

well-made cattle will convince the observer that a certain squareness of form is the best type of bovine symmetry. In addition to a correct form, Shorthorns must also possess the essential trait of 'quality' or 'touch.' In other words, the skin must be soft, pliant, neither too thin (papery) nor too thick (heavy), and moving with a certain characteristic ease upon the cellular matter beneath. This peculiar handling of cattle accompanies aptitude to fatten, and it is spoken of as 'quality.' Quality is also indicated by an abundant coat of fine silky, well-laid hair.—*Ext.*

ONTARIO AS A DAIRY SECTION.

In discussing this question at the Dairy Convention recently held at Belleville, Mr. Morton, of Gananoque, said that nearly every section of Ontario, rough or smooth, was adapted to profitable cheese making; every variety of fodder required could be grown. He knew something of the capacity of land in Canada for dairying, being the owner of nine farms, and the proprietor of eight cheese factories. Most of his factories were situated in the Laurentian ridges, and he found them superior for dairy purposes. He believed that the land in Ontario could produce as good milk, and that as good cheese and butter could be made on this Northern belt as anywhere on the continent. He thought cheese should be made the principal article of export of the Dominion. Dairying was a far more profitable industry than any other, and is no longer a speculation. Cheese should be shipped from any Canadian port to England cheaper than from a factory in Western New York to New York City. This he knew from experience, as he was the owner of a factory in Western New York. He thought there were enough good dairy lands in Canada to supply England with all the cheese she needed.

PUTTING UP DAIRY GOODS.

Let producers in this matter, using fancy packages only for a strictly fancy product, and ordinary packages for all goods of second grade, assorting carefully, and marketing each quality separately, making for it no false claim, but allowing it to go upon its intrinsic merits, and they will realize more for their products than they do under the present unsystematic and impolitic practice of straining up the price of inferior goods by offering them in connection with a better article, thus losing more upon the good than is gained upon the bad, while the principle of just discrimination is not recognized, and the reputation of the brand suffers a still greater prospective loss.

CARE OF HORSES.—All horses must not be fed in the same proportions, without regard to their ages, their constitutions, and their work; the impropriety of such a practice is self-evident. Yet it is constantly done, and is the basis of disease of every kind.

Never use bad hay on account of its cheapness, because there is no proper nourishment in it.

Damaged corn is exceedingly injurious, because it brings on inflammation of the bowels and skin diseases.

Chaff is better for old horses than hay, because they can chew and digest it better.

Mix chaff with corn or beans, and do not give the latter alone, because it makes the horse chew his food more and digest it better.

Hay or grass alone will not support a horse under hard work, because there is not sufficient nutritive body in either.

When a horse is worked hard its food should be chiefly oats—if not worked hard its food should be chiefly hay—because oats supply more nourishment and flesh-making material than any other kind of food; hay not so much.

For a saddle or coach horse, half a peck of sound oats and eighteen pounds of good hay are sufficient. If the hay is not good, add a quarter of a peck more oats. A horse which works harder may have rather more of each; one that works little should have less.

Back feeding is wasteful. The better plan is to feed with chopped hay, from a manger, because the food is not then thrown about, and is more easily chewed and digested.

Sprinkle the hay with water that has salt dissolved in it, because it is pleasing to the animal's taste, and more easily digested. A teaspoonful of salt in a bucket of water is sufficient.

Oats should be bruised for an old horse, but not for a young one, because the former, through age and defective teeth, cannot chew them properly; the young horse can do so, and they are thus properly mixed with saliva, and turned into wholesome nutriment.—*London Horse Book.*

Orchard and Forest.

GRAFTING-WAX.

This is an article that every farmer should keep on hand, ready for use whenever needed, for it is valuable for various other purposes besides that of grafting. Wounds made in pruning large trees will heal over much sooner if coated with this wax, and if a piece of bark is accidentally stripped from a tree, the place should be covered over with it, and the wood will remain sound and healthy underneath.

There are several receipts for preparing this wax, and I have found the following better than any other one tried:—Melt in a basin one pound of tallow, two pounds of beeswax and four pounds of rosin; stir well together, and keep in a cool place in the dish in which it was melted. If beeswax is very costly an item, one-third less quantity may be used.

This wax is most excellent for sealing the corks of bottles whose contents are desired to be air-tight, and for covering cloths to tie over preserve jars. It can be melted over when required for use, and it will spread with a knife upon bandages, etc.; is the best sealing wax that can be used for many purposes.—*Country Gentleman.*

TRANSPLANTING SEEDLING TREES.

All seedling fruit or forest trees should be transplanted while young as a hastening process, as well as to insure safe removal in later years. Transplanted seedlings grow more rapidly than untransplanted, and when the operation is properly performed, a tree will be as large in ten years as it would have been at twenty, if allowed to remain where the seed was sown or naturally grew as it fell from the parent tree.

