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Editorial.

Long Evenings.

Long evenings are among the things that happen at this season of the year, and it would be well to consider how they can be spent most profitably. The day work will shortly be over, and there will be much time for improvement and interesting ideas and views upon matters and things in general. Even now farmers ought to be thinking of how the winter evenings can be best employed. There will be time for reading, for study, and for visiting, and these things should be attended to with some degree of regularity and system. We believe in farmers and farmers' families visiting each other, and talking over farm matters, as it tends to develop new ideas, and gives all parties something useful to think about. The young men of a neighborhood should get together—form a Club, and meet regularly for mutual improvement at least once a week. Farmers' Clubs should be formed to which the farmer, his wife, sons, and daughters, should have equal access, and there all matters connected with farm work and farm life should be freely discussed. Farmers, it won't hurt your sons and daughters should allow them some amusement also. Induce them to get up sleigh drives on some fine moonlight evenings—let them come together, and have a good time once in a while, and don't be so afraid of old-fashioned as to refuse taking part in their sports. It will do you good while it will encourage the young people, and give them a greater love for home. Young people require national amusement, and if it is refused them they become discontented, and should they not leave home early in life—which they are almost sure to do—they will certainly turn out dull stupid men and women.

Selecting Seed.

Although it may seem out of season to call attention to seed selection, still this is just about the time when every farmer is beginning to reap the results of their selection last spring. A great deal of seed to be found in the market every year is by no means prime, and to sow or plant poor seed and expect a large yield, is just as sensible as to expect first quality stock from miserably diseased animals. No one can afford to use poor seed, and the very best is none too good. This year the difference between the best and the prime seed has been particularly marked in their results, owing to the character of the season. Even the best fields of grain produced from the best seed, have been tried severely by the long drought that occurred, and the prime seed has been considerably injured. Where the seed has been poor and foul, the crop has been severely withered. The greatest care, therefore, should be taken in selecting seed. Better pay double price at any time for a good quality than risk a cheaper article. When purchasing be governed by quality rather than by price.

CROPS.

THE BUCKWHEAT CROP.
The prospect of more than average Buckwheat crop are somewhat clouded. Up to the time of ripening it was in excellent condition, but about this time high winds prevailed for some days, which caused the grain to shell out, and whole fields are now little better than worthless. In Madawaska, Victoria, Carleton, and parts of York, and some other Counties, there has been much loss, and we learn, although we hope the report is exaggerated, that the crop will be reduced at least to one half.

THE POTATO CROP.
In all the Counties along the St. John River, this crop is excellent. York, Carleton and Victoria Counties show that the returns are abundant, and the quality of the finest description. It is stated that in some Counties along the Intercolonial Railway within this Province, that the potato crop is by no means a good one. As remarked by one informant, they are small and few in a hill.

THE CORN CROP.
This has been a fine season for Corn; it ripened early, and the crop has been a full one.

THE OAT CROP.
Oats have in many cases turned out remarkably well, while in many more the grain has been light and the straw short.

THE WHEAT CROP.
This crop is said to be quite up to an average, although some fields we have seen, were really excellent. The dry season caused considerable shrinkage, and there are a large number of places where the straw is short.

A New English Wheat.

Among other things sent to the Centennial Exhibition at Philadelphia from England, is a sample of a new wheat, bearing the name of "Mainstay Wheat." The grain is said to be of exceedingly fine quality, and is of a very hardy nature. It is suitable for fall or spring sowing, but the seed must be selected from grain grown at the time it is proposed to plant. This wheat is particularly adapted to countries where the changes in temperature are rapid and great, as it is said that the most severe tests of this kind to which it has been exposed have had no effect whatever upon it, and stands the roughest weather in harvest time as well as in the seedling stage. It is said that it is said that this Mainstay Wheat be true, it would be a splendid variety for this climate. At all events some effort should be made to secure a small quantity in order to give it a fair trial.

