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Agricultural.

Importance of Warmth to Stock.

The animal that is to pay in growth for his food, must be kept warm, not in a crowded, smothering condition, with bad air and other discomforts, but comfortably warm.—The nitrogenous portion of the food goes mostly to form muscles or lean flesh. The carbonaceous portions go in part to keep respiration in the lungs, whereby animal heat is produced. But if the animal be exposed, to intense cold, the carbon of the food is all consumed in the lungs and its products are exhaled into the air. No animal tissue is formed by it. There is no growth.

The only effect of food, so consumed, is to keep the animal alive, and to prevent his freezing, as a dead animal in the same exposure would. It would be impossible in our severe climate to keep an ox so uncomfortably cold all winter, that although he should consume the food which would keep two such oxen growing the whole time in a perfectly protected condition, he would not be one pound heavier in the following fall and the only return for his food would be in the rise in market value which cattle might have taken during winter.

If by such outrages, cruelty the farmer would lose the whole of his forage by half as much, and in other proportions; and it may be laid down as an undoubted law, that every departure from that kind treatment which is due to domestic animals, in the matter of providing for the warmth, will be visited with a proportionate loss to the owner.

Another thing less understood and, less attended to, is that all animals require bulk as well as nutriment in their feed. No definite rules can be laid down, and if the farmer has the faculty of keen observation, he will not need them. A general rule will be of service, and that is to direct the coarser and less nutritive, as corn meal or oil-cake with straw or any coarse hay, fine hay of good quality with corn stubs, and so generally, that each animal may receive both the bulk and the nutriment which he needs, with something like regularity, instead of living for a time almost wholly on fine nutritious food, and then as exclusively on the coarse and comparatively in nutritious.

The finer and coarser need not be given at each meal, but should be each day. A frequent change of food is desirable, but the change should be so managed as to keep in operation the principle of affecting the animal—both a sufficient bulk of food to answer the demands of his digestive organization and sufficient nutriment for the formation of bone, muscle, and other tissues—or, in other words, to keep him constantly growing.

[N. Y. Evening Post.]

Wintering Pigs.

A correspondent of the Dollar Newspaper gives the following singular method of keeping pigs during the winter:

"I saw in a late paper that the best and most economical way to winter pigs was to feed them upon nothing else but dry feed entirely and not give them any water. I wish to attest to the truth of this. I always shut my store pigs in a tight warm pen and to each pig a single ear of corn twice a day, and not give them a drop of water from December to March, and if finer looking store pigs can be found I have yet to see them. The reason is, cold water or cold feed is the death of hogs. I have seen large, healthy hogs die in five or six months after drinking greedily from a full swill-trough. It lowers the temperature of the stomach, and the hog, having but little hair, is chilled through and through with cold, and dies with a colic, terrible as only the hog can experience. I knew this so, for I am an old man and have kept pigs for fifty years; for the last twenty years I have wintered mine on dry corn, confining them in a very warm pen and can give an indisputable evidence of its success."

SAVING CATTLE IN WINTER.—Once or twice a week or as often as my cattle want salt, I throw upon the barn floor a foderling of straw or poor hay, which every farmer has more or less of. I then take a pail of water and put into it as much salt as I want to feed, and stir it till all is dissolved. Then, with a wispy straw, I sprinkle over again with brine, and so on till the brine is exhausted. Then I throw it out in small bunches and it is readily devoured as the best. My cattle are hearty and in a good condition all winter.

The following is the famous "Hewbold Recipe" for curing ham. It is said to be among the very best: Seven pounds of coarse salt, five pounds of brown sugar, two ounces of pearl ash and four gallons of water. Boil all together and scum when cold. Put it

in the meat. Hams remain in eight weeks, beef three weeks. The above is for 100 pounds weight.

LOOK TO THE CHESTS OF YOUR ANIMALS. A late writer says that a wide, deep chest in all animals, is an indication of robust constitution, and is, no doubt, the point of shape to which breeders should look when selecting either males or females. It is not enough that a bull or a cow should show a wide, full breast in front, but the width should extend back along the brisket, and show itself under and between the elbows. Fullness through the region of the heart is indispensable in either sex.

Description of Tien-Tsin.

IN CHINA.