I do not know of any exception to this rule, for the hickory, butternut, and black walnut, which are generally considered difficult trees to remove, if transplanted when one or two years old, and deprived of the greater portion of their tap root, will throw out numerous side or lateral roots, which not only causes vigorous growth, but insures success in transplanting.

One of the most erroneous theories ever promulgated is that a tree will grow more rapidly and remain healthy longer if it is never meddled with from the time the seed is placed in the earth. Such a theory belongs to the barbarian and non-progressive ages, and not to the nineteenth century.—*A. S. Fuller.*

LIME FOR SOILS OF FRUIT ORCHARDS.

On most soils, or in most localities, a proper dressing of lime is useful to both peach and pear trees. There are some soils where it will not prove of much benefit, but we are unable to give a certain or infallible indication by which the propriety of its application may be known before making the trial. It would not be so likely to be useful where the ground had been previously repeatedly or heavily limed, or where the soil was poor for a want of the application of yard manure or by plowing under green crops. We have known it to double the growth of trees on soils that appear to be quite similar to others where no benefit was produced. Over-doses, or uneven application, might be hurtful or of no use. Common lime may be applied safely at the rate of 100 or 200 bushels per acre, but magnesia lime should be used very cautiously. There is no material difference between common stone lime and burnt oyster shell.—*Horticulturist.*

TIME FOR TREE PLANTING.

A correspondent of the *Iowa Homestead* thinks the time for tree planting is much less important than the manner. He mentions one case where 100 trees were planted May 18, when most were in full leaf and some in blossom, yet not one died. Healthy trees with good roots, set in a place so large that roots need not be twisted or crowded, with the roots well puddled and the dirt packed close around them—are the points to which he pays attention in tree planting.

CAUSE OF DEATH OF EVERGREENS.

Referring to the great loss of evergreens and other trees, W. C. Flagg, the horticultural editor of the *Prairie Farmer*, expresses the belief "that drought is at the bottom of the whole difficulty in the West." He thinks the long continued evaporation during the dry summer and the dry winter destroyed or injured plants weak in constitution or from disease. The *Western Rural* gives a similar cause—drought, severe frosts, and drying winds; the first two decreasing the amount of moisture available, and the last increasing the evaporation.

GROWTH OF TREES.

The *Farmers' Journal*, Cedar Rapids, Iowa, speaks of very rapid growing trees in the residence of G. Neahey, of Burlington, Iowa. A Norway spruce set 20 years since is 41 feet high, and 5½ feet around the trunk at largest part; a European Larch, transplanted 15 years ago, is 35 feet high, and 4 feet around the trunk; another set 17 years since is 42 feet high. Of deciduous trees, a soft maple set 18 years since is 50 feet high and 3 feet in diameter, three feet from the ground; a sugar maple set 21 years is 35 feet high; a black walnut set 16 years is 4½ feet in diameter; a golden willow stuck into the ground as a little switch 20 years ago, is 11 feet 8 inches in circumference.

LIMING FRUIT TREES.

This periodical liming of fruit trees is generally considered as serviceable, especially in keeping down the ravages of the insects which find their home in the fissures of the bark. It is also important that the operation should be likewise extended to the main branches. For the purpose in question, whitewash has generally been used, causing a decided whiteness of tree, which is objected to by many on the score of the unsightly appearance and the readiness with which the lime becomes detached. It has been shown, however, by experience, that the same beneficial effect results from the use of colorless lime-water, which every one knows how to prepare with unslacked lime, and which, when settled, becomes clear, and can be poured off and used as above indicated. In this way repeated applications can be made without affecting the appearance of the tree.

PRUNING IN JUNE.

Correspondence of the N.Y. Sun.

In your issue of Feb. 14, I noticed two correspondents asking for information as to the best time for pruning fruit trees, and D. W. N., of Cedar Hill, N.J., asserting that spring was the best time, as he had always practised it at that time, and his trees had done well. I have been engaged in cultivating fruit trees for the past twenty years, and have pruned apple and pear trees in every month of the year. If I could always have time to spare, I would prefer to prune in the month of June, for the following reasons:—First, the wound made by the removal of a branch at this season will heal sooner than one made at any other time of the year. Second, very few water sprouts will grow after pruning, and the fruit which remains will be much larger in consequence. Any person who is at all acquainted with the management of fruit trees, knows that if a tree is barked in June the wound will heal in a very short time. To prune in June, persons should wear rubbers or other soft shoes, to prevent barking the branches. My reasons for not pruning in the spring are, we generally have high winds and copious showers, the winds dry and crack the new wound, and the rain enters and blackens it, which it does not do in June. Water sprouts will also grow, which will have to be trimmed off every season. You suggest covering the wound with paint or wax; but every farmer does not have these materials at hand, and in June he does not need them. S. DEVESE.