THE NATIONAL LIVE STOCK JOURNAL for September, is at hand, and is truly a magnificent number. It contains twenty-six elegant illustrations, drawn on stone, expressly for this number by the distinguished animal artist, E. H. Dewey, which are intended as representatives of all the leading breeds of domestic animals as bred in America, in this centennial year. The horse pictures are faithful likenesses of Lexington, Gov. Syracuse, Donald Dimes, and Apollo. Then follows a male and female of each of the leading breeds of cattle, making in all, twelve cattle portraits. Then we have Cotswold, Leicester, Southdown and Marino sheep; Berkshire, Yorkshire, Essex, Chester White, Suffolk, and Poland-China swine; making, in all a series of illustrations that have never been approached by any other journal of the kind in the world. In its entire mechanical execution, *The Journal* is a model of neatness and taste; while the character of its contents has uniformly been such as to have placed it, long ago, at the head of all journals of its class, in Europe or America. It is published by the Stock Journal Company, Lakeside Building, Chicago, Ill., at \$2.50 per year.

The Hon. Henry S. Randall died at Cortland, N. Y., on the 14th August, aged 66 years. During the greater part of his life he was interested in the breeding of the Merino Sheep, and the improvement of this particular stock may be largely attributed to his persevering efforts. He was a contributor to the *Agricultural Press*, and in addition wrote several pamphlets on the breeding and management of Sheep.

Correspondents.

For the Colonial Farmer
RURAL TOPICS.

PAINTS AND OUTHOUSES.

Farmers and others have outhouses to paint, but they cannot afford to use white lead, and they ask "is there no kind of durable paint that I can use which is cheap?" To meet this demand for cheap paints, every owner of land that contained a substance that could be ground, or pulverized, and make paint when mixed with oil has harnessed up. He has a crop, branded it "Mineral Paint," and put it in the market; but twenty years of experience with most of these points shows that they are of very little value; and their advice to farmers is, have nothing to do with them, as they must be mixed with linseed oil to be of any value on buildings; and this kind of paint soon fades or color, and is washed off by the rains after the first season. There is no kind of paint that can be used on out-buildings, or any other buildings, that will give satisfaction, except white lead and linseed oil. Zinc makes as good a paint, but it is dearer than lead. Then we have "chemical" paints that also are good, being made in part of zinc, and ready mixed and colored. I can recommend the "Averil Chemical Paint" thus mixed and colored, as equal in durability to white lead, and it costs about the same price as lead; and I have found no advantage in using it over white lead. If an out-house first receive a good heavy coat of crude petroleum (kerosene unrefined) put on with a whitewash brush, then let it dry a few weeks, and then apply a coat of white lead and linseed oil, and you will have a paint that will not be expensive, while it will be very durable, and equal to two ordinary coats of paint. Crude petroleum has been selling as low as ten cents per gallon by the barrel.

PROPER TIME FOR PAINTING.
October and November are the best fall months for painting the outside of buildings. It is folly to hire a painter to paint outbuildings, when the owner has nothing that he can

work at himself to advantage. Every farmer and owner of a village residence who desires to paint should know how to use a paint brush. He can learn in one day to do a fair job, notwithstanding that professional painters may say that he will "spoil the work and waste a great deal of paint." Anybody can mix white lead and oil. Four gallons of oil are enough for 100 pounds of lead, and a good color for any house can be made with burnt umber, as light or as dark as you please. Use halfraw and half boiled in with no drier, and buy your oil of oil merchants when you can. I have just bought raw oil at 55 cents, and boiled at 60 cents per gallon, by the can of ten gallons, the cheapest that I ever purchased it, and of good quality. Buy the best of brushes, as a two dollar brush is cheaper in the end than one of the same size for one dollar. If you have fumes to paint, one of your boys should do the work. Let him learn how to do it by practice. I have often made a good face painter of a boy 15 to 18 years old in a week, then he can be set at out-house painting. In brief farmers should seldom employ a professional painter for any kind of work, when they have sons grown up almost to manhood, or when they themselves can find time to do their own painting and save the expense. I refer to men who are compelled to be economical in these times. Painters, however, must live as well as other people by their trade. Let us take a look inside of your dwelling. These rooms need painting badly. Get some white lead, and spirits of turpentine (no oil), and let your wife or daughter paint one room on trial. Every lady has put on a painting, and it will make a trial. Money earned in this way is money earned. I once knew a young lady who bought her wedding dress with money her father gave her for painting the inside of his house. She was not too proud to do it, and today she lives on a fine farm, and paid for from her labor as well as that of her husband.