Tien-tsin, on the south bank of the Peiho, thirty-eight miles from the Taku Forts, and sixty eight from Peking, is the largest port on the coast, north of Shanghai, not hitherto open to foreign trade. It is the terminus of the Grand Canal, which skirts the town and enters the Peiho outside the wall. By this canal all the produce and taxes for the use of the capital have been brought for centuries. Since it was 'broken up' by the irruption of the Yellow River the produce and taxes have equally reached Tien-tsin, borne by junk across the sea and then up the Peiho. All the salt for the use of the capital is stored here. An imperial monopoly, the dreary salt flat on which we landed constitutes one of the most valuable appanages of the Crown. There, and all along the coast, may be seen innumerable salt hills. When the salt is evaporated it is brought to Tien-tsin, and piled in stacks covered with matting, large as the largest haystack in England. Acres of them may be seen on the north bank of the river just below the town. A considerable trade is carried on in grain and rice. The river is thronged with junk, and the crowded, bustling streets, are full of life and motion. The position of Tien-tsin renders it one of the most important cities in China, and the key of the capital. Its population is said to be nearly half-a-million of souls. It is certainly upwards of 300,000. Though the Gulf of Pechili be shallow, the Peiho difficult to navigation, and the bar at its mouth inconveniently large, yet ships of considerable burden can ascend the river. The Peiho and the Oriental steamer Granada, which brought up Lord Elgin and Sir Hope Grant, and draws eleven feet of water, is anchored off the town at the mouth of the Grand Canal. The steamer Carthage, drawing twelve feet with commissariat stores on board, is moored just below, and her Majesty's dispatch gunboat Reynard, of the same draught, just above her. [London Times Correspondent.]

Judge not from Appearances.

A lady contributes for the American Agriculturist boys and girls the following capital story, showing the danger of judging from appearances. It will serve as a warning in other latitudes, to those of more mature years:—

When I was eleven years old, my mother removed to the country. Our nearest neighbour was a minister, by the name of Wayland who in addition to his ministerial duties owned and cultivated a large farm. One night my attention was attracted by a bright light in one of the upper rooms of our neighbour's house. In a moment I saw the wife fly past the uncurtained window, closely followed by the husband, who was armed with a huge fire shovel—round the room she went, still pursued, and as I listened, I thought, I was sure, I heard a scream. I hastened to my mother, and told her what I had seen, and we both looked out, but the light was gone, and all was quiet. Notwithstanding my mother's judicious warning "to say nothing about it to any one," before school was out the next day, I had confided it to my bosom friend, and in a week half the village knew it, and a great talk it made I assure you. Finally it reached the ears of the deacons, who at once proceeded to investigate its truth. My mother looked troubled when they called, but conscious of having told only the truth, I met them fearfully and related what I had seen. Then they left, in a direct line for the minister's to call him to account. With many apologies they made known their errand, when to their surprise the minister then burst into a hearty laugh. "Wait a moment," said he "till I call Nancy. You see that night I found a big rat in the meat chest, and came down for the shovel, and bade her hold the light while I killed him. Finding no other place to hide, the rascal took refuge in the folds of her dress, and she ran screaming, till I managed to dislodge and kill him."

I have ever since been careful not to repeat unfavorable reports about my neighbors, at least until I know the whole truth.

The Standard.

NOVA SCOTIA RAILWAYS.—The extensions under the direction of Alex. L. Light, Esq. chief engineer, are being prosecuted. Our townsman Chas. Haslett, Esq., assistant engineer, is engaged on the work; he was employed on the New Brunswick & Canada railway, and latterly on line between Saint John and Shediac; the sister province has been fortunate in obtaining the services of so competent an engineer—one who not only understands his profession, but also devotes himself to the interests of his employers. His reputation in the Western States is such that he was entrusted with large and important sections of Railways, and had he enjoyed his health there, it is not probable he would have left so large a field, where his talents were appreciated, and he was remunerated accordingly; and where advancement in his profession would have been sure and more rapid, than it is likely to be in the Provinces. His work entitled "Mechanics and Engineers Book of Reference, and Engineers Field Book," is deserving of extensive circulation, and is an evidence of his being a practical as well as a theoretical engineer.

UNITED STATES.—So much interest attaches to the present position of political affairs in the neighboring Republic, that we devote considerable space to articles upon the Secession movement. The leading men in the government, who are willing to concede any just request to the South, fear the result of the present uncompromising attitude of the cotton states, which appear determined to cut connection with their northern brethren. Should the difference not be adjusted, and a separation of the Union follow, there appears a disposition on the part of the New England States to annex themselves to the Colonies; "a change has come over the spirit of their dream." The following able, temperate, and well timed article, shows clearly what will be the inevitable result of secession:—

England in North America.

