

of doubtful value, and are easily used to the injury of the stomach. The watchful feeder notices the condition of his stock, and gauges the amount and variety of feed to suit their conditions.

When we are feeding young pigs to secure the greatest growth by ten or twelve months, or the calf and steer to be a ripe beef by two years, far more intelligence and care will be needed than in the old style of slow growth.

The pigs that are to be weaned at eight weeks or twelve weeks must have been fed so as to have strength of stomach to enable them to keep growing without the stimulus of the mother's milk. For her safety she should be put on dry feed a week before separation from the litter, and gradually dried off as to her milk. The pigs are thus gradually brought to the new diet, and the sow dried off, so she and they are prepared for the change. She should be put out of sight and hearing of her pigs, and fed grain long enough to start her thriving, and then go to grass or clover for the season, and do without any grain until November, when she should be fed lightly with grain again to put her in strength for breeding.

The pigs are prepared for soaked corn and slop made of mill-feed and oil-cake meal in such quantity as they will eat up clean within fifteen minutes, and take it three times a day. They should have a grass lot or clover field to run in. So important is grass as a part of a pig's diet, that if one cannot have grass lots or clover fields, by all means sow clover near the pig house, that it may be cut and thrown to the pigs twice a day. We cannot afford to raise pigs on corn and meal: first, because we cannot keep them in as robust health without the grass; second, because with the grass or clover added to the ration, a larger per cent. of the grain is digested, and more pounds of pork can be made from each bushel of grain fed.—*L. N. B. in Farm and Fireside.*

THE PIG AS A PLOUGHMAN.

Farmers everywhere are influenced by the construction of railroads and other means of quick transportation, but none of them more so than those who grow meat as a branch of their farm operations. The pork-raisers in the older States come in competition with the swine products of the prairie States, where the pig is a condenser of the corn crop, and among the most economical methods of sending that cereal to market—yet even with cheap freights, it will not do for Eastern farmers to abandon the sty, and look to the West for their salt pork and hams. There are economies to be practiced in swine raising that will make the Eastern farmer successful in his competition with the West. He has the protection of freights over long distances, which can never be very much reduced. The home market will always be remunerative, so long as pork products are in demand. His lands need manure, and that which is made in the sty, and under cover, is among the best of the home-made fertilizers. Herding swine upon pasture, or old meadow, that needs breaking up, is not very much practiced, but is one of the best methods for raising pigs. They are as easily confined with a movable fence as sheep, utilize the grass and coarse feed quite as well, and perform a work in stirring the soil that sheep can not do. The nose of the pig is made for rooting, and we follow nature's hint in giving him a chance to stir the soil. A movable yard, large enough to keep two pigs, can be made of stout inch boards, about fourteen feet long, and six inches wide. For the corner posts use two by four inch joists. Nail the boards to the posts six inches apart, making four lengths or panels four feet high. Fasten the

corners with stout hooks and staples, and you have a pen or yard fourteen feet square, which is easily moved by two men. If you place two fifty-pound pigs into this yard they will consume nearly all the grass and other vegetation in it, in three or four days, and thoroughly disturb the soil several inches in depth. When they have done their work satisfactorily the pen can be moved to the adjoining plat, and so onward through the season. The advantages of this method are, that it utilizes the grass and other vegetation, destroys weeds and insects, mixes and fertilizes the surface of the soil about as well as the ordinary implements of tillage. In the movable yard there is thorough work. Even ferns and small brush are effectually destroyed. Worms and bugs are available food for the pig. And it is not the least of the benefits that the small stones, if they are in the soil, are brought to the surface, where they can be seen, and removed. The pig's snout is the primitive plough and crow-bar, ordained of old. No longer jewel this instrument, but put it where it will do the most good, in breaking up old sod ground, and help make cheap pork.—*American Agriculturist.*

SOUTHDOWN SHEEP.

