

dealer on account of it, was abruptly repudiated by the farmer. Such gross faithlessness as this is a scandal. If such people desire to make all the money which the rise in price implies, let them hold on to their hops until they reach a dollar and then sell. But in the name of common honesty let them not disgrace themselves and embarrass dealers by repudiating bargains clearly made.—*Monetary Times*.

VISITING GOOD FARMS.

The many fairs that are held in the country tend much towards advancing a far more enlightened agriculture. We have already pointed out some of the advantages to be gained by a careful study of the exhibits, and the importance of taking an active part in these fairs. Another suggestion to the same end is here offered, which, if acted upon, will supplement the work of the fair and do much good to all progressive farmers. It is a duty of every farmer to visit yearly some of the best farms in the country, and there gather practical lessons in improved agriculture. There is no method of learning any farm subject equal to being on the farm where it is practised, and having it explained by the one who has made it a success. It may be the way of feeding stock, or a plan of preserving roots, ensilage, or other fodder. A farmer may contemplate a system of underdrains for his wet fields, in this case it would be best to make a visit to some farmer who has thus drained his farm, and gain from him many valuable hints and suggestions in this important work. Such visits not only give new ideas, but are a wholesome recreation, and many a farmer who at first thought may say, "I cannot afford it!" will find by experience that he has spoken too soon. Take a day to go and visit some one of the best farms in the county, and this will open the way for further visits and a wider knowledge of the best methods of farming.

A LITTLE FARM WELL TILLED.

Every Saturday during the summer and fall, and frequently at intervals throughout the week, may be seen a small-sized, muscular little man of somewhat sallow features, dark eyes, and small chin whisker, drive on to the London Market Square, he and his boy seated on an immense waggon box, well filled with the vegetables of the season. Mr. Abel Steele is well-known to the Directors of the Western Fair and all the surrounding county fairs, where he never exhibits his mammoth specimens without getting a host of prizes. At the late Western Fair Mr. Steele took ten first prizes out of fourteen entries. His farm, situated in Lobo, near Melrose, contains only fifty acres, part of which he keeps in bush so as to supply himself with firewood and fencing timber. He also reserves a portion for hay, pasture and cereals. The remainder he cultivates for vegetables. When Mr. Steele, a few years ago, contemplated the purchase of this small farm, some of his friends advised him to have nothing to do with it, as it was nearly all a tamarac swamp. Mr. Steele carefully examined the soil and found it of the stamp—a thick alluvial deposit of unsurpassed fertility, a great portion of which might be accounted for, but a large track thereof would almost puzzle a geologist to analyze. Mr. Steele affirms that after digging three feet down in some places he comes on an inexhaustible supply of shells and a mixture of apparently decayed vegetable and animal matter. To this, together with the adoption of a thorough system of drainage, he attributes his secret of success. As he keeps day and date for everything he does on the farm, the following will show the operations or net returns for the season so far:

Total number of acres ploughed twenty-five, from which he took 21,000 cabbages, 4,000 cauliflowers, 800 bushels of potatoes, 1,000 heads of colery, 1,000 melons, 180 bushels of wheat, 180 bushels of barley, 140 bushels of oats, 1,200 dozen cobs of corn, 150 bushels of onions, 150 bushels of tomatoes, also carrots, turnips, etc., say 800 bushels, and three tons of hay. Besides he keeps a number of cattle, pigs and poultry. His hired help averages one and-a-half hands all the year around. His family is small, but they materially assist him. His cabbage crop alone will net him nearly \$1,500. The total value of his crop is \$8,000, besides a quantity of live stock he will have for sale. This shows what good management, earnest application and sterling industry can do on "a little farm well tilled."

PASTURES.

Every pasture should be provided with shade trees, or, at least, some protection against the summer's sun. A few boards on a temporary frame will always secure the last. Excessive heat, by exhausting, and sometimes sickening the animal, materially diminishes the effect of food in promoting the secretion of milk and the growth of flesh and of wool.

