these days have gradually passed away, and, with some experience of other large assemblies, we are inclined to think that nowhere will men as a rule keep closer to the point or carry themselves more becomingly than the occupiers of land when they draw into a focus at a Society's show, or a Club discussion. More information has been disseminated, more intelligence developed by such a means than through any other cause which could be spoken to. By the further aid of a good reliable report this system of mutual advantage comes to be almost infinitely extended. Many a man who would fight shy of a Royal essay, although he found the pages ready "cut" to his hand, will eagerly turn to see what his next door neighbor had to say, or some more famous agriculturist to offer on the merits of the principle under consideration.

TRAPPING CUT WORMS.—An exchange says: It is very annoying after having set out a nice lot of sweet potatoes or cabbage plants, to see them cut down one by one by cut worms. We have tried ashes, lime, soot, and, in fact, every thing we have ever heard of, but never found anything effectual until, by accident, we found three or four of the worms one morning gathering under a small board which had been left by some children on a sweet potato hill. Acting upon this hint, we placed some small pieces of board, large chips, etc., all through the patch, and we trapped them by hundreds. The boards must be lifted early in the morning, and on very warm days again about noon. A little care for a few days will clear these pests out of the garden. One trial will satisfy any person of the merits of this plan.

STYLE IN THE PIG PEN.—A report says: A fancy farmer of Scott Co., Ky., is said to have built a \$2,000 hog-pen, which is painted and grained, furnished with hot and cold water, warmed with steam and lighted with gas. There is a fine library, where can be found Cobb's Elementary Works, the works of Bacon, Inquiry Regarding the Descendants of Ham, Hogg's poems, Colden on the Corn Laws, and the popular little poem, "Root Hog or Die." The troughs are of mahogany, inlaid with ivory, and furnished with Phelan cushions. Whenever a hog is led out to execution chloroform is administered.

A late San Francisco paper says strawberries will soon be a drug in the market, as there never was such a crop as the present season promises.

One pear tree, fifteen years old, is stated by a correspondent of the *Gardeners' Monthly*, in Springfield, Mass., to have produced \$320 worth during the years 1870 and 1871.

"HANKERING AFTER PURE AGRICULTURAL HOS TROTS"—The trustees of the State Agricultural Society, of Maine, will offer \$2,000 in prizes for fast horses at their fair in the fall, and a sweepstake purse of \$100, open to the world. The last day of the fair will have a military review among its attractions.

The two best sugar manufactories now in operation in California have made large preparations for the coming season, which is the best possible indication that the enterprises are profitable ones. The Sacramento company have planted, 1,100 acres, while the Alameda company have planted 400 or 500 acres.

Remember, when you lose a horse, or ox, or any other animal, instead of leaving the carcass to be devoured by dogs or crows, you should cover it with six or eight times its bulk of earth, and thus arrest the fertilizing gases which would otherwise be thrown off. By so doing you will secure a quantity of manure worth ten times the trouble it would cost you. We have known farmers in this section to sell a dead animal for a dollar, when it was worth ten to them for manure.

AMMONIA FOR SNAKE BITES.—The Inspector of Police to the Bengal Government reports that out of 939 cases of snake bites, in which ammonia was freely administered, 702 victims have recovered, and in the cured instances, the remedy was not administered till about 3½ hours after the attack, on the average. In the fatal cases, the corresponding duration of time was 4½ hours.

Some wags were walking around an agricultural implement store, and they chanced to see in the rear a dressed hog hanging by a hook in the wall. "Ha! Ha!" cried they to the young man in attendance, "what sort of an agricultural implement do you call that?" "That," said he, "is a patent combined root-grubber, corn-sheller, apple grinder, gatelifter, double-action, back-spring, sod-plow; but I guess you won't want one, for it takes a mighty smart man to manage 'em."

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