The Southdown is the most popular breed of mutton sheep in the world. The mutton is most excellent, and the wool of a quality in demand by the manufacturers of cloth. The growth of the animals is rapid, so that they may be early fattened either as lambs or mutton sheep, and besides they are quiet, hornless, hardy, and prolific. Other breeds surpass them in size and quantity of wool, none in perfection of form or in excellence of flesh. So true is this, that no butcher who has cut well-fed Southdown mutton will fail to recognize the blood even though in the second or third cross. The excellence of form in the Southdown is seen in its remarkable symmetry and squareness, in its length of body, breadth of loin, the broad hindquarters, height at the rump, lowness in the twist, and in the deep, thick hams. The brisket should be both prominent and deep, the fore-legs straight and wide apart, the belly-line level, and the flank as low as possible. The heads of the Southdown are small, of a gray, or brownish-gray colour, well woolled between the eyes and across the poll. The wool, which should cover the belly, extends to the knees and hocks, and the legs are covered with dark, straight hair. They are naturally fine, but should be flat and not too delicate.

The Southdown belongs to the class of middle-wool sheep. The wool is of medium length and fineness, close and even, and forms a fine coat and protection against changes of weather and climate. It is no doubt owing in part to this that the Southdowns prove hardy wherever introduced. The breed has been made use of to improve other breeds in England, and largely in this country. We see them, or their grades in the market, with their legs left with the skin on, to indicate the breed, and connoisseurs of mutton are thus attracted to buy.

Do not permit your flock of sheep to get down in flesh. The condition of the sheep affects the quality of the wool. From a poor sheep expect nothing but poor wool. To secure uniformly good wool, keep your sheep in a growing, healthy condition.

The attention which the subject of tree-planting has received in Ontario during the past two years is already beginning to show good results. This year especially a very large number of trees have been planted along the highways, and around the dwellings of farmers.

CREAM

It was a Port Hope girl that got married at fifteen so as to have her golden wedding when it would do her some good.

The latest dude story is that a farmer saw a couple of these agonizing specimens on the street and exclaimed: "Gosh, what things we see when we don't have a gun."

"Were you ever caught in a sudden squall?" asked an old yachtman of a worthy citizen. "Well I guess so," responded the good man "I have helped to bring up eight babies!"

A CHATHAM man compels his daughter to eat onions every night for supper, and thus assures himself that he can shut the house at ten o'clock without locking in a strange young man.

"You can lead a horse to the water, but you can't make him drink," says the old saw. You couldn't make some men drink either if you took them to a hydrant.—*Burlington Hawkeye.*

A SMALL boy testified in a justice's court that the affray took place on a Sunday. "How do you know it was on a Sunday?" "Because that day I had to go to the side door of the saloon to get beer for dinner."

"Do I believe in second love? Humph! I, a man buys a pound of sugar, isn't it sweet? and when it's done doesn't he want another pound, and isn't it that sweet, too? Troth, Murphy, I believe in second love."

"Just think! I once came across a negro that was actually so black that he could not be seen without a light," "H'm! I saw a fellow one time who was so thin that he always had to enter a room twice before he could be noticed."

"Did you break any of the rules at school, today, Philip?" "No sir." "Then why do you look so crestfallen?" "Because the teacher broke a rule." "The teacher broke a rule, you say; how so?" "Over my head—that's why I feel so bad."

"What do you charge a quart for your milk here?" asked a man, as he put his head in at the door of a milk shop. "Eight cents," was the reply. "Ain't you got any for seven cents?" "No," said the proprietor, "but we can soon make you some."

A MINISTER, in one of his parochial visits to a cow boy, asked him what o'clock it was. "About twelve, sir," was the reply. "Well," remarked the minister, "I thought it was more." "It's never any more here," said the boy; "it just begins at one again."

"How did you come to get married?" asked a man of a very homely friend. "Well, you see," he replied, "after I'd vainly tried to win several girls that I wanted, I finally turned my attention to one that wanted me, and then it didn't take long to arrange matters."

Sorrows will not last forever,
Brighter times will come again;
Joy on every grief succeeding,
As the sunshine after rain.—*Anon.*

The rose is fairest when 't is budding new,
And hope is brightest when it dawns from fears;
The rose is sweetest washed with morning dew,
And Love is loveliest when embalmed in tears.

—*Scott.*

"The development at the back of the head, my friends, indicates parental affection," explained the phrenologist. "Now, you will observe," he went on, feeling the boy's head, "that this bump is abnormal in size, thus indicating that he loves and reveres his parents to an unusual degree. Is this not so, my lad?" "Naw." "What's that? You do not love your parents?" "I think well enough of ma," the boy replied, "but I ain't very fond of de old man. That bump you're feelin' of he giv' me last night wid a baseball club."—*N. Y. Sun.*