Should it be the fate of the American Union to go to pieces at an early day—and the slaveholders and the democracy are doing their best to break it up—England would become the greatest power in North America, and would virtually rule the whole country. Her North American possessions already contain several million people who are full of life, conscious of their destinies, and well governed Canada, to speak collectively, is said to grow much faster than the United States; and if we should cease to be the United States, her growth, for some time, would become yet faster than ever it has been, in comparison with ours. The formation of a Federal Union, if wisdom should guide that formation would much accelerate the development of the resources and power of Canada. As there must be a railway made from the Atlantic to the Pacific, that soon, too, and as it could not be made on our soil, after the breaking up of the Union,—for nobody would have any confidence in us, and it would require a generation to establish a new order of things here after we should have made shipwreck of our country through our folly,—it would have to be made in British North America, which would give additional power to that region, and to the great empire of which Canada would be but a part. This would give to England command of the North Pacific, whence communication with the China and Indian seas would be very easy. From appearances, England, would become greater than ever she has been, and would be, in a certain sense, England and America. It is to be observed, that this would happen from no improper conduct on the part of England, but would follow from natural causes. England does nothing to encourage these political nigrities who are seeking the destruction of the American nation. Now she has done all that she properly could to discourage them, and to turn them from the error of their ways. Through the great organs of English opinion, the Southern ultras have been informed that England has no sympathy with them and their cause, and that she condemns their conduct. Time was and is not very long ago either, when the occurrence of such troubles as now encompass us would have been turned to account by some rival nation but all that has been changed, and the pursuit toward us the same magnanimous course that she pursued in 1835. Then we were apparently on the eve of war with France, and from the occurrence of such a

war England might have gained largely; but she stepped in as a mediator, and effected the return to a good understanding between the United States and France. Now, she shows the same friendly feeling when we are threatened with civil troubles. What more could she do? She is content to be great with us, but she could not be expected to disregard the capabilities of her North American possessions, should we choose to abdicate our position. Some nations must take the lead in North American affairs, and that nation must be strong both by land and by sea, and successful in Pacific and in the Atlantic Ocean. It must be a nation of commercial capabilities and tastes, and able to control capital. All this answers to our case: "Rights of the South," and to break up the Union rather than circumscribe the area of slavery, England must take our place and become the first of American nations, as she is now the first of European nations. She strives not for our place, but it would be madness in us not to expect her not to strive for what we shall deliberately throw away if the secessionists succeed. There is work to be done on this continent, that must be done by one branch of the imperial race; and if one branch of the imperial race will not do it, it must be done by the other branch of that race, the senior branch. It is yet for America to say whether they will concede it to their elder brethren. Considering how transcendently we have boasted and claimed superiority on every proper and improper occasion it would be most mortifying to be compelled to fall back, and make way even for the British. But that is what must happen if we consent to dissolution of the Union as it is without change, and so prepare the way for the complete triumph of Americans in America. The next best thing for us of the North eastern States would be the ascendancy of England on this continent, and that is what must happen if the United States shall be changed into half a dozen weak and rickety Confederacies.—*Boston Traveller.*

The South Carolina Convention has passed a treason ordinance making the levying of war against the State, or aiding its enemies, punishable by death. Also an ordinance that the judicial power heretofore vested in the Federal Courts be now exercised by the State Courts and that the Congressional power be vested in the General Assembly. Secret sessions of the Convention have been held daily. Great excitement still prevails throughout the South. In Georgia the State troops have taken possession of the United States forts. The U. S. Revenue Cutter was also seized, but was subsequently returned, by the Governor of the State.

BOSTON, Jan. 9, 1861.—The Cabinet are debating question whether Senator Toombs of Georgia and Senator Wigfall of Texas shall be arrested on a charge of High Treason. A Charleston despatch has just been received at the War Department. It is expected that these despatches contain news of the arrival of the steamer "Star of the West" (which left New York on the 5th inst. with troops, destination unknown) at Charleston with reinforcements.

The Speaker laid before the House a Message from the President alluding to South Carolina. The President says he has no alternative but to collect the revenue and protect public property—his duty to execute the laws and the right to use the military and naval force in their execution, as indisputably set forth by law. He says that the present state of things is beyond the control of the Executive, and that we are in the midst of a revolution—and recommends Congress to act in the present emergency. The steamer Star of the West was spoken on the 7th off Cape Hatteras, bound South. Secretary Thompson of the Interior, resigned to-day.