GOOD WHITEWASH.
When oil paint cannot be afforded for fences and outhouses, a good white wash will look well and be durable. The following wash is excellent: Take a clean barrel that will hold water. Put into it half a bushel of quicklime, and stake it by pouring over it boiling water sufficient to cover it four or five inches deep, and stirring until slaked. When quite slaked, dissolve it in water, and add two pounds of sulphate of zinc, which may be had of any of the druggists, and one of common salt, and which in a few days will cause the whitewash to harden on the wood-work. Add sufficient water to bring it to the consistency of thick whitewash.

To make the above wash of a pleasant cream color, add 3 lbs. yellow ochre. For a brown color, add 4 lbs. umber. For Indian red, add 1 lb. lampblack. For grey or stone color add 4 lbs. umber, and 2 lbs. lampblack.

The color may be put on with a common whitewash brush, and will be found much more durable than common whitewash.

FEDDING MILCH COWS.
At this season of the year, when pasture is fast from drought, or otherwise, cows should be fed a little meal or bran daily, unless you have some late green crop that can be cut for them. This feeding should be done, not only for the benefit of the cows, but for the money it puts into the pocket of their owner. Two pounds of Indian meal, worth at most three cents; and the same quantity of wheat bran, or middlings, not costing any more, say five cents for all, fed daily in a slop to a cow, will keep her in good condition, when her pasture is very poor, and her increase of milk will be double the cost of the feed. An experienced dairyman says: "If the dairyman is prepared to give extra food at this season of short pasture, he will find that it will pay him to do so. To keep up the flow of milk, then the feed which comes later in the fall will keep up his profits from milk almost equal to the early feed of spring. The result of a whole season—profit or loss—often depends upon the management of a few weeks at the period of short pasture. If the dairyman has not some green food, such as clover, to supply this deficiency, then he should feed grain in small quantity to carry them over. Corn-meal and wheat-bran in equal quantities, or bran alone, will answer the purpose—keep up the condition of the cow and her flow of milk."

POULTRY CHOLERA.
Poultry cholera is prevalent in many places, and the remedies pre-

scribed do not always effect a cure. The following are said to be effective: 1.—Take equal parts of sulphur, alum, cayenne pepper and copperas. Powdered ingredients mix thoroughly, and add about two table-spoonsful of this mixture to six quarts of dry meal, incorporating it thoroughly with the meal, and wetting it. If they do not eat readily, keep other feed away from them, and they will soon come to terms.

2.—Make a mixture of two ounces each of red pepper, alum, resin and four of sulphur, and put it in their food in proportions of one tablespoonful to three pints of scalded meal. In severe cases, give about one-third of a tablespoonful in a meal pellet once a day of each fowl, putting some damp of alum in their drinking water. I have tried the above ingredients with marked success; have cured fowls in the last stage of the disease. I make it a practice now to give my fowls some of it once or twice a week, and no symptoms of any disease among them.

Miscellaneous.

Home-Made Manure.

In searching for manures we believe it is a safe plan, in that, as in many other things, to follow the dictates of nature. Nature draws her supplies of fertilizing material from decomposing rocks and falling leaves, and while we have not yet learned to extract the potash from the granite, and the phosphates from the bones of animals, and the nitrates from the bones of fishes of thousands of years ago, from the swamps of Carolina, are yielding their rich treasure for the fertilization of the fields of the whole world. But all these products have their specialties; there is not a universal manure, but ones which really cost nothing and is good for all crops; that is derived from the barnyard, the house, and the pigsty.

A farmer may go on from year to year raising large crops and selling them, and then buying his manures from the product of the rocks, the fossil bones of antediluvian fishes, or the medicated bones of the cattle which feed our cities, and he will really be growing poorer every day, though he may be putting money in his pocket. But if he keeps cattle and saves their manure he is every day adding to his own wealth and to the value of his land. It is the old story of raising at home instead of buying from abroad; keeping cattle and saving farmyard manure is manufacturing your own fertilizer instead of buying it. The amount of grain necessary to keep the cattle would not buy half as much nor half so valuable a manure. Then the pasture and the return to the soil by that means, while in the end the cattle more than pay for all they eat and are constantly yielding revenue to the value of his land. 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