NAILS IN FRUIT TREES.

A singular fact, and one worthy to be recorded, was mentioned to us a few days since by Mr. Alexander Drake, of Albemarle. He stated that whilst on a visit to a neighbour, his attention was called to a large peach orchard, every tree of which was totally destroyed by the ravages of the worm, with the exception of three, and these were the most thrifty and flourishing peach trees he ever saw. The only cause of their superiority known to his host was an experiment made in consequence of observing that those parts of worm-eaten timber into which nails had been driven were generally sound. When the trees were about a year old, he had selected three of them, and driven a tennypenny nail through the body, as near the ground as possible. Whilst the balance of his orchard had gradually failed, and finally yielded to the ravages of the worms, these three trees, selected at random, treated precisely in the same manner with the exception of the nailing, had always been vigorous and healthy, furnishing him at that very period with the greatest profusion of the most luscious fruit. It is supposed that salt of iron furnished by the nail is offensive to the worm, whilst it is harmless, or perhaps beneficial, to the tree.

A chemical writer on this subject says:—"The oxidation or rusting of iron by the

sap, evolves ammonia, which, as the sap rises, will of course impregnate every part of the foliage and prove too severe a dose for the delicate palate of intruding insects."

The writer recommends driving half a dozen nails into the trunk. Several experiments of the kind have resulted successfully.—*Southern Planter.*

[Walking a few days since through the grounds of a friend, an American gentleman, we were quite delighted with the rich profusion of blossoms on his fruit trees, but we wondered to see stuck up among the branches of a great many of them lengths of old stove pipe. This, he told us, was to preserve the health of his trees and to cause greater fruitfulness.—We have not had an opportunity of knowing the result of what was to us quite a novel thing in arboriculture, but the above extract from the *Southern Planter* shows that others also believe iron brought by certain means into contact with fruit trees, to have on them a beneficial influence. All are familiar with that law of nature by which the mineral world has a great and undefined influence over the vegetable.—Salt is a great fertilizer, but would, if used in undue quantities, destroy all vegetation. The soil, beneath which the most valuable deposits of ore are concealed, is comparatively barren, but may we not reasonably infer that metals, if not in undue proportion, would cause fertility and not barrenness. In the two instances mentioned iron seems to be used not to make fruit trees more fruitful, so much as to ward off diseases from them. But this state of natural good health brings with it that productiveness designed by nature. To all things having life there has been given the means of propagating their own species. The state of unproductiveness is a state of bad health.]

APPLES.

With us the value of the apple as an article of food is far underrated. Besides containing a large amount of sugar, mucilage and other nutritive matter, apples contain vegetable acids, aromatic qualities, etc., which act powerfully in capacity of refrigerants, tonics and antiseptics; and freely used at the season of mellow ripeness, they prevent debility, indigestion, and avert, without doubt, many of the "ills which flesh is heir to." The operatives of Cornwall, England, consider ripe apples nearly as nourishing as bread, and far more so than potatoes. In the year 1801—which was a year of much scarcity—apples, instead of being converted into cider, were sold to the poor; and the laborers asserted that they could "stand their work" on baked apples without meat; whereas potatoes diet requires meat or other substantial nutriment. The French and Germans use apples extensively, as do the inhabitants of all European nations. The laborers depend upon them as an article of food, and frequently make a dinner of sliced apples and bread. There is no fruit cooked in so many different ways in our country as apples; nor is there any fruit whose value, as an article of nutriment, is as great, and so little appreciated.—*Water Cure Journal.*

CURCULIO ON PLUMS.—I have seen various methods for keeping these insects off plum trees, but none so simple, nor yet so effectual as the following:—Soak corn-cobs in sweetened water until thoroughly saturated, then suspend them to the limbs of the trees a little while after blossoming, being sure to burn the cobs after the fruit ripens, as they will be found full of young insects. A good plan is to change the cobs every few weeks. My theory is this:—that the insects deposit their eggs in the cobs in preference to doing so in the young plums. The first season I tried it upon one or two only, and in the summer was rewarded by a good crop of as fine plums as ever ripened, while those on the other trees fell off when about half grown. Next spring found sweetened corn-cobs dangling from the limbs of all my plum trees, and the summer found them full of delicious fruit. I have never known it to fail, and I hope every one who has a plum tree will try it.—*A. M. S., in Germantown Telegraph.*

GROWTH to Lincoln tracts of sp ing very tall. Ther ferent part acres in ext siderable q cut. Year growth is growth of w for staves. Wisconsin, brought ba the large o this purpos a growth of Alma, info drove his o pines that high, and t one thousa trees are n ground, th The profits money at t farm-rs fai thinking t paid for th let some of for your c for your ov

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