The *National Live Stock Journal* gives this advice: "On farms so arranged that the stock can be divided, allotments being made to different pastures, it is wise to hold a pasture lot in reserve, giving it a few weeks' rest during the middle of the season; then as it is made apparent which animals are likely to lag behind in the matter of taking on flesh, they should be separated from the others and placed in the reserve pasture lot. This division will answer the double purpose of giving the thin animals access to the best grass, at the same time placing them more easily under control, and separated as they are from the others, it is more convenient to deal out special rations of food. The pasture lot for such a purpose should be upon rolling land, if there is such, for the well-known reason that the grass on such land is more nutritious, and has a flavour more acceptable to stock than the coarse and rank-growing grass of low lands. It is also easy, when stock is so divided, to give them other attentions not possible to be dealt out if they remain in one lot. In this connection may be named an occasional, or even daily, ration of newly cut up corn; or, if the grass is abundant, half a dozen or so ears of new corn in the ear, at noon time, not omitting the usual ration of ground feed at the customary hour for giving this. So, also, a little extra observance in the matter of salting may be indulged in with advantage.

Pastures should not consist of one kind of grass only, because (1) stock prefer a variety, going from one to the other, thus keeping their appetite whetted, (2) because the grasses having different periods at which they mature, one kind having passed its best stage, another comes to its best, and takes its place, and (3) because grasses vary in the degree of standing wet and drowth; hence, if one sort is injured by vicissitudes of the weather, another may be to an equal degree benefited. It should be more the practice to stimulate pastures with special manures. This is as necessary a thing to do as to feed a particular animal freely because it is falling off in flesh. Among the best stimulants to tardy-growing grass is nitrate of soda; and this may be used freely on pastures without great outlay, and with prompt and beneficial results.

A HOMEY but sensible Philadelphia girl, who never wore a big hat at the theatre, has been married three times, and on each occasion married rich.

CREAM.

THERE is merit without elevation, but no elevation without merit.

TRUTH is as impossible to be soiled by any outward touch as a sunbeam.

AS soon as we divorce love from the occupations of life we find that labour degenerates into drudgery.

LET every one sweep the drift from his own door and not busy himself about the frost on his neighbour's tiles.

"I'm saddest when I sing," warbled a young lady at an evening party; and the other guests said:—"So are we! so are we!"

THERE is, perhaps, no one quality that can produce a greater amount of mischief than may be done by thoughtless good nature.

DREAMY young lady in a railway carriage to cheerful and healthy looking young man.—"Oh, sir, are you æsthetic?" "No, ma'am; I'm a butcher."

A GENTLEMAN had a cat which had five kittens. On ordering three of them to be drowned, his little boy said: "Pa, do not drown them in cold water. Warm it first; they may catch cold."

AN exchange advertises thus: "Wanted, a modern young lady's forehead. The editor, not having seen one for several years, is willing to pay a fair price for a glimpse at the genuine old article."

FOR the best results there needs to be the longest waiting. The true harvest is the longest in being reached. The failures come first, the successes last. The unsatisfactory is generally soonest seen.

A LEXINGTON (Ky.) youth, who went to work in the country, wrote to his girl, a June graduate, that he was raising a calf. Imagine his feelings when the girl replied: "I am glad you have begun to support yourself."

THE economical side of a woman's character shines forth with radiance when she succeeds in fastening an eighteen-inch belt around a twenty-inch waist. Her justifiable pride in making both ends meet deserves condemnation.

NOR long since a family moved into a village out west. After a week or so a friend of the family called on them and asked how they liked the locality. "Pretty well." "Have you called on any of the neighbours yet?" "No; but I am going to, if there's any more of my firewood missing."

A LITTLE girl who ran home from school, all out of breath, said: "O, please, ma, may I get married and have a husband?" "My child," exclaimed the astonished mother, "don't let me hear such words from you again!" "Well, then, may I have a piece of bread and butter and go out to play in the back yard?"

A WOMAN will take the smallest drawer in a bureau for her own private use, and will store in it dainty fragments of ribbon and scraps of lace, foamy ruffles, velvet things for the neck, bundles of old love-letters, pieces of jewelry, hankerchiefs, fans, things that no man knows the names of, all sorts of fresh-looking, bright little articles that you couldn't catalogue in a column, and at any time she can go to that drawer and pick out any one of them she wants without disturbing anything else. Whereas a man having the biggest, deepest, and widest drawer assigned to him, will put into it a couple of socks, a collar box, an old necktie, two handkerchiefs, a pipe and a pair of braces, and can't shut the drawer without leaving more ends of things sticking out than there are things in it.