PREPARATIONS FOR WAR IN MASSACHUSETTS AND NEW HAMPSHIRE.—*Boston, Dec. 29.*—There is no disguising the fact that Massachusetts is ready to respond promptly to any demand made upon her troops to sustain the Union and the laws. I learn to-day from the highest authority that 7,000 troops can be put in marching order on twenty-four hours notice, and that 145,000 men are enrolled in the militia of this State. Of this number 10,000 could be easily mustered.

The financial resources of Massachusetts were never in better condition for such an emergency, and the people are enthusiastic to be enrolled.

Adjutant-General Abbott, of New Hampshire, arrived here this afternoon from Washington, and left immediately for Concord with the intention of recommending to Governor Gooden that the Granite State be immediately put upon war footing.

Considerable excitement exists in consequence of the reports that the muskets removed from the Springfield Armory have been

distributed over the South. Mr. Whitney, Collector of this port, late Superintendent of the armory at Springfield, returned from there to night, having been there, it is supposed, with reference to the report from Washington to the effect that 20,000 muskets have recently been taken from the armory and sold to Virginia.

The feeling is deep and not to be misinterpreted. There is no mistaking the fact that Massachusetts is in earnest in this crisis. The merchants are plucky, and the name of Anderson is uppermost in every conversation.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 3.—President Buchanan was informed last night that ex-Governor Wise of Virginia and his minute men, principally located in his old Congressional district of Norfolk and Accomack, intend to capture Fort Monroe at Old Point Comfort, and the Arsenal at Harper's Ferry immediately, for the purpose of holding them for the moment when Virginia shall join hands in the secession movement.

The President says that there are ten companies of soldiers at Fort Monroe, who he doubts not will properly receive the ex-Governor.

At the Harper's Ferry Arsenal they are not prepared to resist him should he attempt to capture the place.

The person nominated by the President for Collector at Charleston, is Mr. McKibben of Pennsylvania. His nomination was sent in yesterday, but though immediate action is of the highest importance, the Senate will practically refuse to confirm, which causes great excitement.

Intelligence was received here last night that Fort Sumpter was now being besieged, and that all of Major Anderson's communication had been cut off.

Fort Moultrie has been repaired, the guns mounted, and would be ready to re-open fire on Wednesday.

New batteries are being erected around Fort Sumpter by the secessionists.

Major Anderson has determined not to renew his request for a reinforcement, but will perish bravely in his fort. His men have sworn to stand by him until death.

A combination is forming to take possession of Washington on or before the 4th of March, but the exact time is not yet determined. This statement is from a reliable source.

WIFE VS. LADY.—It is certainly not in good taste for a gentleman to speak of his wife as his lady, or to register their names upon the books of a hotel, as John Smith and lady, or ask a friend, How is your lady? This is all fashionable vulgarity; and invariably betrays a lack of cultivation. The term wife is far more beautiful and appropriate and refined, whatever may be said to the contrary. Suppose a lady was to say, instead of my husband, my gentleman, or suppose we were to speak of Mrs. Fitz Maurice and her gentleman. The thing would be positively ludicrous, and its obverse is none the less so, if rightly considered. A man's wife is his wife, and not his lady. We marvel that this latter term is not utterly tabooed, in such a connection, at least by educated and intelligent people. It ought to be left for the exclusive use of the English aristocracy.

The extradition case lately tried in Toronto, we learn from the Quebec Chronicle, remains practically where it was. The Chief Justice is in favor of giving up the fugitive. Judge McLean considers that he cannot be given up.—Judge Burns says the question is one for Executive decision.—The negro, meanwhile, is remanded back to jail. Great excitement prevails among the colored population, and an attempt at rescue was anticipated.

CHANGE OF CLIMATE.—The climate of Nova Scotia seems to be undergoing a wonderful change; for the last week the weather has been like April, and our harbor which has been frozen over solid enough for foot passengers, birds fair to again open. There is but little frost in the earth, and vegetation is progressing, as appears from a statement made by a friend of ours, that he received on the 24th of December 1860, a present of some beautiful lettuce and tongue grass, grown in the open air in the garden of J. R. Noonan, Esq. of this place; and that these vegetables were as tender as if grown in the month of May.—*Eastern Chronicle.*

Later from California.

FORT KENNER, Jan. 4.—The Pony Express from San Francisco, Dec. 22, has arrived.

Indians were generally inactive. Sugars firmer but no transactions of consequence.

Breadstuffs and freight declining. Oregon dates to Dec. 11, and British Columbia to Dec. 8.